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Teaching notes

TOK essay planning frame

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Write out your prescribed title (PT) in the space below. Write it out — don't cut and paste — to emphasise that you must not change the prescribed title in any way.

In a sentence or two, write what your answer to the prescribed title will be? You will have had to do some thinking to arrive at this 'answer', but you should be able to give a precise, succinct and informative answer to the title. No argument — just a direct response.

Briefly outline what you think are relevant knowledge questions (KQs) to your response. Think of these as issues pertaining to knowledge. These will help you maintain a second-order approach. The KQs you list here should be relevant to your response and be linked to the prescribed title.

List at least three 'premises' that you will need to establish in order for the answer to the PT to be justified. Try to write these in single sentences (you can elaborate in the next sections).

1

2

3

Write out your premises and the supporting 'evidence' that you are planning on using. Always write in full sentences:

Premise	
Evidence/argument (This is where you give a smaller argument or justification for your premise — why should I believe it? Concrete examples relating to the PT are good to use here.)	
Premise	
Evidence/argument	
Premise	
Evidence/argument	

<p>Conclusion</p> <p>What is the final summation of what these examples and this evidence are meant to say?</p>	
<p>Suppose someone disagreed with your answer.</p> <p>What would their disagreement be?</p> <p>How do you respond to their points?</p>	
<p>Significance</p> <p>Suppose someone were to say:</p> <p>'So what, who cares?'</p> <p>then</p> <p>'Now what?'</p> <p>How would you respond?</p> <p>Why is this title and the issues it raises important?</p>	

Using the knowledge framework (KF)

For the AOKs and the PT you've decided to engage with, offer some brief comments. For instance, if you are talking about history, consider the following in relation to the historical aspects of the PT and any relevant KQs being used to develop your response to the PT.

Scope/application

e.g. what are the limits of knowledge in this AOK? What will the limits of your own approach be? What will you NOT be exploring?

Concepts and language

e.g. what specialist concepts and language will you have to be aware of to complete your analysis of this PT?

Methodology

EG: What are the key methods used by this AOK to construct knowledge that the PT engages with?

Historical development

e.g. are there any developments in the field that are relevant to your PT or answer? Have any of the concepts or ideas related to your title changed over time?

Links to personal knowledge

e.g. what is the role of the individual knower/researcher in relation to the shared knowledge of this AOK community?

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