

*Sultanate of Oman*

*Ministry of Education*

*General Directorate of Batinah North*

*English Language Unit*

# **Evaluative** **Writing Topics**

**(Grade 12)/ Semester One**

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❖ *It is important to know the procedure of how to write an opinion essay:*

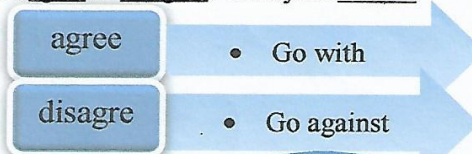
How to Write an Opinion Essay

- 1) Take time to read the given topic and underline the key words.

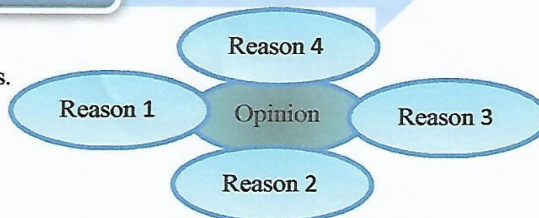
"Studying abroad is better than studying at your home country."

Do you agree or disagree? Give your reasons.

- 2) Have your opinion.

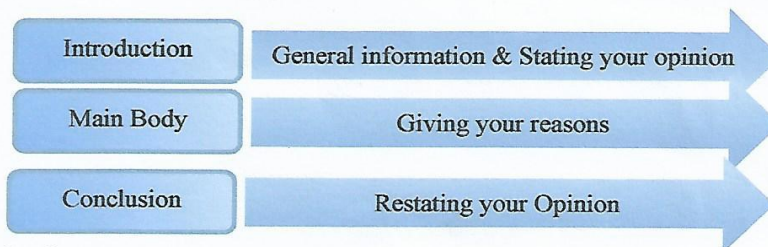


- 3) Brainstorm your reasons.



- 4) Start Your Essay:

- A) Divide the Essay into:



- B) Start Writing your First Draft.

- C) Revise and Proofread

- D) | Edit your Essay.

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"Studying Abroad is better than Studying at Your Home country"

Studying abroad is travelling to another country for the sake of studying. Many Omani students think about studying abroad rather than at home. In my opinion, I agree that studying abroad is better than studying at my home country. I have some reasons that support my opinion.

First of all, I strongly believe that travelling abroad can help me build up my personality. For example, I can be independent since there is nobody to depend on when I need something. Doing everything myself helps me be responsible and more confident. Whereas if I am studying in Oman, my family will surely be there helping me with every single thing I face. The second reason is that I think travelling abroad for studying will certainly help me in learning many new things. For instance, I will learn about the new culture and lifestyle there. Also, I will learn new languages, and meet new people. And this will make me much more experienced than being here in my home country. The third reason is that I believe getting a foreign degree will increase my future prospects to get a good career because studying there is different, so you are going to study things that are not provided here. Therefore, if you get high degree in your certificate, you will certainly have your dream career.

In conclusion, although studying abroad is completely new experience for students, in my point of view, this step will positively change a lot of things in your life

Introduction

Reason 1

Reason 2

Reason 3

Supporting details:

Supporting details:

Supporting details:

Conclusion

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❖ An Outline of an Opinion Paragraph:

*An Opinion Paragraph*

In my opinion, I strongly Agree\ disagree that Topic for some reasons.

To start with, I think that the first reason for my opinion is Reason 1. For

example, Explain your reason. Another reason that could support my point of

view is Reason 2. In other words, Explain your reason. The last reason is

that I believe that Reason 3 because explain. Finally, I feel that Topic is

True\ False because of the mentioned reasons.

## THEME 1: RETAIL THERAPY

- **“Shopping is a pleasure.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- Definition of the word “shopping”.
- Talk about different kinds of shopping: on-line shopping, shopping in malls and shopping in markets.
- State your Opinion clearly: “Agree” e.g:  
“I strongly agree that shopping is a pleasure for some reasons.”

- **Body:**

- Change your routine
- Buy new things (lift up your mood)
- Meet different people

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion; e.g:  
“Finally, I believe that “shopping is a pleasure” is true for all the mentioned reasons.

- **“On-Line Shopping is the best way of shopping.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- What is on-line shopping?
- State your opinion clearly. “Agree”

- **Body:**

- Saves time and effort; no need to go to malls or markets to buy.

