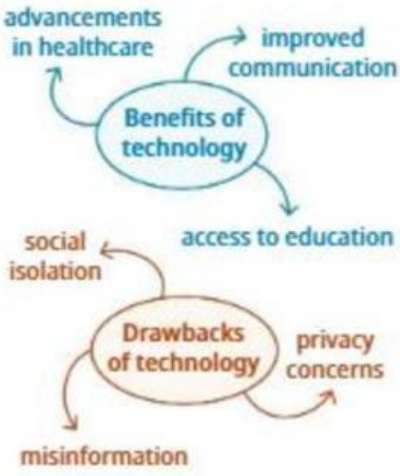
2.5 WRITING AN OPINION ESSAY

Objective: write an opinion essay.

1 **What are the benefits and drawbacks of technology? Add two more ideas to each section of the mind map.**



2 **EXAM** **Read the exam task and discuss your answer.**

Task: Some people say that the advancement in technology has brought more harm than good. Discuss.

3 **Read the model text. What is the writer's opinion? Is it the same as yours?**



Can you imagine life without your phone or the internet? Technology has fundamentally changed the way we communicate and **also** how we learn. However, some people think it causes more problems than it solves. My point of view is that it does more good than harm.

Firstly, it is a fact that technology has greatly improved communication. It allows us to connect and share information with people from all over the world instantly. This encourages collaboration and understanding among different cultures. **What is more**, mobile technology ensures that communication is possible anytime and anywhere, allowing us to stay in touch at all times.

Secondly, it is widely acknowledged that technology has revolutionized education. We now have immediate access to vast amounts of information **as well as** interactive tools that make studying more engaging. **Furthermore**, online courses and virtual classrooms have broken down geographical barriers, allowing students to learn from anywhere in the world.

To sum up, I believe that the benefits of technology outweigh the drawbacks. As I see it, technology helps us communicate and learn more effectively. If we use it ethically and responsibly, technology can be a powerful force for good.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 **TEXT ANALYSIS** **Read the model text again and answer the questions.**

Paragraph 1

1 How does the writer grab the reader's attention?

2 Which sentence states the writer's opinion?

Paragraphs 2 and 3

3 What is the aim of these paragraphs?

4 Does the writer present both sides of the issue?

Paragraph 4

5 Does the writer present any new opinions?

6 What is the purpose of the final sentence?

5 **Read the Writing strategy. Then study the words in bold in the model text. How do you say them in your language?**

Writing strategy

You can improve the way you present written information by using **linkers of addition** to add ideas to support your main point.

6 **Complete the rules with the words in bold in the model text.**

Rules

We use these **linkers of addition** to introduce additional information or arguments: *additionally*, *moreover*, [1](...), [2](...), [3](...), [4](...).
They usually come at the beginning of a sentence and are followed by a comma.

7 **Write four sentences to answer the question below. Use linkers of addition in exercise 6.**

What are the benefits of technology in entertainment?

GRAMMAR REFERENCE WORKBOOK Page 88

8 **Complete the Useful phrases with words from the model text in exercise 3.**

Useful phrases: expressing opinions

Stating your opinion
My point of [1](...) is ...
Personally, I feel that ...
I strongly believe that ...

Supporting your opinion
It is a [2](...) that ...
It is widely [3](...) that ...
(Additionally / Furthermore ...), it is clear / true that ...
Experts believe that ...
Studies show that ...

Summarizing and concluding
To [4](...) up, / To conclude, / In conclusion, ...
As I [5](...) it, / In my view, / I am convinced that ...

Writing task

9 **EXAM** **Some people think there should be regulations that prevent technology companies from releasing new models of their devices every year. Discuss. Write 120–150 words.**

Writing guide

Get ideas

Spend a few minutes thinking about the task. Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Make a list of reasons to support your opinion.

Plan

Organize your ideas into paragraphs.

Paragraph 1: introduce the topic and state your general opinion. Don't forget to grab the readers' attention.

Paragraph 2: give the first reason to support your opinion. Explain the reason and give an example, a relevant fact or more details.

Paragraph 3: as above, for your second reason.

Paragraph 4: restate your opinion, summarize your reasons and add a final comment.

Write

Write your opinion essay. Use the paragraph plan to help you and include some of the Useful phrases.

Check

Read your opinion essay carefully.
Have you ...

- structured the essay properly?
- given reasons for your opinion?
- used linkers of addition correctly?
- included some of the Useful phrases?

WRITING WORKSHOP Page 108

Complete all activities in LIVEWORKSHEETS