Final TOK Essay

A guide for the young Samurai



The titles will be released later

1. “Accepting knowledge claims always involves an element of trust.” Discuss this claim with reference to two areas of knowledge.

2. Within areas of knowledge, how can we differentiate between change and progress? Answer with reference to two areas of knowledge.

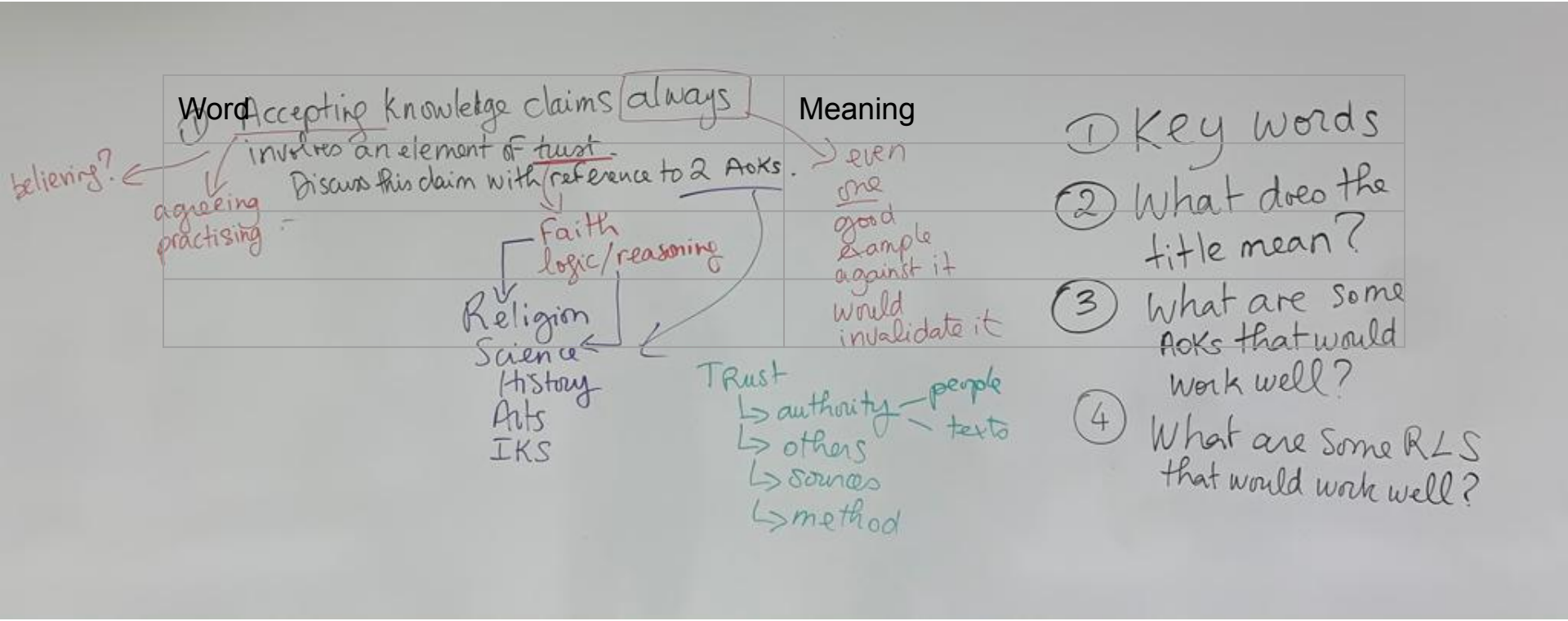
3. “Labels are a necessity in the organization of knowledge, but they also constrain our understanding.” Discuss this statement with reference to two areas of knowledge.

4. “Statistics conceal as much as they reveal.” Discuss this claim with reference to two areas of knowledge.

5. “Areas of knowledge are most useful in combination with each other.” Discuss this claim with reference to two areas of knowledge.

