

## Writing Lesson 1:

### Opinion Essay writing

#### A -Lesson explanation:

##### 1- What is an opinion essay?

An opinion essay is a composition, written in a special form to express one's personal point(s) of view on a certain subject.

##### 2- How is it formed?

It's made of an introduction, body and conclusion each with specific content.

##### 2-a How do we form the introduction?

In fact, the introduction is the most powerful and important part of an essay.

The first sentence is called topic sentence in which you state your position on the topic and later on you simply list your reasons (so that you can discuss them in details, later in the body part).

For example: I believe that being at a single sex school could have two advantages.

**Topic sentence**

First, students can take up any class they like without being judged by the other gender.

**Reason 1**

Second, classes might be calmer since there's no distraction coming from the other sex.

**Reason 2**

##### 2-b- How do we write a good body?

- First it's important to note that the number of paragraphs in a body depends on the number of reasons you have. For example, in the example above, you gave two reasons, so you should have two paragraphs here.

- **EVERY PARAGRAPH** in the body should start with a transitional word such as:

First paragraph: first, to start/ as a start, to begin with etc.

Second paragraph: second, another important point is, on the other hand (if the second point opposes the first)... or you could simply use “finally” since the second point is your last.

- **INSIDE EACH PARAGRAPH** here, you should restate your reason and give proper explanation to support it. The explanation should better be joined by examples (studies, statistics or even personal experience since this essay could be personal).
- To introduce your examples, use: for example, for instance, to illustrate, to elaborate, to clarify etc.

For example:

First, at a single gender school, classes are no longer restricted to only boys or only girls, simply since if it's a girls' school, of course taking football is not considered boyish and at a school for boys, taking zumba wouldn't be taken as girly.

Second, many educators and even students believe that when the two genders are in the same class this could affect their concentration and results. More elaborately, boys could talk too much and girls might be driven by the jokes and wrong attitude around them.

## 2 –c How do we write a strong and clear ending/conclusion?

The key here is to repeat what you have mentioned in your introduction ( topic sentence and reasons) but in different words and style. The concluding part is essential for you to assure the reader of all that you have discussed earlier.

Introduce your final part with: As sum up/ to sum up, to wrap it all, as a closure, in conclusion etc.

For example:

As a sum up, I believe single sex education may have its own benefits. First, pupils can choose from a variety of subjects without being afraid of stereotypes. Second, concentration will be boosted with the absence of the other gender.

**B- Practice:**

Write an *introduction* for each of these two opinion essay topics:

**Topic 1:**

**It's said that being at a mixed school prepares the students for life. Do you agree or disagree? Give two reasons for your choice (not more than 50 words/ 5-6 lines)**

**Topic 2:**

**It is said that at a single gender school, the individual can learn in a more relaxing environment. Write your opinion on the topic and support it with two reasons (not more than 50 words/ 5-6 lines)**