



What is an Analytical Paragraph?

- An analytical paragraph is a form of descriptive writing which is written on the basis of an analysis of a given chart, graph, data, outline, clues, table, etc.
- The paragraph must use clear and crisp language along with evaluating a given argument or issue according to specific instructions.
- The analytical paragraph has to be written in around 100-120 words.
- The question carries 5 marks.



Features of an Analytical Paragraph

It should be brief and comprehensive (include complete information) at the same time.

It should state facts that are provided by the chart/graph/cue etc.

It is necessary to make use of simple and accurate language.

It should mention figures and quantities appropriately.

It is appropriate to use the same tense throughout the analytical paragraph.

No personal observation or response should be provided.

It would be preferable to use the passive form of the verb.

Type of Cues/Tasks



Issue based

 Each Issue topic consists of an issue statement or statements followed by specific task instructions that tell you how to respond to the issue.

Argument based

 Each Argument topic consists of a passage that presents an argument followed by specific task instructions that tell you how to analyze the argument.

Types of Cues



ISSUE TYPE

- General topic-any debatable issue
- Must involve relevant real-world examples that support your chosen stance.
- Conclusion- write a sentence agreeing with the opposing viewpoint before the concluding sentence expressing your view.

ARGUMENT TYPE

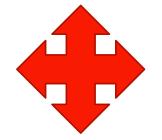
- Specific topic- a case presented by an author
- Create own examples as long as they are relevant to the given topic and substantiate the argument that you are trying to make.
- Conclusion- ends on a note of doubt where you claim that the argument may have one or more valid points but is otherwise weak.



How to structure an Analytical Paragraph?

Introduce the topic

Conclusion



First supporting argument

Second supporting argument



Introduce the topic (2-3 sentences)

- To do this, paraphrase the question in your own words using synonyms.
- The second sentence will be the Thesis/Opinion Sentence - This is where you will outline the essay and give your opinion.



First supportive argument

This should be about 4-5 sentences long. In this, you will describe the specific views with explanations, details, or examples. The paragraph should look like this:

- 1.Topic Sentence This will introduce the paragraph.
- 2.Explanation/Detail of the First Supporting Argument
- 3. Example to Support the Argument



Second supporting argument

- This should be about 4-5 sentences long. In this, you will describe the specific views with explanations, details, or examples. The paragraph should look like this:
- 1.Topic Sentence This will introduce the paragraph.
- 2.Explanation/Detail of the Second Supporting Argument
- 3. Example to Support the Argument

Conclusion

- This paragraph will wrap everything up, and it is not the time to add any new information into your essay. This paragraph should be around 2-4 sentences, and include the following information:
- 1.Summary of the Main Points (1-2 sentences)
- 2.Reiterate Your Opinion (1-2 sentences)

Sets of Instructions



Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss which view more closely aligns with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should address both of the views presented.

Write a response in which you discuss what specific evidence is needed to evaluate the argument and explain how the evidence would weaken or strengthen the argument.

Sample Questions



Religious celebrations that cause any kind of pollution should be banned.

The only point of business is to make money.

Child labour is cheaper. So, businesses should only use child labour.

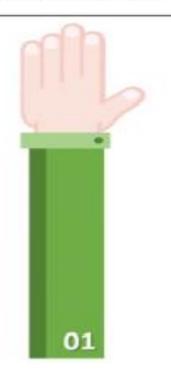
An online forum showed the following post:

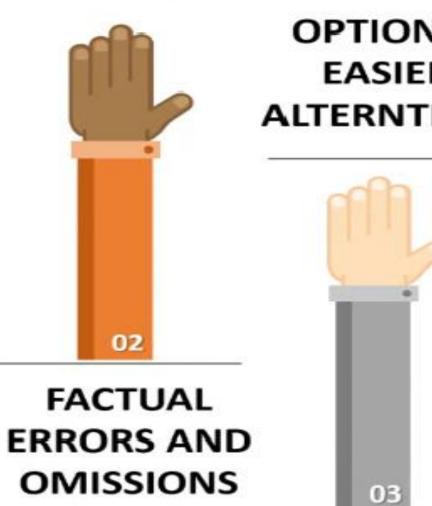
Cats are evil creatures. They have sharp claws that can hurt human beings. So, cats should not be kept as pets.

