

An example of advantages and disadvantages essay

Advantages and Disadvantages Essay

Overview

You should write a 250-word essay. First, **read the instructions for the task carefully**. Your essay should be organized and contain the following:

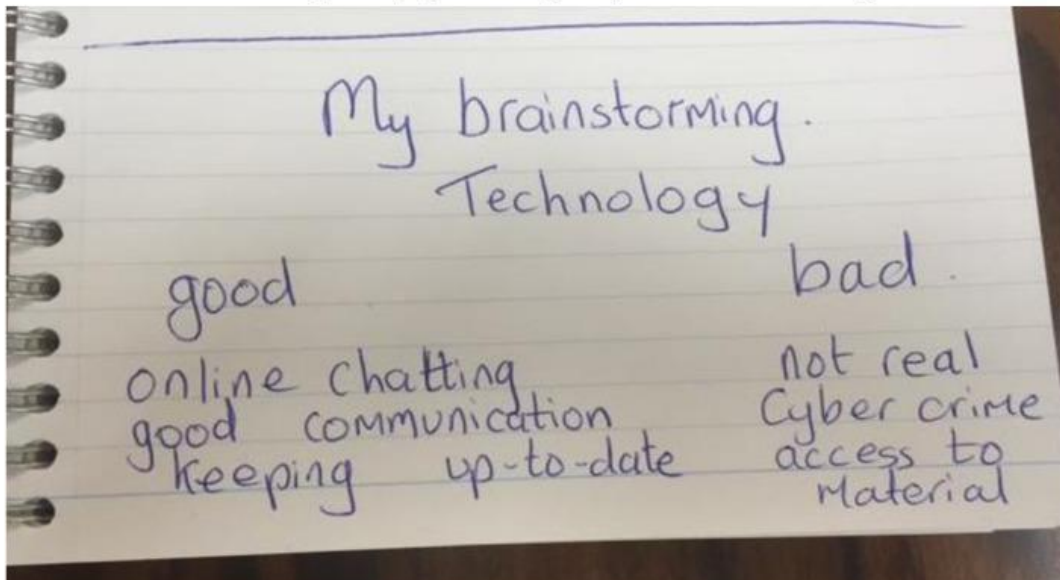
- A minimum of four paragraphs (maximum five).
- An introduction which includes a thesis statement.
- Two supporting paragraphs (one is for **advantages** and the other is for **disadvantages**) that contain examples that support your points.
- A conclusion that summarizes your main points.

Essay prompt

Many people today spend a lot of time using their phone or computer. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using technology.

Before your write

- Have you read the instructions carefully?
- Now you need to spend a couple of minutes planning your essay.
- Brainstorm some ideas on your paper and group similar ideas together.



Look at the picture above. Can you add some more advantages and disadvantages of technology? Put them into the table below.

Exercise 1

Advantages	Disadvantages

Introduction

In your introduction write 2-3 sentences around the general topic of your essay, using some basic facts (you might get some of this information from the question). Then, in the last sentence say exactly what you are going to write about - **this is your thesis statement**.

Exercise 2

Read the sentences below. Which one is the thesis statement? _____

	Sentence
1	In this essay I am going to look at some of the advantages and disadvantages of using technology.
2	Technology seems to be everywhere these days, whether you are chatting on line, sending work emails or completing your homework.
3	There seems to be new innovations all the time helping us to communicate with each other and keep up-to-date with what is happening in the world.

Exercise 3

Can you order the sentences above to make an introduction paragraph? _____, _____, _____

Body paragraphs

Each body paragraph should have one main idea (for example the advantages of using technology) with 3-4 supporting sentences. The first sentence is the topic sentence. It should explain what is going to be in this paragraph.

Body paragraph 1

Task 4

Look at the mixed-up sentences of body paragraph 1.

Which one is the topic sentence? _____

Can you order the rest of the sentences? _____

A	Secondly, I often use technology to access material for my homework as this helps me a lot because there is so much available online.
B	In this section I am going to write about some of the main advantages of technology.
C	Firstly, it is an extremely useful tool for communicating with others.
D	I can use my devices to send messages and pictures or to play games as they are very user-friendly.
E	For example, I use many social networking sites to connect with my friends and this keeps me updated on what is happening in their lives.

