

Analytical essay planner

Separate causes and triggers. Rank their importance.

A3

STUDENT _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____ ESSAY / UNIT _____

01 / THE QUESTION

Was Sarajevo the most important cause of the First World War?

Year 9 History / KS3 / Causal historical argument
Europe before 1914: weigh alliances, militarism and imperial rivalry against the Sarajevo assassination.

02 / WORKING THESIS

Take a position and name the reasons you will test.

Build the case Rank long-term pressures against the Sarajevo trigger using dated evidence. _____

01 First line of argument

establish

CLAIM / POINT

SOURCE / EVENT

ANALYSIS / EVALUATION

LINK TO THESIS

02 Second line of argument

develop

CLAIM / POINT

SOURCE / EVENT

ANALYSIS / EVALUATION

LINK TO THESIS

03 Third line of argument

extend

CLAIM / POINT

SOURCE / EVENT

ANALYSIS / EVALUATION

LINK TO THESIS

Pressure test the claim A strong essay takes the best objection seriously before reaching a conclusion. _____

04 / COUNTERARGUMENT

Which rival cause has the strongest evidence?

05 / WEIGH THE EVIDENCE

Would the event still have happened without it?

06 / CONCLUSION OUTLINE

Synthesis, qualification and final judgement.

TRANSITION BANK / CHOOSE BY MEANING

Long before

More immediately

Yet

Most decisively

SENTENCE STARTERS / ADAPT TO THE TARGET LANGUAGE

Claim A central reason is... **Evidence** This factor mattered because... **Analysis** This suggests... **Limit** An alternative view...

☐ Thesis answers the question ☐ Evidence is identifiable ☐ Alternative view is weighed ☐ Register suits the task