

Plan A

There is no structuring of ideas here, just a list of unconnected points. This is good for the brainstorming stage, but it is not a finished plan. There is no argument, no structure, and insufficient evidence from the text.

Plan B

There is a lot of textual evidence here, and some evidence of an argument, although it doesn't seem particularly well developed. The plan should give details of what will be covered in the introduction and conclusion, because these are vital sections of the essay.

Plan C

There is a carefully mapped-out structure and a clear argument here, although the plan is lacking in detail – what evidence will be given to back up each point?

Think about your own essay plans. Do they look most like A, B or C? Or none of these? How could you improve them?

Produce a clear, detailed plan for your next essay which shows where your overall argument is heading and what material will be addressed in each paragraph.