

DISTINGUISH BETWEEN A RESEARCH ESSAY AND EXAM ESSAY

<u>RESEARCH ESSAY</u>	
<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	<p><u>Orientation</u></p> <p><u>Thesis Statement</u> – Answer the question at the start. What are you actually answering in response to the Question? This makes the markers job easier because they know <i>exactly</i> where you are going.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“This Essay <u>argues</u> that/ The main argument in this Essay is that...”</i></p> <p><u>Outline what you are going to say</u> (Firstly, Secondly, Thirdly...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Start by concluding’: The introduction is like saying the punch line first. The body of our essay explains the joke.
<u>BODY</u>	<p><u>Paragraphs: General Tips & Doing the Simple things well</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based around certain points. • One point one paragraph (should be about 250-350 words in length) <p><u>Sentences</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put the main idea at the start, then modify it or qualify it afterwards • Topic sentence: reconsider using <i>quotes</i> as the topic sentence, use your voice instead <p><u>Using Sub-headings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep very simple e.g ‘Duty of care and Recreational Use’ • Must have ‘Legal-ness’ in the phrase <p><u>Using evidence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use direct quotes sparingly → Can begin to look like somebody else’s work • Paraphrasing- use for more specific points you want to make • Summarising – Always about an overview. However if you’re mostly summarising, this can become too general <p><u>General Rules</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strike a balance between all these • Use at least 2 pieces of Evidence, otherwise it can look a bit thin • Use the 60%/40% rule – Your voice/Their Voice <p><u>Synthesis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What in evidence is not convincing to you? • Make a judgement! Your job in terms of being critical, is to say with your writing – which one of these is more convincing or persuasive and <i>why</i> is it? <p><u>Evaluation (‘your voice’) and being critical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Opinion – We want more than an opinion, we want an argument • Taking your opinion, testing it = Argument • <i>To what extent</i> → you MUST say that degree of magnitude: To a small extent, to a reasonable extent

<u>BODY CONT...</u>	<p><u>How to convey 'your voice'</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your thesis • The ideas that you choose • The organisation of the points you make. <i>Why is it that you choose to organise the ideas in this way?</i> Start with your most important ideas • Structural Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transition signals (However, therefore, nevertheless – Great for showing cause and effect) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These are the <i>Glue</i> ○ Reporting Verbs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brown states that... ▪ Brown claims that...however ▪ Brown argues that... • Dialogue between the different sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create dialogue between different ideas and put yourself into that ○ This involves using your own '<i>attitude</i>'
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<u>EXAM ESSAY</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Be disciplined with the time limit</i> • Generally, if you write more than 3 pages you're writing too much and you're losing marks 	
<u>STRUCTURE</u>	<p>The structure is very important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ditch orientation • Straight to "This essay argues that..." • Use Firstly, Secondly, thirdly
<u>EVIDENCE</u>	<p>Make sure you use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facts from scenario • Secondary material • Cases/Statute • Bibliographic details: 'Vines argues that...' • Try to go for better known theories

<u>RESEARCHING FOR YOUR ESSAY</u>	
<u>The Note Taking-Process</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a note (your thoughts or comments) and a Quote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Set out the point + Page Number + What you think! (This will feed into your evaluation) • Record Bibliographic Details including Page Numbers. This will save you so much time at the end! • Always keep a 'left-overs' file of unused arguments and quotes. There is no such thing as a bad idea, it just hasn't found its appropriate place yet 	