

BBC

SPACE TOURISM WHY IT'S FINALLY A REALITY







1 a headline

2 an introduction

3 a main body

4 a conclusion



The Headline

- ✓ Should be eye-catching
- ✓ Sum up the general point
- Omit auxiliaries, articles and some prepositions
- ✓ Use of words and phrases cleverly
- ✓ Use tenses selectively



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The Introduction

- ✓ General statement about the topic
- ✓ Keep the reader's attention:
 - ✓ Stating an opinion
 - ✓ Make reference to something strange
 - ✓ Address the reader directly
 - ✓ Start with quotation or question
 - ✓ Start with a problem

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The Main Body

- ✓ Describe in detail main issue
- ✓ One issue per paragraph
- ✓ Develop issue throughout paragraph
- ✓ Use linkers and sequencing
- ✓ Use sophisticated vocabulary

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The Conclusion

An ending can ...

- ✓ state an opinion
- ✓ give the reader something to consider
- ✓ summarise the article
- ✓ end with a quotation

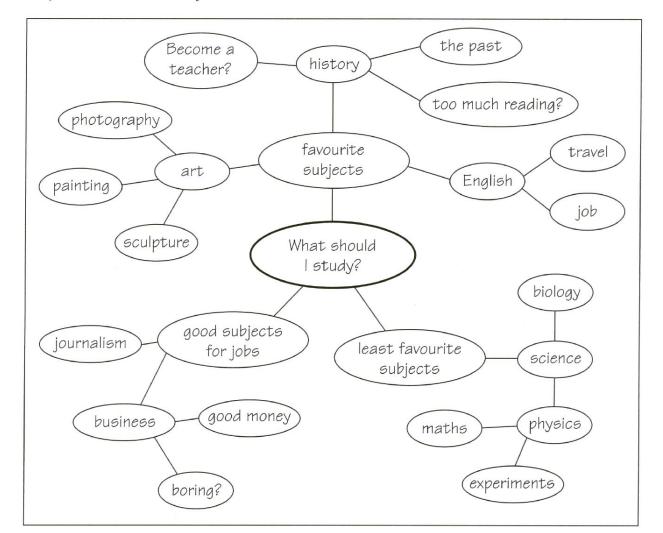
How to start writing?
Where to get ideas?
How to organize them?

Here are some ways of brainstorming:

Mapping

To make a map, use a whole sheet of paper, and write your topic in the middle, with a circle around it. Then put the next idea in a circle above or below your topic, and connect the circles with lines. The lines show that the two ideas are related.

The example below shows a map of 'What should I study at university?' The writer connected *favourite subjects* to the main idea. *Art* and *English* are connected to *favourite subjects* to show that they are related.



- Choose another narrowed down topic you thought of for exercise 1 on page 5. Make a map in five minutes. Share your map with a partner. Explain how the circles are related to each other.
- What's the best way to brainstorm?

There is no best method of brainstorming. Some writers like to use lists because they don't have to write complete sentences. Some writers like freewriting because they can write quickly and ideas come easily. Some writers prefer mapping because they can easily see the relationship between ideas. Experiment with all three methods, and then choose the one that works best for you.

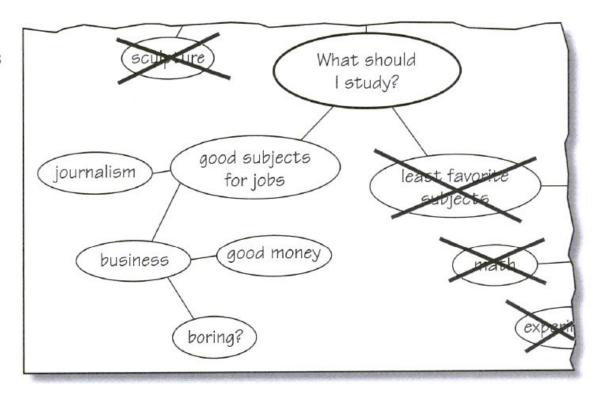
Editing

How to edit

After you have gathered plenty of ideas, you will need to go back and edit them. This is the time to choose which ideas are the most interesting, and which are the most *relevant* to (important or necessary for) your topic. Of course, you can still add new ideas if you think of something else while you are re-reading your list. For example, the student writing 'What should I study in college?' edited her list like this:

history—learning about the past maths (too difficult, not interesting?) Not interesting to me. What job do I want later? Describe more. English for work? Travel? writing? Important in many subjects. science biology, chemistry I don't like physics! I don't want to study science! journalism I like reading—literature? art—drawing, painting, sculpture photography? studying / homework What about it? friends / social life Not related.

To edit freewriting, cross out sentences or parts of sentences that aren't related. You can add more ideas in the margin or add more sentences at the bottom. To edit a map, cross out circles that don't belong, and add new ones if you get more ideas. You might also change the lines you have drawn.



6 Look at the list you made in exercise 3 on page 6, the freewriting you did in exercise 4 on page 7, or the map you made in exercise 5 on page 8. Edit your brainstorming. Show your work to a partner. Explain how you edited your brainstorming.

Brainstorm this topic

How?

Who?

When?

