

Planning FCE Writing Part One essay tasks
FCE Writing Part One essay tasks on the mind
Complete First Unit 9

Work in pairs or small groups. For each question below, underline the important words, then try to agree on whether it is better to look at both sides, choose one side straightaway, or choose the other side. Then decide on what your third subtopic will be and what the best paragraph structure will probably be to do that thing and cover all three topics. You can brainstorm ideas if you need to be, but it is usually fairly easy to plan the task without any brainstorming. You can skip questions and come back to them later if you like.

Some people say being worried what other people think about you mainly has a bad effect on people's lives. Do you agree?

Notes

Write about:

1. happiness
2. behaviour
3. ... (your own idea)

Should you point out other people's faults?

Write about:

1. the best way of giving feedback
2. people's willingness to change
3. ... (your own idea)

Which is more important to young people – being admired or having lots of time to do things that they like doing?

Notes

Write about:

1. their stage of life
2. modern society
3. (your own idea)

Divorce is becoming more and more common in many countries. Do you think this problem can be solved?

Notes

Write about:

1. reasons for divorce
 2. what governments can do
 3. (your own idea)
-

Is it better to teach students to follow their own hearts or to try to fit in with their peers?

Notes

Write about:

1. their future lives
 2. the role of schools in students' lives
 3. (your own idea)
-

Some people think that children who prefer their own company should be forced to mix with other kids. Do you agree?

Notes

Write about:

1. their future lives
 2. people's willingness to change
 3. (your own idea)
-

Governments should aim for people's happiness rather than on economic growth. Do you agree?

Notes

Write about:

1. what makes people happy
 2. measuring happiness
 3. (your own idea)
-

Some people say that having something to really concentrate on is the best way to achieve happiness. Do you agree?

Notes

Write about:

1. work
2. leisure
3. ... (your own idea)

Some people say the secret of a good relationship is having things in common. Do you agree?

Notes

Write about:

1. spending time together
2. disagreements
3. ... (your own idea)

Name: _____

Instructions

Use one of these guided answer sheets for each FCE Writing task you do, i.e. you need two to do the whole writing test.

Please sit down with just **a pen** and **watch or stopwatch**, and with the required time to **do the task(s) without stopping**. An erasable pen is apparently okay, but **don't waste too much time erasing**. Stop **exactly at the exam time limit** (40 minutes for each task),, then follow the instructions at the bottom of this sheet to **do more work on it before you hand it in to your teacher**. Write the time **before looking at the question**, then look at the question and do the steps below in the order given.

Stage 1: Planning

Time on your clock/ stopwatch just **before you first look** at the question: ____:____.

Write any **brainstorming** that you do here (optional)

Write your **plan** for the body of your writing here (there is no need to describe the opening and closing):

Topic of **main** paragraph 1:

_____.

Topic of **main** paragraph 2:

_____.

Topic of **main** paragraph 3 (optional):

_____.

Time when planning finished and ready to start writing: ____:____

