

# PART 1

## READ, THEN WRITE

4:55

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**Write about the topic below for 5 minutes.**

Artists and scientists both benefit society. Compare the contributions of artists and scientists. Which type of contribution do you think is valued more in your culture? Give examples.

Your response

CONTINUE AFTER 3 MINUTES

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## Organizing Your Paragraph

Follow this simple structure to write a coherent detailed paragraph, and give yourself the best chance to score high on this writing question type.

1. **Topic sentence** (1 - 2 sentences)
2. **Supporting ideas** (1 - 2 supporting ideas with details)
3. **Concluding sentence** (1 sentence)

### 1. Topic Sentence

The **topic sentence** is the first sentence of a paragraph, and it has three main purposes:

- it indicates what the paragraph is about
- it controls or guides the whole paragraph
- it states your position or opinion

#### Topic sentence

- **It is often said that...**  
*It is often said that technology has changed the way we live, work, and play.*
- **Few would dispute that...**  
*Few would dispute that the environment is one of the most pressing issues of our time.*
- **Many people claim that ...**  
*Many people claim that digital devices enhance learning for young children.*
- **It is my opinion/view that ...**  
*It is my view that online learning offers unmatched flexibility.*
- **There are many benefits/drawbacks of...**  
*There are many drawbacks of excessive screen time.*
- **Contrary to popular belief,...**  
*Contrary to popular belief, urban areas can be more sustainable than rural ones.*
- **It is undeniable that...**  
*It is undeniable that plastic pollution is a major challenge in the western world.*



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## 2. Supporting Ideas

Supporting ideas explain why your topic sentence is correct by:

- giving reasons
- giving examples
- providing counterarguments.

### First supporting idea

- **First / Firstly / First and foremost,...**

*First and foremost, renewable energy sources are cost-effective in the long run.*

- **A primary consideration is...**

*A primary consideration is the environmental impact of fossil fuels.*

- **At the heart of the debate is...**

*At the heart of the debate is the balance between economic growth and ecological sustainability.*

- **Central to the discussion is...**

*Central to the discussion is the potential of solar energy in reducing carbon emissions.*

- **One cannot overlook...**

*One cannot overlook the role of government regulations in shaping industry practices.*

### Following supporting ideas

- **Second, / Secondly, / Third, / Thirdly,**

*Secondly, another point to consider is the interactive nature of apps that can foster creativity.*

- **In addition, / Additionally,**

*In addition, communities that have adopted renewables have seen job growth in new sectors.*

- **Furthermore, / Moreover,**

*Furthermore, these renewable sources also reduce our dependence on imported oil.*

- **Similarly,**

*Similarly, other countries are witnessing the benefits of green energy transition.*

- **On the other hand,..**

*On the other hand, face-to-face classes provide real-time feedback and camaraderie.*

- **Another point to consider is...**

*Another point to consider is the technical issues that can disrupt online learning.*



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### Supporting details and examples

- **For instance,... / For example, ...**  
*For instance, Denmark has successfully transitioned to becoming wind energy economy.*
- **Take, for example,...**  
*Take, for example, the decline in battery costs, making electric vehicles more accessible.*
- **To illustrate this point,...**  
*To illustrate this point, consider the rise of renewable energy, allowing consumers to choose sustainable options over fossil fuels.*
- **It has been proven that,...**  
*It has been proven that, a balanced diet can significantly reduce the risk of chronic diseases.*
- **As evidence,...**  
*As evidence, studies have shown a correlation between deforestation and temperature rise.*

### Addressing counterarguments

- **While some argue that...**  
*While some argue that nuclear power is a viable alternative, the risks associated with meltdowns and waste disposal cannot be ignored.*
- **Critics often point out...**  
*Critics often point out the intermittent nature of wind and solar energy*
- **It's worth noting that...; however,...**  
*It's worth noting that there are many criticisms; however, they stem from outdated information.*
- **Despite concerns,...**  
*Despite concerns, the transition to renewables is not only necessary but also inevitable for a sustainable future.*
- **Admittedly,...**  
*Admittedly, there's a need for better energy storage solutions to address the intermittency issue.*



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### 3. Concluding sentence

The concluding sentence restates the topic sentence in a new way, reinforcing the main argument or main points presented in the introduction.

#### Concluding Sentence

- **In conclusion,... / To conclude, ...**  
*In conclusion, stricter environmental regulations are vital for a sustainable future.*
- **On the whole,...**  
*On the whole, promoting respect and understanding among diverse groups is essential for global harmony.*
- **To sum up,... / In sum,...**  
*In sum, leveraging technology in education is crucial to meet the needs of modern students.*
- **Given these points,...**  
*Given these points, a balanced diet is significantly correlated with improved mental health.*
- **All things considered,..**  
*All things considered, adopting sustainable waste practices is crucial for environmental preservation.*

#### Complete Example Answer

**Question:** School students should not be allowed to use their smartphones in schools. Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your response.

**It is my view that** students should not be allowed to use smartphones in schools for a couple of reasons. **Firstly**, these phones should be restricted as they can be highly distracting for students. **For instance**, games and social media notifications can divert students' attention away from their lessons, thereby hindering their learning. **Another point to consider is** that smartphones can facilitate cheating during exams, which is a major issue for teachers. **Admittedly**, if used correctly, smartphones have the ability to enhance learning through educational apps and websites. **In conclusion**, despite the potential educational benefits, it would be wise for schools to restrict smartphone use.

*Word count: 105*

\* Use this sample answer as a reference only. **Do not use it on your exam!**

\* Your paragraph does not need to be this long; I suggest aiming for 65 to 100 words. However, feel free to write more if you can!



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