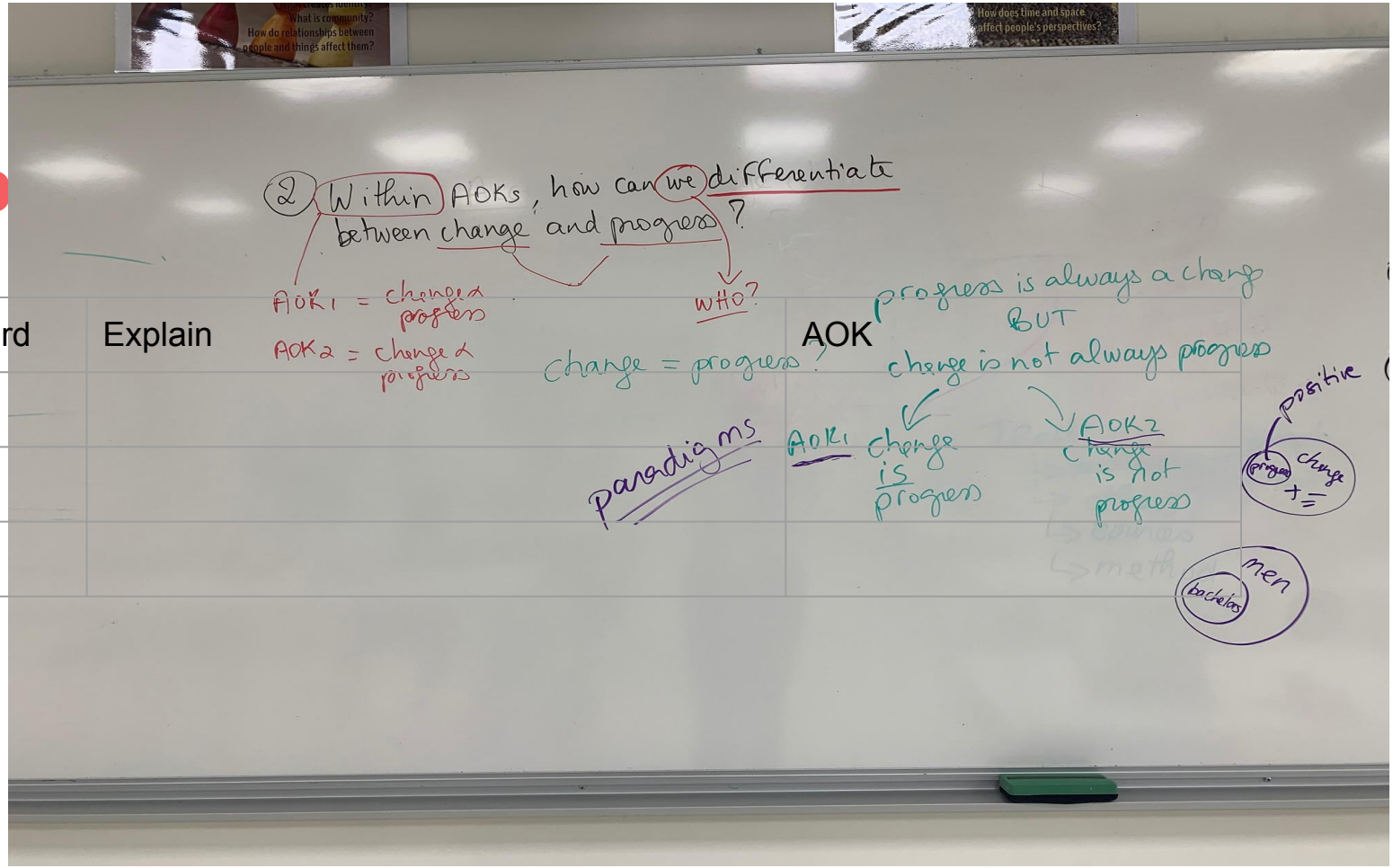
6. “Avoiding bias seems a commendable goal, but this fails to recognize the positive role that bias can play in the pursuit of knowledge.” Discuss this statement with reference to two areas of knowledge.

