

AN OPINION ESSAY

1. Paragraph 1: **Introduction**
2. Paragraph 2: **Body**: -Reason (argument) +Explanation.
- 3 Paragraph 3: **Body**- Reason (argument) +Explanation.
4. Paragraph 4: **Conclusion**

Introduction:

Hook. Introduce the **topic**. State your **opinion**.

Body: Reason 1 (At least 2 reasons/arguments)

Group related information together into paragraphs (from your draft).

Provide reasons for your opinion.

Develop your argument with facts and details.

Use connectors or phrases to connect ideas within categories.

Body: Reason 2

Introduce each paragraph with a topic sentence.

Reflections: In each paragraph, include your thoughts about the facts and details you include. Use useful lg: I believe/think etc.

Concluding sentence: make a connection to the argument you presented:
as a result, consequently

Conclusion:

Summarize your arguments in other words.

Provide a concluding section related to the rest of the essay-It might be a feeling, impression, or message you want to convey to the reader.

Ex- The structure of an opinion essay

Should we stop going on field trips?

Number the following sentences in the correct order.

____. First, students form important bonds with each other during the trips.

____ In this essay, I will discuss the reasons why I believe field trips are extremely important.

____ Second, students learn a lot about nature during these trips.

____ The students get to know their classmates better during the bus rides and when sharing a room.

____ In summary, I truly believe that field trips are important for the development of students both socially and educationally.

____ These experiences will enrich their knowledge and broaden their horizons.

____ It's time schools took into consideration students' feedback and learned from it.

____ Views, friendships, lots of adventures are all part of the wonderful memories I have of school trips.

____ This encourages them to develop new friendships.

Ex- The structure of an opinion essay

Should we stop going on field trips?

Number the following sentences in the correct order.

- 3** First, students form important bonds with each other during the trips.
- 2** In this essay, I will discuss the reasons why I believe field trips are extremely important.
- 6** Second, students learn a lot about nature during these trips.
- 4** The students get to know their classmates better during the bus rides and when sharing a room.
- 9** In summary, I truly believe that field trips are important for the development of students both socially and educationally.
- 8** These experiences will enrich their knowledge and broaden their horizons.
- 7** During the field trip, students can observe animals, light bonfires and touch plants they learn about in class.
- 10** It's time schools took into consideration students' feedback and learned from it.
- 1** Views, friendships, and lots of adventures are all part of the wonderful memories I have of school trips.
- 5** This encourages them to develop new friendships.

An example for an opinion essay

Should we stop going on field trips?

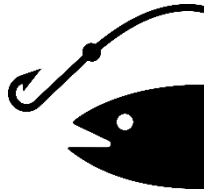
Views, friendships and lots of adventures are all part of the wonderful memories I have of school trips. In this essay, I will discuss the reasons why I believe field trips are extremely important.

First, students form important bonds with each other during the trips. The students get to know their classmates better during the bus rides and when sharing a room. This encourages them to develop new friendships.

Second, students learn a lot about nature during these trips. During the field trip, students can observe animals, light bonfires and touch plants they learn about in class. These experiences will enrich their knowledge and broaden their horizons.

In summary, I truly believe that field trips are important for the development of students both socially and educationally. It's time schools took into consideration students' feedback and learned from it.

Writing a Hook



A hook is **an opening statement** in an essay which aims to grab the reader's attention. It can be done by stating a fact, quote, statistics, anecdote or question.

1 Match each Hook in A to one of the titles in B.

A

1. This year my family decided to visit the North of Israel on our summer vacation.
2. For many teens, the words “we have a test next week” cause panic and fear.
3. What do you want to do when you finish your army service?
4. In most Israeli high schools, students have a year of “personal commitment”, when they volunteer in their communities.
5. Every week, thousands of football fans go to watch games and support their favorite teams.

B

- a. Planning for the Future
- b. The Best Trip Ever
- c. Cheer for Your Team!
- d. Helping Your Town
- e. Exams – Challenge or Nightmare?

2 Write a hook for each title.

1. Is T.V good for kids?
2. Adopting a Puppy
3. Learning to Drive

1st paragraph

Is T.V good for kids? Anecdote, Question

Last week, I spent 10 hours straight watching TV with my little sister. It wasn't easy—I had to get up and stretch, but she didn't move at all. This made me realize how harmful TV can be for kids, and in this essay, I'll explain the reasons why.

