**13. Higher Education in Russia and abroad**

**Before you start:**

* What are the advantages and disadvantages of higher education in Russia compared to foreign ones?

So, let’s start with positive. Our education isn’t so expensive as foreign if we’re talking about European countries, USA, Canada and some countries of Asia. Also, for Russian it’s easy to study in Russia because you haven’t to face with cultural and language barrier.

However, the average quality of Russian education is less than average quality of education in countries said before. Also, Russian Diploma not so respected in these countries.

* Does your educational institution have some international exchange programs for its students?

Yes, as I know our university was on academic connections with some universities of Finland, France, China and some another but today I’m not sure that we still have these links.

* Why would you study abroad? Check (✓) your answers.
  + to see the world and have new experiences +
  + to learn about a different culture and to teach other people about my culture
  + to meet different people
  + to make my résumé more attractive to employers +
  + I do not want to study abroad

Give other reasons for studying abroad.

**Ex. 1 Study the words and word combinations:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Word | Transcription | Translation |
| interconnected | /ˌɪntə(ː)kəˈnɛktɪd/ | взаимосвязанный |
| inevitable | /ɪnˈevɪtəbl/ | неизбежный |
| to appreciate | /əˈpriːʃɪeɪt/ | ценить |
| diversity | /daɪˈvɜːsɪtɪ/ | разнообразие |
| tangential | /tænˈʤenʃəl/ | второстепенный, касательный |
| to internalize | /ɪnˈtɜːnəlaɪz/ | усвоить |
| to crumble | /krʌmbl/ | крошить, рассыпаться |
| essential | /ɪˈsenʃəl/ | существенный, жизненно важный |
| to acquire | /əˈkwaɪə/ | приобретать |
| conducive | /kənˈdjuːsɪv/ | благоприятный |
| akin | /əˈkɪn/ | родственный, похожий |
| stumbling | /ˈstʌmblɪŋ/ | преткновение |
| lodging | /ˈlɒʤɪŋ/ | проживание |
| executive | /ɪgˈzekjʊtɪv/ | исполнительный |
| to perceive | /pəˈsiːv/ | воспринимать, ощущать |
| spur | /spɜː/ | побуждать |
| stagnant | /ˈstægnənt/ | застоявшийся |
| impact | /ˈɪmpækt/ | влияние, воздействие |

**Ex. 2 Read the text:**

**Every Student Should Study Abroad**

Globalization is here to stay, and students who want to work in our interconnected global world should study abroad. Many people when they think of studying abroad image of taking a semester abroad during their bachelor’s degree. While this is common, it is by no means the only way you can study abroad. In fact, you can study abroad at almost every level of your education - even if you’ve been out of school for years!

Making study abroad a part of education is the most effective and accessible means for students to develop needed skills because it pushes a student to get out of their comfort zone to experience another culture, language, environment and education system. It teaches students to appreciate difference and diversity firsthand and enables them to recognize – and then dismiss – stereotypes they may have held about people they had never met.

But study abroad has to be done correctly. It shouldn’t be a separate or tangential part of education, but rather an integrated part of the curriculum, incorporating proper cross-cultural preparation and supportive reintegration to help students understand and internalize what they learn.

With more flexible and accessible options, the barriers posed by financial need, disabilities, race and ethnicity are crumbling. Excellent programs and inspiring role models exist for every type of student. Every parent, teacher, professor, adviser and employer should support making international experience an essential and affordable component of a well-rounded education.

**Becoming Bi-Cultural**

It is an adventure in self-discovery in which many students do not participate. Sometimes it’s because of sports commitments – football, for example, requires students to stay on campus. Or it’s social reasons, not wanting to leave friends behind, or school programs such a pre-med that are not conducive to leaving the country. But often, the reasons for not studying abroad are simpler.

“Many school degree programs do not offer an international component in the curriculum, and international study is not encouraged in general. The benefits that international study can bring to one’s career are not fully understood,” points out Maritheresa Frain, executive vice president of Study Abroad Programs at Council on International Educational Exchange. Frain herself has studied abroad in Salamanca, Spain, and worked abroad for 24 years in Lisbon, Portugal; Athens, Greece; Madrid, Spain; Moscow, Russia; Zug, Switzerland; and Seville, Spain, where she ran CIEE's Study Center for 13 years.

