



## Organising Your Ideas

Begin organising your research and ideas into an answer.

### Essay plans II

**After you've researched and your ideas are more developed, write a second essay plan** It will help you work out how to answer the question and how the essay will be structured.

- Decide on a possible answer to the question (in terms of the research you have done)
- Decide on the information you will use to answer the question
- Look through your notes and choose examples to provide evidence to support your answer
- Decide which points you will discuss, and in which order
- Write all this down in point form and this will be your essay plan



See The Learning Centre guide [Essay and assignment planning](#)

### Thinking it through

Essay writing requires both creative and critical thinking.

- Creative thinking encourages you to broaden your ideas. Try techniques like brainstorming or mind mapping.
- Critical thinking encourages you to narrow the focus or scope of your ideas (for example, asking why an example is important to your argument).

Your essay should be balanced: that is, it should include a range of information and viewpoints from different authors that explore the key arguments and relevant aspects of a particular topic. Don't only include evidence that agrees with what you are arguing; if there are different or opposing views, then they need to be examined.

You need to evaluate differing arguments - explain why one argument is more convincing than another and how they relate to the conclusion your essay arrives at.



See next: [Writing your essay](#)

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