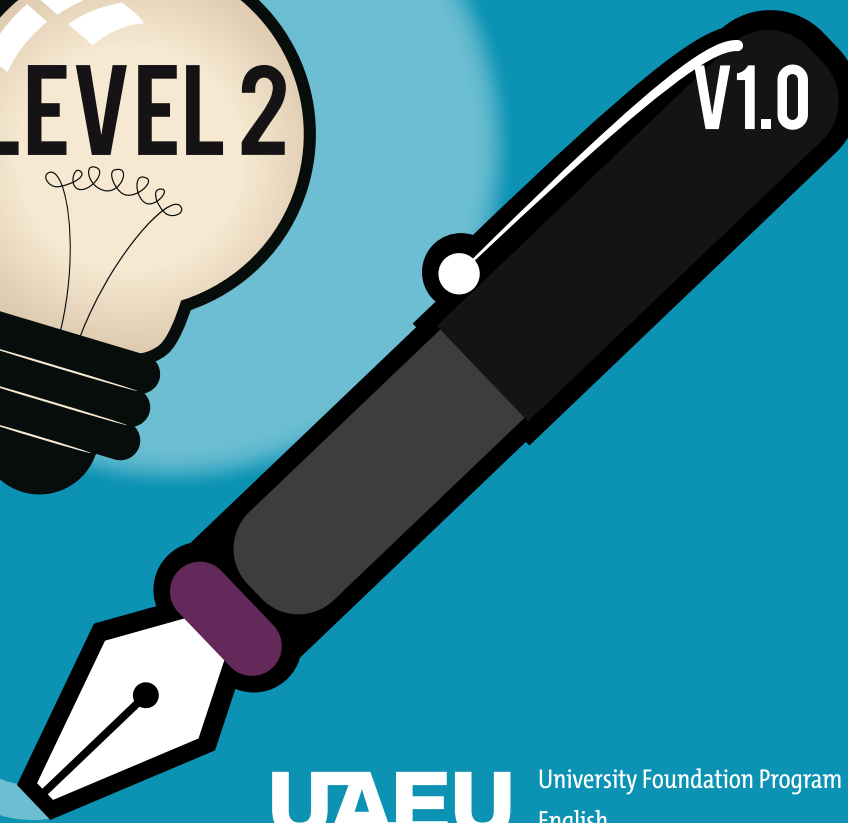


INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC WRITING



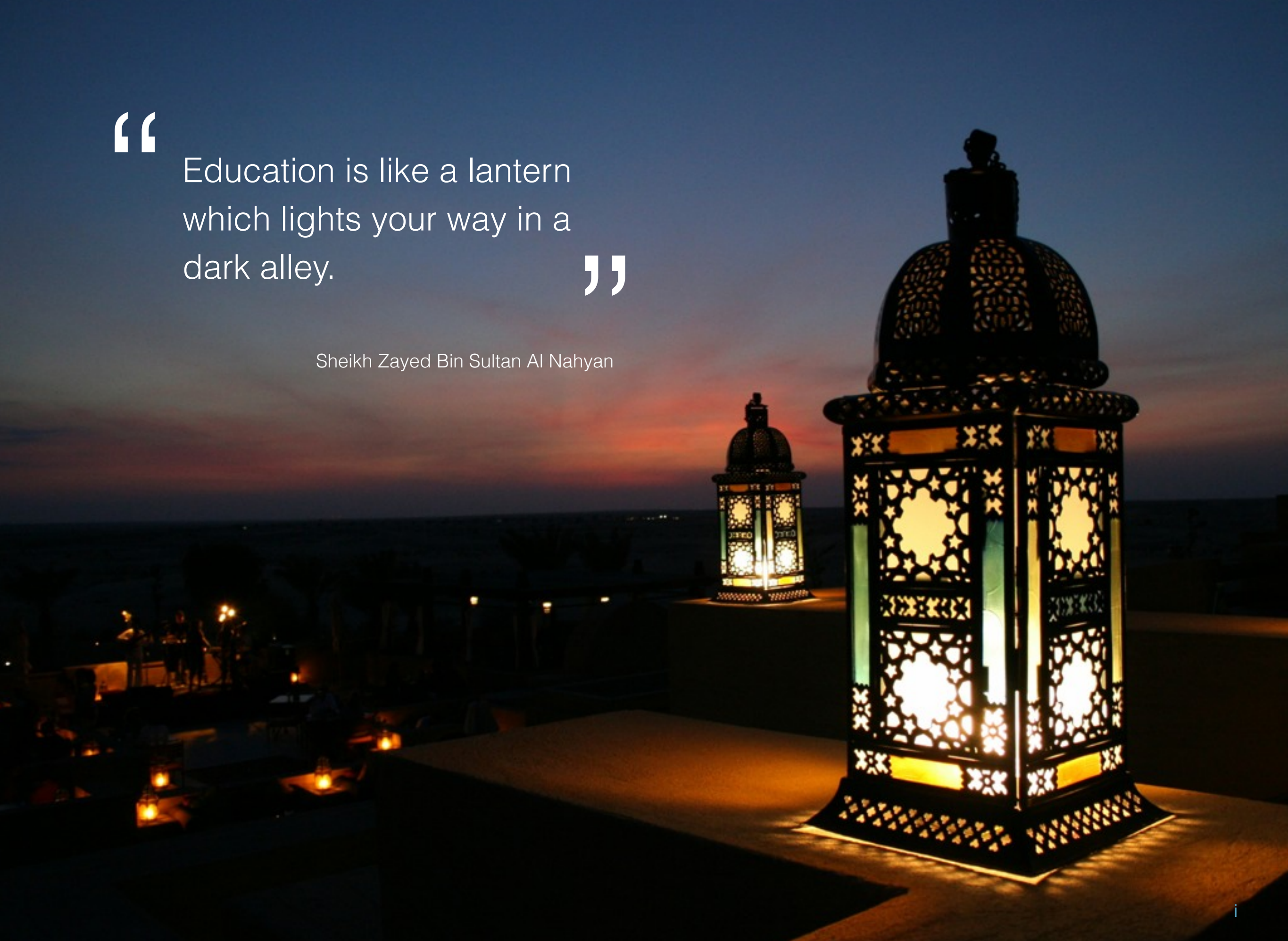
UAEU University Foundation Program
English

“

Education is like a lantern
which lights your way in a
dark alley.

”

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan



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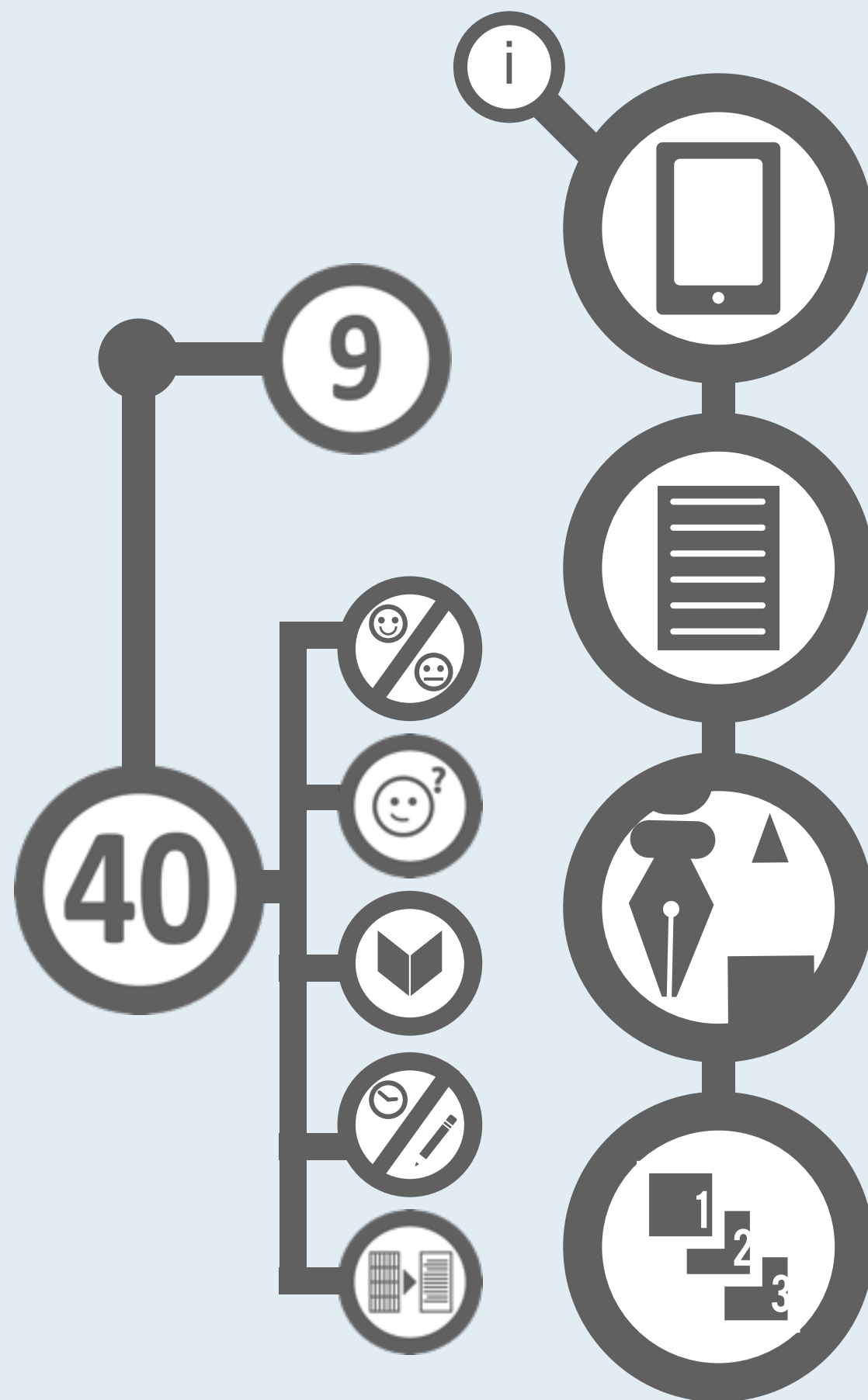
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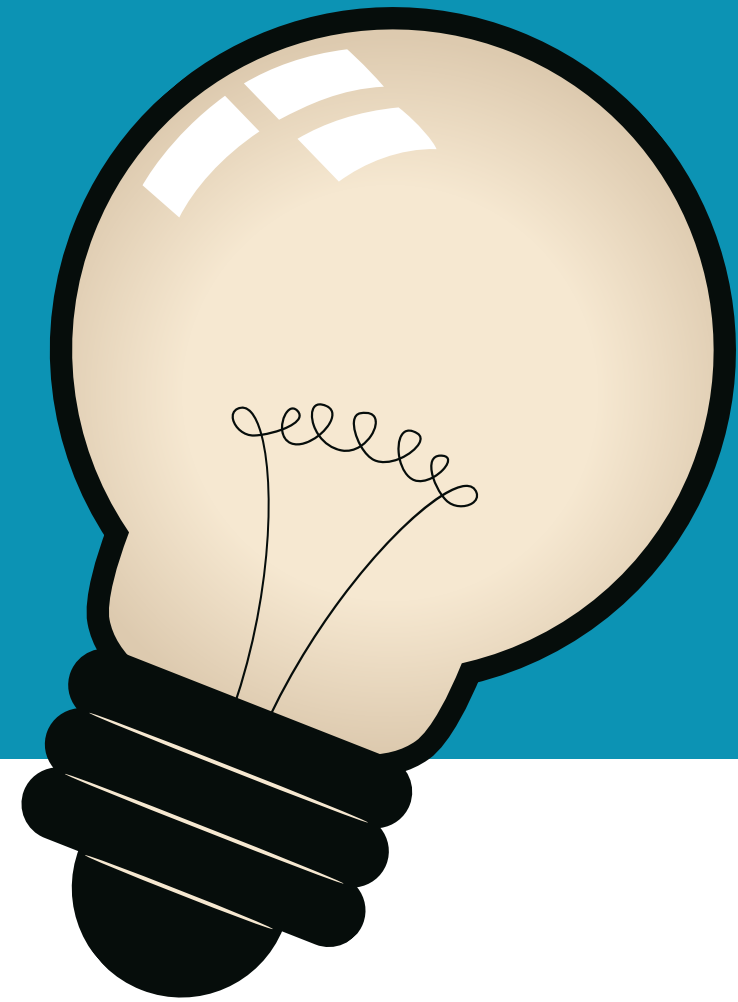
University Foundation Program (English)

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WELCOME TO THE LEVEL 2 WRITING COURSE

In this course you will learn how to write academic essays. In the first essay, you will argue for your position on a topic. In the second essay, you will write an “opinion essay”. Don’t worry if you don’t know what essays are now. 8 weeks from now you will know what they are and you will be able to write two of them in 70 minutes! To find out about the course in more detail, tap on the icons of the course map opposite.





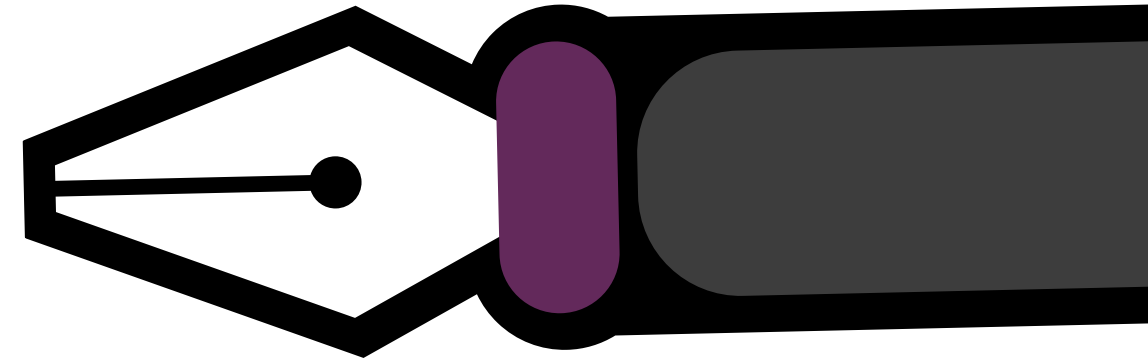
1
WRITING PROJECT 1
Which is better?

Expressing an Opinion: Which is better?

In this unit, you will begin learning how to write about your opinions.

Before you begin, it is important for you to see what you already know and what you need to learn about writing your opinions.

Below is a prompt for you to think about and write about. Do your best to write your answer to the prompt the best way you know how:



Which is better: High School or University?



After you do this pre-writing exercise, your teacher will teach you how to write your opinion. Then, you will write this again to see what you have learned.

Which is better?



The topic is:

Which is better: cats or dogs?

Take some time to think about both sides of this topic
Reasons why some people might think cats are better:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Thinking About the Prompt

Writing your opinions of different topics is a skill you need in academic writing. On the next page you will see how students organize their ideas when expressing their opinions on a topic. Before you read the model essays, take some time to think about what your opinion is and how you would write about it.

Reasons why some people might think dogs are better:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

On the next page you are going to read two mini-essays about this topic by two students, Halima and Ahmed. What are their opinions of this topic? How do they organize their ideas? What verb tense do they use? What vocabulary do they use?

Which is better: cats or dogs?

Model Essays

Dogs are the Best

By Halima

Some people think dogs make better pets than cats. **I agree.** In this essay, I will give two reasons why I think dogs are better.

The first reason why I think dogs are better is they are great companions. For example, they love to go for long walks and play. Because of this, their owners always get a lot of exercise and also have fun. As you can see, dogs help people stay healthy and happy.

The second reason is dogs help people. For example, dogs can be trained to help people. When there's an earthquake, dogs often help find people in the rubble. Also, dogs protect the house. If a thief tries to break in, the dog will bark and scare the thief away. You will always feel safe when you have dog.

In conclusion, dogs make the best pets. **They are great companions and they provide protection.** If you are looking for a pet, I suggest you seriously consider a dog.

Cats are Better Pets than Dogs

By Ahmed

Some people think dogs make better pets than cats. **I disagree.** In this essay I will explain why I think cats are better than dogs.

The first reason is cats are easier to take care of. For example, cats use a litter box. On the other hand, dogs use the yard or you have to take them for a walk two or three times a day. This is dirty and wastes a lot of time. Also, cats clean themselves. When dogs are dirty, you must give them a bath. This is too much work for a pet.