FANTASTIC FOUR STEPS TO GOOD ANALYSIS

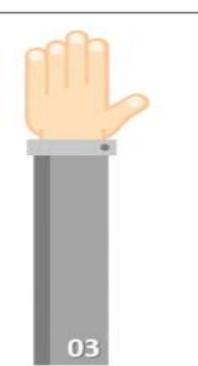


THE PREMISE

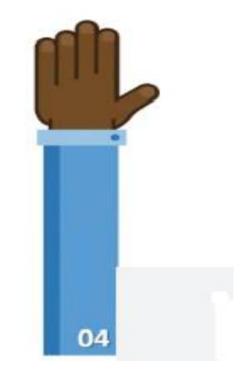




OPTIONS/ EASIER ALTERNTIVES



THE CONCLUSION



FANTASTIC FOUR



THE PREMISE

- The argument assumes that....
- The premise of the text is that...
- The author starts by supposing that...
- Since the premise is incorrect, the argument is built on a faulty foundation
- The premise is correct and provides a strong

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OR OMISSIONS

.... Is given as supporting information.

- While the information is correct, it is incomplete in this context because...
- This information weakens the argument because ...
- ... supports the case the author is making and strengthens their point!

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EASIER ALTERNATIVES

- It is true that ... achieves this outcome, so does ...
- There are other options that do this without
- The other alternatives/ aspects aren't considered, which weakens the author's case.
- The author has chosen the best alternative - this strengthens their case.

THE CONCLUSION

- The author concludes that/ believes that
- Given the problems in the argument, this conclusion is ultimately incorrect.
- Though this is based on a sound foundation, it doesn't logically follow because ...

Issue Based Question



Introduction

Capital punishment is good for a country.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take.

• Some people believe that the death penalty can benefit a nation. I completely agree with this opinion, as the death penalty can positively impact a country through lowering both crime and tax rates.



Paragraph 1

Capital punishment is good for a country.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take.

Establishing the death penalty could effectively decrease crime rates in society. Death penalty is an effective deterrent to serious crime. For example, people will think twice before committing violent acts, and dangerous criminals who have undergone the death penalty would never be able to reoffend.

Note:

Topic sentences are in bold.

Explanations and details are in red.

Examples are in blue.

Paragraph 2

Capital punishment is good for a country.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take.

Additionally, the death penalty could lower taxes for citizens. With this policy, the government would be able to spend less money on keeping the criminal in prison. If the criminal is jailed for many years or for life, the government would need to pay for the enormous expenses involved such as the cost of food for the prisoners and the salaries for the prison officers.

Conclusion

Capital punishment is good for a country.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly agree with the opinion that sentencing serious criminals to death is beneficial for countries. This is because of its deterrent effect, its ability to save the government a lot of money and the fact that we can keep dangerous criminals out of society forever. Given this situation, it is recommended that governments around the world should think about implementing this form of punishment.

Full Model Answer

Some people believe that the death penalty can benefit a nation. I completely agree with this opinion, as the death penalty can positively impact a country through lowering both crime and tax rates.



Establishing the death penalty could effectively decrease crime rates in society. Death penalty is an effective deterrent to serious crime. For example, people will think twice before committing violent acts, and dangerous criminals who have undergone the death penalty would never be able to reoffend.

Additionally, the death penalty could lower taxes for citizens. With this policy, the government would be able to spend less money on keeping the criminal in prison. If the criminal is jailed for many years or for life, the government would need to pay for the enormous expenses involved such as the cost of food for the prisoners and the salaries for the prison officers.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly agree with the opinion that sentencing serious criminals to death is beneficial for countries. This is because of its deterrent effect, its ability to save the government a lot of money and the fact that we can keep dangerous criminals out of society forever. Given this situation, it is recommended that governments around the world should think about implementing this form of punishment.

