

Writing an Essay

Unit 3 - The World of Sports

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Writing Task

You have had a class discussion on sport and money. Your teacher has now asked you to write an essay for homework.

Write your essay using all the notes and giving reasons for your point of view. (140-190 words)

Many footballers get paid a lot of money. Do they deserve it or not?

Notes

Write about:

- 1** talent & skill
- 2** training & playing
- 3** (your own idea)

Read the two conversations that discuss notes 1 and 2 from the task. Which conversation do you agree with?



Conversation A



There are plenty of **talented** and **highly skilled** people in the world but they don't earn millions. It's not fair and it's not necessary.

Right! And even though footballers **train** and **play** hard during the season, they get more time off than most people do.

Conversation B

Read these extra ideas which could be added to the conversations above. Decide which conversation they support and write A or B in the boxes.

CONVERSATION		
A / B	1	Their careers are so short that they have to earn lots of money quickly.
A / B	2	It's wrong to be paid so much for playing sport when, for example, there are so many badly-paid farmers, who provide something much more important.
A / B	3	Famous players don't need such huge pay cheques from their clubs. They can also earn a lot in other ways, for example, by working with sportswear manufacturers.
A / B	4	They are important role models, inspiring youngsters and giving pleasure to millions of fans.



Conversation A?



Conversation B?



Now can you think of a third idea to write about?

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Read the sample essay and answer the questions below it.

The media is often full of stories about footballers and other sports stars. Readers are told how much money they earn and even details of their love lives. I think this is wrong. Sports celebrities should be allowed to keep their personal lives private.

In the first place, sports personalities have as much right to privacy as anyone else. If journalists followed ordinary people around, taking photographs of them and reporting embarrassing facts about their everyday lives, they would be stopped.

Moreover, it is not fair that sports stars' families and friends should have to put up with so much attention. It can damage friendships and destroy relationships.

However, I also believe that sports celebrities have a responsibility to set a good example to their young fans. If they take drugs or break the law, for instance, then readers should be told.

All in all, sports stars have enough pressure on them when they are playing and competing in public. They shouldn't have to put up with it in their private lives as well.

1 Does the writer clearly state his or her opinion in the first paragraph?
Yes. / No.

2 In which paragraphs are the two ideas from the Notes in the writing task discussed?

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (*choose TWO answers*)

3 Does the writer's third idea support or contrast with the main opinion expressed?

support / contrast with

Read the following opinions and add a contrasting idea. (Choose one opposite idea.)

1 I think the **Olympic Games are a good idea**. They encourage sportsmen and women to **work towards achieving their very best** and they also help countries **to come together in a peaceful way**. However, The Olympics are a financial drain on host cities. / The Olympics increase valuable tourism, which can boost local economies.

2 I think doing a lot of sport is **a waste of time**. **You don't have enough energy or time** to spend on other important things, and **you lose touch with your friends**. However, Playing sports can be expensive. / Playing sports can improve your fitness and health.