

Practice exam questions – English Foundation

Writing to argue or persuade

It has been suggested in the press recently that the government are considering making education compulsory until the age of 18. Write a letter to your local MP **arguing** your point of view and **persuading** him / her why they should / should not support this idea.

Remember to include:

- Language suitable for a letter to an MP
- Argue for **or** against
- Make at least three points in your argument
- Use persuasive techniques like groups of three (trios) and rhetorical questions

Writing to advise

Write an article for teenage readers of a magazine about skin problems. Reassure your readers that they should not be so worried about imperfections in their appearance and give them **advice** about how to keep the condition in perspective.

Think about:

- Healthy diet
- Exercise
- Drinking water
- Advertisers who target teenagers with `miracle` cures and powerful promises to clear up skin complaints like greasy skin, blackheads and acne.

Writing to describe

Describe someone you admire.

Your description needs to include:

- What he / she looks like
- How he/she dresses
- His/her behaviour
- His/her interests
- His / her responses to other people

Writing to explain

Write a speech **explaining** to an audience of year 10 students how they should prepare for the year ahead – full of GCSE coursework, mock exams and real pressure as the actual exams loom closer!

Remember to:

- Open with an appropriate statement or question to engage your audience
- Explain logically and clearly the potential problems they could face
- Make speech relevant to audience with language, tone and content

Writing to inform

Write an article for a newspaper where you inform the readers about the achievements of a sportsperson whom you think is deserving of the Sportsperson of the Year award.

Consider:

- Background information about the person
- What they have achieved
- Why they are a good choice for the honour
- A final statement to sway your readers