

FULL BLAST PLUS 4

PAGE 62 -63

OBJECTIVES: By the end of this lesson, pupils should be able to

1. Be prepared for the writing task
2. Have an additional sample essay
3. Present and practise topic sentence
4. Practice in considering the advantages and disadvantages of an idea
5. Practice in writing an essay discussing the advantages and disadvantages

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C. Read the essay below about whether it is necessary for students to have homework. Choose the most suitable topic sentence (a or b) for each paragraph and say why you think it is the most suitable choice.



1) _____ Most students hate the thought of it. However, most teachers think it is a necessary part of the learning process.

1.
 - a) Ask a student about homework and you will be told that it is a form of punishment.
 - b) If you ask students and teachers about homework, you will get a variety of different reactions.

2) _____ By doing homework, students have the opportunity to practise what they have learnt during the lesson. Furthermore, homework helps students to revise and consolidate knowledge.

2.

- a) Those who believe that homework is necessary, believe that without it, learning is not as effective as it should be.
- b) However, we have to admit that there are some advantages to having students do homework.

3) _____ They feel that spending time with friends and family or doing a sport is a very important part of growing up. Moreover, as they see it, practice, revision and consolidation can be done during school hours.

3.

- a) On the other hand, many believe that students spend enough time in school and need time after school for free-time activities.
- b) In fact, that is only one side of the story.

4) _____ Personally, I would rather have time after school for my own interests. However, whenever teachers need to assign homework, it should be very little.

4.

- a) The way I see it, students should not have to do schoolwork at home.
- b) To sum up, homework has more advantages than disadvantages.

D. Read the writing task below and make a list of advantages and disadvantages in the table by dragging the answer to the column below. Then write the essay.

What are the pros and cons of team sports?

ADVANTAGES

DISADVANTAGES

Players can become too dependent on each other

Players meet people with the same interests as them and become sociable

Players learn to share feelings

Players may let others down when they don't perform well

Players learn to cooperate and work towards a common goal

Not all players get along with each other

Players get a sense of belonging

Players may feel under pressure to perform well as part of a team

Players have someone to share their success and failures with

PLAN

When writing an essay discussing advantages and disadvantages, organise your ideas according to the plan below.

INTRODUCTION

- ➊ Introduce the subject of the essay and both sides of the topic.

MAIN PART (2 PARAGRAPHS)

- ➋ Refer to the advantages / disadvantages in separate paragraphs. Cover both sides of the topic equally.

CONCLUSION

- ➌ Make a general statement. Use phrases like:
 - In conclusion...
 - To sum up...
 - All in all...
 - On the whole...
 - Taking everything into consideration...
- ➍ State your opinion.