

ENG 100 OER Description Essay Topic Activity Instructor's Guide

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The “[ENG 100 OER Description Essay Topic Activity](#)” was created for Leeward CC ENG 100 courses, as part of the “Designing with OER” (“DOER”) Fellows program. The activity uses Google Slides and is a renewable assignment, in support of OER-enabled constructionist pedagogy, of which students create OER artifacts as supplemental materials for the “[Writing for Success](#)” OER textbook in the [ENG 100 OER online course](#). For any inquiries, please contact [Susan Wood](#) or [Rachael Inake](#).

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Purpose

Prior to students writing the descriptive essay of a place in Hawaii, students will submit their chosen place, a picture of their place, and a brief description of the place that uses all five senses. Future students can use this as both a topic bank and a tutorial on sensory detail.

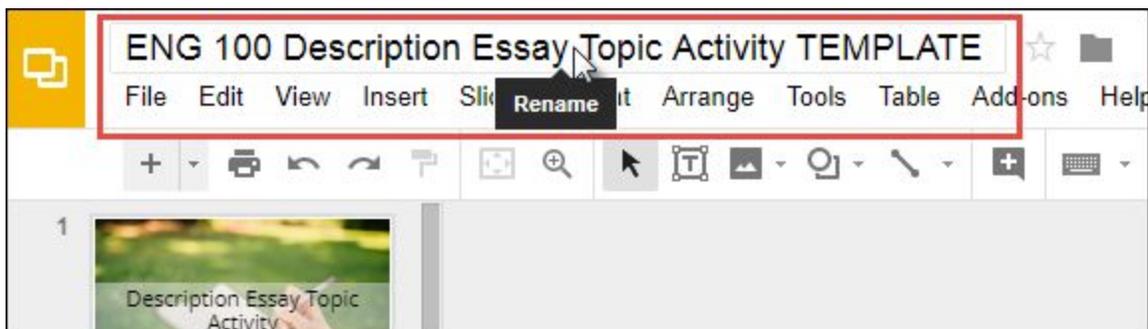
The description essay topic activity is a lead in to this essay: Write a 750-1000 word essay in which you describe a place in Hawaii that is significant to you. Your essay should start with your main impression of your topic, noting why it is significant to you. Using sensory detail, present your description of the place in a way that informs and engages the reader.

Renewable Assignment

[ENG 100 OER Description Essay Topic Activity](#) (slide deck) was created to be used as supplemental materials for the “[Writing for Success](#)” OER textbook and in the [ENG 100 OER online course](#). Instructions, rubric, and a sample for completing the activity are in the slide deck.

