

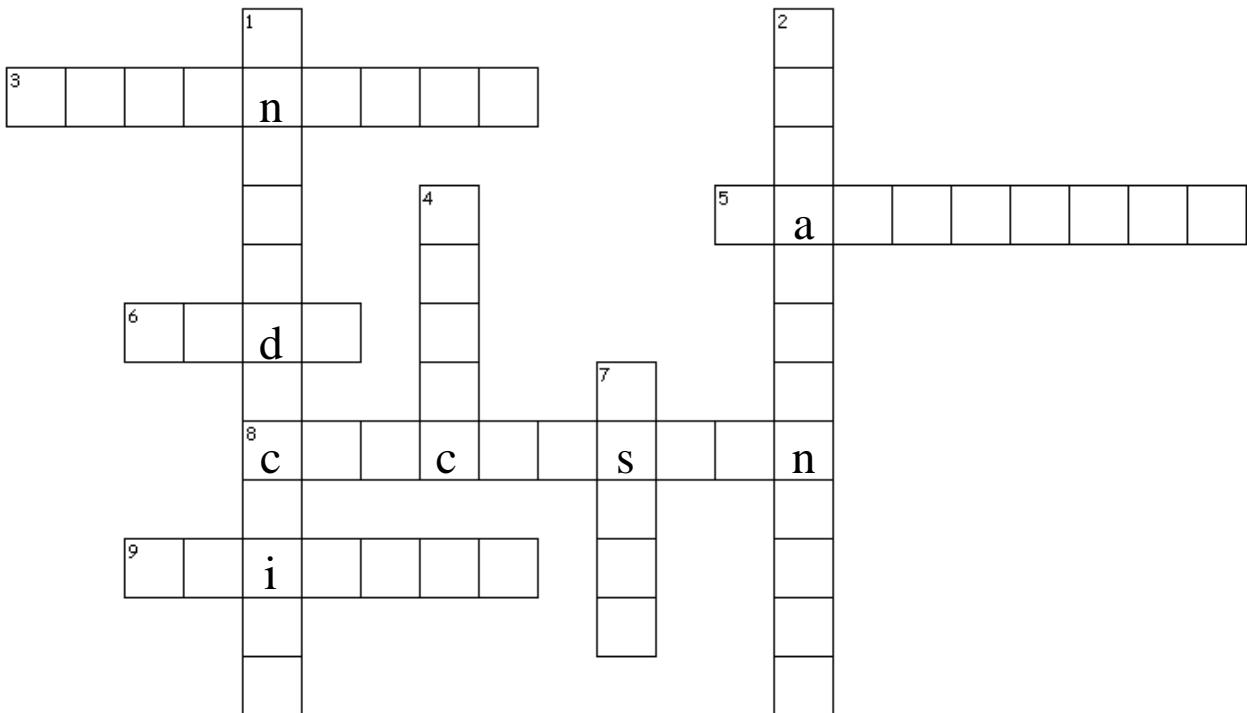
1) The crossword below is about essays. Read the clues and guess the essay related vocabulary.

**Across**

- 3. A good thing about something.
- 5. Bigger than a sentence but smaller than an essay.
- 6. The middle part of an essay. This is usually more than one paragraph.
- 8. The last part of your essay.
- 9. What you think about something.

**Down**

- 1. The first part of an essay.
- 2. A bad thing about something.
- 4. The thing you are writing about.
- 7. A format of writing often used during exams.



**Argument Led Essay Writing**

- Essay writing is something that you may have to do at university or when taking an English exam such as the IELTS exam.
- There are different kinds of essay. Two examples are the *thesis led essay* and the *argument led essay*.
- In an argument led essay, you have to write about the advantages and disadvantages of something.
- An essay like this is usually at least 200 words long. In fact, writing task 2 of the IELTS exam requires that you write at least 250 words in 40 minutes.
- Essays almost always have 3 parts which appear in the following order:
  1. **The introduction** - This part informs the reader of the essay's topic. It is relatively brief.
  2. **The body** - In an argument led essay, this consists of an advantages paragraph and a disadvantages paragraph. This is the longest and most important part.
  3. **The conclusion** - Summarising what you said before is a good way to conclude. It may be necessary to include your personal opinion. The conclusion is also quite brief.

**2) Read the statements above about argument led essay writing. Then, answer "true" or "false" for each question.**

1. Essay writing is only required for university.	True / False
2. There is more than one type of essay.	True / False
3. You write about the good and bad aspects of something in an argument led essay.	True / False
4. You need to write at least 200 words in writing task 2 of the IELTS exam.	True / False
5. An argument led essay has less than 3 parts.	True / False
6. The introduction is the first part and lets the reader know what the essay is about.	True / False
7. The second part, also known as "the body", is the part where you write the most.	True / False
8. In the body, the advantages and disadvantages of something are written in a single paragraph.	True / False
9. The last part, also known as "the conclusion", can be a summary.	True / False
10. You never include your own opinion in an argument led essay.	True / False

**Essay Task A**

Technology is continually developing and has become part of people's everyday lives. Nowadays, technology helps people perform almost every kind of task.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this and give your own opinion.

*Write at least 200 words*

**Essay Task B**

Technology is part of our modern world and affects everything we do. The sad truth is that we are now so dependent on technology that we cannot live without it.

Do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

*Write at least 200 words*

If you are given an essay task like this, you should write an argument led essay.

However, if you are given an essay task like this, you should not write an argument led essay.

