O'level

Foundation

Week 18

The Write Tribe

ARGUMENTATIVE INDEPENDENT

LIVEWORKSHEETS

What is the difference between ARGUMENTATIVE and DISCURSIVE?

Discursive requires you to discuss an issue as it is, primarily to educate the reader. Thus, there isn't a need to take an explicit stand or frame its points towards one. Discursive is about representing both sides of an argument in a **balanced** way!

An argumentative essay requires you to argue towards an explicit stand. Its individual points and structure revolve around putting across and strengthening this stand to convince the reader. It is about **persuading** a reader towards agreeing to your stand!

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Argumentative Essay Structure

Paragraph 1 : Introduction

- Introduce the current climate of the situation
- Generally speak about what may be contributing to the above situation.
- However is *such and such* situation entirely *true?*
- Introduce your *THESIS STATEMENT* -
  - *Smartphones do not hinder students in their studies because smartphones (supporting claim 1) and (supporting claim 2)*

***Supporting Claim 1 becomes the topic sentence of paragraph 1.**
***Supporting Claim 2 becomes the topic sentence of paragraph 2.**

Paragraph 2 : 1st Reason

Evidence/Examples

TEAL

Topic sentence
Explanation
An example
Link back to topic sentence

Paragraph 3 : 2nd Reason

Evidence/Examples

TEAL

Topic sentence
Explanation
An example
Link back to topic sentence

Paragraph 4 : Conclusion

Thesis restatement
Summarise points
Final impression - Hence this is why *the stand you picked* is the right one.

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Argumentative Essay Sample

TOPIC: Smart devices are destroying the current generation. Do you agree?

INTRODUCTION
A. Background information
1. General background information that grabs attention
2. More specific background information to lead to thesis
B. Thesis statement
1. Topic
2. Outline your keypoints

TOPIC: Smart devices are destroying the current generation. Do you agree?
INTRODUCTION
A. Background information
1. Teenagers and their smart devices have become inseparable.
2. Even children as young as nine years old are hooked on to these devices. Despite the usefulness of these smart devices, they are becoming more of a threat, robbing students off their concentration and even their lives!
B. Thesis statement
1. Smart devices destroying the current generation because
2. they shorten attention spans and expose teenagers to cyberbullying resulting in suicides.

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SUPPORT PARAGRAPH 1	
T	Smart devices are shortening attention spans.
L	The constant buzzing of notifications are a distraction. As this happen throughout the day, this forms a pattern. After all, it takes thirty days to form a habit. This is thanks to neuroplasticity and our brains get used to focusing less and less. Furthermore, the blue light from the smartphones throw us off our natural circadian rhythm. A lack of sleep is another contributor to our shortening attention spans.
A	For example, a recent study showed the over-dependence on technology has shortened our attention spans from 12 to 5 minutes.
L	Instead of creating a smarter generation, smart devices are now becoming one of the main contributors to the destruction of a generation.

SUPPORT PARAGRAPH 2	
T	Smart devices are portals to cyberbullying, resulting in the untimely deaths of many teenagers.
L	Teenagers are at a stage of their life where their identity is being developed. Seeking approval and wanting to be liked is important to their esteem. However, in the internet, this behaviour can go unchecked. Teenagers can be exposed to hate speech, abuse and even violence. Furthermore, this can break their already fragile esteem.
A	For example, Ashley Lovelace who was only 16, committed suicide after she was continuously bullied on instagram. She was endlessly taunted for being ugly until she finally took her life.
L	This is precisely why smart devices are doing more harm than good for our current generation.

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CONCLUSION	
THESIS RESTATEMENT	Although smart devices have benefits such as being an educational tool or an easy method for communication, they are undoubtedly also becoming a threat to the psyche of our current generation.
SUMMARIZE SUBPOINTS	Not only are these sleek devices robbing young people off their attention span, they are also making teenagers vulnerable to uncontrolled hate speech on the internet. Suicides due to the internet are on the rise and smart devices are the portals leading to that.
FINAL IMPRESSION	Clearly, smart devices are doing more harm than good. The usages of smart devices certainly should be highly monitored to ensure the current generation grow up safely and healthily.

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