



Education and School Life

Article planning bank: less homework

Exam-style article task

Your class has recently discussed whether schools should give students less homework. Your teacher has asked you to write an article about this topic for your school magazine. Here are some comments about homework to help you:

'Homework helps us practise independently.'

'Some tasks are useful before tests.'

'There is not enough time to relax.'

'Too much homework affects sleep.'

Now write an article for your school magazine.

The comments may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your article. Add details and examples.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases
Concise, engaging title	Possible techniques: question / contrast / school phrase Title idea:	☐ How much is too much? ☐ Homework or overload? ☐ Finding the balance
Introduction	Context: homework; learning, rest and student wellbeing Hook: question / direct address / lively opening statement My angle:	☐ Recently,... ☐ Every student knows... ☐ This matters because...
Learning benefits	Idea: homework helps independent practice Example / detail: Extra idea: some tasks are useful before tests Detail / example:	☐ One benefit is... ☐ For example,... ☐ This can help...
Pressure or limits	Concern: not enough time to relax Why / effect: Another point: too much homework affects sleep Possible response:	☐ However,... ☐ The problem is... ☐ A better balance would...
Final view	My opinion: Closing message: what would a sensible homework balance be?	☐ In my view,... ☐ Overall,... ☐ Schools should...

Write your article

Write an article for your school magazine. Cover the comments, develop your points and make your opinion clear.

Article title _____

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Education and School Life

Article planning bank: student voice

Exam-style article task

Your class has recently discussed whether students should have more say in school decisions. Your teacher has asked you to write an article about this topic for your school magazine. Here are some comments about student voice to help you:

'Students know what affects them every day.'

'It could improve school rules.'

'Not everyone will take it seriously.'

'Teachers still need to make final decisions.'

Now write an article for your school magazine.

The comments may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your article. Add details and examples.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases
Concise, engaging title	Possible techniques: question / strong opinion / school phrase Title idea:	[] Should students decide? [] Listen to learners [] More than a suggestion box
Introduction	Context: student voice; decisions, rules and responsibility Hook: question / direct address / lively opening statement My angle:	[] In school life,... [] Students often notice... [] This matters because...
Reasons for voice	Idea: students know what affects them Example / detail: Extra idea: it could improve school rules Detail / example:	[] One reason is... [] For example,... [] This could make...
Concerns or limits	Concern: not everyone will take it seriously Why / effect: Another point: teachers still need final decisions Possible response:	[] However,... [] A possible concern is... [] To make it work...
Final view	My opinion: Closing message: how much say should students have?	[] In my view,... [] Overall,... [] Students should...

Write your article

Write an article for your school magazine. Cover the comments, develop your points and make your opinion clear.

Article title _____

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Education and School Life

Article planning bank: school clubs

Exam-style article task

Your class has recently discussed whether schools should offer more clubs after lessons. Your teacher has asked you to write an article about this topic for your school magazine. Here are some comments about school clubs to help you:

'Clubs help students make friends.'

'They let students try new skills.'

'Some people live too far away to stay late.'

'Teachers are already very busy.'

Now write an article for your school magazine.

The comments may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your article. Add details and examples.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases
Concise, engaging title	Possible techniques: question / alliteration / club phrase Title idea:	☐ Why join a club? ☐ Skills after school ☐ More than lessons
Introduction	Context: after-school clubs; friendship, skills and access Hook: question / direct address / lively opening statement My angle:	☐ After lessons,... ☐ Many students need... ☐ This matters because...
Benefits for students	Idea: clubs help students make friends Example / detail: Extra idea: students try new skills Detail / example:	☐ One clear benefit is... ☐ For instance,... ☐ This can give...
Practical concerns	Concern: some people live too far away Why / effect: Another point: teachers are already busy Possible response:	☐ Even so,... ☐ A practical issue is... ☐ One solution could be...
Final view	My opinion: Closing message: how could clubs be organised fairly?	☐ In my view,... ☐ Overall,... ☐ Schools could...

Write your article

Write an article for your school magazine. Cover the comments, develop your points and make your opinion clear.

Article title _____

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Education and School Life

Article planning bank: school uniforms

Exam-style article task

Your class has recently discussed whether school uniforms are still a good idea. Your teacher has asked you to write an article about this topic for your school magazine. Here are some comments about school uniforms to help you:

'Uniforms make everyone look equal.'

'They save time in the morning.'

'They can be uncomfortable.'

'Students should express themselves.'

Now write an article for your school magazine.

The comments may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your article. Add details and examples.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases
Concise, engaging title	Possible techniques: question / contrast / strong opinion Title idea:	☐ Uniform or unique? ☐ Still a good idea? ☐ More than clothes
Introduction	Context: school uniforms; equality, comfort and identity Hook: question / direct address / lively opening statement My angle:	☐ Every morning,... ☐ Uniform is one of... ☐ This matters because...
Reasons for uniform	Idea: uniforms make everyone look equal Example / detail: Extra idea: they save time in the morning Detail / example:	☐ One argument for... is... ☐ For example,... ☐ This can make...
Reasons against	Concern: uniforms can be uncomfortable Why / effect: Another point: students should express themselves Possible response:	☐ However,... ☐ On the other hand,... ☐ A possible compromise is...
Final view	My opinion: Closing message: what should schools do about uniform?	☐ In my view,... ☐ Overall,... ☐ The fairest option is...

Write your article

Write an article for your school magazine. Cover the comments, develop your points and make your opinion clear.

Article title _____

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