

The Habits of Mind

Habits of mind are ways of thinking which make a person more effective in ANY subject. This is HOW to think not what to think. You'll never be at a loss to know what to write on essays if you use these. These should become habits, you should always think like this.

The Habits:

Repeat the question in the answer
Give evidence - Facts, quotes, numbers
State connections to other topics
State the significance of what you are saying
"What if",
State the other side.

Ten questions you should always ask, in every situation.

1. What's the question? - Restate the question in the answer.
2. What's the view point?
3. What's the evidence?
4. What difference does this make? Why is this important, significant?
5. How else can this considered? Others' view points.
6. What is my responsibility?
7. How does this affect others?
8. How do I feel about this?
9. How can I improve this?
10. Now what?

Taken from Sedona Red Rock High School's Coalition of Essential School material.