
Instructions

For each assignment, you will be given a choice of three topics. Read the topics carefully and write an essay ranging between 200-250 words on any one of these.

Essay Category: Opinion/Argumentative Essay

Topics

1. It is preferable to study at home using technology such as computers rather than studying at traditional schools. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use reasons and specific details to explain your choice.
2. Advancements in medical technology have increased the life expectancy rate, which is a blessing. What do you think? Justify your opinion with reasons and examples.
3. With news readily available via the electronic media (Internet and television), newspapers will cease to be popular in the future and will eventually stop being printed. Do you agree or disagree with this point of view? State your opinion and support it with examples.

Original Essay

I support the theory that hard copy newspaper will decrease the existence gradually. In fact, even now most of people check news or information through net. Everything is there. Plus so many things happen in the current world and it changes rapidly day by day. To catch up with the speed of changes, you can't say longer that hard copy newspaper plays an effective role. Electric media is superior to newspaper in these following points as well as speed.

1. No time limit – You are able to check it anytime and don't need to wait for newspaper boy coming.
2. Piling information – It's possible to save huge information in database and no need space to save it in actual world.
3. Easy access – Withdraw information just you need with keyword from archive.

Now I tell you one point newspaper is better than electric media. It's portability. Though electric media needs PC and it's not so easy to get connection everywhere, you can carry newspaper and read everywhere. At this moment, do you remember I said the current world is changing rapidly? Fast growing technology will solve even this matter soon. It's not popular yet but you find some people have small portable electric products in town. Cell also supports electric media. We don't need to print out huge copies of newspapers everyday. What a earth-friendly!!

Below is your edited essay with an explanation of the existing strengths of your writing with suggestions for improvement.

Insertions: Red; Deletions: Strikethroughs in blue

The idioms and idiomatic structures have been highlighted

Topic: With news readily available via the electronic media (Internet and television), newspapers will cease to be popular in the future and will eventually stop being printed. Do you agree or disagree with this point of view? State your opinion and support it with examples.

I support the theory that ~~hard copy~~ newspapers will gradually decrease ~~their~~ existence gradually. In fact, even now, most ~~of~~ people check news or information through ~~the~~ Net. Everything is ~~there~~ available online. ~~Plus~~ Moreover, ~~so~~ many things happen in ~~the~~ current today's world, ~~and it changes~~ which is changing rapidly day-by-day. ~~To catch keep up with~~ the speed of changes, you can't ~~not longer~~ say ~~longer~~ that ~~hard copy~~ newspapers plays an effective role. Electronic media is ~~faster and~~ superior to newspapers in ~~these many following ways~~ points as well as speed.

~~1. First of all, there is~~ ~~No~~ time limit; ~~—~~ ~~You~~ are able to check ~~it~~ for information anytime and do ~~n~~'ot need to wait for ~~the~~ newspaper ~~boy~~ coming. ~~2. Secondly, Piling information~~ ~~It'~~ is possible to save ~~huge~~ substantial information in a virtual database and ~~one does not~~ ~~no~~ need space to save it in ~~the~~ actual real world. Furthermore, ~~3. Easy access~~ ~~you can~~ ~~W~~ withdraw ~~just any~~ information ~~just~~ you need ~~from the archive~~ with a keyword ~~from~~ archive.

~~Now I tell you~~ However, one ~~point~~ aspect in which newspapers ~~is~~ are better than electronic media. ~~It'~~ is portability. ~~Though~~ Electronic media needs a PC and it ~~is~~ not ~~so~~ easy to get a connection everywhere, ~~whereas~~ you can carry newspapers and read ~~them~~ ~~ever~~ anywhere and at anytime. ~~At this moment,~~ ~~d~~ Do you remember, I ~~said~~ mentioned earlier that the ~~current~~ world is changing rapidly? Fast growing technology will solve even this matter soon. It ~~is~~ not popular yet but you find some people ~~have~~ using small, portable electronic products in towns. Cell phones also supports electronic media. We do ~~n~~'ot need to print out ~~huge~~ numerous copies of newspapers everyday. ~~What~~ How a ~~earth~~ eco-friendly!!

Content and ideas: Addressing the topic/topic category, Length of essay, Inclusion/exclusion of key points, Use/relevance of examples

The discussion is clear and convincing. Addressing the topic from two different perspectives makes your discussion more engaging. Well done!

