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| <p><u>Source 1</u></p> <p>Wikianswers</p> | <p>The clues in the screenshot (Original source on left accessed 20.12.2016) indicate that this is not a reliable source of information. You can see an 'edit' facility at the top of the screen, which indicates that this is taken from a wiki, editable by any number of people. You need to check who is able to edit and whether articles are 'peer-reviewed' by recognised authorities in the subject. This is already a patchwork of contributions before you even begin to think of adapting it. The 'Q and A' confirms this as a site where essay titles can be uploaded and unreliable answers given. The full screenshot shows that contributors are 'rated' for reliability, but by whom? The information offered here is inaccurate and, even if properly referenced, would not gain you any credit in your essay or contribute positively to your long-term achievements.</p> |
| <p><u>Source 2</u></p> <p>Journal article</p> | <p>This extract is an abstract for an article available via Cambridge UL e-journals (accessed 13.08.2009), which is reflected in the formal presentation, with key words for more detailed searches in library databases. The authors are clearly identified with confirmation of their academic institutions. Competition is fierce to have articles accepted to peer-reviewed scientific journals, and those who are successful are therefore respected by experts in the field. During your first year you will not normally need to make reference to such a source, but it is useful to read the occasional article to widen your vocabulary and for an awareness of the expectations of writers and current areas of research in your subject. Reliable as this source is, its arguments may of course be challenged by subject experts.</p> |
| <p><u>Source 3</u></p> <p>Lecture Handout</p> | <p>This extract is taken from a <i>Living Cell</i> lecture handout which provides an essential overview of the topic. Such handouts have been compiled by the very people who are teaching you and are therefore a reliable source of information. The headings and bold text draw you to the key points, some of which you will pick out as appropriate to your essay title. Further reading of recommended text books would then be necessary to supplement your information. There might be recommended reading and a glossary at the end of the handout, which you should take time to read when planning your essay.</p> |
| <p>Source 4</p> | <p>This table is taken from a course textbook, Alberts, B et al (1994); <i>Molecular Biology of the Cell</i>, 3rd Edn., Garland, New York, page 22 .</p> |