

Composition 2

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(All Lectures)

- Lecture 1 : PWP Framework -

Preparation	Writing	Publishing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thinking about the topic.• Understanding the composition ideas.• Collecting ideas.• Use of linking words.• Studying a text model.• The choice of the writing format.• Reading about the topic.• Outlining and visualizing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drafting.• Editing.<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Self-editing.➤ Pre editing➤ Group editing.• Revising.• Redrafting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing it with others: friends, teacher...• On a Facebook page.

- **The piano metaphor:** We can't learn how to play the piano just by knowing the parts of piano or having information about how it works, we need to practice piano again and again. The same thing is true for writing, the theory is important, but it is useless if it is not twinned with practice.
- Read as much as you can but bear in mind that there are two types of readings: "Intelligent reading" and "Stupid reading". Read with an inquisitive mind.

- Lecture 2: Developing a comparison & contrast essay -

A comparison and contrast essay is an essay which is developed by means of comparison and contrast.

They are two methods to deal with writing a comparison and contrast essay: **Alternation** and **Group listing**.

Task 1 (Sentence mistakes): Match sentence/phrase with the type of mistake.

- | | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| 1) If I have money. | → | 1) Comma splices |
| 2) He is happy, he is optimistic. | → | 2) Sentence fragment |
| 3) She works hard she gets good marks. | → | 3) Fused sentence |

➤ Sentence fragment: a sentence mistake or error which can be the result of:

- A dependent clause without an independent one.
- A sentence missing a subject, a verb or a complement.
- A sentence not expressing a complete thought.

➤ Run-on sentence: they are 2 types of run-on sentences; “**Comma splice**” and “**Fused sentence**” :

- **Comma splice**: a sentence mistake or error when we use a poor and weak comma to connect two or more independent clause.
- **Fused sentence**: a sentence mistake or error when two or more independent clauses are joined without punctuation or coordinating conjunction.

Application: Islam and Christianity are two major religions embraced by people all over the globe. Write a comparison & contrast essay, highlighting the similarities and differences between the two faiths.

Islam & Christianity are **undoubtedly** two of the major religions embraced by millions of people all over the globe. Although the two faiths apparently look different, they have some important features in common, **that said**, in what ways are the two religions similar and different?

Islam and Christianity have some interesting points in common. **To exemplify**, both of them revere (respect) the early prophets like ABRAHAM,

MOSES, DAVID and JOSEPH. **One more thing**, they both worship their deity, Muslims call him ALLAH and Christians label him GOD. **In order to** have a better understanding of their faith, Muslims resort to their holy book, THE QURAN. **Similarly**, Christians turn to (come back to) the BIBLE for the same purpose. **In brief**, these two religions are the pure products of a divine power, and **thus**, it's no longer a surprise to see them sharing some common points.

However, the two faiths are dissimilar in many respects. **To begin with**, Christians hold the belief that Jesus was the son of God, and **thus** he was divine and sinless. **Contrarily**, Muslims consider Jesus one of the most important prophet and **hence** he was not divine. Muslims believe that Jesus **just like** ADAM and EVE was created by ALLAH. According to them, Jesus did not die on the cross. **Another difference** has to do with their guiding codes. Muslims stick to the five pillars of Islam. **Whereas** Christians adhere to the Ten Commandments. **All in all**, Islam and Christianity are different from each other at various levels, **though** they were created by the same divine power.

- Lecture 3: Planning and outlining the composition -

Generally, there are some important steps to follow while planning and outlining your composition:

- 1) **Limiting the scope of your topic:** It simply means to narrow your topic down.
 - 2) **Gathering ideas** (Data assembling/collecting).
 - 3) **Organizing and outlining ideas/data.**
- **Topic outline:** in a topic outline, we don't write complete sentences. Rather, we write items (adjectives, adverbs, nouns, phrases).
 - **Sentence outline:** In this kind of sentence we use complete sentences. This outline is clearer than the topic outline.