An introduction aims to initiate the reader into the discussion. Therefore, it should ideally begin with a general statement referring to the topic. The thesis statement relating your stance can logically follow. Refer to A Comprehensive Guide to Writing handout for tips on writing an effective introduction.

In the concluding paragraph, you comment that newspapers are the most reliable sources of information even where the electronic media fails. An imaginary/real situation where you had no access to any other media and where the newspaper kept you updated could be cited to add credibility to your comment.

Structure: Distribution of information, Use of transition, Introduction, Body paragraphs, Conclusion

The clear statement of your stance in the introduction is effective. Good! For an essay to be most effective, the ideas should be expressed in separate paragraphs. Each paragraph should deal with individual points. Such a discussion should be clubbed between a clear introduction of the topic and a reinforcing conclusion of your argument. The rhetorical question, "Do you remember..." begins a new point about the growth of technology today. This should be in a new paragraph. Similarly, your explanation of the main advantage of newspapers over the electronic media should ideally be the concluding paragraph.

Numbering your points disrupts the flow of your essay, and it appears like a list. Instead, use transitional words/phrases like "next," "furthermore," "moreover," etc., to link sentences and ideas.

The use of stylistic devices like rhetorical questions, exclamatory sentences, idioms and idiomatic structures, and the judicious mix of long and short sentence constructions are commendable.

Language Tips:

Edited: ~~1-First of all, there is N~~no time limit;— ~~Y~~you are able to check ~~it~~for information anytime and do n'ot need to wait for ~~the~~ newspaper boy—~~coming~~. ~~2-Moreover, Piling information—It'~~ is possible to save ~~hugesubstantial~~ information in a virtual database, and ~~one does not ne~~ed space to save it in ~~theactual~~ real world.

Use of transitional elements: While numbering points in a list is fine, avoid doing so in an essay. This can make your writing appear disjointed and lacking in flow. In the edit, these numbers are replaced with the transitional elements, "first of all" and "moreover." Note that you need to insert an introductory comma after these transitional elements since they are acting as introductory elements in the sentences. Refer to the [i-osmosis Grammar Help](#) for tips on using transitional and introductory elements.

Edited: Electronic media is ~~faster and~~ superior to newspapers in ~~thesemany followingways—points as well as speed~~.

Word choice: The adjective "electric" means to be connected by electricity or producing electricity.

Example: Electric kettles are very useful machines.

Since you are referring to computers as a medium of communication which has microchips, the precise adjective would be "electronic."

Example: Electronic gadgets are easily available nowadays.

Edited: ~~To catch~~keep up with the speed of changes, you can' not longer say—~~longer~~ that ~~hard-copy~~ newspapers plays an effective role.

Idiomatic usage: The idiom "to catch up with" is usually used to mean "to reach somebody who is ahead by going faster."

Example: Jane had to run to catch up with her brother.

It also means to "reach the same level as someone who is more advanced."

Example: After missing school for a month, she had to work hard to catch up with others.

You intended to imply, "learning about or being aware of the latest news, current events, trends, etc." This can be conveyed by the idiom "to keep up with."

Example: Jane always tries to keep up with the latest trends in fashion.

Essay Rating

Parameter	Rating
Content and ideas	Very good
Organization of thought	Good
Structure	Satisfactory
Stylistics	Satisfactory
Mechanics and grammar	Good

Your essay's grade: **B**

SAMPLE

I support the theory that newspapers will gradually decrease in existence. In fact, even now, most people check news or information through the Net. Everything is available online. Moreover, many things happen in today's world, which is changing rapidly day-by-day. To keep up with the speed of change, you can no longer say that newspapers play an effective role. Electronic media is faster and superior to newspapers in many ways.

First of all, there is no time limit; you are able to check for information anytime and do not need to wait for the newspaper boy. Secondly, it is possible to save substantial information in a virtual database and one does not need space to save it in the real world. Furthermore, you can withdraw just any information you need from the archive with a keyword.

However, one aspect in which newspapers are better than electronic media is portability. Electronic media needs a PC and it is not easy to get a connection everywhere, whereas you can carry newspapers and read them anywhere and at anytime. Do you remember, I mentioned earlier that the world is changing rapidly? Fast growing technology will solve even this matter soon. It is not popular yet but you find some people using small, portable electronic products in towns. Cell phones also support electronic media. We do not need to print out numerous copies of newspapers everyday. How eco-friendly!!