

Discursive Writing Scaffold

Topic: The Seasons of the Year

Question

Which season of the year is the best?

What is discursive writing?

Discursive writing explores different ideas about a topic. It does not simply argue one side. Instead, it looks at different points of view before making a thoughtful judgement.

For this topic, you will explore the four seasons:

1. **Summer**
 2. **Autumn**
 3. **Winter**
 4. **Spring**
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Planning Scaffold

Introduction

Purpose

Introduce the topic and explain that different people may prefer different seasons for different reasons.

Sentence Starters

- The year is divided into four seasons: summer, autumn, winter and spring.
- Many people have different opinions about which season is the best.
- Some people enjoy warm weather, while others prefer cooler days.
- Choosing the best season is not simple because each season has advantages and disadvantages.

Example Introduction

The year is divided into four seasons: summer, autumn, winter and spring. Many people have different opinions about which season is the best. Some enjoy the bright heat of summer, while others prefer the colourful leaves of autumn, the cold comfort of winter or the fresh beauty of spring. Choosing the best season is not simple because each season has its own strengths and weaknesses.

Body Paragraph 1: Summer

Main Idea

Summer can be enjoyable because the weather is warm and people can spend more time outside.

Points to Consider

- Summer has warm or hot weather.
- People can go swimming, visit the beach or play outside.
- There are often school holidays.
- Longer days can give people more time for activities.
- However, summer can sometimes be too hot.
- Bushfires, sunburn and dehydration can also be problems.

Sentence Starters

- One way to look at this issue is to consider summer.
 - Summer may be enjoyable because...
 - For example...
 - However, summer may not suit everyone because...
 - This shows that summer can be exciting, but it also has challenges.
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Body Paragraph 2: Autumn

Main Idea

Autumn can be beautiful and comfortable because the weather is usually cooler and the leaves change colour.

Points to Consider

- Autumn is often cooler than summer.
- Trees may have red, orange, yellow and brown leaves.
- The weather can feel calm and pleasant.
- It may be easier to walk, play or exercise outside.
- However, autumn can also feel windy or gloomy.
- Some people may miss the warmth of summer.

Sentence Starters

- Another season to consider is autumn.
 - Autumn may be special because...
 - For example...
 - At the same time...
 - This suggests that autumn can be peaceful, but it may not be everyone's favourite season.
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Body Paragraph 3: Winter

Main Idea

Winter can be cosy and calm, but it can also be cold and uncomfortable.

Points to Consider

- Winter has cold weather.
- People may enjoy warm clothes, blankets and hot food.
- Some places may have snow.
- Winter can feel peaceful and quiet.
- However, cold weather can make outdoor activities harder.
- Some people may dislike rain, wind or shorter days.

Sentence Starters

- On the other hand, winter may appeal to some people.
- Winter can be enjoyable because...
- For instance...
- However...
- This shows that winter can be comforting, but it can also be difficult.

Body Paragraph 4: Spring

Main Idea

Spring can feel fresh and hopeful because flowers bloom and the weather becomes warmer.

Points to Consider

- Spring often has mild weather.
- Flowers bloom and plants grow.
- Animals may become more active.
- People may feel excited because the weather is not too hot or too cold.
- However, spring can bring allergies.
- The weather can also change quickly.

Sentence Starters

- Spring offers another point of view.
 - Many people may enjoy spring because...
 - For example...
 - However, spring may not be perfect because...
 - This suggests that spring can feel fresh and cheerful, even though it has some disadvantages.
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Conclusion

Purpose

Make a thoughtful judgement after exploring all four seasons.

Sentence Starters

- After considering all four seasons, it becomes clear that...
- Each season has its own advantages and disadvantages.
- The best season may depend on...
- Overall, I believe...
- Perhaps the most sensible answer is...

Example Conclusion

After considering all four seasons, it becomes clear that there is no perfect answer. Summer may be best for people who love swimming and sunshine, while autumn may suit people who enjoy calm weather and colourful leaves. Winter can be cosy, and spring can feel fresh and full of life. Overall, the best season depends on a person's lifestyle, interests and favourite weather.

Student Writing Template

Title: Which Season is the Best?

Introduction

The year is divided into four seasons: _____, _____, _____
and _____.

Many people have different opinions about which season is the best because...

Choosing the best season is not simple because...

Body Paragraph 1: Summer

One way to look at this issue is to consider summer.

Summer may be enjoyable because...

For example...

However, summer may not suit everyone because...

This shows that...

Body Paragraph 2: Autumn

Another season to consider is autumn.

Autumn may be special because...

For example...

At the same time...

This suggests that...

Body Paragraph 3: Winter

On the other hand, winter may appeal to some people.

Winter can be enjoyable because...

For instance...

However...

This shows that...

Body Paragraph 4: Spring

Spring offers another point of view.

Many people may enjoy spring because...

For example...

However, spring may not be perfect because...

This suggests that...

Conclusion

After considering all four seasons, it becomes clear that...

Each season has...

The best season may depend on...

Overall, I believe...

Useful Vocabulary

Season	Useful Words
Summer	hot, bright, sunny, active, energetic, dry, exciting
Autumn	calm, colourful, cool, gentle, windy, peaceful
Winter	cold, cosy, rainy, quiet, chilly, dark, still
Spring	fresh, warm, blooming, bright, lively, hopeful

Discursive Sentence Bank

To explore different views

- Some people may believe...
- Others may prefer...
- Another way to think about this is...
- This may be true for some people because...

- This depends on...

To show advantages

- One advantage is...
- This can be helpful because...
- This may allow people to...
- This makes the season enjoyable because...

To show disadvantages

- However, this season may also...
- A possible problem is...
- This may not suit everyone because...
- On the other hand...

To make a judgement

- After considering these ideas...
- Overall, the best choice may depend on...
- There is no single perfect answer because...
- Perhaps the most reasonable view is...

Success Criteria

A strong discursive response should:

- Introduce the topic clearly
- Explore all four seasons
- Explain advantages and disadvantages
- Use examples
- Use balanced language
- Use connectives such as however, on the other hand and at the same time
- End with a thoughtful judgement
- Avoid sounding too forceful or one-sided