

Student's Worksheet 1

ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

WRITING
comes easy

Exercise 1 Read the exam task and choose the correct words or phrases in the statements referring to the task below.

Napisz rozprawkę na temat budowania galerii handlowych w coraz mniejszych miejscowościach. Przedstaw swoją opinię, uwzględniając argumenty odnoszące się do:

- zatrudnienia w danej miejscowości;
- wpływu budowy na życie społeczności.

- The essay *should/shouldn't* be balanced and objective.
- You *should/shouldn't* present your own opinion in the essay.
- The main body of the essay should consist of *one/two* paragraphs.
- Each paragraph of the main body can contain *both arguments for and against/ either arguments for or against* building shopping malls.

Exercise 2 Read some arguments for the exam task in the columns below and complete them with your own ideas. Decide whether they could be used as arguments for or against building shopping malls. You can also add one or two arguments of your own.

Employment	Life of the community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new jobs in the mall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people spend so much time in shopping malls that they spend less time – <i>doing what?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • jobs in the mall – <i>What kind of jobs? What payment?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a typical place to kill time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people losing jobs in local shops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a typical place for teenagers to play truant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chance for students to earn extra money 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • malls organise
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Student's Worksheet 2

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Exercise 3 Think carefully about what your opinion is on the topic from Exercise 1. Write your thesis under the heading Introduction. Then write down the arguments you would like to use in your essay.

Introduction	
Paragraph 1: employment	
Paragraph 2: life of the community	

Exercise 4 Read the sentences below. For each sentence:

- underline the phrase in italics which expresses the writer's opinion more strongly,
- circle the correct word in bold to make collocations.

- I'm absolutely convinced that/I think that* shopping malls **do/make** more harm than good in Poland.
- I would say that/I firmly believe that* the number of people who lose their jobs after a new shopping mall is built **outweighs/outnumbers** the number of people who get employed in them.
- I have no doubt that/Personally, I think that* a shopping mall **stops/gives** opportunities for students to work part-time.
- It seems to me that .../I am certain that ...* shopping malls have a negative **effect/impact** on the life of the local community.
- To be absolutely honest,/In my opinion,* shopping malls will be built as long as there are people who are willing to **do/go** their shopping in them.

Exercise 5 Match the phrases 1–7 with phrases A–G to make fixed phrases which might be useful for writing argumentative essays. Write the letters in the first column.

1	1	according to	A	account/consideration
2	2	some people	B	of the opinion that
3	3	as statistics/data	C	accepted/claimed
4	4	most people are	D	argue/claim/propose that
5	5	it is generally	E	show/reveal/prove
6	6	economically/statistically	F	statistics/data/experts,
7	7	taking into	G	speaking

Student's Worksheet 3

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Exercise 6 Read the introduction to the essay from Exercise 1. Decide how you might make it sound more convincing.

Shopping malls have become such a natural part of our urban landscapes that it is difficult to imagine what life was like before them. A lot of people think that they do more harm than good to us. However, I think they are beneficial both for our local economies and communities.

Exercise 7 Read the second paragraph of the essay from Exercise 1. Choose which of the underlined words or phrases matches the text better. In some cases both options are correct.

As for the local economy, a lot of people claim/propose that shopping malls have a dramatic/significant impact on local shops which lose customers/clients and as a result have to close/shut down. My doubt is what did these local shops have to offer/suggest in the first place? Those local shops which sell specialised products you can't get in shopping malls, like fishing equipment or second-hand books, will survive/pull through. Local shops selling fresh, good-quality food will also survive as people rarely/barely feel like travelling to a shopping mall to buy a loaf of bread. Besides/However, shopping malls may lead to people losing jobs, but they also employ/lay off lots of people, creating/giving college students and unqualified employees an opportunity to find some work.

Exercise 8 Read the third paragraph of the essay. Complete the gaps with some phrases from Exercise 5 to make it logical and coherent.

Taking the local community 1. _____, the common opinion is that shopping malls kill its social life. Opponents are of 2. _____ that people prefer to spend time in a shopping mall rather than do anything else. Again, the question arises: what do towns have to offer instead? 3. _____ to surveys, inhabitants often have nothing to do in their towns, while in shopping malls they have shops, coffee shops, cinemas, bowling alleys, playgrounds for children, and many other things. Some people 4. _____ that old towns and town centres are slowly becoming empty, but maybe they are becoming empty because nothing ever happens there? As 5. _____ from some Polish towns show, people are not just interested in shopping – they also want entertainment which town centres often lack.

Student's Worksheet 4

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Exercise 9 Discuss with your partner whether you agree with the opinions and arguments presented in Exercises 6–8.

Exercise 10 Finish the concluding paragraph for the essay presented in Exercises 8–8

In conclusion, it must be said that shopping malls will always spark controversy as they exert a considerable influence on our towns and cities. I am absolutely convinced, however, that

Homework Read the exam task below. Use the 5–step writing programme to write your essay.

Napisz rozprawkę na temat budowania galerii handlowych w coraz mniejszych miejscowościach. Przedstaw swoją opinię, uwzględniając argumenty odnoszące się do:

- *wygody mieszkańców;*
- *lokalnej gospodarki.*

1. **IDEAS:** First generate ideas for the essay. Write down any concepts that come to your mind and which are related to the issue.
2. **RESOURCES:** Decide what linkers you are going to use. Think about vocabulary items you might want to use, e.g. phrases, collocations, etc.
3. **STRUCTURE:** Draw a plan of your essay. Write down what arguments you are going to use for both aspects of the essay.
4. **WRITE** your essay.
5. **CHECK:** Check your essay for all the criteria that are relevant for a given task type:
 - addressing all the elements of the instructions,
 - appropriate structure,
 - sufficient length (180–280 words; make sure it's not fewer than 160),
 - cohesion, coherence and logical development,
 - a variety of linguistic resources,
 - accuracy.