



جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
United Arab Emirates University

UAEU

Final Exam Practice: Opinion Essays



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UAEU Foundation Program:
English Language

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Hello ladies,

What is an opinion essay?

Is it the same as a descriptive report?



Decide which is the best answer:

- A**

 1. You only write about facts and you must not give examples from your own life or state your opinion
 2. You write about facts relating to the subject but you must also state your opinion and give examples from your own life
- B**

 1. It is different from a Task I report and, you have to write more words
 2. It is the same as a Task I report but, you have to write more words
- C**

 1. You should clearly state your opinion (this is required)
 2. You should not give your opinion (it is not required)
- D**

 1. The purpose of a an opinion essay is to describe the subject but not to give your personal opinion
 2. The purpose of a an opinion essay is to discuss the subject, give your opinion and support this with reasons

Well then,
What exactly do we need to do?
What is the style and structure?



Answer these questions:

1. What **styles** of Task II essays will I see in the final exam?
 1. Advantages and Disadvantages
 2. Cause and Effect
 3. Problem and Solution
 4. Agree or Disagree
2. Must I write an essay for both topics, or just choose one?
3. How many words do I have to write?
4. What happens if I write less than 180 words?
5. How many **paragraphs** do I need?
6. How many **parts** should there be in an introduction?

Example Prompts

A Many people think that students at university learn more easily and quickly with an iPad.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

B Nowadays many university students are required to use iPads instead of books.

Discuss some key effects of this.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

C Some people think that parents should punish their children by hitting them.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

D It is argued by some people that many women who study at university in the UAE do not plan to get a job when they graduate.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

What styles or types of essay are these?
How many reasons/effects must I write about?



Today's Focus: Agree "or" Disagree

1 Some people think that parents should punish their children by hitting them.
Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.
Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

2 It is argued by some people that many women who study at university in the UAE do not plan to get a job when they graduate.
Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.
Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

Did you know that 98% of all ladies at Foundation Level choose the agree / disagree essay!



1. Look carefully at the prompt, it has three parts, what is the purpose of each?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

2. In the body of your essay, can you agree in one paragraph and disagree in the second paragraph? _____

Today's Focus: Agree "or" Disagree

1

Some people think that parents should punish their children by hitting them.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

Reasons to AGREE

1. _____
2. _____

Reasons to DISAGREE

1. _____
2. _____

1. It will teach children to be respectful
2. It will reduce traffic accidents
3. Some families have too many children
4. It will make children think violence is the answer for all situations

5. The hot weather makes people angry
6. Punishments should only be verbal (spoken)
7. Many computer games involve fighting and killing
8. If children are not physically disciplined (hit) they will become very naughty

Decide (a) which of these points are related to the subject and (b) are they reasons to agree or disagree



Today's Focus: Agree "or" Disagree

2

It is argued by some people that many women who study at university in the UAE do not plan to get a job when they graduate.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

Reasons to AGREE

1. _____
2. _____

Reasons to DISAGREE

1. _____
2. _____

-
1. It will lead to an increase in obesity
 2. Actually, many want to work, but cannot find a job
 3. In the past this was true, but not these days
 4. This is correct, many only study at university to be able to educate their own children
 5. Emiratization is important for the economy
 6. Girls perform better at maths compared to boys
 7. The traditions encourage women to get an education but not necessarily a job
 8. These days not all Emiratis can get a government job when they graduate from university

Decide (a) which of these points are related to the subject and (b) are they reasons to agree or disagree



How many parts should your introduction have?
Which is the best introduction?
Why do you think so?



It is argued by some people that many women who study at university in the UAE do not plan to get a job when they graduate.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion.

- A** I agree with the topic. Sometimes it is a good idea but not always, and we must be careful where to do it. For example think about “Wadeema’s Law”. I will give a reason to agree and disagree in this essay. I will explain both side and give some suggestions.
- B** These days parenting and raising children is a topical issue. It can be fun on the one hand, but on the other hand very stressful. In my opinion I disagree with the idea of parents hitting children. In this essay I will provide two key reasons that support my view, the first one is violence is not the answer and the second reason is the children might then hit their teachers.

Answer these questions:

1. How many **body** paragraphs should my TASK II report have?
2. How should I begin each of my body paragraphs?
3. Must I write the explanation part before the example part?

How many do I need?
How should I start them?
Must every body paragraph have an explanation part and an example?



Practice What You've Learnt!

1 Many people think that the UAE has too many shopping malls and not enough museums.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion

2 It is argued that young people in the UAE prefer MacDonal'd's to traditional foods.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion

3 Some people think that women should not work in mixed-gender workplaces.

Do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons to support your opinion.

Write at least 200 words, with an introduction, two body paragraphs and a conclusion

Now, write an introduction.
Choose one of the 3 prompts
and write an introduction.
Post it to our writing blog.