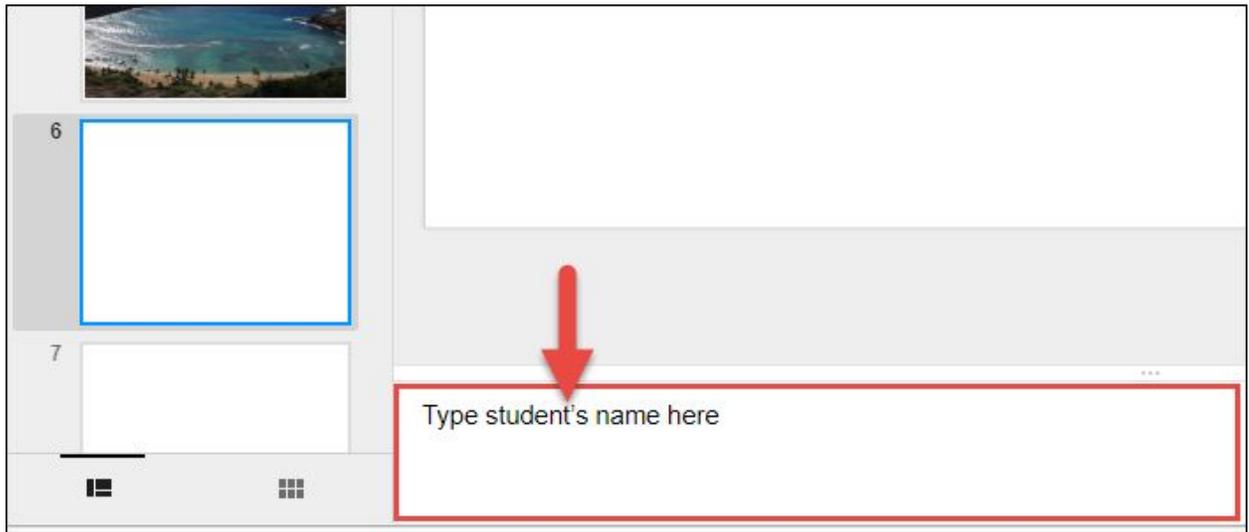
Instructor How-To

1. Open the “[ENG 100 OER Description Essay Topic Activity](#)” and click on **File > Make a copy**. You can choose to copy the sample student comments over by checkmarking, “Copy Comments.” Alternatively and if you don’t want to copy the sample student comments over, you can [click here](#) to be prompted to make a copy of the Google Slides activity slide deck template. (Note: Make sure you log in or are logged into the Google account that you want to make a copy of, to, like your school’s domain google account.)
2. Rename the file, as desired, by clicking on the title in the top-left corner and typing a new file name and press “enter” on your keyboard.

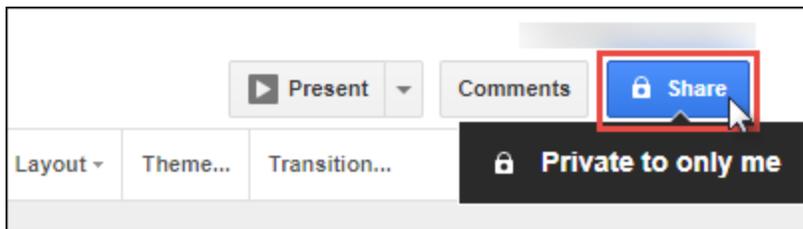


3. Modify the slide deck, as desired.
4. There are blank slides at the end of the slide deck for your students. To make more, simply click on a blank slide and press Ctrl C (or Cmd C) to copy and then Ctrl V (or Cmd V) to paste. Repeat, as necessary, for the number of students you have.

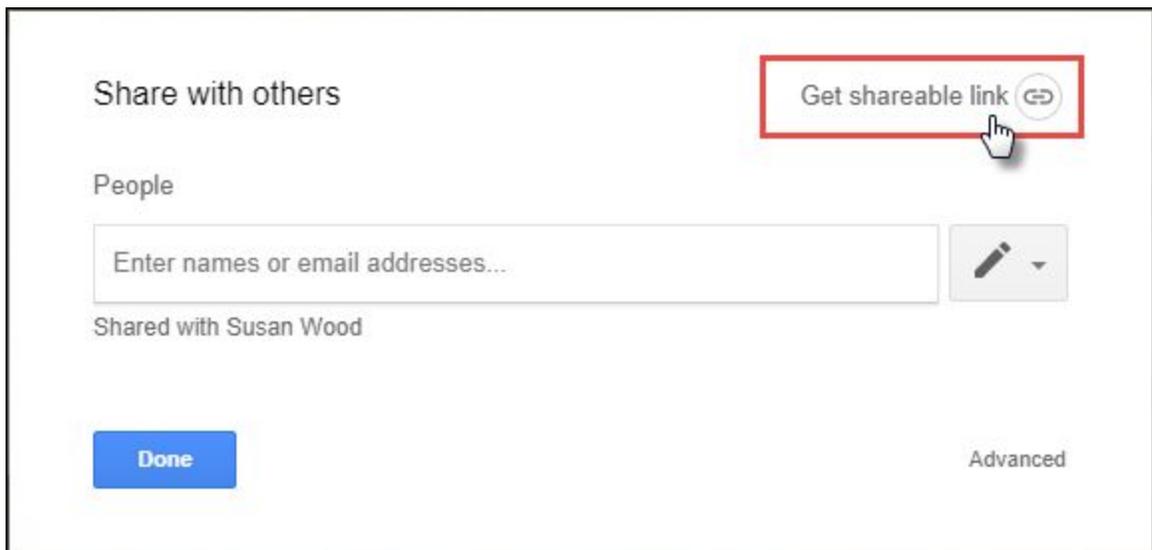
- To help students find their slide, type their name in the notes section of each slide where it currently says, "Type student's name here."



