

# Success in essay writing

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## STEPS TO BETTER WRITING

Understanding the task: think carefully about your reasons.

*Planning:* what items and ideas you would choose. *Writing:* 

write in an semi-formal style;

use different ways of expressing a personal opinion.

#### Checking:

Is your composition easy to understand?

Have you answered the questions?

Check the spelling, grammar and the number of words.

# INTRODUCTION: first paragraph What is your opinion on the topic?

- 1. Introduces the thesis, catches the interest, why is the topic important.
- 2. Thesis statement: background (mention a study, quotation, giving a reference: Experts have studied...

# **Connectors:**

through, via, by...As it said...It is said....

# Verbs to use:

research, study, investigate, analyze...

# **DEVELOPMENT:** main body Develop the thesis by developing the points:

- 1. What is your viewpoint? What are your 2 reasons?
- 2. What is the opposing viewpoint? What is your reason?
- 3. Why you don't agree with the opposing opinion? What are your reasons?

### **Connectors:**

Listing points: first, second, third...

Counter: however, even though...

Addition: In addition to, also, related to...

Cause and effect: as a result, therefore...

# CONCLUSION: summary paragraph How will you restate your opinion?

- Restate strongest points or retell thesis
- Give your personal opinion or suggestion

# **Connectors:**

Summary: to sum up...Summarizing...To conclude...

Opinion: I think that...In my opinion...

**Verbs to use:** think, believe, care, agree, disagree...

#### REMEMBER

#### **WRITING ESSAYS:**

- 1. Thesis + Background
  - 2. Developing points
- 3. Clear but not very simple tenses
  - 4. Focus on the main idea
    - 5. Use a dictionary



#### REMEMBER

#### **EDITING ESSAYS**

#### **Grammar & Spelling**

- 1. Read it again
- 2. Check if it has sense
- 3. Check subjects, verbs and verb tenses
  - 4. Check grammar and spelling

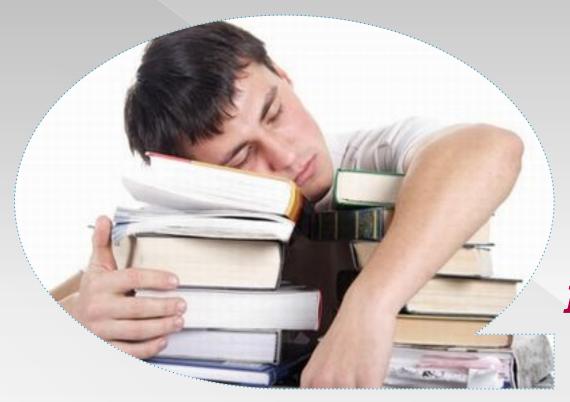
#### **Style & Organization**

- 1. It has the 3 parts
- 2. Thesis statement (background)
  - 3. Paragraph format

Единый государственный экзамен по ИНОСТРАННЫМ ЯЗЫКАМ Демонстрационный вариант контрольных измерительных материалов единого государственного экзамена 2012 года по АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ подготовлен Федеральным государственным научным учреждением «ФЕДЕРАЛЬНЫЙ ИНСТИТУТ ПЕДАГОГИЧЕСКИХ ИЗМЕРЕНИЙ»

# Example of the task

- You have 40 minutes to do this task. Comment on the following statement.
- Some people think that extreme sports help to build character.
- What is your opinion? Do you agree with this statement?
- Write **200–250** words.
- Use the following plan:
- 1– make an introduction (state the problem)
- 2- express your personal opinion and give 2-3 reasons for your opinion
- 3– express an opposing opinion and give 1–2 reasons for this opposing opinion
- 4– explain why you don't agree with the opposing opinion
- 5- make a conclusion restating your position



Have a good sleep before your exam!

# Useful links

- http://www.tuclase.net
- www.oup.com/elt
- http://expresspublishing.co.uk
- www.airis.ru
- www.fipi.ru