

GRAMMAR & WRITING



Name: _____

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Date: _____

Writing a Persuasive Essay

We write a persuasive essay to get people to agree with our opinion or to take a specific action. We must provide reasons why we think our opinion is correct. Let's read the example...

Part A. Let's Read

Why Should You Recycle?

Almost 60% of the things that we use can be re-used. However, we are not recycling enough, and we need to do better in order to protect our environment from further harm.

Pollution is damaging our environment to a great extent. One of the biggest causes of pollution is factories that manufacture items like plastic bottles. We can cut down on this pollution through simple acts like recycling.



Plastic is not the only material that can be recycled so that we can help keep our planet healthy. Paper is made from trees, and the more paper we use, the greater the number of trees that need to be cut down. Not only does this have a negative effect on Earth's oxygen supply, it also leaves thousands of animals homeless every year. By recycling paper, we can limit how many trees are cut down, as well as save the animals' homes.

By not recycling, we create more waste that will simply be sent to landfills. Here, the waste will pile up, with much of it unable to breakdown naturally. Not only does this create danger for animals and for our environment, it also destroys the natural beauty and surroundings that we could be enjoying.



One of the main reasons for people not recycling is the fact that it can be inconvenient at times. Perhaps recycle bins are not easily accessible where they live – whatever the reason, making sure that we recycle is important, as it will help keep our environment healthy and beautiful, and our animals safe.



Part B. Let's Talk

Why is it a good idea to recycle?

What things do you recycle at home or school?

What other things can we do to protect the environment?

What will happen to Earth if we don't recycle?

Part C. My New Words

Write each word and its definition. Next, write a sentence using the new word.

1

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

4

Word: _____ noun / verb / adjective / adverb

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

Part D. Vocabulary Check

1. Find new words in the text that match the following definitions.

a. Things that are left over after you use something

W

b. To keep something safe from harm

P

c. Not easy to do, because it doesn't fit in with your needs

I

d. Not having anywhere to live

H

2. Now use one of the new words to write a sentence.

3. Match the words to the correct pictures.

pollution

paper

landfill

environment

1



2



3



4



Writing a Persuasive Essay

- In a **persuasive essay**, we want readers to agree with our opinion about something.
- We introduce a **persuasive essay** by stating its main idea.
- The main idea identifies an issue and then makes an **opinion statement** about it.

Example:

Nowadays, children watch a lot of TV. I think that this is a very big problem, and that children should not be allowed to watch more than one hour of TV each day.

- We then give reasons to show why our opinion is correct. This is called the **supporting evidence**, and forms the main body of the essay.

Example:

Children who watch less TV can spend more time exercising and playing outside. This is better for their health and will help them keep fit. They will also have more time to study, so they will get better grades at school.

- We must end a **persuasive essay** with a **conclusion**. This should restate the main idea and sum up the important points of the essay.

Example:

It's okay to watch some TV. However, watching too much can be very bad for children's health and progress at school, and they should not be allowed to watch more than one hour each day.

Part F. Let's Analyze

Refer to the story, *Why Should You Recycle?*, and complete the following activities.

1. What do you think the purpose of this essay is?

To inform

To persuade

To entertain

2. List the things that the writer wants people to do after reading this essay.

3. What is the opinion statement in this essay?

4. List the supporting evidence that the writer gives.

5. How can we make recycling more convenient for people?

Part B. Let's Practice

Refer to the text, *Why Should You Recycle?*, Find three first conditional sentences and write them below.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Part C. Read and Tick

Read the following sentences and tick the box if it contains a first conditional.

- 1 If you put the air conditioner on, it will cool down.
- 2 If you try hard, you can do anything.
- 3 I won't go to the park if it rains tomorrow.
- 4 If you don't look for it, you won't find it.
- 5 Joan will buy that book for me tomorrow.
- 6 If you come home late, Mom will be angry.
- 7 If Sandy eats too much candy, her teeth will fall out.
- 8 Anna will miss the bus if she doesn't leave now.
- 9 Ice melts if you heat it.
- 10 Harry will go to the park tomorrow.

Part D. Read, Underline, and Circle

Read the sentences. Underline the conditions and circle the results. Follow the example.

1. If the sun is shining, **we will go to the beach.**
2. I will go to the supermarket if my mom asks me.
3. If it snows, the children will build a snowman.
4. If we win the lottery, we will be very rich.
5. The baby will cry if you take away her toys.
6. I won't come to the party if I don't get an invitation.

Part E. Complete the Sentence

Read and complete each sentence by writing either **will** or **won't** in the blank.

1. If Sue leaves our school, we _____ see her again.
2. The ship _____ sink if it gets a hole in it.
3. If I oversleep, I _____ be late for school.
4. The monkey _____ fall from the tree if the branch snaps.
5. Mary _____ help you again if you don't say 'thank you'.
6. If you enjoy reading stories, Aunt Sarah _____ buy you a book for your birthday.
7. If the dress is expensive, I _____ buy it.
8. Louise _____ give you a candy if you don't ask her.
9. Georgia _____ go to school tomorrow if she still feels sick.
10. If Amber studies very hard, she _____ pass her exams.