Argument Based Question

As online learning becomes more common and more and more resources are converted to digital form, some people have suggested that public libraries should be shut down and, in their place, everyone should be given an iPad with an e-reader subscription.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Full Model Answer

Proponents of this idea state that it will save local cities and towns metable because libraries are expensive to maintain. They could also access materials because libraries won't have to buy physical copies of books; they can simply rent out as many digital copies as they need.

However, it would be a serious mistake to replace libraries with tablets. A study done on tablet vs book reading found that people read 20-30% slower on tablets, retain 20% less information, and understand 10% less of what they read compared to people who read the same information in print.

Additionally, staring too long at a screen has been shown to cause numerous health problems, including blurred vision, dizziness, dry eyes, headaches, and eye strain, at much higher instances than reading print does.

Libraries have a multitude of benefits besides lending books. Some of these benefits include acting as a quiet study space, giving people a way to converse with their neighbors, holding classes on a variety of topics, providing jobs, answering patron questions, and keeping the community connected.

While replacing libraries with tablets may seem like a simple solution, it would encourage people to spend even more time looking at digital screens, despite the myriad issues surrounding them.

Information Based Question



The table below shows risk of death posed by five different causes in two income groups of people along with the world average of these deaths. Study the data carefully and then summarise it in the form of an analytical paragraph.

Deaths among Three Different Income Groups due to Different Risks/Causes

Risk	World	Low and middle income	High income
Percentage of deaths			
Indoor smoke from solid fuels	3.3	3.9	0.0
Unsafe drinking water, insanitation, lack of hygiene	3.2	3.8	0.1
Urban outdoor air pollution	2.0	1.9	2.5
Global climate change	0.2	0.3	0.0
Lead exposure	0.2	0.3	0.0

Information Based Question



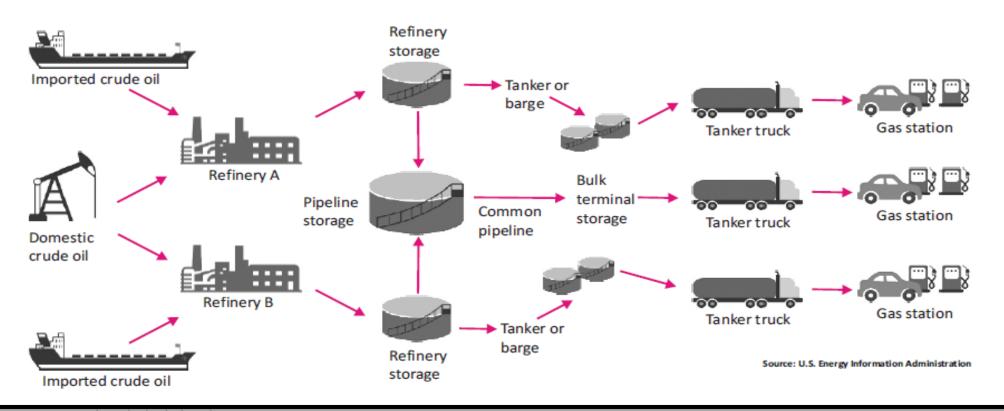
The table shows some statistics related to deaths among low and middle income groups as well as high income groups due to five reasons — indoor smoke from solid fuels; unsafe water, insanitation and lack of hygiene; urban outdoor pollution; global climate change and lead exposure. As is clear from the data, the high income group people die of the outdoor pollution more than any other cause. They account for 2.5% of all deaths which is higher than the world average of 2.0%. A mere 0.1% people of this group die of drinking unsafe water, insanitation and/or lack of hygiene. On the other hand, the lower and middle income group has mortality rate higher than the world average in all categories except urban outdoor air pollution, where it is 0.1% less than the world average of 2%. This group accounts for 3.9% and 3.8% deaths due to indoor smoke from solid fuels and unsafe drinking water, insanitation and lack of hygiene respectively. Global climate change and lead exposure account for 0.3% death each among this group. Overall, more people in the lower and middle income group die of the given causes than the high income group people.

