



Digital Life and Technology

Essay planning bank: mobile phones in school

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether students should be allowed to use mobile phones at school. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay giving your opinion about this topic.

In your essay, you should discuss both sides of the argument and give your own view.

Here are some comments from students to help you:

'Phones can help with research.'

'Parents can contact students in emergencies.'

'They distract people in lessons.'

'Some students use them irresponsibly.'

Now write an essay for your teacher.

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

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your essay. Add reasons, examples and a clear opinion.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases to tick
Introduction	Context: mobile phones are part of many students' daily lives Issue: whether they should be allowed during the school day My overall view:	☐ Some people believe... ☐ This essay will consider... ☐ In my view,...
Argument in favour	Idea: phones can support research and organisation Reason / example: Extra idea: they may help families communicate in emergencies Detail / example:	☐ One argument in favour is... ☐ For example,... ☐ This means that...
Argument against	Concern: phones can distract students in lessons Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ On the other hand,... ☐ However,... ☐ This can lead to...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: schools should allow limited, purposeful use with clear rules Reason:	☐ I partly agree because... ☐ The best approach would be... ☐ Instead of...
Conclusion	Final judgement: Closing sentence:	☐ Overall,... ☐ Therefore,... ☐ To conclude,...

Write your essay

Write an essay for your teacher. Discuss both sides, give examples and make your own opinion clear.

Essay title _____

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Digital Life and Technology

Essay planning bank: online learning

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether online learning is as effective as classroom learning. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay giving your opinion about this topic.

In your essay, you should discuss both sides of the argument and give your own view.

Here are some comments from students to help you:

'Online lessons are flexible.'

'Students can replay explanations.'

'It is easier to lose focus at home.'

'Not everyone has good internet access.'

Now write an essay for your teacher.

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

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your essay. Add reasons, examples and a clear opinion.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases to tick
Introduction	Context: online learning has become more common for many students Issue: whether it can be as effective as classroom learning My overall view:	☐ Recently,... ☐ The question is whether... ☐ I believe that...
Argument in favour	Idea: online lessons can be flexible Reason / example: Extra idea: students may replay explanations and learn at their own pace Detail / example:	☐ One clear benefit is... ☐ As a result,... ☐ This could help...
Argument against	Concern: some students may lose focus at home Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ A possible concern is... ☐ Even so,... ☐ This might mean that...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: online learning should support classroom learning rather than fully replace it Reason:	☐ In my opinion,... ☐ A balanced solution would be... ☐ This would allow...
Conclusion	Final judgement: Closing sentence:	☐ Overall,... ☐ For these reasons,... ☐ The most sensible view is...

Write your essay

Write an essay for your teacher. Discuss both sides, give examples and make your own opinion clear.

Essay title _____

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Digital Life and Technology

Essay planning bank: artificial intelligence

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether students should be allowed to use artificial intelligence tools for schoolwork. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay giving your opinion about this topic.

In your essay, you should discuss both sides of the argument and give your own view.

Here are some comments from students to help you:

'AI can explain difficult ideas.'

'It can help with planning.'

'Students might stop thinking for themselves.'

'It may be unfair if not everyone uses it.'

Now write an essay for your teacher.

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

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your essay. Add reasons, examples and a clear opinion.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases to tick
Introduction	Context: artificial intelligence tools are becoming easier for students to access Issue: whether they should be used for schoolwork My overall view:	☐ Some people believe... ☐ This essay will consider... ☐ In my view,...
Argument in favour	Idea: AI can explain difficult ideas in different ways Reason / example: Extra idea: it may help students plan or organise work Detail / example:	☐ One argument in favour is... ☐ For example,... ☐ This means that...
Argument against	Concern: students might rely on it too much Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ On the other hand,... ☐ However,... ☐ This can lead to...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: AI should be used as a support tool with clear academic rules Reason:	☐ I partly agree because... ☐ The best approach would be... ☐ Instead of...
Conclusion	Final judgement: Closing sentence:	☐ Overall,... ☐ Therefore,... ☐ To conclude,...

Write your essay

Write an essay for your teacher. Discuss both sides, give examples and make your own opinion clear.

Essay title _____

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Digital Life and Technology

Essay planning bank: screen time

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether teenagers spend too much time using screens. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay giving your opinion about this topic.

In your essay, you should discuss both sides of the argument and give your own view.

Here are some comments from students to help you:

'Screens help us study and communicate.'

'Online hobbies can be creative.'

'Too much screen time affects sleep.'

'People sometimes avoid face-to-face conversations.'

Now write an essay for your teacher.

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

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Planning

Use the comments to organise your essay. Add reasons, examples and a clear opinion.

Section	Ideas / Useful language	Linking phrases to tick
Introduction	Context: screens are used for school, communication and entertainment Issue: whether teenagers spend too much time on them My overall view:	☐ Recently,... ☐ The question is whether... ☐ I believe that...
Argument in favour	Idea: screens can help students study and communicate Reason / example: Extra idea: online activities can also be creative Detail / example:	☐ One clear benefit is... ☐ As a result,... ☐ This could help...
Argument against	Concern: too much screen time may affect sleep Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ A possible concern is... ☐ Even so,... ☐ This might mean that...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: teenagers should use screens in a balanced and purposeful way Reason:	☐ In my opinion,... ☐ A balanced solution would be... ☐ This would allow...
Conclusion	Final judgement: Closing sentence:	☐ Overall,... ☐ For these reasons,... ☐ The most sensible view is...

Write your essay

Write an essay for your teacher. Discuss both sides, give examples and make your own opinion clear.

Essay title _____

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