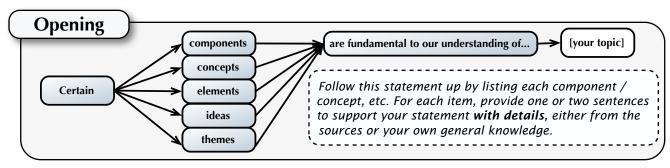


# **I.B. Command Terms Primer**

This reference sheet will help you plan your answers to IB essay questions. **Try to internalize these steps by May.** 

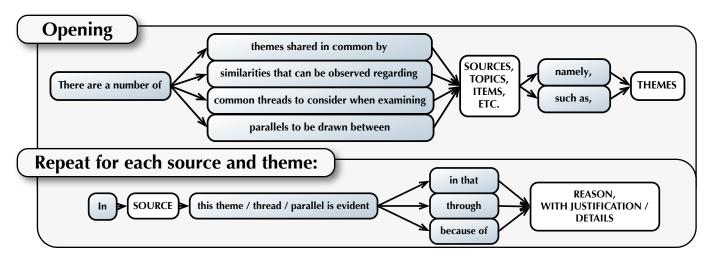
#### **ANALYZE**

"Break down in order to bring out the essential elements or structure."



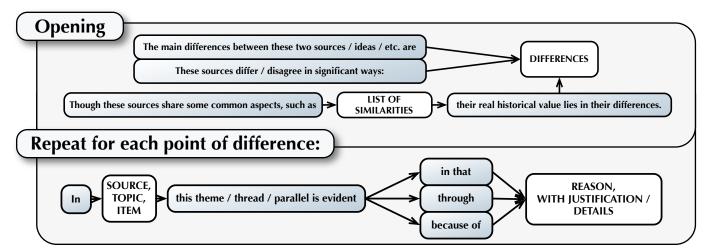
#### **COMPARE**

"Highlight the similarities between two sources or concepts."



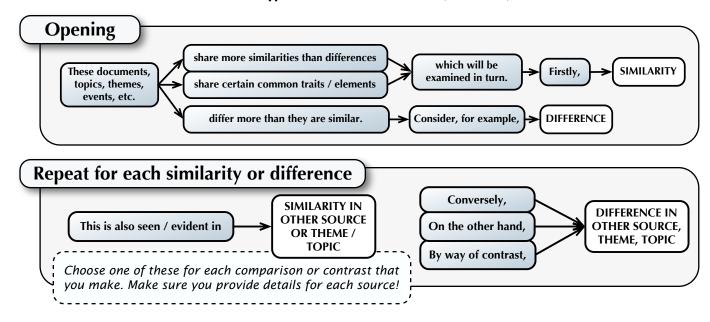
#### **CONTRAST**

"Highlight the differences between two sources or concepts."



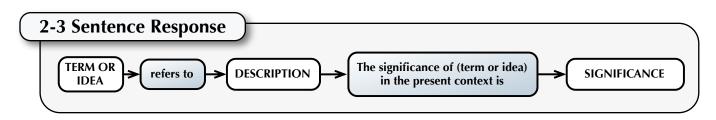
#### **COMPARE & CONTRAST**

"Outline both the similarities and differences between two (or more) sources."



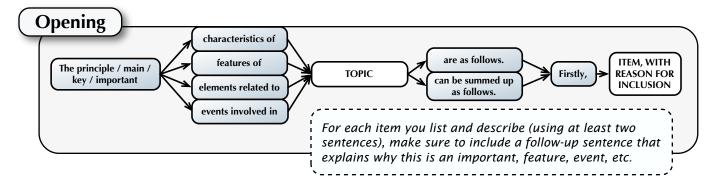
# **DEFINE (WHAT IS \_\_\_\_?)**

"Give the precise meaning of a word, phrase, or concept."



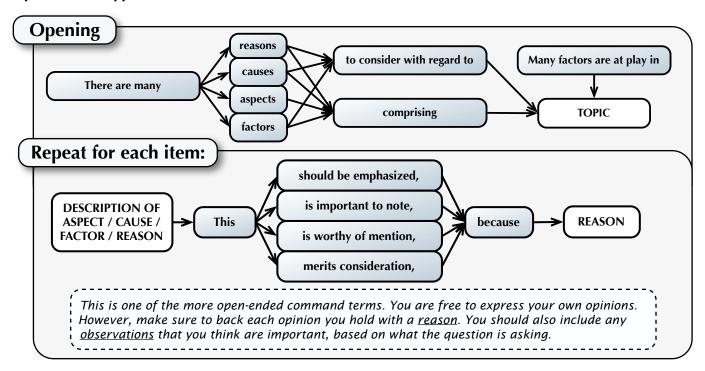
#### **DESCRIBE**

"Give a detailed account."



