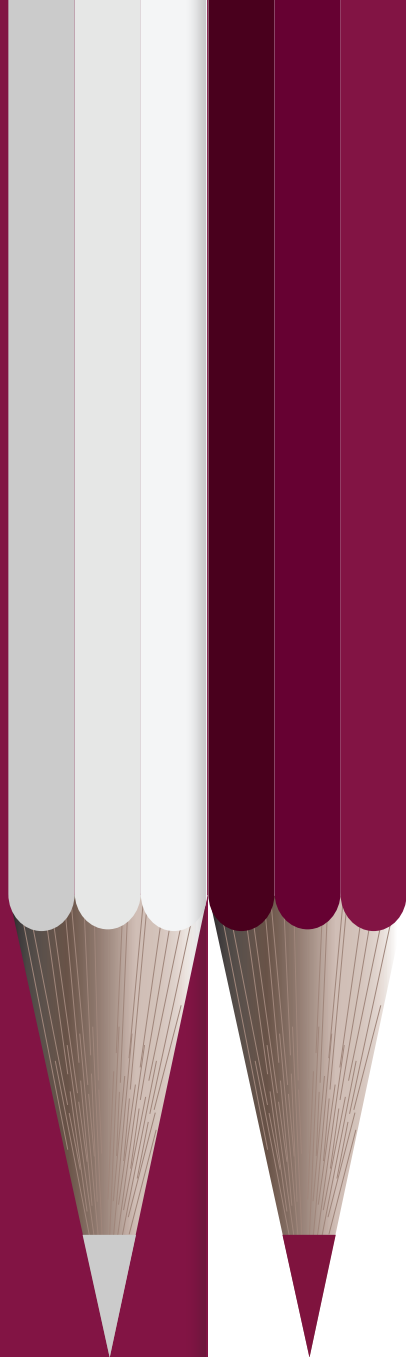


Jenny Dooley

The Art *of* Writing



STUDENT'S BOOK

C2



Express Publishing

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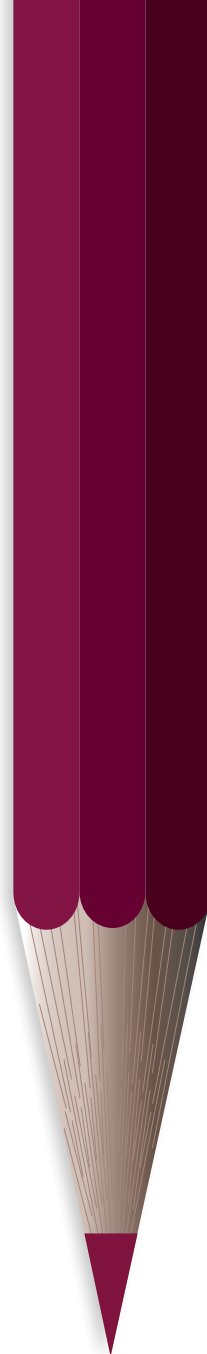
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Essays summarising a topic

(complementary texts)

1 Read the rubric and underline the key words. Then answer the questions.

Write an **essay** summarising and evaluating the key points from both texts. Use your own words throughout as far as possible, and include your own ideas in your answer. Write your answer in 240-280 words.

1. What type of writing task is it?
2. What should you include in the main body?
3. How should the information in the texts be presented?

Note! We should make our essay easy to comprehend by using clear paragraphs, sequence words (first, finally, etc) and linking devices (moreover, also etc).

2 a) Read the two texts below and underline the key points in both texts.

Text 1 The power of sport

Sport and fitness is a growing business around the world. More and more people are becoming interested in healthy living via new avenues such as social media, with exercise such as group activities being particularly popular. Such activities can be done anywhere, either in gyms and sports centres or outdoors in parks. Many people feel that a good way to maintain their motivation and interest in exercise is to share it with other people, both in person and online. What's more, the camaraderie that group activities offer, brings a welcome social element to keeping fit. Group members feel that together they can do anything.