**Not Just Finishing School**

To date, the typical view of students studying abroad is still something akin to attending a finishing school, going abroad to learn to speak French – something in which only the well-placed and wealthy are interested or indeed can afford. “Kids today need something more than just good grades,” says Frain. “You need soft skills to be competitive in the work force and land a good job.”

But perhaps the biggest stumbling block to studying abroad is financial. Participating universities offer scholarships, and so does CIEE because no matter how you look at it, studying abroad is not cheap: a year costs something like $1,000 per week at CIEE's Global Institutes in Berlin, London, Paris and Rome. For a full 18-week semester, the tab comes to some $17,000. Even though this is an all-inclusive total, including books, lodging, most meals and cultural excursions, it’s a hefty price tag. To reduce costs and increase access to the Open Campus program, CIEE provides scholarships of up to $10,000 for students studying at multiple Global Institute locations in one semester. Even though globalization and the internet have made the world smaller, and have spread Anglo-Saxon pop culture and its accompanying language worldwide, there are still reasons to leave home.

**Where should I look for study abroad programs?**

Once you’ve decided on a general location, now it’s time to get serious about making a list of potential universities. Try a few of these options:

Education search engines

While Google can be a good starting resource, using a more targeted resource like educations.com can help you by comparing programs and connecting with universities. This is a good starting point if you’re in the research stage. You can filter programs by country, city, school type, and category.

Rankings

If you’re more focused on school rather than country, it may also be a good idea to check out ranking sites like THE, QS, and US News, which compile annual rankings of the top schools around the world. But take this with a grain of salt - just because a school isn’t in the top 20 doesn’t mean it doesn’t have an amazing program that’s uniquely suited to you and your interests.

**How can I convince my parents to let me study abroad?**

Your family might be hesitant to let you study abroad. Put yourself in their shoes - they’re probably just nervous, especially if you’ve always lived nearby or if you’ve (or they) never been out of the country before. But if you build your case, you can probably convince them.

First, be prepared - they’re going to have a lot of questions and you’ll need to have answers. Make sure you know how you’re going to potentially pay for it because they’re definitely going to want to hear that. Outline the many benefits of study abroad and ensure them that you’ll communicate with them often when you’re abroad. If you approach the conversation with empathy, you’re sure to have a good chance in convincing even the most protective parents.

**When studying abroad goes wrong**

 Most students find the year abroad difficult in one way or another, and the majority get through it and come out the other side better for the experience. But there can come a point when staying in a situation that doesn’t suit you starts to seriously impact your mental health, and in that case it’s worth checking out your options.

“If you’re unhappy on your year abroad and it’s because of the place, you are free to change your plans,” says Eleanor Fawcett, who worked with a group of other Cambridge students to create a guide to finding support during the year abroad. “I left Paris much earlier than planned and moved to Russia. The faculty supported me financially and allowed me to change my plans.”

Many universities have guidelines for what happens in this situation, but they don’t tend to be made clear to students. It’s worth emailing your course or year abroad coordinator to ask about your options for finishing a placement early or changing to a different one. As Beth Craig-Geen, who studied in Jordan, says: “Never be afraid to change your plans or make decisions to protect your mental health. Changing things isn’t a failure – it’s a success, because it shows you’re looking after yourself.”

**Ex. 3 Answer the questions:**

1. Why should every student study abroad for at least 1 semester?

Making study abroad a part of education is the most effective and accessible means for students to develop needed skills because it pushes a student to get out of their comfort zone to experience another culture, language, environment and education system. It teaches students to appreciate difference and diversity firsthand and enables them to recognize – and then dismiss – stereotypes they may have held about people they had never met.

1. How much can it cost to study abroad?

The year costs something like $1,000 per week at CIEE's Global Institutes in Berlin, London, Paris and Rome. For a full 18-week semester, the tab comes to some $17,000. Even though this is an all-inclusive total, including books, lodging, most meals and cultural excursions, it’s a hefty price tag.

1. What are the benefits of studying abroad?

Making study abroad a part of education is the most effective and accessible means for students to develop needed skills because it pushes a student to get out of their comfort zone to experience another culture, language, environment and education system. It teaches students to appreciate difference and diversity firsthand and enables them to recognize – and then dismiss – stereotypes they may have held about people they had never met.

1. What can be an obstacle to studying abroad?

You may face with financial problems. It’s expensive to study abroad. Also doubt of your family may become o problem.

1. Where can you find out about study abroad programs?

You can find out about study abroad programs with education search engines such as educations.com or on many ranking sites.

