

THEORY:

How to Write an Opinion Essay

1) Write your essay in clear paragraphs:

Paragraph 1 : Write your own opinion about the topic proposed.

Paragraph 2: Support your opinion with facts and examples. You can also write quotations.

Paragraph 3: Summarize the opinions expressed and remark your opinion with different words.

2) Use connectors of sequencing like :

First of all, Then, Finally.

3) Express your own opinion with terms such as : I think , In my opinion or I believe.

4) Mention other viewpoints with phrases like: Some people think or say or what they think and say.

5) Write whether you agree or disagree with the points of view of other people.

PRACTICE:

1) Write the summary of the theory about an opinion essay.

Writing An opinion essay

Getting Ready to Write

Content

In an opinion essay, we start by stating our opinion and then supporting it with facts and examples. We end by summarising or restating our opinion.

- 1 Copy the chart below. Then read the model and find the information to complete the chart.

Paragraph 1
The opinion:
Paragraph 2
Facts and examples to support the opinion:
Paragraph 3
A summary of the opinion:

Language

When writing an opinion essay, we often use the Passive to state our opinion and present facts and examples. We also use expressions to state opinions such as *in my opinion, I believe, I think, I feel, it seems to me that, as I see it, as far as I am concerned* and *in my view*.

In my opinion, the prices **weren't reduced** enough.

It seems to me that too much paper is **wasted** on ads.

- 2 Find the following in the model.

- five sentences in the Passive
- four expressions that show opinion

- 3 Copy and complete the opinions in A with the expressions below. Use each expression once. Then match the opinions in A to the facts or examples in B.

*As far as I am concerned • In my view
I believe • As I see it*

A

-, online shopping is fantastic.
- that regular shopping is the best way to shop.
-, it's better to get advice from shop assistants.
-, online shopping sites have got many advantages.

B

- With online shopping, you can't do this.
- They are open 24 hours a day and a wide selection of goods are offered.
- It is so much easier than regular shopping.
- I like to see and feel things before I buy them.

Model

TOO MUCH ADVERTISING



Everywhere we look, there are adverts. We are surrounded by companies trying to convince us to buy things. As far as I am concerned, advertising can be very harmful to the public.

Every year, huge amounts of money are spent on advertising. If an advert has got a popular celebrity, people will often be convinced to buy a product that they don't need, even though they haven't got money to waste. Ads can also make people feel unhappy with their lives because they can't afford the products which are advertised. I believe it would be better if companies spent less money on advertising and reduced their prices instead. It seems to me that if prices were reduced, consumers would buy more.

To sum up, advertising is a waste of money for companies and causes consumers to waste money, too. In my opinion, if companies advertise less and reduce prices, we will all benefit.



Writing Task

English in Use

Write an opinion essay about whether online shopping is better than going to the shops.

- Decide what your opinion is.
- Copy and complete the chart in Exercise 1 about your opinion.
- Use the information in the chart and the model to help you.

Check Yourself

Content – I included

- my opinion about online shopping
- facts and examples to support my opinion
- a conclusion which restates my opinion

Language – I used

- the Passive correctly
- expressions to state my opinion

SOLUTIONS:

1) The summary will be assessed attending to the following aspects:

- All the summaries must include the logical order of the information required for an opinion essay it must also be grammatically correct. Finally it must show a clear handwriting as well as a neat presentation.

1) TOO MUCH ADVERTISING :

Paragraph 1 :

The opinion: Advertising can be harmful to the public.

Paragraph 2:

Facts and examples to support the opinion: Ads can make people feel unhappy with their lives because they can't afford the products which are advertised.

Paragraph 3:

A summary of the opinion: Advertising is a waste of money for companies and causes consumers to waste money..

2.1)

1. lines 1-2.

2. lines 5-6.

3. lines 6-9.

4. lines 10-11.

5. lines 13-14.

2,2)

as far as I am concerned. I believe, it seems to me , in my opinion.

3) Possible answers:

1. As far as I am concerned,c.

2. I believe,d.

3. In my view,a.

4. As I see it,b.