- A variety of goods to buy from different brands using different websites.
- Find things that might not find in your country.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

- **“On-Line Shopping is the best way of shopping.”**  
**Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- What is on-line shopping?
- State your opinion clearly. “Disagree”

- **Body:**

- Not sure of the quality, size and color.
- Some websites are not trustworthy. (you don't receive your order)
- Takes a long time (a month or even more)
- Sometimes you receive broken products.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

- **Which do you prefer: shopping in malls or shopping in markets?”**

- **Introduction:**

- Talk about the different types of shopping.
- State your opinion clearly. “shopping in malls”

- **Body:**

- Cold place; comfortable; wide walkways
- It combines shopping with other activities: playing, eating, and watching movies in cinemas.
- Good qualities with high brands.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

✓ Note: you will have more supporting reasons in Unit 4  
“Malls and Market” on p. 8

- **Which do you prefer: shopping in malls or shopping in markets?”**

- Introduction:

- Talk about the different types of shopping.
- State your opinion clearly. “shopping in markets”

- Body:

- You can bargain; friendly shopkeepers
- Cheap products.
- Traditional goods which you cannot find in malls.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

✓ Note: you will have more supporting reasons in Unit 4  
“Malls and Market” on p. 8

- **“Advertisements makes people buy more and spend their money.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- Introduction:

- What is advertisement?
- State your opinion clearly. Agree



- **Body:**

- Ads. Are full of colorful pictures and attractive phrases (logos and slogans) that attract people to go and buy that product.
- Companies ask celebrities to advertise for them, and this encourages people to go and buy especially if they are their fans.
- Ads are everywhere; even if people don't want to see them, they are forced to because they see them on their phones, on TV, in magazines or even on the road.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Advertisements should not be for children.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- What is advertisement?
- State your opinion clearly. **Agree**

- **Body:**

- Some Ads are not suitable their kids (dangerous/ bad ideas ethically)
- When kids watch ads, they force their parents to buy even if they cannot afford.
- Children might have health problems because of some ads (like fast food; chocolate.....etc)

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.



## THEME2: STARTING UNIVERSITY

- ***“Studying abroad is better than studying at your home country.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons***

- Introduction:

- Talk about the two choices that students will have after school (studying abroad or studying at your home country).
- Explain what studying abroad is?
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Build up your personality:
  - ❖ Teach you to be independent, confident and responsible.
- Learn new things like culture and language and meet new people.
- Getting a foreign degree will improve your prospects for future careers.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- ***“Studying abroad can build up your personality.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.***

- Introduction:

- Explain what studying abroad is.
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Be independent. (there is no one to help you with your things and needs, so you do them by your own)
- Be confident. (When you do things by your own; this improves your personality and makes you trust yourself).
- Be responsible because none of your family is there to help you and do things for you
- Learn new things (e.g: language and culture) which improve your personality.

#### • Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

### • “Completing your higher studies is better than starting your own business after school.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

#### • Introduction:

- Talk about the different choices for students after leaving school. (starting a job or business; completing studies at universities; sitting at home)
- State your opinion. Agree.

#### • Body:

- Get a degree, so your chances for future careers will be better, and the career itself will be better than not having a degree.
- Be more experienced; studying will widen your knowledge and information of the job you are going to have.

#### • Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Parents should always choose for their kids their future career.” Do you agree or not? Give reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- Talk about the role of the parents in their kids’ studying (advising, guiding and highlighting what is good and bad about their studies).
- State your opinion. **Disagree**

- **Body:**

- Parents sometimes want to achieve their dreams through their kids. (e.g: if the wanted to be doctors and they couldn’t, they force their kids to be doctors even if they don’t want.)
- Kids might not do well in their studies because it wasn’t their choice from the beginning. Therefore, neither do they achieve their dreams, nor their fathers do.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

### **THEME3: TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY**

- **“Omani people are known for their hospitality.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- Talk about what Oman is famous for. (Beautiful scenery, generous and friendly people, hospitable families).
- State your opinion. **Agree**

