

TOEFL iBT Writing Ultimate Lesson

Lesson 1 independent & integrated writing

How to develop an argument?

Rhetorical strategies!

a. Narration

Narration describes the passing of time. When we arrange events according to time, we put them in chronological or time order, for example:

Every Monday after class, Alicia goes to the gym and practises karate for three hours. When she is finished, she goes shopping, then takes the bus home.

b. Process

Process means putting events in sequential or step-by-step order. In the following examples, notice how each step-by-step process also describes the passing of time.

When making tea, first boil water. Next, put a tea bag into a cup. When the water is boiling, pour the water into the cup. Finally, add milk and sugar as you prefer.

c. Description

Description creates pictures of people, places and things using adjectives and adverbs. Description appeals to the senses: smell, sight, taste, hearing and touch.

The old man lived alone in an old house high on a rugged cliff overlooking a stormy sea.

d. Illustration

Illustration means example or supporting illustration, for example:

There are many places to go for a honeymoon. For example, many newlyweds go to Hawaii.

e. Compare-and-Contrast

Compare-and-Contrast describes the differences and similarities between two or more objects, people or ideas. Compare-and-contrast also describes in opinion, for example:

Jan tried the apple pie and decided the cherry pie was sweeter.

f. Cause-and-effect

Cause-and-effect means action and result. We use cause-and-effect to describe an action and the results, or consequences, of that action, for example:

Global warming is melting the ice at the North Pole.

g. Definition

A definition is a detailed description of a person, place, object or idea. The purpose of a definition is to give meaning, for example:

TOEFL is an English language proficiency test developed and implemented by Educational Testing Services (ETS) located in Princeton, New Jersey.

h. Classification

To classify means to put people, things or ideas into sub groups under a main topic, for example:

There are three kinds of wine: red, white and rose.

1. Agree-disagree
2. Preference
3. Compare-Contrast
4. Advantage-Disadvantage
5. Reason
6. Quality

Advanced introduction and conclusion strategies

Demonstration will be given on the lesson

Simple hooks for introduction

1. Question hook
2. Restate-the-prompt hook
3. Pro-Con hook

4. General Fact + Question hook

Complex hooks for introduction

1. Statistic hook
2. Definition hook
3. Famous-Quote hook
4. Idiom hook

Hooks for conclusion

1. Suggestion (in sum, I assert that; as I have illustrated, I believe that)
2. Suggestion + prediction (in the final analysis, I contend that ; in the end, I posit that)
3. Warning + prediction (it goes without saying that sth ...; as far as I am concerned, I believe that)
4. Rhetorical question (suffice it to say, I think that; in my estimation, I believe that telecommuting has many advantages. Don't you wish you could just fall out of bed and go to work in your pajamas?)
5. Call-to-action (in sum, I conclude that; finally, I assert that)

Template demonstration

Discussion (A or B)

1.

Depending on personal experience or personal type or emotional concern, we find that some people hold the idea of **A**, whereas others prefer **B or to do B**. From my point of view, it is more advisable to choose **A** rather than **B**. My arguments for this point are listed as follows:

The main reason for my propensity for **A** is that This is because For example,

Another reason can be seen by everyone is that The reason why it brings about the consequence is due to For example,

Although I agree that there may be a couple of advantages of **B**, I feel that the disadvantages are more obvious. Explanation + example!

In a word, repeating your opinion. Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach a conclusion that

2.

When faced with the decision of A or B, quite few would contend that A is better. However, others, in contrast, deem **B** premier, which is my point as well. There are numerous reasons why I espouse **A**. And I would hereby explore a few of the most quintessential points only.

The main reason why I agree with the statement above, however, is that
Take ... as example,

There is another factor that deserves some words here. Such as

Similarly, these reasons are also usable when we contemplate something/doing something A typical example of that is

From the above you might understand idea that I agree Therefore, it is sagacious to support the statement that it is better to

Opinion (agree or disagree)

1.

Nowadays, some may hold the opinion that Whereas others reflect a negative attitude. As far as I am concerned, I acknowledge that My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

I agree with the statement that Without reservation since

Another reason why I approve the idea above is that I believe that

To sum up, Taking all these factors into account, we may reach a conclusion that

2.

