Essay Structure

**Writing an Introduction**

1. Para phrase the **topic question** and indicate the stance you are taking on the topic.

Eg: Rewrite it in your own words using some of the key words within the question itself and make it clear whether you are agreeing or disagreeing with the topic.

1. **Define any terms** that may need clarification- but keep this very brief and only do it if you think it is necessary.
2. Indicate (in sentence form of course) some of the **main points** that will make up your discussion of the question. Keep this brief
3. Your introduction should be brief and to the point – no ramble.
4. Use the text name and author

**Main Body**

Each paragraph should follow this basic structure until you are confident and competent enough to experiment

1. Write a **topic sentence** that states your main point.
2. Discuss how this is evident in the text, extend your idea.
3. Provide **evidence** from the text to support this point. It could be an EMBEDDED **quote** or a detailed description of a scene, character or relationship.
4. Discuss how the evidence helps **explain** your point.
5. Include metalanguage, discussing how the author has created the text and why e.g. symbolism, metaphors, structure, chapter headings, narrative style, flashbacks, foreshadowing, etc.

This structure should be repeated for each of the main points that will be discussed in the main body (4 plus).

**Conclusion**

1. Summarise your **main points but don’t LIST all of them. Make general statements.**
2. Relate back to the **topic question.**
3. **Make a final concluding statement**. This is optional and depends on if you have something important to say in closing.