

# Shaping your Writing

## Understand the Assignment

Before you start writing, make sure you know exactly what the task is asking.

### What to look for:

- **Topic** – What are you writing about?
- **Purpose** – Are you explaining, arguing, describing, or comparing?
- **Audience** – Who will read your essay?
- **Length** – How many words/pages?
- **Requirements** – Do you need to include quotes? Research? Use a specific structure?

## Plan Your Writing

Good writing starts with good planning. Planning helps organise your ideas, so your writing is clear.

### How to plan:

- Brainstorm everything you know about the topic.
- Choose 2-4 main points, depending on the length of your writing.
- Decide the order you'll write them in.
- Collect evidence/quotes/research if required.
- Sketch a simple outline.

## Write an Interesting Introduction

Your introduction should:

- hook the reader – grab their attention with a question, surprising fact, a short story/scenario, or a clear, powerful statement.
- introduce the topic.
- state your main argument or main idea.

## Use TEEL to Build Paragraphs

**TEEL** helps organise each paragraph, so your ideas are clear, concise, and convincing.

- **Topic Sentence:** Introduce the main idea of the paragraph.
- **Evidence:** Provide facts, statistics, research, or information to support your topic sentence.
- **Example:** Give a specific example that illustrates your evidence.
- **Link:** Connect the paragraph back to the main statement or show how this idea connects to the next point.

## Wrap It Up in a Conclusion

**A good conclusion:**

- restates your main idea (not word-for-word).
- summarises your key points.
- leaves the reader with something to think about.

# Writer's Jumpstarts

## Introduction

Primary Examples	Secondary Examples
<p>I'm going to write about ...</p> <p>This story is about ...</p> <p>I will explain ...</p>	<p>This essay will explore ...</p> <p>The purpose of this essay is to ...</p> <p>One of the key issues to consider is ...</p> <p>In recent years, many people have argued that ...</p>

## Body

Primary Examples	Secondary Examples
<p><b>Presenting an Argument</b></p> <p>Some people say that ...</p> <p>This means that ...</p> <p>I think that ...</p> <p><b>Opposing an Argument</b></p> <p>Some people don't agree ...</p> <p>I don't think that ...</p> <p><b>Emphasis</b></p> <p>The best part is ...</p> <p>Most of all ...</p> <p>This means that ...</p> <p><b>Examples and Evidence</b></p> <p>You can see this when ...</p> <p>One time ...</p> <p>A good example is ...</p> <p><b>Cause and Result</b></p> <p>Because of this ...</p> <p>That's why ...</p> <p>So ...</p>	<p><b>Presenting an Argument</b></p> <p>One important point to consider is ...</p> <p>A strong argument in favour of this idea is ...</p> <p>This supports the claim that ...</p> <p>A major factor contributing to this is ...</p> <p>This suggests that ...</p> <p><b>Emphasis</b></p> <p>It is important to note that ...</p> <p>Significantly ...</p> <p>It must be emphasised that ...</p> <p>A key point to remember is ...</p> <p><b>Examples and Evidence</b></p> <p>For example ...</p> <p>For instance ...</p> <p>Evidence for this can be found in ...</p> <p>This is demonstrated by ...</p> <p><b>Cause and Result</b></p> <p>As a result ...</p> <p>Consequently ...</p> <p>This led to ...</p> <p>Therefore ...</p> <p>One significant outcome was ...</p>

# Writer's Jumpstarts

## Other

Primary Examples	Secondary Examples
<b>Compare</b> This also happened when ... This is the same as ... Just like ...	<b>Compare</b> Similarly ... In the same way ... Likewise ... Both texts/ideas show that ...
<b>Contrast</b> But ... However, ... Unlike ...	<b>Adding Information</b> However, ... On the other hand, ... In contrast ... Unlike the previous point ... Nevertheless ...
<b>Adding Information</b> Also ... Next ... Another thing is ...	

## Conclusion

Primary Examples	Secondary Examples
To finish ... In the end ... So, that's why ...	In conclusion, it is clear that ... Overall, the evidence suggests that ... To summarise the main points ... Taking all of these factors into account ...