Body paragraph 2

Task 5

Look at the sentences of body paragraph 2, they are also mixed up.

Which one is the topic sentence? _____

Can you order the rest of the sentences? _____

A	Lastly, people can use the internet so much that they are living a virtual life online and not connecting with people in real life.
B	Firstly, is the fact that all types of information and games are available online that are unsuitable for people of different ages.
C	On the other hand, there are many pitfalls of depending on technology.
D	Secondly, there is the problem of cyber-crime, including cyber-bullying when hurtful and mean things are written online.

Conclusion

This should be 2-3 sentences. Give a summary of what your essay was about (re-phrase the thesis statement) and give some thoughts about the future.

Exercise 6

Look at the box below. Which sentence do you think should come first? _____

A	I believe there are far more advantages than disadvantages, but we need to be aware of the problems associated with overuse and inappropriate use of the internet.
B	To conclude, I have looked at the main advantages and disadvantages of using technological gadgets.

Exercise 7

Lesson Check

1. How many words should you write for task two? _____
2. What is the first thing you should do? _____
3. In what paragraph should you have a thesis statement? _____
4. How long are you going to spend planning your writing? _____
5. How many minutes should you spend on task two? _____
6. How many paragraphs should you write? _____
7. How many sentences should you have in your conclusion? _____

Essay Prompt :

Nowadays, a lot of people are searching for different ways to be famous , however being on the spotlight can be sometimes a negative issue. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of being famous.

(Write around 250 words)

Planning your essay :

Advantages	Disadvantages

Writing rubrics:

Band	Task completion	Vocabulary	Grammar	Organisation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completing requirements Appropriacy of content Style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range Spelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range Accuracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisation of content Linking Punctuation
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has completed all requirements of the task effectively. Appropriate content and style for the task throughout. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a good range of vocabulary appropriately, including many words from this grade or above. Shows an ability to use precise topic-specific vocabulary. Spelling is accurate throughout, with only occasional spelling errors in more complex vocabulary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows good control of grammar throughout. Consistently uses complex sentences and verb forms with accuracy, with possibly just 1 or 2 minor errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content is clearly organised into paragraphs as required for the text. Uses a good range of links and signposts for different ideas / information accurately throughout. Punctuation is appropriate throughout, even in very complex sentences (with maybe only 1 or 2 minor errors).
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has completed most of the requirements of the task, but 1 or 2 minor aspects have been missed (e.g. a bullet point may be just implicitly or minimally covered). Most content is appropriate, only occasional ideas may be off-topic. Some evidence of choosing an appropriate style for the task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a range of vocabulary – including new words from this grade to avoid repetition and which is clearly sufficient for the task. Uses 1 or 2 examples of precise topic-specific vocabulary. Spelling is accurate but with some errors in more difficult words, or 1 or 2 persistent errors in basic words. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The text contains several examples of complex sentences and / or verb forms. All basic structures are accurate throughout, more complex structures may contain minor errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content shows some organisation, but a paragraph may be too short / long or spacing between paragraphs may be unclear. Uses suitable links and signposts throughout. May be some repetition or errors. Punctuation is largely accurate throughout, but there may be slightly more consistent errors in complex sentences.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has completed some of the requirements of the task, but significant aspects have been missed (e.g. whole bullet point aspects). Some content is inappropriate or irrelevant to the task. No evidence of choosing the appropriate style for the task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses adequate vocabulary for the task, but mainly makes use of simpler words from previous grades. Use of vocabulary may be repetitive. Most sentences contain at least a minor spelling mistake, and a few words are difficult to decipher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly relies on simple structures with only isolated examples of more complex sentences / verb forms. Occasional errors in both simple and complex structures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has attempted to organise the text into paragraphs but doesn't meet the expected requirements of the task. Uses linking words which may be repetitive or rely on simple words. Punctuation generally doesn't affect the flow of sentences but there may be a few noticeable errors / lack of punctuation even in simple sentences.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not complete task. Either far too little text or not relevant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocabulary is basic and/or repetitive throughout the response. Frequent errors in spelling, which causes some difficulty for the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little evidence of being able to use anything but basic structures. Frequent grammatical errors throughout the task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of organisation in terms of paragraphing and linking words makes the text difficult to read. Seemingly struggles with punctuation, frequent errors or lack of adequate punctuation.