Some people argue as if it is a general truth that However, to be frank, I cannot agree with it. There are numerous reasons why I hold no confidence on them, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

The main problem with this argument is that it is ignorant to the basic fact that It means that

Another reason why I disagree with the statement above is that I posit that

What is more, some might be interested in

In conclusion, recognising the fact that ... should drive us to conclude that

Lesson 2 independent writing-1 (agree or disagree)

- i. Step 1: carefully read the prompt; formulate an opinion!
- ii. Step 2: make a note map; state your opinion; restate it in your conclusion; develop examples.
- iii. Step 3: type a first draft. Do not include the note map.
- iv. Step 4: check your first draft for coherence
- v. Step 5: revise your first draft using your revision checklist.
- vi. Step 6: submit your essay.

Agree-Disagree: step-by-step

Demonstration:

1.

Prompt: We need zoos. Do you agree or disagree? Why? Give examples and reasons to develop your opinion.

G: agree I think that we need zoos

Ti: for example when I was teenager, went to safari park in Africa, cheetahs are very small on TV but so huge at the park!

C: go to the zoo, see things in new light

Ti: another example is that my friends go to the zoo with me + picnic

C: go to the zoo, is fun for socialising with friends

Ti: also zoos good for animals safety like pandas

C: no zoos, pandas extinction

C: for those reasons I think that we need zoos

2.

Prompt: Television is a good influence on children. Do you agree or disagree? Why? Develop your opinion using examples and reasons.

G: disagree I think that TV is a bad influence

Ti: for example a teenager in your complex watches a violent programme called

C: the programme teaches him/her bad behaviour.

Ti: another example is that my friend watches TV and eats junk food

C: junk food + TV not healthy for brother

Ti: finally a girl wants TV all the time

C: TV like an addition for that girl

C: for those reasons I think that we need zoos

Example analysis:

Do we or don't we need zoos? (question hook) Personally, I agree with the statement. I posit we do need zoos. We need zoos because they are educational, they are fun for families and they protect endangered animals.

Zoos are educational. For example, when I was a teenager, in a summer holiday my parents took me to a safari park in Tanzania. I had never seen wild animals in person before. The only chance I saw them was to read about them in books and to see them on TV. However, viewing them in real life was unforgettable experience, especially the cheetahs that the fastest animal on our planet. By contrast, on TV you couldn't imagine how fast they are capable of running. By going to the zoo, I definitely saw things in a whole new light. (100 words)

3.

Prompt: The expression 'Never, never give up' means to keep trying and never stop working for your goals. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Key sentences: (agree)

- a. Never, never give up because I can always see the coast and it brings me courage all the time.
- b. Never, never give up and always give yourself a second chance.
- c. Psychologists tell us that the influence of what we strongly hold in mind is so important to our career.

4.

Prompt: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? High schools should allow students to study the courses that students want to study. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Key sentences: (disagree)

- a. It is not difficult to make the judgement that to ensure the students have a comprehensive knowledge domain is the main objective of high school education, therefore I disagree with the idea of allowing students to study any courses that they want to study. (introduction)
- b. As we all know, the main purpose of school education is to provide a systematic education to all students.
- c. On the other hand, we may consider introducing some optional courses to the high school curriculum so the students can chose some of the courses within the limitation of a big syllabus.

5.

Prompt: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are the best teachers. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Key sentences: (agree)

- a. In the initial years of our life, our parents are involved in guiding us, in modulating our personality and making us understand the differences between right and wrong.
- b. Even if parents are not specialised in education, their role in teaching the children to be aware of the need of improving their knowledge at school is tremendous.

Lesson 3 independent writing-2 (preference)

- i. Step 1: carefully read the prompt; formulate an opinion!
- ii. Step 2: make a note map; state your opinion; restate it in your conclusion; develop examples.
- iii. Step 3: type a first draft. Do not include the note map.
- iv. Step 4: check your first draft for coherence
- v. Step 5: revise your first draft using your revision checklist.
- vi. Step 6: submit your essay.

Preference Prompts: step-by-step

Demonstration:

1.

Do you prefer to use a laptop computer or a desktop computer? Why? State your position using examples and reasons.