Here is the use of short heading/titles. For example:

Women's work

(Arguments for and arguments against)

✓ **Topic outline:**

I. **A life requirement:**

- A. To benefit from women's expertise
- B. To provide financial help
- C. To reach gender equality

II. **A life luxury:**

- A. To get more money to buy unnecessary things
- B. To move towards neglecting kids
- C. To take men's jobs

→ It's very important to be consistent in making a topic outline.

✓ **Sentence outline:**

I. **Women's work is a life requirement:**

- A. It's an opportunity to benefit from women's expertise.
- B. Working women can provide financial help to their husbands.
- C. With women's work, there is more chance to reach gender equality.

II. **For some people, women's work is just a life luxury:**

- A. The more money a working woman has, the more inclined to buy a necessary things she is.
- B. With women's work, there is the risk of neglecting kids.
- C. Working women are usually blamed for taking men's jobs.

➤ Writing a critical essay:

We can write a critical essay about something or someone that we don't like. We should clarify why we don't like him/her/it. Your opinion should be mentioned in the introduction.

Example: Write a critical essay about TV commercials in Moroccan mass media.

- ✓ TV commercials repeatedly interrupt my favorite TV programs.
- ✓ Sometimes, they give a false image about life.
- ✓ They may make people buy things they don't need.
- ✓ They may adopt very boring slogans.
- ✓ They sometimes insult our Intelligence.
- ✓ The money spent on TV commercial can be used to create job opportunities and help people in need.

Writing an expository essay.

*An expository writing aims at defining and giving information about a term or a concept or a person or an object or an idea or a belief or an animal. An expository essay is thus an essay that **defines, informs, and explains.***

Example of an expository essay:

*Can we imagine a dignified life without freedom of expression? Can we build a democratic and just society without searching for liberty to say or write what we think and believe? The answer, I guess is a sharp 'NO'. **Freedom** of expression is an essential **human right** that all citizens should fairly have and enjoy. It is the right of every individual to make their voices heard and understood. But this should not be seen as a green light to **infringe** upon others' right.*

I. Freedom of expression is one of the most important basic human rights:

- a.** It is an essential **pre-requisite /pre-condition** to the attainment of dignity.*
- b.** It is necessary for the foundation/ establishment of a democratic society.*
- c.** It gives the chance to people **from all walks of life** to exchange their ideas freely and without any sort-type of censorship.*
- d.** It allows citizens **to have a say in** issues of public opinion without fear of legal restraint.*
- e.** It empowers people who believe in their ideas and opinion.*

II. However, this freedom of expression does not provide “carte blanche” for people to say or write what they wish:

- a.** Laws forbid sharing speeches that **incite** violence.*
- b.** Racist discourses have nothing to do with freedom of expression*

because they are marly banned and legally disallowed.

- c. **The same thing rings true** for hate speeches which are **ethically** prohibited.*
- d. Legal restraint or penalty is highly required in situation where the rights of others are infringed.*
- e. Freedom of expression does not mean to say whatever to wish **to propitiate/appease** some people and upset others.*

***To conclude**, one can fairly say that freedom of expression is an existential human right, but it should not be **equated** with the full power to say or write what we like. Being absolutist and egoistic when it comes to freedom of expression can **spit venom** into human relationships and create frictions among people. **This is to suggest that** while enjoying the right to speak freely, its merely binding/ obligatory to respect others and adhere to the conventionally accepted standards of conduct.*

***Exercise:** Write an essay about **Euthanasia**. These questions might help you:*

- ✓ what is Euthanasia?*
- ✓ why do some countries adopt it?*
- ✓ what do you think about it?*

