

How to write a History Essay

What is the question asking?

Consider the command term, any dates, key words and concepts. Make sure you are clear on what is required before starting as you will need to keep referring to the question throughout your essay. Jot down a quick plan.



Introduction

- Show your understanding of the question e.g. by giving one or two sentences of context on the topic area
- Define key terms/concepts that are in the question
- Indicate the direction that your argument will take



Main Body

Paragraph 1

In each paragraph you should:

Paragraph 2

- Address a new point
- Have a clear opening or 'topic' sentence which links directly to the question and indicates the point/argument of the paragraph.
- Have detailed evidence to support your point
- Link to the previous paragraph so that it helps develop your argument
- Include reference to historiography/perspectives where appropriate

Paragraph 3

Paragraph 4

Paragraph 5

Paragraph 6



Conclusion

- This should link back to the question
- Based on the evidence in the main body of your essay, you should be able to provide a direct answer to the question!