**"Essay tasks", such as those above, let you know what you have to write about. It's important to read them carefully before planning and writing your essay.**

**3) With your group, answer the girl's questions below.**

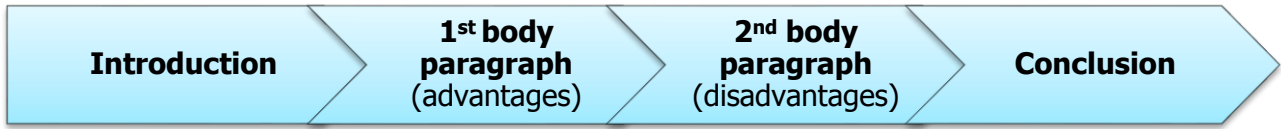
How do I know that *essay task A* is for an argument led essay?

How do I know that *essay task B* is not for an argument led essay?

What is the topic of this argument led essay?  
(Essay task A)

What are the 3 things that I must do in this argument led essay?  
(Essay task A)

**Argument led essay structure**



**4a) If an essay is 200 words total, how long should the *introduction, body paragraphs and conclusion* be? Look below and choose the best essay.**

- The best essay is → A / B / C

**A**

Introduction (about 70 words)

Body - 2 paragraphs (About 30 words x 2)

Conclusion (about 70 words)

Advantages

Disadvantages

**B**

Introduction (about 50 words)

Body - 2 paragraphs (About 50 words x 2)

Conclusion (about 50 words)

Advantages

Disadvantages

**C**

Introduction (about 40 words)

Body - 2 paragraphs (About 60 words x 2)

Conclusion (about 40 words)

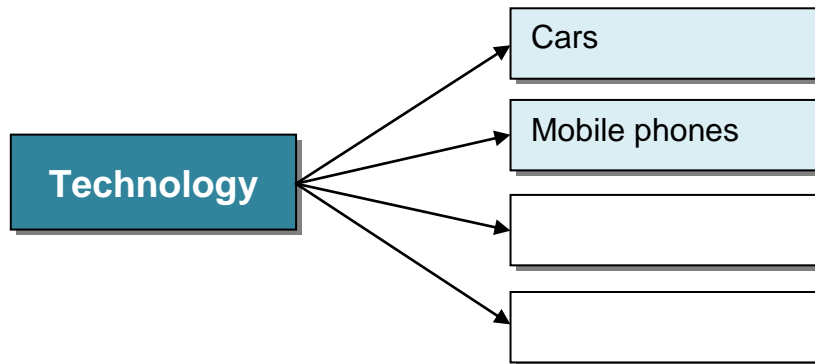
Advantages

Disadvantages

**4b) Discuss with your group – When doing writing task 2 of the IELTS exam, about how many words should be in each section?**



**5a) With your partner, think of 2 more examples of "technology".**



**5b) Complete the table below.**

Topic: Technology	
Examples of technology being good ☺ (Advantages)	Examples of technology being bad ☹ (Disadvantages)
<p><b>Cars</b> → Travelling by car is faster than walking so we save time, especially for longer journeys.</p> <p><b>Mobile phones</b> → _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><b>Cars</b> → Cars reduce the amount of exercise we get, especially if we use them for short journeys.</p> <p><b>Mobile phones</b> → _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

**Essay Task**

Technology is continually developing and has become part of people's everyday lives. Nowadays, technology helps people perform almost every kind of task.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this and give your own opinion.

*Write at least 200 words.*

6) An essay has been written for the above essay task. You teacher will give you the essay in pieces. Put these pieces back in the correct order.

7) Below are some key phrases that you can use when you write your argument led essay. Find each phrase in the essay on page 7 and then circle it.

*In short, ...*

*In this essay, I will ...*

*In my opinion, ...*

*There are several advantages to ...*

*There are also a number of disadvantages to ...*

8) Look at the essay on page 7 and then discuss these questions with your group:

- Does the writer use "block paragraphing" or "indent paragraphing"?
- In your view, which style of paragraphing is better?

**Block paragraphing**

No indent → *essay. I will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using technology.*

Blank line between paragraphs

*The good thing with technology is that it helps people to live better lives and makes the world a better place. For example, cars allow you to travel*

**Indent paragraphing**

Indent → *essay. I will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using technology.*

No blank line between paragraphs

*The good thing with technology is that it helps people to live better lives and makes the world a better place. For example, cars allow*

**Example Essay**

(For questions 7 and 8)

*People have been creating and using technology for thousands of years. Just about every person uses some kind of technology every day. In this essay, I will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using technology.*

*There are several advantages to using technology. For example, cars allow us to travel long distances quickly and efficiently. Communication has also benefited from technological advances. By using the internet and mobiles phones, we are now able to contact our friends and family easily even when we are in a different country. The benefits of technology make our lives easier on the whole.*

*There are also a number of disadvantages to using technology. For instance, when travelling very short distances, some people still opt to drive rather than walk or ride a bicycle which results in reduced health and fitness. Technology can also be dangerous. Using a mobile phone while driving can result in injury or even death. When overused, technology has clear drawbacks.*

*In short, it is clear that technology provides a lot of benefits. However, this is only true when technology is used properly. In my opinion, technology is definitely a good thing but we should use it only when it is really necessary.*

Introduction - 35 words, body - 124 words total, conclusion - 42 words.

Essay total - 201 words

- 9) **Read the essay task below, note down some ideas and then write your own argument led essay on the essay paper provided.**

**You may use the example essay on page 7 to help you if you want.**

**You have \_\_\_\_\_ minutes.** (Your teacher will tell you how long you have.)

**Essay Task**

In the past, people could only pay for goods using cash or some other low-tech method of payment. Nowadays however, people have the option of paying by credit card.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this and give your own opinion.

*Write at least 200 words \**

**Space for planning**

(Do not write your essay here. Use the essay paper.)

\* Remember, when doing writing task 2 of the IELTS exam, you will be required to write at least 250 words in 40 minutes. In this case however, you will practice by writing just 200 words.