



Your writing task this week is  
to write a discussion text.

# KEY FACT 1: AN ARGUMENT IS BALANCED



Also known as a 'discursive text'

Discursive comes from the word 'discussion'.



I have one  
opinion



I have a different  
opinion

## KEY FACT 2: BASIC STRUCTURE

**INTRODUCTION** – say what you are writing about, why it is an issue. Do not put any of your own opinions in this paragraph.

**CONCLUSION** – sum up and weigh up the facts



# WHAT COMES IN BETWEEN?

## POINTS FOR

Firstly...

Secondly...

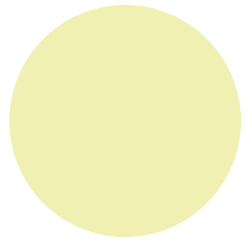
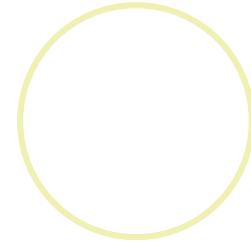
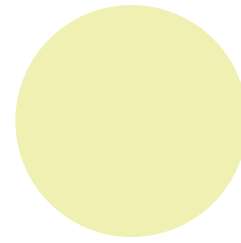
In addition,...

Consequently...

Surely...

One cannot deny that....

And of course...



POINTS AGAINST

However...

Furthermore...

Disastrous consequences...

Moreover...

FINALLY...

# WHAT DO I SAY AT THE END?

To sum up the argument...

In conclusion...

Having considered all the evidence..

Having reviewed this issue...

It seems clear that...

I am of the opinion that...


# Summary of key features

- Introduction
- Points for
- Points against
- Conclusion
- Present tense
- Third person (NOT I)
- Logical connectives e.g. therefore, consequently, however.
- Sequencing connectives e.g. firstly, secondly, finally.
- Abstract nouns – things you can't see or touch e.g. truth, belief, reason, answer.

Now read my discussion text:  
Should mobile phones be  
banned in school?

Three yellow circles of varying sizes are positioned behind the text. One circle is partially behind the word 'phones', another is behind 'be', and a third is to the right of the word 'school?'.

Highlight the features and  
language you can magpie.  
Look at the openers and the  
structure.

Three yellow circles of varying sizes are positioned behind the text. One circle is behind the word 'features', another is behind 'magpie.', and a third is to the right of the word 'structure.'.