

- 1 Complete the tips for writing an article with the words in the box.

anecdote attention define develop formal
personal question summarising think

Title: attract the reader's attention by asking a ¹ _____, using rhyme or wordplay or ² _____ the topic.

Introduction: should ³ _____ the topic and make the reader want to continue by asking a question, telling an ⁴ _____, or giving an interesting fact, statistic or quote.

Main paragraphs: ⁵ _____ the topic and discuss the issues.

Conclusion: give your ⁶ _____ opinion and leave the reader with something to ⁷ _____ about.

Remember: make your writing more ⁸ _____ by avoiding informal phrases, colloquial language or contractions.

- 3 Group these eight sentences into four possible introductions to articles.

- A Have you ever thought about the festive season on an industrial scale?
- B The vast majority of young people meet their friends through school.
- C Every year, nearly sixty million Christmas trees are grown in Europe and between ten and twenty million turkeys are killed for Christmas dinner in the UK alone.
- D So, why are friends so important for young people? Well, besides sharing sweet snacks, there are, in my opinion, three main reasons.
- E As someone once said, a possible answer to that question is 'A good friend knows all about you and still loves you.'
- F However, I met my closest friend through an act of kindness and honesty, followed by a fortunate coincidence. And I do feel fortunate because I believe every young person needs a close friend.
- G What exactly does it mean to be a good friend?
- H Someone once said 'The only thing better than a friend is a friend with chocolate.'

A followed by C

- 1 _____ followed by _____
- 2 _____ followed by _____
- 3 _____ followed by _____

- 5 Replace the underlined parts with phrases from the box to make the paragraph in Exercise 4 more formal. There are two extra phrases.

I had ☐ I would ☐ mistakenly ☐
nearly a year later ☐ returned ☐
thanked him ☐ the best of friends ☐
very unusual ☐ 1 we had ☐ we would ☐

- 2 Match the beginnings and the endings of possible titles for the article in the writing task below. Then match the titles to the techniques for attracting a reader's attention A-D.

Write an article for your school website describing how you met a close friend and explaining why friends are so important for young people growing into adulthood.

Is There Anything More

1 A Fortunate

2 How I Lost a Wallet

3 The Time I Spend

4 Where Would We Be

5 Fantastic Friends and

a and Gained a Best Friend

b Marvellous Mates

c Without Our Friends?

d and Life-changing Meeting

e With My Greatest Friend

f Important Than a Friend?

A Ask a question

B Use vivid adjectives

C Summarise the topic

D Use rhyme/wordplay

f

A

- 4 Read the extract and decide which combination of sentences in Exercise 3 would make the best introduction to this article.

___ followed by ___

Shaun and I met for the first time in ¹totally weird circumstances. ²I'd taken a taxi back from town one Saturday night and, ³stupidly, left my wallet on the back seat. Shaun had been the next customer in the taxi, and had found the wallet and my contact details. Being an honest person, he got in touch. The next day we met and he ⁴gave me back my wallet. I ⁵said thanks, and said goodbye. ⁶Agex after that, I joined an English class and guess who was sitting there in the classroom? Shaun! It took us a moment to work out where ⁷we'd met before, but we soon remembered and became ⁸best mates in no time at all.

6 Rewrite the underlined parts of the sentences using participle clauses.

Our friends understand best how we feel because they have experienced many of the same things as us.
Having experienced many of the same things as us,
our friends understand best how we feel.

- 1 Because I had never had a female friend before,
I didn't know what to expect when our friendship began.

I didn't know what to expect when our friendship began.

- 2 Close friends often seem to know what is on each other's minds because they spend so much of their time together.

close friends often seem to know what is on each other's minds.

- 3 Friends can share secrets because they have gained each other's trust.

friends can share secrets.

- 4 Because they are often interested in the same things,
friends always have something to talk about.

friends always have something to talk about.

7 Read the task and the article below. Then choose the correct option.

This week's competition

Technology and teenagers go hand in hand nowadays. However, this isn't necessarily a good thing. Do you think technology is overused or used well by adolescents? If you are a teenager, we want to hear your views. Send us an article in which you describe the very best things about using technology and discuss the challenges it poses.

A selection of the best articles will be printed in the upcoming edition of Psychology Magazine.

Technology: controlled or in control?



Have you ever wondered why teens are so keen on technology?

¹*Growing up / Having grown up* with it, we are digital natives – people who are at ease with everything from the Internet to smartphones, apps and computer games. However, I can report that while technology plays a huge role in my life, I do not overuse it.

Using technology has many benefits. For many of us, the Internet is a valuable tool which allows us to research information and educate ourselves easily through access to different cultures and perspectives. In addition, keeping in touch with friends using smartphones and social media gives us a sense of community and helps us maintain supportive relationships and develop our identities. Finally, online games allow us to share interests with people we would never normally meet.

As we all know, the benefits of technology are not without risk. A recent survey showed some shocking statistics. ²*Spending / Having spent* up to nine hours a day on social media, some teens are becoming isolated from the real world; ³*checking / having checked* their phones more than ten times a night, 10 percent of young people have serious sleep problems. Furthermore, learning how to be a good digital citizen and being able to analyse content for its accuracy and value can be a struggle.

Despite the challenges, as far as I am concerned, once you learn to establish sensible boundaries and use technology safely, the benefits are endless. I believe that most teens are aware of this and that they are in control of technology, not controlled by it.