

ESSAY WRITING TUTORIALS

WEEK 2 – 12TH MARCH 2020

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WHAT WILL WE COVER

Topic	Week
How to breakdown essay question	Week 1
How to research for your essay	Week 1
What is expected for an academic essay	Week 1 and Week 2
How to plan your essay	Week 2
Tips for writing each section of your essay	Week 2 and 3
How to reference	Week 3
How to proofread and edit your essay	Week 4
Recap of all topics and any questions	Week 5

DID ANYONE GET TO

- Pick your essay question
- Read around the essay topic
- Write down essay ideas



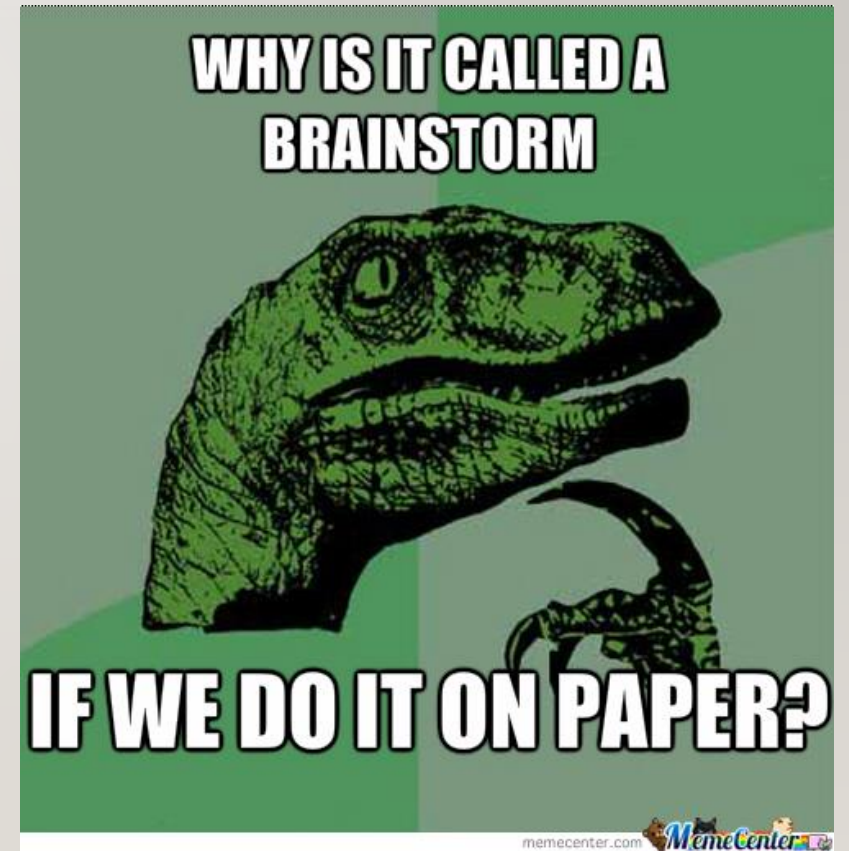
BRAINSTORM AND PLAN ESSAY

- Pick your key point or theme.
 - Bunch your references which are about your point or theme in paragraphs.
 - Plan to put similar or different references in the same paragraph
 - Is the argument similar or different to other arguments I have read? (group similar/different arguments using mind maps, post-its etc).
- Decide what order you want to put the paragraphs in.

GROUP TASK- BRAINSTORM SAMPLE

Discuss how media can influence children.

Use specific examples to support your view. (1200 words)



BRAINSTORM AND PLAN ESSAY

INTRODUCTION

120 words

1. General introductory statement
2. Thesis statement
3. Order of arguments

Body paragraph 1

240 words

Topic sentence:

There are many types of media which cannot be treated as all the same

Supporting ideas:

There are many types of TV programs

- cannot assume they always have same effects
- People use in many ways
- Children use new platforms e.g. online (reference)

BRAINSTORM AND PLAN ESSAY

Body paragraph 2

240 words

Topic sentence:

Media can be actively used to achieve beneficial outcomes for children

Supporting ideas:

- Increasing range of TV tailored for children (reference)
- Educational, builds social skills (reference)
- Introduces diverse themes and topics

Body paragraph 3

240 words

Topic sentence:

Inappropriate use of media can result in many harmful effects.