Have you ever thought about the length of time children spend watching TV? When discussing this issue, one should ask whether it is truly beneficial. I believe it is not, for the following reasons.

Adopting a Puppy Question Statistics

Is a dog really a man's best friend? After years of observation, I can confidently say that it benefits its owner in countless ways. I personally believe that adopting a dog is a wise life choice. In the following essay, I will explain why.

Statistics show that more and more people are deciding to adopt a pet. Studies indicate that this growing trend reflects the many advantages of pet ownership. In this essay, I will discuss the reasons I believe adopting a pet is beneficial.

Learning to Drive Question

Can you imagine what it would be like to have stress-free mornings without needing to chase the bus and with the luxury of sleeping longer? I believe that knowing how to drive is not only beneficial but also essential in this day and age. In this essay, I will discuss the benefits of learning to drive.

THE PROCESS OF WRITING:

Step 1- Draft: Brainstorming

Step 2- Draft: Clustering

Step 3- A topic sentence

Step 4- Justification (explanation, examples)

Step 1- Draft

- Word Association
- A mind map
- Pros and Cons (advantages & disadvantages)

Ex- Choose 1 strategy and write a draft for the following subject:

Some people claim that T.V isn't good for kids. Do you agree or disagree? Write a composition in which you state and explain your opinion

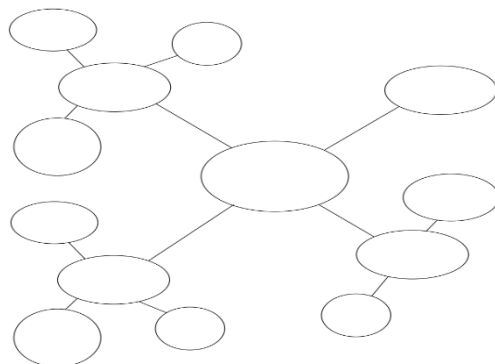
Step 2- Clustering

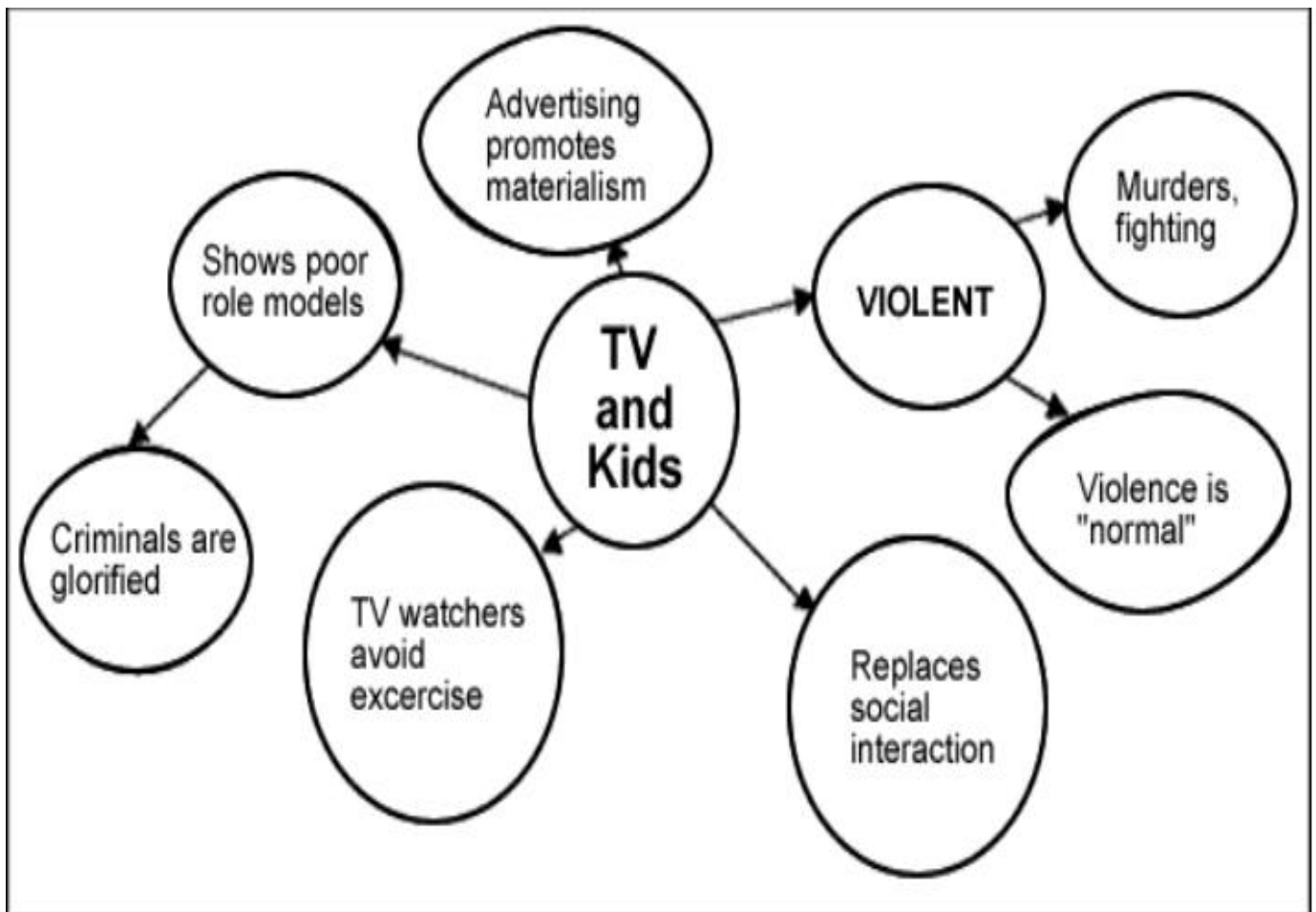
Clustering is a strategy which allows you to see your ideas visually and explore the connection between them. In other words, it helps you decide which ideas go together

