



How do you structure an academic essay?

An academic essay contains three main sections: an introduction, body paragraphs and a conclusion.

The essay you write will answer the essay question you have been given in a test, an assignment or an exam.

Note

Structuring your essay is **one** part of the process of writing your essay. **Before** you write your essay structure you need to:

Deconstruct the essay question



Write key words and phrases to locate sources



Find, organise and evaluate quality sources

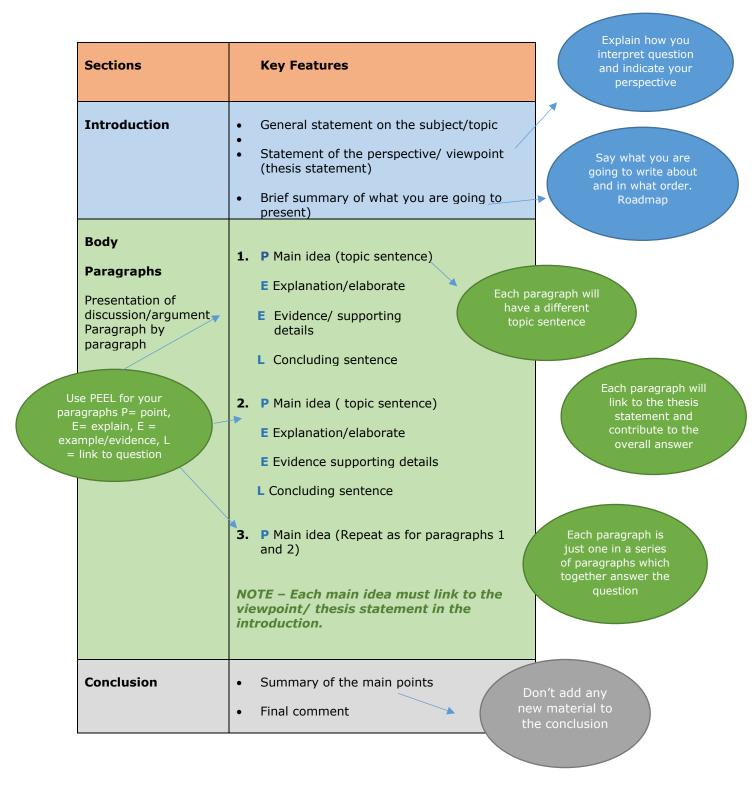


Plan your essay and create the structure





The table below gives the key features that are present in each section of the essay.



See the link below for a structured essay sample and some practice activities.





http://www.monash.edu.au/lls/llonline/writing/general/essay/sample-essay/2.xml

Key tip

The thesis statement is central to your essay

The thesis statement is usually found in the introduction or introductory paragraphs and is a response to the assignment question. It indicates your perspective or position on the question. It can be just one sentence in length.

The paragraphs in your essay relate to the thesis statement. Each paragraph contributes to the overall argument which answers the thesis statement.

If you want to know more try the links below

http://owll.massey.ac.nz/assignment-types/essay-thesis-statement.php

https://airport.unimelb.edu.au/gate2/writing/types/essay/thesis.php