

Activity Name	<b>“AN OPINION ESSAY”</b>
Language	English
Level	Intermediate (6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> semester)
Objective	Analyze an essay to identify if some information is mentioned in the text or not and to determine some phrases with similar meaning.
Linguistic Competence to Develop	Reading comprehension Written expression
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compare the information given in some statements to the text and decide if it appears in the reading.</li> <li>- Examine some phrases to decide if they have similar meanings.</li> <li>- Test the top tips for writing the next time you write an opinion essay.</li> </ul>
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read the statements and decide whether or not the information turns up in the text.</li> <li>2. Decide which phrases have similar meanings.</li> <li>3. Try the top tips for writing at the end of the text in your following opinion essay.</li> </ol>
Feedback	When you finish look at the “Answer Key” and check your answers. Keep your worksheet in your portfolio of evidence.

## An opinion essay

### Are video games a good way to keep fit?

Nowadays, many teenagers have got video consoles at home and they often like playing active video games. These are good for you for a number of reasons.

First of all, I think that active video games are a good way to keep fit. There are lots of different types of exercise you can do such as basketball, water-skiing and dance and, what's more, you can play them in the comfort of your own home. In my opinion, these games are fun and interactive because you can play them with friends and, if you play online, you don't need to be in the same place as your friend to play.

In addition, you can play them whenever you want. Some people think that it's better to do exercise outside in the fresh air. Although this is true, it's actually difficult to play outside when it's raining or very hot so video games are a good alternative.

To sum up, I believe that video games are a fun and social way to keep fit. I think they are a good option when you can't play outside and they might encourage people to do more exercise.

### Top Tips for writing

1. Write your essay in clear paragraphs. Use phrases like *First of all*, *In addition* and *To sum up* to start each paragraph.
2. Express your own opinion using *I think*, *In my opinion* or *I believe*. Mention other viewpoints with phrases like *Some people think* and say whether you agree or disagree with them.

**A. Choose the six points that are mentioned in the essay.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ There are a lot of different types of games.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Video games are fun to play with your friends.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Video games allow you to play many different sports.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ You can compete with people all over the world via the internet.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Playing video games is the best way to stay physically fit and healthy.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ It's better to do exercise outside in the fresh air.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ You can play video games even when the weather is bad.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Playing sport is more intense exercise than playing video games.

**B. Match the words and phrases that have similar meanings.**

In fact, ...	In conclusion, ...	I believe that...	First of all, ...
In addition, ...	Nowadays, ...	I disagree with that, ...	

Today, ... \_\_\_\_\_

Firstly, ... \_\_\_\_\_

Also, ... \_\_\_\_\_

I think that ... \_\_\_\_\_

I don't agree ... \_\_\_\_\_

Actually, ... \_\_\_\_\_

To sum up, ... \_\_\_\_\_

## ANSWER KEY

### A. Check the six points that are mentioned in the essay

- ✓ 1.
- ✓ 2.
- ✓ 3.
- ✓ 4.
- 5.
- ✓ 6.
- ✓ 7.
- 8.

### B. Match the words and phrases that have similar meanings.

Today, ...	/	Nowadays
Firstly, ...	/	First of all
Also, ...	/	In addition
I think that ...	/	I believe that
I don't agree ...	/	I disagree with
Actually, ...	/	In fact
To sum up, ...	/	In conclusion