Peer Learning Essay Planning Workshop: Essay Outline Plan

Below is a fairly standard outline for an essay. You can amend this to the title of the essay you are planning. A good plan will include:

- What main topics or sections will you include to ensure you answer the question?
- How many words you will allocate to each section?
- What detailed explainations and examples are you going to include?
- What key references and reading are you going to include in each section?

Introduction (100 words)

General info about topic, define any terms, reason for reader to be interested, context, how you will approach the question etc.

Topic 1 (500 words)

Topic Sentence: (A topic sentence is a sentence at the start of a paragraph that states the main point you are making in that paragraph)

- 1. Detail/example/data/explanation
- 2. Detail/example/etc.
- 3. Detail/example/etc.

Transition (a transition sentence summarises the paragraph and links to the next section)

Topic 2 (500 words)

Topic Sentence:

- 1. Detail/example/data/explanation
- 2. Detail/example/etc.
- 3. Detail/example/etc.

Transition

Topic 3 (300 words) Etc...

Summary and conclusions (200 words)

Re-state the question: Summary of main points, return to general context, wrap-up of essay, etc. identify your conclusion in answer to the essay question.