

HOW TO MAKE AN ESSAY PLAN IN JUST 5 MINUTES

**THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS EVERYTHING YOU
NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ESSAY PLANS**

**IT INCLUDES A TEMPLATE FOR YOU TO PRINT OUT
AND USE TO CREATE YOUR OWN ESSAY PLANS**

WHY MAKE AN ESSAY PLAN?

Essay plans are about to become your best friend...

They take only 5 minutes to create, and they'll guarantee that you write the best essay you can *every time!*

An essay plan makes you decide what's going to be in your essay before you write it. This achieves a few very important things...

1

Your essay will have perfect structure and read in a logical order (examiners love this!) because you **decided what each paragraph was going to be about first.**

2

While you're writing you won't need to waste time trying to think of what you should write next – it's all in your essay plan!

3

You won't forget to include any important points because you jotted them all down in your essay plan before you started.

PROPER ESSAY STRUCTURE

Introduction: Every essay needs an introduction (3-5 sentences), so at the top of your essay plan just jot down *introduction* or *intro*, so you remember to write one.

Paragraphs: Every essay *must* be written in paragraphs. Each paragraph should explain one main idea, and needs to have the **SEXI** structure:

S: A **Topic Sentence**. This tells the reader what the paragraph is going to be about. You only need to write down the gist of the topic sentence for each paragraph in your essay plan.

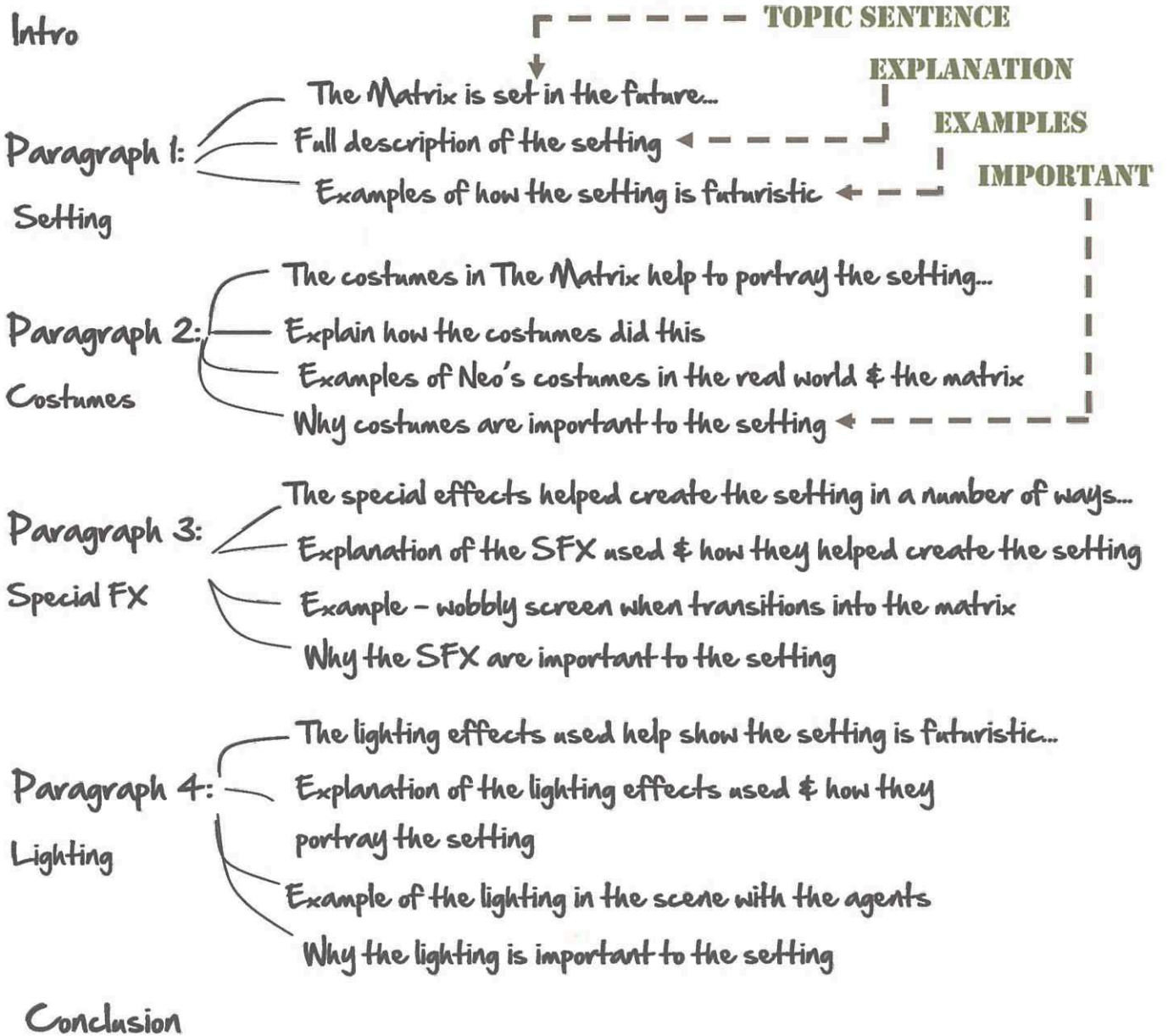
E: A full **Explanation** of the point you're making in this paragraph. This should make up the bulk of your paragraph. In your essay plan jot down what you're going to explain.

X: **eXamples** or justifications that back up what you've said in that paragraph. Jot down what examples you're going to include in your essay plan so you don't forget to include them in your essay!

I: **Why is this point Important?** A really amazing essay would also explain *why* this point is important to the essay as a whole. What's the significance of this point to the essay topic?

Conclusion: Every essay needs a conclusion that briefly summarises what's been said in the essay. You can just write down *conclusion* or *conc* in your essay plan to make sure you write one.

The essay plan below is for a hypothetical essay question about the film 'The Matrix' and the film's setting. It should give you a good idea of how to make essay plans for any subject you have to write essays for.



Don't worry if you haven't even seen The Matrix – just look at how we've made sure each paragraph follows **SEXI**. All we'd have to do to write the essay is expand each part of the essay plan. So easy!