B. Put the sentences in the correct order to form a paragraph.

Furthermore, they tend to do better in their schoolwork. ◯

There are many advantages to having a school uniform. ◯

This is because they spend less time thinking about fashion and more time thinking about their studies. ◯

For instance, students do not compare their clothes to others' or feel bad if they are not able to afford the latest fashion. ◯

First of all, it helps all students feel equal and more confident. ◯

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

C. Complete the blanks 1-6 in the essay with the missing sentences a-f.

Sports Day

1 ◯ They are very popular events for lots of young people. However, for others they are quite unpopular.

2 ◯ It is a day when they can have fun doing their favourite sport, as well as watch others take part in different activities. This day gives students the opportunity to feel that school is not only about studying, but also about performing well in other fields with their friends. 3 ◯

4 ◯ This is because they find the whole event unpleasant and they do not enjoy the pressure of competition. 5 ◯

6 ◯ Whether the advantages are more than the disadvantages depends on how the school deals with the whole event. In my opinion, it should be considered an opportunity for students to cooperate with each other and not compete. Also, it should not be compulsory for all students to take part in the events.

a For many students, sports day is the best day of the whole school year.

b School sports competitions, also known as 'sports days', are part of school life for many students all over the world.

c For example, children who are not good at sport find it especially difficult and feel embarrassed when they have to participate in races in front of the whole school.

d For instance, they can enjoy taking part in races and perhaps winning a prize at the end.

e On the whole, there are both pros and cons to having a sports day.

f On the other hand, for other students it is a very stressful day and they do not look forward to it at all.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C. Read the essay below about whether it is necessary for students to have homework. Choose the most suitable topic sentence (a or b) for each paragraph and say why you think it is the most suitable choice.

NOTE: **Topic sentences** introduce the central idea of the paragraph. The other sentences in the paragraph develop the idea expressed in the topic sentence by expanding on it, giving examples or explaining it.

Is it necessary for students to have homework?

1) _____ Most students hate the thought of it. However, most teachers think it is a necessary part of the learning process.

2) _____ By doing homework, students have the opportunity to practise what they have learnt during the lesson. Furthermore, homework helps students to revise and consolidate knowledge.

3) _____ They feel that spending time with friends and family or doing a sport is a very important part of growing up. Moreover, as they see it, practice, revision and consolidation can be done during school hours.

4) _____ Personally, I would rather have time after school for my own interests. However, whenever teachers need to assign homework, it should be very little.

1.
a) Ask a student about homework and you will be told that it is a form of punishment.
b) If you ask students and teachers about homework, you will get a variety of different reactions.

2.
a) Those who believe that homework is necessary, believe that without it, learning is not as effective as it should be.
b) However, we have to admit that there are some advantages to having students do homework.

3.
a) On the other hand, many believe that students spend enough time in school and need time after school for free-time activities.
b) In fact, that is only one side of the story.

4.
a) The way I see it, students should not have to do schoolwork at home.
b) To sum up, homework has more advantages than disadvantages.

D. Read the writing task below and make a list of advantages and disadvantages in the table. Then write the essay.

What are the pros and cons of team sports?

ADVANTAGES
1. _____
2. _____

DISADVANTAGES
1. _____
2. _____

PLAN

When writing an essay discussing advantages and disadvantages, organise your ideas according to the plan below.

INTRODUCTION
- **Introduce the subject of the essay and both sides of the topic.**

MAIN PART (2 PARAGRAPHS)
- **Refer to the advantages / disadvantages in separate paragraphs. Cover both sides of the topic equally.**

CONCLUSION
- **Make a general statement. Use phrases like:**
  - *In conclusion...*
  - *To sum up...*
  - *All in all...*
  - *On the whole...*
  - *Taking everything into consideration...*
- **State your opinion.**

TIPS!

When writing an essay discussing advantages and disadvantages,
- think about the topic carefully and choose two or three ideas / points (the ones you have the most to say about). Don't try to deal with too many points.
- use topic sentences to introduce each paragraph.
- explain or justify each point and, if possible, provide an example.
- use a variety of linking words / phrases to list points, add points, express contrast, give examples, give your opinion, etc. (see page 57).
- write in a formal style and do not use short forms.
- avoid introducing any new ideas in the conclusion.

LIVEWORKSHEETS