The second reason is cats can't kill children. For example, if a baby makes a cat angry, then the cat may bite or scratch him. This only hurts the baby a little because cats are small and weak. On the other hand, if a baby makes a dog angry, then the dog can bite and kill him because dogs are very strong. As you can see, cats are a much safer choice for families with small children.

In summary, cats are much better pets than dogs. **They are easier to take care of and they can't kill children.** I think all families should have a cat.

Which is better?

Look at Halima's essay again and then take notes as your teacher explains the general organization of this kind of essay.

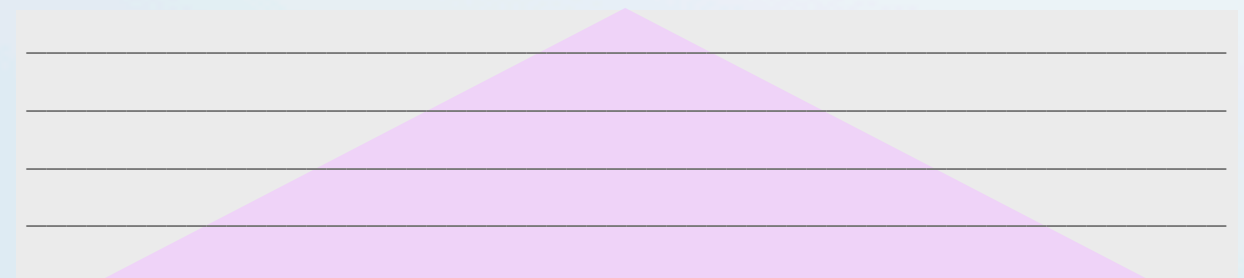
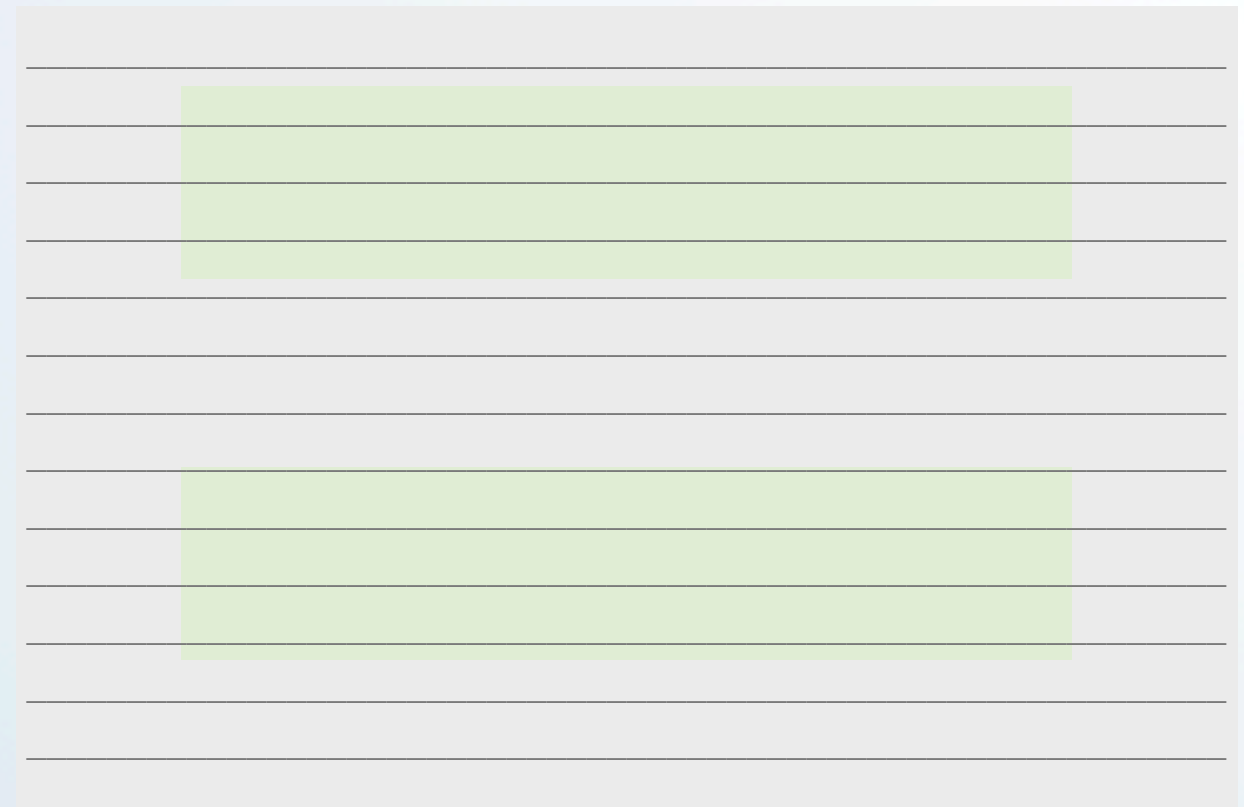
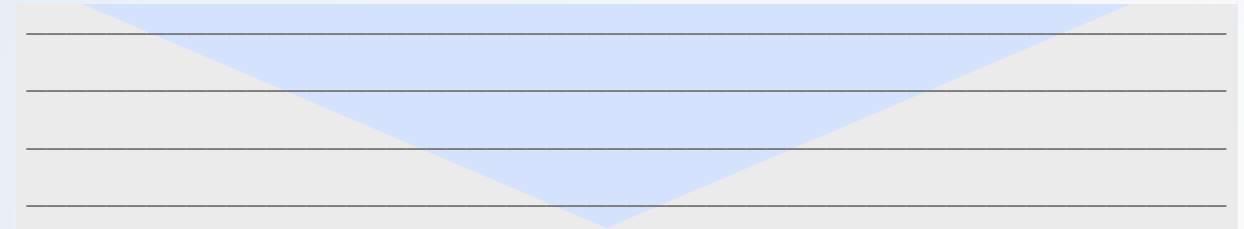
Some people think dogs make better pets than cats. **I agree.**
In this essay, I will give two reasons why I think dogs are better.

The first reason why I think dogs are better is they are great companions. For example, they love to go for long walks and play. Because of this, their owners always get a lot of exercise and also have fun. As you can see, dogs help people stay healthy and happy.

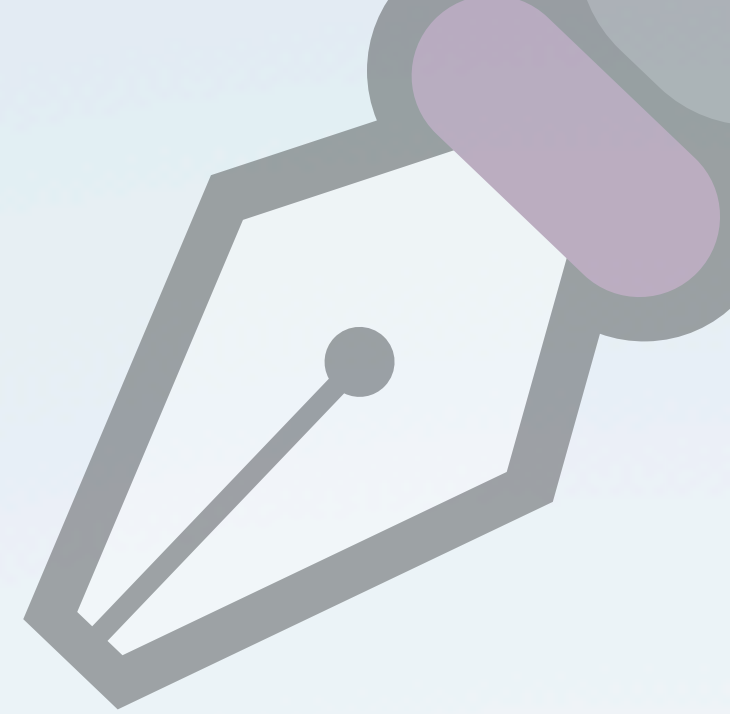
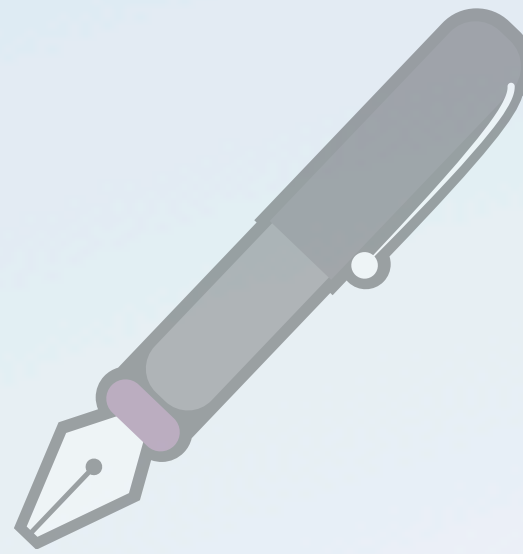
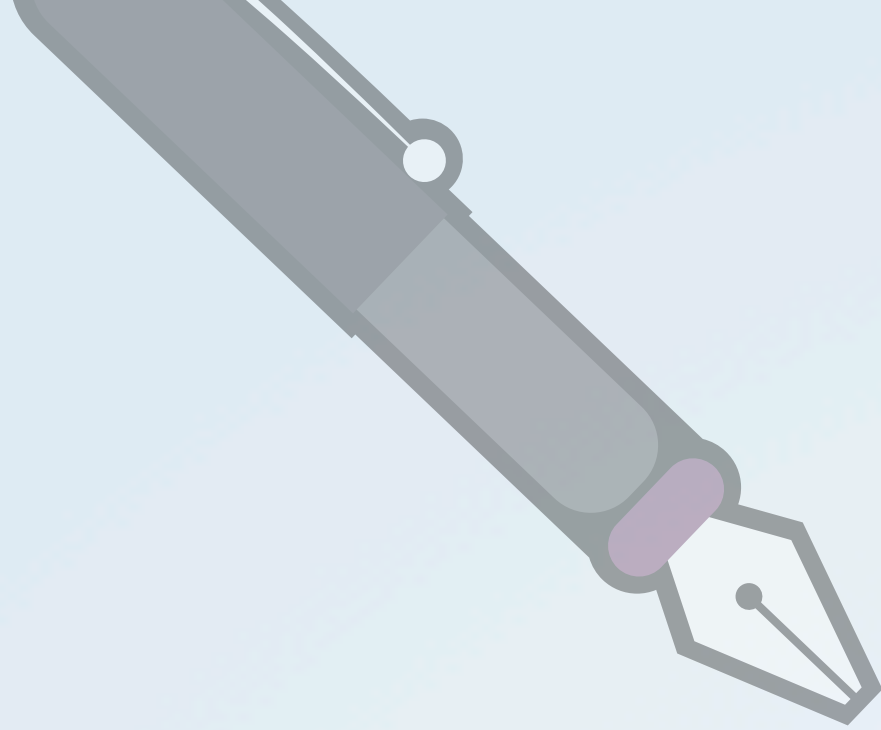
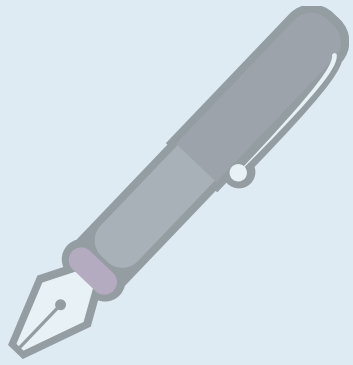
The second reason is dogs help people. For example, dogs can be trained to help people. When there's an earthquake, dogs often help find people in the rubble. Also, dogs protect the house. If a thief tries to break in, the dog will bark and scare the thief away. You will always feel safe when you have dog.

In conclusion, dogs make the best pets. **They are great companions and they provide protection.** If you are looking for a pet, I suggest you seriously consider a dog.

Taking Notes



Practice Essays



For more practice, here are two more essay prompts for you to write about:

1



Which is better: taking a taxi or taking a bus?

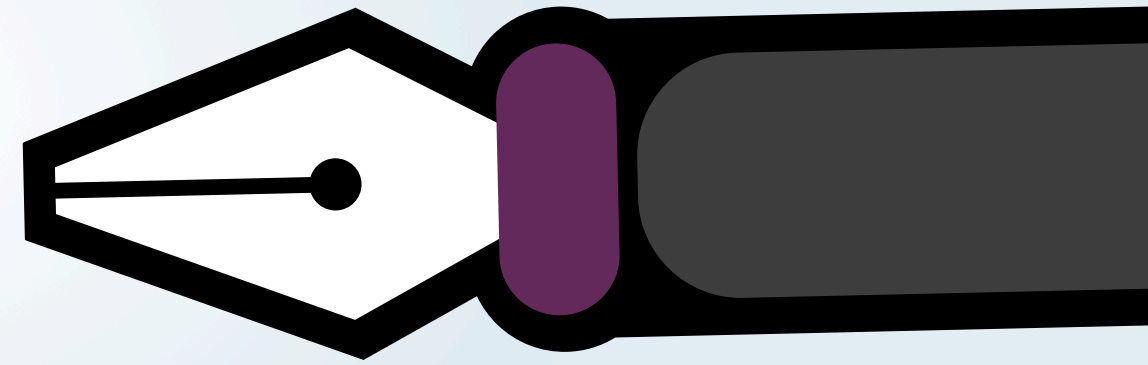


2

Which is better: Co-ed schools or Single-sex schools?



Writing Bank 1: Opinion Essays



Compound Sentences

Sentence Structure: Compound Sentences:

Compound sentences connect two sentences by using: **and**, **but**, **or**, **so**.

Students study English **and** they love it.

Many foreigners in the UAE speak Arabic **but** they don't know how to write it.

Students can take a Physical Education class **or** they can take an Art class.

Level 2 students work hard every day **so** they will probably get good grades.

Look at the simple sentences below and compare them with the sentences on the left:

Students study English. They **also** love it.

Many foreigners in the UAE speak Arabic. **However**, they don't know how to write it.

Students can take a Physical Education class. Students can take an Art class. **They have a choice**.

Level 2 students work hard everyday. **Therefore**, they will probably get good grades.

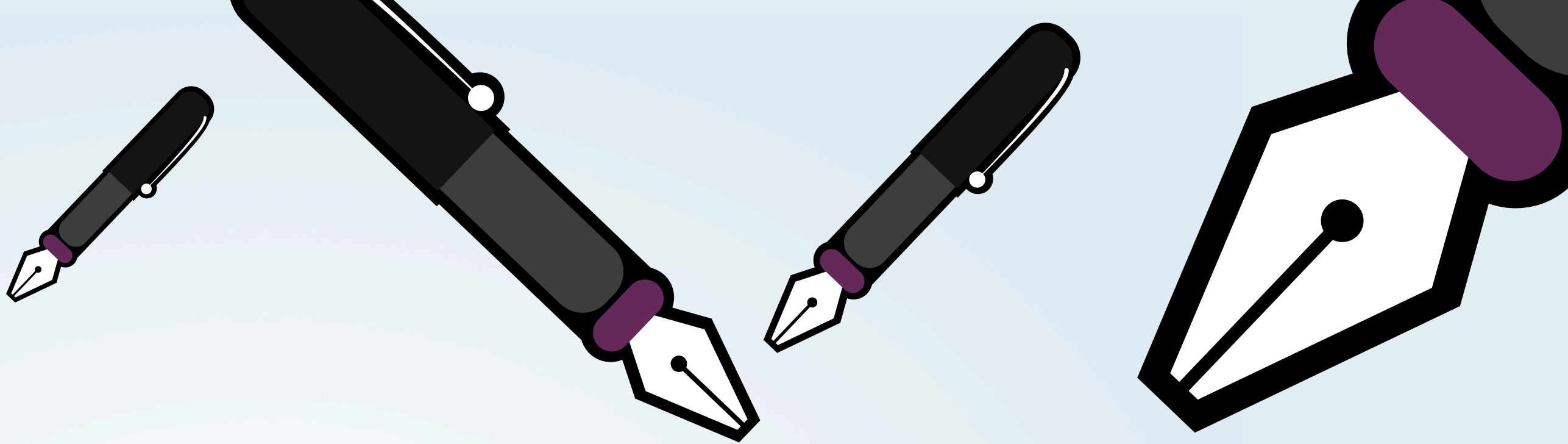
Tap on these students and compare their essays. Have they used compound sentences? What examples can you find?



