



Opinion Essay

Технологии подготовки учащихся к сдаче ЕГЭ по английскому языку

Young people in modern society

Задание:

Some people believe that modern teenagers are really awful. However, modern teenagers think that they are criticized for no reason. What's your opinion? Do you agree that teens are really so bad?

Write 200-250 words

Introduction

Step 1 Underline key words in the task

Some people believe that modern teenagers are really awful. However, modern teenagers think that they are criticized for no reason. What's your opinion? Do you agree that teens are really so bad?

Write 200-250 words

Step 2 Remember about the plan

• Paragraph 1

State the problem

• Paragraph 2

***Express your opinion
and give reasons for it***

• Paragraph 3

***Give arguments for
the opposite point of
view***

• Paragraph 4

***Explain why you
disagree with them***

• Paragraph 5

Draw a conclusion

Step 3 Write the introduction

- Try to paraphrase _____, using synonyms and different grammar structures
- Remember that the purpose of the introduction is to attract _____ and to give _____ on the topic
- Remember to express _____ in the introduction.

your opinion

the reader's attention

topic statement

background information

Step 4 Language for introduction

- According to...
- It is often said that...
- It is often argued that...
- Nowadays, we are becoming aware of the fact that...
- These days, it seems that...
- Recently we have all become concerned that....
- There is no doubt that...

Example of introduction

According to the older generation, teenagers are lazy, they wear ridiculous clothes and they are appallingly rude to their betters and elders. However, are they really much worse than they used to be a hundred years ago? It seems to me quite the opposite of the truth.

The body of the essay

Step 1 Brainstorm the ideas

Positive adjectives and phrases to describe teenagers

- hard-working
- helpful
- constructive
- caring
- become successful
- have part-time jobs
- achieve great things
- study a lot

Negative adjectives and phrases to describe teenagers

- aggressive
- disobedient
- rebellious
- cruel
- take drugs and alcohol
- get involved in fights
- listen to awful music

Step 2 Think of 2-3 arguments to support your opinion

- Teenagers are purposeful and highly motivated
 - Most of them aim at entering universities and study hard in order to fulfill this task
- They achieve great things in sport
 - They are more ambitious than they used to be in the past.
- They do household chores to help their parents.

Their parents are busy following their career paths and have no energy for keeping their homes

Step 3 Phrases to introduce your personal opinion

- I believe that...
- Personally, I feel that...
- It seems to me that...
- I would argue that...
- I feel strongly that...
- I am convinced that...
- I am greatly in favour of...
- I'm completely opposed to...

Step 4 Linking words to introduce arguments.

- Firstly, secondly...
- Moreover...
- Furthermore...
- In addition...
- Besides...

Example of the second paragraph

Personally, I am convinced that teenagers are misjudged. To begin with, most of them are purposeful and highly-motivated. The great majority of the school-leavers today enter the universities. They also achieve great things in sport and seem to be more ambitious than they used to be in the past. Besides lots of teens do household chores as their parents are busy following their career paths and have no energy to fulfill their duties.

Step 5 Opposite views and counterarguments

Opponents' arguments

- Teenagers are criticized for having bad habits like taking drugs and alcohol
- They are cruel, aggressive and disobedient

Counterarguments

- They are aware of the consequences of such bad habits and very few of them become addicted to drugs and alcohol
- Not all of them get involved in fights or break public rules of behaviour

Step 6 Transition between paragraphs

- However..
- Anyway..
- Nevertheless..
- Nonetheless..

Example of the third paragraph

However, teenagers are often criticized for having bad habits like taking drugs and alcohol. In my opinion most teenagers are aware of the consequences of such bad habits and very few of them get addicted to drugs and alcohol. Some people claim that teenagers are cruel, aggressive and disobedient. I feel strongly that it is not fair as not everyone gets involved in fights or tends to commit a crime.

Conclusion

Step 1 Think about the language

- To sum up,...
- In conclusion...
- To conclude...

Step 2 Rephrase your opinion

I believe that ...

teenagers are not as bad as they are
thought of

nowadays, teenagers are worse than
they used to be

teenagers are better now than they used
to be

Example conclusion

To sum up, I believe that teenagers are not as bad as they are thought to be. The main reason for such unfair attitudes to teenagers is misunderstanding between adults and young people. Very often adults disapprove of their fashion, music, and habits. Of course, not all teenagers are ideal, but they are not worse than their parents.