



Name: Class: Date:

Worksheet 15

UNIT 4: Vincent Van Gogh

Writing (Articles)¹

Task 1

Read the following instructions, then decide what the purpose of each article is, and what kind of information should be included.

1. You have been asked to write an article for your college magazine giving practical advice to students on how to keep up with the workload. Write your article for the magazine.
2. The tourist information centre in your town has asked you to write an article for a brochure describing two places of interest in your area. Write your article for the brochure.
3. A young people's magazine has asked its readers to submit articles on the question: "Are young people being forced to grow up too fast?" Write your article for the magazine.
4. The company you work for is looking for representatives in other countries and has asked you to write a profile of the company for a leaflet which will be distributed abroad. Write the profile for the leaflet.

Task 2

Read the instructions and the model below and insert the following words and phrases in the appropriate spaces. Some words/phrases can be used more than once. Next, complete the paragraph plan on the right. Is this a formal or informal article?

*but also, Furthermore, However, In addition, In conclusion,
In fact, not only, On the other hand, therefore, thus*

Are children influenced by what is shown on television?
What can be done to prevent television programmes having
a negative influence on children?

Write an **article** covering these points, to be published in a
magazine for young adults.

¹ V. Evans, Successful Writing Proficiency, 1998, last accessed on 15/01/2024

TV violence



Television has become an important part of everyday life and children today spend hours watching a variety of programmes. These facts have led people to question whether television viewing adversely influences children, and if so, to wonder what may be done to prevent such negative influence.

Supporters of television, such as the representatives of TV channels, claim that there is no need for concern. To support their opinion they cite studies by psychologists which indicate that children are not indiscriminate viewers.

1)....., they maintain that 2)..... do children tend to choose programmes that pass on positive messages, 3)..... that they are able to distinguish between reality and fiction, and are 4)..... not negatively affected by what they watch.

5)....., research has been conducted that contradicts the above findings. This second body of research indicates that the increased depiction of gratuitous violence and immorality in television programmes has indeed affected today's youth and is

directly related to the increase in juvenile crime and the breakdown of moral values in society. 6)....., the experts responsible for this research have suggested steps that might be taken to solve this problem.

One way to prevent television's negative influence would be for the government to censor the content of certain violent or immoral programmes. Types of broadcasts that are felt to exert negative influences could be shown only late at night when children are not likely to be watching. In this way the degree to which children might be exposed to negative influences would be limited.

7)....., parents could monitor what their children watch and take on the responsibility of changing channels or switching off the television set when they feel the programme being viewed may be harmful, 8)..... ensuring their children are not exposed to negative influences.

9)....., it may be said that it is not yet possible to ascertain if, or to what extent TV negatively influences children. 10)....., as the possibility does exist, it might be wise to take precautionary measures such as those mentioned above. After all, as is often said, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

• Introduction

State topic

• Main Body

• For: children choose programmes with positive values; distinguish between reality/fiction

• Against

• Suggestion 1 & result

• Suggestion 2 & result

• Conclusion

Task 3

Read the extracts and say what kind of article each is taken from. What kind of publication might each appear in? Finally, think of an appropriate title for each.

- A. The Hightree Leisure Centre is proud to announce the recent opening of its new extension, specialising exclusively in health and fitness for senior citizens - the Roxbury Annexe. Not only will our more mature customers find that Roxbury Annexe is designed for those who may be frustrated by structural hindrances such as steps and heavy doors, but they will also be able to take part in a wide range of activities geared purely towards their needs.
- B. Checking out the prices of new computers can be a pretty terrifying experience for the first-time buyer. Fortunately, there is another, less painful option. Due to the fact that "serious" computer operators regularly upgrade their machines, there is a thriving second-hand industry which, for us less fashion-conscious individuals, makes investing in a computer far less taxing on our bank accounts. However, before making your purchase, there are a number of things worth taking into account.
- C. When you think of the west coast of the United States, images of muscular surfers and glamorous Hollywood stars lolling on private beaches probably come to mind. However, the glorious Oregon coast is something altogether different. A combination of dramatic, rugged shoreline and miles of deserted, sandy beaches open to all makes the Oregon coast a unique experience.
- D. In a society where governments seem more and more impersonal and power seems to be in the hands of an elitist minority of decision-makers, how much influence does the average voter really have? The obvious answer may seem to be little or none, but I am firmly of the opinion that the voice of the voters still carries a great deal of weight as far as governmental decisions are concerned. Moreover, there are a number of facts to support this opinion.

