

Activity Name	“FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY” (Written Expression)
Language	English
Level	Intermediate (6 th and 9 th semester)
Objective	Analyze a “for and against essay” to define the topics in it and the order of those topics.
Linguistic Competence to Develop	Reading comprehension Written Expression
Strategies	-Identify information included in the text. -Assign the order of elements in a “for and against essay”. -Paraphrase some sentences included in the text.
Activities	1. Check six ideas mentioned in the text. 2. Write the topics of the essay in order. 3. Rewrite the sentences using the words or phrases in brackets and keeping the same meaning.
Feedback	When you finish go to the “Answer key” and check your answers. Keep your worksheet in your portfolio of evidence.

A for and against essay

Reality TV shows are good entertainment

Reality shows are a very popular form of entertainment on TV nowadays. There are dozens of different types of programmes such as singing contests, cooking competitions or going to live in the jungle.

Firstly, I think that there is a lot of variety in reality TV. People at home can choose which types of programme they want to watch depending on what they are interested in. Some people like watching singing or cooking competitions while others prefer watching programmes about building houses or travelling around the world. **In addition**, reality TV programmes are a great opportunity to discover talented singers, dancers or chefs. Several people who take part in these programmes get jobs as a result of being on TV. **Another advantage is that** the people on the shows have interesting experiences and meet new people.

On the other hand, some people think that reality TV is an easy way for them to become famous. **However**, most successful singers, actors or chefs have worked hard all their lives and are good at their job because of their hard work. **Also**, sometimes the people on the shows have to do really difficult or dangerous things. The competitions are very hard and there is only one winner. **Another disadvantage is that** some programmes always follow the same format and this can be boring to watch.

To sum up, I think that reality TV is good entertainment. There is lots of variety which means there is something for everyone and they are interesting to watch.

Top Tips for writing

1. Start each paragraph with a word or phrase so the reader knows what to expect, for example *Firstly*, *On the other hand* or *To sum up*.
2. Link your sentences with these words.
3. Organise your essay in paragraphs.
 - paragraph 1 – introduction
 - paragraph 2 – arguments for the subject
 - paragraph 3 – arguments against the subject
 - paragraph 4 – conclusion

FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY

A. Choose all the ideas that are mentioned in the essay. (Choose six ideas.)

- _____ They can discover talented people.
- _____ Reality shows are always the same.
- _____ Some people on reality shows behave badly.
- _____ People on reality shows have fun experiences and meet new people.
- _____ Some competitions are very difficult or dangerous.
- _____ There are lots of different types of reality shows.
- _____ They are fun to watch with your friends.
- _____ Reality TV is not an easy way to become famous.
- _____ People spend a lot of money on their phones when they vote.
- _____ The winners win great prizes.

B. Put the paragraph topics from the essay in the correct order.

- Introduction – the situation
- Arguments against reality TV shows
- Conclusion – writer's opinion
- Arguments for reality TV shows

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

C. Rewrite the sentences using the words or phrases in brackets and keeping the same meaning. You may change the punctuation.

1. Reality shows are all the same but many people still watch them. (however,)

2. We can discover talented people on reality TV and we can vote for the ones we like the most. (furthermore,)

3. One positive thing about reality TV is that it shows normal people. (one advantage of)

4. My first point is that reality TV is fun to watch. (firstly,)

5. Also, you can learn many new things. (in addition,)

6. The opposite argument is that reality TV might set a bad example for young children. (on the other hand,)

ANSWER KEY

A. Choose all the ideas that are mentioned in the essay. Choose six ideas.

- ✓ They can discover talented people.
- ✓ Reality shows are always the same.
Some people on reality shows behave badly.
- ✓ People on reality shows have fun experiences and meet new people.
- ✓ Some competitions are very difficult or dangerous.
- ✓ There are lots of different types of reality shows.
They are fun to watch with your friends.
- ✓ Reality TV is not an easy way to become famous.
People spend a lot of money on their phones when they vote.
The winners win great prizes.

B. Put the paragraph topics from the essay in the correct order.

Introduction - the situation ✓

Arguments for reality TV shows ✓

Arguments against reality TV shows ✓

Conclusion - writer's opinion ✓

C. Rewrite the sentences using the words or phrases in brackets and keeping the same meaning. You may change the punctuation.

1. Reality shows are all the same. However, many people still watch them.
2. We can discover talented people on reality TV. Furthermore, we can vote for the ones we like.
3. One advantage of reality TV is that it shows normal people.
4. Firstly, reality TV is fun to watch.
5. In addition, you can learn many new things.
6. In the other hand, reality TV might set a bad example for young children.