Why?

What?

Topic

You see this announcement on an international website.

Articles wanted

Where?

What qualities do you look for in your friends?

Do they have to be reliable and honest, amusing and good company, or something completely different?

Write and tell us what you look for in your friends in general, and describe one of your closest friends.

The best articles will be posted on the website.

Write your article (140-190 words).

Structure of each paragraph

Paragraph organisation

- What makes a paragraph?
 A paragraph has three basic parts:
 - 1. The topic sentence. This is the main idea of the paragraph. It is usually the first sentence of the paragraph, and it is the most general sentence of the paragraph.
 - 2. The supporting sentences. These are sentences that talk about or explain the topic sentence. They are more detailed ideas that follow the topic sentence.
 - 3. The concluding sentence. This may be found as the last sentence of a paragraph. It can finish a paragraph by repeating the main idea or just giving a final comment about the topic.

Structure of a paragraph

Topic sentence with 2 main points



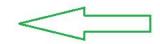
Smoking can give you surprising social benefits, like

(1)
(2)
improving existing relations or even brining new friends.

It is true that people get to know each other better when talking over a cigarette during short breaks at work.

Additionally, you can even make new friends and acquaintances. So, clearly, harm to your health is not the only consequence of this habit.

<u>Development of</u> <u>the two points</u>



Concluding sentence

The topic and the main idea

- The topic sentence ...
 - usually comes first in a paragraph.
 - gives the writer's main idea or opinion about the topic and helps the reader understand what the paragraph is going to talk about.
- 4 Circle the topic of the sentence. Underline the main idea about the topic.
 - a. (Switzerland) is a very interesting country to visit.
 - b. Dogs make excellent pets.
 - c. A really good place to study is the library at my school.
 - d. Learning a foreign language creates job opportunities.
 - e. Football is my favourite sport because it is exciting to watch.
 - f. One of the most valuable tools for students is the computer.
 - g. My sister and I have very different personalities.
 - h. Summer is the best time to travel in my country.
 - My hometown is a friendly place to live.

For each of these paragraphs, choose the sentence from the list below that would make the best topic sentence.

a.

When Ken wanted to enter a good university, he studied hard to pass the examination. The first time he took the exam, he did not do well, and he felt very discouraged. But he knew he wanted to study at that university, so he studied more. The next year, he tried taking the exam again. The second time, he did very well, and now he is studying engineering. I believe Ken is a good role model for me, and he has taught me that never giving up is the best way to succeed.



- 1. One of my closest friends, named Ken, is a person I can trust.
- 2. My friend Ken is a very successful student.
- 3. I admire my friend Ken because he doesn't give up.

...... Many

children begin learning to play football when they are very young. You can often see them playing at school or in the streets around their houses. At secondary school, students may play football in a team and compete in championships. If a

player is very good, he might go on to play for a professional team. People in my country love watching football on television and also go to matches whenever they can. Many people have a favourite team or player, and everyone loves to talk about matches and competitions. Football is really like a national sport in my country.



- 1. I love playing football, and I hope I can become a professional player one day.
- 2. There are many popular sports in my country, but the most popular sport is football.
- **3**. Football is a difficult sport to learn to play well.

Use words or phrases in the box to complete the sentences.

concluding sentence indented main idea paragraph supporting sentences topic topic sentence

- a. The is usually the first sentence in a It gives the
- **b.** The first sentence of a paragraph can be
- c. The come after the topic sentence, and they explain the topic sentence.
- d. The comes at the end of a paragraph.

Useful vocabulary for article

You start with Paragraph 1- Introduction

In the introduction you:

- think of a title that will catch the reader's attention
- include the topic- you might not know the **reader** personally, but still, you can **address** him/her **directly** (e.g. ask them a question)

Phrases you can use in the introduction:



Addressing the reader

Have you ever..

You absolutely must ...

Can you imagine ...

I'm sure you'd agree

I must tell you about ...

You wouldn't believe..

REMEMBER: It's a **semi-formal/ informal** piece of **writing** make it **interesting** by including a range of language, e.g. adjectives and adverbs, phrasal verbs, collocations, relative clauses, linkers, one or two idioms.

DON'T copy out the task- use synonyms

Note that the question/topic says the description should be 'brief'.

Phrases you can use to in the 2nd and 3rd paragraph:

Giving a strong opinion

It's absolutely stunning / terrible (strong adjective).

It took my breath away.

I will never forget it.

There's nothing in the world like it.

Adding and developing ideas

For a start .. Secondly. / Thirdly./ Finally....

And then there's the fact that ...

On top of that....

Apart from that....

I must also mention ...

As if this wasn't enough, ...

Giving examples such as ../.. particularly .../like...



In the 3rd Paragraph you:



- give specific examples to bring your article to life
- use informal language to involve the reader
- don't forget to express your opinion
- be personal

In the last paragraph you:

- finish with a sentence which summarises what you have said
- end with an interesting last sentence
- give your opinion or express your feeling



Phrases you can use to end the letter

Giving a personal response

For me, / To me.....

Personally, I think / find / believe ...

It seems to me ... In my view.... One thing I love / remember ...

I'll never forget ...