- Lecture 5: Linking Words -

- 1) **Coupled with:** *used to combine or join something with something else.*
 - Crimes, coupled with poverty, make life in big cities hellish.
 - Hard work, coupled with patients, are the key to success.
- 2) **Providing (that) / Provided (that):** *meaning "on the condition that".*
 - I will come provided that I have enough time.
 - You can stay provided that you help me.
- 3) **As long as:** *meaning "while/since".*
 - As long as you are the leader of the group, I will join it.
 - The car will be in a good situation as long as you take good care of it.
- 4) **inasmuch as / insofar as:** *meaning "to the extent that/considering that".*
 - In consideration of the fact that we cannot judge him as useless, inasmuch he helps his poor neighbors.
 - It could not be true to say the exam was difficult inasmuch as a lot of students got high marks.
- 5) **By and large / on the whole:** *when everything is considered about a situation.*
 - We faced some difficulties during our journey to New York, but by and large, the trip was enjoyable.
 - I found some problems writing my monograph, but by and large, it was a very good experience for me.
- 6) **In case:** *meaning "If it happens that".*
 - In case she is late, I will preside the meeting.
 - You can call me in case of need.
- 7) **Conversely:** *meaning "In a contrasting way".*
 - While her husband was a democratic voter. She, conversely, is a republican one.
 - None of them accepted his suggestion. Conversely, they developed their own plan and defended it.
- 8) **Accordingly:** *meaning "as a result".*
 - The exam was too difficult. Accordingly, most students had bad marks.
- 9) **Alternatively:** *used to suggest another possibility.*
 - We could visit Rabat, or alternatively, we could go to Marrakesh.
 - You can go to the cinema, or alternatively, you can play football with your friends.

Euthanasia

Euthanasia or simply **mercy killing** can be defined as the practice of intentionally (on purpose) ending the life of a person who suffers from **intractable pain**. It is one of the **hot issues** which have caused a **heated debate** at the levels of law and ethics. **The proponents** / supporters of Euthanasia set forth a number of arguments to support their **stance** on this issue. **Personally speaking**, I **spine that** Euthanasia should be considered an illegal and immoral act.

According to the proponents of Euthanasia, it is a basic human right **in the sense that** people have the right to freely put an end to their lives and decide on their fate/destiny. It is **the cardinal principle** of self-determination. The supporters see Euthanasia as a **silver bullet** / magic solution for those who have no hope of recovery. It can help them to die as a better choice **compared to** the decision to live and endure pain. **One more point to add is that** pro-Euthanasia activists strongly argue that it is unproblematic and that it does not actually lead to undesirable consequences. **To expound this point**, they make a reference to such countries as Netherlands and Belgium where Euthanasia has been legalized. **Overall**, they strive / try hard to make it a legal act to relieve the pain of those who are long-suffering.

However, from my personal point of view, Euthanasia should not be legalized because deliberate killing (on purpose) of a living human being is a crime which deserves legal penalty. None has the right to take someone else's life **under any circumstances**. There is an important ethical consideration which **should not go unnoticed**. Life is a precious gift from Allah, and only Allah can decide when to end it. **Thus**, Euthanasia is an immoral act against the will of Allah. **To this**, we can add that legalizing it is risky. It can lead to both moral and legal chaos as it can be held as a **pretext** to kill even those who doesn't really want to die. **Therefore**, efforts should be joined to combat it.

As a final note, I would like to say that Euthanasia remains a debatable issue in the world of today, regardless of whether the reasons its supporters set forth are fair and legitimate or not, **I firmly adhere to** the belief that it is an act which should be considered a punishable crime. Only Allah has the right to put an end to the person's life.

Narrative Essay:

- The narrative essay is built around a narration of a certain event, its main objective is to tell o story that is interesting and engaging for the reader. It can be real or fictional.
- It should be built on a clear plot (beginning, climax and ending).
- The narrative essay narrates a series of events using the technic of the flashback.
- It should make a clear reference to the setting.
- It is very important to consider the characters included a story. It is also important to use a good style « language » which appeals to emotions senses and feelings of the character.
- **The questions that a narrative essay should answer :**
 - ✓ Where did the story take place?
 - ✓ When did it happen?
 - ✓ Who were the characters?
 - ✓ What were the consequences of the event of the story?
 - ✓ What were the physical and emotional reactions of the people in the story?
- **Some suggested topics to practice narrative essays :**
 - ✓ An experience you had when you were a child.
 - ✓ A trip to you had to mountains.
 - ✓ Visiting an interesting place last summer.
 - ✓ Narrating events related to a sleepless night.
 - ✓ A nightmare.
 - ✓ An exciting moment of your life.
 - ✓ One funny summer evening.

