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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** |
| **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.** |