

## Essay plan: Box Style

**Essay topic *or* your summarised version of the topic, including task, topic and limiting words:**

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### **Introductory paragraph:**

**Background** context or orienting statement:

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**Thesis** statement (your answer to the question):

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**Outline** of issues you will discuss – not every detail, but an overview of the issues to be examined:

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**Body paragraph 1:**

**Topic** of paragraph (look at your plan – the first issue):

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**Topic sentence** which includes the **point** you want to make (try to link this point to the thesis statement):

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**Evidence** or points (facts, theory and statistics) that support the main idea you are addressing in this paragraph: (Include author, date and page for each source of information).

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**Concluding sentence** that relates to the **point** in the opening sentence of this paragraph and also relates to the thesis and/or outline:

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**Link** to paragraph 2.

**Signal words:**

Think about listing, time sequence, compare and contrast, logical flow and general to specific.

Write the link here:

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**Pick up words:**

Eg pronoun plus synonym?

**Body paragraph 2:**

**Topic** of paragraph (look at your plan – the second issue):

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**Topic sentence** which includes the **point** you want to make (try to link this point to the thesis statement):

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**Evidence** or points (facts, theory and statistics) that support the main idea you are addressing in this paragraph: (Include author, date and page for each source of information).

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**Concluding sentence** that relates to the **point** in the opening sentence of this paragraph and also relates to the thesis and/or outline:

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**Link** to paragraph 3.

**Signal words:**

Think about listing, time sequence, compare and contrast, logical flow and general to specific.

Write the link here:

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**Pick up words:**

Eg pronoun plus synonym?

Continue until you have written as many paragraphs as you need.

**Concluding paragraph:**

**Sum up** the most important points you made in the essay and show how they support the thesis:

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**Comment on** the main points, perhaps, using tentative language, suggest a way forward for future research or make a comment in relation to the topic that shows you have thought about it in depth and detail. Use words from the topic in the conclusion but don't rewrite the topic verbatim. Sometimes it is a good idea to show the relationships between the different elements of the topic. Make sure you have dealt with any issues raised in the introduction. Do not include any new information!

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