Title 1 : Identify and explain the key words



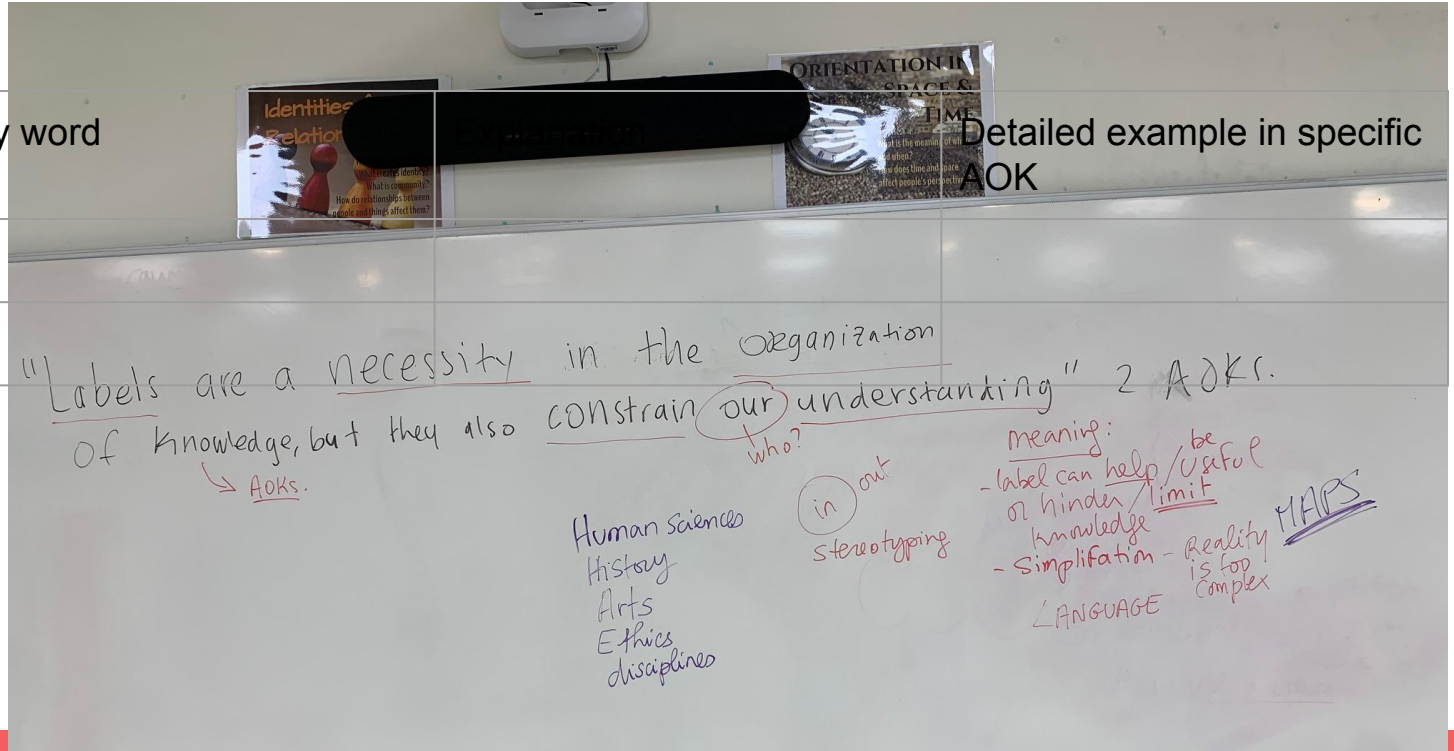
Title 2
the mo

Key word	Explain	AOK

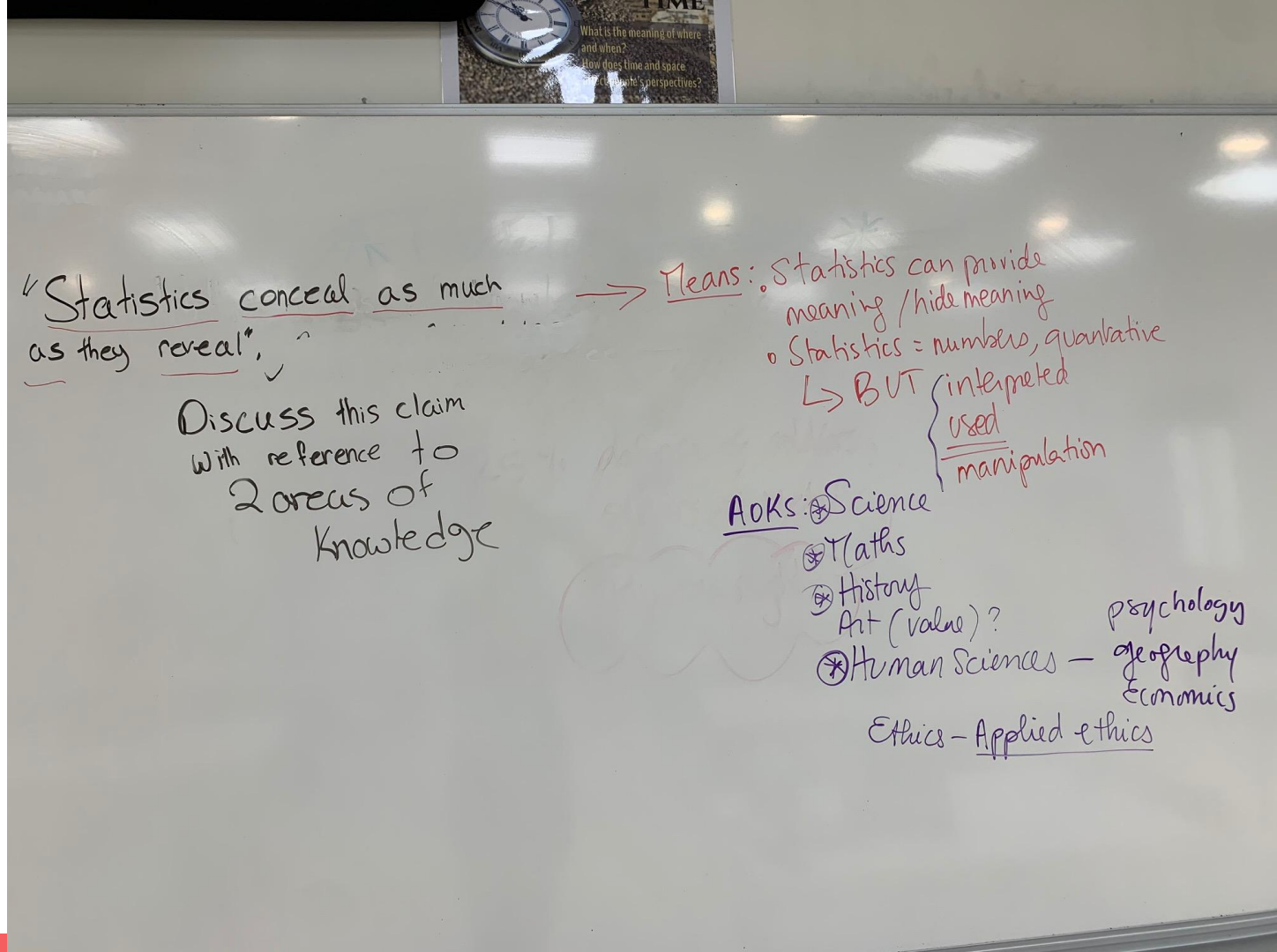


Title 3 Identify Keywords, explain, and examples from specific AOK

Key word		Detailed example in specific AOK



Title 4


TIME
What is the meaning of where and when?
How does time and space
"Statistics conceal as much as they reveal".
Discuss this claim with reference to 2 areas of Knowledge
Means: • Statistics can provide meaning / hide meaning
• Statistics = numbers, quantative
↳ BUT interpeted used manipulation
AOKs: Science
Maths
History
Art (value)?
Human Sciences – psychology geography Economics
Ethics – Applied ethics

Title 5 : Up to you now!

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What does 'useful' mean?
- Applications
- Real-life
- Predictions
- Relatable
- Meaning

how?

