

<p>Education is better today than it was 100 years ago. Do you agree?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 technology 2 facilities 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>Is it better to shop online or in shops?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 price 2 convenience 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>There are more advantages to living in a city than in the country. Do you agree?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 lifestyle 2 career prospects 3 (your own idea)</p>
<p>Should we spend money saving endangered species?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 spending priorities 2 what we might learn 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>Do you agree that spending time on social media is a complete waste of time?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 amount of time 2 social life 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>Who has the most influence on young people?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 parents 2 teachers 3 (your own idea)</p>
<p>Uniforms should be mandatory in all schools. Do you agree?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 money spent on clothes 2 discipline 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>It's better to watch a film at home than at the cinema. Do you agree?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 convenience 2 atmosphere 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>To help stop climate change, people should stop travelling abroad. Do you agree?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 pollution from air travel 2 experiencing new cultures 3 (your own idea)</p>
<p>How important is it to get a good education?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 happiness 2 career prospects 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>All students should learn two foreign languages. Do you agree?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 travel 2 future careers 3 (your own idea)</p>	<p>Is it better to take public transport or travel by car?</p> <p>Notes Write about: 1 convenience 2 cost 3 (your own idea)</p>

Activity

Group work: speaking and writing

Aim

To focus on the 'your own idea' part of the essay task

Exam skill

Writing Part 1 essay planning

Preparation

Make one copy of the sheet for each group of four. Cut up the cards.

Time

15–20 minutes

Lesson link

Unit 3, pages 42–43

Teaching notes

Procedure

- › Organise the students into groups of four. Divide each group into Teams A and B.
- › Tell the students they are going to play a game that will practise a valuable exam skill: generating ideas for essays.
- › On the board, or using a projector, display one of the essay tasks and elicit ideas for the 'your own idea' part of the task. Point out that while you only need to think of one of your own ideas for the essay exam task, it is good practice to think of a few different ones and then pick the best idea to write about.
- › Give each group one set of cards. Ask them to put the cards face down in a pile.
- › Explain the rules: The players turn over a card and then each team has a minute to brainstorm as many ideas as possible for the 'your own idea' part of the task. The team with the most ideas wins the card. At the end of the game, the team with the most cards is the winner.
- › Circulate and provide support if necessary. Make notes of any errors you would like to correct later.
- › At the end of the activity, the students could choose the exam task that they found most interesting to write an essay on in 140–190 words.

Extension

This activity can also be used to practise generating examples or reasons to support the main idea of each paragraph of an essay. Use the same cards, but have students focus on the 'notes' part of the task. The rules of the game are the same, but this time the teams have to think of as many examples or reasons for the main ideas listed in the 'write about' part of the task. Note that while students will only need a couple of good examples or reasons for each paragraph, it is good practice to brainstorm a number of them and then choose the best ones to include in their essays.