

Persuasive writing: minimum standard practice writing test

Sample question

Your answer will be assessed on:

- relevance of writing to the topic
- structure and sequence of ideas
- control of language

Choose a rule or law that you think needs to change. Convince a reader why this rule or law should be changed.

Scaffold for sample question

This question is asking you to write a **persuasive** text. A persuasive text develops an argument intended to get the reader to believe the same thing as the writer. In this case, you must choose a rule or law and explain why it should be changed. In a persuasive text you must provide evidence to support your argument. In this case, you may come up with imagined research (it doesn't have to be true).

In this persuasive text, the **audience** would be people who are impacted by the rule or law change. The **purpose** is to convince the audience that a particular rule or law should be changed.

Vocabulary to bring ideas together in different paragraphs:

additionally, furthermore, however, similarly, likewise, consequently

Vocabulary related to emphasising a particular point:

undoubtedly, obviously, generally, admittedly, particularly, especially, clearly, importantly

Vocabulary related to 'show':

demonstrates, reveals, conveys, exhibits, portrays, expresses, displays

Some rules or laws to consider:

- a) Voting at the age of 18
- b) Laws related to driving: age to get your L plates, P plates
- c) Increase the drinking age to 21
- d) Time limit on screen time- all screens in the house
- e) Time limit on water usage in homes across Sydney (water restrictions)

Other ideas:

- f).....
- g).....

How to structure your persuasive text

- **Start with an introduction.** This explains to the reader what you are going to write about and outlines your argument. Explain what rule and law you will discuss.
- **Use body paragraphs that go into more detail** about your opinion on the topic. Give reasons for your opinion. Explain your reasons, using evidence. This may be imagined (you can make it up).
- **Finish with a concluding paragraph.** A conclusion sums up your reasons so that a reader is convinced of your opinion.

Scaffold for writing your persuasive text

Introduction *outline your rule/law and why you think it should change. Outline what evidence you will use to support this idea in your persuasive text.*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Body paragraph 1 *choose one piece of evidence that supports why you think the rule/law should change. Give reasons why it is important and who would benefit from the change.*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Body paragraph 2 *choose another piece of evidence that supports why you think the rule/law should change. Give reasons why it is important and who would benefit from the change.*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Body paragraph 3 (optional) *choose a final piece of evidence that supports why you think the rule/law should change. Give reasons why it is important and who would benefit from the change.*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Conclusion *re-state your main ideas from each body paragraph, focusing on why the law/rule needs to change. Don't say anything new. Re-state your argument.*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Persuasive writing: minimum standard practice writing test

Sample question

Your answer will be assessed on:

- relevance of writing to the topic
- structure and sequence of ideas
- control of language

Should smart phones be banned in schools?

Scaffold for sample question

This question is asking you to write a **persuasive** text. A persuasive text develops an argument intended to get the reader to believe the same thing as the writer. In this case, you must either agree with the question, that yes smart phones should be banned in schools, or disagree with the question, that no smart phones should not be banned in schools. In a persuasive text you must provide evidence to support your argument. In this case, you may come up with imagined research (it doesn't have to be true).

In this persuasive text, the **audience** would be people who are impacted by smart phones being used in schools; teachers, parents and students. The **purpose** is to make the audience agree with your opinion and convince them that either smart phones should or should not be banned in schools.

Vocabulary to bring ideas together in different paragraphs:

additionally, furthermore, however, similarly, likewise, consequently

Vocabulary related to emphasising a particular point:

undoubtedly, obviously, generally, admittedly, particularly, especially, clearly, importantly

Some ideas to consider:

- a) Smart phones should be banned because of the distraction they are to students in the classroom
- b) Smart phones should be banned because of the negative impact they have related to cyber bullying
- c) Smart phones should not be banned because they can be used effectively in the classroom to promote student learning
- d) Smart phones should not be banned because they give students access to contacting the parents/carers in an emergency

Other ideas:

- e)
- f)

Sentence starters:

In a persuasive text, you are trying to convince the audience to adopt your opinion. You are developing an argument in response to the question. Use past tense throughout and preferably third person perspective. Paragraphs should be structured like an essay, using a main point to give your statement to the question, examples to give evidence to your argument and linking statements restating your argument.

- In today's world, smart phones are... [state your argument, whether or not they have a negative impact]
- Smart phones should/should not be banned because...
- The impact of students in schools is negative/positive as seen in... [give example]

- relevance of writing to the topic
- structure and sequence of ideas
- control of language

Should smart phones be banned in schools?

[illegible]

Persuasive writing: minimum standard practice writing test

Sample question

Look at the image below.



Compose a piece of writing about the significance of working together

Scaffold for sample question

This question is asking you to write a **persuasive text**. A persuasive text presents a perspective (point of view) on a topic which is backed by evidence to support it. In a persuasive text, the **audience** would be your peers and anyone who does not yet see the value of working together. The **purpose** is to convince your audience to believe in the importance of working together and how good teamwork skills can help someone in different aspects of their life.

Vocabulary related to working together:

teamwork, cooperation, collaboration, partnership, community, harmony, assistance, unity, communication, skills

Some ideas to consider:

- Working together helps to foster creativity and learning (brainstorming ideas as a group helps you consider good ideas that you have not thought of)
- Working together builds trust (improves your relationship with peers and colleagues)
- Working together gives you the skills to resolve problems (in school projects, in sports team, in your future career)
- Working together encourages you to take risks (mistakes are seen as opportunities for learning)

Other ideas:


-
-

Sentence starters:

In a persuasive text, you are presenting an argument to persuade (convince) your reader to agree with you. Use present tense, high modality, active voice and third person perspective. There should be a minimum of five paragraphs: an introduction, three or more body paragraphs and a conclusion. Each body paragraph should present evidence that supports your main argument.

- First paragraph:** Teamwork is ... We need teamwork because...
- Following paragraphs:** Firstly... Secondly... Thirdly... Finally... The biggest reason that teamwork is important is... Most importantly... Furthermore... In addition... Without teamwork...
- Conclusion:** Overall..., Clearly..., It is quite obvious that...

- relevance of writing to the topic
- structure and sequence of ideas
- control of language



Compose a piece of writing about the significance of working together

[illegible]