**Ex. 4 Write T (true), F (false), or N (not in the text) for each statement.**

1. If you’re unhappy on your year abroad, you can change everything. T
2. Your parents will definitely want to know the cost of the education and how you are going to get it. T
3. In the modern world, people with experience of studying abroad do not have any professional advantages over those who received education in their country. N
4. You don’t even need to be at the university level to study abroad. T
5. You’ll have to figure out where studying abroad fits in the midst of your other academic commitments, like internships, co-ops, and course requirements. N

**Ex. 5 Translate into English:**

1. Если вы только что закончили бакалавриат и готовы поехать за границу для получения степени магистра или доктора, то, возможно, вам будет легко решить, когда вы можете учиться за границей.
2. У вас есть варианты, и сколько это будет стоить, будет зависеть от страны, в которую вы поедете, и, конечно, от того, как долго вы останетесь.
3. Многие школы имеют партнерские отношения с различными университетами по всему миру, поэтому обратитесь в свой офис по обучению за рубежом.
4. Некоторые страны известны разными вещами, и хотя во многих странах, вероятно, будут отличные программы, это может быть хорошей отправной точкой, если вы находитесь в самом начале своего поиска.
5. Программы докторантуры часто бывают небольшими и конкурентоспособными, а иногда имеют только одно или два открытых места в год.
6. Если вы не можете найти работу в своей стране, поиск за границей может стать отличным способом продолжить учебу и познакомиться с новыми школами мысли и экспертами в своей области.
7. Познакомившись с программой и увидев, насколько она невероятно выполнима и как она может вписаться в мою жизнь, специализацию и кошелек, я сделал решительный шаг и выбрал семестр в Берлине, Германия.
8. Независимо от того, представляют ли они, как построить жизнь в Пекине или Беатрис, нашим студентам нужны глобальные компетенции, которые позволят им легко перемещаться между языками, культурами и национальными границами.
9. Education Abroad также начала сотрудничать с Инженерным колледжем, проводя ярмарку обучения за границей и рекламируя специальную инженерную программу в Италии.
10. Учеба за границей больше не является роскошью для состоятельных студентов и, конечно же, не туризм.

**1) If you have just finished your Bachelor degree and are ready to go abroad for your master's or doctoral degree, it may be easy for you to decide when you can study abroad.**

**2) You have options, and how much it will cost will depend on the country you go to, and of course how long you stay.**

**3) Many schools have partnerships with various universities around the world, so check with your study abroad office.**

**4) Some countries are known for different things, and while many countries will probably have great programs, this can be a good starting point if you are at the beginning of your search.**

**5) Doctoral programs are often small and competitive, and sometimes have only one or two open spots per year.**

**6) If you can't find work in your home country, searching abroad can be a great way to continue your studies and meet new schools of thought and experts in your field.**

**7) After getting to know the program and seeing how incredibly doable it was and how it could fit into my life, major, and wallet, I took the drastic step of choosing a semester in Berlin, Germany.**

**8) Whether they imagine building a life in Beijing or Beatrice, our students need global competencies that allow them to move easily between languages, cultures, and national borders.**

**9) Education Abroad has also begun a partnership with the College of Engineering, holding a study abroad fair and promoting a special engineering program in Italy.**

**10) Studying abroad is no longer a luxury for wealthy students and certainly not tourism.**

**Ex. 6 Define the following words, give their synonyms:**

Curriculum – учебный план

Akin – похожий

I have checked your curriculum and it seems that it akin to mine

Firsthand – из первых уст

In this interview, you’ll get insights from firsthand

Dismiss – отвергать

Unfortunately, this company dismissed my CV

Hefty – большой

Rankings – рейтинги

On ranking sites you can found out universities with hefty infrastructure

My curriculum is very effective

Wow, I have the akin bag!

