

# FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY

How to write it



When we write a for and against essay we present both sides of an issue and conclude by supporting one of the sides.

Look at the topic below.

TOPIC:

Write a composition discussing the advantages and disadvantages of taking a gap year between secondary school and university.



For and against essays consist of three parts:

1. Opening

2. Body

3. Conclusion

## 1. Opening

In this part we  
introduce the  
issue

## 2. Body

- The body in a for and against essay has two parts.
  1. In the first part the writer presents the side he or she disagrees with
  2. In the second part the writer presents the side he or she agrees with

The two parts normally consist of one paragraph each, but they can also consist of more.

### 3. Conclusion

In the conclusion of a for and against essay the writer gives his or her opinion



Now here you have an example

TITLE:

Taking a gap year; pros and cons.

# 1. Opening

In this part we introduce the issue

You can be considering taking a “gap year” between secondary school and university . It is possible you are considering this in order to work, travel or volunteer in another country. However, before you decide, consider the pros and cons.

## 2. Body

Part 1.

Presentation  
of the side  
the writer  
disagrees  
with.

On the one hand, you will start university a year behind the other students so you will be delayed . Also, it is possible that if you stop studying for one whole year, you will have a harder time with when you start again. In addition, a gap year can be a waste of time if it is not carefully planned.

## 2. Body

Part 1.

Presentation  
of the side  
the writer  
agrees with.

On the other hand, a gap year provides valuable experience in the real world. It is also a welcome break from academic work.

Furthermore, taking time off may give you a better idea of what you want to study.

### 3. Conclusion

## Writer's opinion

On the whole, although it may slow down your career, I believe that a well-planned gap year can be a great opportunity. In my opinion in a gap year you can experience real life outside the academic world.

# USEFUL LANGUAGE

## CONTRASTING AND SEQUENCING IDEAS

- On the one hand...
- On the other hand...
- Nevertheless
- However
- Firstly...
- Secondly...

# USEFUL LANGUAGE

## ADDING IDEAS

- Moreover...
- Furthermore...
- Also...
- In addition..

# USEFUL LANGUAGE

## GIVING YOUR OPINION

- I believe that...
- In my opinion...
- In my view...
- From my point of view...

# USEFUL LANGUAGE

## CONCLUSIONS

- To sum up...
- In short...
- To conclude...
- In conclusion...