**Essay activator**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Advantages and disadvantage | Advantage  Benefit  Merit  Good point  Plus point | Disadvantage  Drawback  Downside  Bad point |
| Agreeing | Subscribe to a view | There are a number of scientists who *subscribe to the view* that there is a God who controls the working of the universe. |
| Share sb’s view/concern/fear | A lot of people *share his view* that tourism will have a negative impact on the island. |
| **Concur** | The committee *concurred* with this view. |
| **There is some truth in** | *There is some truth* in the argument that there is a link between violence on our streets and violence on our TV screens. |
| **Unanimous** | Medical experts are *unanimous* on this issue. |
| **Widely held view/belief** | There is a *widely held belief* that advanced western societis are becoming more and more criminalized. |
| **Widely/generally accepted** | It is *generally accepted* that electricity generated from nuclear power is more expensive than other forms of electricity. |
| Approximate | Approximately | *Approximately* 30% pf adults who have athe disease will die from it. |
| **Roughly** | *Roughly* half of all Italy’s gas is imported. |
| In the region of | A new stadium would cost somewhere *in the region of* $100 million. |
| Causes | Lead to | Cutting spending budgets will inevitably *lead to* poorer quality public services. |
| Result in | Many household fires *result in* deaths or serious injuries. |
| **Give rise to** | Poor performance in exams can *give rise to* depression and even thoughts of suicide. |
| **Contribute to** | Passive smoking could *contribute to* the development of respiratory diseases among nonsmokers. |
| **Arise from** | People are now much more aware of the dangers *arising from* asbestos dust. |
| Comparing and contrasting | In contrast/by contrast | *In contrast* to the south of the island, the north is still untouched by tourism. |
| Draw a parallel | The writer *draws a parallel between* Henry James’s style of writing and the ingenious patterns and curious details in Milton’s paintings. |
| Emphasizing | It is worth bearing in mind that | *It is worth bearing in mind that* 90% of the scientists researching herbicides in the US are employed by chemical companies. |
| **Crucial** | Factors such as temperatures and acidity play a *crucial* role in determining how well the process works. |
| **Underline/underscore** | Studies and statistics *underscore* the fact that much of the country’s wealth is in the hands of a tiny minority. |
| Giving examples | For instance | There is a great deal we can do to reduce the amount of pollution we produce*. For instance*, we can use our car less, and use public transport instead. |
| **By way of illustration** | Plants have been used in Cambodia in many ways for many centuries*. By way of illustration*, of the 2,000 species of plants in Cambodia, approximately 40% have a traditional use, primarily as food and medicine. |
| **Be shown by** | Metal tools were produced here for thousands of years, *as is shown by* weapons discovered in acient tombs. |
| Giving reasons | As a result of | Sea levels are rising *as a result of* global warming. |
| Due to/ owing to | *Owing to* lack of public interest, the programme was abandoned. |
| **Grounds** | The latest crime statistics provide some *grounds* for optimism. |
| Linking parts of a sentence | Although | *Although* most of her books are for adults, she also writes for children. |
| In addition | *In addition* to being a major oil producer, Nigeria is home to over 110 million people. |
| Furthermore/moreover |  |
| **Not to mention** | As he got older, his films become very strange, *not to mention* violent. |
| **In view of** | *In view of* all the research on the subject, it seems strange that so many people still smoke cigarettes. |
| However/nevertheless |  |
| Whereas/while | *Whereas* in most of the world they drive on the right, in the UK and Japan they drive on the left. |
| Assuming that | *Assuming that* the present trend continues, the world population is likely to rise to over 8 billion. |
| **With the view to doing sth** | Rice and potatoes were genetically modified, *with a view to* commercial planting. |
| **Hence** (for this reason) | The material is highly poisonous, *hence* the importance of careful handling. |
| Generalizations | Mostly/mainly/largely | The audience were *mainly* young people in their teens. |
| The majority | *The majority* of crimes are never reported to the police. |
| In general | *In general*, teenagers from poor families are less likely to go to university. |
| **Generally/broadly speaking** | People in the UK are, *generally speaking*, not very well informed about international politics. |
| **By and large/ in the main/ on the whole** | The scheme was *by and large* a success. |
| Quoting people | Say, write, point out, observe, state |  |
| **Argue, claim** | Some people have *claimed* *that* Kennedy was killed by the CIA. |
| **According to** | *According to* a recent survey by Time magazine, 49% of Americans said that they thought the President was doing a good job. |
| In the words of | *In the words of* one professor, the object of teaching English literature is not to pass on knowledge, but to train the imagination. |
| Showing and proving | Prove, demonstrate, (show) |  |
| **Reveal**, **confirm**, | Several surveys have *confirmed* the view that global warming is happening at an increasing rate. |
| support/back up |  |