

4 STEPS to DEVELOP a CONCEPT or ARGUMENT

STATE

State your idea as clearly & precisely as you can, including key terms & concepts.

ELABORATE

Elaborate on your statement, "unpacking" the meaning of the key terms & connecting them to related concepts.

EXEMPLIFY

Provide an example to support, illustrate, or prove your claim (expressed in "state"). Pick the most relevant, significant, compelling evidence and place it here!

IMPLICATE

State why the idea matters. What are its implications? For what? Whom? In what contexts? What are the consequences of taking this idea seriously? Of failing to do so?

Van Hesteren, Adapted from Miniature Guide to Critical Thinking Concepts and Tools