Supporting ideas:

- Parents cannot always guard against content
- Can create entitlement, peer pressure
- Less contact with real people (reference)

BRAINSTORM AND PLAN ESSAY

Body paragraph 4

240 words

Topic sentence:

The amount and type of media, as well as the variety and quality of content are all-important

Supporting ideas:

- Studies find no harmful effects on average child, but over exposure to violence is harmful (reference)
- Outcome can be positive when physical activity is also encouraged (reference)

CONCLUSION

120 words

1. Restate thesis
2. General conclusions
3. Final concluding statement

INDIVIDUAL TASK – BRAINSTORM

- Brainstorm or plan your own essay question
 - Think of the key recommended readings
 - The ideas mentioned in class
 - The ideas you have come across while reading
 - Is there a general theme

ACADEMIC PHRASES

- It could be argued that

It has been suggested that...

- It can be seen that

It appears that...

- It was found that..

It is generally agreed that...

- It could be concluded that.

It is indicated that...

- It tends to be

It is widely accepted that...



ACADEMIC PHRASES

- I think
 - I feel
 - I believe
 - I am convinced that
 - I liked
 - I agree
 - I disagree
 - I am sure that
 - It is my belief that
 - **From examining the findings**
 - **In light of the evidence**
 - **From previous research**
 - **Considering the results**
 - **As shown in the diagram**
 - **It is evident from the data that**
 - **The literature suggests**
 - **Given this information**
 - **Some theorists argue**
-

INTRODUCTION

- **Begin with a general point about the central issue-**
 - Dr Faustus and Macbeth are both plays that show their respective playwrights at the pinnacle of their careers.
- **Show your understanding of the task that has been set**
 - When comparing the nature of the two plays' respective heroes, both parallels and contrasts can be found
- **Show how you plan to address the title in your essay structure;**
 - In the first section of this essay, the role of the tragic hero will be considered ... The second section of the essay will examine the nature ... Finally, a comparison will be made of the development of the two ...
- **Make a link to the first point-**
 - In examining the characters' tragic qualities, a useful starting point is Aristotle's definition of tragedy...
 - Although the introduction appears at the beginning of your essay, you may prefer to write it towards the end of the drafting process:
 - 'It is only when you have completed a piece of writing that you can introduce it to the reader.' (Crème & Lea, 1997 p115)


KEY PHRASES INTRODUCTION

- The **objective** of this essay is...
- The essay will **focus on....**
- This essay will **aim to answer the question...**
- This essay will **attempt to examine...**
- This essay will **explore...**

MIDDLE

- Paragraphs are groups of sentences
- What groups them? **One** idea!

Each paragraph

- **Introduce**
 - **Backup with evidence**
 - **Summarise**
- 

WHAT MAKES UP A PARAGRAPH

P

POINT:

Make a point that is linked to the question with a topic sentence that outlines the topic of that paragraph and stick to that topic for your paragraph (one topic per sentence).

E

EXPLAIN/EXPAND:

Explain your point and make this relevant to the question.

E

EXAMPLES/EVIDENCE:

Provide examples (at least two) to prove your point and argue your case.

L

LINK:

Link your information back to the question and wrap up your paragraph with a concluding sentence.

KEY PHRASES MAIN BODY

- It is **argued** that...
- It is **proposed** that...
- The authors **posit** that...
- The authors **assert** that...
- **In addition,...**
- **Furthermore,...**
- **Significantly...**

SAMPLE PARAGRAPH

- The introductory sentence immediately tells the audience your topic.
- The opening paragraph supports the opening sentence.
- The second paragraph supports the first paragraph.
- There are no spelling errors, and the writing is clear and concise.

CONCLUSION

- Summarise key points
- Reference the larger issue
 - The differences lie in the development of the characters in what are essentially two different types of plays.
- Have you supported your argument?
 - As has been shown, the character of Macbeth has a nadir from which he ascends at the conclusion of the play. This is in keeping with Aristotle's definition of tragedy. For Faustus however, there is no such ascension. This fits with the style of the morality play: the erring Faustus must be seen to be humbled at his end for the morality to be effective...
- Don't bring in new information unless making a point about future directions in the discussed topic
 - It is this strong element of morality in Dr Faustus that ultimately divides the two leading characters.

KEY PHRASES FOR CONCLUSION

- In conclusion, ...
- To conclude,...
- A number of questions regarding ___ remain to be addressed.
- A closer look to the literature on ___, however, reveals a number of gaps and shortcomings.

[Academic Phrasebank](#)

GROUP TASK



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