# Essay Structure Planner

## Essay Planner

## Topic analysis
How many parts are there in the question? ..........

- **Key content words/phrases:**
  - [ ]

- **Instruction/directive words:**
  - [ ]

- **Limitations/scope:**
  - [ ]

## Introduction

(approx. 5-10% of word count)

- **Background of topic:**
  - [ ]

- **Outline of essay/key issues to be discussed/purpose of essay:**
  - [ ]

- **Thesis/position statement:**
  - (what is your answer to the essay question; the position you will take on the topic; or your overall conclusion?)
  - [ ]

## Body

**Paragraph 1**

- **Topic sentence:**
  - (what is the main idea discussed/point made in this paragraph?)
  - [ ]

- **Evidence:**
  - (what references to literature, examples, etc. will you use to support your point?)
  - [ ]
Paragraph 2

Topic sentence:

Evidence:

Link: (make sure you link this paragraph to the last one and/or the overall topic)

Paragraph 3

Topic sentence:

Evidence:

Link: (make sure you link this paragraph to the last one and/or the overall topic)

(Paragraph 4 or any other paragraphs you would like to include in the essay)

Conclusion

(rough 5-10% of words count)

Sum up the key points made and/or evidence of your argument:

Restate the position/argument of the essay:
(i.e., make a conclusion)

Final comment/consider wider implications/significance/outcomes:
Do not introduce any new ideas

Ask yourself:
• Does my essay answer/address the question?
• Is there a logical structure to my essay?
• Have I backed up my position/argument with properly referenced evidence?