**The Pre-Writing Stage**

***Homework Aims: to start planning your essay for mid-term evaluation***

**Task 1: Idea Generation**

Brainstorm 5 topics that are suitable for academic writing

*Note: these ideas should also be something you are interested in*

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Task 2: Choosing a topic**

Choose one topic as a focus for your essay

**Broad topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Narrow / specific topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Task 3: Developing a question**

What essay style are you going to choose? *Tick your choice*

* Argumentative
* Compare & Contrast
* Problem & Solution

**Propose a question: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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*Evaluate your question:*

*Is the topic suitable for an academic paper?*

*Is the topic specific?*

*Is the question suitable for your chosen essay style?*

**Task 4: Finding Credible Sources**

Find **6** sources (traditional and non-traditional sources) that could help you answer your essay question, and complete the table below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Title / author(s)** | **Type of source:**  *Traditional- scholarly article etc.*  *Non-traditional- youku video etc.* | **Reasons it is credible:**  *Use credibility checklist* |
| 1. |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |
| 6. |  |  |

**Task 5: Thesis statement**

From your evaluation of the sources above, write a thesis statement.

*Note: this is early stages in the writing process. You will probably revise your thesis statement later*

**Thesis statement:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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