

## How to write a good essay!

1. Choose a topic. Make sure you choose something you are able to write enough about.

2. Gather ideas: This means brainstorming.

Remember you can:

- Make a list.
- Freewrite.
- Spidergram.

3. Produce an outline. Organise your material. Choose the ideas you want to use. Decide which ones are most relevant. Are some ideas too broad or too narrow? Could you combine some ideas into one paragraph? Make a list of ideas you will use in each paragraph. Make sure it is clearly split into Introduction, main body and conclusion.

4. Each paragraph should contain three parts:

- A topic sentence. This is the main idea of the paragraph.
- The supporting sentences. These develop the main idea. There are three ways you can do this – add details; give an explanation; and lastly, give an example.
- A concluding sentence. This should either restate the main idea or summarise the topic.

5. Additional points:

- Make sure you use transitional words – first, next, finally, after, etc.
- Punctuation – don't forget to use capital letters after full stops.
- Don't make your sentences too long.
- Take care with the use of prepositions.
- Spelling.
- Credit your sources in a Bibliography.
- When you have finished your essay read through it again and check for mistakes.

**Only when you have done all of this are you finished!**