

Discursive Writing:

Topic: Petrol, Diesel or Electric Cars?

What is discursive writing?

Discursive writing explores a topic from different points of view. It does not just argue one side. Instead, it looks at different ideas, explains them clearly and helps the reader think more deeply.

A discursive response is like opening three different doors. Behind each door is a different idea. Your job is to walk through each door, look around carefully, and explain what you notice.

Discursive Writing Is Different From Persuasive Writing

Persuasive Writing	Discursive Writing
Tries to convince the reader strongly	Explores different sides of an issue
Usually has one clear opinion	May consider several opinions
Uses strong emotional language	Uses thoughtful and balanced language
Often says one side is best	May end with a careful judgement

The Question

Petrol, diesel or electric cars: which is the best choice?

For this topic, we will explore:

1. **Petrol cars** using the **Toyota LandCruiser** as an example
2. **Diesel cars** using the **Ford Everest** as an example
3. **Electric cars** using **BYD** as an example

Key Words

Petrol

Petrol is a fuel used in many cars. Petrol cars can be powerful and easy to refuel, but they create pollution when driven.

Diesel

Diesel is another type of fuel. Diesel cars are often strong and useful for towing or long trips, but they can also create pollution.

Electric

Electric cars use a battery instead of petrol or diesel. They can be better for the environment when driven, but they need charging and can sometimes cost more to buy.

Balanced

Balanced writing means you look at more than one side fairly.

Judgement

A judgement is your final thoughtful opinion after considering different ideas.

Sentence Starters

To introduce the topic:

- Many people wonder whether...
- In today's world, people have different views about...
- Cars are important because...
- Choosing the right car is not always simple because...

To explore one side:

- One way to look at this issue is...
- Some people may believe...
- This could be useful because...
- For families who need...

To show another side:

- However, another view is...
- On the other hand...
- At the same time...
- This may not suit everyone because...

To make a judgement:

- After considering these ideas...
 - Overall, the best choice may depend on...
 - Perhaps the most sensible answer is...
 - Therefore, no single car is perfect because...
-

Useful Discursive Techniques

Technique	What It Means	Example
Rhetorical question	A question that makes the reader think	Should every family choose the same type of car?
Contrast	Showing differences	Petrol cars are powerful, while electric cars are cleaner to drive.
Balanced language	Fair and thoughtful wording	This may be useful for some families, but not for others.
Examples	Specific details that support an idea	The Ford Everest may suit families who travel long distances.
Cause and effect	Showing how one thing leads to another	If more people use electric cars, there may be less pollution from driving.
Careful judgement	A thoughtful final opinion	The best car depends on the driver's needs.

Three Cars, Three Fuels

Different fuels power different cars.



Toyota LandCruiser
– Petrol

Ford Everest
– Diesel

BYD
– Electric

Introduction

Topic: Petrol, diesel or electric cars

Main issue: Which type of car is the best choice?

Texts/examples: Toyota LandCruiser, Ford Everest and BYD electric cars

Introduction sentence starter:

In today's world, choosing a car is not always simple because people need to think about power, cost, comfort and the environment.

Body Paragraph 1: Petrol Cars

Example: Toyota LandCruiser

Main idea: Petrol cars can be powerful and useful, especially for families who need a strong car.

Possible points:

- Petrol cars are familiar to many drivers.
- They can be powerful.
- They are usually easy to refuel.
- A Toyota LandCruiser may suit families who need a large, strong car.
- However, petrol cars still use fuel and create emissions.

Sentence starter:

One way to look at this issue is to consider petrol cars, such as the Toyota LandCruiser.

Body Paragraph 2: Diesel Cars

Example: Ford Everest

Main idea: Diesel cars can be useful for long trips, towing and carrying families.

Possible points:

- Diesel engines are often strong.
- They can be useful for towing.
- The Ford Everest is a large SUV that may suit family trips.
- Diesel cars can travel long distances.
- However, diesel vehicles still rely on fossil fuels and can affect the environment.

Sentence starter:

Another view is that diesel cars, such as the Ford Everest, may be a practical choice for some families.

Body Paragraph 3: Electric Cars

Example: BYD

Main idea: Electric cars may be better for the environment when driven, but they also have challenges.

Possible points:

- Electric cars do not use petrol or diesel while driving.
- They can be quieter.
- They may help reduce pollution from driving.
- BYD makes electric cars that some families may choose.
- However, electric cars need charging stations and may not suit every trip.

Sentence starter:

On the other hand, electric cars, such as those made by BYD, offer a different way to think about transport.

Conclusion

Final judgement:

There is no perfect answer. The best car depends on what a family needs.

Sentence starter:

After considering petrol, diesel and electric cars, it becomes clear that the best choice depends on the driver's lifestyle, budget and values.

Model Discursive Response

Petrol, Diesel or Electric Cars?

In today's world, choosing a car is not always simple. Some families want a powerful car for long trips. Others want a car that is cheaper to run. Many people are also thinking more carefully about the environment. So, when we ask whether petrol, diesel or electric cars are best, the answer is not as easy as picking one winner. Instead, we need to explore the strengths and weaknesses of each choice.

One way to look at this issue is to consider petrol cars, such as the Toyota LandCruiser. For many people, a large petrol car feels strong, reliable and comfortable. A LandCruiser can seem like the kind of car that belongs on long roads, family holidays and rough tracks. Petrol cars are also familiar to many drivers because they are easy to refuel at petrol stations. However, this does not mean petrol cars are perfect. They still use fuel, which costs money and creates pollution. Therefore, while a petrol LandCruiser may be powerful and useful, it may not be the best choice for people who are mainly worried about the environment.

Another view is that diesel cars, such as the Ford Everest, may be a practical choice for some families. Diesel vehicles are often valued because they can be strong, especially for towing and travelling long distances. A Ford Everest may suit a family that needs space, strength and comfort. It could be useful for road trips, camping or carrying several passengers. However, diesel cars also have disadvantages. Like petrol cars, they still use fossil fuels. This means they can also add to pollution. Because of this, a diesel car may be practical, but it may not be the cleanest choice.

On the other hand, electric cars, such as those made by BYD, offer a very different way to think about transport. Electric cars do not use petrol or diesel while driving. This can make them quieter and cleaner on the road. For people who mostly drive around the city, an electric car could be a smart choice. It may also help families think more carefully about the future of the planet. However, electric cars are not perfect either. They need to be charged, and charging stations may not always be easy to find, especially on long trips. Some electric cars may also cost more to buy at first.

After considering petrol, diesel and electric cars, it becomes clear that there is no single perfect answer. A petrol Toyota LandCruiser may suit people who want power and size. A diesel Ford Everest may suit families who need strength for long trips and towing. A BYD electric car may suit people who want a cleaner and quieter way to travel. Perhaps the best choice depends on the driver's lifestyle,

budget and values. In the end, the smartest car is not always the biggest or newest one. It is the one that best suits the people using it.

Success Criteria

A strong discursive response should:

- Introduce the topic clearly
- Explore more than one point of view
- Use examples
- Explain advantages and disadvantages
- Use balanced language
- Include thoughtful sentence starters
- End with a careful judgement
- Avoid sounding too forceful or one-sided