➤ ***APPLICATION of topic 1 :***

I will never forget an experience that I had when I was a seven-years-old child. I was playing on the swing with my friends in a small garden in our neighborhood. We were five little lads .It was Monday morning. It was a very beautiful sunny day. We were enjoying ourselves and having fun when a very horrible incident took place .To be honest, whenever I remember it fear creeps up on me.

There was a middle aged man named Ali. Dressed in his dark brown coat and blue jeans, he was apparently immersed in his work repairing two wall air conditioners in a nearby house. We all knew that the house was not inhabited. We saw him busily stepping in and out of the house from time to time. At about the 9:25 AM, we spotted him bringing a small gas cooker, a tea pot and other utensils to the house. We quickly deduced that he wanted to cook something. There was sheer silence apart from our cheery voices, fleetingly heard and filling up the space. A few minutes later, and all of a sudden, something unexpected happened. The man seemed to forget something on fire and returned to his work and a very frightening explosion broke the silence and created an atmosphere of fear and horror in the whole place.

At this very specific moment, we started shouting at the top of our voices. Some passers-by and people living near the house heard the explosion and hurried up to provide help. They forcefully got into the house, and we bravely chased them. Fortunately, the man was safe, but he could not utter a word. He was speechless and in a very embarrassing situation. He seemed to be psychologically shocked. A huge part of one of the rooms was devastated. The whole scene was appealing for us - as little kids -. An elegant Grey-haired man with a thick beard tactfully asked us to leave the place and suggested phoning the house owner to inform him about the event. We quickly left the place.

Frankly speaking, I cannot forget this horrible incident. It is still etched on my memory. The most important lesson I have learned from it is that attention is highly required when it comes to cooking on fire. Mindfulness can result in such tragic incidents as house fires and human injuries or deaths.

Writing a descriptive essay:

- A descriptive essay is an essay in which we **make appeal** to our senses. We describe what we see, hear, smell, taste, touch and feel.
- A descriptive essay includes sensory information related to a person, an object, a concept, a place, or an event or situation.
- In descriptive essays, we can use **figurative language** (metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole...).

Some suggested topics to practice descriptive essays:

- ✓ Describe your best friend.
- ✓ Describe your favorite travel destination.
- ✓ Describe your dream house.
- ✓ Describe a monument.
- ✓ Describe one of your family members.
- ✓ Describe your role model.
- ✓ Describe your favorite object.
- ✓ Describe your favorite animal.

Example:

A Special Grey-haired Neighbor

Mrs. Caroline is a special kind of women. This is how I personally see her. She has been my neighbor at Kent, Ohio State,

for about eight years. Her vivacious, witty character has always been a real magnet to all people around her. Despite her age and weak body, she is full of life and energy. Whenever I meet her, I feel the urge to speak to her and I run a gamut of emotions from joy to admiration, love and sympathy. She is shrewd and calm. Her sagacious, bright nature is a source of inspiration, especially for youths.

The wrinkles on her face fail to hide her physical beauty. Her smile and gait, **albeit** uneasy, prevent this beauty from withering. There is no room for dour, boorish expressions on her face. Feeling of despair vanishes at the sight of her majestic posture on her wooden chair in the front of her small house. Hope befriends all those who get the chance to have a chat with her. Her height reflects the height of her pride and honor. Her sweet words touch the hearts of her acquaintances as well as her neighbors. She lives alone, but she never distances herself from others. Her fragile body does not thwart her from doing some regular exercising, namely in the morning. She has the ability to give blow-by-blow accounts of past events. She never forgets just like an elephant.

