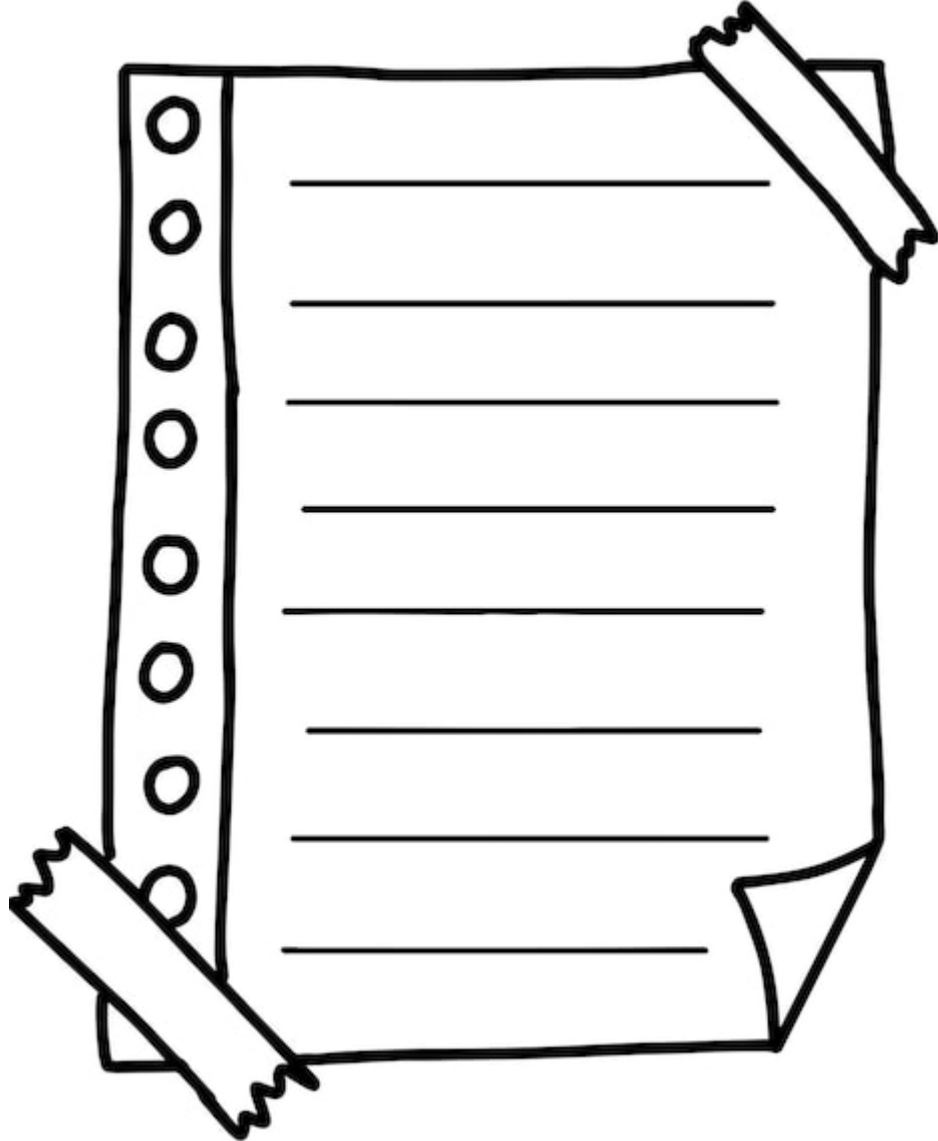


Reminder - Thinking Hard:

- We are looking to improve the efficiency of our study and improve long-term memory.
- So far we have looked at:
 - Feynman Technique.
 - Spacing and interleaving
 - Maximising review time through foldables)
- Today's focus is on developing new methods of planning in an efficient way.



SPOs and MPOs

LOs:

- To examine effective planning strategies for written answers.

Why is planning an important part of assessment?

- Regardless of the task, you need to know how to get to the end...
- Maths – knowing what the problem is, how to approach it and then solving it.
- Religious studies – decoding the question, identifying a line of argument and then stick to it coherently.

*“Athletes, architects, artists, playwrights, chefs, physicians, lawyers, and members of countless other professions **rely on plans to accomplish their objectives**...If you’re about to embark on a road trip, try a new recipe, put together an Ikea table, develop a football play, build a Lego model - or **engage in just about any complex, multi-step task - you need to have a plan.**”*

Planning is a key part of what we need to do...

- How many of you plan prior to writing practice essay questions or completing home learning essays?
- How do you currently go about planning?
- Is your plan:
 - Time efficient?
 - Helping you to achieve the grades you want?

