Division and Classification Essay

- It analyzes a subject by either breaking it into smaller parts (division) or grouping it into categories based on shared characteristics (classification).

- This structure helps organize complex information in a clear, logical, and meaningful way.

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                    ┌─────────┐
                    │  Topic  │
                    └─────────┘
              ┌──────────┴──────────┐
        ┌───────────┐         ┌───────────┐
        │ Sub-topic │         │ Sub-topic │
        └───────────┘         └───────────┘
         ┌────┴────┐           ┌────┴────┐
   ┌──────────┐ ┌──────────┐ ┌──────────┐ ┌──────────┐
   │ Category │ │ Category │ │ Category │ │ Category │
   └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘
```
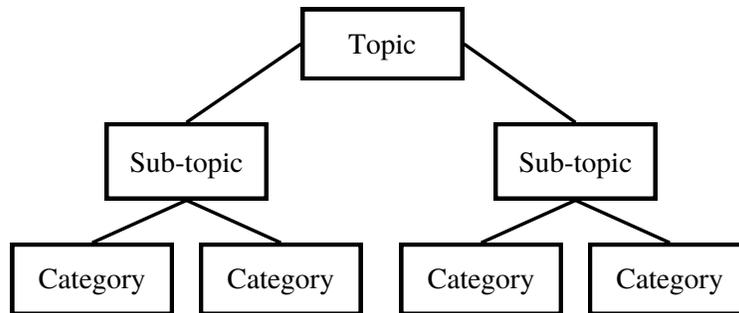
Key Principles

- Choose a topic that can be logically divided into categories.

- Establish a clear basis for classification (color, function, behavior, type, etc.).

- Make sure categories are consistent and do not overlap.

- Ensure each category is equally developed and relevant to your purpose.

- Consider your audience and explain categories clearly.

Thesis Statement

- Your thesis should:

  - Identify what you are dividing or classifying.

  - Explain why the classification matters.

  - Preview the categories you will discuss.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Overlapping categories.

- Categories that are too broad or too narrow.

- Uneven development of body paragraphs.

- Listing information without analysis.

Introduction

- Introduce the topic.

- Explain the basis for classification.

- Present your thesis.

Body Paragraphs

- Begin with a clear topic sentence naming the category.

- Define the category and explain its characteristics.

- Provide specific examples.

- Show how the category fits your overall purpose.

Conclusion

- Restate your thesis in new wording.

- Summarize the categories.

- Explain why this classification is useful or significant.

Example of Classification

- Apples can be classified by:

  - **Color:** Green, red, yellow

  - **Variety:** Granny Smith, Red Delicious, Golden Delicious

  - **Size:** Small, medium, large

  - **Region:** Northeast, Southeast, West Coast

  - **Flavor:** Sweet, sour, tart

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