Rewrite these sentences making them compound sentences:

1. Most students speak English very well. However, they can't write it very well.
2. Halima likes English class. She also likes Math class.
3. Ahmed passed Level 1 with an A+. Therefore, he took the challenge exam.
4. Ben tried his best on the challenge exam. However, he didn't do well.
5. Students can study hard. They can do nothing. It's their choice.
6. Physical Education classes are fun. Also, they give the body energy.





Complex Sentences

Sentence structure and complex sentences

Complex sentences connect two clauses with a subordinating conjunction.

There are many subordinating conjunctions: **because, if, when, before, after, although, since, while, as soon as, whenever, unless...**

Scroll through some examples:

Halima took the challenge exam **because** she got an A+ in Level 1.

Ahmed will be very happy **when** he finishes university.

Sentence structure and complex sentences

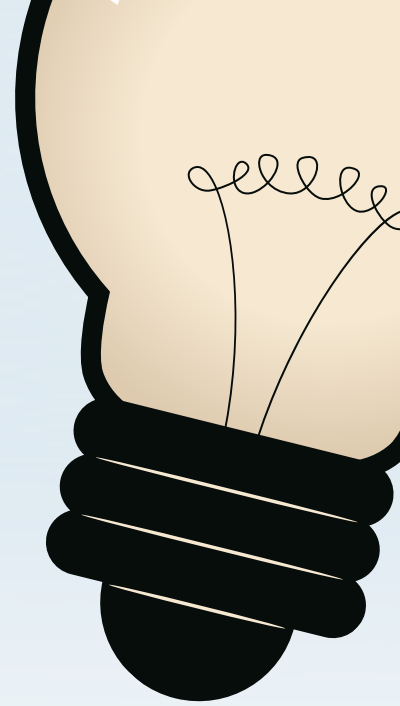
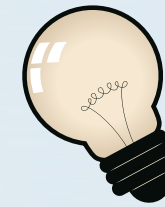
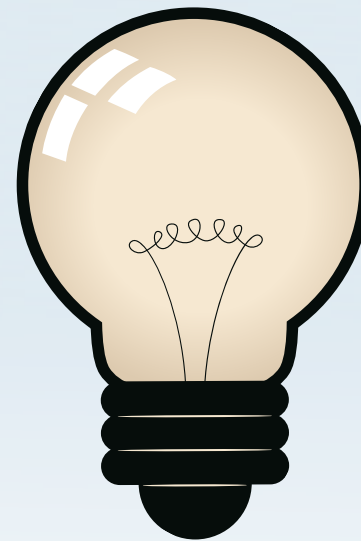
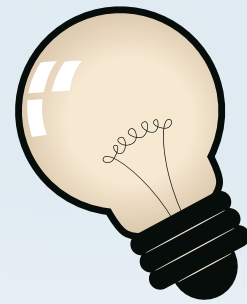
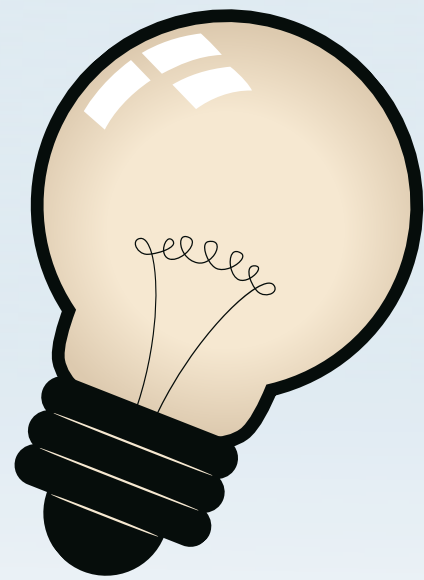
In a complex sentence, you can move the clauses, but you will need a comma:

Because Halima got an A+ in Level 1, she took the challenge exam.

When Ahmed finishes university, he will be very happy.

Do these students use complex sentences?

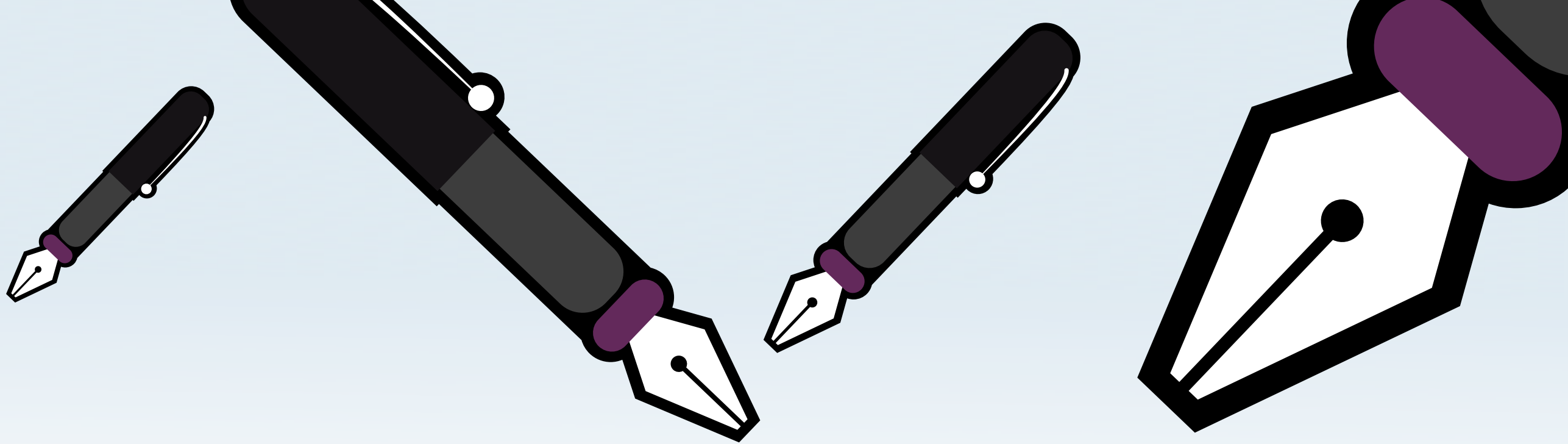




Connecting Words

Tap on the presentation below to find out about how to get a good mark in grammar for your writing.
Then tap on and through the stop sign to find our more about connecting words.





Connecting Words

Match each connecting word to its meaning (If you need more help, find them in the model essays). Highlight 1, 2 or 3 with the correct colour that matches the definition a, b or c. Then complete the questions opposite with one of these three words:

1. However,

a. Shows more information on the same topic **[and]**

2. Furthermore,

b. Connects two opposite ideas **[but]**

3. Therefore,

c. Connects a reason with an opinion or effect **[so]**

Question 1 of 7

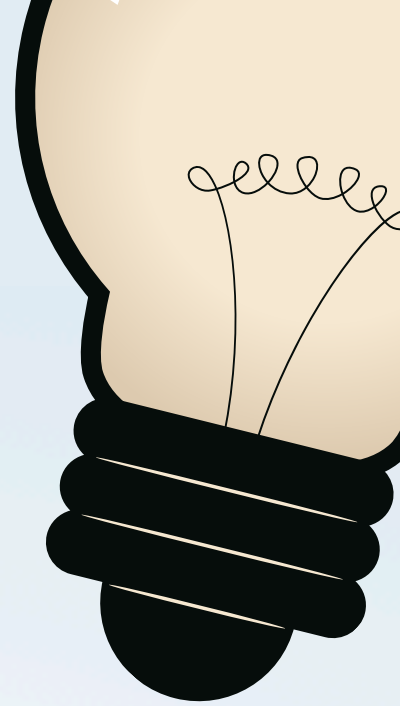
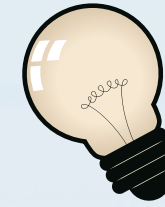
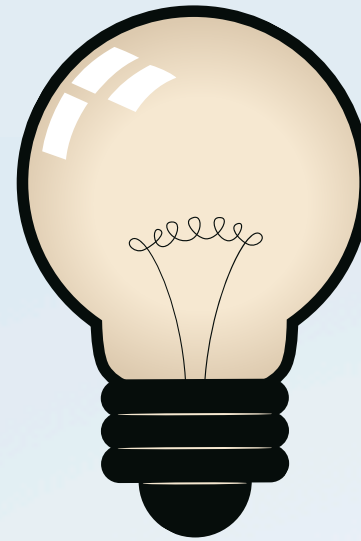
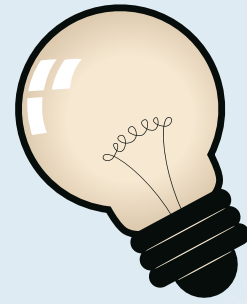
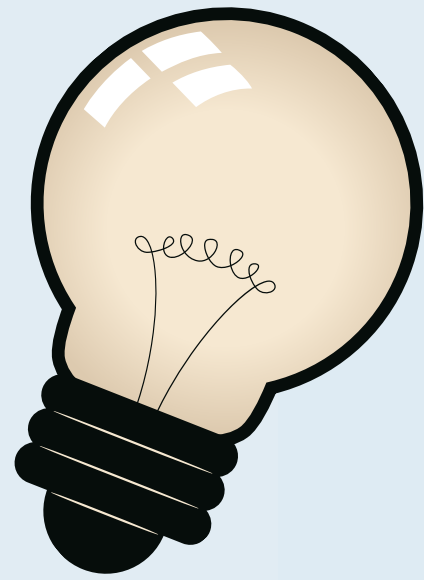
In an emergency, children need to call their parents.
_____ children need to have their own mobile phone.

- A. however,
- B. because
- C. However,
- D. therefore
- E. Therefore,
- F. Because,



Check Answer










Connecting Words

Look at Sarah and Halima's essays again (by tapping on them) and answer these questions:

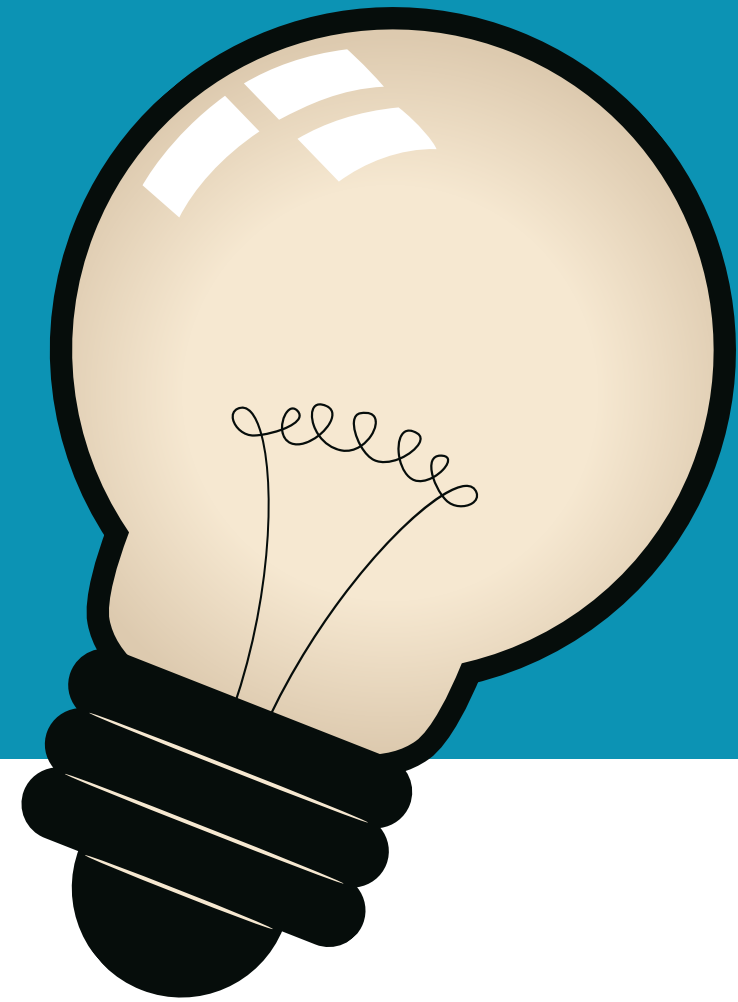


-  Which connecting words do they use?
-  Do they use a connecting word in every sentence?
-  Do you think they should use a connecting word in every sentence?
-  Do connecting words always come at the beginning of a sentence?
-  What other connecting words do you know besides the ones on this page?

Connecting Words

Tap on these icons to find useful vocabulary for opinion essays





2

WRITING PROJECT 2

Supporting an Opinion

Opinion Essay 1: Agree / Disagree Essay



Tap here first



Ben

Ahmed

Look at Ben and Ahmed above. What does Ben think?

What do you think?

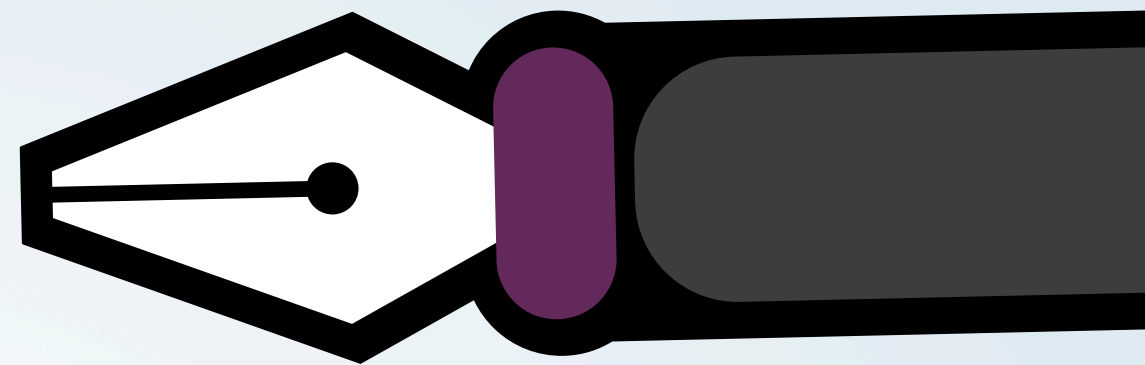
Do you agree that students should take a PE class or do you disagree? Highlight Yes or No.

YES / NO

Why might the university students **agree** with this idea? Write three reasons.



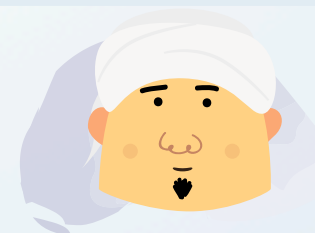
Why might the university students **disagree** with this idea? Write three reasons. Look at Ben and Ahmed above. What does Ben think?



Thinking about the prompt

Ben and Ahmed have written two essays answering the prompt below. Tap and wait on each character below and read their essays. Ask yourself: Who thinks like me - Ahmed or Ben?

University students should take physical education classes. Do you agree or disagree?



Now answer these questions:

1. What is Ahmed's opinion?
2. What is Ben's opinion?
3. What are Ahmed's reasons for his opinion?
4. What are Ben's opinions?
5. How do they support their reasons?

Look at Ahmed's essay again. Take notes as your teacher give you more information about writing agree / disagree essays

Ahmed's Essay: Physical Fitness

Some people think that university students should play sports as part of their university program. **I believe that physical education is very important for these students.** In this essay, I will explain the two key reasons for my opinion.

The first major reason is many students are overweight. For example, studies show that 50% of all students in the UAE gain about 5 kilos the first year at university. They gain a lot of weight because they sit all day in classes so they do not have time to exercise. Because of this, they become unhealthy. If university students have a physical education class, they will exercise more and will not be fat. **The final difference** is language. In South Korea they speak Korean but in Mongolia they speak Mongolian.

The second reason is physical education classes help students get better grades. For example, many students are bored with their classes, so they don't



Ben's essay about physical education classes at the university was very good. However, we only read his final draft. Now, let's compare Ben's first draft with his final draft.



Look on the next page.



Ben's first draft shows he is writing the way he learned in his high school Arabic class. Do you think the organisation of ideas in an Arabic body paragraph is different to that of an English body paragraph?



How is it different? Discuss this with your class.

Organising the body paragraphs

To better understand the differences between Ben's first draft and his final draft, answer the following questions:

1. Are the topic sentences in his final draft long?
2. Where does Ahmed write his reasons in the final draft?
3. Are they the same reasons as in his first draft?
4. Does Ben repeat his reasons more than once in the final draft?
5. How does Ben reorganize his ideas in the first draft to write his final draft?



