



Argument Crafting

- When you are writing the main body paragraphs, you have to remember that you are crafting an argument. What does that mean? It means that every sentence you make is building up to a point you are making to address the argumentative word (recall what this mean from the summary guide on question analysis). Each sentence is purposeful, and it should be coherent as you flow from sentence to sentence.
- Always keep the big picture in mind, in other words, the question requirement. Constantly remind yourself what you are trying to answer rather than simply write what comes to mind.
- Before you even begin writing the main paragraph, it is crucial to know what point you want to make in that paragraph.
- The easiest structure to use is PEEL (Point, Example, Elaboration, Link). Note that elaboration comes after the example because it is imperative to highlight the significance of the case study you have mentioned, rather than simply stating it.
- Point: This refers to the topic sentence. The topic sentence holds the very essence of the body paragraph. It should not be just stating your point. It must be well-explained. Compare the following examples: ("Do films offer anything more than an escape from reality?" 2014 Qn)

E.g. 1 → Films do not just escape from reality because they depict the real issues ongoing in the world today.

E.g. 2 → Often, reality can be haunting and instead of shying away from it to depict fiction, films can give a perceptive look at problems beleaguering mankind and society. In doing so, films propel people to confront reality and ameliorate the existent problems.

Comparing the 2, e.g. 1 does not properly address the argument (i.e. films offer something more than escape). It merely states that films show reality too and this does not directly answer the question. E.g. 2 explains that films through presenting reality rather than fiction, offer perspectives that can actively shape people' actions. This is the role films have rather than just serving as a form of escapism.

- Example: There are 6 sources of examples (Case Studies, Clusters, Comparisons, Statistics, Research/Quotes, Books/Films). Remember the easiest way to have examples is to find significant stuff that grab your attention. It's easier to remember and also substantial!
- Elaboration: This is when you explain 2 things. 1) Explain the example, show why that example supports your point and how that answers the question. 2) Further explain your argument, elaborate to give more depth to it!