

Essay Planning

You've heard me say it before, but when planning an essay it's easier to plan your body paragraphs first and *then* write your introduction. This way, by the time you write your intro you actually know what you're talking about and what your argument is.

<p>Introduction</p>	<p>Should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The text and author/director. - In one sentence, answer the “describe” part of essay question - In one or two sentences, answer the “explain” part of question. If discussing language (including visual) features, include these in your introduction. - You are basically introducing each body paragraph briefly.
<p>Body paragraph (Capital I)</p>	<p>S – Topic Sentence. One sentence that acts as an introduction for the paragraph. It should answer the essay question in one sentence.</p> <p><i>Eg. The importance of choice and making the correct decision is shown through the use of diegetic sound.</i></p>
	<p>E – Explanation. Explains how your topic sentence is true. Explain what you mean by your statement.</p> <p><i>Eg. In the pill scene, Neo is faced with a difficult decision. He can either remain in ignorance of what the Matrix is, or follow Morpheus into the unknown and, in his words, “see how deep the rabbit hole goes”. Neo is offered the choice of a blue or red pill. The red pill means Neo will be released from the Matrix, the blue pill means he will remain ignorant of the truth. Neo chooses the red pill.</i></p>
	<p>E – Evidence. Provides evidence in the form of quote, or in the case of film, visual/oral language feature to reinforce the point your essay is making.</p> <p><i>Eg .As Neo swallows the pill, there is a burst thunder and lightning.</i></p>
	<p>R – Relevance Explain why the evidence is relevant to your argument and outline the writer/director’s purpose.</p> <p><i>E.g. The sound of the thunder shows the audience the gravity of Neo’s decision, and reinforces the dangerous nature of his course of action as well as the seriousness of his decision. Neo’s decision to take the red pill directly leads to Neo becoming “the One” and potentially rescuing humanity.</i></p>
<p>Conclusion</p>	<p>The first sentence should rephrase your argument. Then briefly recap your body paragraphs.</p> <p><i>E.g. The idea of the importance of choice is shown through the use of diegetic sound, lighting and costume. Throughout the film, Neo is required to make decisions that have significant repercussions. The significance of these decisions is reinforced through the use of visual language techniques to both inform the audience and provide dramatic impact.</i></p>

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