

English - Planning and Ideas



Week Commencing: 1st June 2020

Year Groups: 5

Hi Year 5!

This week, our focus is on writing a balanced argument. A balanced argument provides information on different view points and does not lean towards one particular opinion. It allows the reader to make up their own mind.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Area of Learning	Reading Comprehension	LC: Can you identify the features of a balanced argument?	LC: Can you plan a balanced argument?	LC: Can you write a balanced argument?	
Activity	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main activity: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zkmkd6f</p> <p>Listen to Stephen Fry read the extract from Percy Jackson. Complete the activities on a piece of paper.</p>	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main teaching: Watch the video where the presenter talks about what a balanced argument is. He talks about how this text type doesn't care about OUR opinion, it presents reasons for and against an issue.</p> <p>Main Activity: Look at the different features of the balanced argument on the page below. Read the text carefully and see if you can spot the features. You can create a key if you wish like we do in class and underline the features in different colours. Or you could draw a line from the feature to the example in the text.</p>	<p>Starter – Spot the fronted adverbials Balanced arguments contain a variety of fronted adverbials which let the reader know about which point of view you are going to be writing about in that paragraph (Eg. on the one hand,) Go back to the text from yesterday and write a list of all of the fronted adverbials you can spot. I have included a list of some of them below.</p> <p>Main activity: Today, you are going to think about what you are going to write about. Think of an issue that has two sides to the argument. Here are some examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should dogs be banned from parks? • Should school uniform be compulsory? • Should all children be entitled to pocket money? • Should children be limited to one hour's access to the internet per day? <p>However, there are MANY more to choose from. Remember, your point of view doesn't matter in a balanced argument, so don't worry whether you agree with one side or not. Now use the planning sheet to write your points for and against.</p>	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main activity: Today and tomorrow, you are going to write your balanced argument. I would aim to write up the first side of your planning sheet on Thursday and the second half on Friday.</p> <p>When you are writing, have the planning sheet and the list of fronted adverbials in front of you and you can't go wrong!</p> <p>If you are feeling confident, try to include a mixture of different sentence styles. Remember to include commas after fronted adverbials.</p> <p>When you are finished on Friday, fill out the self-assessment sheet.</p> <p>We would love to see your finished work! Please send any finished work to oxcloseyear5@durhamlearning.net</p>	

Tuesday – identify the features

Structural Features

- Starts with a question
- Opening paragraph talking about the issue
- Different points per paragraph
- Conclusion

Language Features

- Present tense
- Fronted adverbials
- Third person
- Evidence (facts and statistics)
- Formal and impersonal tone
- Technical vocabulary specific to the issue

Should Homework Be Banned?

Anyone who has ever been to school knows what it is like to be sent home with piles of homework. For years, teachers have been setting extra maths, spellings and other assignments to be completed outside of regular lesson times. But with the increasing pressures of modern day life, there is a growing call for homework to be banned. Here are some of the arguments for and against.



Many people see homework as an important part of school life; almost like an extension of the lesson. If the teacher cannot fit everything that is needed to be taught into the lesson, then being able to set homework is essential. This way, pupils can continue the learning at home, which in turn helps their understanding and knowledge of the subject. In fact, recent research shows a positive link between the amount children do for homework and their achievement levels.



On the other hand, aren't children entitled to a break from learning? After spending all day at school, a few hours 'downtime' spent watching television, playing computer games or exercising outside is essential for a healthy, fun-loving child. In fact, the government's own health guidelines recommend people aged between 5-18 should exercise for at least 60 minutes a day. Where are children going to fit that in if they are busy doing homework every evening?

While there are a lot of people that understand that argument, the fact remains that children go to school to be educated and many parents welcome the chance to support their child's education at home. Practising spelling or helping their child read gives parents the opportunity to play a part in their child's learning. It also gives them a clearer understanding of how their child is progressing. Similarly, a lot of children enjoy doing homework with their parents. Why introduce a blanket ban if some children and parents actually enjoy it?

The flip side of the argument is that many parents feel overwhelmed with the amount of homework their child brings home. With so many after school activities and clubs on offer, they feel there isn't enough time to fit everything in. Furthermore, due to ever-increasing government expectations, parents sometimes feel unable to help their child as the work is too hard or on a subject matter they are not familiar with.

In conclusion, there are many strong arguments for and against banning homework from schools. If it helps a child's education, then surely homework is a good thing. Then again, time away from studying to play is also incredibly important to a child's wellbeing. On balance, I don't believe homework should be banned because it really is an important part of learning. However, I also believe there should still be time in the day for fun! Therefore, perhaps schools should come up with a compromise: keep homework, but don't set so much!



Wednesday Starter:

Fronted adverbials to use

Useful Words and Phrases

Causal/contrasting conjunctions and adverbials

Here are some useful words and phrases to help you write your argument

Firstly	Secondly	On the one hand	As a result	Because
Consequently	Due to	For this reason	Hence	Thus
In consequence	In order to	In this way	Otherwise	An outcome of
Since	So that	Subsequently	Therefore	Although
Though	Even though	While	On the other hand	However
Despite this	Nevertheless	Otherwise	On balance	In conclusion

Wednesday Planning Sheet – Remember-just make notes, don't write sentences

Begin your argument by stating the topic or issue.

This argument is to discuss..

State your first argument against and give evidence.

However..

State your first argument for and give evidence to back it up.

The first point I would like to make is...

State your second argument against and give evidence.

In support of this...

State your second argument for and give evidence.

Secondly...

Weigh up the evidence and conclude your argument.

In conclusion, I feel that...

Friday – Self-Assessment

Does it begin with a question?	
Does the opening paragraph discuss the issue?	
Does it have a conclusion?	
Do I include examples of both points of view?	
Have I used the present tense?	
Have I used a formal tone?	
Have I used technical vocabulary specific to my issue?	
Have I used fronted adverbials?	

Where can I complete further work?

[Twinkl](#) – Subscription service used by schools is offering a free premium service for teachers, parents and children to use whilst schools are closed. Enter the code **UKTWINKLHELPS** for access to worksheets, powerpoints and interactive games to support all areas of learning.

[Classroom Secrets](#) – Free Maths, Reading and Grammar home learning packs and interactive resources for all ages.

[BBC Bitesize Primary](#) – Free learning resources available for KS1 and KS2 across all subjects.