G: prefer laptop

Ti: for example I'm a business man, need a laptop for conferences

C: laptop good and fast for taking notes and presentation in a meeting

Ti: in addition my wife plays loud music – I can take my laptop to my study room and do my own job

C: laptop is light, easy to carry

Ti: moreover prices are cheap, good laptop under 600 euro, fast with lots of memory

C: buy laptop save money

C: in the final analysis prefer laptop

Example analysis:

Today, people have a big choice between laptop computers and desktop computers. (*fact*) So which do I prefer? (*Rhetorical question*) Personally, I prefer a lap top because laptop is great for taking notes in a meeting, portable and affordable. (*predictor thesis*).

First, a laptop is terrific for conference in a meeting. For example, ..., As you can see, a laptop is definitely the best friend and companion for meeting.

Also, another essential reason to possess a laptop is owing to its portability. A good example of that is ..., Best of all, I don't have to persuade my family to do something they are not willing to.

In addition, what we shouldn't miss is the unbeatable cost of laptop. For instance, ... With this money, I might purchase other stuffs useful for my daily life.

In the final analysis, owing a trendy laptop is much better and more practical than desktop one in light of (*reasons*). If ..., I would recommend ... (*suggestion/recommendation*) What more do we need? (*question*)

2.

Some people prefer to spend most of their time alone. Others like to be with friends most of the time. Do you prefer to spend your time alone or with friends? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Key sentences:

- a. Everyone has friends or desires friends in the pursuit of sharing emotions. Thus many people enjoy spending most of their time with friends, like me, while others prefer to remain alone.
- b. There is no doubt that one needs time for oneself; Being alone provides a time to reflect and ponder one's future life course.
- c. On the other hand, spending time with friends is stimulating and provides a mental break from ones daily routine.
- d. When I come with friends I can always exchange views with them about study, society or love thereby obtaining some interesting information or knowledge.

3.

Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Key sentences:

- a. Cities contain a great assortment of people. Whenever I walk around a shopping precinct at midday on a weekend, I am fascinated by all the different types of people hurrying around the shops.
- b. Whether rightly or wrongly, governments and local authorities usually build public amenities in the big cities.
- c. Architecture is the urban landscape. If a person has an appreciation of architecture, a city can be as visually exciting as the Himalayas.

4.

Some people prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work. Others prefer to get up later in the day and work until late at night. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Key sentences:

- a. In the first place, everyone knows that getting up early is a very good habit for our health.
- b. In the second place, it is easy to take care of everyday work if people get up early.
- c. Admittedly, some people who work until midnight and get up later in the day claim that working in the midnight is more efficient for them and they can concentrate on their work without distraction. (*concession*)

Lesson 4 independent writing-3 (Compare-and-Contrast)

- i. Step 1: carefully read the prompt; formulate an opinion!
- ii. Step 2: make a note map; state your opinion; restate it in your conclusion; develop examples.
- iii. Step 3: type a first draft. Do not include the note map.
- iv. Step 4: check your first draft for coherence
- v. Step 5: revise your first draft using your revision checklist.
- vi. Step 6: submit your essay.

Compare-and-Contrast Prompts: step-by-step

Demonstration:

1.

Prompt: what do you think a friend might like and not like about the place you call home? Why? Develop your position using examples and reasons.

G: my friend will like some things and not like some things

Ti: for example food is delicious and cheap

C: friend will like this

Ti: **however**, Chongqing is very humid and hot

C: friend will not like this

Ti: What is more, Chongqing is overcrowded

C: friend will not like this either

C: for those reasons friend will like some things and not like some things

Example analysis:

What will my friend like and not like when visiting the place I call home, Chongqing, China? (*question*) From my perspective, I contend that my friend will be fond of the local cuisine but he will not be crazy about the summer temperatures or the crowds in street.

My friend will enjoy the exquisite cuisine in Chongqing. Example: Eating at Xiao Tiane hotpot restaurant will definitely give my friend a real Chongqing experience that is both delicious and affordable.

However, I must admit that my friend will not be keen on Chongqing's summer. Example: like the temperature can reach 40 degrees Celsius plus the humidity is high as well, which makes Chongqing look like a real hot-pot that can swelter

you extremely. Because of these factors, my friend may want to avert visiting Chongqing in the summer.

As I mentioned above, Chongqing is one of the most populous metropolises along with others like Shanghai and Beijing. Example: my friend comes from a small town in Europe This might be a big shock for my friend since he is not used to such cultural extremes.

