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PEEL Quick Reference

Writing strong analytical and argumentative paragraphs · Upper secondary (B2–C1)

Use PEEL to write clear, well-structured analytical and argumentative paragraphs: **Point** → **Explain** → **Evidence** → **Link**.

P – Point

What is my paragraph about?

State the main idea of your paragraph in one clear topic sentence that answers the task.

Sentence starters

- One key aspect of … is …
- The author clearly suggests that …
- A major argument in favour of … is …

E – Explain

What exactly do I mean – and why does it matter?

Develop your point. Clarify what you mean and why it is relevant to the task.

Sentence starters

- This means that …
- In other words, …
- This is significant because …

E – Evidence

How can I prove it?

Support your point with a quotation, an example or facts from the text – quoted accurately with a line reference.

Sentence starters

- This is illustrated by …
- As stated in line …, "…"
- For example, the author writes …

L – Link

How does this answer the task?

Connect your paragraph back to the task or your thesis – or lead on to the next paragraph.

Sentence starters

- Consequently, …
- This shows that …
- Thus, the text underlines …

Example paragraph

Task: Analyse how the author tries to convince readers to reduce plastic waste.

[P] The author mainly appeals to the readers' sense of responsibility. **[E]** By presenting plastic waste as a problem everyone contributes to, she makes readers feel personally involved instead of blaming only the industry. **[E]** This becomes clear when she repeatedly uses the inclusive pronoun "we", for instance in "we are all part of the problem" (l. 14). **[L]** Thus, her inclusive language effectively supports her aim of encouraging readers to change their own behaviour.

Checklist

- ☐ My topic sentence answers the task.
- ☐ I explain instead of just retelling the text.
- ☐ My evidence is quoted correctly with a line reference.
- ☐ I comment on the effect of my evidence.
- ☐ My last sentence links back to the task.
- ☐ I use connectives to guide the reader.

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