Essay PIE

1.

* When writing essays in English students should use a certain formula, just like an equation in maths or a recipe for cooking. This makes it easier for the reader to understand what you mean and makes your writing very clear. It’s a good idea to think about PIE when you do this.
* What is PIE? P – point; I – illustration; E – explanation

Here is an example:

A significant environmental problem is that caused by fossil fuels. Many people in developed countries own cars and use them every day, using up huge amounts of these fuels and emitting large volumes of greenhouse gases. Furthermore, people in developing countries are also buying more and more vehicles as their economies expand, creating even more pollution. This means that the overall level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere continues to increase, worsening the global problem of air pollution.

Please try to recognise the point, illustration and explanation sentences in the paragraph below:

One way to mitigate this problem is by charging people more money to drive cars. Take for example the congestion charge that operates in London. This charges drivers of cars a large sum of money every time they drive into central London at certain times. Since its introduction this policy has sharply reduced the levels of traffic and related pollution within London’s urban area.

* Please try to do this in every body paragraph you write, making sure you only cover one point in each paragraph.

2.

* Let’s look at how to construct the whole essay:

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| **Introduction** | Tell the reader what you are writing about, what your position is and how you will talk about this. List your points: PPP |
| **Body 1** | Write your first PIE. |
| **Body 2** | Write your second PIE. |
| **Body 3** | Write your third PIE. |
| **Conclusion** | Explain again what outcome your points have and if these lead to any further ideas. |

In short, your essay should look like this: PPP, PIE, PIE, PIE, conclusion.

3.

* For homework, try planning and/or writing your own paragraphs/full essay.