Text 2 Gadgets and gains

The nature of exercise is changing. Nowadays, following a huge interest in fitness, people are seeking new and exciting ways to work out. Technology has stepped up in this regard, and offers numerous options for the healthy living enthusiast. Gadgets such as fitness trackers and smart watches allow people to record important data about their exercise, such as their heart rate, calories burned and duration of exercise. Technology can also motivate people with digital personal trainers so anyone can reach their goals.



- b) Do the key points that you have underlined present opposing or complementary views?
- c) How far do you agree with these points?

3 a) Read the notes made on Text 1 in Ex. 2. Choose the notes that correctly summarise the key points in the text.

Note! It is useful to make notes about the texts before we start writing the essay to help us summarise the key points and formulate our opinion.

- Notes**
1. Greater numbers of people are pursuing health and exercise.
 2. Exercise should be promoted more within the community.
 3. Group activities are the only way to reach fitness goals.
 4. Shared training offers unique benefits for participants.
 5. Gyms need to offer more facilities for those who wish to exercise.

b) Make your own notes based on the information in Text 2 of Ex. 2.

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4 Read the model essay and highlight the writer's opinion. Complete the plan, then rewrite the main body using the alternative plan on p. 6.

Paragraph 1	Most people agree that sport and exercise are important for our health and wellbeing and that the industry has seen a growing interest in recent years. Without a doubt, both texts support this view and give complementary reasons for the popularity of fitness and the role that technology plays in this.
Paragraph 2	Both texts make an argument that trends in health and fitness are evolving and demand is increasing. The first text highlights the role of social media and group activities in these new trends, and stresses the importance of shared training in terms of fulfilling one's aspirations. The second text discusses the role of technology in terms of devices and the ways they can facilitate one's training. It also points out the motivational aspect of digital personal trainers.
Paragraph 3	The arguments presented in both texts are strong and convincing. I believe that the point about group exercise raised in the first text is particularly true as many people value the support and encouragement from peers that such a path offers. What is more, remaining stimulated by and engaged with your exercise is also crucial and the means offered in the second text, of digital performance tracking, is particularly effective.
Paragraph 4	All in all, I believe that looking for fun ways to exercise is very important and technology can help a great deal. Whether it is by group training or via an app assisted regime for an individual, the outcomes can be the same and just as rewarding. One thing is for sure, we live in an age of amazing new possibilities for fitness and that can only be a good thing.

5 Read the rubric and underline the key words. Then read the two texts and answer the questions that follow.

Read the two texts below. Write an **essay** summarising and evaluating the key points from both texts. Use your own words throughout as far as possible, and include your own ideas in your answers. Write your answer in 240-280 words.

Text 1 Policing plus

Nowadays, if you walk through city streets and town centres, you'll most likely come across Community Wardens. These wardens aren't police officers, but support the work of the police and serve to deter crime in a similar fashion. They allow an additional presence on streets and increase pressure on criminals, who know that additional eyes will be on them. Powers of community wardens are wide ranging and vary from issuing fixed penalty notices and fines to enforcing public safety. By dealing with antisocial behaviour and minor crimes, community wardens free up police officers to deal with more serious offenders, for the benefit of all.

Text 2 Community guardians

The purpose of community wardens is not to infringe on civil liberties or intimidate but rather to reassure citizens. This is achieved through being approachable and developing a positive community spirit in a courteous and respectful manner, which leads to wardens being in a position to provide problem-solving solutions focussed on local businesses and residents. What is more, community wardens can also act as a link between communities and the police, and improve dialogue between these groups.

1. How many key points does each text contain? Underline them.
2. Are the two texts opposing or complementary?
3. How could you paraphrase the key points?
4. How many paragraphs will the essay contain?
5. What would you include in the introduction to the essay?

6 Use your answers from Ex. 5 and the Useful Language box to write your essay.



Useful Language

To summarise points:

- The texts consider the issue of/highlight ...
- According to the first/second text, ...
- The first/second text highlights/discusses ...

