

# The Expository Essay

A Momentous Event

# The Prompt

Life is full of momentous events that change the course of our futures. These events may occur because of a decision that someone makes or because of uncontrollable circumstances.

Describe a momentous event in your life and explain how it affected your future in a multiple-paragraph short essay.

# Expository is Explaining

Many of the essays you write are designed to explain something. In this case, you're be asked to explain the ways in which an important event affected your future.

Here are a few examples from my own life...



I learned to play the guitar.



I went to college. Twice.



I got married.

## The Momentous Event

An Event	Effect #1	Effect #2	Effect #3

Now it's your turn. Choose three potential events that you think have affected your life in significant ways. Write each in the column titled "An Event."

So, *how* did these events shape your future?

Here are mine...



I started playing in a band. And toured the country. I got to see cities and places I'd never been and make friends all over the US.

I put myself through college by teaching guitar.

I started playing guitar at University Presbyterian Church, where I met my future roommates and best friend, Cameron, today.



I majored in English at the UW, and that led directly to my Masters in Teaching. I still teach today. (Duh).

I moved away from home for the first time and had to become responsible for paying my own rent.

I stopped eating meat when I started spending time with some crazy kids in one of my math classes. I still don't eat meat.



Umm... I'm freakin' *married*.

## The Momentous Event

An Event	Effect #1	Effect #2	Effect #3

Again, your turn. Start to fill out your own chart with the potential affects of each of these events. This will help you figure out what you might want to write about.