Process Description Based Question



The visual below shows how gasoline and diesel reach our local gas stations. Study the information carefully and then summarise it in the form of an analytical paragraph. Make comparisons and draw conclusions as appropriate. Do not add any new information.

Flow of gasoline (or petrol) and diesel to your local gas station



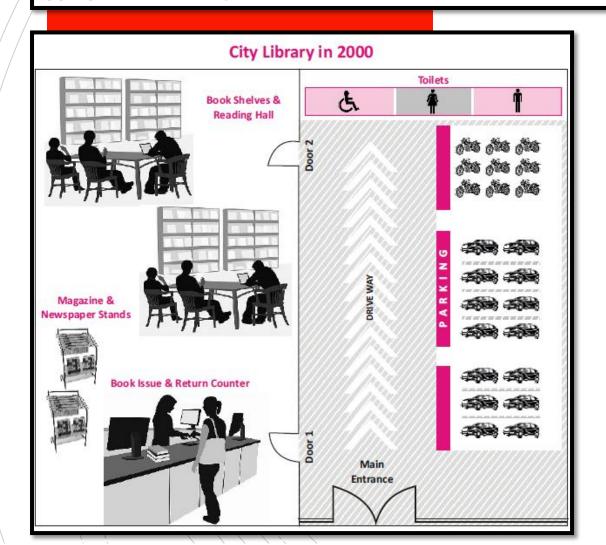
Process Description Based Question

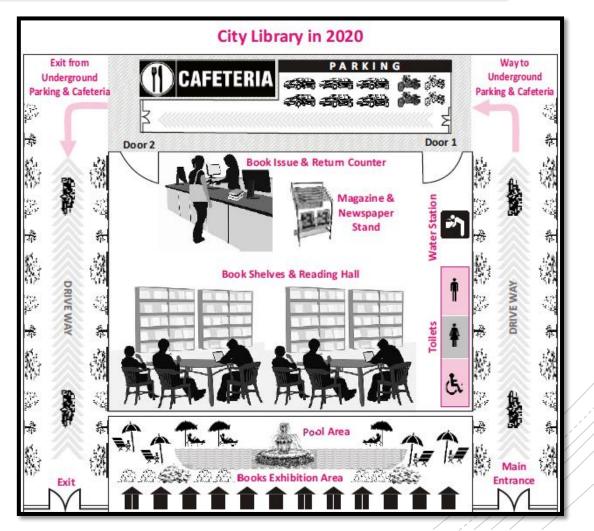
Ever wondered how petroleum fuels like petrol and diesel you use to run your vehicles reach your local gas stations? The entire process passes through several stages from the production or import, refinement, storage, transportation and distribution. In the first stage, the crude oil which is imported from other countries or produced domestically reaches refineries where it is refined in several stages to obtain petrol and diesel, two among a whole range of petroleumbased products. These products are stored in refinery storage facilities which are connected to a central pipeline delivery system. Petrol and diesel from this storage facility are carried to bulk terminal storage tanks either through a network of pipelines or though tankers or barges. Next, tanker trucks further transport these products from the bulk storage tanks to the gas stations in towns and cities where consumers can buy them as and when they require.

Map Based Question



Given below are the two maps of a library in a city. Carefully study both the maps and then write an analytical paragraph describing the major changes or renovations the library has undergone in the last 20 years. Make comparisons wherever appropriate and draw your own conclusions.