To emphasise a point:

- Clearly,/It goes without saying, ... Doubtless,/ Naturally, Without a doubt ...

To express similar ideas:

- Similarly/Likewise/In the same way, ...

To express agreement between texts:

- The arguments in both texts are ...
- Both texts agree that ...
- Both texts make an argument that ...

To express disagreement between texts:

- The first text ... while the second text ...
- In contrast, .../Alternatively, .../On the other hand, ... the second text...
- The two texts present different views/reactions/ positions...

Essays summarising a topic

(opposing texts)

1 Read the rubric and the two texts, then underline the key points in both texts.

Write an **essay** summarising and evaluating the key points from both texts. Use your own words throughout as far as possible, and include your own ideas in your answer. Write your answer in 240-280 words.

Text 1 **Taxis on demand**

Online apps have turned out to have a profound positive impact on taxis and the way people use them. Thanks to online services, users can book a taxi easily and safely, locate nearby taxis with a simple touch of a button and receive live updates on the taxi's exact position. What is more, payments are all handled electronically by these apps, removing the need for drivers and passengers to handle or carry cash, a development which is much more convenient and safer for all parties involved.

Text 2 **Impact of taxi apps**

Many people who use apps to book taxis have little awareness of the negative impact that such services have on the industry. Taxi apps, with their added convenience, seem like a win-win option. However, there are numerous disadvantages which can create issues. Taxi apps do not always offer the best value for passengers. Many use surge pricing systems, which increase charges during busy periods. Many taxi apps also fail to guarantee drivers a minimum wage, and drivers have to provide and maintain their own vehicles. So, before people rush to book a taxi online, they need to consider the true costs of opening that app.

2 a) Read the model essay for the rubric in Ex. 1 and underline the paraphrased version of the points you underlined in Ex. 1. Highlight the writer's opinion.

Note! In this task, we are also asked to evaluate the key points raised by the writers. We should consider how far we agree with the points and comment on them. Finally, we should list any relevant ideas of our own by considering what the writers may have failed to mention.

Nobody can deny that technology has had a major impact on modern life, and as the texts point out, this is especially true of the taxi industry. The first text focuses on the benefits of taxi apps, while the second discusses the potential issues.

So, how can developments such as online taxi services improve our experience? According to the first text, apps allow users to identify the nearest taxis in their area and receive tracking data and estimated times of arrival. Add to this the ease of booking and extra safety they offer, and it is clear that apps have changed the industry in a beneficial way. Let us not forget the benefits of having an electronic record of a driver's details, allowing easy reporting of any issues directly to the service provider, who can act as a mediator.

In contrast, the second text raises the concern that large numbers of users have no knowledge of the disadvantages of taxi apps. In particular, the issue of prices not being as cheap as one might expect, as pricing varies depending on demand. There is also the ethical issue of the way apps treat their drivers. This is a view that to my mind overlooks all those drivers who have successfully benefited from taxi apps.

The two texts obviously present different reactions to what taxi apps are offering. In my opinion, the rise of taxi app services is positive as it offers the customer convenience and improved safety, while employing far more drivers than the traditional taxi industry.

b) Read the model essay again and answer the questions.

1. What is the focus of the first main body paragraph?
2. What is the focus of the second main body paragraph?
3. Does the writer summarise and evaluate the key points of the texts?
4. Does the writer add extra relevant points?

3 a) Read Text 1 in Ex. 1. Then, read the two extra ideas below. Which one is relevant and which is irrelevant?

1. Taxi apps not having a fixed schedule means drivers have flexibility to choose their own hours.
2. Checking prices with yellow cabs in city centres before getting inside a taxi is advisable.

b) Read Text 2 in Ex. 1 and write a relevant idea of your own.

.....



4 Match the words/phrases from the list to the words/phrases in bold in the sentences. Use them to write sentences that paraphrase the information.