I get this information from firsthand

I dismissed their offer

There are hefty rankings of universities

**Ex. 7 You’re going to read students stories about studying abroad. Before you read, discuss with a partner, what are the advantages of being able to speak foreign language (English, Arabic, German Spanish, Chinese)?**

**Then, read students’ stories:**

**Delaney Morgan**

**Al-Ahliyya Amman University, Jordan, summer 2013**

"Studying abroad in Amman, Jordan was a life changing experience. Every day was a new adventure that was completely different from my life at home. While I was there, I studied US Foreign Policy in the Middle East, History of the Arab World, and was tutored for Arabic. People often ask me what my favorite memory from abroad was, but that is so hard to answer because there are so many! However, riding camels in the Wadi Rum desert and camping out, an excursion to Petra, and getting the opportunity to visit with Syrian refugees are at the top of my ‘favorites list’. The environment was completely different from anything I had ever experienced, which is why I loved it so much. Jordan is a third world country, and because of this I was able to learn so much and get more out of my study aboard experience by being immersed in a such a unique culture. Of course, because it was the Middle East, there were challenges and cultural norms I had to adapt to, though everyone from Jordan was exceptionally understanding and welcoming. I studied through International Studies Abroad (ISA), and they were incredibly helpful and made the process less stressful and overwhelming. My recommendation for people studying abroad is to go to a country that is completely different from any culture you have experienced before and to stay as long as you can. Studying abroad gave me a new outlook and perception on life and other cultures around me. I hope everyone gets the opportunity to experience a unique education abroad experience, too."

## Kelsey Scofield

## University of Canberra, Australia, spring 2013

"I am so fortunate to have had the experience to study abroad in Australia. My semester abroad has by far been the best semester of my three years in college. Going into the semester, I really had no idea what I was getting myself into. I think I picked the farthest place away from home so you can only imagine my nerves. Luckily my time there exceeded any expectations I could have had. Australians have a very relaxed and welcoming culture, making it very easy to get accustomed and meet the locals. I quickly made relationships with them, as well as people from all over the world. They freely invited me and other Americans back to see their hometowns and took us to some of their favorite places. I was astounded by the generosity and kindness of their people and that is what made my experience so amazing. Having that time away from home also allowed me to grow as an individual. I learned that developing strong relationships with people is one of the most important and rewarding things in life. I came with just a suitcase, and left with some of my best friends."

**Jackson Thomas**

**Deutsch in Deutschland Institute, Berlin, Germany, spring 2013**

"Coming to UNL as a freshman music student, I never thought that I would study abroad. However, after being exposed to the Deutsch in Deutschland program and seeing how incredibly doable it was and how it could fit into my life, major, and pocketbook, I took the plunge and opted for a semester in Berlin, Germany. And let me tell you, the only thing I regret is the hesitation I had about signing up in the first place! This program allowed me to live in a huge, metropolitan city and study at Deutsch in Deutschland, a renowned language institute, right in the heart of it all. Being a language-based program, most of my studies were learning German with other students from all around the world. Of course I learned a lot from studying abroad, including becoming fluent in a language, but how I grew as a person was an even larger gain. It allowed me to uncover hidden courage and realize aspects of myself that I never thought I possessed. To this day I still find new ways in which I've grown through my experiences abroad and even though it was probably the hardest thing I have ever done, I can honestly say it was the best thing I have ever done. One of my favorite parts of the trip was being able to interact with my host family that spoke absolutely no English. Although it was a challenge, overcoming that barrier led to relationships and experiences that I will have forever and I can't wait to go back and visit! How important my time abroad was to me is something that I cannot express enough. It was truly an experience of a lifetime."

**Lexa Black**

**Antonio de Nebraija University, Madrid, Spain, Spring 2012**

"I lived with a host family in Madrid, Spain. Neither of my Spanish parents knew how to speak English at all, so it was very difficult at the beginning. But as I grew more accustomed to their way of life and to only speaking in Spanish, we became very close. My host mom, Concha, was a former chef and owner of her own restaurant. I was very lucky to have the opportunity to try a variety of traditional Spanish dishes. Since I studied abroad for a full semester, I had more opportunities to travel. A group of friends and I traveled to Venice, Florence, and Rome for 5 days. While in Rome, we visited the Trevi fountain. It is said that if you stand with your back to the fountain and throw a coin in over your shoulder while making a wish, that wish will come true. My wish was to have a positive study abroad experience that I would never forget. Without a doubt that wish came true and I would do it all over again if I had the chance. I studied abroad in Madrid, Spain with International Studies Abroad (ISA), which is program provider.  Through ISA, we went on excursions all throughout the country including Granada, Salamanca, Segovia, and Toledo. Through these excursions, I was able to see different parts of the country and experience many of the different cultures that are represented throughout Spain."

