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|  **Best practice – writing an opinion piece** **(Contributed by ATS members at workshop 05/03/2016)** |
| **Layout/Structure:*** **Agree or disagree – make a stance**
* **Not too short and not too long**
* **Oragnise ideas logically**
* **Watch the layout – do not amalgamate the first point and the introduction**
* **Introduction – agree or disagree, rephrase the title and include one line on what they will talk about**
* **Suggested structure: 5 clear paragraphs - clear introduction, three points and conclusion**
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| **Coherence / Accuracy (content)*** **Plan before you write / Brainstorm vocabulary and ideas**
* **Include every aspect of the title in their essay**
* **Stick to the point but do expand on each point**
* **Refer back to the title after each paragraph ie. Consolidate your point but avoid repetition of title.**
* **Give examples as to why they are taking their stance**
* **Personalise/ personal experience/ Bring it back to themselves & help them stay on topic**
* **Don’t copy out any of the texts from the paper**
* **Students of lower ability – plan ideas in English first**
* **Use connectors, synonyms, idioms**
* **Watch quantity – does it take away from quality –depending on their ability**
* **Better to use correct simpler language than misuse of more complex tenses**
* **Avoid bringing up new points in the conclusion. However, you could include a solution if the title was a problem.**
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