- scheme
- notable
- across the community
- shopping trends
- top business people
- confront positions
- refuse to believe
- an ulterior motive

1. Price comparison websites have led to **significant** changes in **consumer behaviour**.
2. The government is trying to **challenge views** on the issue **on a social level**.
3. Many **industry leaders** believe that the company has **a hidden agenda** behind the decision.
4. Campaigners **reject** that the **proposal** is for the benefit of the economy.

Note! When we paraphrase, we express an idea in our own words. To avoid plagiarising unintentionally, it is imperative to use synonymous words/phrases while changing the sentence structure, too.

5 Put the linking words/phrases below into the correct gaps in the paragraph. Then, replace them with alternative ones from the Useful Language box on p. 9.

- similarly
- both texts argue that
- the texts highlight
- in contrast
- naturally

Note! When we write essays, we should use linking words/phrases to connect ideas so as to make a piece of writing easier to follow.

1) developments in education and the role of technology. 2) technology can be a major player in the field of learning. For example, the teacher can use virtual learning environments and video lessons. 3) students can learn through gaming and research projects online. 4) these are beneficial for students. 5) there are things that such approaches to teaching cannot offer. Traditional classroom teaching develops important interpersonal skills, and in this respect, online lessons simply cannot compete.

6 Read the rubric and underline the key words. Then, read the two texts and answer the questions that follow.

Read the two texts below. Write an **essay** summarising and evaluating the key points from both texts. Use your own words throughout as far as possible, and include your own ideas in your answers. Write your answer in 240-280 words.

Text 1 Home Cinema

Films have experienced numerous changes in recent years, especially with regards to means of consumption by filmgoers. Streaming via online TV services has seen the idea of home cinema become increasingly popular, particularly when we consider that many films are now simultaneously released by studios for cinemas and streaming at the same time. Such an approach by the industry has fundamentally changed how people choose to enjoy films, and undoubtedly allowed greater freedom to customers, more and more of whom are choosing to see the latest blockbusters in the comfort of their own home.

Text 2 Safeguarding Film

It appears that people enjoying films at home are oblivious to the negative effects home cinema has on the industry. This can clearly be seen in the case of online streaming taking away customers from traditional cinemas, which impacts hugely on their box office earnings. The fact that such developments are sanctioned by film studios shows that they seem to be neglecting the issue and the serious ramifications it can have for the industry. As ticket sales and box office profits fall, so too does the funding available for new films. Only a serious revaluation will address these concerns and ensure the long term viability of motion pictures.

1. What are the key points of each text?
2. How could you paraphrase these key points?
3. How many paragraphs will the essay contain?
4. What would you include in the introduction to the essay?
5. Do you need to evaluate the points raised?




7 Use your answers from Ex. 6 and the Useful Language box on p. 9 to write your essay.



Reflection & Evaluation



Answer the questions.

			
Did I understand what the rubric asked for?			
Did I read each text carefully?			
Did I Identify the key points in each text?			
Did I evaluate the key points raised by the writers?			
Did I identify if the texts presented complementary or opposing points?			
Did I paraphrase each writer's key points?			
Did I summarise the texts effectively?			
Did I comment on the key points?			
Did I present any relevant ideas of my own?			
Did I present my own opinion on the topic?			
Did I organise my essay in appropriate paragraphs?			
Did I use sequence words and linking devices to connect my ideas?			
Did I stay within the word limit?			
Did I use appropriate punctuation?			
Did I use correct spelling?			
Did I use grammatically correct sentences?			



Use the questions to evaluate your classmates' performance.





The Art *of* Writing

C2

STUDENT'S BOOK

The Art of Writing C2 aims to develop the skills necessary for effective writing at C2 level. It presents and analyses the most commonly used genres at CEFR Level C2 and most international exam boards. Its flexibility of approach makes it suitable for classes of all kinds, including large or mixed ability classes.

Components

- Student's Book
- Teacher's Book



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