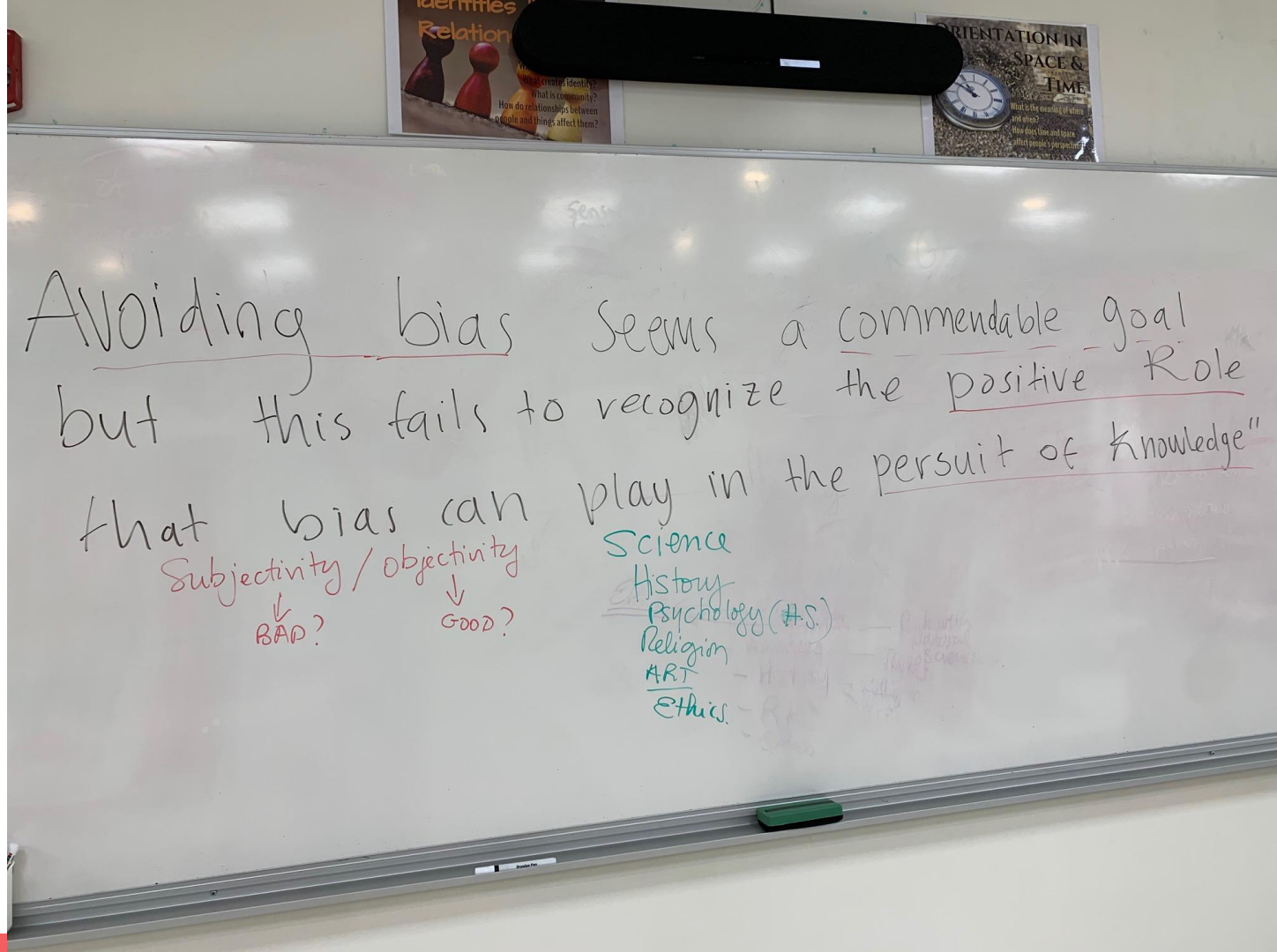
* (5) " AOKs are most useful in combination with each other." 2 AOKs

K.O.