As you can see, there are many reasons why my friend will like and won't like Chongqing. (*Rhetorical fact*) However, this should not stop him from visiting us. I give my words that

2.

Prompt: Eating out has both positive and negative aspects. What are they? Why? Develop your argument using examples and reasons.

Key sentences:

- a. Of course there are some advantages to eat out. Firstly, restaurants offer a more comfortable environment to eat and the food there tastes more delicious than home-cooked meals.
- b. However, I prefer to cook and eat at home. The main reason is that at home, family members can prepare their meals and enjoying their food together, which can enhance their family tie.
- c. Another reason is that eating at home can save money. The same amount of money that you spend on a meal in a restaurant can buy much more food from a supermarket or street market.

3.

Prompt: Is it better to find a job in a company or to be a self-employed worker? Use examples and reasons to argue your position.

Key sentences:

- a. Although the idea of owning a business is an exciting and admirable one, it is not always a realistic option, especially for new graduates without much experience.
- b. The most obvious reason is that I can learn plenty of practical business and administrative knowledge as an employee.
- c. Another positive aspect of working for someone else lies in the development of my broader social contact network.
- d. Moreover, working for an employee, to some extent, can build up strong personalities that are essential for my future career.

Lesson 5 independent writing-4 (advantage-disadvantage)

- i. Step 1: carefully read the prompt; formulate an opinion!
- ii. Step 2: make a note map; state your opinion; restate it in your conclusion; develop examples.
- iii. Step 3: type a first draft. Do not include the note map.
- iv. Step 4: check your first draft for coherence
- v. Step 5: revise your first draft using your revision checklist.
- vi. Step 6: submit your essay.

Advantage-Disadvantage Prompts: step-by-step

Demonstration:

1.

Prompt: What are the advantages and disadvantages of owing a car? State your opinion using examples and reasons.

G: there are advantages + disadvantages to own a car

Ti: for example I took the bus to work in Belgium but the bus it is very slow, always late for work. Not good so I bought a car.

C: my care = no late for work = a big advantage for me

Ti: in contrast a car uses petrol, gas and insurance. I must make budget

C: having a car is expensive for me

C: to sum up a car has advantages and disadvantages

Example analysis:

The question is what are the advantages and disadvantages of possessing your own vehicle. (*question*) From my experience, I can safely contend that a benefit of that is freedom I have been chasing, whereas a drawback is related to the cost I must pay.

It is obvious that owing a private car provides me as much freedom as possible. For example, Like make of car, type of car; no troubles anymore on bus or train or tram like the crowd, no change in your purse. By doing this, what I can enjoy over any itinerary is nothing but freedom only.

In contrast, the expense on a car should not simply be neglected. It means that Like petrol consumption, car maintenance, insurance and parking fee. As

a result, I have to budget my income and spend less on clothes and food and other things I love. This can be one of the cruellest cons for a car owner.

As I have illustrated, I do consider that there are advantages and disadvantages to owning a car. Should you purchase your own vehicle? Yes. It's no brainer. (question) Buy a car and be free! Just watch your money! (suggestion)

2.

Prompt: What are the advantages of telecommuting? State your argument using examples and reasons.

Key sentences:

- a. What is telecommuting? Telecommuting means you can work from home while being connected to your office by the Internet. (question + fact). From my point of view, I prefer to work from home, based on a few advantages such as more privacy, less stress and more spare time to accompany my family. (predictors)
- b. First of all, telecommuting gives me more privacy. For example,
- c. Also, with telecommuting there is less stress.
- d. Finally, working from home gives me an opportunity to accompany my family.
- e. Suffice it to say, telecommuting has a myriad of advantages. Don't you wish you could just fall out of bed and go to work in your pajamas?

3.

Prompt: What are the disadvantages of getting a university degree online? Develop your argument using illustrations and reasons.

Key sentences:

- a. It goes without saying that online degree of higher education has already been popularising students for a period. (fact) Personally, I do believe that there are a few disadvantages to acquiring a university degree on the Internet.
- b. Example first; As a result, I didn't do any homework and I didn't finish the course.
- c. Also, if you are going take an online course, you must be careful about the school's reputation. Examples can be fake/fraud diploma or school bankruptcy.

4.

