

11 Legal Studies How to write essay Pt I

so what exactly is an SI at the end of the day an SI is basically an argument you are simply making an argument so what what the person will bring to the table is the marker or the person making the exam has asked you a question and that asking you to answer the question that is all they're asking you to do it's very some people find it really intimidating I don't know what to say on there how to write it at the end of the day what they're asking you to do is answer the question that I've asked now what I'm going to give you uh some tips on how to do that some tips on how to approach the question some tips on how to structure your [criminal law essay](#) so that what you're saying answer the question as clearly as possible so let's have a look first thing you're supposed to do is work out what the question is I say deconstruct the question what does that mean to deconstruct the question simply you're working out what the questions asking and how it's asking you to actually answer the question so if the question was from a legal studies point of view let's say assess the effectiveness of the legal system dads are really broad question isn't it yes the effectiveness of the legal system how do you actually do that how do you deconstruct the question what you're looking for is you're looking to actually categorize the words in the question to work out one of these so for example that question assess the effectiveness of the legal system what's the doing word in there what's the verb asset it's asking you to assess what the effectiveness of the legal system so it's right away you've got the verb assess you know that you have to provide an assessment then you know what you're using to actually provide the assessment you're assessing the effectiveness how effective it is and then what is it that you're actually looking at what's the topic the legal system there's a couple of things you can actually use when you're looking at the question you might say it's asking me to explain this so it's ask me to assess this so you you assess you're looking at what am i assessing how am i assessing it and often and this is what I'm talking about what I was saying it's a broad question often you can add into that in regards to victims in civil cases or in regards to victims in crime so makes sense so so often they'll actually give a a limiting kind of account there

which actually limits the question so it might say assess the effectiveness of the legal system in relation to appellate jurisdiction or in relation to the state Supreme Court so you're talking about a particular court system within the legal system everyone getting that all right so yeah the first deconstruct the question work out what the question is actually asking you to do then work out how it's asking you to do it right so it's not just and you might be honest or do that we'll try it we'll use lots of examples and you'll see it's not a as I heaps hard thing to do it's a skill takes a little while - okay what do they actually ask me what are the words what do those words mean I'll make sure I properly understand the question so one sit on that cart with an SI plan there really will you as I've said previously the recording didn't work those people at home that are wondering what's going on very rarely will you write a well-structured clear essay that's logical that flows well unless you've actually planned it out clearly and the plan you start with working out what the answer is you've already looked at the question you've already worked out what they're asking you and how they're asking you to do it now you work out what the answer is so your answer might be the legal system is not effective when it comes to dealing with victims and crime in a certain type of crime in white-collar crimes for example and these are the reasons why so when you've worked out what your answer is you really need to work out what's the best way to actually answer the question and that's I mean with structuring they're there they can be more more than one way to structure an answer what you're looking for is what's the best way to structure it so that my answer is as clear as humanly possible false to give an example if it said compare and contrast the legal process for minority groups dealing with a certain issue for say Aboriginal people and the elderly compared their access to the legal system what you could do is you could enter that in two ways you could say they're very different or they're the same they're do these two groups access to the to the legal system and so you could structure that question by saying here's all the access that Aborigines have to the legal system they have this this happens a happens B happen C happens now let's talk about when the elderly people try and access the system a the C happens that's the way

you could structure it just to reiterate you want to come up with a structure that best and most clearly answers the question so the reader knows exactly what your answer is exactly how you're gonna get to that answer and so the argument flows the answer is a plus B plus C equals the answer I'm gonna go talk about a and that adds up to this then I'll talk about B and that adds up to this C that up this therefore a plus B plus C equals the answer so we're gonna use this question and do a little example okay so straight away we've got what do you been asked to do so compare and contrast there are two words yes let's put that in a different color makes sense compare and contrast what are you contrasting what are you comparing were you contrasting access to the legal system yes so access to the legal system is the thing that you are comparing and contrasting and water which groups have it elderly and Aborigines okay so you've got Aboriginal access and elderly access that's the question you have been asked to look at access to the legal system for Aboriginal people and access to the legal system for elderly people and compare and contrast that access let's have a look at how you can plan it okay so how do we structure this question well you could do it this way let's find say three things or two even that are similar to comparisons and three things that are different and just go here's the answer there are three things that are similar three things that are different and similarities and then differences in conclusion there are three things that are similar about their access to the law there are three things that are different about their access to the law so you group together the actual problems or the advantages that they had when they're accessing the law and you've gone when it comes to comparisons I've got three things that are grouped together it comes to contrasting here are three things that are different about their access to the law or you could do it quite different to that and as I previously stated you could go here's what Aboriginal access is like here's what the elderly access is like and then within there when you're describing what the access is like you're going to draw like an overall picture of their access so we can say a conclusion that the aboriginal access has problems like this just isn't this however when it they're helped out by that that that and that now let's

talk about this elderly access talk about the access now we can see that owed early access they had problems with this this and this and they have advantages that are like this this and this then your conclusion is what puts them together therefore by looking at both sides access to the to the law we can see that they have similar problems in this in this area however they're helped out in that in that area I don't see how two different structures can still answer the same question you just need to go well what's the best way what's the easiest most clearest most logical way to set this answer out so that the market knows exactly what I know and how well I've answered the question hope introduction your introduction should include the answer you should seek to answer the question as soon as humanly possible introductions should have the answer in it if you're assessing the effectiveness of the legal system in relation to victims of corporate crime your answer should be the legal system is inefficient in dealing with victims of corporate crime or is largely effective with these limiting factors so the intro should include the answer the intro should also include a definition of terms all right if there's certain terms you need to be able to define them so that you and the marker or the person reading it on the same page when you're using that term example from our last example access to the legal system what does that mean what are you referring to when you are saying access to the legal system understand okay you would seek in that example to define aborigines the elderly and access to the legal system okay you do it the intro so the marker knows who you're referring to and what you're referring to when you say this therefore this access to the system is limited to leave the system is limited yes it's important to note that last bit the reasons why that is the answer so the interest should have this is the answer this is what I mean when I talk about this this and this and these are the reasons why that is the answer and that should structure your essay okay so if you have say three points that make up your answer okay the the legal system is not effective because in this circumstance this person gets you know staffed in this circumstance it's a costly and very long-winded way of doing nothing and this other reason send it out so that those three reasons are going to be your paragraphs

we're gonna be what you're talking about and in that order so the marker
the person that's reading it can read your intro and know how you're sitting
at your answer