

Read Cristina's essay. Then complete the plan she wrote beforehand by matching the notes (a-e) with the paragraphs. *This: hard to find the sort of job what they aspire to*

For many young people it is hard to find the sort of job they aspire to. ¹This is in part due to a mismatch between what education provides and what employers believe ²they require. *they: employers*

Schools and universities should offer students courses which provide ³them with qualifications which will attract potential employers. However, employers often complain that courses are too theoretical and do not teach students the practical skills ⁴they will need in the workplace. *them: students. they: students*

While I understand ⁵this viewpoint, I do not entirely share ⁶it. I believe that the purpose of education is primarily to develop critical thinking skills, including the ability to analyse and solve problems. ⁷These abilities will be useful throughout people's working lives. To achieve ⁸this, I do not think it matters *this: develop critical thinking skills*

whether someone studies history or theoretical physics as long as the right teaching methods are used. Students will then pick up the specific job skills they require very quickly once they are in full-time employment. *these abilities: critical thinking skills*

this view point: courses are too theoretical
It is often suggested that young people need to gain work experience in order to make an informed choice of university course and career. Although I believe ⁹this helps to focus students' minds on what working life will be like, generally speaking it is not possible for students to get a wide enough range of experience to be able to choose ¹⁰their career wisely. *their: students.*

this: gain work experience
I would therefore argue that the best way to help young people find suitable jobs is to give them an excellent general education while ensuring that employers realise how valuable ¹¹it is. *it: excellent general education.*

Plan

Para 1: Introduction: *d*

Para 2: *c*

Para 3: *a*

Para 4: *e*

Para 5: Conclusion: *b*

a education should teach students to think – useful for every job

b provide a good all-round education + persuade



5 Work in pairs. Discuss these

- 1 Why is it important to understand writing task?
- 2 Why should you write a plan for an essay?
- 3 Did Cristina follow her plan?
- 4 Has she dealt completely with the writing task?
- 5 What words and phrases did she use to introduce her opinions?
- 6 To what extent do you agree with her view?
- 7 Why is it important to make a conclusion in an essay?

6 When you write, it is important that your essay should cover a different range of topics so that sentences should be supported by relevant references. What do the references in Cristina's essay refer to?

7 Write your own plan for an essay on the topic: 'Education should teach students to think – useful for every job'. When you have finished, discuss your plan with a partner's.

8 Read Cristina's essay and highlight any words or phrases that you like in your essay. Also, copy any useful phrases into your notebook.



Useful sentences:

This is in part due to
(这部分是由于...)

While I understand I do not
(表否定).

..... will be useful throughout
(在做非常有用...)

I do not think it matters whether as long as
(表否定, 给方法).

I would therefore argue that
(因此...我认为...)

My Plan:

Para 1: introduction

Para 2: Example 1

Para 3: Example 2

Para 4: conclusion.

What words and phrases does Cristina use in her essay to introduce her opinion?

1. While I understand this view point, I do not entirely share it.
(Deny an opinion)

2. I believe that:
(Make a point)

3. I would therefore argue
(Use the previous argument's result
to give a conclusion)

