Ancient History – How to write an Essay (Information Guide)

You must pretend audience knows NOTHING about this topic.

You must write clearly to TEACH them about it, and use evidence to support what you are saying…

… otherwise, ***why would they believe you***?

**A GOOD ESSAY WILL…**

* Answer the question
* Have a clear argument
* Use a clear structure
* Use evidence to support points
* Be written legibly
* Use historical terminology

You must pretend I know NOTHING about this topic.

You must write clearly to TEACH me about it, and use evidence to support what you are saying…

… otherwise, ***why would I believe you***?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Paragraph | WHAT TO INCLUDE: |
| Introduction | An Introduction must include: 1. A ‘Hook’ or lead-in sentence which relates to the essay topic (1 sentence) 2. A THESIS STATEMENT – which outlines what your whole essay will argue. (1 sentence) 3. Background information about the topic (1 – 2 sentences) 4. An Essay Map, which outlines what each body paragraph will be about. (1 – 2 sentences) |
| Body Paragraph | Before writing your body paragraphs, you must decide what each paragraph will be about/what it will argue.  This is called a TOPIC SENTENCE – it relates to what each paragraph will argue and links to the essay topic.  You must EXPLAIN your topic sentence to the reader, and provide relevant evidence to support your arguments.  You must provide a LINKING SENTENCE, which summarises what that paragraph was about. |
| Conclusion | * A summary of the entire contents of your essay * A reiteration of the view of the topic or the points which you have demonstrated or proven throughout your essay * A general conclusive statement which is a sentence linked to the very first introductory sentence of you essay, and to the keywords contained in the essay question. |

**WORDS OTHER THAN ‘TALKED ABOUT’**

Demonstrated, showed, highlighted, emphasized, analysed, discussed, described, outlined, identified, explained, depicted

**WORDS OTHER THAN I/WE**

The audience… the reader… historians… the text… the film…the source…   
the author…