



Family and Relationships

Essay planning bank: family meals

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether families should try to eat together more often. 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:

'Meals give families time to talk.'

'They help people feel connected.'

'Everyone has different schedules.'

'Some people prefer eating when they are hungry.'

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: family meals can be a regular time for communication Issue: whether families should make more effort to eat together My overall view:	☐ Some people believe... ☐ This essay will consider... ☐ In my view,...
Argument in favour	Idea: meals can give families time to talk Reason / example: Extra idea: they may help people feel connected Detail / example:	☐ One argument in favour is... ☐ For example,... ☐ This means that...
Argument against	Concern: different schedules can make shared meals difficult Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ On the other hand,... ☐ However,... ☐ This can lead to...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: families should aim for regular shared meals without making them stressful 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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Family and Relationships

Essay planning bank: advice from older relatives

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether young people should listen more to advice from older relatives. 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:

'Older relatives have useful experience.'

'They know family history.'

'Their advice can feel out of date.'

'Young people need to make their own choices.'

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: older relatives often give advice based on experience Issue: whether young people should listen to them more My overall view:	☐ Recently,... ☐ The question is whether... ☐ I believe that...
Argument in favour	Idea: older relatives may have useful life experience Reason / example: Extra idea: they can also share family history and values Detail / example:	☐ One clear benefit is... ☐ As a result,... ☐ This could help...
Argument against	Concern: some advice may feel out of date Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ A possible concern is... ☐ Even so,... ☐ This might mean that...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: young people should listen respectfully but still make independent choices 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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Family and Relationships

Essay planning bank: spending time with friends

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether friends are as important as family for teenagers. 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:

'Friends understand teenage problems.'

'Friends help people feel accepted.'

'Family support is more reliable.'

'Friendships can change quickly.'

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: teenagers often rely on both friends and family Issue: whether friends are as important as family My overall view:	☐ Some people believe... ☐ This essay will consider... ☐ In my view,...
Argument in favour	Idea: friends may understand teenage problems Reason / example: Extra idea: friendships can help people feel accepted Detail / example:	☐ One argument in favour is... ☐ For example,... ☐ This means that...
Argument against	Concern: family support may be more reliable Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ On the other hand,... ☐ However,... ☐ This can lead to...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: teenagers need both friendship and family support in different ways 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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Family and Relationships

Essay planning bank: household responsibilities

Exam-style essay task

Your class has recently discussed whether teenagers should help more with household responsibilities. 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:

'It teaches independence.'

'Students already have a lot of homework.'

'It is fair to help at home.'

'Some tasks are too difficult for teenagers.'

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: household responsibilities can include cleaning, cooking or caring for siblings Issue: whether teenagers should help more at home My overall view:	☐ Recently,... ☐ The question is whether... ☐ I believe that...
Argument in favour	Idea: helping at home can teach independence Reason / example: Extra idea: it may also make family life fairer Detail / example:	☐ One clear benefit is... ☐ As a result,... ☐ This could help...
Argument against	Concern: students may already have a lot of homework Why / effect: Extra point: Possible balance:	☐ A possible concern is... ☐ Even so,... ☐ This might mean that...
My view	My opinion: Best solution: teenagers should help with reasonable tasks that fit their age and workload 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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