

# English

## Discursive Writing

### What do I do?

Write creatively by discussing a given topic.

### Top Tips!

- Plan your work carefully
- Write a clear introduction, paragraph your work carefully, presenting a range of ideas and write a convincing conclusion
- Reach a decision and summarise – save your decision/opinion until the end.
- Create facts and figures to support your point of view – yes, you can make these up!
- You could grab your reader's attention from the start, by using a rhetorical question

### What skills do I need to improve?



Doing lots of practice questions will help with becoming familiar with question types but what else can you do to improve in this area?

- Discussing a wide variety of topics with your friends and family will help you to understand different perspectives and opinions
- Topics could range from wearing uniform at school to discussions about the news
- You need to consider all points of view in your writing until you reveal your own personal opinion in your conclusion
- Use a wide variety of vocabulary and try to use the third person (in the main!) and a passive voice

## Planning



### 1 Introduction

You could use a rhetorical question to start...

- Have you ever wondered...?
- Have you ever considered...?
- ...., it's a tricky situation to be in, isn't it?

You could use a statement

- When discussing...
- .... has long been debated
- ... is an interesting concept/question

**Don't give away your view yet!**

### 3 Conclusion

Emphasise your points made  
Arrive at a conclusion and YOUR opinion

- Ultimately...
- Considering all...



### 2 Main body (Paragraphs)

Use connectives to...

**Sequence your points**

- Firstly, subsequently, finally

**Give examples to emphasise your ideas**

- Such as...
- Shown when...
- For instance...

**Give contrasting viewpoints**

- However...
- Alternatively...
- Conversely...
- Whereas...

**Show cause and effect**

- Due to...
- Therefore...
- Consequently...



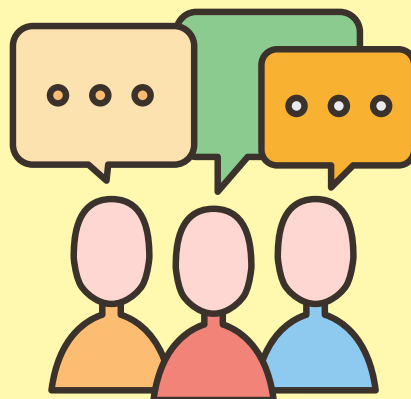
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### Suggested Titles

Use the following titles as inspiration for your discursive writing. Good luck!

- The school day should be extended. Discuss.
- Should school uniforms be optional?
- How does your life differ to that of an older generation, such as your grandparents?
- Households should be allowed two pets only. Discuss.
- Technology has gone too far - it's created laziness. Discuss.
- Should children, over the age of ten, be required to do household chores?
- Is the use of drones necessary or is it an invasion of privacy?
- Social media damages self-esteem. Discuss.
- The world was a better place before social media. Discuss.
- Sending texts and instant messages is destroying our ability to have a conversation. Discuss.
- Should students be offered an afternoon sleep at school?
- Should parents limit screen time for children? Discuss.
- Is modern technology bringing us together or causing mass isolation?
- Students shouldn't be forced to complete homework. Learning should be completed during the school day. Discuss.



*Share your ideas  
with us!*