- **Body:**

- Omani people are famous for their generosity and kindness, so they meet visitors with a wide smile.
- Omani culture has its special occasions in welcoming visitors. (Slaughtering goats, preparing fruit and big dishes, serving Omani Halwa, and fare welling guests with different gifts for them). All of this shows hospitality of Omani people.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Tourism is a main factor for promoting the Omani identity.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- Talk about tourism in Oman (awesome scenery, historical building, and traditional souks.
- State your opinion. **Agree**

- **Body:**

- Oman is famous for its plenty of historical buildings like forts, castles and museums, and even traditional Omani food and cuisine that tells about Oman’s history and culture; so when tourists come, they like to visit these places to know more about Oman, and this promotes the Omani Identity.
- Ministry of tourism Takes care of Oman’s history and tradition as well as Oman’s modernity. For example, it cares about the building and their architectural designs that tell about Oman’s history and traditions; and by this Oman will preserve its identity through tourism.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- *“Tourist industry is important for Oman.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.*

- Introduction:

- Talk about tourism in Oman (awesome scenery, historical buildings, traditional souks....etc
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Attract people from different countries, so Oman will be famous and a popular destination.
- Provide employment for people. Taking care of tourism means building malls, hotels, restaurants .....etc for tourists. Therefore, jobs are provided in these new buildings to serve the tourists.
- Increase the income of Oman. When tourists come to Oman, they spend their money in hotels, restaurants, malls and souks buying souvenirs; and this develop the economy of Oman.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- *“Being a pilot is a rewarding career.”Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.*

- Introduction:

- Talk about different jobs and what makes them interesting (the salary; the colleagues; opportunities to travel; lots of holidays; the nature of the job itself)
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- High salary
  - ❖ The salary of this job is much more than other jobs.
- Opportunities to travel:
  - ❖ The work of this job is to travel which is exciting; visiting different countries as part of your duty.
  - ❖ People need to have holidays from their jobs to travel; whereas pilots get their holidays to stay at home.
- Meeting different people and learning about different cultures because of the nature of this job.

- Conclusion

- With all these positive points of being a pilot, you need to think of your personality and your ability to be able to choose the right career suitable for you.

- **“Being a pilot is a rewarding career.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- Talk about different jobs and what makes them interesting (the salary; the colleagues; opportunities to travel; lots of holidays; the nature of the job itself)
- State your opinion. **Disagree**

- **Body:**

- Shift work. You need to work at different times; morning and evening; and this means that you need to be active all the time; tiring.
- Away from your family for a long time.
- Be very careful because with any mistakes while flying, a disaster may happen, and the passengers’ lives will be at risk.
- Boring because the pilot visits the same place many times.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

- **“The customer is always right.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- Talk about the importance of attracting customers
- State your opinion. **Agree**

- **Body:**



- That makes the customer happy and satisfied with the service provided; so they will recommend it to other people.
- Consequently, the income will increase.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Eating at home is much better than eating at restaurants”. Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- Introduction:

- Talk about the change of eating habits (from eating at home to eating at restaurants).
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Healthy: fresh not fast food; we know the ingredients of the food we eat and with less calories.
- Comfortable and at ease when you eat at home; no need to be formal and use spoons and forks while eating; and it is for free.
- Gathering for the family.

- Conclusion:

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Eating at home is healthier than eating at restaurants”. Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- Introduction:

- Talk about the change of eating habits (from eating at home to eating at restaurants).
- State your opinion. **Agree**

- **Body:**

- Healthy: fresh food not fast food;
- we know the ingredients of the food we eat
- Fewer calories.

- **Conclusion:**

- Restate your opinion.

## THEME4: TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

- **“Congestion leads to serious problems.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- **Introduction:**

- What is congestion? (Over-crowding of vehicles on the road.)
- State your opinion. **Agree**

- **Body:**

- Cause accidents because of the traffic jam and the over-crowding of vehicles.
- Road rage (aggressive drivers on the road) : they get irritated and upset because they wait for a long time on the road, so they behave badly by overtaking, flashing light, tailgating. And all of these lead to accidents.
- Pollution: because of the increasing numbers of cars which emit the CO2 that pollute the air.