Mrs. Caroline is indefatigable in her efforts to endear herself to the people around her. She never hesitates to declare her strong belief in the power of love in human relationships. Her mouth spits wisdom, affection, tenderness and maturity. People surrounding her requite her love and treat her as a grand lady who symbolizes truth and honesty. Her mastery of the English language reveals her as a woman with great communicative skills and persuasive

power. Her voice is very poetic and musical. The way she puts words resembles the process of symphony-making. These words, like musical instruments, play together in harmony. There is an aura of respect around her. Her long experience in life makes of her a rich store for very instructive and engaging stories.

One of the weaknesses she has is that she cannot control herself when she sees sugary food. She consumes too much sugar although she knows that it is dangerous for her health. She uses her sense of humor to justify her sugar addiction. She keeps repeating that sugar is a good omen for a sweet life and a better future. "Life is as sweet as the sugar I love," she once said. Though the argument she funnily gives is not convincing at all, I hold her in high esteem and regard her as a sweet, kind lady. Mother flaw in her character, according to some of her neighbors, is that she likes gossiping. She frequently tells stories involving the personal lives of other people.

Writing an argumentative essay:

- An argumentative essay is an essay in which the writer presents a claim and tries to prove it by giving appropriate and convincing arguments. In other words, the writer makes a point and argues for or against it.
- In argumentative essays, the writer takes a clear **stance** on a certain topic and establishes an evidence-based case for it.

Example: Some people believe that Facebook is a hegemony strategy. Write a five-paragraph essay arguing for this statement.

Introduction:

It goes without saying that Facebook has invited every part of our life. Many people, namely teenagers and youths, cannot spend the day without visiting their Facebook pages or searching for the news of their friends on Facebook. For many of them, Facebook is a matter of life. Personally speaking, I see it as a hegemony strategy as its aims at controlling people's minds and shaping the way they think.

Paragraph 1:

Facebook distracts the attention of people from their real problems and make them focus on trivial matters.

Paragraph 2:

Facebook users develop into digital creatures who live in a virtual world of their making, totally separated from the real one.

Paragraph 3:

Facebook is a way to manipulate the masses and control their thoughts.

Conclusion:

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.....
.....

Topic: Some people believe that co-educational schools are better than single-sex schools. Write an essay in which you argue for or against this statement.

Education is a very dynamic field of interest, where different ideas and beliefs meet at times and collide at others. One of the issues that still attracts the attention of some educators, parents and policymakers is the question of whether co-educational schools are the best choice for children compared to single-sex ones. Personally speaking, I hold the view that co-education can yield better results.

Co-educational schools reflect the instinctive human nature in which males and females need to live together. The classroom should be the place where this nature is best exemplified. In other words, it should be a microcosm for what happens in the real world outside it. Thus, separating boys and girls can isolate them from the socio-cultural content where they live. The job of the school is to establish a link between what students do and learn in the classroom with what they see and live in reality. This is to say that the life inside the classroom should mirror the life outside it.

Male and female students can learn from each other lots of things in an atmosphere of cooperation and seriousness. Having just boys or girls can make the classroom boring and the activities artificial. Boys can get a lot of good things from girls and vice versa. Separating them denies them this learning opportunity. It also prevents them from discovering each other. Thus, a co-educational classroom is a space for gender discovery. Males and females are naturally different from each other, namely at the psycho-emotional level. Co-education gives them the chance to spot and explore these differences.

In addition to this, gender segregation at school can possibly lead to disequilibrium in the fabrics of the society. By nature, males and females need to interact socially, politically, economically and emotionally on a daily basis. The same thing should happen at school. The classroom should be where this interaction takes place. Another point to add is that when boys and girls grow up, they will find themselves in situations where they have to live and work together as husband and wives, colleagues, friends, neighbors, shoppers and travelers. In brief, co-education can effectively contribute to the creation of a balanced society.

To conclude, it should be clearly stated that co-educational schools can play a pivotal role in preparing students for life and connecting them to their socio-cultural, economic and political context where males and females are major actors. It must be reiterated that the separation of males and females is against the human nature. They are instinctively inclined to need each other. It's no longer an exaggeration to say that gender segregation is unfair to students.