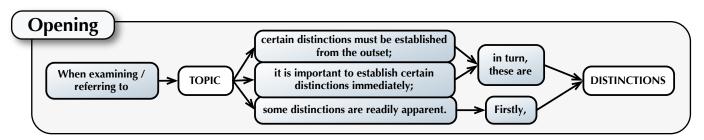
#### **DISCUSS**

"Offer a considered and balanced review that includes a range of arguments, factors or hypotheses."



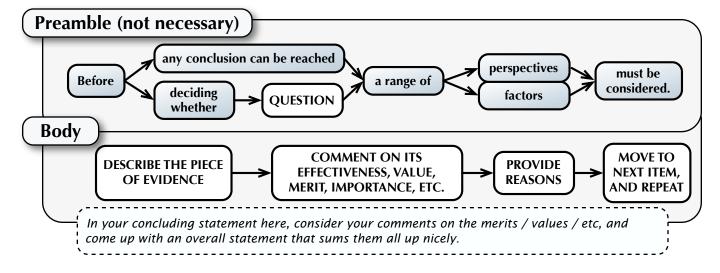
#### **DISTINGUISH**

"Make clear the differences between two or more concepts or items."



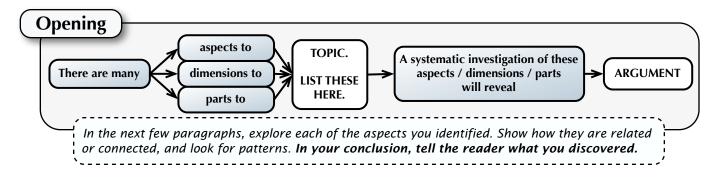
### **EVALUATE (ASSESS)**

"Make an appraisal by weighing up the strengths and limitations."



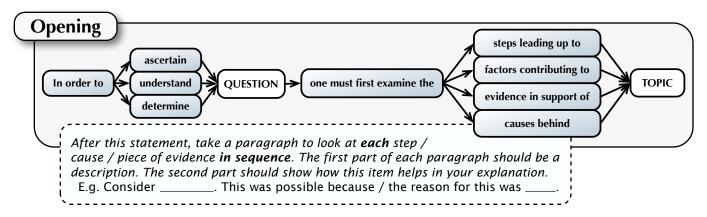
#### **EXAMINE**

"Consider an argument or concept in a way that uncovers the assumptions and interrelationships of the issue."



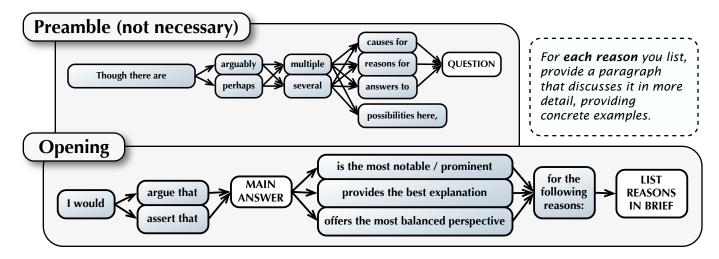
## EXPLAIN (WHY \_\_\_ ?)

"Give a detailed account including reasons or causes."



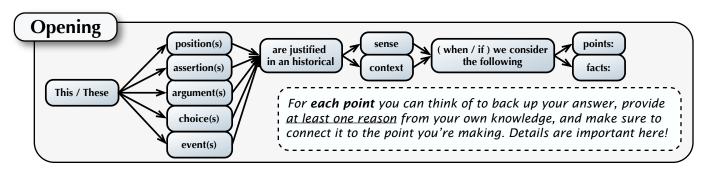
#### **IDENTIFY**

"Provide an answer from a number of possibilities."



#### **JUSTIFY**

"Give valid reasons or evidence to support an answer or conclusion."



#### TO WHAT EXTENT

"Consider the merits or otherwise of an argument or concept. Opinions and conclusions should be presented clearly and supported with appropriate evidence and sound argument."