**Mei Snow**

**Fudan University, Shanghai, China, Summer 2019**

“Studying abroad in Shanghai was my first time studying abroad, I have traveled around but not for more than a week or two so living there, I had a lot of worries at the beginning. From the entire application process, I probably emailed 100 times just to ease my stress and TEAN (program provider) was amazing at responding to emails and making sure I had all the information I needed and more. Once I got to Shanghai, I had an amazing time. TEAN orientation was great at really letting us students bond before classes started. I love my Shanghai group, everyone was absolutely amazing and they became some of my best friends.

Shanghai is amazing for everything you could think of. There are older parts if you like history, there are bars and clubs if you like nightlife, there are cafes and restaurants for every type of food and dessert you could want (even vegan/vegetarian/halal)!

During our time we were given a lot of cultural immersion opportunities provided through the program free of charge such as a trip to Chengdu and Beijing and various local experiences within the city. Throughout my time I was able to gain a true insight into how it is like to be a student in China. I was able to make a lot of lifetime friends because of this program and I wish I could go back and start over again!

10/10 you should go, and trust TEAN will take care of anything you could possibly need. They are amazing resources and friends.”

**Ex. 8 Discuss with your classmates the following questions:**

1. What is general in all these stories?
2. Do they recommend to study abroad and why?
3. Classify benefits mentioned by them.
4. Figure out possible drawbacks of studying in the countries described in the stories.

**Ex. 9 Give Russian equivalents for the following words and word combinations:**

Refugee, to immerse, overwhelming, outlook, perception, locals, to astound, freshman, plunge, to opt, renowned, to gain, to get accustomed, astounded, generosity, plunge, hesitation.

**Ex. 10 Discuss with your partner:**

1. Do you have experience in studying abroad? How was that?
2. What country do you want to study? Why?
3. What culture do you want to learn closer?

**Ex. 11. Read the following quotations. Say which sayings sound optimistic. Comment on the idea of each saying. Find other quotations about education and present them.**

*The modern world belongs to the half-educated, a rather difficult class, because they do not realize how little they know.*

*William R. Inge*

*The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.*

*Diogenes Laertius*

*I think education is power. I think that being able to communicate with people is power. One of my main goals on the planet is to encourage people to empower themselves.*

*Oprah Winfrey*

*Graduation is only a concept. In real life every day you graduate. Graduation is a process that goes on until the last day of your life. If you can grasp that,*

*you’ll make a difference*

*Arie Pencovici*

*Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever*

*Mahatma Gandhi*

**Ex. 12 Learn the principle of writing For & Against essays and create your own on the following topic: “Do the benefits of study abroad justify the difficulties?”**

