WRITING SKILLS

LAURA ÁLVAREZ BENÍTEZ

A FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY

When we discuss an issue, we try to present an objective picture by showing both the advantages and disadvantages. We often give our personal opinion on the issue in the closing.

TOPIC: Mobile Phones: Good or Bad?

PLAN:

INTRODUCTION

State the issue

BODY

Present arguments for and against giving examples.

Distribute arguments for and arguments against in different paragraphs.

LINGUISTIC FEATURES: use of as many links as possible.

MODEL: Mobile Phones.

Who doesn't have a mobile phone these days? The fact is they seem to be everywhere. However, while mobile phones certainly have many supporters, there are also people who have reservations about them.

Those who are in favour of mobile phones claim that they make communication an immediate process and people no longer need to wait until they find an ordinary phone when they need to make an urgent phone call. Moreover, they also point out that a mobile phone can be a life-saver in the case of an emergency. Finally, parents feel much more secure when they know that, thanks to mobile phones, they can contact their children whenever they want.

On the other hand, those who are against mobile phones state the fact that much research must still be carried out in order to prove decisively that mobile phones do not damage your health. Another disadvantage is the way that mobile phones are destroying our social life. How many times have you had to stop a conversation so that your partner can answer his or her mobile phone? Not to mention the disturbances they cause at concerts and theatre performances.

CONCLUSION

Sums up the topic. Refers back to the opening. States opinion. In conclusion, although there are two sides to a coin, I believe that mobile phones generally do improve the quality of our life. In my opinion, even if only one life has been saved thanks to a mobile phone, they have justified their existence.

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USEFUL VOCABULARY: LINKING WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS			
INTRODUCING		FOR AND AGAINST ARGUMENTS	CONCLUDING
First of all	C	On the one hand	In conclusion
Firstly	0	On the other hand	To sum up
l To begin with	N	In contrast	In short
The fact is	Т	On the contrary	In a nutshell
The point is	R	Although Despite	In brief
It is often believed/stated/reported/	A	However	On the whole
held that	5	Nevertheless	To summarize
There is a widely held belief that	Т	In spite of	 -
According to X	I	But	
Beginning by	N	Yet	!
At first sight it appears that	G	Whereas	
It is necessary to pose again the		Otherwise	
question concerning	A	Moreover	
In order to clarify the problem we	D	Furthermore	
must	D	Finally	
I want to emphasize the fact that	I	In the first place	A.
	N	Firstly	1
	G	Secondly	1
i i		1 1 b	1