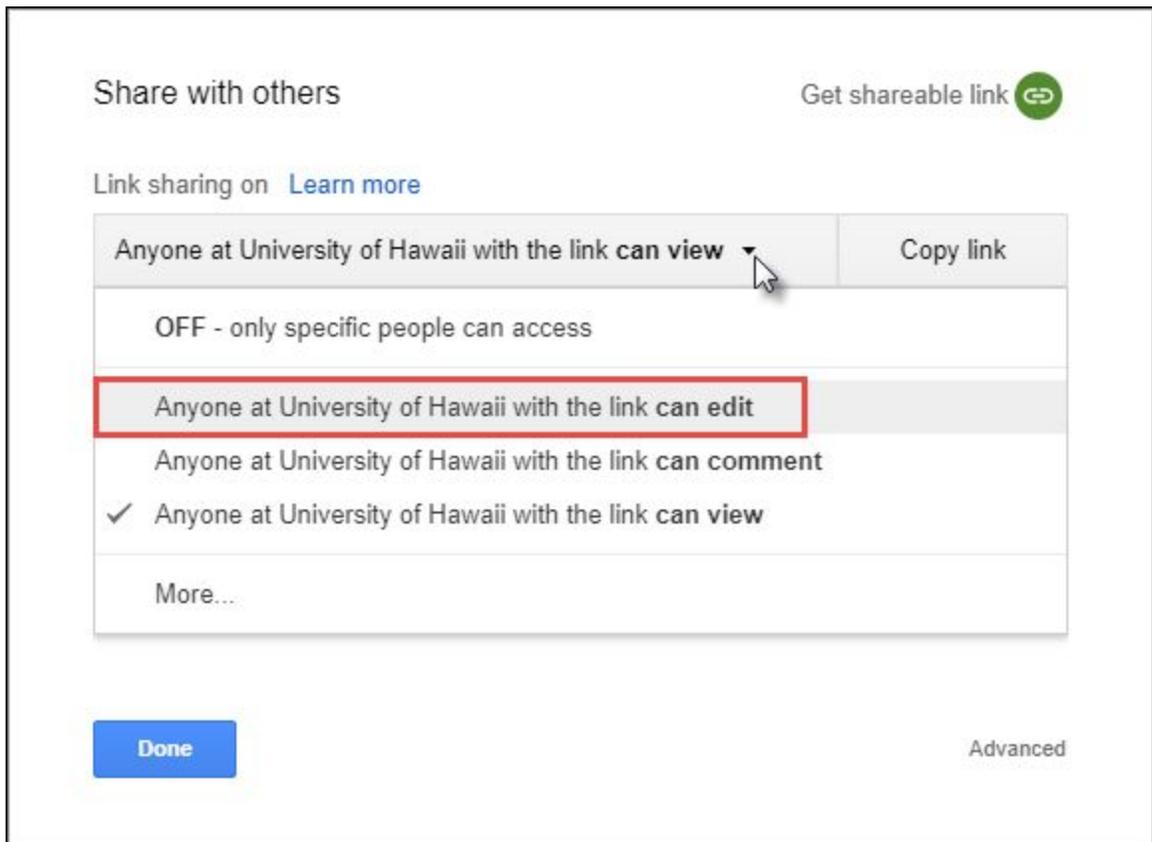
- Now you need to share the slide deck with your students so they can access it. Click the **Share** button at the top-right corner to change the sharing to allow students to edit the slide deck. (By default, it is private.)



