

Essays



In **Part 1** of the Writing Paper you must write an essay. The **purpose** of an essay is for you to **discuss a subject, express your opinion and give reasons to support your opinion.**

You are given an essay title and some notes ↗ ↗ ↗

- You must write an essay answering the essay question and using **ALL** the notes. The task will tell you something like this:

In your English class, you have been talking about / discussing... Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay.

The notes outline three areas you must cover. The final note will always be **your own idea**.

- Your essay must be between **140 and 190 words**.

Look at ex 1 from page 38 (SB) to see what the rubric looks like

The title will ask you to write one of **two** types of essay:

- An essay in which you are asked to discuss a statement and give your opinion, e.g. *Private cars should be banned from city centres. Do you agree?*
- An essay in which you are asked to discuss which of two things is better, e.g. *Is it better for students to study something they really enjoy when they leave school, or something which will give them a good job?*

COMPLETE: reasons - paraphrase - organise - style - spelling - sentences - opinion - paragraphs - examples

You should:

- ✓ Cover the two points you are given in the notes as well as your own idea in the third point
- ✓ your answer in a logical way using and linking sentences appropriately
- ✓ Express your clearly on the subject of the essay
- ✓ Give and to support your ideas
- ✓ Use a appropriate for the situation (this should be quite **FORMAL**, as it is an essay for your teacher)
- ✓ Write **grammatically correct**
- ✓ Use accurate and **punctuation**
- ✓ the question. It is important to have a good idea of your own.



You have **around 40 minutes** to do this part. Since the Writing Paper lasts 1 hour 20 minutes, if you spend more time on this part, you will have less time for the other part.

How to do Part 1: Put the steps in order

- ☐ When you have finished, read your answer carefully. Check you have written between 140 and 190 words and correct any mistakes you find.
- ☐ Before writing your essay, check that your plan covers the three areas.
- ☐ Write your essay following your plan
- ☐ Underline the areas you must deal with in the essay title and in the notes.
You'll lose marks if you don't deal with them all.
- ☐ Think and decide what your opinion or position is on the subject of the essay and why you have this opinion.
- ☐ Think and make notes about how you can cover the points listed in the notes
- ☐ Read the instructions, i.e. the task (what you have talked about in class, the essay title and the notes) carefully.
- ☐ Organise your notes into a plan. When writing your plan, decide how many paragraphs you need and what each paragraph will cover. Your plan should include **short introductory and concluding paragraphs**
- ☐ Make sure you express your opinion clearly in your answer and that the arguments you express support your opinion



If you write **fewer than 140 words**, you probably haven't answered the question / task completely and you will lose marks. If you write **more than 190 words** in the time, you may make too many mistakes and risk being irrelevant. Also, if you write too much, the examiner will stop reading after about 200 words and you will lose marks for an incomplete answer.