TOK essay planning frame

**Task: You will complete a plan, which tackles one of the past Theory of Knowledge essay questions. Ensure that you give this plan much thought. You will be marked on your ability to apply what you have learned in the course as well as your ability to include your own ideas. You can answer in bullet points as long as what you write is clear to the reader and coherent with your argument. Be relevant, any Knowledge Issues or Theory of Knowledge terminology that does not relate to the question will be ignored.**

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| **Chosen essay title:** |
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| **Possible opportunities to show off my TOK skills within the context of the chosen essay title:** | **Possible difficulties with the chosen essay title (ambiguous terms, ambiguous questions):** |

1. **The assessment criteria.**

**Read the assessment criteria carefully. Then decide how you will gain the maximum score for each criterion. Complete the boxes below by providing the essential elements of your paragraphs**

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**You need to have an idea of how you view/interpret/define the key terms and concepts in the title**

**You will need to show a clear understanding of knowledge questions**

Possible Knowledge questions relevant to the essay:

How will these knowledge issues be relevant to the development of the essay? How can you use them? How are they applicable to real life scenarios?

**You also need to show a good analysis of the knowledge questions**. The following pages will help you to do so. Make sure that you compose knowledge questions which you fully understand and which are relevant to the essay title before moving on to the following stages.

**You will need to talk about ways of knowing**; their limitations as well as possibilities as tools to create knowledge. Which ways of knowing are you using in your essay? Which concrete examples can you use to illustrate your points? Note that you should discuss them in the context of an area of knowledge.

You will talk about areas of knowledge. Which areas of knowledge do you discuss? Why are they particularly relevant to your knowledge questions, the essay titles and the ways of knowing? Are you mentioning elements of the knowledge framework you completed on the areas of knowledge?

**You will analyse claims and counterclaims, as well as different perspectives.**

Claims counterclaims

Perspective A Perspective B

My own perspective as a knower:

Personal knowledge Shared knowledge

You need to be insightful, sophisticated and thorough

By analyzing underlying assumptions and possible implications of knowledge claims, you demonstrate that you are insightful. By showing original examples which you came across yourself, you demonstrate that you are not purely recycling ideas.

An example of an underlying assumption in a knowledge claim and how you think of implications regarding these underlying assumptions (so what? question)

An example of an original idea you will use to illustrate your points:

**Your essay should be well structured**

Does your essay contain…

* an introduction?
* paragraphs with topic sentences, arguments with real life examples and links?
* a range of linking words?
* a conclusion which is both summative and insightful?

From the Centre of Academic Studies of Birmingham University:

(<http://library.bcu.ac.uk/learner/writingguides/1.33.htm>)









