

# Task 2

Look at the two examples of student introductions. In pairs, highlight as many of the five stages listed as possible.

1. Identify the subject of the essay
2. Act as a 'roadmap' to signpost the reader
3. Highlight major debates lying 'behind' the question
4. Define key terms
5. Establish a position or 'thesis statement'

## Extract 1

The capacity of human beings to acquire the diverse rules and grammar of a language is truly remarkable. People all over the world seem to begin to acquire language at around the same age and this is one of the factors that led Chomsky to create his innateness hypothesis. More specifically, Chomsky has argued that humans have some kind of genetical Language Acquisition Device (LAD) which is now replaced with the more accurate UG or 'Universal Grammar'. His theory is accepted by many contemporary psycholinguists and is most eloquently defended in Steven Pinker's book, *The Language Instinct*. While some researchers disagree with his views and there is evidence to support both sides, I will argue that Chomsky's beliefs are well-supported and very influential in the history of psycholinguistics.

## Extract 2

The tradition of second language teaching was for centuries based on one classical method, which enjoyed absolute and unquestionable authority until the turn of the nineteenth century and which in some societies still remains the synonym for satisfactory language teaching. The twentieth century, however, turned into a training ground for the many 'best ways' of teaching a foreign language, as a result of intensive research and constant changes in the field of second language acquisition theories. In the last few decades, many Second Language Acquisition researchers have been advocating for yet another shift. The communicative or functional approach is believed by many to provide the best model for teaching a foreign language.

In this essay, I will attempt to place the communicative approach within a broader context of second language teaching theory and practice. I will also discuss the decisive factors underlying teaching trends in [name of country] state schools with respect to the communicative approach.

# Task 4

Read the following list of extracts from the conclusions and match them with the list of functions in the box.

- i) *summary of main body*
- ii) *limitations of research*
- iii) *suggestions for further research*
- iv) *implications and proposals*

- a) In this review, attempts have been made to summarise and assess the current research trends of transgenic rice dealing exclusively with agronomically important genes.
- b) As always, this investigation has a number of limitations to be considered in evaluating its findings.
- c) Obviously, business expatriates could benefit from being informed that problem focused coping strategies are more effective than symptom focused ones.
- d) Another line of research worth pursuing further is to study the importance of language for expatriate assignments.
- e) Our review of thirteen studies of strikes in public transport demonstrates that the effect of a strike on public transport ridership varies and may either be temporary or permanent.
- f) To be more precise, there was a positive relation between tolerant and patient problem solving and all four measures of adjustment; general, interaction, work and subjective well-being.
- g) To empirically test this conjecture, we need more cross-national replication of this research.

# Task 5

**Bearing in mind what you know about conclusions, talk to your neighbour and comment on the following short student example:**

In conclusion, deposit insurance schemes should be designed in a manner so that they discourage, to some extent, the taking of moral risks whilst enhancing the effectiveness of safety nets. Based on what has been discussed in this paper, I would disagree with the current conventional wisdom surrounding deposit insurance.

The study focused on a theoretical presentation of the ineffectiveness of deposit insurance and thus further research in this area could be conducted to assess the relationship between deposit insurance and moral hazard. This could be carried out by conducting detailed empirical research testing the effectiveness of both explicit and implicit deposit insurance in relation to moral hazard.