



AN OPINION ESSAY

A.- PLAN

PARAGRAPH 1	Introduce the topic and GIVE YOUR OPINION . Say whether you agree or disagree with the statement.
PARAGRAPH 2	Give a reason to support your opinion. Add facts, examples...
PARAGRAPH 3	Give a second reason to support your opinion. Add facts, examples...
PARAGRAPH 4	Summarize your ideas and repeat your opinion using different words.

BASIC DO'S IN WRITING AN OPINION ESSAY

Introduce each paragraph with a topic sentence, outlining the main ideas.

DO NOT WRITE ABOUT ADVANTAGES OR DISADVANTAGES OR POINTS FOR OR AGAINST.

Write in formal style, YOU CAN USE "I"

B.- VOCABULARY

EXPRESSING OPINIONS	
In my opinion,	<i>En mi opinión...</i>
Personally, I think/ I believe (that)...	<i>Personalmente, creo que...</i>
I strongly believe that....	<i>Creo firmemente que...</i>
It is clear (to me) that...	<i>Me parece evidente que...</i>
I feel very strongly that...	<i>Siento firmemente que...</i>
I (completely) agree/disagree with ...	<i>Estoy (totalmente) de acuerdo/ en desacuerdo con....</i>
It seems to me that...	<i>Me parece que..</i>
As I see it, ...	<i>Como yo lo veo...</i>
To my mind....	<i>En mi opinión,...</i>
In my view,...	<i>Desde mi punto de vista,...</i>
From my point of view,	<i>Desde mi punto de vista,...</i>
As far I am concerned, ...	<i>En cuanto a lo que a mí respecta,...</i>
I am sure/ convinced that ...	<i>Estoy seguro / convencido de que...</i>
I (dis)agree with the statement, because ...	<i>Estoy de acuerdo/ en desacuerdo con la afirmación porque...</i>
GIVING REASONS	
My main reason is....	<i>Mi razón principal es..</i>
Another reason is...	<i>Otra razón es...</i>
One reason for... is	<i>Una razón para.... es....</i>
Many people say/ believe that...	<i>Mucha gente dice/ piensa que..</i>
Because...	<i>Porque...</i>
Since...	<i>Puesto que/ ya que...</i>
Because of/ due to...	<i>Debido a...</i>



FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY

A.- PLAN

PARAGRAPH 1	State the TOPIC (enuncia el t3pico o tema). Be neutral, <u>don't give your opinion</u>
PARAGRAPH 2	Enumerate the ADVANTAGES (pros). Add facts, examples...
PARAGRAPH 3	Enumerate the DISADVANTAGES (cons). Add facts, examples...
PARAGRAPH 4	Write a CONCLUSION . Summarize both paragraphs 2 and 3 and postulate which one might be stronger or the winner.

BASIC DO'S	
Introduce each paragraph with a topic sentence, outlining the main ideas.	
DO NOT WRITE ABOUT YOUR OPINION. DON'T USE "I", be neutral .	
Write in formal style	

B. EXAMPLE:

1st paragraph

_____ THE TOPIC _____ is a {major/ important/ interesting} {issue/fact/topic/subject} nowadays (for ...people...). However, it has its advantages and disadvantages.

2nd and 3rd paragraph

ON THE ONE HAND, most people think/argue that... First of all because ..., ...
Besides, ... In addition, ... Moreover, ...

ON THE OTHER HAND, some people {think/ argue / believe} that ... In first place,
Second.... Following this ... Last but not least

4th paragraph

{TO SUM UP / TO CONCLUDE / ON THE WHOLE (or any concluding connector)},

- It can be seen that _____ THE TOPIC _____ would be more suitable for some than others. While _____ (some) _____ will be happy with _____ because _____, (others) _____ would go for _____
- As we have been able to see _____ THE TOPIC _____
- I think that _____ THE TOPIC _____ is the best option because ...
- _____ THE TOPIC _____ is important because ...



COMMON ELEMENTS

BASIC DON'TS	
Don't use colloquial expressions.	Don't use emotive vocabulary.
Don't use short forms.	Don't give personal examples.

GENERAL VOCABULARY

ADDING IDEAS	
What is more,...	<i>Y lo que es más,..</i>
Moreover/ furthermore/ in addition (to)	<i>Además,...</i>
Apart from (that)...	<i>Aparte de...</i>
Firstly,...	<i>En primer lugar,...</i>
First of all,...	<i>En primer lugar,...</i>
Secondly,..	<i>En segundo lugar,..</i>
Thirdly,...	<i>En tercer lugar,..</i>
Lastly,...	<i>Por último,..</i>
Finally,...	<i>Finalmente,...</i>

EXPRESSING CONTRAST (LINKERS OF CONTRAST)	
ALTHOUGH (<i>aunque</i>)	<i>Although I was feeling <u>depressed</u>, I went to the party.</i>
DESPITE (<i>a pesar de</i>)	<i>Despite the rain, I went to the party. Despite feeling <u>depressed</u>, I went to the party.</i>
IN SPITE OF (<i>a pesar de</i>)	<i>In spite of the rain, I went to the party. In spite of feeling <u>depressed</u>, I went to the party.</i>
EVEN IF (<i>incluso si</i>)	<i>I will go to the party, even if I feel depressed.</i>
WHEREAS (<i>mientras que</i>)	<i>Adults can choose, whereas teenagers can't choose.</i>
HOWEVER (<i>sin embargo</i>)	<i>Mike is a good singer. However, he can't play the guitar. .</i>
IN CONTRAST	
BUT (<i>pero</i>)	<i>Their music is very good. But, their lyrics are boring.</i>

EXPRESSING PURPOSE (LINKERS OF PURPOSE)	
We use linkers of purpose to introduce reasons:	
SO (THAT) (<i>para</i>)	<i>I have brought a microphone so that the audience will be able to hear us.</i>
IN ORDER TO (<i>para</i>)	<i>We need to register with the council in order to vote.</i>
TO (<i>para</i>)	<i>I am phoning to ask information about the event.</i>
SO AS TO(<i>para</i>)	<i>We all need to vote so as to express our opinions.</i>

CONCLUDING THE ESSAY	
TO SUM UP,...	<i>Para resumir...</i>
TO CONCLUDE,...	<i>Para concluir...</i>
IN CONCLUSION,...	<i>En conclusión...</i>
IT IS CLEAR THAT...	<i>Está claro que</i>
IN SHORT	<i>En resumen...</i>
ON THE WHOLE	<i>En general...</i>
ALL IN ALL,...	<i>En conjunto, en términos generales,...</i>