

Topic Classification Guide: Division vs. Classification Essays (50+ Examples)

1. Topics Best for Classification

(Items exist independently; group by shared traits or characteristics)

#	Topic	Classification Basis
1	College students	Study habits, engagement, social behavior
2	Social media platforms	Primary function (photo-sharing, networking, microblogging)
3	Leadership styles	Decision-making approach (autocratic, democratic, transformational)
4	Types of motivation	Intrinsic, extrinsic, hybrid
5	Exercise routines	Strength, cardio, flexibility
6	Learning styles	Visual, auditory, kinesthetic
7	Restaurants	Service model: fast food, casual, fine dining
8	Online shoppers	Buying behavior: impulsive, comparison, loyal
9	Genres of movies	Action, comedy, drama, horror, documentary
10	Apps	Productivity, social, educational
11	Teachers	Instructional approach: traditional, facilitator, hybrid
12	Books	Fiction, non-fiction, poetry, biography
13	Music genres	Pop, rock, classical, hip-hop, country
14	Video games	Action, strategy, role-playing, simulation
15	Workplaces	Corporate culture: hierarchical, flat, remote-first
16	Fashion styles	Casual, formal, athletic, avant-garde
17	Communication styles	Assertive, passive, aggressive, passive-aggressive
18	Tourist destinations	Natural, historical, modern, cultural
19	Types of social media users	Creators, casual consumers, commenters
20	Types of intelligence	Linguistic, logical-mathematical, interpersonal, intrapersonal

2. Topics Best for Division

(Single unified whole; break into structural parts or components)

#	Topic	Division Basis
21	U.S. government	Executive, Legislative, Judicial branches
22	University	Colleges, departments, programs
23	Company	Departments: Marketing, Operations, Finance, HR
24	Human brain	Cerebrum, cerebellum, brainstem
25	Smartphone	Screen, processor, battery, camera
26	Car	Engine, transmission, interior, electrical system
27	Education system	Elementary, secondary, post-secondary
28	Healthcare system	Primary, secondary, tertiary care
29	Research paper	Introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusion
30	Solar system	Inner planets, asteroid belt, outer planets
31	Sports team	Offense, defense, coaching staff
32	Literature	Plot, characters, themes, style
33	Computer	Hardware, software, peripherals
34	Business process	Planning, execution, evaluation
35	Manufacturing system	Input, production, output
36	Government policy	Planning, implementation, monitoring
37	Food system	Production, distribution, consumption
38	Airline system	Ground operations, flight operations, customer service
39	Theatre production	Script, actors, stage design, lighting
40	Museum	Exhibits, administration, visitor services

3. Topics That Could Use Either Approach

(Depends on the analytical angle; could divide a whole or classify items)

#	Topic	Possible Approaches
41	Education	Classification: types of schools; Division: education system levels
42	Business	Classification: types of small businesses; Division: departments within one company
43	Entertainment	Classification: genres of movies/music; Division: media types (film, music, games)
44	Technology	Classification: types of devices; Division: components of a device
45	Tourism	Classification: types of travelers; Division: stages of travel planning
46	Sports	Classification: types of sports; Division: team structure or athletic components
47	Food	Classification: cuisines or diets; Division: meal structure (starter, main, dessert)

#	Topic	Possible Approaches
48	Transportation	Classification: modes by purpose; Division: components of a transit system
49	Workplaces	Classification: office culture types; Division: organizational hierarchy
50	Healthcare	Classification: patient types; Division: departments in a hospital
51	Social issues	Classification: causes, effects, populations affected; Division: systems addressing issues
52	Climate change	Classification: human, natural, mixed causes; Division: impacts on ecosystems, society, economy
53	Literature	Classification: genres; Division: structural elements of a book or play
54	Media	Classification: platforms or content types; Division: production, distribution, consumption

4. How to Use This Guide

1. **Identify the Topic:** Look at your essay prompt or research area.
2. **Determine Approach:** Ask yourself:
 - Are the items independent or part of a whole?
 - Do I want to show patterns or reveal structure?
3. **Select Appropriate Thesis Formula:** Use division, classification, or combined formula.
4. **Plan the Essay Outline:**
 - For classification: define categories and give examples.
 - For division: identify parts of the whole and explain each.
 - For combined: divide first, classify second.