Ex- Cluster the following ideas:

Subject: TV and Kids

Ideas: shows poor role models, violent, Murders, fighting, violence is "normal", criminals are glorified, TV watchers avoid exercise, Replaces social interaction, advertising promotes materialism,





Step 3- writing a topic sentence

A topic sentence states the main idea of the paragraph. In other words, you're pointing out the **cause**- the reason which leads you to agree/disagree with the claim (**effect**).

Some people claim that T.V isn't good for kids. Do you agree or disagree?

Use gerund (V+ing)

Use conditionals:

Conditional 1: refers to the future: present simple

(he/she/it-s), future (will+V1)

Conditional 2: refers to the present: past simple, future past

(V2/ed), (would+V1)

Conditional 3: refers to the past:

past perf (had+V3/ed), (would+ have+V3)

Examples:

Gerund: Watching T.V can harm children's social skills.

Advertising promotes materialism

Conditional 1 refer to the future

If kids watch T.V, they will be exposed to violence. (verbal and physical)

If kids watch T.V, they will be exposed to poor role models. (imitate)

If kids watch T.V, they will harm their health. (eyes, lack of exercise)

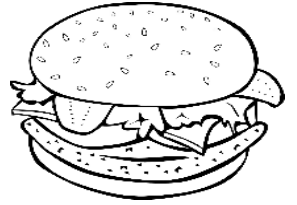
Conditional 2: refers to the present

If kids watched T.V, they would be exposed to violence.

If kids watched T.V, they would be exposed to poor role models.

If kids watched T.V, they would harm their health

Step 4: developing an argument – writing a paragraph



Elaborate your topic sentence, explain your idea. Each sentence should add information to the previous sentence to clarify your line of thought. You can do so by mentioning general known facts or/and giving examples.

Topic Sentence– what is the argument/ reason/ cause/ point/claim of this paragraph.

Justification (information)– details: explanation, examples

Concluding sentence– What does the provided information mean? How does it relate to your overall argument? Why is this information important/ significant/ meaningful ?

Useful phrases to develop an argument

In order to, In other words, To put it another way, That is to say, To that end

EXAMPLE:

Some people claim that T.V isn't good for kids. Do you agree or disagree? Write a composition in which you state and explain your opinion

First, I believe watching TV can harm children's social skills.

Research shows that many kids prefer staying home instead of going outside to play. This means they don't meet and interact with friends, and therefore miss the chance to practice important skills such as teamwork, time management, overcoming failure, and personal communication. **As a result**, their ability to communicate with others in different situations decreases/weakens.

Use at least 3 Advanced Language Structures to write sentences.