Prompt: What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in a foreign country? Give illustrations and reasons to develop your opinion.

Key sentences:

Advantages:

- a. Many developed countries have much diverse people and cultures. Learning and experiencing this diversity can be fascinating and delightful.
- b. Owing to the mixed in population, people working or living overseas are able to learn new languages, styles of dressing as well as cultural activities. This in turn makes living problem-free and pleasurable.
- c. Gaining excellent knowledge and experience in jobs can be very beneficial, particularly back in their home countries.

Disadvantages:

- a. Language barrier is one of the major problem facing new foreigners in many of the developed countries.
- b. There is discrimination at workplace, making it difficult for foreign migrants to settle peacefully and also blend in with the citizens.

5.

Prompt: Compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of using the Internet. Give illustrations and reasons to support your opinion.

Key sentences:

- a. The Internet is a boon or a curse? This is a very debatable topic.
- b. Today, with a touch of a button we can acquire any information available, sitting in the comfort of our homes. We are more knowledgeable and aware of things happening around us.
- c. On the other hand, the Internet does supply an overload of information.
- d. Therefore, in conclusion, it definitely depends on how use a particular technology.

Lesson 6 independent writing-5(reason & quality or What?)

- i. Step 1: carefully read the prompt; formulate an opinion!
- ii. Step 2: make a note map; state your opinion; restate it in your conclusion; develop examples.
- iii. Step 3: type a first draft. Do not include the note map.
- iv. Step 4: check your first draft for coherence
- v. Step 5: revise your first draft using your revision checklist.
- vi. Step 6: submit your essay.

Reason & Qualities Prompts: step-by-step

Demonstration:

1.

Prompt: Which technology in the past fifty years has changed your life the most? Why? Develop your position using examples and reasons.

G: the Internet changed my life most

Ti: first use email and Skype everyday

C: friends and family feel closer

Ti: second good for research + other information

C: internet research saves time

Ti: third meet scientists round the world

C: internet a good way to share ideas + save money

C: for the aforementioned reasons internet changed my life most

Example analysis:

Because I am a statistic analyst, I use many technologies. However, I can honestly say that the cutting-edge technology that has changed my life the most is the Internet. (*opinion*) Using the Internet makes communication fast and convenient, is good for data analysis and it saves my budget. (*predators*)

First of all, the Internet makes communication fast and easy. For example, ...
Best of all, ...

Next, the Internet is beneficial for research. Example: As a result, all I have to do is search with Google and I have the information right at my fingertips.

Finally, the Internet is more likely to save my budget.

In sum, there is no doubt that the Internet has changed my life the most. Repeating your points Can you imagine what the world would be if without the Internet?

2.

Prompt: What are the qualities of a good university? Develop your position using illustrations and reasons.

G: good university = University of Cambridge or Oxford, it has good professors, tutors, courses + location

Ti: for example Cambridge university, excellent ESL teachers , lots of experience, helpful, patient enough

C: teachers help me improve my English quickly

Ti: moreover lots of courses; grammar, business

C: practical English helped me get a job and become more sociable

Ti: in addition good location, public transport close to the campus

C: take bus to the campus saves time, very convenient

C: for those reasons good qualities, repeating your points

Example analysis:

What are the qualities of a well-reputed university? (*question*) As far as I am concerned, I posit that a prestigious university should possess many quintessential qualities, such as excellent lecturers, student-oriented courses designed and a convenient location. (*predators*)

What a privileged university should own are excellent teachers. For example,

Moreover, a good university should have a variety of courses. Example By doing this,

Furthermore, it goes without saying that any qualified universities never make students' commuting rather harsher. Example Because of this,

As the aforementioned examples have illustrated, If you want to be a qualified ESL teacher in coming future, you should first check the top universities list. I can give you my words you won't be disappointed when you study at one of them. (*suggestion*)

3.

Prompt: What change would make your hometown more appealing to people your age? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Key sentences:

- a. Teenagers nowadays live in an environment that is exposed to high technology. This includes
- b. It is said that information is power. True saying indeed! I can envision how everything in my hometown could improve dramatically if the Internet service in is were made free, fast and staying out there like electricity, telephone or tap water all the time

4.

