Useful expressions to write an essay

Introduction	
first of all	
to begin with	
in order to decide whether.... or not	afin de décider si .....ou non
to outline the main points	exposer les points principaux
firstly, secondly, thirdly, finally / eventually	

Enumerating arguments	
in addition to / additionally	
besides / moreover / furthermore	de plus, en outre
above all	surtout

Weighing up arguments	
on the one hand..... on the other hand	
to consider the advantages and disadvantages	
arguments for and against	
to discuss the pros and cons	discuter le pour et le contre
in theory ... in reality	
both... and....	à la fois..... et.....
not only ... but also	
anyway / at any rate / in any case	de toute façon
in fact / actually / as a matter of fact	en fait
up to a point	jusqu'à un certain point
so to speak	pour ainsi dire
by no means / not at all	pas du tout / en aucune façon

Comparisons	
compared to / in comparison with	
to draw / make a comparison between ...and	
similarly	
as well as	aussi bien que / de même que

Restrictions	
however / though	
nevertheless	
whereas	tandis que
although / though / even though	bien que / même si
in spite of / despite	malgré
unlike	à la différence de
in contrast to / with sth.	
on the contrary	
sth is contrary to sth	

Refering to	
with reference to	
regarding	en ce qui concerne
as regards	
as far as ... is concerned	
according to (according to is used to introduce someone else's opinion. Don't say "according to me")	selon

Emphasizing	
I'd like to point out that	J'aimerais faire remarquer que
I'd like to emphasize	J'aimerais mettre l'accent sur

Generalizing	
on the whole	
in general / generally speaking	
as a rule	en règle générale
to some extent	dans une certaine mesure
to a large extent / to what extent ?	
in many ways	à bien des égards
in all respects	à tous les égards
in most / many cases	dans la plupart / beaucoup de cas
basically	fondamentalement / à la base

Giving examples	
for example / for instance	
such as / including	tel que / y compris
in particular / particularly	
to give you an example of what I mean	
to illustrate this point	
what I mean is	
et cetera / and so on / and so forth	et caetera
that is to say / i.e	c'est à dire

Making exeptions	
apart from	
except	
with the exception of	

Giving reasons	
because	
as / since	comme, puisque
because of	
the reason for this is	
the reason why	
for some reasons or another	
I have every reason to believe that	

Consequences	
therefore	donc
consequently / as a result	
for this reason / all these reasons	

Personal point of view	
I think that	
in my opinion/ in my view / to my mind	
this is a matter of opinion	
in my experience	
as far as I know	
as far as I am concerned	en ce qui me concerne
to be aware / unaware of a problem	être conscient de
to tell the truth	
the fact is that	
I am convinced that	
I firmly believe that	
I feel sth should be done about that	

Agreeing	
I entirely / absolutely agree with that's exactly my own view I'm of exactly the same opinion that's perfectly true I'd like to support this view	

Disagreeing	
I partly disagree with I don't entirely agree with I agree in principle, but That's not the way I see it I see things rather differently myself I'm not at all convinced that I'm not absolutely sure	

Interest, Plans, Intentions	
to be interested in sth / in doing sth It interests me a lot My main / particular interest is I have the intention of doing I am prepared to do sth I am determined to do sth I'm planning to do sth I'm very keen on doing sth	

Lack of interest	
I find … rather uninteresting / boring I don't take any interest in It's all the same to me whether It means nothing to me	Ça m'est égal si

Summarizing and drawing conclusions	
finally last of all last but not least in conclusion / to conclude we can draw the conclusion to sum up / to summarize we can say all in all in short / in brief / briefly all things considered the subject under discussion I find **it** difficult to reach a conclusion but I'm tempted to say	globalement

Modifying adverbs	
totally / entirely / completely mostly / mainly / chiefly partly comparatively / relatively extremely / incredibly	surtout / principalement, essentiellement