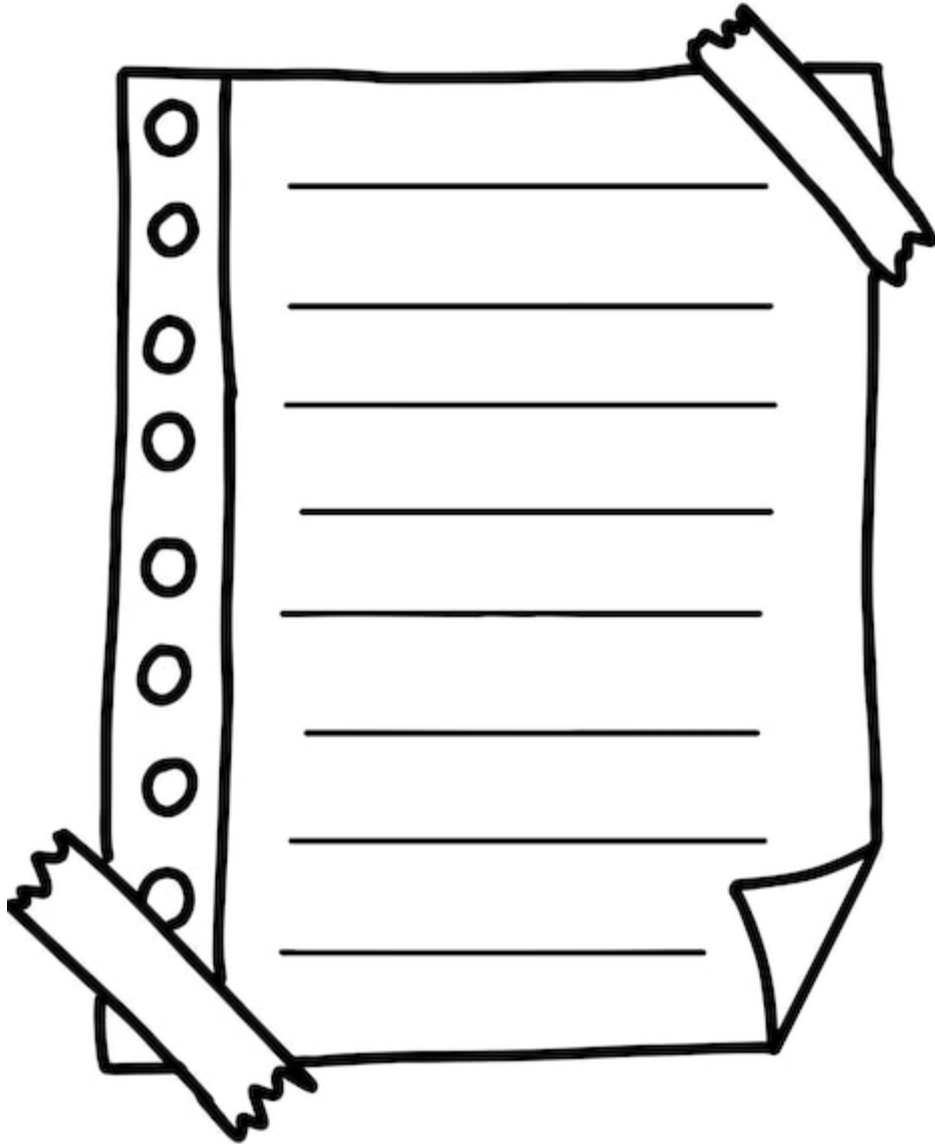
The features of a good plan:

- Have a clear and logical process.
- Demonstrate knowledge (i.e. factual recall) **AND** understanding (how these facts relate to the issue).
- Can be translated into extended writing.
- Where appropriate – show a line of argument.

BUT – essay planning is often ignored OR takes far too long.

Enter the Single / Multi Paragraph Outline

- Simple and linear planning structure.
- Repeatable template – can be used in multiple subject contexts.
- Improves focus on a topic and promotes more analytical thinking.



STEP ONE: Signpost

- Write your opening sentence in full that introduces the argument/topic that you are unpacking.

STEP TWO: Support

- Bullet point evidence from your memory/revision notes that can be utilised to support your opening sentence.
- Remember that these should be precise.
- You should also consider the order that you put your supporting evidence in so that it has impact.

STEP THREE: Concluding link

- Write your final sentence for the paragraph that links back to the argument/issue/topic discussed

Applying this to your studies:

- Take out the exam question that you have brought with you to this session.
- Use the Single/Multi Paragraph Outline approach (depending on expected amount of paragraphs) to plan a response to this.
- If you have not brought anything with you, complete a MPO in answer to one of the following questions:
 - Should footballers earn more than nurses?
 - Are explosions always destructive?

Key takeaways from today's session:

- Writing places huge demands on the brain – we need to think carefully and plan for the outcome we need to achieve to help with this.
- Planning paragraphs is just as important as writing as it helps us to think analytically about the task ahead.
- SPOs and MPOs can be used to provide a roadmap for extended writing.
- These plans don't always need to be written up in full but provide meaningful study opportunities.