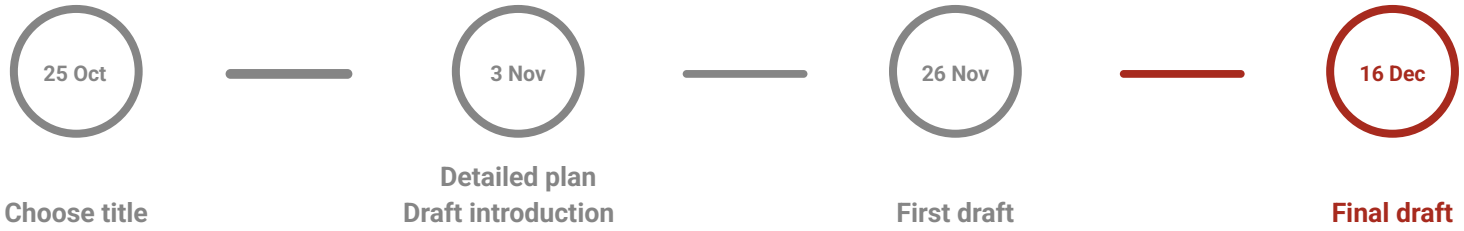
Natural sciences, math
RKS, history
History, art



Title 6


Avoiding bias seems a commendable goal
but this fails to recognize the positive Role
that bias can play in the persuit of knowledge"
Subjectivity / objectivity
BAD?
GOOD?
Science
History
Psychology (H.S.)
Religion
ART
Ethics
ORIENTATION IN SPACE & TIME

Timeline of deadlines



Step 1 - Choose an essay title

Step 2 - Read the Official IB Guidelines

Official IB guidelines

Clichéd examples to avoid in TOK

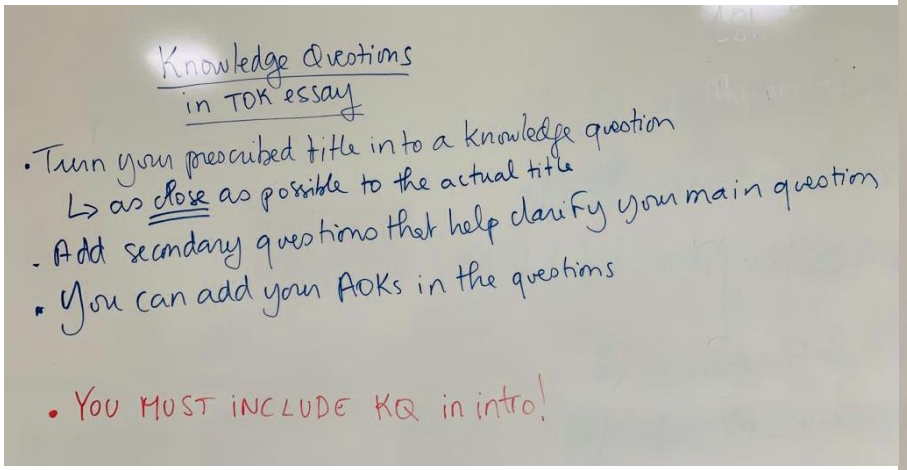
Step 3 - Start working on the Nov 3 assignment

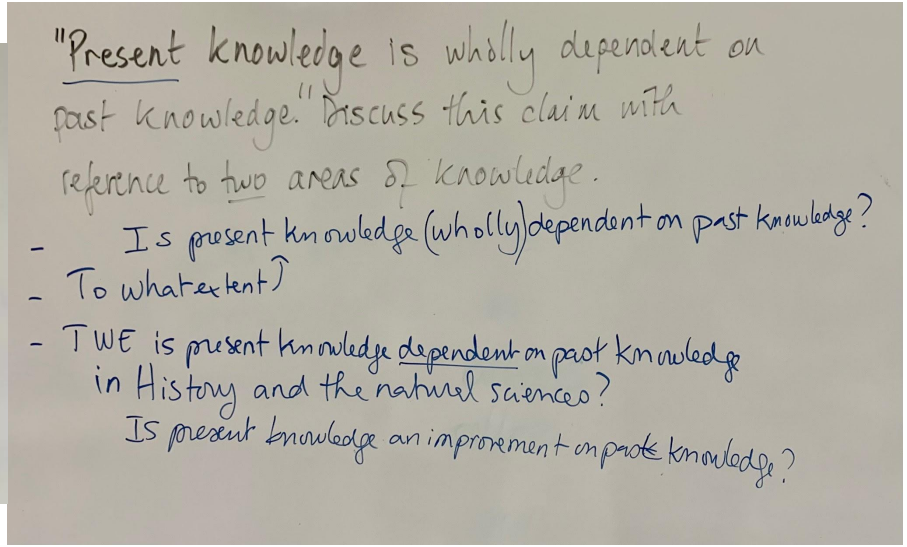
Everything is in Google classroom

You need to do three things in order to complete this assignment:

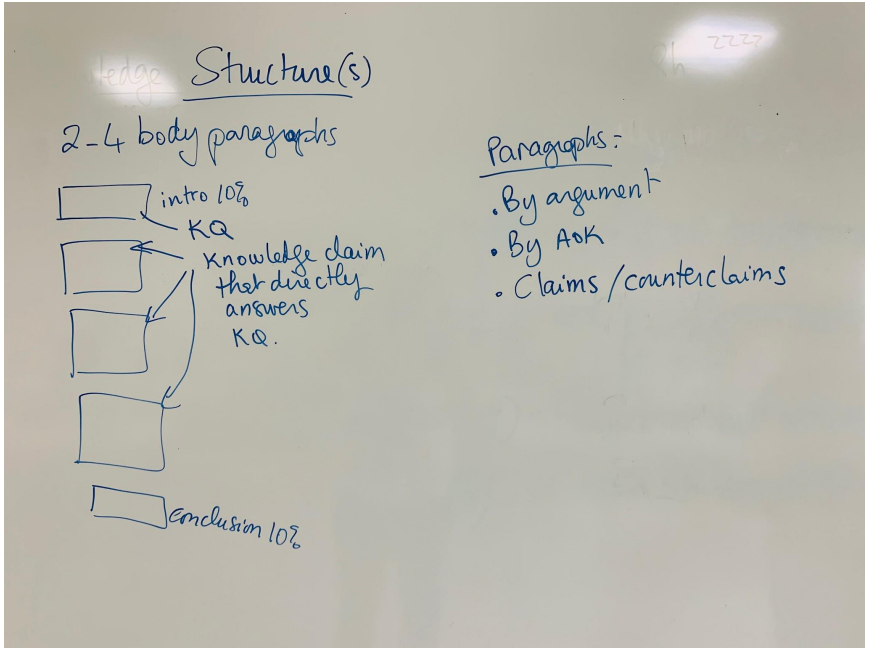
1. Complete all the boxes in the Preparation stages
2. Complete all boxes in the Detailed Plan (though you may plan for 2 to 4 body paragraphs; 3 is not a compulsory format)
3. Write a first Introduction Draft. The introduction should always be roughly 10% of the total, so here you should aim for 150-200 words.

Creating knowledge questions.





Possible essay plans



How to write a good introduction

Areas of knowledge + possible ways of knowing / areas of knowledge framework

Knowledge question(s) + secondary questions

Keywords clarification

Thesis

Assumptions in the title? Your own assumptions?

Clarify the meaning of the title

Why is it important / interesting?

Hook / narrative / RLS

How to organise a good paragraph

What makes a good topic sentence in TOK?

- Make sure it is a knowledge claim
- Make sure it directly answers one if your knowledge questions (preferably the main knowledge question)
- Make sure it includes some sort of justification, i.e. “Emotion can help gain knowledge in History **because** it gives a human dimension to events that we would otherwise not understand fully”. The first part of that sentence is not enough!

How to organise a good paragraph?

Does PEEL work in TOK? How do we used “evidence” (RLS / examples)?

- Often, having a good explanation BEFORE the evidence is best in TOK, or you may end up *arguing by example*, which is a serious logical fallacy!
- The example is here to back your argument up. Make sure your argument is solid even without the example.
- The only exception to that is when trying to refute or falsify “always” or “never” statements: in order to refute such a statement, the only thing you need is one strong example of the opposite. But this needs to be clearly stated: i.e. “The title suggest that knowledge always involves emotion, and therefore a single example of knowledge not involving emotion would be enough to falsify the title”

How to organise a good paragraph?

Suggested structures + what does “link” mean in TOK

How to write a good conclusion

Coming soon :)