**Structuring a paragraph in the main body of your assignment**

Try using the grid below to help you record your ideas and support for each of your paragraphs.

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| **An introductory sentence (this is sometimes called a topic sentence):** This tells the reader the purpose of your paragraph and introduces the main idea you are developing, expanding upon or contrasting with another. |  |
| **Examples/evidence/quotations:** You will usually need to include evidence that develops/contrasts an idea. This informs and strengthens your argument. Try and introduce your evidence clearly and remember to reference the source using the Harvard referencing system. |  |
| **Evaluative sentence/s:** You may need to offer some explanation on the relevance of your examples/evidence/quotations. Why is this evidence useful? What does the author say that supports the idea you are developing? Does this evidence have any limitations? |  |
| **Concluding sentence:** This draws together the main idea being made in your paragraph. |  |