

HOW TO MAKE A COMPOSITION

1. Plan your essay (composition or writing)

Spend 5 or 10 minutes planning your essay.

Students usually think that this is a waste of time but, you will have a better result if you know, in advance, what you want to write about.

2. Use mind maps. For two reasons They will help you organize your ideas They will help you calm down your butterflies! Being concentrated on what to write will make you forget for a while how nervous you arefor example "Is it a good idea to go abroad to study English?" many people want to improve their English for school,..... other people need it for workLearn another culture..... Meet people..... A new experience Practise your English..... miss your family and friends..... Feel lonely.....

3. Write a draft of your essay

Divide it into clear paragraphs :

Introduction. General facts about the topic

Body. Main ideas giving details or examples

Conclusion. A conclusion about what you have been writing

Present your ideas clearly depending on the kind of essay (narrative, opinion, for and against etc...)

Leave space between lines for additions or corrections

Use connectors to link your ideas

4. Pay attention to:

Word order is very important in English.

The usual order is:

Subject + verb + additions " It is a rainy day"

Subject - Verb agreement A singular subject has a singular verb and plural subjects go with the verb in plural. " The students are working hard"

Adjectives come before the noun and it is the same form for singular and plural nouns

" an easy exercise" / "easy exercises

Linking words

Use them in order to connect your ideas and show how they are related to one another.

They will make your essay clearer and easier to read.

In conclusion/ To sum up/ In short/ All in all/ Overall To conclude the topic In my opinion, I believe (that)/ I feel (that)/ It seems to me/ In my view/ As I see it/ I agree/ I don't agree/ I think/ Personally To express personal opinions To/ In order to/ so as to/ so that/ To show purpose Firstly/ secondly/ finally/ In the first place/ Lastly To list ideas However/ although/ In contrast/ Whereas/ but/ Nevertheless/ in spite of/ Despite To contrast ideas Because/ Since/ As/ Due to To describe a cause First of all/ Then/ After that/ Eventually/ In the end or Finally To show a sequence Consequently/ As a result/ Therefore/ So/ Thus/ For this reason/ That is why To describe a consequence In addition/ Moreover/ What's more/ Besides/ Too/ Furthermore/ And To add information

5 .Write your final draft

Check your work carefully for mistakes before writing your final essay on a clean sheet of paper and in your best handwriting

There are different kinds of essays that you are required to know for your final exams.

We are going to concentrate on the following ones:

- a.-A for and against composition
- b.-An opinion essay

A for and against composition

1. Introduction: Present the topic in an impersonal way
2. Body: Give advantages and disadvantages in different paragraphs with examples to support your ideas
3. Conclusion: Summarize the main idea or present a conclusion. You can give your personal opinion

Paragraph 1 Some people think, others believe... Paragraph 2 Ideas for and examples: On the one hand... Paragraph 3 Ideas against and examples: On the other hand... Paragraph 4 In conclusion, I think, in my opinion...

New technologies (example)

New technologies have changed our lives a lot and in different ways. The internet, computers, digital devices give us new opportunities to keep in touch with people from all over the world.

But, these new technologies have got advantages and disadvantages.

On the one hand, they are like a window open to the rest of the world and they give us new options which were impossible to believe years ago.

On the other hand, they may become dangerous if people don't make a good use of them, especially children.

In conclusion, new technologies have been a great revolution but they must be controlled to avoid difficult situations. (Alfonso Cañamero)

b.-An opinion composition.

Introduction: Present the topic and your opinion Paragraph 1 ... I think... 2.Body: Give reasons for your opinions. Different ideas in different paragraphs Paragraph 2 It seems to me... Paragraph 3 In addition,... Conclusion: Summarize the main ideas. It can be similar to the introduction but presented in some other words Paragraph 4 In short... I believe...

No teachers, no schools (example)

New technologies make education change. For examples, at schools the number of computers is increasing.

In my view, I think that schools without teachers would be a good thing because each student could work individually. In addition, they could organize their schedules in relation to their own works.

On the other hand, It isn't a good idea because, as I can see it, nowadays young people are not very responsible.

In conclusion, I think that if there weren't any teachers, it would be a disaster and nobody would study. So,I believe that schools should have their teachers and their computers.

(Irene Córdoba,)

Typical mistakes

*Everybody have. Everybody has .When somebody, somebody,anybody, everybody etc are subjects, the verb must be singular

*I´m very surprised see you here. I´m very surprised to see you here.

We use infinitives after adjectives describing feelings

I love/like go shopping. I love to go / going shopping . Both infinitive and -ing can be used

*Write letters is boring. Writing letters is boring .An -ing form is used as the subject of a verb

In a few years* will have a new communication system.

In a few years we will have a new communicaton system. We can't leave a verb without a subject

It is very common to find* More fast. Faster . Comparatives: Just one syllable we add -er

*People is . People are. Irregular plural: Person-singular/ people-plural

*Actually instead of Nowadays, Now . False friend, it means " in fact"

*My favourites dancers. My favourite dancers. Adjectives don't take plurals

*I have many money. I have much money . "Much" for uncountable nouns

I think that* the people judge others by appearances.

I think that people judge others by appearances. When we are talking in general, we do not use the article "the"

The climate change* affect us. The climate change affects us . Don't forget the " s" or "es" for the third person in singular

For *surprise me. For surprising me . After prepositions the verb goes in the - ing form

These ways of communication are faster* that letters.

These ways of communication are faster than letters . After comparatives we use "than"

*This mobile phones. These mobile phones . We use "these" for plural

*An use appropriate. An appropriate use . Adjective + noun