Prompt: Imagine that you are preparing for a trip. You plan to be away from your home for a year. In addition to clothing and personal care items, you can take one additional thing. What would you take and why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Key sentences:

- a. I tell myself at the bottom of my heart that this one photo will be my best companion through the entire trip.
- b. On family photo always tends to provide me the familiar feeling of home and a sense of belonging.
- c. A family photo helps one get through one's difficulties when they are on a trip.
- d. Relief you from that desperate loneliness and comfort you when without anyone around but those hardest times come into life.

5.

Prompt: What are some of the qualities of a good parent? Use specific details and examples to explain your answer.

Key sentences:

Express love and affection:

- a. A gentle cuddle, a little encouragement, appreciation, approval or even a smile can go a long way to boost the confidence and well-being of your children. Sadly, many children seek this kind of acceptance from their peers.

- b. Tell them you love them every day.
- c. Give lots of hugs and some kisses.
- d. Love them unconditionally; don't force them to be who you think they should be in order to earn your love. Let them know that you will always love them no matter what.

Praise your children:

- a. Avoid comparing your children to others, especially siblings. Each child is individual and unique. Celebrate their differences and instill in each child the desire to pursue their interests and dreams. Failure to do so may give your child an inferiority complex, an idea that they can never be good enough in your eyes.
- b. Teach your children that it is okay for them to be different, and they do not have to follow the crowd. Teach them right from wrong when they are young, and they will (more often than not) be able to make their own decisions, instead of listening to/following others.
- c. Remember that your child is not an extension of yourself. Your child is an individual under your care, not a chance for you to relive your life through them

Avoid criticism of the child and focus on the behavior instead:

- a. Stop being judgmental and judging your child's friends they choose to talk to.
- b. When your child acts out in a harmful and spiteful manner, tell him or her that such behavior is unacceptable and suggest alternatives. Avoid statements such as: "You're bad." "Go away!", etc. (as difficult as it may be to remain positive).
- c. Be assertive yet kind when pointing out what they have done wrong. Be stern/serious, but not cross or mean, when you tell them what you expect.
- d. Avoid public humiliation. If they misbehave in public, take them aside, and scold them privately.
- e. Reasonably model the behavior and character you hope your children will adopt and continue to live by the rules that you set. Show them by example in addition to verbal explanations. Children have a tendency to become what they see and hear unless they make a conscious and concerted effort to break the mold.
- f. A child may have an opposite disposition, ie: introverted when you are extroverted, for instance; and not be able to fit into the pattern and style that you choose, but will make ones own decisions.

Lesson 7 integrated writing-1(Argument-Counter Argument)

Prompt types

Argument-Counter Argument Prompt

Summarise the points made in the lecture and show how they cast doubt on the points made in the reading.

Show-Support Prompt

Summarise the points made in the lecture and show how they add to and support the information in the reading.

General step:

- i. Step 1: take notes as you read and listen
- ii. Step 2: summarise the main points in the reading and in the lecture
- iii. Step 3: synthesise the main points in the reading and in the lecture
- iv. Step 4: paraphrase the main points in the reading and in the lecture
- v. Step 5: demonstrate how the lecture 'cast doubt on' the reading

Argument-Counter Prompts: step-by-step

Demonstration:

Reading	Lecture
G:	G: however
Ti: first	Ti: however
<u>C:</u>	<u>C:</u>
Ti: next	Ti: however
<u>C:</u>	<u>C:</u>
Ti: finally	Ti: however
<u>C:</u>	<u>C:</u>
C: in sum	C: however

Reading strategies

Music. We all love it. In fact, I'm listening to music right now, music I downloaded off the internet without paying for it. That's right. I didn't pay a nickel. Not one red cent. And for that, many would call me a criminal. Well, go right ahead. As far as I'm concerned, downloading music off the internet without paying for it is not a crime. Why not?

Let's start with a little history. The internet was originally invented to be a source of free information benefiting all. Downloading music off the internet without paying for it is a perfect example of this democratic ideal in action. In this light, I am not criminal. I am simply exercising my democratic right to move freely in the vast new democracy called cyberspace.

Now if you're like me, you love to share music with your friends by downloading it from their computers. This is not stealing music. Hardly. My friends and I are simply sharing songs. In fact, I share music with people all over the world, people I don't know and will never meet. This process is called P2P or peer-to-peer file sharing. Now think: Is sharing something you love a crime? I don't think so.

