Introduction

A blog discusses a topic/idea in the same way as an academic essay would, but in less detail due to the word count and are more informal. For example, you can express your personal opinion on the topic/idea, as long as this is backed up by the evidence. Nevertheless, there are still elements of an academic essay that would be included in your blog. Blogs allow you to analyse your own experiences by linking practice and theory.

The Differences and Similarities between Blogs and Academic Essays

Blogs:

- Are usually written in the first person (I, my, our etc.) as they discuss the author’s own experiences (avoid the use of ‘you’).
- Contain your opinion
- Use interesting titles that you create
- Use subheadings to separate topics.
- Use bullet points to list points.
- Have a less rigid structure than academic assignments.
- May use sources that are not strictly academic, for example, images from newspapers or art galleries.
Both blogs and academic assignments contain:

- A clear line of argument which presents a logical position.
- Summarised information from relevant sources to back up ideas.
- **Succinct sentences**.
- Evidence of the ideas presented.
- Linking between ideas and paragraphs.
- Analysis of the evidence.
- In-text citations and a reference list.
- Proofread submissions.

(Adapted from: Hamilton College, 2018)

**Always refer to your assignment brief for the exact content required.**

**References**


**Further information**

The Learning Resources Study Hub provides a range of opportunities (such as study guides and drop-ins) for you to enhance your academic skills. For more information visit: [lrweb.beds.ac.uk/studyhub](lrweb.beds.ac.uk/studyhub)