Planning your essay – Visual mapping

Keep the title to a few major words. This acts to remind you of the particular focus of your Essay.

Introduction  (word count)

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Body  (word count)  (word count)

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<th>MAJOR ISSUE 1</th>
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Conclusion  (word count)

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Reference List

Provide an alphabetically ordered list of references on a separate page using the referencing system designated by your lecturer (e.g., APA, Harvard, etc.).
**Methods to incorporate citations:**

**To include another person's ideas:**
Brown (2003) claims that... argues that... points out that... reports that... proposes that... suggests that... states that... maintains that... implies that...

**To make comments about individual studies:**
The study comprised/consisted of... focussed on, has undertaken/attempted...
The findings were reported as... Brown's (2001) study has shown that / found that... Jones (1999) has indicated that...
develops a theoretical perspective that...
...is part of a growing body of work that... redefines the traditional notion/idea of...
...elaborates on the theory that... has undertaken/attempted a...
Brown (2001) raises... proposes... defends... substantiates... justifies the idea notion/proposition

**To make comments about a number of studies:**
Research (e.g. Brown, 2003; Smith, 2000) has shown that... Studies (e.g. Brown, 2003; Smith, 2000) have indicated that...
Studies (e.g. Brown, 2003; Smith, 2000) generally agree/confirmdisagree/refute... There is a common view that... The general finding is that...

Traditional theories/ideas are reworked as...

**To give your opinion when you are making a suggestion:**
Brown's (2003) claim seems to be that... suggests that... could be interpreted as... appears as though... It would seem that further investigations are needed to...

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Brown's (2003) claim seems to be that... suggests that... could be interpreted as... appears as though... It would seem that further investigations are needed to...

**To make comparisons between studies/ideas:**
Whereas previous studies ... this study seeks to ... While this study ... other studies ... Unlike previous studies, this study/article ... concludes that ...

Similarly, in comparison, in contrast, likewise, conversely, on the other hand, as was evidenced in previous studies, the findings/idea put forward in this study/article ...

The research has tended to focus on ... rather than on ...

Although considerable research effort has been given to ... less attention has been paid to ... These studies have emphasised ... as opposed to ...

**To make critical comments (strengths, weaknesses, limitations):**
The study was well presented and documented... assumes that... is predicated on the assumption... other differences were noted... however...

Even so, many questions were left unanswered.
The problem with these studies... The study does not... There is some contradictory evidence...
The... were questionable/debatable... It is unclear how...
The limitations of the... There are concerns with the...

**Methods to introduce a new idea or topic (e.g. in an essay):**
Recently there has been a strong interest in... The development of... is a problem...
The... has become a favoured topic because... The central issue is... The relationship between... and... has been investigated by... Many studies have focussed on...