

How to start planning to plan the essay:

1. Read this document!
2. Read the Assessment Outline
3. Choose one of the broad essay topics (or more than one if you really want to be prepared!)
4. Read the “Breakdown of Assessment Criteria” - you may (or may not) need to return to this document later, or during the essay or in editing.
5. Read the “Textual Features” document (**very important!**)
6. Read the ‘Making Connections’ document
7. Read through the Readings provided for *Brave New World & 1984* (if you have not already – these will be themes and characters handouts and anything else under the heading “Readings”). As you read, keep your essay topic in mind, and highlight and annotate all interesting information about characters, themes, style & textual features, VVCs, **that might be relevant to your essay topic and what you want to compare.**

The following you can do in whichever order works best for you:

- Read the ‘how to write the essay’ material – highlight anything you think you might need to remember so that you can find it easily on the day of the SAC as you write the essay.
- Read the Sample essay material on **hope**
Please note: the file ‘**Hope – how to break down; sample contentions and topic sentences**’ is a long and at times rambling document – it is good in that I have given you lots of examples of topic sentences, contentions and then given an overview of how to write that essay:

However: the **Sample Introduction** and the **How to Write a Body Paragraph** are both better documents (they contain similar information but in a more condensed and easier to read fashion; they do not have as many example contentions and topic sentences however).
- Use your TEXTBOOK! You could choose to scrap a lot of my notes and/or read the advice in the textbook instead/as well. There is a whole chapter on how to compare texts; then there is another whole chapter on how to write a comparative essay!
- Start planning your own essay! The file ‘Planning General Additional Advice’ will help with this. You may not do everything it suggests, but it will give you some good ways to get started!

OPTIONAL: Read the sample essays in your Textbook. Pay special attention to:

> the annotations in the side columns;

- > the contention of the essay (in intro) and how each topic sentence links to it;
- > the structure used (Block? Block with transition paragraph? Integrated?);
- > TEEL (is it used effectively/consistently throughout?)
- > the textual features that are discussed (especially for the play);
- > the similarities in ideas;
- > the differences in ideas.

NOTE: which structure each sample essay uses

Do your own research!

Lisa Tran has an excellent website on how to write A+ comparative essay at a Class 12 level (pretty much the exact same task). She has **videos** as well if you find that easier.

<https://www.vcestudyguides.com/blog/the-ultimate-guide-to-vce-comparative>