



O'level

Foundation

Week 35

The Write Tribe

DISCURSIVE WRITING:



Model Discursive Essay

“Money can’t buy happiness.” What are your views?

Can you imagine living without money in this day and age? Is it even possible to survive without money in today’s materialistic and cash-driven world? It has been said that money makes the world go round. Hence, it is no wonder that money has become the central focus of many people’s lives. Everyone seems to be working tirelessly for money. Even students are studying hard so that they can get a well-paid job and earn lots of money in future. Although I think money cannot buy happiness, it is something that we cannot live without.

It is clear that money cannot buy happiness as many people who work hard and long every day for money are often very unhappy. Most of them do not even have time to spend their hard-earned money due to heavy workload or long working hours. They have no time or energy for leisure activities and needless to say, their family and friends hardly get to see them too. This can make them feel lonely and depressed. Thus, working hard for money does not bring happiness but instead misery in this case.

Worse still, money is often the main culprit that ruins relationships. People frequently fight over money and this can become a very serious problem, whether it is between friends or family members. For instance, it is not uncommon to hear of family members fighting over inheritance or longtime business partners squabbling over money-related matters. In some cases, ugly lawsuits ensue and relationships are destroyed forever. What then is the point of having lots of money when there is no one to share it with?

However, from a different perspective, money can sometimes make one happy. For some, earning enough money to pay their monthly bills and put food on the table makes them happy. For others, it could be saving up enough money to buy things of their interests or go on a dream vacation. Having some savings instead of living pay cheque to pay cheque also gives one peace of mind. After all, a person cannot possibly be happy if he or she is constantly worrying about running into financial difficulties. Hence, money does buy happiness where one's survival is concerned or when he wishes to satisfy his wants.



Counter-argument
paragraph

Mark Twain once said, "The lack of money is the root of all evil." I agree with him as no one can survive without money in this day and age. Like it or not, money matters and one's financial situation has a direct bearing on his happiness. That said, money does not guarantee contentment. Money often rears its ugly head and ruins relationships. One also has to make sacrifices such as lack of family time in the pursuit of wealth and material comforts. Therefore, to be happy, I think one must realise that there is more to happiness than money.

Useful transitional words and phrases

1. To signal <u>addition</u> of ideas	and, also, besides, further, furthermore, too, moreover, in addition, then, of equal importance, equally important, another
2. To signal <u>time</u>	next, afterward, finally, later, last, lastly, at last, now, subsequently, then, when, soon, thereafter, after a short time, the next week (month, day, etc.), a minute later, in the meantime, meanwhile, on the following day, at length, ultimately, presently
3. To signal <u>order</u> or <u>sequence</u>	first, second, (etc.), finally, hence, next, then, from here on, to begin with, last of all, after, before, as soon as, in the end, gradually
4. To signify <u>space</u> and <u>place</u>	above, behind, below, beyond, here, there, to the right (left), nearby, opposite, on the other side, in the background, directly ahead, along the wall, as you turn right, at the tip, across the hall, at this point, adjacent to
5. To signal an <u>example</u>	for example, to illustrate, for instance, to be specific, such as, moreover, furthermore, just as important, similarly, in the same way
6. To show <u>results</u>	as a result, hence, so, accordingly, as a consequence, consequently, thus, since, therefore, for this reason, because of this
7. To signal <u>purpose</u>	to this end, for this purpose, with this in mind, for this reason, for these reasons
8. To signal <u>comparisons</u>	like, in the same (like) manner or way, similarly
9. To indicate <u>contrast</u>	but, in contrast, conversely, however, still, nevertheless, nonetheless, yet, and yet, on the other hand, of course, on the contrary, or, in spite of this, actually, a year ago, now, notwithstanding, for all that, strangely enough, ironically
10. To signal <u>alternatives</u> , <u>exceptions</u> , and <u>objections</u>	although, though, while, despite, to be sure, it is true, true, I grant, granted, I admit, admittedly, doubtless, I concede, regardless
11. To <u>dispute</u>	it isn't true that, people are wrong who say that, deny that, be that as it may, by the same token, no doubt, we often hear it said, many people claim, many people suppose, it used to be thought, in any case
12. To <u>intensify</u>	above all, first and foremost, importantly, again, to be sure, indeed, in fact, as a matter of fact, as I have said, as has been noted
13. To <u>summarize</u> or <u>repeat</u>	in summary, to sum up, to repeat, briefly, in short, finally, on the whole, therefore, as I have said, in conclusion, as you can see

QN: What are your thoughts about introducing ebooks to the young?

Write in your own words