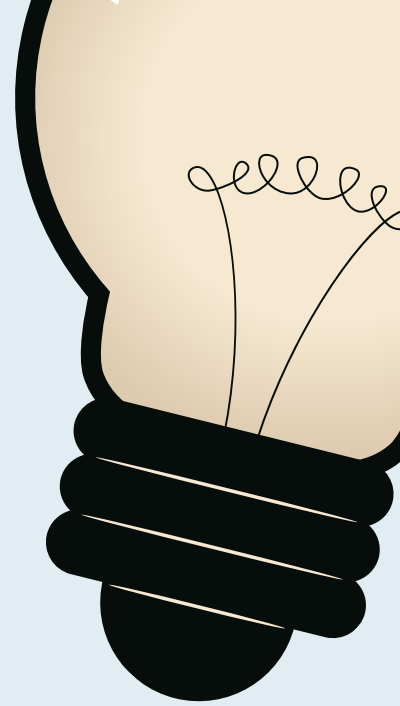
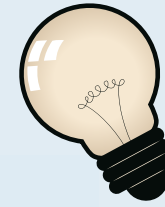
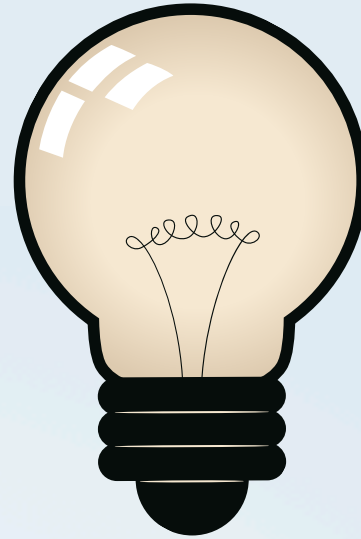
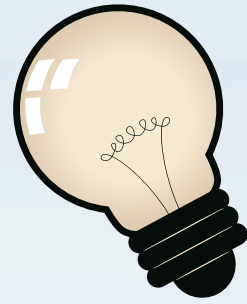
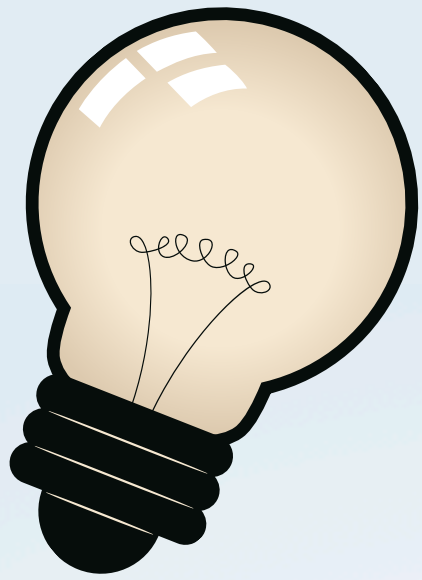
FIRST

The first reason is a student has many classes so he cannot take a physical education class because he must study Math, English, Arabic and IT. A university student has too much homework so he does not have enough time. He studies for many hours and he does not have enough time.

The second reason is a female student shouldn't play sports because

FINAL

The first reason is there is not enough time. For example, students must take many subjects in university. Some of these subjects are Math, English, Arabic, and IT courses. Furthermore, each class takes two hours and after that they must spend four hours studying and doing homework. Therefore, students do not have enough time to take another subject, such as physical education.



Organising the body paragraphs

Similar to Ahmed, Halima's first draft of her body paragraphs shows she is organizing her body paragraphs the way she learned in her high school Arabic classes. Look at her first draft and then help Halima rewrite her body paragraphs in an English-style essay.

Halima



The first major reason is that a student gets fat because she sits all day in class but exercise gives her body energy. Sports class makes her healthy. She will not be fat if she has to take a sports class.



Another important reason is life is too boring so students can't study because they are too tired. A student studies every day. She sits for a long time. However, sports are fun for her. Sports clear her mind. She can study more because she is not bored.



Cohesion

Here is another agree/disagree opinion essay by Halima. She is writing about this prompt:

The government should make dangerous sports illegal.
Do you agree or disagree?

On the right we see two body paragraphs. The sentences are mixed up. Carefully look at the words and ideas in each sentence. Some words and ideas are repeated. Use these repeated words and ideas to help you arrange the sentences into paragraphs that show logical development of ideas. Use the note function below to rewrite them:



For example, many kids watch wrestling and then copy this violent sport with their siblings or their friends.

Children believe everything they see on TV and they often try to copy it.

If dangerous sports like wrestling are illegal, then many children will not be hurt.

The first major reason is dangerous sports teach children to be violent.

Therefore, many young people are hurt or killed when they copy the wrestling matches they see on TV.

PARAGRAPH 1

However, most of these poor boxers never become rich.

If dangerous sports are made illegal, then poor people won't get hurt for other people's entertainment.

Poor people often play dangerous sports because they think they can make a lot of money doing that.

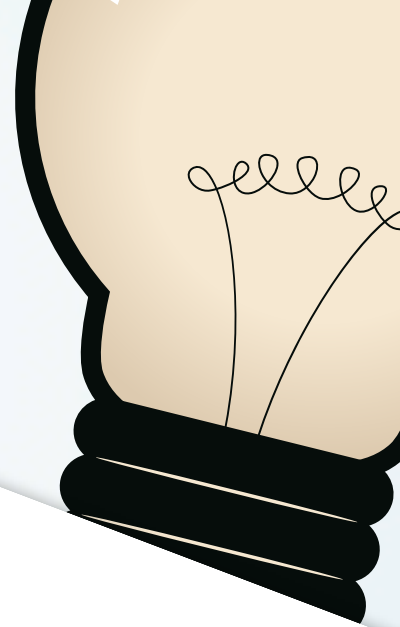
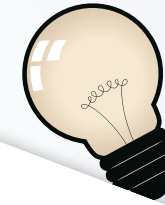
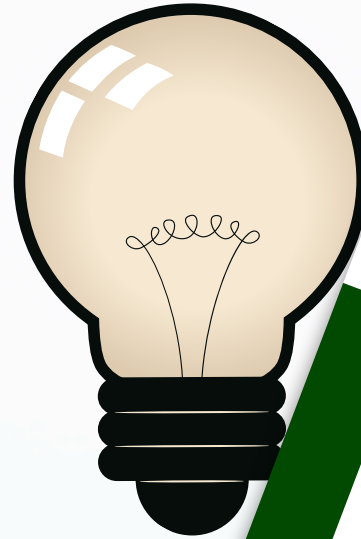
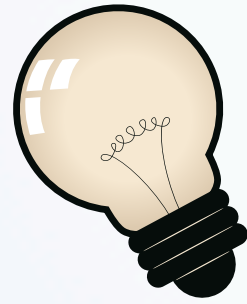
They don't become rich because they get hurt.

Another important reason is that dangerous sports hurt poor people.

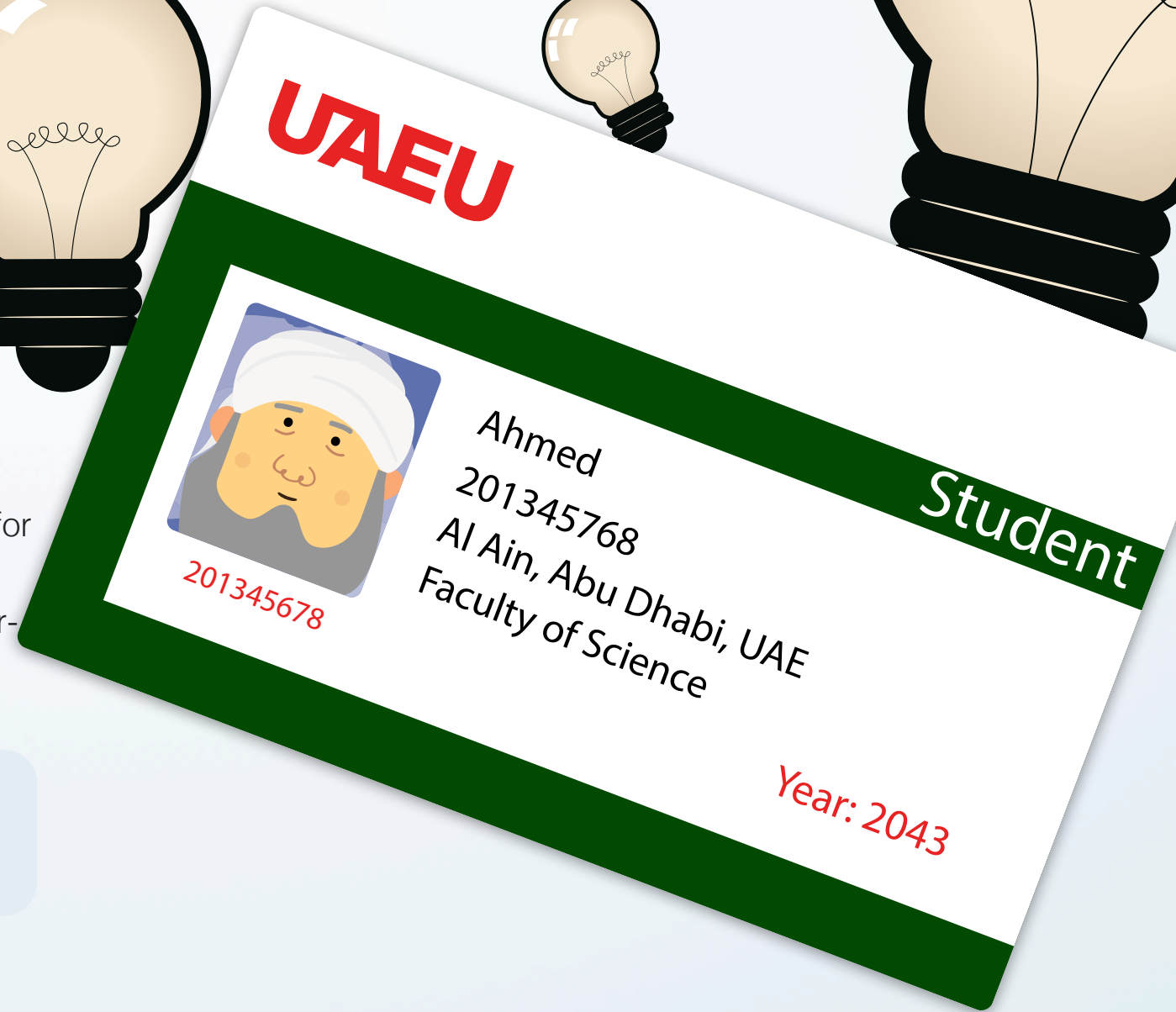
For instance, brain injuries are very common among boxers.

PARAGRAPH 2

Practice: Thinking of Reasons



At the beginning of this unit you did your best to write an essay about studying English at the UAEU every semester of university. Now that you've spent some time studying how to write a good essay, it's time for you to try this essay again. Go step-by-step through the process to help you write this essay. Your teacher may ask you to write it by yourself, with a partner or with a group.



Students at the UAEU should take English classes every semester they are in university. Do you agree or disagree?

Think of **FOUR** reasons (2 reasons for each question):

1. Why might you **agree** with this idea?



2. Why might you **disagree** with this idea?



Look at your four reasons. Which two reasons do you think would be easiest to find examples, details and general support for? Which position do you feel strongest about?

Practice: Thinking of Support for the Body Paragraphs

At this point in the writing process, you have decided that you either agree with this idea of taking English classes every semester at university or you disagree with it. Also, you have thought of two reasons why you think your opinion is the “right” one.

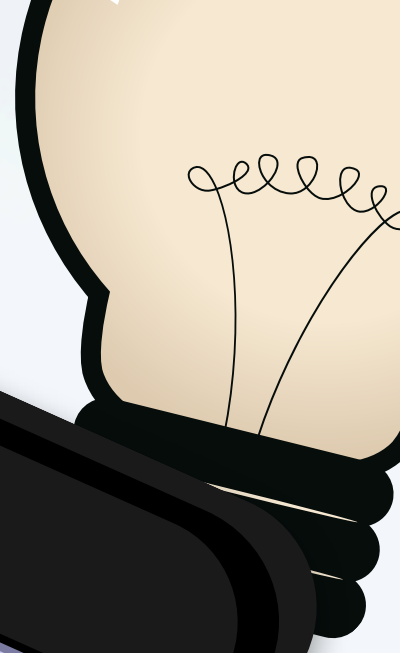
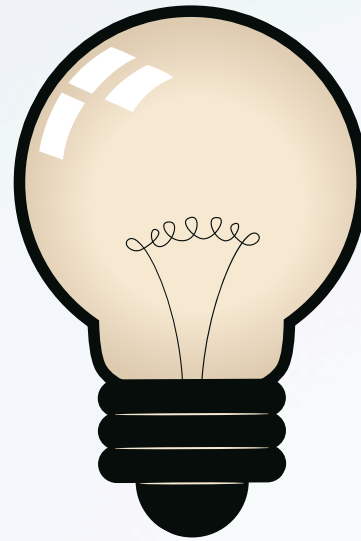
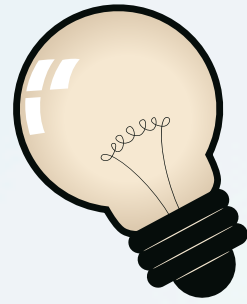
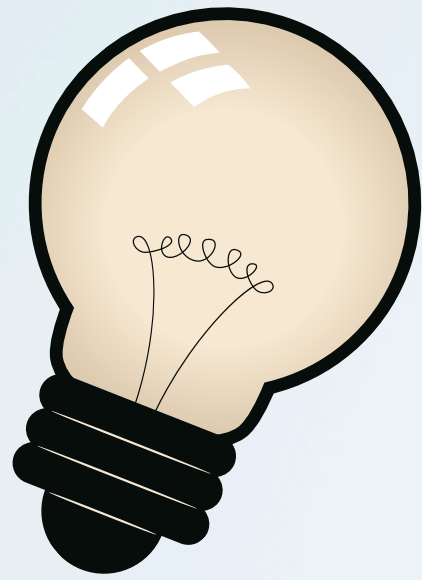
Now you have to support your two reasons with examples, explanations and details in two body paragraphs. Remember what Ben and Halima did: they thought of one example for their reason and then explained it step-by-step.

**The key to writing good support is to imagine that the person reading your essay has very little knowledge about the topic. In this case, your reader doesn't know much about life at the UAEU:*

Work in pairs. On one iPad look at these questions and on the other iPad, open a brainstorming app like *Popplet*. Work together to think about the questions to help you find support for your reasons in your body paragraphs. You won't use all the answers, but maybe some of them will help you. When you have finished tap on the pen and pencil icon to find out more.



1. What English classes do students have to take now?
2. What is the language of study in the faculties?
3. Do all faculties need English?
4. How many credit hours are required for each faculty?
5. How many more hours would English classes add?
6. How long does it take the average student to graduate?
7. How do most students feel about studying English?
8. How many students are there at the UAEU?
9. How many hours a day does the average student study?
10. What is the Arabic language requirement at the UAEU?
11. What percentage of students graduate in 4 or 5 years?
12. What foreign languages do most students in the world study?
13. What is the foreign language requirement for other uni-



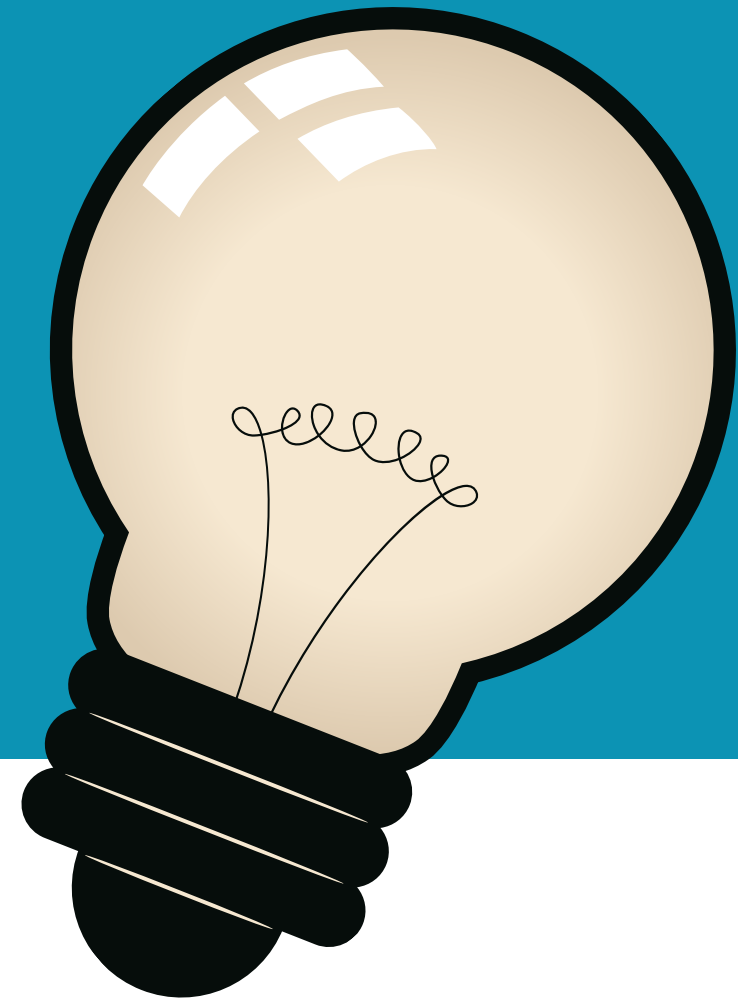
Practice Essays

Here are two more practice essays for you to write about. You can also use these to study for the Timed Writing Exam at the end of the semester if you want.