Map Based Question



The City Library, the central point of the city has undergone many changes in the last twenty years. In the year 2000 it was much smaller with half of its area on the right being occupied by the entrance driveway and parking lots. Toilets for the visitors were located behind the parking lots. Visitors got access to the reading hall and bookshelves from a door close to the main entrance gate. For this they first had to go past the books issue and return counter. Newspaper and magazine stands were located behind this counter. Twenty years later, the library has been completely redesigned and rebuilt and a lot of new facilities have been added to it. The entrance driveway remains on the right but has become narrower. Ornamental plants can be seen growing all along it. The driveway takes you to an underground parking area in the extreme end of which is a cafeteria for visitors. On the ground floor a new reading hall has been built which is nearly double the size of the old reading hall and also contains an issue and return counter, a water station and toilets. While the visitors enter from the right hand side gate of the library, they exit from the parking lot from the gate on the left hand which leads to the exit driveway. The open area right in front of the reading hall has a lush green garden with a pool and some easy garden chairs for readers as well as a permanent books exhibition area.

Problem & Solution Based Question



You are the General Manager of a restaurant. You have noticed that the cost of seafood items has gone up in recent times and this has overshot the budgets of raw materials procurement. Your supplier explains that the supply chain of seafood items is adversely affected due to bad weather and a disruption in transport due to a strike, and consequently the prices of seafood items have gone up.

Write an analytical paragraph briefly describing how the cost of procuring seafood items has overshot the procurement budget of the restaurant and suggesting a solution to the problem in consultation with the restaurant chef and sales and marketing manager such that the seafood continues to be on the menu but the restaurant does not incur any losses or lose valuable customers to the competition. You might also like to introduce a new menu with attractive alternatives to seafood.

Problem & Solution Based Question

The restaurant is finding it increasingly difficult these days to serve its patrons a range of seafood items like prawns, shrimps, crabs, lobsters, oysters and tuna fish. While this may have left many of our customers disappointed, the restaurant is unable to please them by overshooting its monthly budgets of raw materials for sea-food dishes. Our vendor Messrs Bombay Seafood Suppliers have expressed their inability to provide these items at the existing rates owing to the disruption caused in their procurement due to inclement weather and a transport strike. Faced with this predicament, the restaurant has the following options — one, increase the prices of sea-food based dishes; two, offer smaller portions to save on raw materials; and three, take away our customer's interest in seafood by introducing a fortnight long food festival with a new menu of non-vegetarian items based on chicken, mutton, lamb and fresh water fish and eggs as well as a whole new range of Indian and Chinese vegetarian menu, including regular South Indian delicacies. This will not only help the restaurant save on its raw materials supply expenses but also keep our customers happy with a variety of alternative food menu. This matter was discussed with the Chief Chef as well as the Food and Beverages Manager, who are aligned to the proposal spelt out above. Subject to the management approval, the new food festival can go live next weekend.

Useful language: Expressing opinions

Agreeing with an idea

- I am certain that ...
- For me it is obvious that ...
- I am convinced that ...
- It has long been my belief that ...

Disagreeing with an idea

- There is no justification for ...
- I am completely against ...
- I believe there is no evidence to support ...
- I do not agree with the idea that ...

Giving an opinion

- In my view ...
- I would agree that ...
- I feel strongly that ...
- It seems to me that ...
- I would argue that ...





Useful language: Expressing opinions

No strong opinion

- There could be a case for saying that ...
- It would appear that ...

Describing other people's opinions

- It is often said that ...
- It is often claimed that ...
- It seems apparent that ...
- Scientists are convinced that ...
- Many researchers have found that ...
- Some people believe that ...



Useful Tips:

Make sure you understand the question

Take time to read the question very
carefully. Underline the parts you have to
write about and ask yourself:

- -What is the main topic?
- -How many parts are there?
- -Do I need to present arguments for and against or for both?
- -What is my opinion?



Useful Tips:

Introduce your essay

The introduction sets the scene for your reader. It tells them what you are going to discuss, what the issues are, and often what your position is.

Make your opinion on the topic clear to the reader

Decide on your view and state this, either in the introduction or during the course of your essay. Keep your position clear and don't change it.

Draw a logical conclusion

At the end of your essay, you need to write one or two sentences that summarise your arguments and your point of view.