Present perfect simple/progressive

Subject+ have/has V3

Subject+ have/has been Ving

Gerund

As a subject: Drinking water is good for your health

After prepositions: about/in/by/after/before/without

After a specific word+ a preposition: afraid of, famous for, fond of, interested in, depend on, choice between, agree with

Passive: be+ V3

Is used/ was used/ was being used/ is being used/ have been using/ will be used

Relative Pronouns

Who/ when/ what/ where/which/ whose/ when/ why

Mrs. Elias, who teaches me English, is a great teacher.

Temporal Clauses

Until/ as soon as/ once/ when/ after/since/while/by the time/ before
I will call you as soon as I get there.

Conditionals

Conditional 1: refers to the future: present simple

(he/she/it-s), future (will+V1)

Conditional 2: refers to the present: past simple, future past

(V2/ed), (would+V1)

Conditional 3: refers to the past:

past perf (had+V3/ed), (would+ have+V3)

Match each argument to its justification

Arguments (topic sentences)	Justifications
1. To begin with, as I see it, traveling is the best form of education.	a. In other words, they rely on their cells in every aspect of their lives. Whether it's for communication, navigation, or managing schedules, mobile devices have become essential tools for daily functioning.
2. Moreover, in my opinion, there are many advantages to choosing students' learning subjects in school.	b. Hardship forces you to face problems head on, developing skills like resilience, problem-solving, and adaptability, which shape your character and prepare you for future challenges.
3. First, people are dependent on their cellphones.	c. They interrupt whatever one is watching, which is annoying. In addition, they tempt one to buy things one doesn't necessarily need.
4. Furthermore, the way I see it, diversity is something positive and beneficial in every aspect of life.	d. If high school students choose their subjects, their motivation will increase. As a result, not only will their performance improve, but also their enthusiasm to come and study.
5. In addition, I personally believe that each obstacle you face in life makes you stronger.	e. It gives you a chance to experience and accept things you aren't accustomed to. Thus, embracing diversity encourages growth, understanding and open mindedness.
6. Also, I strongly believe that there are many disadvantages to a long summer break.	F. You discover cultural differences, learn new languages and develop social skills and maturity. Furthermore, you gain independence and learn about yourself.
7. Secondly, I think that television advertisements have many drawbacks.	g. It breaks the rhythm of studying and causes students to forget material. What's more, it makes getting back into a routine very difficult.

Developing Arguments

To begin with, as I see it, traveling is the best form of education. You discover cultural differences, learn new languages and develop social skills and maturity. Furthermore, you gain independence and learn about yourself

Moreover, in my opinion, there are many advantages to choosing students' learning subjects in school. If high school students choose their subjects, their motivation will increase. As a result, not only will their performance improve, but also their enthusiasm to come and study.

First, people are dependent on their cellphones. In other words, they rely on their cells in every aspect of their lives. Whether it's for communication, navigation, or managing schedules, mobile devices have become essential tools for daily functioning.

Furthermore, the way I see it, diversity is something positive and beneficial in every aspect of life. It gives you a chance to experience and accept things you aren't accustomed to. Thus, embracing diversity encourages growth, understanding and open mindedness.

In addition, I personally believe that each obstacle you face in life makes you stronger. Hardship forces you to face problems head on, developing skills like resilience and problem-solving which shape one's character and prepare one for future challenges.

I strongly believe that there are many disadvantages to a long summer break. It breaks the rhythm of studying and causes students to forget material. What's more, it makes getting back into a routine very difficult.

Secondly, I think that television advertisements have many drawbacks. First, they interrupt whatever one is watching, which is annoying. Second, they tempt one to buy things one doesn't necessarily need.

Step 5: Writing a conclusion

1. Restate your strongest arguments

2. Restate your opinion

3. Draw to a close.

1+2: Begin your paragraph with one on the following phrases.

In conclusion/ in summary/in closing, it seems to me that.... /all things considered, I think that... /in view of the arguments mentioned above, it's quite clear to me that.. ./In conclusion,.....

In order to draw to a close, use one of the following ending sentences.

✓ **Call to action**- I think it's time /it's about time/

it's high time subject (I/you/we/they) + V2

Or I believe it's time to

Or it's time for +object+ to

✓ **End with an observation/insight/ a feeling, impression, or message** you want to leave with the reader.

I think anyone who cares about (Gerund/noun) may feel that we have to do something in order to....

Or I believe one/we/___ should consider ___ing_____

Or If only/ I wish _____

Wish/if only + past simple to talk about a present situation we would like to be different.

Wish/if only + would (to talk about the future)

Wish/if only + a past perfect to talk about something we would like to change about the past

Note!

