

## Discussion Questions

In these questions you are given two opposing views. You must discuss both views and give your own opinion. Here are some examples:

- *Some people believe that teachers have an important role to play in educational success, while others think it is the students' attitude that matters. Discuss both views and share your opinion.*
- *These days people move from one country to another for work. Some people think children of these families suffer because of this, while others think it is helpful for them. Discuss both views and give your opinion.*

### Suggested Structure

I recommend that you decide which view you agree with and make this clear in your essay. To achieve this, first present the view that you don't agree with, and then the view that you do agree with. You can use this planning template:

Introduction: Short and simple. Just write two sentences:

**Introduce the 2 points of view and give your opinion:**

It is often argued that... while... **(Introduce both views)**

In my view, ... **(Give your opinion)**

Paragraph 1: First Point of View

Some people argue that... **(Introduce the first point of view)**

Firstly, Secondly, **(Use this structure to organise several points)**

For example, **(Try to give an example for one of your points)**

Paragraph 2: Opposite Point of View / Opinion

On the other hand, I would argue that...

Furthermore, **(Develop the idea)**

For example, **(Give an example)**

Conclusion: Summarise the ideas. Give your opinion:

In conclusion, it is clear that there are valid arguments on both sides of the debate.

For the reasons mentioned above, I tend to believe that... **(Give your opinion)**

## Model Answer

*Some people think that modern technology is making people more sociable, while others think it is making them less sociable. Discuss both views and give your opinion.*

It is often argued that modern technology encourages people to be more sociable, while others believe that it is making them less sociable. In my view, modern technology is generally making people less sociable.

Some people argue that modern technology may be making people more sociable. Firstly, many people use social media on their phones to chat to friends and acquaintances. For example, many people keep in regular touch with people who live far away using applications like WhatsApp. Secondly, people can make new friends using apps on their phones. A good illustration of this is dating apps, which are hugely popular in many parts of the world. People use these apps to meet a potential love interest and go on a date.

On the other hand, I would argue that technology is making people less sociable. This is because increased use of technology often leads to people spending less time together in person. For example, if you can message someone on your phone, you may decide that you don't need to meet them in person. Furthermore, there is so much cheap media available online and on streaming services that many people may prefer to watch something instead of going out and meeting people. In my experience, it is often tempting to watch a show instead of going out, because it is cheaper and many shows are excellent entertainment.

In conclusion, there are valid arguments on both sides of the debate. For the reasons mentioned above, I tend to believe that modern technology is making people more anti-social.