How do I start my assignment?

Learn how to:

• analyse tasks
• identify what you have to do
• select relevant readings
• plan your writing

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Step 1: Analyse the task question

• Highlight the directive (task word) – what does it mean?
• Highlight content words – can you define them?

Video gaming has negative impacts on behavioural development. Discuss.

Consider and offer some interpretation or evaluation of something; present a judgement on the value of arguments for and against something.

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Step 2: Identify the question(s) is/are which you need to answer

- What is the main question you need to answer?
- What do you need to ask to develop and support your argument?

The main question you need to answer

Does video gaming have negative impacts on behavioural development?

How you will develop & support your answer

How do I know this? What evidence is there? What are the different arguments about this in the literature?
Think about your approach

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Behavioural development
What could this mean?

Type of behaviour

- cognition
- motor-skills
- social

Your discipline

Psychology
Education
Social Work
Communication
Cultural studies

Negative impacts
What are they?
Read to identify what literature shows

Video-gaming
What is it?
Identify your definition

What context(s)?

Who is your focus group?

What could this mean?

Type of behaviour

- cognition
- motor-skills
- social
Read with purpose

# Take notes with purpose

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article Notes</th>
<th>Your Column</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author/Article Name:</td>
<td>• Key Terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis Statement:</td>
<td>• References to look up (other books, authors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Argument 1 (include details, supporting info):</td>
<td>• Questions you have about the material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Argument 2: (include page #s with your notes for quick reference)</td>
<td>• Other readings that this relates to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Argument 3: (notes for each argument should actually take a minimum of one page each)</td>
<td>• Do I agree? Why or why not?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Read and take notes of the **main ideas** AND add your comments

- **Why** do you think the ideas are important in relation to this essay question.
- **How** will you use the ideas to support or develop your argument?

(Going back to school 2011)

(Lee 2011)
What are the next steps?

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- **Identify key words**
  - Task words
  - Content words

- **Identify task questions**
  - Main question
  - Questions to help develop your argument

- **Think about your approach**
  - What?
  - Where?
  - Who?
  - How?

- **Read with purpose**
  - Is it relevant?
  - What parts are most relevant?
  - Why is it relevant?

- **Think again**
  - What approach will I take?
Video gaming has negative impacts on behavioural development. Discuss.

**Introduction**
- **Background**: technology / entertainment / society
- **Issue**: video gaming / impact is questionable
- **Position**: somewhat negative but education plays role for positive impacts on behaviour in children
- **Scope**: negative impacts – overview / role of video gaming in education: social, cognitive, motor skills

**Body Paragraph 1** (Do this for each paragraph)
- **Topic sentence**: negative impacts on behavioural development - evident
- **Development**: explain and give examples of three key impacts
- **Support**: research/studies which show this
- **Close/transition**: rebuttal statement – these impacts can be mitigated

**Conclusion**
- **Summary**: what was covered in body (no new information)
- **Final statement**: restate position/argument (restate within context of impact of technology from a broader social perspective)