

Engaging with Theory And Structuring Paragraphs

Essays:

The basic shape of an essay is:

- Introduction (with a thesis statement)
- Body (your argument)
- Conclusion (wrap it all up)

This basic structure can be stretched to fit any kind of project: a thesis might have an introductory chapter, 3 or 4 body chapters and a concluding chapter. A 2000-word essay is likely to have an introductory paragraph, 5 to 7 body paragraphs and a concluding paragraph.

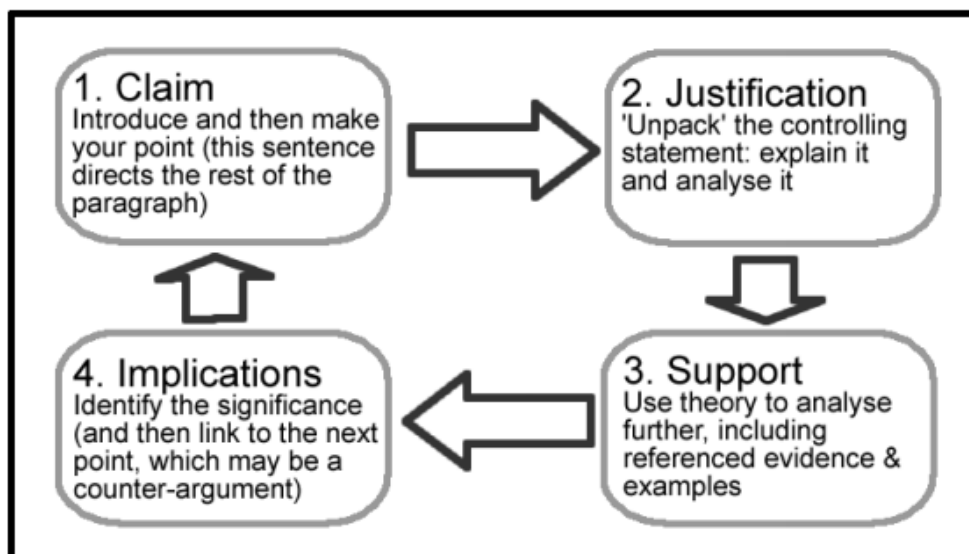
No matter the length, the basic shape remains.

For assessed essays, don't forget:

- Student number in top right hand corner of every page
- Cambria, Calibri, Times New Roman Font, in size 11 or 12
- 1.5 or double spacing throughout the body of the essay (not the title)
- Page numbers lower right-hand corner

Paragraphs:

As you may notice, the paragraph is the building block of this form. Through paragraphs, you construct your argument. However, you can also think of paragraphs like mini-essays. They should have a main idea, an argument to support/contradict and a transition to the next point (a sort of conclusion). It's within this structure that you'll use and engage with theory to support your argument.



Using the above chart, outline a paragraph in relation to this week's reading.

1. **Claim –**

2. **Justification –**

3. **Support –**

4. **Implications –**

Make a claim from your above implication and repeat the process.

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