Women should be soldiers. Do you agree or disagree?

Children under the age of 12 should not have mobiles. Do you agree or disagree?





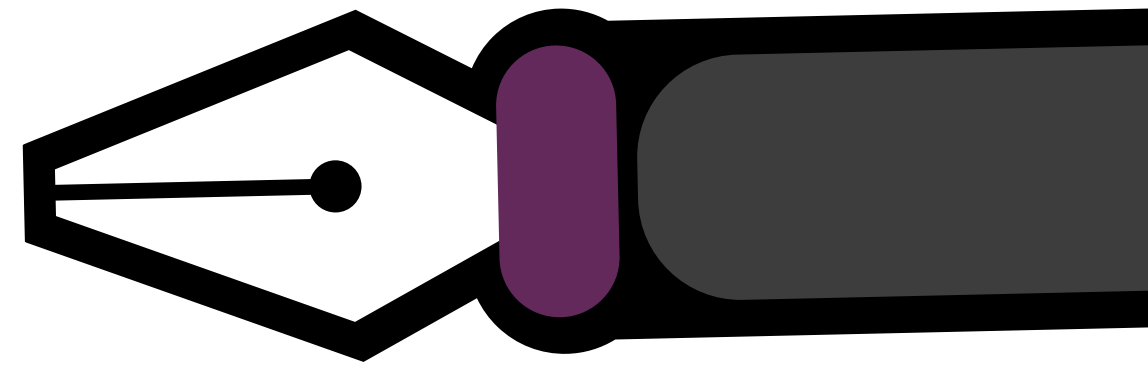
3

INFORMATION
TRANSFER ESSAYS

Information Transfer Essays

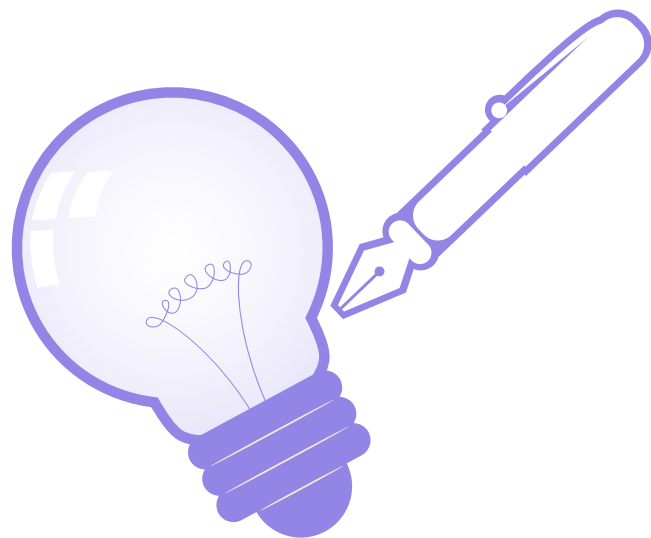


Tap here first



Introduction to the Basics

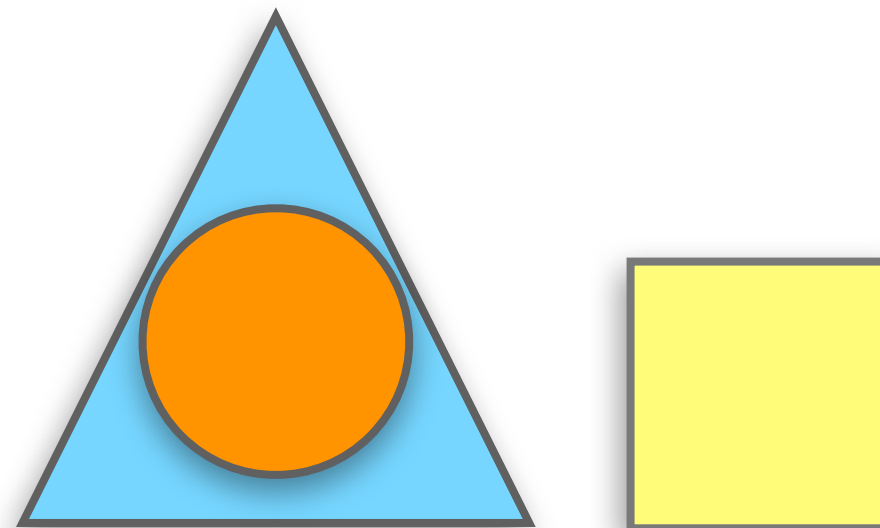
ACTIVITY 1: Draw the shapes



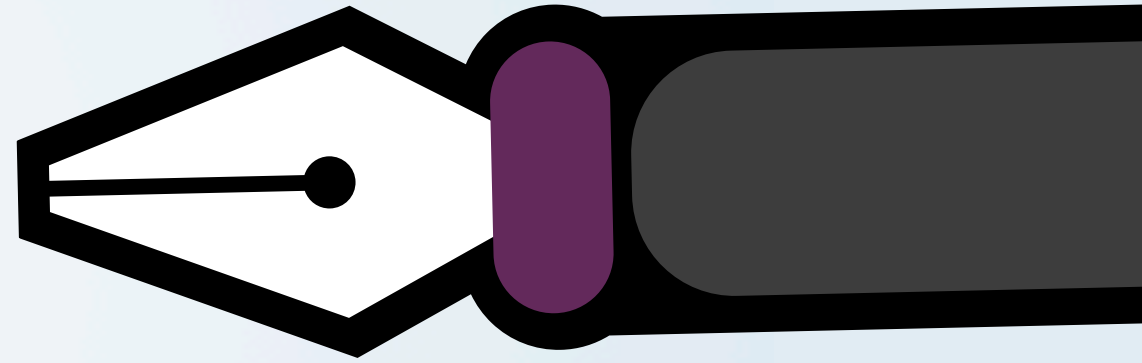
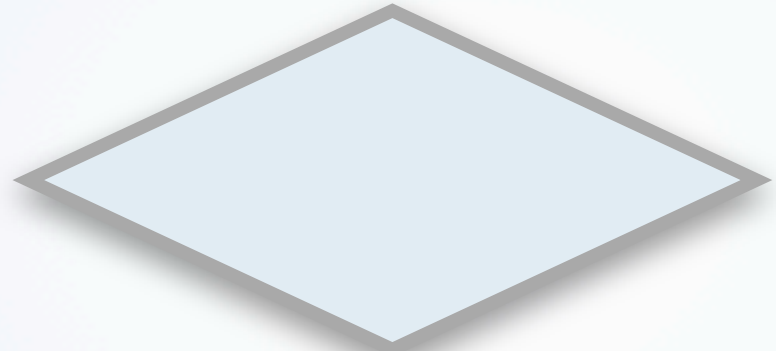
Tap on the activity above. Read the instructions and draw the picture.

ACTIVITY 2: Describe the picture

Look at the picture below. Use the notes function to describe the picture.



Writing Bank 2: Grammar & Vocabulary

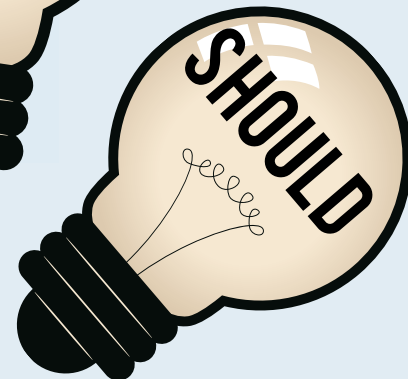
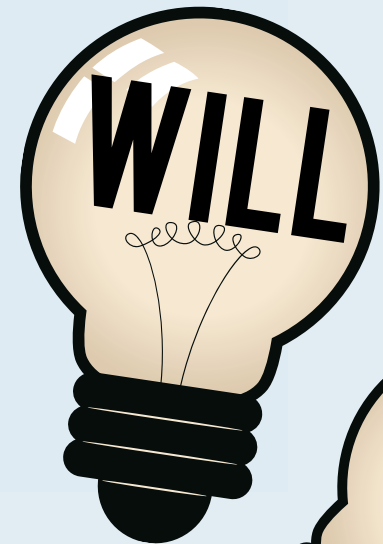
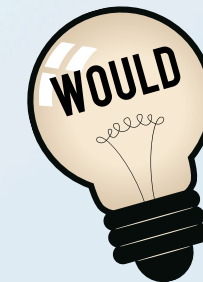


The First Conditional

When you see the diamond shape in a flow chart, you know there are two possibilities. In the Level Two flow chart, you can use the grammar “first conditional” to help you describe this situation. First conditionals describe possibilities in the present or in the future. It’s very easy to construct:

If + present simple tense, future tense or a modal.








On the right, you can see some common modals. Tap on each one to see how it can be used.





Practice

Use the first conditional to write answers to these questions. The first one has been done for you (Tap for the answer).

1. What happens if a student uses her mobile phone during the lesson? 
2. What happens if a student studies writing three hours a day? 
3. What happens if a student misses the homework due date? 
4. What happens if someone crosses the road and the light is red? 
5. What happens if a student gets a band 5 on the IELTS? 
6. What happens if a student joins the UAEU? 
7. What happens if a student finished University Foundation Courses? 



Vocabulary

Tap on the following words to see examples of how they're used with flow charts.

step(s)

The last step

Second,

Next,

First,

Secondly,

If... then...

The final step

After this, / that,

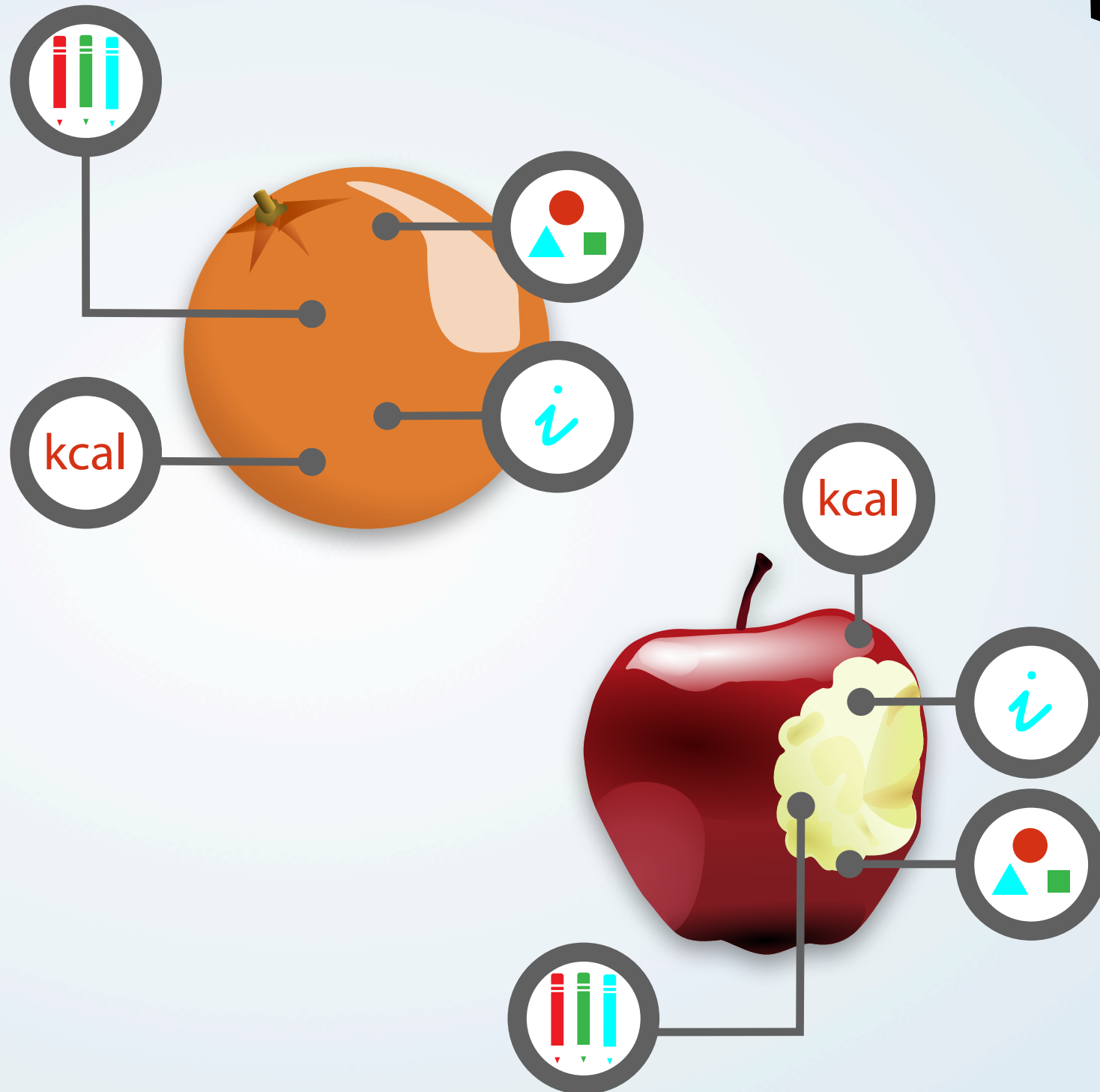
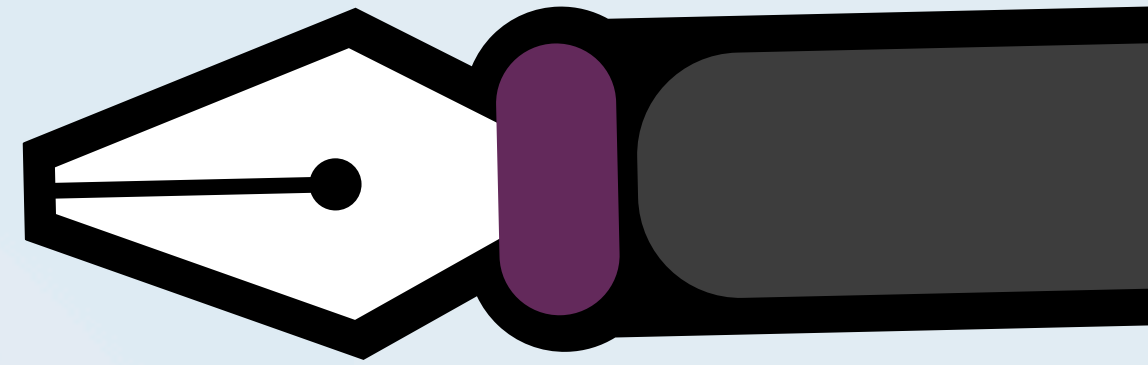
Finally,

A number of five /
six / seven etc.

