

Opinion (Agree / disagree) Essay

Overview

You should write a 250-word essay. First, **read the instructions for the task carefully**. Your essay should be organized and contain the following:

- A minimum of four paragraphs
- An introduction which includes a thesis statement.
- Two supporting paragraphs (each paragraph has one argument) that contain examples that support your points.
- A conclusion that summarizes your main points.

Essay prompt

Every year, traffic becomes more a problem in cities like Abu Dhabi and Dubai. Some people believe that the solution is to provide public transportation, such as more buses and trains. Write whether you agree or disagree with this and explain why.

Before your write

- Have you read the instructions carefully?
- Now you need to spend a couple of minutes planning your essay.
- Brainstorm some ideas on your paper and group similar ideas together.



Introduction

In your introduction write 2-3 sentences around the general topic of your essay, using some basic facts (you might get some of this information from the question). Then, in the last sentence say exactly what you are going to write about – **this is your thesis statement**.

Read the sentences below. Which one is the thesis statement? _____

1	Some people believe that this problem can be solved by providing more buses and trains.
2	In this essay, I will explain why I strongly agree with this good idea.
3	Although Abu Dhabi and Dubai are of the most modern cities in the world, they are facing a problem of traffic congestion and many residents spend hours stuck in traffic in these cities every day.

Can you order the sentences above to make an introduction paragraph? __, __, __

Body paragraphs

Each body paragraph should have one main idea (for example one reason why public transportation is a good option) with 3-4 supporting sentences. The first sentence is the topic sentence. It should explain what is going to be in this paragraph.

Body paragraph 1

Look at the mixed-up sentences of body paragraph 1.

Which one is the topic sentence? _____

Can you order the rest of the sentences? _____

A	There are also different scheduled journeys that are convenient to everyone.
B	In addition, there is the fully automated metro rail network in Dubai, which has been a great success since it opened in 2009, with tens of thousands of residents using it for their daily commute.
C	Traveling across the cities by other methods of transport such as taxies costs lots of money especially if you are stuck in traffic jams.
D	Public transportation is quite inexpensive and convenient.

Body paragraph 2

Look at the sentences of body paragraph 2, they are also mixed up.

Which one is the topic sentence? _____

Can you order the rest of the sentences? _____

A	Away from land there are water buses, taxis and the traditional abra.
B	Travelling by bus is becoming increasingly popular as routes and schedules are improved.
C	If you want to navigate the Arabian Sea or would just prefer to travel without other people, then an air-conditioned water taxi is perfect.
D	Crossing the Dubai Creek in a wooden abra or a new electric water bus is a safe and relaxing way to travel.
E	Public transportation is clean, comfortable, air conditioned and cheap.

Conclusion

This should be 2-3 sentences. Give a summary of what your essay was about (rephrase the thesis statement) and give some thoughts about the future.

Look at the box below. Which sentence do you think should come first? ____

A	Public transportation lets you move around the city easily with very little amount of money.
B	In conclusion, for cities that are experiencing daily traffic congestion such as Dubai and Abu Dhabi, traveling using public transportation such as buses and trains would be the best choice for their residents

Lesson Check

1. How many words should you write for task two? _____
2. What is the first thing you should do? _____
3. In what paragraph should you have a thesis statement? _____
4. How long are you going to spend planning your writing? _____
5. How many minutes should you spend on task two? _____
6. How many paragraphs should you write? _____
7. How many sentences should you have in your conclusion? _____

Model text: Public transportation in Abu Dhabi and Dubai

Although Abu Dhabi and Dubai are of the most modern cities in the world, they are facing a problem of traffic congestion and many residents spend hours stuck in traffic in these cities every day. Some people believe that this problem can be solved by providing more buses and trains. In this essay, I will explain why I strongly agree with this idea.

Public transportation is quite inexpensive and convenient. Traveling across the cities by other methods of transport such as taxis costs lots of money especially if you are stuck in traffic jams. In addition, there is the fully automated metro rail network in Dubai, which has been a great success since it opened in 2009, with tens of thousands of residents using it for their daily commute. There are also different scheduled journeys that are convenient to everyone.

Public transportation is clean, comfortable, and air conditioned. Travelling by bus is becoming increasingly popular as routes and schedules are improved. Away from land transportation, there are water buses, taxis and the traditional abra. Crossing the Dubai Creek in a wooden abra or a new electric water bus is a safe and relaxing way to travel. If you want to navigate the Arabian Sea or would just prefer to travel without other people, then an air-conditioned water taxi is perfect.

In conclusion, for cities that are experiencing daily traffic congestion such as Dubai and Abu Dhabi, traveling using public transportation such as buses and trains would be the best choice for their residents. Public transportation lets you move around the city easily with very little amount of money. (269 words)