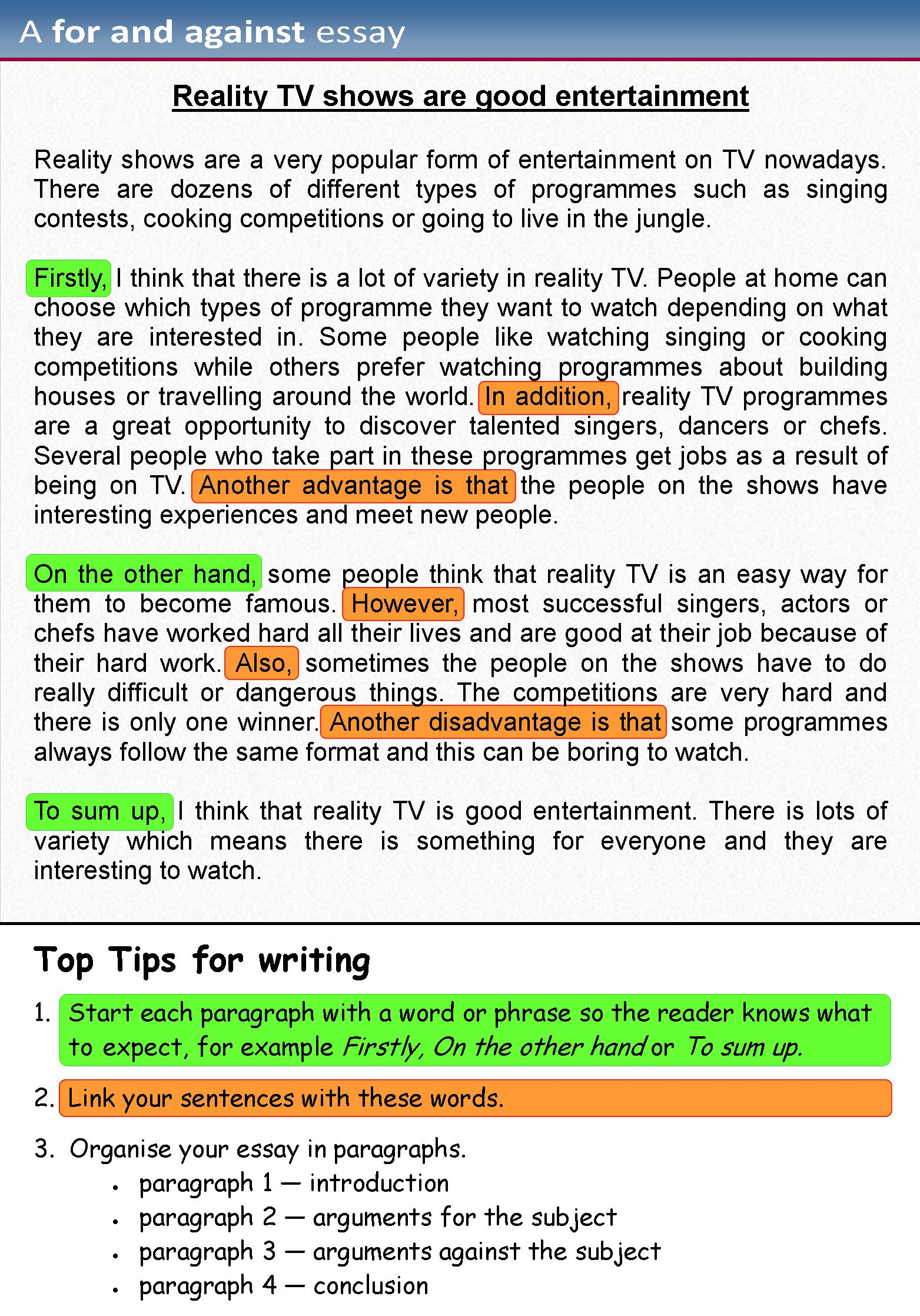
In this type of essay the main task is to consider the two existing points of view. It is important to evaluate both positions objectively and express your understanding of each side.

Structure:

1) Introduction (it is important to outline the topic to be discussed without expressing your own opinion).

2) Main part (it is important to express your opinion about the problem, give examples and evidence).

3) Conclusion (in this section you summarize all of the above. Remember that in this type of essay, you should not make a specific conclusion, you can only distribute all the arguments in two bowls of weight).



*Important!* The words *I think, I believe*, *In my opinion, etc*. may be used only in the conclusion, where you express your position.

**Watching the video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1Zha2CrJZ0>

**“Why study abroad”**

**Marina Meijer, TEDxDelftSalon**

**Part 1 (00:00 – 06:46)**

**Before you watch**

**Ex. 1. Pay attention to the underlined words and word combinations, find their definition if necessary:**

1. Immerse yourself in the culture and challenge your believe system.
2. Open your mind to new ideas and influences.
3. Instead of using your studies as an excuse to remove yourself from the world, go out and learn through experience.
4. Studying abroad can be such a valuable experience, but only, if you put in the effort.

**Ex. 2. Discuss with your partner:**

1. Why do you think it is necessary to study abroad? What experience can this give?
2. Is it possible to find new friends for the whole life while being abroad?

**While you watch**

**Ex. 1. Answer following questions:**

1. Who are Marina’s parents?
2. What countries did she live in?
3. What countries did she study in?
4. Why has she decided to move to the U.S.?
5. Where did she meet her future husband?
6. Describe her Korean experience.

**Part 2 (06:46 – 11:43)**

**Before you watch**

**Ex. 1. Find Russian equivalents for the following words and word combinations:**

1. No guts – no glory
2. immerse
3. background
4. international students
5. confront
6. embarrassed
7. freckles
8. the food chain
9. diving into life
10. shaping yourself as a person

**Ex. 2. Read the advices Marina gives to students, then listen to this part of the video again and give your comments on it:**

1. Getting experiences and diving into adventures
2. Make new friends with different backgrounds
3. Follow your heart and do what is right for you

**While you watch**

**Ex. 1. Mark the following statements as True or False:**

1. Marina argues studying abroad is important.
2. She works to encourage students to study abroad.
3. People who study abroad meet their significant other during that time and the consequences of starting an international family.
4. Studying abroad is not about growing up as a person, it is about study.
5. You should try to go beyond your comfort zone.