

Writing – The Academic Essay

Tentative structure of an academic essay.

Introduction: Element 1 Neutral Background sentence (Optional) (Just a general opening addressing the topic of the essay.

Element 2 paraphrasing the question

Element 3 stating the opinion (Thesis statement)

Body paragraphs: Element 1 Topic statement

2 to 3 Element 2 Main point

Element 3 Sub points

Element 4 Examples

Para 2, 3 etc will follow the same structure

Conclusion: Element 1 Brief summary of main points mentioned in body paragraphs

Element 2 Restating opinion

Element 3 Suggestions (Optional)

Model Answer

A bigger salary is much more important than job satisfaction.

Do you agree or disagree?. Provide examples if necessary. Write at least 250 words.

(The plan)

1st Opinion: Big salary is more important

- Having a job with a high salary makes people feel satisfied regardless of the job they do
- Money is essential for survival and good living

2nd Opinion: Job satisfaction is more important

- Job satisfaction gives you a sense of fulfillment and makes you more productive
- Doing what you like keeps you motivated and therefore leads to career growth and success
- Money can't buy happiness and it's more pleasant to pursue what you're interested in.

-Your neutral background sentence should be a general unbiased approach based on the topic which you intend to address.. You can either start with the subject itself or be creative and thoughtful.

-To start **paraphrasing**, you can use the following expressions

-Introduction: (Introductory expressions) It is argued that.....

It is considered that...../

It is thought that...../

- **Paragraph A:** Firstly,
- **Paragraph B:** Secondly, therefore...

❖ **You need to focus on using linking devices in your essay...**

- **Providing examples:** For example/ for instance/ a case in point is,.....

- **Conclusion:** To conclude,

In conclusion,

To sum up,

To summarize + Restate your opinion + restate two reasons

Note

Try to avoid using the 1st person (I, me, my, myself) and use the 3rd person as much as possible (He/ she/ it)

Do not start sentences with “and” “but” and “because” as they are only to connect sentences.

Use the handout on “Linking words” which I shared with you to start and properly connect your sentences in a logical sequence with a proper organization.

Model Answer (Please note that this is just one approach out of several other possible approaches)

Neutral
Background
Sentence

The career of an individual plays a key role in determining the quality of life as well as personal gratification. It is often argued that/ It is believed that/ It often identified that it is more advantageous to choose a job with high remuneration even if it doesn't appeal to a person at all. I completely disagree with this opinion since *job satisfaction is much more important than money in life, which will be the discussion of this essay.* (Thesis statement)

Paraphrasing
the topic

Topic
Statement

Firstly, it is believed that every *individual* has a vocation for the right career which will motivate and inspire him to become a successful professional in the chosen field. When individuals truly find their groove they will become more innovative and creative in what they do which will help him to build a confident personality and gain rewards than those who prioritized money in their life. **A case in point** is Henry Miller who decided to love his everyday job despite a good wage and ventured to become a writer. After a very tumultuous time in his life he became one of the most famous and well-paid authors of the twentieth century.

Secondly, career satisfaction gives people a sense of fulfillment and gratification that money can never guarantee. Despite a higher income, if the individual still feels tensed and unhappy with the work he does and also has to compromise with his conscience will make him perform his duties and responsibilities in a perfunctory manner. This scenario will have a direct impact on his productivity as well. **For example**, most successful people in the world reached such a peak in their professions because they were passionately engaged in their work. **Therefore**, the choice of a career should ensure personal happiness.

In conclusion, It is evident that/ it can be stated/ affirmed that job satisfaction is more beneficial than high salary because it keeps people happy and motivated which helps them become successful in their professional life that will ultimately contribute to personal success.

Words: 280

Note: you can also state your opinion without writing I agree/ In my perspective, as follows

The career of an individual plays a key role in determining the quality of life as well as personal gratification. **It is often argued that/ It is believed that/ It often identified that** it is more advantageous to choose a job with high remuneration even if it doesn't appeal to a person at all. ~~I completely disagree with this opinion since job satisfaction is much more important than money in life, which will be the discussion of this essay.~~ **This essay will discuss the prime importance of job satisfaction in life, more than money**

