

Structuring your paragraphs

This exercise is designed to help you to write paragraphs to construct a well-evidenced and coherent argument:

1. Start with a topic sentence
2. Develop your point
3. Provide evidence
4. Evaluate the evidence
5. Summarise

It is designed to be used once you have planned your assignment and have the notes to hand that you will use in the essay. You may also find it useful to complete '[Your essay question](#)' and '[Writing your introduction](#)' first to identify exactly what the question is asking you to do.

Note: Go to **File > Make a copy...** to create your own version of the template that you can edit.

Step 1 – Understanding your essay question

Write your assignment title in the box below

Now re-write the task/title in your own words - what are you being asked to do?

What I am being asked to do is...

Step 2 - Planning your paragraph

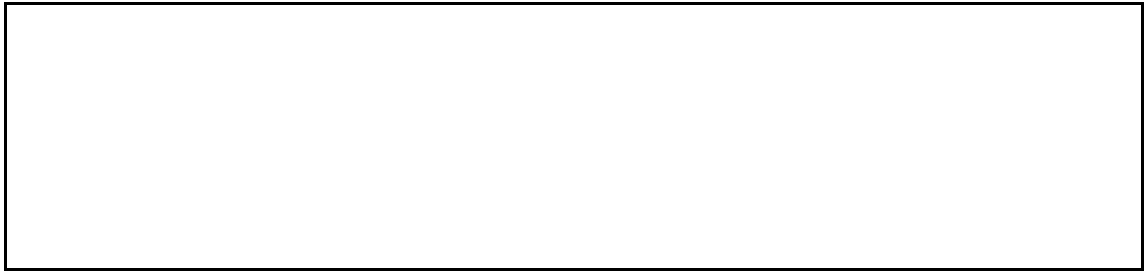
Now write some brief notes outlining one key idea from your essay plan. Note down the supporting evidence you will include from your research.

Step 3 – Writing a paragraph

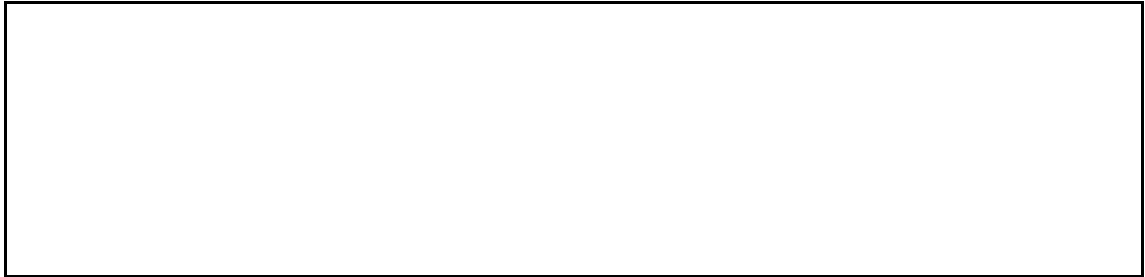
Use the information from the box above to write a **topic sentence** which outlines your main point, linked to the question

Add a sentence to **develop or explain your point** further

Now add **supporting evidence** from your research to develop your point



Develop or explain your idea, **discussing, analysing and critiquing the evidence**, keeping the essay question in mind

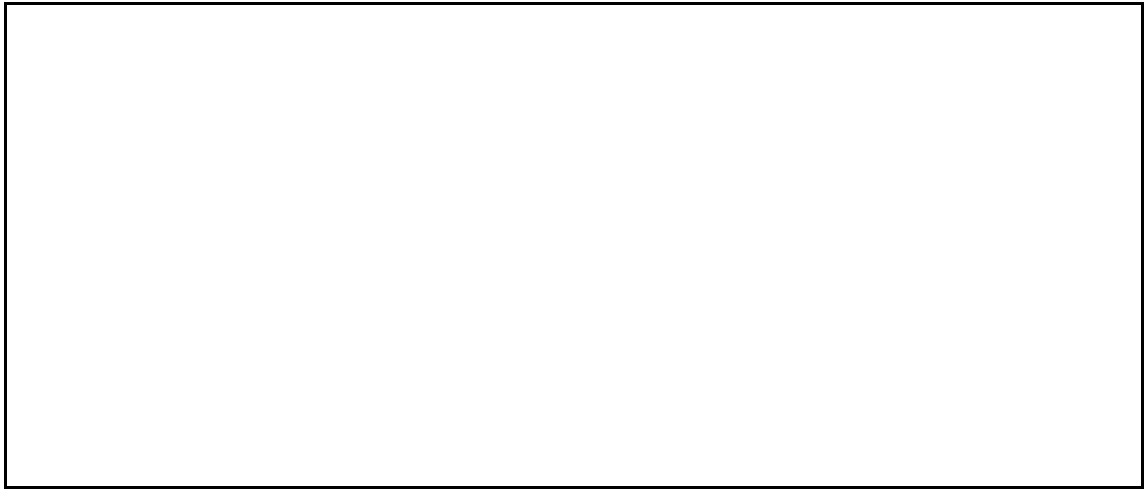


Conclude with a sentence which sums up the main point of your paragraph, referring back to the question



Step 4 – Putting it all together

Now put all of your points together into a paragraph, editing and redrafting your language, as necessary, to make your paragraph clear, concise and cohesive



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