

Developing and Justifying an Opinion (Focus on Writing)
Grade 11 English

Read the following Task 2 question then answer questions a-b

Writing Prompt:

Employers should pay young people the same salary as older colleagues doing the same job.

To what extent do you agree or disagree.

1. Do you have to strongly agree or disagree? Is it possible to take a neutral view?

2. Rewrite the statement in the your own words. Begin with *Young employees...*

Read a-g taken from an answer to the essay prompt above. Match each sentence or part-sentence with the correct **function** from the list. The first one has been done for you.

contradiction	explanation	result
reson	reason	opinion statement

a. Many people believe that workers should be paid according to age rather than merit	Opinion Statement
b. However, I feel that they should be paid according to results.	
c. Take for example someone in their twenties working in a financial company.	
d. The deserve to receive the same	
e.because they are doing the same work	
f. Moreover young people nowadays are often faster at doing things than their older colleagues	
g. which compensates for lack of experience	

- **Look at the sentences or part sentences above and underline the LINKING PHRASES which indicate the FUNCTIONS you chose**

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- **Using the writing prompt on the last page write a body paragraph expressing your own opinion, remember to use appropriate linking phrases.**

- **Read the Task 2 question and the model answer below. For each of 1-6, two options are possible and one is incorrect. Delete the incorrect option**

Some people feel that young people face more pressures today than their parents did in previous generations. Others think that they have a much easier life than their parents did. What is your opinion

Life for the young in today's world is in some ways certainly more comfortable than for those in previous generations.

¹ However/Moreover/Even so, one cannot deny the fact that in a number of areas life is much more demanding than it used to be.

Take the workplace, for example. Competition for every job is now fierce in all parts of the world, not just developed countries, ² while/because/as young people are more qualified than previous

generations. ³ Furthermore/Likewise/And, there is increased mobility of people in the international job market. Skilled workers move from the Far East to Europe. India, ⁴ for instance/also/in particular, has a large pool of mobile skilled workers. This globalization of jobs has ⁵ consequently/ however/as a result put intense pressure on young people as they search for work in their home countries. ⁶ Thus/So/ Subsequently, it is no longer a case of just being good: young people are expected to be top rate.

Model Answer

1	2	3
4	5	6

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- **Decide which FUNCTIONS are indicated by correct LINKING PHRASES in the above model answer:**

1	a. contrast	b. result	c. addition
2	a. contrast	b. reason	c. result
3	a. addition	b. contrast	c. result
4	a. contrast	b. addition	c. example
5	a. result	b. contrast	c. reason
6	a. example	b. reason	c. conclusion

- **Read the statements below and in each case contradict them. Begin by using one of the following expressions in the box.**

Nevertheless, I feel	However, I think	Personally, I believe
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- a. Many feel that young people have much more influence than their counterparts in the past.

- b. According to some people, older workers are just as equipped to deal with the modern world as young people.

- c. Some people are of the opinion that advertising should not be banned in TV programmes directed at young people.

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• **Read the Task 2 questions and introductions below. Match each introduction a-c with one of the questions 1-4**

1. All forms of media but especially films and TV programmes should be censored to protect young people. To what extent do you agree?
 2. The younger generation are the main driving force behind many of the latest technological developments. How far do you agree?
 3. Blogs on the web are very effective ways for people to express their ideas and relieve tensions. What is your opinion?
 4. The modern emphasis on computers reduces the development of any creative ability. How far do you agree?
-
- a. It is certainly important to make sure that people are protected from harmful material in various media. However, I feel that care needs to be taken in doing so for various reasons.
 - b. In some areas, it does appear that computers reduce creativity, but I also feel they can be used as a tool to develop creative ability in many fields.
 - c. While the youth of today definitely have an impact on the way new technology develops, there are other factors involved.

a.	
b.	
c.	

- ***For the remaining title, write your own introduction. Try to paraphrase the statement in title in one sentence, and then write another statement to show how you intend to organise your essay.***

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Independent Writing Task:

*You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.
Write about the following topic*

A growing number of people feel that animals should not be exploited by people and that they should have the same rights as humans, however there are some people who disagree with this point of view. What is your opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience

Write at least 250 words