Task 4

Read the following instructions and the model, and put the following subheadings in the appropriate spaces: *Avoid Starting Again – A Question of Will-Power – Alternative Approaches – If You Need Help*. Then fill in the paragraph plan. Finally, replace the underlined phrases with appropriate expressions from the list below.

Write a **leaflet** to be displayed in doctors' waiting rooms, giving practical advice to patients who want to give up smoking, including suggestions on how they can avoid starting again.

Title
Introduction
Paragraph 1
.....
Main Body
Paragraphs 2-3-4-5
.....
.....
.....
Conclusion
Final Paragraph
.....

*An alternative method is to
Should these methods fail, you may
Making sure you are occupied will
It may prove helpful to*

*Firstly, it is wise to
it may also be necessary to
One way to stop smoking is to
it is important to take steps to*

Do you want to give up smoking?



There are many smokers who are aware of the health hazards of their habit and want to stop, or have already tried, without success. Here is some practical advice which may help you to kick the habit.

a
You can rely on your own will-power. Simply smoke your last cigarette and do not allow yourself to pick up another. However, very few of us are strong-willed enough to do this successfully. Or you can gradually cut down on the amount you smoke each day until you stop entirely.

b
Additionally, some companies manufacture products such as chewing gum and adhesive body patches which administer small doses of nicotine to help combat withdrawal symptoms. You can use

these products if your will-power requires some assistance.

c
Otherwise, you can benefit from other available treatments like hypnotherapy or acupuncture. Many people claim that after only a few sessions of alternative therapies such as these, they have been permanently cured of their addiction. The only drawback, however, is that their effectiveness seems to depend on your desire to give up smoking. The stronger your will-power is, the more successful the treatment will be.

d
When you have stopped smoking, you should try not to begin again. You should avoid stressful situations, since stress often drives people to smoke again. Also, when boredom strikes it is often tempting to pick up a cigarette, if only for something to do. You can prevent the boredom which may lead to your taking up smoking again.

To conclude, there are several ways to give up smoking, some of which are less conventional than others. Once you have given up, you may also have to take certain measures to ensure that you remain a non-smoker for good.

Task 5

Read the following instructions and the model below, then put the paragraphs in the correct order according to the paragraph plan on the right.

You have been asked to write a short article for a **brochure** on two major tourist attractions in your country. Describe the two places you consider most interesting and explain why tourists should visit them.

Introduction

Paragraph 1

state topic of article

Main Body

Paragraphs 2-3

description of two places

Paragraph 4

explanation of why tourists should visit

Conclusion

Final Paragraph

summary of the topic

☐ Also worth visiting is Tower Bridge. Constructed in Victorian times, it is recognised worldwide as a symbol of London and now has its own museum, with an exhibition depicting its fascinating history up to the present day. You can also see superb views of the city from the high-level walkways on the bridge.

1 England is a beautiful country with many sights of interest to tourists. These range from magnificent historic buildings to oddly-placed rocks in the middle of the countryside, each holding its own particular charm. Two of the most important tourist sights, however, are situated in the capital city, London.

☐ Among the many other attractions which London has to offer, Buckingham Palace and Tower Bridge are two of the most outstanding. No visit to London is complete until you have explored these two memorable landmarks.

☐ Most visitors to London go to see Buckingham Palace and Tower Bridge during their stay for the reason that these two particular attractions symbolise London and England in general; they are probably the most photographed sites in the British Isles. Furthermore, the chance to see the inside of a building still inhabited by royalty is too good to miss, giving tourists a glimpse of the luxury we would all like to have.

☐ Possibly the most significant place to visit is Buckingham Palace, the London home of the Queen and other members of the Royal Family. One can tour the interior of the palace and also observe the Changing of the Guard outside.