Then,

A few / many /
several

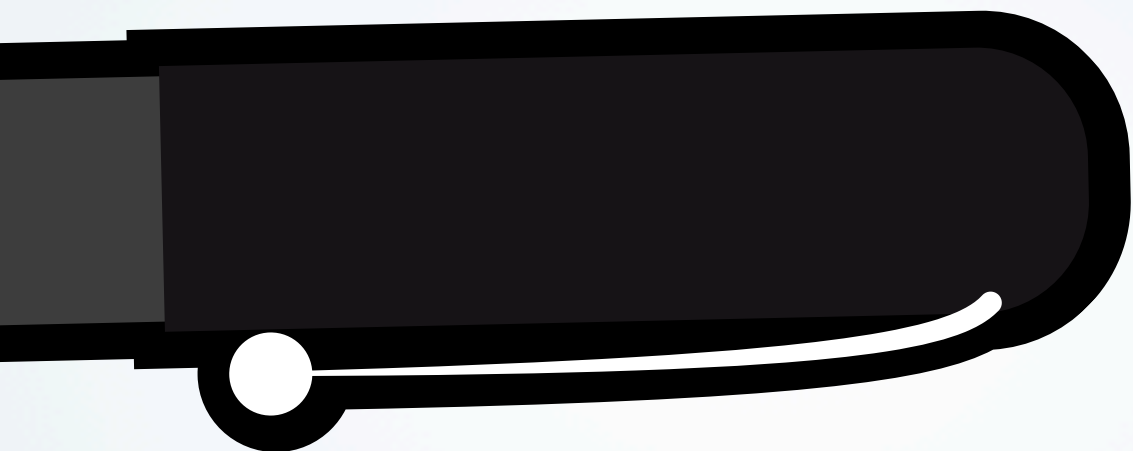
Comparison Charts



Introduction

Most Information Transfer essays you will have in the future will ask you to compare information. In Level 2 we will begin comparing information from a comparison chart. Comparison charts allow you to see different types of information about different things like these pieces of fruit on the left. Click on the various symbols to see the types of information you may find in a chart. On the next page you will find a chart.

As with all Information Transfer essays, you should only write about what you see in the charts. Only write your opinion in an Opinion Essay!









On the right is an example of a comparison chart. This comparison chart is smaller than the comparison charts you will have on the final exam. It is smaller because it has less information than normal comparison charts. However, this is a good chart to begin learning how to transfer information from a comparison chart to an essay.

Use the note function and answer these questions about the chart:

PART A: What does this chart compare?

- 1. When you compare the age of the two women, what do you see?
- 2. What about the height of the two women?
- 3. What about their weight?
- 4. Nationality?
- 5. When you compare Um Saloom's temperament to Um Khammas', what can you say about her (Um Saloom)?

- 6. How about when you compare Um Khammas' temperament to Um Saloom's?
- 7. When you compare the information between the two women, are there more similarities or differences?

	 Um Saloom	 Um Khamas
 Age	68	65
 Height	160 cm	160 cm
 Weight	68 kg	70kg
 Nationality	Emirati	Emirati
Temperament	Kind	Rebellious



Part B: Use comparison grammar and present simple tense to help you write about what you see in the chart.

1. Um Saloom _____ Um Khammas. Um Saloom is _____ years old, _____ Um Khamas is _____ years old.
2. Um Saloom _____ Um Khammas. Both are _____ cm tall.
3. Um Khammas _____ Um Saloom. Um Khammas _____ 70 kgs, _____ Um Saloom _____ 68kgs.
4. Um Saloom is _____ than Um Khammas. Um Khammas is very rebellious!

What do you remember about the organization of an information transfer essay from the flowchart unit? Do your best to remember. Try to write an essay about the comparison chart. Use the information and grammar from parts A and B to help you. Just try your best. Later, you will learn exactly how to write an essay for this type of chart. You can use the Goodnotes or Pages apps for this task. Click on the links!



Model Essays

Tap the flags and watch videos about South Korea and Mongolia. Below is a chart comparing these two countries and on the right, you can see how two students, Ahmed and Halima, have transferred information from the chart.



	South Korea	Mongolia
Location	Asia	Asia
Population	48.8 million	3.1 million
Area	99,720 sq km	1.6 million sq. km
Climate	Temperate	Continental
Language	Korean	Mongolian
Main Religion	Buddhism	Buddhism

Halima's Essay:

The chart compares two countries: South Korea and Mongolia. In general, we can see there are two similarities and four differences between the two countries.

There are two similarities between South Korea and Mongolia. Both countries are located in Asia and most of the population is Buddhist.

On the other hand, there are four differences between these two Asian countries. The first major difference is in

Ahmed's Essay:

The chart compares two countries: South Korea and Mongolia. Overall, there are more differences than similarities.

We can see there are many differences between South Korea and Mongolia. First, the population of South Korea is bigger than the population of Mongolia. The population of South Korea is 48.8 million but the population of Mongolia is only 3.1 million. On the other hand, the area of South Korea is much smaller than the area of Mongolia. The area of

Taking Notes

Look at Ahmed's essay again. Then, take notes as your teacher explains the organization of an Information Transfer Essay from a Comparison Chart.

Ahmed's Essay:

The chart compares two countries: South Korea and Mongolia. **Overall**, there are more differences than similarities.

We can see there are many differences between South Korea and Mongolia. **First**, the population of South Korea is bigger than the population of Mongolia. The population of South Korea is 48.8 million but the population of Mongolia is only 3.1 million. **On the other hand**, the area of South Korea is much smaller than the area of Mongolia. The area of South Korea is 99,720 sq km but the area of Mongolia is 1.6 million sq km. They **also** have different climates. The climate of South Korea is temperate but the climate of Mongolia is desert and continental. **The final difference** is language. In South Korea they speak Korean but in Mongolia they speak Mongolian.



Comparing differences paragraphs

Compare Ahmed's differences paragraph with Halima's:

	AHMED	HALIMA
Population	First, the population of South Korea is bigger than the population of Mongolia. The population of South Korea is 48.8 million but the population of Mongolia is only 3.1 million.	The first major difference is in population. South Korea's population of 48.8 million people is a lot bigger than Mongolia's population of 3.1 million.
Area	On the other hand, the area of South Korea is much smaller than the area of Mongolia. The area of South Korea is 99,720 sq km but the area of Mongolia is 1.6 million sq km.	In contrast, Mongolia's area is larger than South Korea's. Whereas Mongolia's area is 1.6 million sq km, South Korea's is only 99,720 sq km.



Grammar



Organisation



Vocabulary



Practice 1

These pictures show similarities and differences between Saudi Arabia and the UAE.



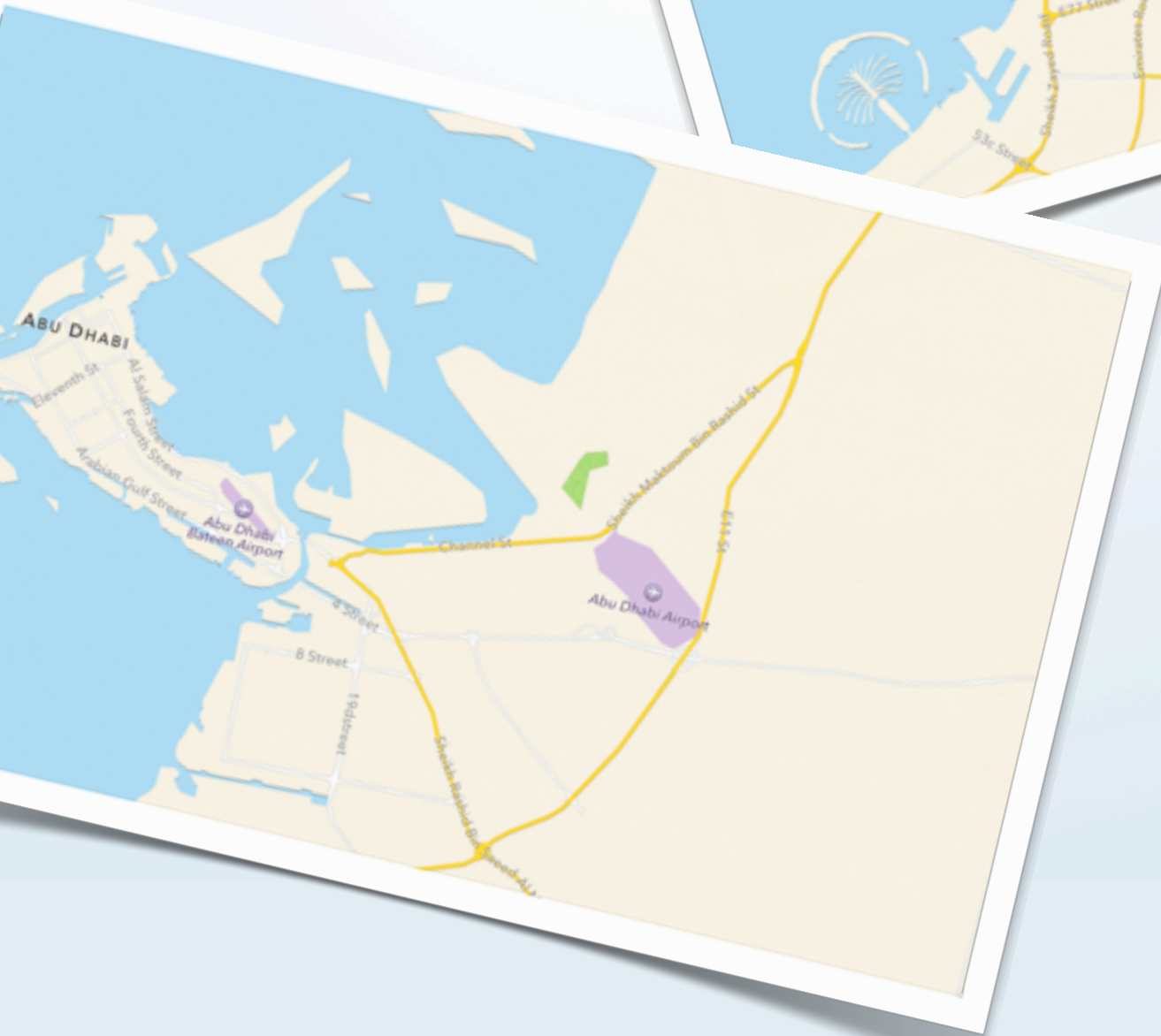
Saudi Arabia and the UAE have large areas of desert.



Apply what you have learned about comparing countries to the following comparison chart . . .

	Saudi Arabia	The UAE
Region	The Arabian Gulf	The Arabian Gulf
Climate	Desert: Hot and Dry	Desert Hot and Dry
Area	1,960,582 Sq. km	82,880 Sq. km
Population	27,019,931	8,000,000
Language	Arabic	Arabic
Official religion	Islam	Islam
Trading partners	USA, Japan, Germany, South Korea, China, France, Singapore	Japan, Germany, South Korea, China, India, UK

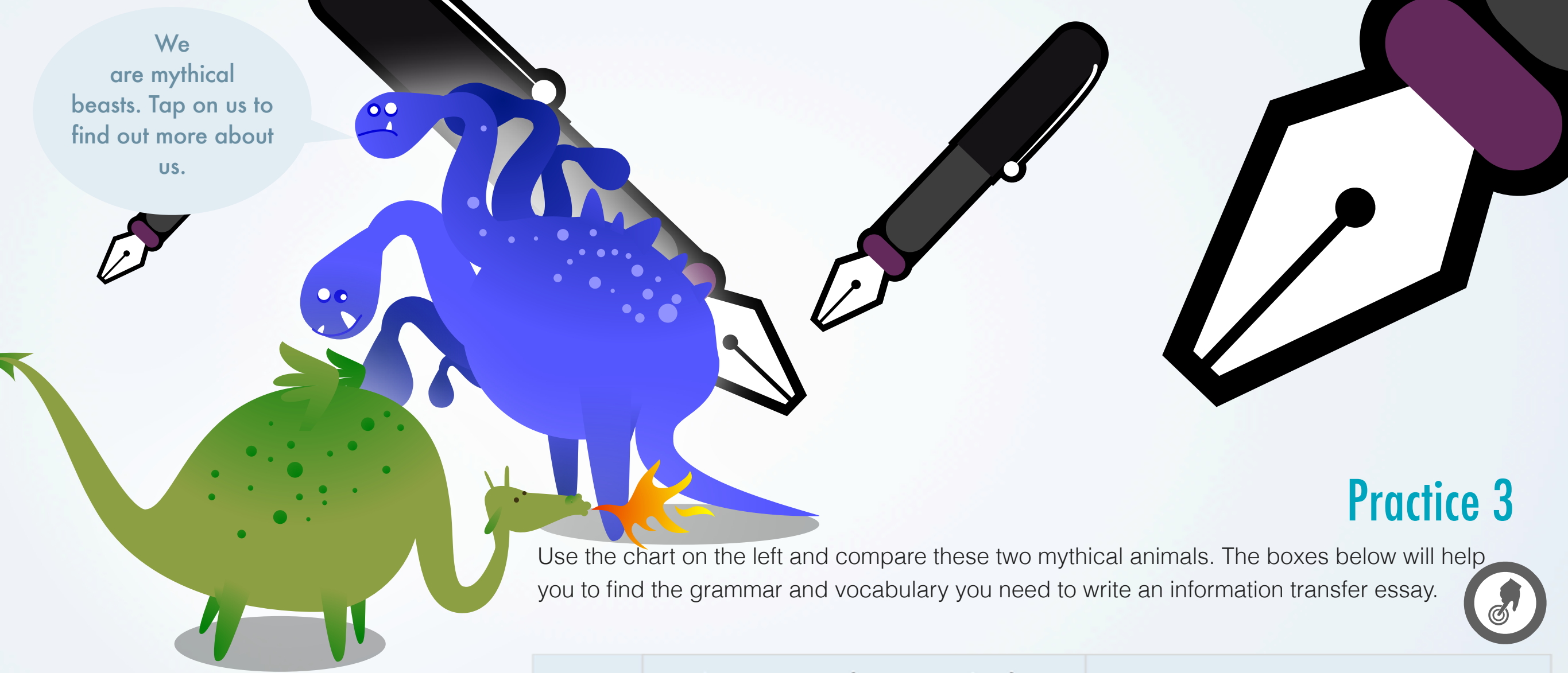
Practice 2



Use the information you have learned to compare two emirates from the UAE.

	Abu Dhabi Emirate	Dubai Emirate
Location	The UAE	The UAE
Population	1.4 million	2.2 million
Area	63,340 Sq. km	4,114 Sq. km
Main Industries	Oil, Natural Gas	Trade, Property
Climate	Hot and Arid	Hot and Arid
Language	Arabic	Arabic

We are mythical beasts. Tap on us to find out more about us.



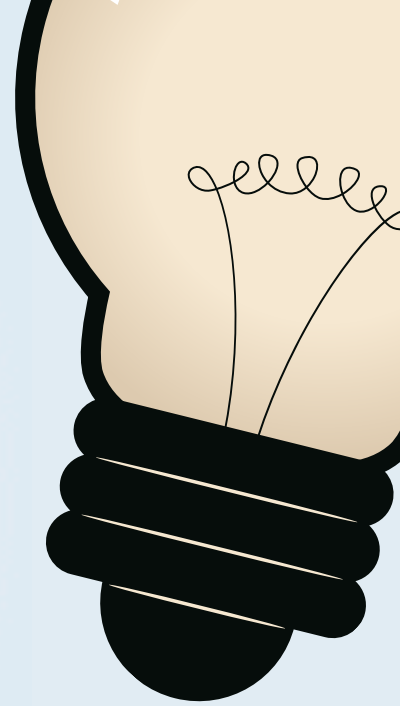
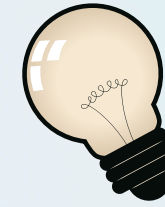
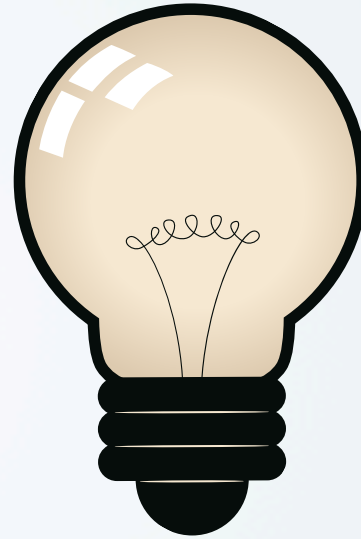
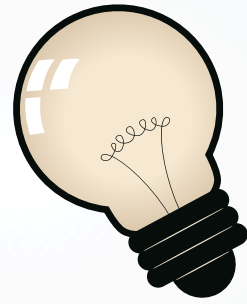
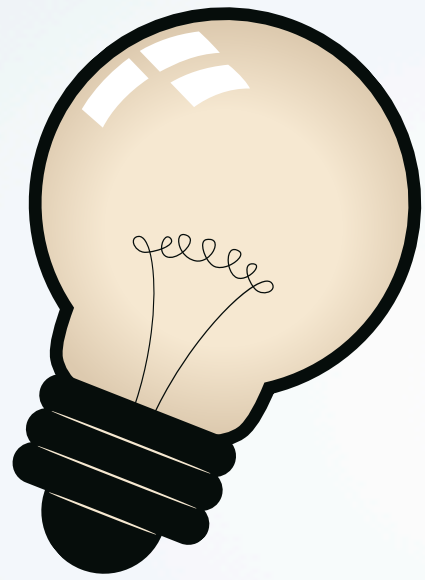
Practice 3

Use the chart on the left and compare these two mythical animals. The boxes below will help you to find the grammar and vocabulary you need to write an information transfer essay.





