

For and against essay

BEFORE WRITING:

1. Read the essay title carefully: *Nowadays, many people travel by plane when they go abroad. What are the pros and cons of this type of transport?* (150-200 words).
2. Brainstorming: Write all the ideas about the topic which come into your mind (they must be relevant to the title). Then, make two lists, one of advantages and one of disadvantages.

FIRST PARAGRAPH (INTRODUCTION):

1. Comment on the topic by putting it in your own words: *A lot of people prefer to travel by air these days when they go to another country.*
2. Now, comment on the task and state your intention: *However, air travel has both pros and drawbacks. Let's examine some of these here.*
3. The introduction should introduce the topic by making it interesting to the reader and it should be short.

A lot of people prefer to travel by air these days when they go to another country. However, air travel has both pros and drawbacks. Let's examine some of these here.

SECOND PARAGRAPH:

1. In your second paragraph, you should write about the advantages. Start with a topic sentence: *Air travel has many advantages.*
2. Next, think of supporting sentences which list the advantages of travelling by plane. Introduce each sentence with an organizing word (connector): *Firstly, To begin with, To start with, In the first place, On the one hand / Secondly, Thirdly, Furthermore, Besides, Moreover, In addition, Also, For example, For instance / Finally, Lastly, To finish...*

Firstly, it is much faster than any other form of transport. For example, you can fly from Madrid to Paris in two hours, whereas by car, it would take more than 10 hours. Secondly, flying is more comfortable and less tiring because you can sleep on a long flight. You can also watch movies or read. Finally, it is safer. More people die in car accidents than in the air.

THIRD PARAGRAPH:

1. In this paragraph, you must write about the disadvantages. Again, start with a topic sentence, introduced by a connector (*However, Nevertheless, On the other hand ...*)

However, travelling by plane also has some disadvantages. To start with, it can be quite expensive, especially if you want

to travel in the comfort of First Class or Business Class. What is more, flights are often delayed, and this means you may have to spend a long time waiting in the airport or miss connecting flights. Lastly, you may arrive in London while your suitcase has gone to New York.

FINAL PARAGRAPH (CONCLUSION):

1. Here you need to:

- a) sum up what you have said: *To sum up, To conclude, In conclusion, To summarise, In brief, In short...*
- b) use a second conditional sentence: *If we didn't have planes, travel would be very slow and difficult* (If + Past Simple + would + infinitive).
- c) give your opinion about your preference: *In my opinion, I think, I believe, In my view, From my point of view...*

To sum up, the airplane is a great invention, but it does have some drawbacks. If it was cheaper, it would be better. Still, in my opinion, the pros outweigh the cons. If we didn't have planes, it would be very difficult to travel to distant places.

AFTER WRITING:

Revise your text and check: grammar, spelling, punctuation, vocabulary, coherence and cohesion, style and length.

Useful vocabulary and expressions:

- *One of the advantages / disadvantages of + noun/-ing is...*
- *There are advantages / disadvantages to + noun/-ing...*
- *The main advantages / disadvantages of...*
- *The main problem with... is...*
- *Nowadays*
- *Actually*
- *As a matter of fact / In fact*
- *The majority of believe/think...*
- *As far as ... is concerned... / Regarding ... /As for*
- *Generally speaking, ...*
- *There can be no doubt that...*
- *For this reason...*
- *As a result, / Therefore, / So,*
- *In other words*

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