

## Writing skills – Writing a comment/argumentative essay

### Planning

*Step 1:* Brainstorm ideas about your topic and start taking notes.

*Step 2:* Write down the arguments pro and on that come into your mind.

*Step 3:* Arrange your arguments in a logical way. Always plan to finish with the argument that supports your position most strongly, because this is what the reader will remember most.

<b>A Present arguments for and against in different paragraphs</b>	<b>B Answer each argument immediately with a counter-argument</b>
1. Introduction	1. Introduction
2. Arguments pro	2. Argument 1 → counter-argument 1
3. Arguments con	3. Argument 2 → counter-argument 2
4. Conclusion	4 Conclusion

### Writing

*Step 1:* Write your introduction. Refer to the topic and state your point of view.

*Step 2:* Present your line of arguments. Use discourse markers.

*Step 3:* Write your conclusion. Sum up the arguments and round off your comment by restating your thesis, but don't give new information and do not use the same phrases that you used in the introduction.

#### LANGUAGE HELP

Use these expressions to make your comment more coherent and easier to read:

- **Contrasting:** *on the one hand – on the other hand / whereas ... / however ... Contrary to what most people believe / to public opinion, ... While / Although ...*
- **Listing arguments:** *first of all, first(ly), second(ly), ...*

- **Adding and elaborating:** *additionally, on top of that, furthermore*
- **Reasoning:** *That is why / because ..., One reason for this is that ...*
- **Concluding:** *To sum up, ... – In conclusion, ... – All in all, ... – I would like to finish by pointing out again that ...*

**Don't forget to revise!**