

# The Study and Production of Texts

## Lesson 6

# Homework for today

- pp. 28-30: read essay and analysis
- p. 34: ‘Inversion after Negative Adverbials’
- p. 44: exs. 7 + 8
- pp. 57-59. Read text, watch video and answer the questions.
  
- Go to [englishpage.com](http://englishpage.com) or [grammar-monster.com](http://grammar-monster.com) and do exercises on any language area where you feel less competent.

Should people be free to decide whether or not to do the following or should there be laws to regulate them?

1. drink alcohol at any age

2. drive at any speed

3. have an abortion

4. start work at any age

5. own a gun

6. take drugs

7. do military service

8. immigrate into your country

- Groups of four
- One topic each
- No preparation
- Talk uninterrupted for **TWO** minutes

# P. 24 Now reflect ...

How easy was the task?

What problems did you have?

## Organisation:

not well-planned →  
difficult to follow →  
no logical sequence →  
no clear conclusion

## Language:

lack of key words →  
imprecise lexis →  
informal register →  
hesitations, fillers

*Easy reading is damn hard writing*

Good writing relies on good preparation

## Procedure

brainstorming key words – finding ideas –  
researching – collecting information –  
selecting and organising points – lexis –  
register – WRITING – proof-reading

p. 28-30: Essay

Framework

Pros and Cons

Advantage/disadvantage

# Balance

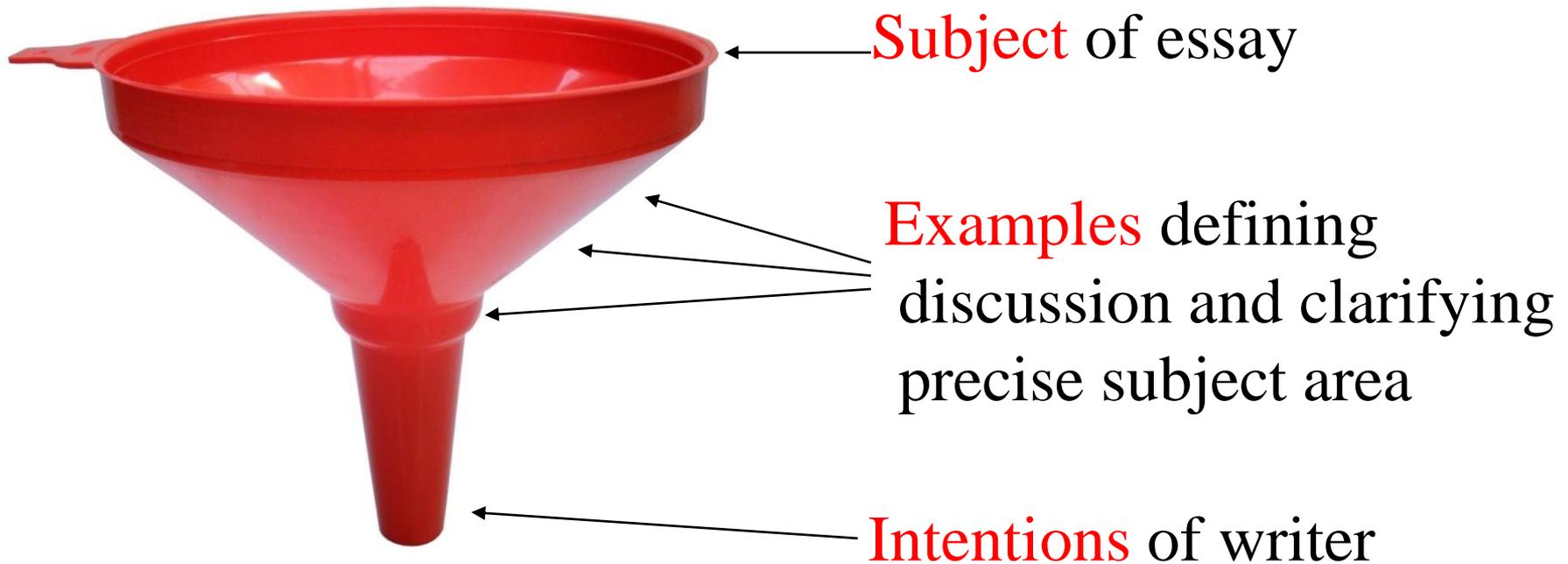


The contrasting arguments on a topic should be developed as equally as possible to convey a balanced point of view for the reader.

# pros and cons essay: possible organisation

- Para. 1 - **INTRODUCTION**
- Para. 2 – point in favour
- Para. 3 – point in favour
- Para. 4 – point in favour
- Para. 5 - **TRANSITION PARAGRAPH**
- Para. 6 – point against
- Para. 7 – point against
- Para. 8 – point against
- Para. 9 - **CONCLUSION**

# Introduction



# Subsequent paragraphs

**Topic sentence** with  
key words

**Supporting points** as  
exemplification and  
explanation



# Pros and cons of lowering age for legal consumption of alcohol

Possible points to develop:

health - crime - education - economy -  
drinking and driving - relationships

= Key words that should feature in the **TOPIC SENTENCE** at the beginning of a new paragraph.

Each paragraph develops a **different** idea.

# Introduction: pros and cons essay

There has been growing concern in recent years about the effects of substance abuse. As regards alcohol consumption in particular, many associations, specialists and parents are urging for limits to be imposed, highlighting the possible dangers to physical and mental health. Others, however, believe such limitations would be unfair. This essay will examine the pros and cons of limiting the consumption of alcohol. (63 words)

# Introduction: pros and cons essay

There has been growing concern in recent years about the **effects of substance abuse**. As regards **alcohol consumption** in particular, **many associations, specialists and parents are urging for limits** to be imposed, highlighting the **possible dangers to physical and mental health**. **Others, however, believe such limitations would be unfair**. This essay will examine the **pros and cons of limiting the consumption of alcohol**. (63 words)

# Topic

Effects of substance abuse →



alcohol consumption →



possible dangers to physical  
and mental health



Information: general -> specific

# Indication of debate

many associations, specialists and  
parents ... others ...

( = different people involved)

urging for limits ... believe such  
limitations would be unfair

( = what each side would like)

# Writer's intentions (statement of purpose)

This essay will examine the pros and cons of limiting the consumption of alcohol.

Governments should spend money on problems here first rather than on space exploration



Governments should spend money on problems here first rather than on space exploration

1. Identify the key words

Governments should spend  
money on problems here first  
rather than on space exploration

## 2. Work on related vocabulary

- **governments**: nations, states, politicians
- **spend**: allocate, allot, provide, waste, invest, finance
- **money**: resources, budgets, taxes, investments
- **problems**: concerns, issues, famine, poverty, education
- **here**: in Europe, in Italy, on earth
- **space exploration**: space programme, planets, the European Space Agency, Nasa

# Homework for lesson 7 (2nd May)

- Write the introduction to a pros and cons essay (max. 80 words) using the title on slide 17 and the vocabulary on slide 19.
- The introduction must have a topic sentence, information that indicates different points of view on the subject and a statement of purpose.
- Bring a printed copy with double spacing to lesson 7.
- p. 41 Read information on Language and Gender
- p. 44 exercises 4 and 5
- p. 52 Read text 2 and check vocabulary
- p. 53 Read Text 3 and check vocabulary.