GUIDELINE TO COMPOSITION WRITING – FOR B1/B2 LEVELS

A. PARTS OF A COMPOSITION

- INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH
  The introduction paragraph is the first paragraph of your essay. To write this paragraph:
  1. Write the thesis statement. The main idea of the essay is stated in a single sentence called
     the thesis statement.
  2. Provide some background information about your topic.

- SUPPORTING PARAGRAPH
  Supporting paragraphs make up the main body of your essay. To connect your supporting
  paragraphs, you should use special transition words.

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<tr>
<th>For listing different points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
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<td>Second</td>
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<td>Third</td>
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<th>For counter examples</th>
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<td>However</td>
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<td>Even though</td>
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<td>On the other hand</td>
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<td>Nevertheless</td>
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<th>For additional ideas</th>
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<th>To show cause and effect</th>
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<td>As a result of</td>
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- SUMMARY PARAGRAPH
  The summary paragraph is often called a "conclusion."
B. ESSAY GRAMMAR STRUCTURES

Here are some examples of important structures which should be used:

**Participle phrases and gerunds up front:**
"Reducing the retirement age would create significant difficulties for pension funds."
"Having been bullied at school, I know how psychologically damaging this can be."

**Conditionals with inversions instead of "If.."**
"Were the government to .......... , we would ............."
"Had television not been invented, economic growth would have been slower."

**Cleft sentences**
"What many people would like to see is ................."
"It is the .............. that I object to."

**Inversions**
"Not only are landfill sites unsightly but they are also a source of pollution"
"Rarely do we see our political leaders riding bikes."

**Passives**
"It is often forgotten that ................."
"............... is considered to be ............."
".......has been linked with ........."
"The conclusion to be drawn is that ............."

**The advanced use of ‘so’**
This is so grave an issue that .....
C. SOME USEFUL PHRASES FOR ESSAY WRITING

Presenting two advantages or disadvantages together:

- not only ... but ... also
- not only ... but also

Presenting two opposing views:

- on the one hand, on the other hand

Expressing Contrast:

- nevertheless
- even so
- even though
- however
- in spite of
- despite
- but
- although

Expressing results:

- because of this
- therefore
- thus
- as a result
- for this reason
- consequently

Giving examples:

- such as
- like
- for example
- for instance

Expressing the opinion of someone else:

- some people say / that
- it is said that
- many people say / that
- according to
- people often say
- it is said
List of Connectors

1. Linking words for essays, reports, papers...

listing
firstly, secondly ...
to begin / start with ..., to conclude with
in the first place, in the second place
next, then, finally, last(ly)
to conclude ...
last but not least ...
to summarise, to sum up

adding
also, too, then
furthermore ...
moreover ...
in addition to that ...
above all .....what is more ...
additionally
comparing
equally, likewise, similarly, in the same / a different way
compared to / with, in comparison with
as ... as, both ... and ...
you can’t compare it with ...

concluding
all in all... / in conclusion ...
to sum up ...
I draw the conclusion / arrive at the conclusion that ...
I conclude ...
consequently ..

exemplifying
for example (e.g.), for instance
that is (i.e.)
that is to say
... such as ... namely...
result
consequently
hence
therefore
thus
as a result
because of that ...
that’s why ...

reformulating
to put it another way
in other words
alternative
on the one hand... , on the other hand ...

contrasting
on the contrary
in contrast to that
but , yet, however
nevertheless ...
whereas ..., while ...
neither .... nor ...
on the one hand ..., on the other hand ...

concession
besides, however, still, though,
in spite of that, despite that
admittedly
if , unless

2. Giving one’s own opinion
In my view; To my mind, In my opinion, As I see it,
I think that , I believe that , I have come to the conclusion that, I feel that.
I would not say that ..., Therefore I cannot agree with ..., 
I am doubtful whether / certain that ...
According to the text ...
It seems to me that ...
Another argument is that ...
As far as I am concerned, ....
One reason is that ...
I would say that ...
As we have seen, ...
As we know from ...., ...
For all these reasons I would support the view that ...
In short ...
With regard to ...
It is for this reason that I think ...
I am convinced that ...

GRAMMATICAL CONTENT. LEVEL B1

Contenidos Gramaticales.

- Prepositions of time
- Frequency adverbs
- Present simple and present continuous
- State verbs
- A few, a little, many, much, a lot of, lots of
- Prepositions of place
- Question forms
- Past simple and past continuous
- Used to
- Verbs followed by to or –ing
- Comparative and superlative adjectives
- Spelling of comparative and superlative adjectives
- A bit, a little, much, far, a lot
- Not as... as...
- Can, could, might, may (ability and possibility)
- Should, shouldn’t, ought to, must, mustn’t, have to don’t have to (obligation and prohibition)
- Present perfect / Present Perfect Continuous
- Yet, already, just
- Since and for
- Present perfect or past simple
- The future: will, going to, present continuous, present simple
- Zero, first, second and third conditionals
- When, if, unless + present, future
- So do I and Nor/Neither do I
- Which, that, who, whose, when and where clauses (defining and non-defining)
- Past perfect simple
- Commands
- Have something done
- The passive: present and past simple
- Comparative and superlative adverbs
- Reported speech
- Indirect questions