We use were instead of was with I/ he/ she after I wish/ if only.

✓ **End with a related quotation/ idiom.** Connect it to the sentence/ paragraph

Drastic times call for drastic measures

A picture paints a thousand words.

Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder.

Every cloud has a silver lining= Be optimistic, even difficult times will lead to better days.

A Blessing in disguise- Smt good that isn't recognized at first

✓ **Suggest a solution**

I suggest +subject (pronoun) +pr. Simple

For example:

I suggest we change/listen..... After all, actions speak louder than words.

Ex: Write a closing paragraph:

Some people claim that T.V isn't good for kids. Do you agree or disagree?

In conclusion, watching T.V has many drawbacks for kids such as poor role models and lack of social skills. This is why I believe parents should minimize the length of time they let their kids in front of the screen. It's time they considered the dire consequences.

Some people claim that T.V isn't good for kids. Do you agree or disagree?

Last week, I spent 10 straight hours watching TV with my little sister. It wasn't easy — I got up to stretch my legs from time to time, but surprisingly, she didn't move at all. When discussing the issue of watching TV, I personally believe it has negative effects on children, and in this essay I will explain why.

First, I believe that watching TV can harm children's social skills.

Research shows that kids often prefer staying at home rather than going outside to play. **As a result**, they miss opportunities to practice important skills such as teamwork and personal communication, which eventually weakens their ability to interact with others in different situations.

Second, if young children watch too much TV, they may be exposed to poor role models. In other words, they might imitate negative behaviors such as being disrespectful or using verbal and physical violence. Over time, these patterns can become a permanent part of their character.

In conclusion, watching TV has many drawbacks for children, including weakened social skills and exposure to poor role models. This is why I believe parents should limit the amount of time their children spend in front of a screen and carefully consider the harmful consequences.

Step 6: Write an essay

Examples for instructions

1. Do you think people should marry young ? Write a composition stating and explaining your opinion. You may relate to your own experience and/or that of others.

1. Should young people marry ? Write a composition stating and explaining your opinion.

Brainstorming:

Patience, strength, responsibility, concessions, awareness, maturity

An opportunity to see you great grandchildren

Clustering:

(-) Reason/argument 1: patience

(-) Reason/ argument 2: responsibility, concessions

(-) Reason/ argument 3: awareness, maturity

(+) Reason/ argument 1: strength

(+) Reason/ argument 2: An opportunity/privilege to see your great grandchildren.

Topic Sentence: If young people get married, they are more likely to be impatient.

Justification: _____

2. Man- In your opinion, is technological progress a good thing? Write an essay, stating and explaining your opinion.

OR

What is the greatest/worst invention of man ? Choose one or two inventions and write a composition explaining your choice.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfGMYdaICIU>

+ Brainstorming: technological developments, prolonging life, mobility, abundance-food, clothes, jobs, knowledge

- Brainstorming: global warming, air pollution, climate changes, scarcity in natural resources.

2. What is the most useful phone app? Choose 1 or 2 things and write a composition explaining your choice and / or why you think it is so useful.

3. Some people claim we have become a numb society, others disagree.

Do you agree or disagree with this claim? Write a composition stating and explaining your opinion.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_8y0WLm78U&list=PLRghQRAN0Aw0NYF6AUcCQvPF6JtR4UHa8&index=16

4. Some people claim that young people often become addicted to cigarettes, alcohol or drugs. Do you agree or disagree?

When you think about the argument, think of why? What are the reasons you agree with this claim?

What are the causes that will probably result in drinking & smoking

Cause: your argument- for example, peer pressure

Effect: drinking and smoking.

Possible brainstorming: peer pressure, taking risks, feeling more relaxed, being cool

5. Many people believe that students get better grades when they study in separate classes for boys and for girls. Which do you think is better, single-sex classes or mixed classes? Write two-three arguments to support your opinion.

Possible brainstorming: student behavior, peer pressure, success in exams

More Topics for essays:

Opinion Essay Topics

Adolescents

1. Stress and its effects on young people today
2. Solutions to prevent high-school drop outs
3. Should contraceptives be available in high schools

Advertising

6. False advertising
7. Political campaign advertising and its effects
8. To what extent should the government control advertising
10. Ads for tobacco and alcohol
11. How may one overcome generation gap
12. Age difference in the workplace
13. Should preschool children be allowed smartphones?