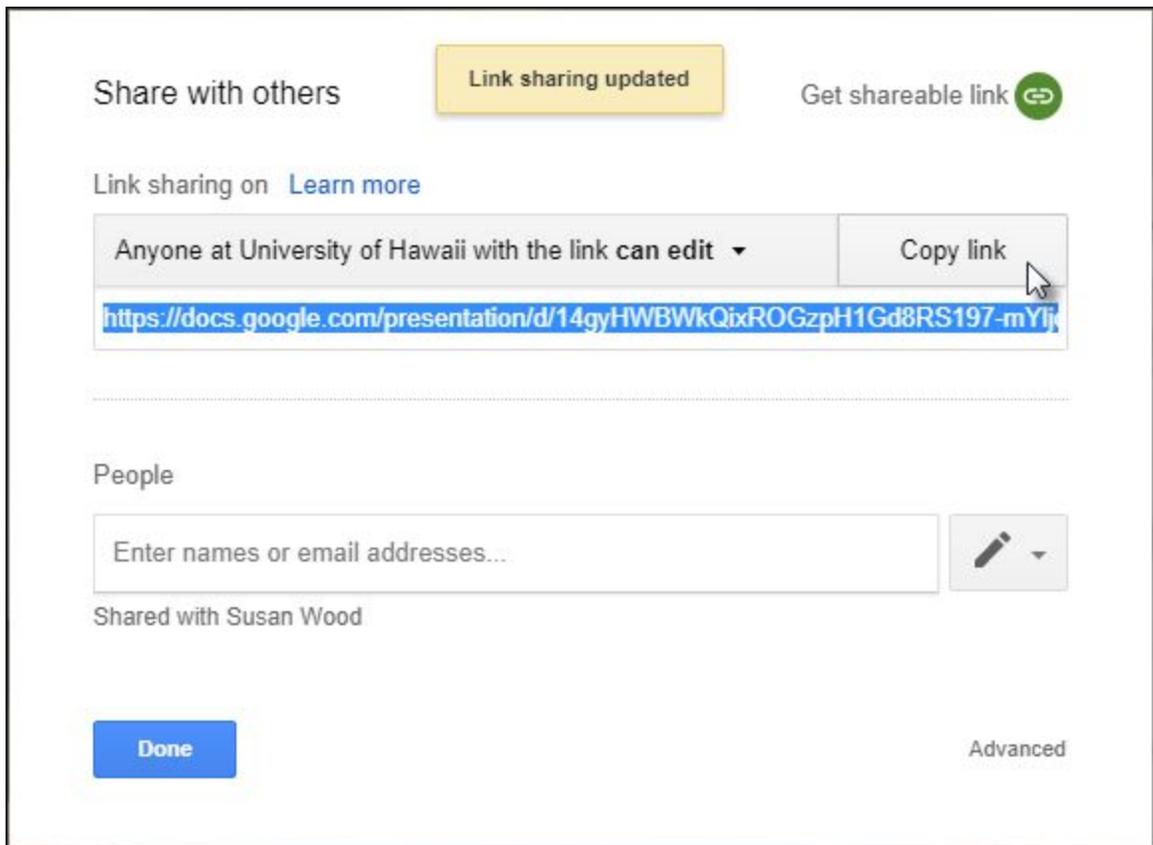
- If you're in a school domain, by clicking on "Get shareable link", it will default to sharing to anyone in your school's domain with link, **can view**. By doing this you won't have to add each student's email address to share the file. As long as they use their school's Google domain email address, they will be able to access it.



8. You'll then need to change this access to **can edit**. Click the drop-down menu to change it to anyone in your school's domain **can edit**. Click **Done**.



9. Now you have your own copy of the slide deck and it's shared with edit access. Copy the share link of your slide deck to share/post to students in an email, website, etc. When students click on the link, they'll be able to view and edit the slide deck (if/when they are logged in with their school Google account).



Sample

The following sample is included in the [“ENG 100 OER Description Essay Topic Activity”](#) template slide deck.

Sample Completed Assignment

Hanauma Bay

When I am at Hanauma Bay, I sit well above the beach. I can smell the salty ocean and after a while, I can taste the salt in my mouth. I feel the grass as I sit on it, and I hear the water roaring in the distance and see the beautiful ocean in the distance.

Hanauma Bay is important to me because it is where I go when I am feeling upset and it always restores my spirit.



Sample Peer Comments

Sample of comments from peers for the sample completed assignment.

 Rachael Inake
9:37 AM Today Resolve

I really like how you describe the sound you hear at Hanauma Bay. It reminds me of when I used to go there with my grandpa when I was a little kid. Your descriptive sentences also showed me the importance of strong sensory detail. Thanks! - Rachael

 Brent Hirata
10:18 AM Today Resolve

Good work! Great photo! I live in Hilo, and I have actually never been to Hanauma Bay, so your photo and the detailed sentences introduced me to a new place. I will check it out next time I am over there. Thank you, Brent.

Completed Rubric for Sample Completed Assignment

	Excellent (5 pts. each)	Acceptable (3 pts. each)	Needs Improvement (1 pt. each)
Topic is a place in Hawaii.	The topic is one place that is in Hawaii.	N/A	Topic is not a place, or it is not a place in Hawaii.
The assignment includes a 2-3 sentence description of the place that uses all 5 senses.	All five senses are included in these descriptive sentences.	Most of the five senses are included in these descriptive sentences.	None or few of the five senses are included in these descriptive sentences.
The assignment includes a sentence that states the significance of the place.	The significance of the place is clearly stated in a sentence.	The significance of the place is stated but needs some clarification.	The significance of the place is not clearly stated and/or is not in a sentence.
Response to two peers. Responses state what you liked or found interesting about the topic OR asks a question about the topic.	Responded to two peers' posts and followed response criteria.	Responded to only one peer's post or did not clearly follow response criteria.	Did not respond to any peers' posts or responded late or did not follow response criteria.
Score: 20/20 pts. Comments: Excellent use of sensory details.			