

Developing writing

An opinion essay

1  Look at the photo and answer the questions.

- 1 How do you think the people feel?
- 2 What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of having a lot of money?

2  Look at the writing task. Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Why?

Write an opinion essay on the following topic:

You have to have a lot of money to be happy.

3 Read the essay and answer the questions.

- 1 Does the writer agree or disagree with your opinion in 2?
- 2 What reasons does the writer give for his/her opinion?



4 Look at the Writing bank and choose the correct alternatives in the text in 3. Sometimes both options are possible.

Writing bank

Useful language for an opinion essay

Expressing your opinion

I agree/disagree, I think, In my opinion/view

Ordering your ideas

Firstly, Secondly, Finally, In conclusion, To sum up

Introducing a contrast

but, however,



5 Match these paragraph descriptions to paragraphs A–D in the essay in 3.

- 1 Sum up your opinion with a short conclusion.
- 2 Give additional reasons for your opinion.
- 3 Explain the main reason for your opinion.
- 4 Give your initial response to the statement.

Practice makes perfect

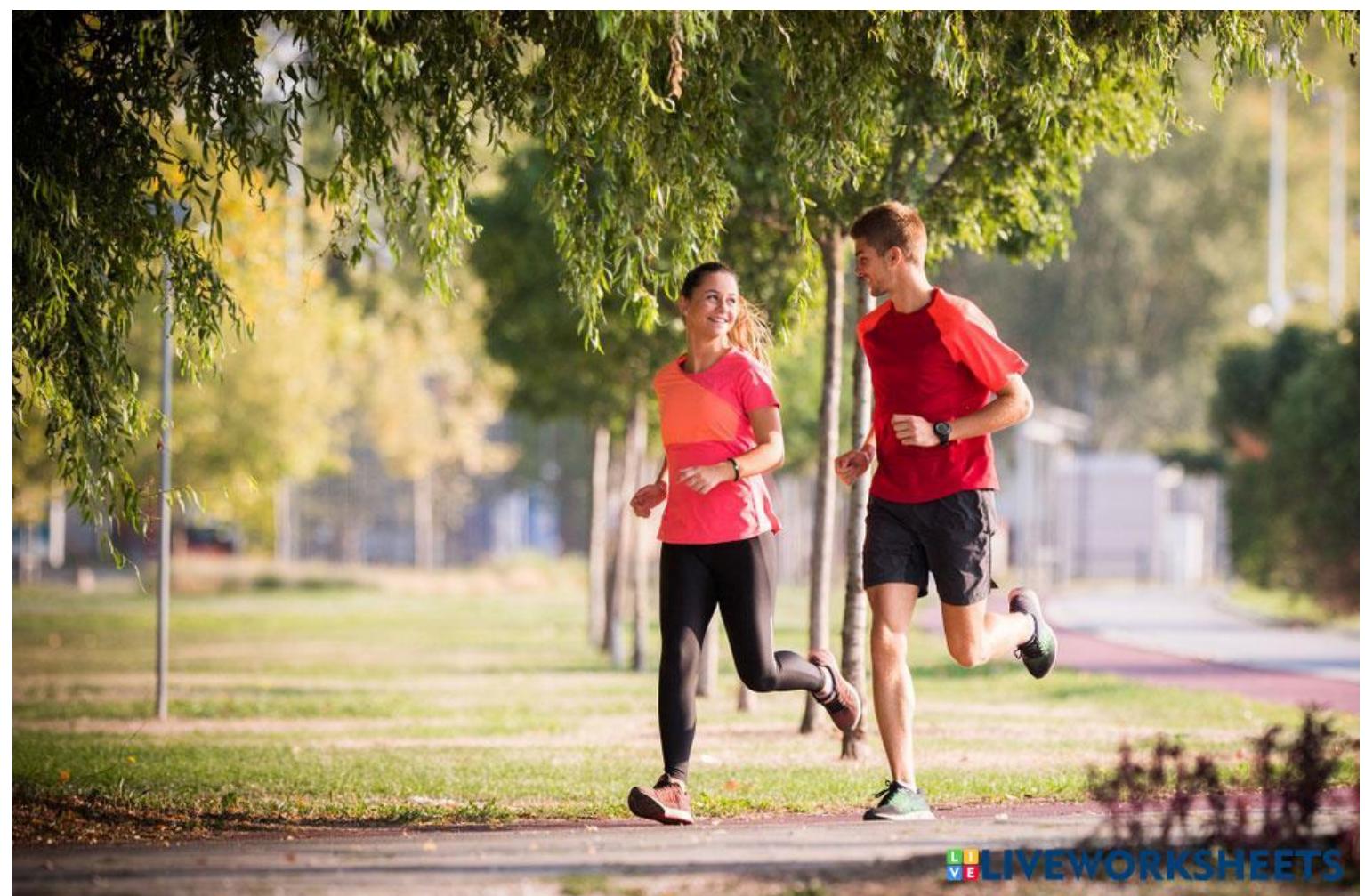
6a Write an opinion essay in response to the statement below. Use the paragraph structure in 5 and the phrases in the Writing bank.

Friends are more important than family.



6b When you finish your essay, use the Writing checklist on page 149 to check it.

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