Finally, and this point I really want to stress: What I do in the privacy of my home is nobody's business but my own. Period. I don't need the government telling me what I can or can't do with my computer. The United States is a democracy not a dictatorship.

To sum up, just because I refuse to pay for downloaded music does not make me a felon. The real criminals are those in government and business determined to deny music-loving individuals their right to freedom and privacy.

How to summarise the opinion and body?

- a. Write objectively
- b. Identify the topic in each body paragraph
- c. Identify the cause-and-effect relationship

Ti: first reading says internet is a democracy; downloading music example of internet democracy

C: **because internet is democracy**, music is free

Ti: next friends just sharing music example P2P

C: **sharing love for music** not stealing, not a crime

Ti: finally author talks about privacy, example his home

C: **what he does in home** no business of government or music companies

C: in sum author says he is not a felon if he doesn't pay, government and music companies deny freedom and privacy, they are criminals, US democracy not dictatorship.

Listening strategies

- a. Look at the lecture side of your note map.
- b. Anticipate the counter argument using the black-and-white rule.
- c. Listen for signals words that identify the opinion.
- d. Listen for the cause-and-effect relationship in the opinion.
- e. Listen for transition signal words that identify each body paragraph, its topic and supporting illustration.
- f. Listen for the cause-and-effect relationship in each body paragraph.
- g. Listen for transition signal words that identify the conclusion.
- h. Listen for the cause-and-effect relationship in the conclusion.

Lecture

G: however lecture says **downloading music without paying is a crime!**

Ti: however lecture says web is not democracy, all info and money, example U2

C: **not pay for U2?** Break copyright law, want new U2? You must pay.

Ti: however lecture says musicians have right to get paid example Napster

C: **Napster said P2P sharing Ok**, no crime, **court disagreed, if artist makes music** court says musicians should get paid, Napster now pay site

Ti: however lecture says it is not a privacy issue

C: **download without paying** means you are a criminal, **criminals have** no right to privacy, **you can't have your cake** and eat it too.

C: however lecture says that **downloading music and not paying is easy** but still a crime.

Organisation:

- a. **Point-by-point style**
- b. **Block style**

More practices

In this article, I will take a closer look at teleconferencing. For starters, perhaps the greatest benefit of teleconferencing is convenience. No longer do business people have to fly around the world to meet face-to-face with customers or colleagues. Now they can simply dial into a conference line or click open a web cam and they're ready to do business. Not only that, but with teleconferencing you can schedule meetings all day long from the comfort of your office or home. Never has there been a more convenient way to do business.

Another big advantage is the savings. These days, with the average business class airline ticket costing well over four thousand dollars—not to mention the cost of hotels, meals and transportation—the cost saving advantages of teleconferencing are enormous. According to *Economy Magazine*, the average blue chip company saved over \$40 million dollars last year by cutting back on travel costs. Now ask yourself: What's better, spending time and money getting from point A to point B—and feeling exhausted in the process—or simply picking up the phone and using same-time email? The choice is obvious.

Teleconferencing also allows business people from a wide variety of cultures to come together to solve time-sensitive problems. For example, if you're working towards a deadline, and you don't have a solution to your problem, one of your colleagues in Brazil or Spain might have the solution you are looking for. By sharing experiences, business people can, via teleconferencing, offer insights and solutions to problems by simply picking up the phone or turning on a web cam.

Many of my colleagues will disagree, but I believe that the time is right to legalize marijuana. Yes, this is a hot-button issue; however, there are good reasons why the growing and selling of marijuana should no longer be a criminal offense in the United States.

First, the federal government needs money. A lot of money. The federal deficit is now running into the trillions. Where is the tax money going to come from to pay off this massive debt? Marijuana. According to *Business Week Magazine*, "if the cost of retailing and distributing marijuana is the same for cigarettes, then the taxes from marijuana would be approximately \$40 to \$100 billion per year." As you can see, marijuana would be an excellent source of tax revenue to help pay off the national debt.

A new source of tax revenue is not the only benefit of legalizing marijuana. Once marijuana is legalized, the crime rate will dramatically drop. By reducing marijuana related-crimes, state and national police agencies, for example, will be able to focus their limited resources on other crimes such as border security and terrorism. Let's face it, the so-called "War on Drugs" has been a dismal failure. Isn't it time to wake up to the fact that marijuana is here to stay?

