

How to Write a Comment

Skill File



to comment (on) = state your opinion clearly and support it with reasons or evidence

In a comment you give your personal view on a question, topic, or quote. You first say whether you are for or against something, then give reasons, and finish with a conclusion based on the evidence.

Language

- Use formal language (no short forms like don't; no slang).
- Link your paragraphs with connectives (however, therefore, in addition, on the other hand).
- Use the passive voice occasionally (it can be argued..., it may be regarded as certain...).
- Try not to overuse "I".

Structure

Introduction

1. Start in an **interesting** way to catch the reader's attention.
2. **Name** the topic / question / problem from the task.
3. End the introduction by **clearly stating** your your main point/point of view.

Main Part

- Look at the problem from **your point of view**.
- Cover **at least three aspects** of the topic and give your position on each.
- **Use arguments either in favour OR against — not both.**
- Start every argument in a **new paragraph**.
- Build each argument in three steps:

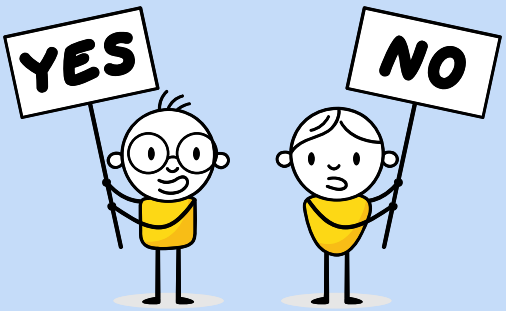
1. **State** the point (thesis).
2. **Explain** it.
3. **Support** it with examples, facts, or relevant quotes.

Optional: You may also mention a counter-argument and show how you respond to it. This proves you can think in a balanced way — but strong reasons backed by evidence remain the most important thing.

Conclusion

- **Sum up** the evidence and restate your thesis.
- Say which side or perspective makes more sense to you.
- You may add an outlook (how the issue might develop) or link it to related issues.
- Avoid simply repeating your arguments.

Useful Phrases



Introduction

The question of ... is a contentious issue in modern society.
Nowadays it is often discussed whether...
... is a hotly debated topic because...
... is a topic that has given rise to serious discussions.
In our world of ..., one disputed point is the role of ...
The text raises the question of... / illustrates the problem of...
The issue that is touched upon here is...

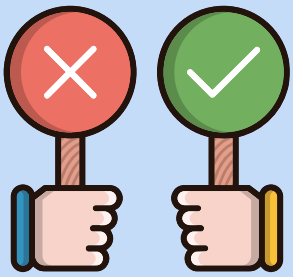


Referring to the author / text

The author states / argues / claims / maintains that...
The author puts forward the argument that...
The author supports / denies / contradicts the idea that...
The main issue raised in this article is...

Giving your own opinion

It is my firm belief that... / In my opinion... / Personally...
As far as I am concerned... / As I see it...
I (completely) agree / (absolutely) disagree with...
As opposed to ..., I strongly believe that...
Considering the fact that...
I am (strongly) in favour of ... / I (strongly) oppose...



Adding & developing points

Another important point / argument is...
Above all, it is important to note that...
One also has to take into consideration that...
One cannot ignore the fact that...
Furthermore... / Moreover... / In addition...
A further / final argument in favour of this is...





Useful Phrases



Counter-arguments & contrast

Supporters / Opponents of ... argue that...
It could be argued that..., but...
Although some people claim that ..., it must be said that...
On the one hand..., on the other hand...
However... / Nevertheless... / Despite this...

Examples & evidence

A good example of this is...
This can be seen / illustrated by...
For instance... / For example...
This is supported by the fact that...

I HAVE A DIFFERENT OPINION.

Conclusion

All in all... / To sum up... / In conclusion...
Taking into account what has been said so far...
To come to a final conclusion...
Weighing up the arguments, I am convinced that...
It can therefore be said that...
In the future, this issue is likely to...

