

A for and against essay

Many young adults choose to leave their parents' home in order to share a house with friends. Write an essay in which you present arguments for and against this course of action.

In the past, most people lived with their parents until they got married. But in the modern world, it's more common to leave home and share accommodation with friends. This choice has both positive and negative aspects.

There are several advantages to sharing with friends. Firstly, it gives you the opportunity to spend time with your friends and to build strong relationships with them. Secondly, it allows you to develop some of the practical skills that you will need as an independent adult. For instance, you will learn how to manage household bills, how to shop and cook, and so on. And thirdly, it makes living in your own home more affordable, and the more people who share, the more cost-effective it is. For instance, a shared house for six people is far cheaper than two houses for three people.

On the other hand, sharing a home has its disadvantages. Sharing a house can often cause disagreements. For instance, housemates often argue about household chores. What is more, it can be difficult to have time alone when you need it. And finally, the houses which young people share are sometimes in poor condition and landlords are not always good at repairing appliances when they break.

Although sharing a house with other young adults is not always easy, the advantages definitely outweigh the problems. It is certainly something I would like to do in a few years' time.

- The first paragraph should be an introduction. Include a thesis statement, which summarises the main issue.

- The second paragraph should focus on the advantages. If possible, include three.

- Give examples if possible, introduced by phrases like *For example, ...* or *For instance, ...*.

- Begin the third paragraph with a phrase like *On the other hand, ...* or *However, ...* to express contrast with the previous paragraph.

- The third paragraph should focus on the disadvantages. If possible, include three.

- The fourth paragraph should be the conclusion. State your opinion and decide whether the pros outweigh the cons or vice versa.

An article

Many people believe that animals living in zoos suffer. Write an article for your local newspaper in which you give your views. Present the advantages and the disadvantages.

- Choose a good title for your article.

- Start your article with an introduction which gets the reader's attention and introduces the topic.

- Include occasional rhetorical questions to make the style more engaging.

- Write in a simple, clear style appropriate to the publication (newspaper, magazine, etc.). Avoid language that is too formal.

- Make sure you split your article into paragraphs with different arguments in each paragraph, in a logical order.

- Include a short conclusion. This can detail your personal opinion, or the most important point in the article.

ARE ZOOS CRUEL TO ANIMALS?

Most major cities in the world have zoos, with lots of weird and wonderful animals in them. Many people love to go and see amazing creatures from all over the world. But is it cruel to keep animals in places like zoos?

Personally, I think that zoos are a good idea for two reasons. First of all, they are educational and school children can visit zoos to learn about animals from different countries. Secondly, they can also help to keep endangered species alive by providing a safe place for the animals to breed.

However, some people believe that zoos are cruel and that it is wrong to keep wild animals in small cages. They think that animals should live in their natural habitats and be free to move around instead of being kept behind bars for humans to look at.

While I understand the arguments of people who oppose zoos, I believe that the benefits outweigh the disadvantages. If the animals are safe and looked after well, then there is no problem with zoos.

An opinion essay

Many people believe that it is too late to reverse the harm which humans have done to the planet. Write an essay in which you present your opinion on this topic and suggest how people could limit further damage to the environment.

- The first paragraph should be an introduction. Include your thesis statement, which is a summary of your opinion on the issue.

- Write in an appropriately formal style, avoiding colloquial words and expressions.

- The second paragraph should focus on the first element of the task.

- Use appropriate linking words like *Additionally*, ... and *However*, ... to connect your ideas in a logical way.

- Give examples, if possible, introduced by phrases like *For example*, ... , *For instance*, ... and *such as*

- The third paragraph should focus on the second element of the task.

- The fourth paragraph should be the conclusion. Restate your opinion from paragraph one, but do not repeat it word for word.

For many decades, humans have been damaging the environment by polluting the atmosphere and the oceans. Global warming threatens to change the planet's climate forever and make large areas of it uninhabitable. In my opinion, it is impossible to reverse all of this damage, but we can certainly make a positive difference by changing our behaviour.

In recent years, there has been some progress in preventing pollution. For example, factories and car engines are far cleaner than they were fifty years ago. Additionally, some products that harm the atmosphere, such as aerosols that contain dangerous chemicals, are no longer available. However, some forms of pollution are more difficult to tackle. Plastic waste will remain in the environment for thousands of years. And although governments are attempting to limit carbon emissions, nobody is certain whether this will be enough to stop global warming. But it is important to remain positive and do everything we can to prevent further damage to our planet.

It is perfectly possible for individuals to limit their own impact on the environment. For example, they should save electricity by switching off lights, computers and other electrical appliances when they are not using them. As far as possible, they should avoid buying products with plastic packaging and drink water from a re-usable bottle.

In conclusion, I would say that we should all do what we can to prevent more damage to our environment. However, only time will tell whether this is enough to reverse the harm that has already been done.

A formal letter (complaint)

You and your family recently celebrated a special occasion in a small hotel but were unhappy with the experience. Write a letter of complaint to the hotel manager in which you describe what went wrong and suggest how the hotel could improve its service to customers.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to complain about a recent stay at the White Deer Hotel in Broadford between 8 and 10 May. The holiday had been arranged to celebrate my grandfather's 75th birthday and involved twelve family members. Unfortunately, the service we received from your hotel was completely inadequate and prevented us from enjoying what should have been a very special occasion.

Our problems began as soon as we arrived. The check-in process took more than an hour and it appeared the hotel was not expecting us, even though I had phoned the week before to confirm our reservation. After that, things went from bad to worse. For example, we had asked that my grandparents be given a superior double room. In fact, they were given a standard room overlooking the car park at the back of the hotel. When we complained, we were told that the hotel was full and a change of rooms was impossible.

May I suggest that in future the hotel makes better preparations for special events of this kind? You should make guests feel welcome from the moment they arrive. I also believe that your check-in procedure needs to be improved. For example, at busy times, more than one receptionist should be at the desk.

I expect to receive an explanation for our unsatisfactory treatment and would appreciate an offer of compensation. I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

M Wright

Mark Wright

- If you do not know the name of the person you are writing to, begin with *Dear Sir or Madam*.

- Begin your letter by saying why you are writing.

- Write in an appropriately formal style, avoiding colloquial words and expressions.

- The next paragraph should focus on the first element of the task. Remember to include details and examples.

- The following paragraph should focus on the second element of the task.

- End the main part of the letter by stating clearly what you expect to happen next.

- If the letter began *Dear Sir or Madam*, it should end *Yours faithfully*. (However, it should end *Yours sincerely* if you began by addressing the recipient by name.)