

## STRATEGY SHEET: HOW TO WRITE A COMMENT

### Task

#### Exemplary task:

When writing a comment you are asked to give your opinion on a controversial (umstritten) statement or topic.

*Learning to say "no" is important. Comment on this statement. In doing so, include your thoughts on teenagers taking drugs, reasons why teenagers might be tempted to do drugs, two situations in which you have decided to say "no", as well as the reasons for your decision.*

### Structure

#### Language help:

#### i. Introduction

- introduce the topic by stating why it is important
- arouse the reader's interest
- state your point of view

*The topic of ... is of great importance/ interest to...*

*Lately, the topic of...has been discussed in the news.*

*Imagine you were confronted with the problem of...*

#### Exemplary introduction:

*Saying "no" – simple, isn't it? In contrast, learning to say "no" is most likely one of the most difficult lessons you have to learn in life since there are situations in which you might find yourself struggling to say "no" because you are afraid of the reactions and consequences your decision might arouse. Imagine you were a teenager...*

#### ii. Main body

- weak arguments are used in the beginning and followed by strong ones
- counterarguments need to be refuted (widerlegt)
- one paragraph is used for one argument
- a paragraph comprises: a statement, an explanation, an example, facts that underline the explanation
- refer to the text at hand (examples, quotes, arguments from the text)

#### Language help:

**Structuring your arguments:** *Firstly, Secondly.../ Moreover/ Furthermore/ In addition/ On top of that/...*

**Introducing counterarguments:** *However, In contrast*

**Stressing important facts:** *It needs to be highlighted, pointed out, emphasized, underlined that.../ Considering the fact that...it should be mentioned that.../ Due to the fact that...*

### HOW TO QUOTE (ZITIEREN)

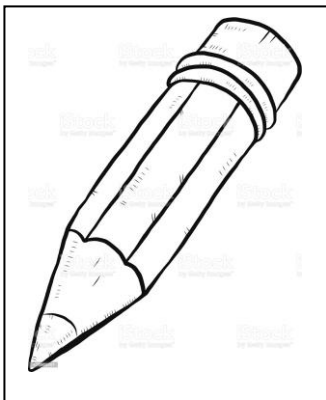
- In English, you use the following quotation marks: ".....".
- You have to indicate the line and page you took the quote from and put the information in brackets behind the quote.  
For example: "[quote]" (l. 5).
- If your quote is longer than one line, you mark that as follows:  
"[quote]" (ll. 5-6).
- If you want to refer to (sich beziehen auf) the text without quoting directly, you mark that as follows:  
..... (cf. ll. 5-6).

### iii. Conclusion

- illustrate your personal point of view in reference to the arguments you outlined in the main body

### Language help:

*In conclusion, I take the point of view that/ All in all, / Taking all the arguments discussed above into consideration, I draw the conclusion that...*



### Tasks:

1. **Read** the strategy sheet closely and add it to your portfolio
2. **Understand** what the task of writing a comment comprises (beinhaltet)
3. **Get familiar** with the structure of a comment
4. **Plan your text carefully** and **take notes**:  
Which arguments would you like to use in which order?  
What kind of personal experience would you like to write about?  
What is the conclusion of your comment?
5. Send your keywords to someone in the group so that he/she can give you feedback on your results
6. **Write a first draft of your comment** on the exemplary task  
(Of course, there is no text that you can refer to thus you are allowed to speak from your personal experience. This will change as soon as we start preparing for the ZP10 and deal with texts that we will summarize, analyze and comment on.)
7. **Exchange your draft (digitally of course)** with one of your classmates who reads it and gives you feedback on the following aspects:
  - ✓ language mistakes
  - ✓ structure
  - ✓ use of paragraphs
  - ✓ quality of the arguments
  - ✓ use of linking words/ sentence starters
  - ✓ Is your text in accordance with the task?
  - ✓ Is your conclusion comprehensible?
8. **Write an improved version** of your text
9. **Submit (einreichen)** your texts via email: [ker\\_aes@gmx.de](mailto:ker_aes@gmx.de)

## Weekly schedule during our lockdown

LESSON	TASKS
MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2020	<b>WORK ON TASKS 1- 5 (WORKSHEET HOW TO WRITE A COMMENT)</b>
THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2020	<b>WRITE THE FIRST DRAFT OF YOUR COMMENT (TASK 6)</b>
FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2020	<b>EXCHANGE YOUR COMMENTS AND GIVE FEEDBACK ON YOUR CLASSMATE'S TEXTS (TASK 7)</b>
MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2020	<b>WRITE AN IMPROVED VERSION OF YOUR TEXTS (TASK 8) AND SUBMIT IT VIA EMAIL</b>
THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2020	<b>WORK ON ALL OF THE TEN TEENAGE PROBLEMS ON THE WORKSHEET I DISTRIBUTED IN OUR LAST SESSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM AND INVENT A BACKGROUND STORY</li><li>- THINK OF POSSIBLE ADVICE YOU COULD GIVE TO A FRIEND TACKLING THAT KIND OF PROBLEM</li><li>- PREPARE FOR THE ORAL EXAM BY PRACTICING IN YOUR GROUPS (DIGITALLY OF COURSE)</li></ul> <b>LEARN THE VOCAB OF UNIT I IN YOUR BOOK</b>
FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2020	<b>WORK ON ALL OF THE TEN TEENAGE PROBLEMS ON THE WORKSHEET I DISTRIBUTED IN OUR LAST SESSION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- DESCRIBE THE PROBLEM AND INVENT A BACKGROUND STORY</li><li>- THINK OF POSSIBLE ADVICE YOU COULD GIVE TO A FRIEND TACKLING THAT KIND OF PROBLEM</li><li>- PREPARE FOR THE ORAL EXAM BY PRACTICING IN YOUR GROUPS (DIGITALLY OF COURSE)</li></ul> <b>LEARN THE VOCAB OF UNIT I IN YOUR BOOK</b>  <b>ENJOY YOUR AUTUMN BREAK ;) AND DO NOT FORGET TO PREPARE FOR THE ORAL EXAMINATION!</b>

**My dear students,**

I really hope that we will be able to work on your English skills after the Corona/autumn break without any interruptions and obstacles. I am very sorry that you have to stay at home and work on the tasks individually without me being able to help and assist you. I really wish the situation was different.

However, in these days, I guess the most important thing is to stay healthy and positive.

In case you have any questions, do not hesitate to approach me via email: [ker\\_aes@gmx.de](mailto:ker_aes@gmx.de).

I will tell you when the oral exam is going to take place as soon as I know it. However, be prepared to take the exam right after the autumn break.

Take care, be responsible and keep your head up (somehow).

Best regards,

Mr. Kersting

