

The Basics of English Essay Writing — Critical Response

- 1 *Understand the question*
- 2 *Write down ideas (brainstorming) ***Possible Thesis*
- 3 *Align brainstorming to essay structure eg. 5 paragraphs / rule of three*
- 4 *Write your thesis statement*
- 5 *Write your essay — eg. 5 sheet method / 5 ¶'s with spaces*
- 6 *Edit your essay*

Essay Structure:

¶ Introduction: General to Specific

General statement about the topic

Address the topic and name the literature you will discuss

Thesis — three points in order

¶ BP #1: Point 1 from Thesis

Transition + Topic sentence

Develop your topic with reasons and examples

Concluding sentence

¶ BP #2: Point 2 from Thesis

Transition + Topic sentence

Develop your topic with reasons and examples

Concluding sentence

¶ BP #3: Point 3 from Thesis

Transition + Topic sentence

Develop your topic with reasons and examples

Concluding sentence

¶ Conclusion: So what? — Specific to General

Why is it important that we understand this topic?

Re-emphasize thesis: one sentence for each of your developing/body ¶'s

—> drawn from your BP conclusions

General statement about how the topic relates to life in general