	Dragon	Hydra
Height	3-150 metres	3-150 metres
Length	6-300 metres	6-300 metres
Weight	450 kg	1800 kg
Lifespan	40-80 years	20 years
Diet	Fair Maidens	Greek Warriors
Population	6,000	4
Heads	1	6-9

	A more natural way to write the information	Not as natural but acceptable
Height	Dragons are ____-____metres____.	A dragon's height is ____-____ metres
Length	Hydras are ____-____meters ____.	A hydra's length is ____-____ meteres.
Weight	Dragons _____ 450kg	A dragon's weight is _____.
Lifespan	Hydras _____ 20 years	A hydra's lifespan is _____.
Diet	Dragons _____fair maidens	A dragon's diet is _____.





Practice 4

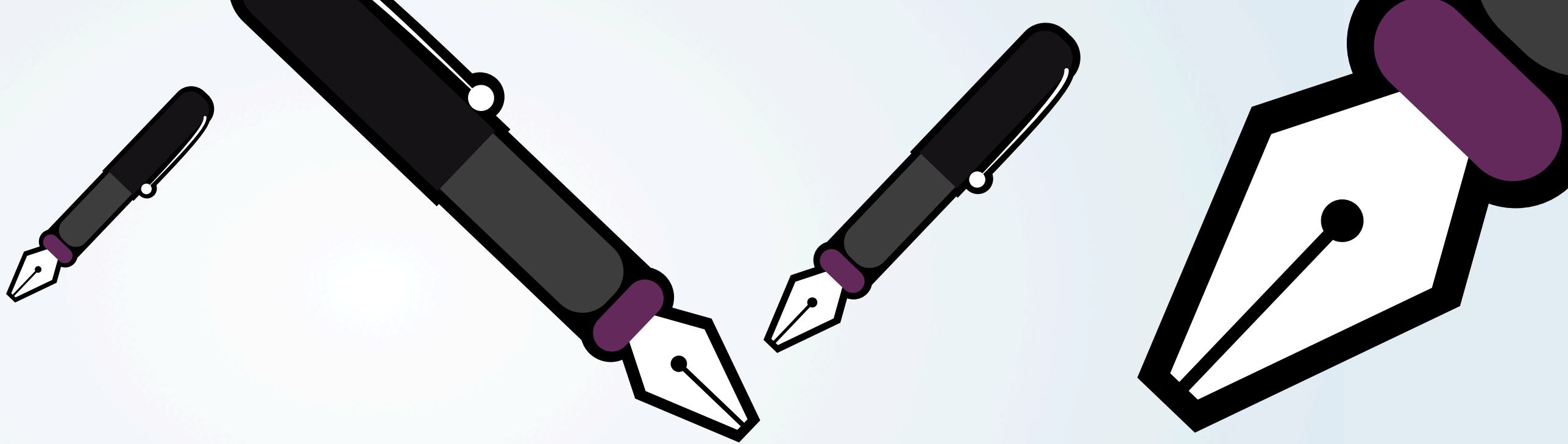
Use the chart below to write an essay comparing two characters from Freej:

	 Um Saeed	 Um Allawi
Age	72	55
Height	152 cm	165 cm
Weight	50 kg	58 kg
Nationality	Emirati	Emirati
Diet	Coffee	Meat, Rice, Vegetables, Fruit
Education	8th Grade	Bachelor of Science
Bank Account	25,000 AED	3,450,000 AED

Practice 5

Use the chart below to write an essay comparing famous buildings

	 The Burj Al-Arab	 The Petronas Towers
Name	The Burj Al-Arab	The Petronas Towers
Place	Dubai	Kuala Lumpur
Floors	70	88
Stands on ...	Artificial island	A natural piece of land
Height	320 m	378 m
Cost	2.379 billion dirhams	5.856 billion dirhams
Architect	Tom Wright of Atkins	Cesar Pelli

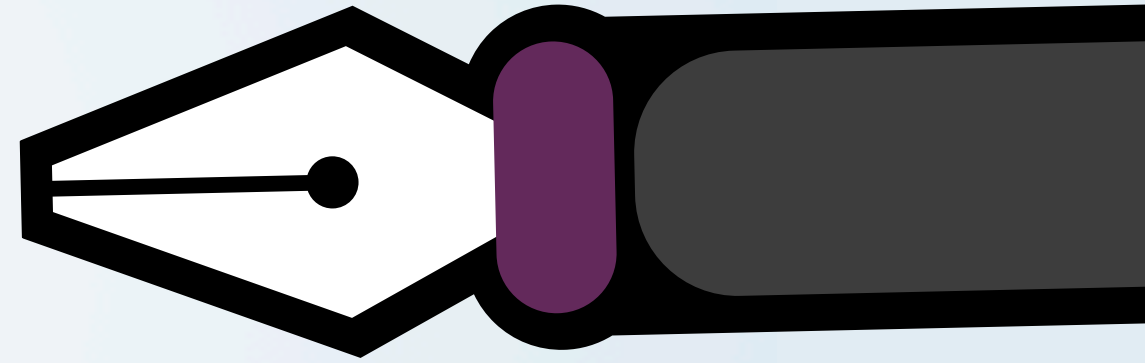


Practice 6

Use the chart below to write an essay comparing two elementary schools in Al Ain, UAE:

	As Samakat School	Al Hamami School
Number of Children	372	112
Classes	KG 1 to Grade 12	KG1 to Grade 5
Nursery	Yes	Yes
Average Number of Children per Class	22	13
Number of Teachers and Helpers per Class	1	2
Library	No	Yes
After School Care	Yes	Yes
Languages of Instruction	Arabic= Main Language English = Second Language	English= Main Language Arabic = Second Language
Average Cost per Year	32,000 AED	24,000 AED
Location	Manaseer Jadeed, Al Ain	Manaseer Jadeed, Al Ain

Writing Bank 3: Comparison Charts

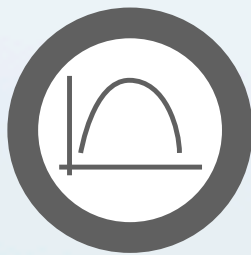


General Statements for Differences

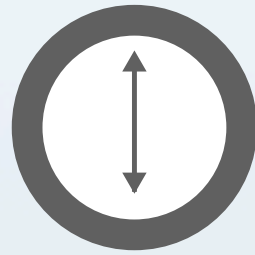
Look at each one of these icons below. They all represent different categories. First, decide on what comparative words you can use for each category. Then, write a comparative sentence for each category. The first two have been done for you (single tap to see the answers).



Age



Lifespan



Height



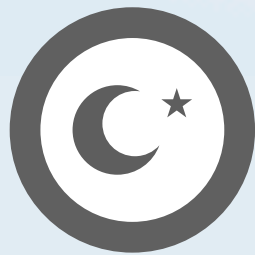
Weight



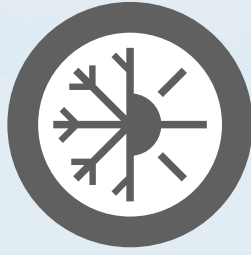
Nationality



Language



Religion



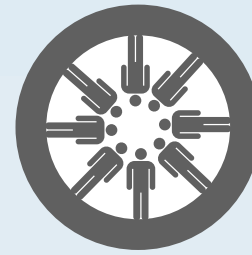
Climate



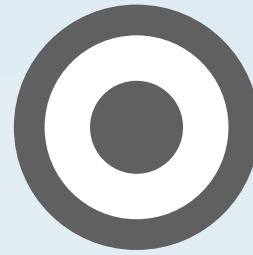
Region



Area



Population



Heads

Out of iBook ACTIVITY



PDF



PAGES

Click on one of these icons in a PDF* editing app or Pages and complete the exercise

* The PDF is editable.

Difference Phrases

The following phrases are used to show differences. Scroll on the gallery to see these phrases being used.

in contrast to

unlike

different from

but

on the other hand

however

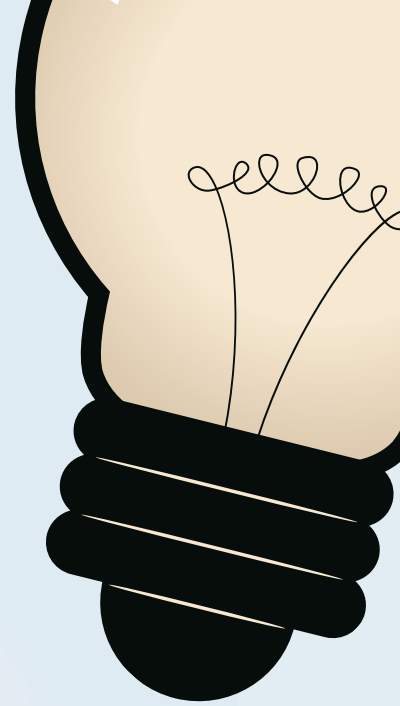
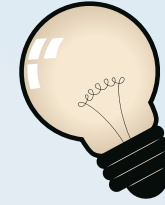
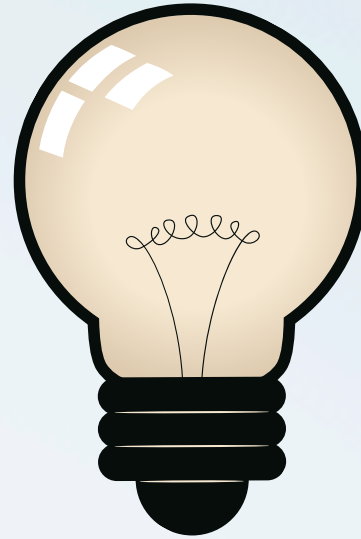
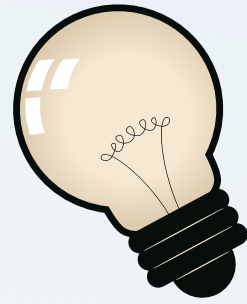
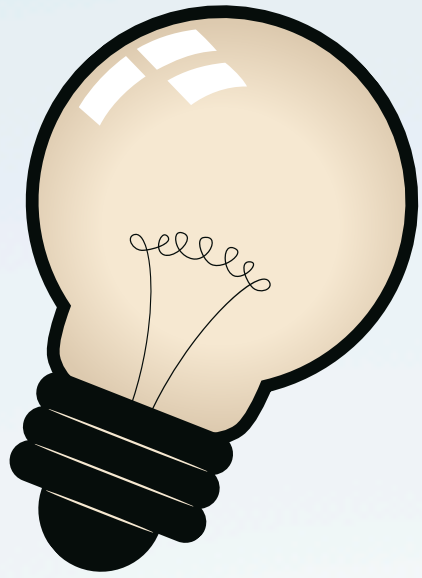
whereas

while



Dates grow on trees **unlike** strawberries which grow on bushes.





Similarities Phrases

We can show similarities using the following expressions:

both

the same as

in the same way

similar to

similarly

Look at these examples:

- Both Finland and Sweden are located in Scandanavia
- Artificial sugar has the same flavour as natural sugar.
- Rental costs in Dubai are the same as in Abu Dhabi.

Comparison Activity



Question 1 of 10

Dubai is so different Muscat

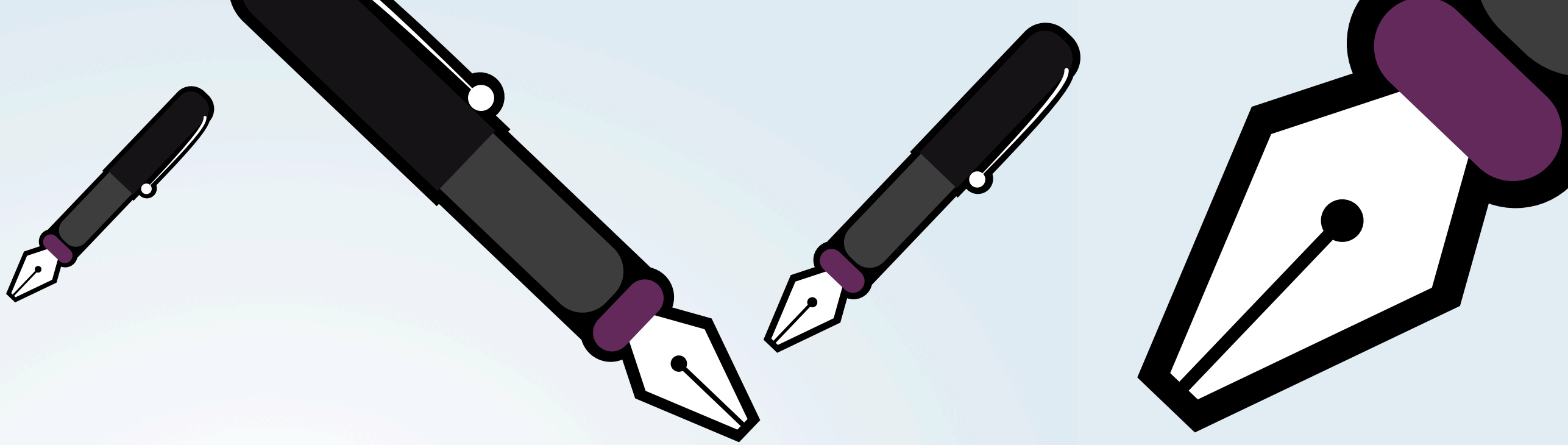
A. from

B. than



Check Answer

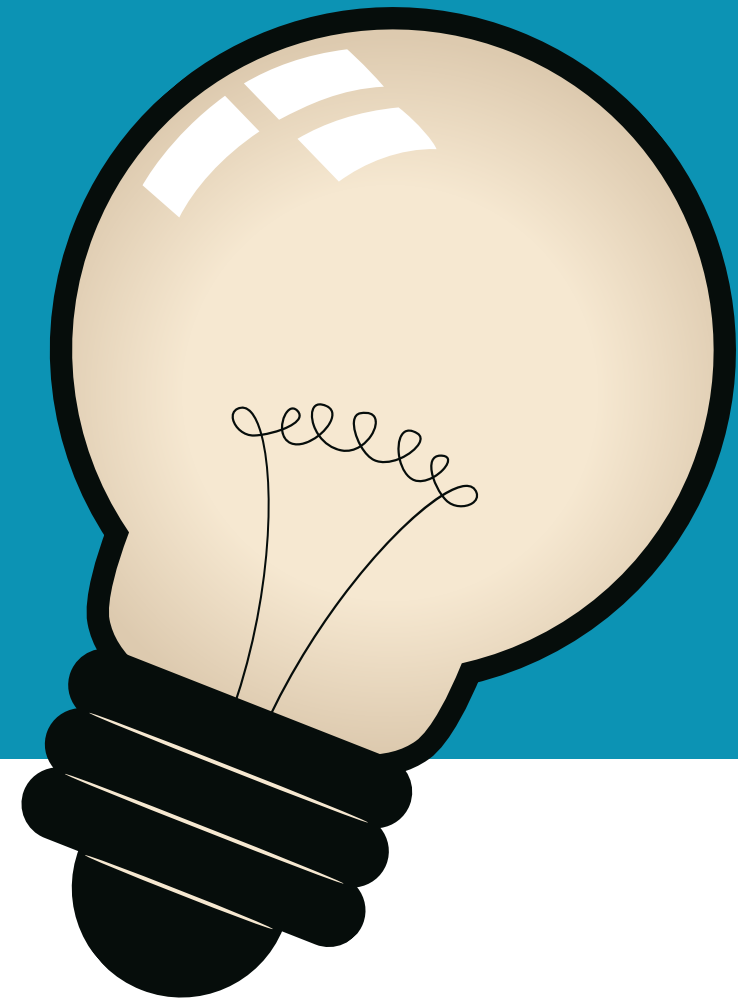




Useful Vocabulary

Tap on each of the icons below to find out some useful vocabulary when writing comparison essays:

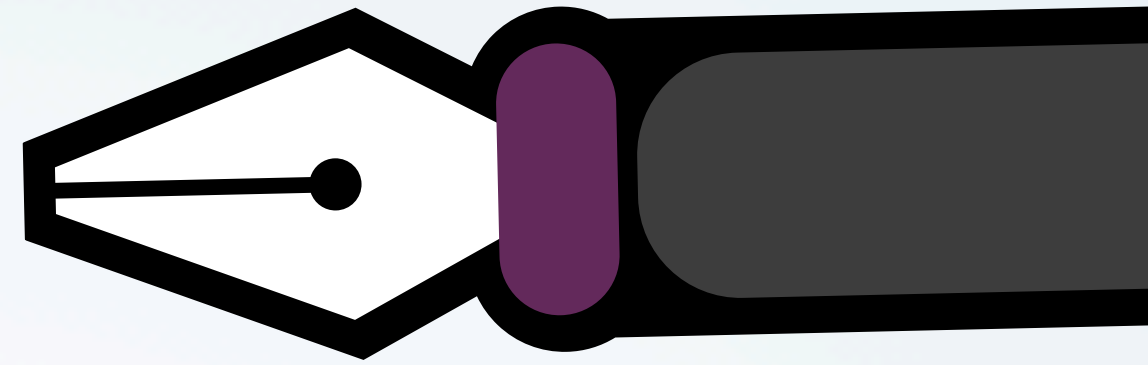




4


THE BASICS


Topic Sentences



In this section you will review how to write a paragraph. There are a few rules to remember when writing a paragraph.





