

Suggested Teaching Components

- Write using the text structure and language features of a discussion
- Use appropriate vocabulary
- Write demonstrating some overall cohesion and coherence, e.g. cohesive paragraphs, opening and closing sentences, use of topic sentences
- Use appropriate tone, e.g. formal or informal
- Set out work in a fluent and legible style using appropriate layout
- Use language that is convincing in its presentation of the arguments i.e. not overly emotive
- Use the writing process to plan, draft, redraft

Suggested Themes, Topics and/or Experiences

All curriculum areas, government, environment, contemporary issues, school, man-made and natural disasters, equity, drugs, generation gap, media, technology, migration, literary discussion

Suggested Assessment Tasks

- Summarise main points from a discussion and present in written format
- Write a letter for the school magazine or local paper

Sample Strategies**Teacher directed**

- Build field and develop word banks to assist development of arguments
- Deconstruct text and language features especially use of passive voice in expressing impersonal statements
- Demonstrate use of references for sources of information and support for views expressed, e.g. The Ministry of Health has stated that meningitis case numbers have increased by 10% this year.
- Complete paragraphs using topic sentences or supporting arguments

Joint/guided

- Complete sentences/cloze using conjunctions, modals etc., and analyse the effect of using modals in modifying statements or opinions
- Change personal statements of opinion into impersonal statements of opinion
- Compare two texts on same topic but presenting different points of view; analyse the setting out of the arguments
- Construct and conduct surveys/interviews/questionnaires to explore identified issue

Independent

- Conduct research through survey/interview and organise collected data into arguments for and against
- Write a letter for the school magazine, discussing an issue, e.g. school uniform
- Summarise main points from a discussion and present in written format
- Create a talk back radio script
- Create a mind map on a particular issue with main ideas and sub headings