Finally, there is the issue of choice. If I have the right to drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes, why shouldn't I have the right to smoke marijuana? The Constitution clearly states that every American has the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." According to the Constitution, I have the right to enjoy marijuana just like many enjoy alcohol and tobacco. And if marijuana kills me, just like alcohol and tobacco kill millions every year, that is my right and my choice too. By legalizing marijuana, this double standard will end.

Lesson 8 integrated writing-2(Show-Support)

General step:

- i. Step 1: take notes as you read and listen
- ii. Step 2: summarise the main points in the reading and in the lecture
- iii. Step 3: synthesise the main points in the reading and in the lecture
- iv. Step 4: paraphrase the main points in the reading and in the lecture
- v. Step 5: demonstrate how the lecture adds to and supports the reading

Show-Support Prompts: step-by-step

Demonstration:

	Reading
G:	
	Lecture
Ti: first	
<u>C:</u>	
Ti: next	
<u>C:</u>	
Ti: also	
<u>C:</u>	
C:	

Animal behavior can be classified according to the time of day an animal is active. Animals, such as horses, elephants and most birds, are said to be diurnal because they are active during the day and rest at night. Humans by far are the largest segment of this group. The majority of us work during the day and sleep at night. Those animals that are active at dawn and dusk are said to be crepuscular. Beetles, skunks and rabbits fall into this category. The third group are those animals that sleep during the day and are active at night. They are called nocturnal. A good example is the bat. Bats have highly developed eyesight and hearing, and an excellent sense of smell. This helps them avoid predators and locate food. Being nocturnal also helps them avoid high temperatures during the day, especially in deserts where temperatures can reach well over one hundred degrees. Also, because it is cooler at night, bats and other nocturnal animals use less energy. This, in turn, means they retain more body water essential for survival.

Lecture

Ti: first mega bats, 2-16 inches, good eyesight and smell, helps bat find food, food is flowers and fruit

C: like bees **mega bats pollinate plants/trees peaches, bananas** = good for environment

Ti: next micro bats, very small size of mouse, use echolocation to find food (insects)

C: **micro bats eat 1000 mosquitoes a night** = good for controlling mosquitoes

C: these examples add to and support the reading.

More practices

The American Civil War was fought between the northern and the southern states from 1861 to 1865. It was a bloody war. A total of 618,000 soldiers died. More soldiers died in the American Civil War than in all of America's wars combined, from the Revolutionary War right on up to the Iraq War. The Civil War started when the South withdrew from the Union. The South accused the federal government of being a dictatorship intent on denying the southern states the right to set their own laws, particularly in regard to the right to own slaves. The first shot of the Civil War was fired at the supply ship *Star of the West* on January 10, 1861 when it was trying to resupply the Union Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor, South Carolina. The last shot of the war, however, is in dispute. Some think it was fired by a rebel soldier on May 6, 1865 in White Sulphur Springs, North Carolina while others contend that it was fired by the *CSS Shenandoah*, a southern ship firing upon Union whalers in Alaska on June 28, 1865. Historians agree that the actual fighting of the war ended when Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, April 9, 1865.

Seamounts are undersea mountains rising off the ocean floor. Seamounts are not islands because their highest points do not break through the ocean's surface. Many seamounts are extinct volcanoes with distinct cone shapes. Seamounts range from a height of 1,000 meters to over 4,000 meters. Even the peak of the highest seamount is found deep below the surface of the water. Around the world, there are approximately 100,000 seamounts, most of which have not been charted. Approximately half of the world's seamounts are found in the Pacific Ocean. Because seamounts are so big, they affect the flow of ocean currents. Currents flowing up from the ocean floor bring life-sustaining nutrients into the photosynthetic zone, a place where sunlight and carbon dioxide are converted into food energy for plants and other organisms. As a result, seamounts have great biodiversity. Moreover, because of the nutrient rich waters around seamounts, a great variety of plants and fish make seamounts their home. Some of these fish are endemic species, fish that are found only around seamounts. Such biodiversity, in turn, attracts larger prey fish, such as sharks and tuna, as well as marine mammals, such as seals. It also attracts commercial fishing.