Remember . . .

 A paragraph is a group of sentences that are about **one topic**.

 A paragraph is made up of three parts:

1. **topic sentence**,
2. **supporting ideas** and;
3. sometimes a **closing sentence**.

1. The Topic Sentence . . .

-  expresses the main idea of the paragraph
-  is the first sentence in the paragraph
-  should be about something you can give more information about
-  should be supported with supporting details.

Read the paragraph below and using the highlighting tool, identify the topic sentence.

There are three reasons why Dubai is one of the best tourist attractions in the world. First, it has excellent shopping centres. Second, tourists do not have to pay taxes when they buy items from shops. Third, it has nice restaurants that offer international specialities. As a result, Dubai is a desirable place to visit.

Now read the paragraphs on the next page and select the topic sentence that best matches it.



Question 1 of 2

It has nice weather that is not humid in summer. It also has nice parks where people can go to at the weekend. In addition, it has something for the kids such as, Al-Ain zoo and Al-Hili Fun City. Finally, Al-Ain is not as crowded as Dubai or Abu Dhabi.

- A.** Al Ain attracts a lot of tourists.
- B.** Al Ain has the best parks
- C.** Al Ain is a nice place to live.

The following paragraph is missing a topic sentence. Write one using the note function that matches its content.



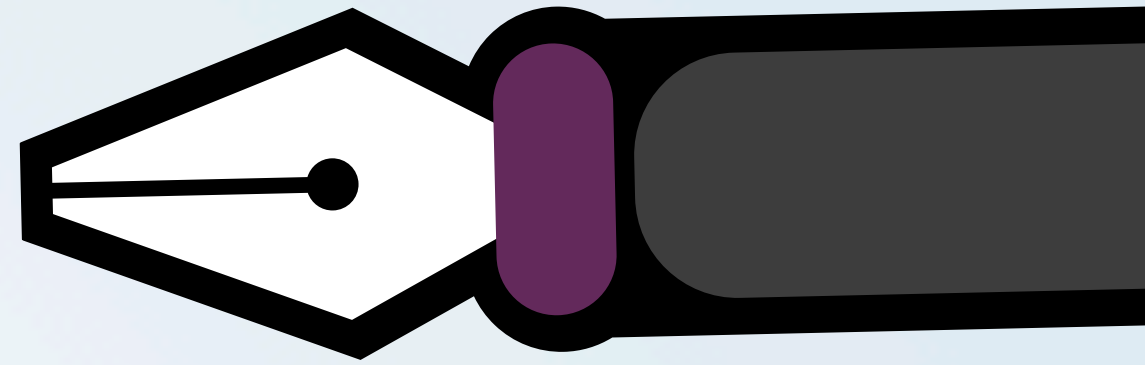
Some work in offices, like secretaries and bank clerks. Some others work outdoors like engineers and policemen. Very few people work at home, and this usually happens when their jobs are done on the computer and through the Internet.



Check Answer







Paragraphs / Supporting Ideas



1. Supporting ideas . . .

In developing a paragraph you need to support your topic sentence. In order to support your topic sentence you should . . .

-  give details.
-  write facts.
-  give an example.
-  link your points using transition words (Examples: first, next, also, moreover).

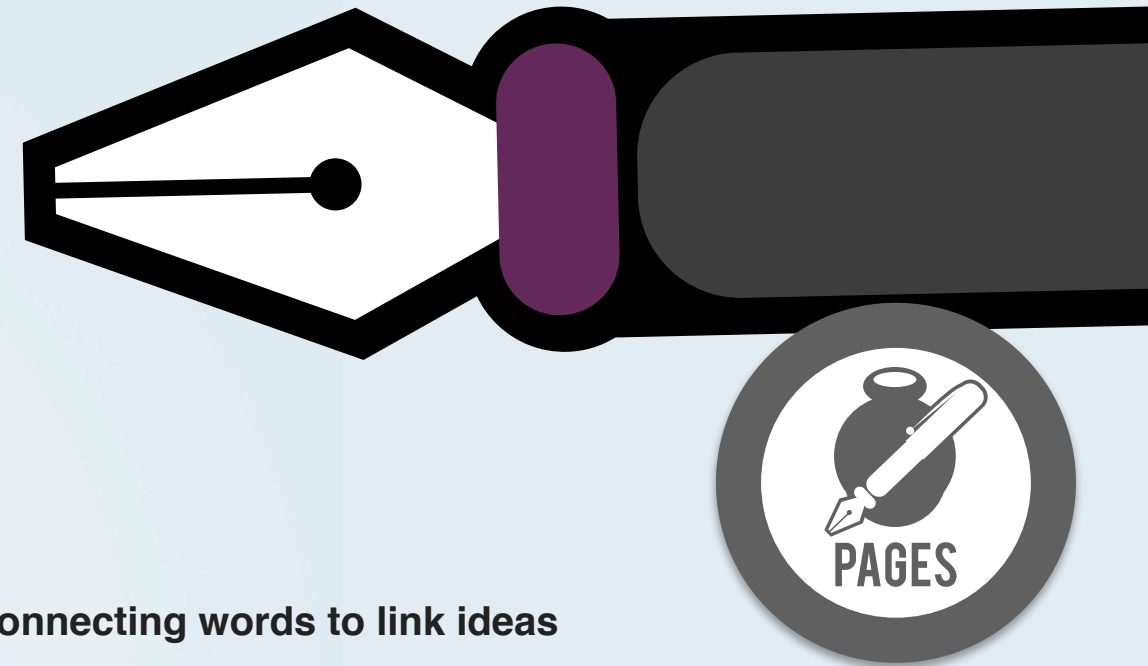
Organising paragraph ideas

If you want, you can create outlines for your paragraphs based on your topic sentences. Remember that the outline is just a first stage of the writing process.

You do not need to write complete sentences—just ideas. Tap on the pen below to create your own outline for the topic sentences provided.



Paragraphs / Connecting Words



Recognizing unrelated ideas

Below is a topic sentence and six supporting details. One of these sentences is unrelated to the topic sentence.

Find and highlight it.

The desert is a beautiful place. The stars at night are beautiful. The view of the sunset is amazing and the sand dunes are spectacular. It has oases, which are places full of green and water. Sometimes I eat spaghetti. Finally, visiting the desert is a great experience.

Using connecting words to link ideas

Cohesive devices help a writer link sentences together. They allow us to show relationships between sentences, and how one sentence is linked to another before it. First, tap on the symbols below to study the linking words. Then click on the Pages above icon for a writing activity to practice using them.



time



addition



example



cause / reason



compare / contrast



effect / result



clarification

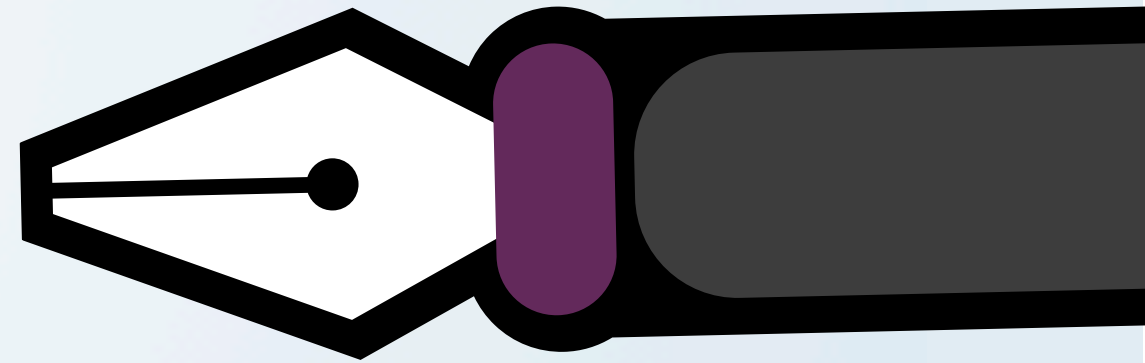


emphasis



summary / conclusion

Editing Symbols



Symbol	Error	Symbol	Error
<u>C</u>	this letter should be lower (small) case.	art	article (a, an, the) wrong or missing
<u>c</u>	this letter should be a capital (BIG)	ns	start a new sentence
#	mistake in number (singular / plural)	s?	subject missing
^	add a word here	v?	verb missing
sp	spelling mistake	agr	subject-verb agreement
delete	delete this word	ro	run-on: this sentence is too long
pos	wrong part of speech (noun, verb etc.)	frag	this is not a complete sentence
ww	wrong word	O	punctuation wrong or missing
wo	word order	NP	start a new paragraph
pro	pronoun wrong or missing	vt	verb tense
prep	preposition wrong or missing	EF	Check the essay format rules!



Forgotten the symbols?
Click on this!



Each of these sentences has some serious errors. Use the editing symbols to correct each sentence. Use the note function to re-write them correctly.

1. **fra** **ag** Because she speak english very well.
2. **art** **#** ^ internet has a lot of informations.
3. **ag** **ns** **ag** **sp** For example, my friend ~~she~~ come from Jeddah she like universiti.
4. **ag** **#** **pre** Nowadays there is many cause to rainsforest destruction.
5. **vt** **pro** **sp** My sister is also study at university, his major is engeeneering.
6. **#** **v?** **#** **po** These book about how student can improvement their writing.
7. **wo** **s?** **w** We have class class on Fridays, because is the weak end.



Paragraphs / Grading Rubric

	5 Exceptional Pass	4 High Pass	3 Pass	2 Fail	1 Low Fail
Overall Level المستوى العام	You are at a much higher standard than the rest of the level and should do very well at the next level. أنت تتفوق على بقية الطلبة في الصف وستكون من الناجحين في المستوى التالي.	You are ready for the next level and should do well. أنت جاهز للمستوى التالي و باستطاعتك النجاح فيه.	You are just about ready for the next level, though you still have a lot of things to improve. تكاد تكون جاهزاً للمستوى التالي مع العمل على تدارك الكثير من النقص.	You are not ready for the next level yet, but will benefit from doing another semester at this level. لست جاهزاً للمستوى التالي، ولكنك بالتأكيد ستستفيد من قضاء فصل آخر في نفس المستوى.	You have a lot of English language study to do before you can move the next level. عليك المزيد من الدراسة لتطوير مستواك اللغوي والإرتقاء إلى المستوى الأعلى.
Ideas and Information الأفكار المعلومات	-You understand the question very well. Your ideas are very relevant, well explained, interesting and original. - All chart/table data used. - فهمك للموضوع جيد. أفكارك مبتكرة، مثيرة للاهتمام و تتطرق للموضوع كما أن شرحها يد. - كل البيانات في الجدول أو الرسم البياني قد استخدمت.	-Your ideas are relevant and quite well explained, though some of them were slightly undeveloped. - Almost all chart/table data used. أفكارك تتطرق للموضوع و لكن بعضها يتطلب لمزيد من الشرح. - جل البيانات في الجدول أو الرسم البياني قد استخدمت.	-Your ideas are reasonably clear but some of your points were left unexplained, with some irrelevancies and repetitions. - Some chary/table data missing. - عملك مقبول وأفكارك على درجة من الوضوح، كن بعض النقاط تتطلب المزيد من الشرح. - بعض البيانات في الجدول أو الرسم البياني لم تستخدم.	-You don't seem to fully understand the question. Many of your ideas are not clear. You don't explain important points and you provide little support. - Important chary/table data missing. - الكثير من أفكارك غير واضحة ولم تشرح النقاط الهامة. كما أنك لم تمد القارئ بما كفي من المعلومات. - البيانات الهامة في الجدول أو الرسم البياني لم تستخدم.	-Your ideas and information are unclear and confusing. You don't seem to understand the question. - No data given. - أفكارك و معلوماتك غامضة و مشوشة، ولا تبدي هماً للسؤال. - البيانات في الجدول أو الرسم البياني لم تستخدم.
Organization of Paragraphs and Essays تنظيم المقال و فقرات	Each paragraph is very well organized. Your ideas are joined together very well. Each paragraph is very well organized. إجابتك سهلة القراءة لأن أفكارك محكمة الربط، كما أن كل فقرة منظمة جيداً.	Your answer is quite easy to read. You try to join your points clearly together, though some parts could be explained better. موضوعك سلس و ربطك للأفكار واضح ولكن بعض النقاط تتطلب المزيد من الشرح.	You use paragraphs but some points are not well linked together and some of your writing can be difficult to read. استخدمت الفقرات ولكن الربط بين الأفكار غير محكم. هناك بعض الأجزاء في موضوعك يصعب فهمها.	Paragraphs are not used properly and your ideas are not linked clearly. This answer is often difficult to read. الفقرات و الربط بين الأفكار لم تستخدم كما ينبغي كما أنه من الصعب فهم موضوعك.	Your ideas are not arranged in paragraphs and are very difficult to follow. عرضك للأفكار غير متسلسل وغير منظم على شكل فقرات.
Vocabulary & Spelling المفردات التهجئة	You have a good knowledge of vocabulary and you take risk with it. Word forms correct and no spelling mistakes. معرفةك بالمعاني جيدة واستخدامك لها جريئاً كما أن التهجئة والإشتقاقات صحيحة.	Use of words is correct and appropriate, though there may be few spelling errors. استخدامك للكلمات صحيح و مناسب، لكن هناك بعض الأخطاء في التهجئة.	Words are mostly used and spelled correctly but there are repetitions. استخدامك وتهجئاتك للكلمات مرضي، لكن هناك تكرار.	Lots of spelling errors, repetitions and little variety in your vocabulary. هناك الكثير من الأخطاء في التهجئة، كما أنه لا يوجد تنوع في اختيار المفردات المستخدمة.	Vocabulary limited and spelled incorrectly. معرفةك بالمعاني محدودة، و حتى البعض الذي تم استخدامه هجئ خطأً.
Grammar & Punctuation النحو وعلامات الترقيم	Grammar, punctuation and capitalization have hardly any errors. There is a wide variety of simple and complex sentences. مقالك يكاد يخلو من الأخطاء النحوية و علامات الترقيم. كما أنه يوجد تنوع في استخدام الجمل.	There is a good variety of simple and complex sentences, though there may be some errors. Few punctuation and capitalization errors. يوجد تنوع في استخدام الجمل من المعقد الى بسيط لكن هناك بعض الأخطاء.	Simple sentences are correct. You try some complex sentences but there are often errors. Some punctuation and capitalization errors. أنت تجيد كتابة الجمل البسيطة. هناك محاولة لاستخدام جمل معقدة ولكن معظمها يحتوي على أخطاء.	There are many errors in simple sentences, punctuation and capitalization. توجد العديد من الأخطاء في تركيب الجمل لبسيطة كما أن علامات الترقيم لم تراعى.	There are hardly any correct sentences in this essay. You must learn how to write a sentence. لا توجد جمل صحيحة في هذا الموضوع عليك أن تعلم كيفية كتابة جملة صحيحة أولاً.