- Workers become late to their work, so there will be economical problems.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

**"Roads are no longer safe." Do you agree or not? give your reasons.**

- Introduction:

- The importance of safety in a person's life (feel secure; comfortable).
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Because of mobile phones since most young drivers are careless and they use their phones while driving.
- Badly maintained roads and cars which make it difficult for drivers to control their driving in case of any sudden emergency with the car or the road; and this leads to serious accidents.
- Aggressive drivers, who do not care of the road rules, so they overtake, tailgate, keep flashing lights or using horns, or even race on the road.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Road rage leads to serious accidents.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- Introduction:

- What is road rage? (Aggressive behavior from drivers towards other drivers on the road.)
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Drivers lose control while driving, so they start overtaking, tailgating, flashing lights....etc.
- All of these actions make other drivers distracted, so they cause accidents.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- **“Using public transport makes roads safer.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

- Introduction:

- What is public transport? (Using metros, ferry services, metered taxis and busses.)
- State your opinion. Agree

- Body:

- Less congestion; instead of using a car for each person; people will use the public transport, so the number of cars on the road will be less.
- Consequently, accidents and injury will be less, and roads will be safer.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- *“Using seatbelts is a main factor for a safe travel.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.*

- Introduction:

- The importance of safety in a person's life (feel secure; comfortable)
- State your opinion.

- Body:

- In case of sudden stops; seatbelts protect people from jumping suddenly outside of the car, or hitting the glass or any part of the car.
- In case of serious accidents: if people do not wear seatbelts, they may have serious injuries or even death. But with seatbelts, less injury will be there.

- Conclusion

- Restate your opinion.

- *“Using mobile phones is a main factor for a dangerous travel.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.*

- Introduction:

- The importance of safety in a person's life (feel secure; comfortable)
- State your opinion.

- **Body:**

- Using mobile phones while driving is distracting. Drivers will not concentrate on driving, so they will cause accidents.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.

- ***“Child seats in the car should be used by all parents.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.***

- **Introduction:**

- The importance of safety in a person's life (feel secure; comfortable)
- State your opinion. **Agree**

- **Body:**

- Kids are known with their activity, so in the car they move from the front to the back and this distract the driver. Therefore, using a child seat in the car keep them still without motion.
- In case of serious accidents, children will have less injury if they are kept in a child seat.

- **Conclusion**

- Restate your opinion.
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### ❖ *Samples of Evaluative Essays:*

#### **“Tourism is important for Oman.” Do you agree or not?**

##### **Give your reasons.**

I agree that tourism is important for Oman .I have my reasons to support my point of view.

Tourism helps to increase the Omani income because tourists will spend their money in hotels, restaurants and shops. This will help Oman be a rich country.

Tourism will also encourage Oman to open new malls, parks, restaurants and hotels. This means that many jobs will be provided for Omanis. It will help in the development of the country.

My third reason is that tourism will help Oman to be well-known in the world. For instance, when tourists return to their countries, they will tell their friends about their visit. Therefore, this will encourage more people to visit Oman.

To conclude my essay, I strongly agree that tourism is important for Oman, so the Omani government should provide more services to tourists.

#### **What do you prefer online shipping or malls? Give your reasons.**

I prefer shopping in malls rather than online and I have my own reasons.

First of all, I have a lot of varieties and choices because in malls there are many brand names with different colors and designs. I can check the quality and materials of the products because I can touch and see them in reality. However if I buy something online, I can't check the quality of my order. When I shop in malls, I don't have to pay any shipping fees. Additionally, if I don't like the product or it doesn't fit my size, I can easily change it or refund my money. Besides that, if I want to buy a perfume ,I can smell it and I can check how long it last, but I can't do that when I buy it online.

I prefer shopping in malls because of the mentioned reasons.



**“Shopping is a pleasure that lift your mood.” Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.**

Shopping is a great way to forget about stress and become happy with your life again. Shopping gives you a sense of control. When you feel stressed or depressed, you lose your control and confidence. However while you are going shopping, you rule the situation. You choose what you want and you pay for things that you like. When you go shopping, you forget about your stress because you focus on price and choosing and you have no time to think about your stress. When you buy a dress or a new watch, this makes you look amazing and feel happy. Moreover, you spend money with someone you love. For example, you may invite your friends to have dinner with you and enjoy a cup of coffee. This is a good way to boost your mood. In addition, when you go shopping, you may meet a lot of people. Most of them are smiling and this makes you feel better.

For all the mentioned reasons, I believe that shopping is a great pleasure.

*THANK YOU*