

## Model Essay - Exploring Both Sides of an Argument

### Should Students Stay in Boarding Schools?

**Many people believe** that boarding schools give students the best start in life, **while others** argue that they can be stressful and isolating. It's a topic that divides opinion — but is sending students away from home really the best choice?

**On one hand**, boarding schools can help students become more independent and responsible. **For example**, students must organise their own time, complete homework without being reminded, and make decisions about daily routines. **As a result**, they learn self-discipline and problem-solving skills that prepare them for adulthood. **Furthermore**, because they spend so much time in a learning environment, their academic focus often improves. This combination of independence and motivation **means that** many boarding school students leave better equipped for future challenges.

**On the other hand**, boarding schools can also be emotionally demanding. Many students feel homesick or lonely because they are far from their families, which **can lead to** stress or anxiety. **Consequently**, their concentration and academic performance may suffer. **In addition**, while constant structure and supervision can seem positive, it sometimes prevents students from developing a healthy balance between study and relaxation. **By contrast**, day-school students benefit from family support after lessons, which can make them more emotionally stable and content.

**In conclusion**, although boarding schools can build independence and resilience, they may also cause emotional strain and social pressure. **Personally**, I feel that day schools are often a better choice, as students may have more access to family or close support needed in order to thrive.

### Useful linking language

Purpose	Examples from the Model Essay	Extra Useful Alternatives
<i>Introducing / Summarising Two Sides</i>	Many people believe that... while others argue that...	Some people think... whereas others believe...
<i>Giving Examples</i>	For example,	For instance, Such as, To illustrate,
<i>Cause and Effect</i>	As a result, Because... Which can lead to... Consequently, Means that...	Therefore, This shows that..., Thus,
<i>Adding / Extending an Idea</i>	Furthermore, In addition,	Moreover, Also, What's more,
<i>Contrast / Comparison</i>	On one hand... / On the other hand...  By contrast,	However, Whereas, Although, Even though,
<i>Summarising / Concluding</i>	In conclusion, Although... they may also... Personally, I feel that... Overall, I believe that...	To sum up, In summary, All things considered,

<i>Sequencing / Structuring Paragraphs</i>	This combination of... means that...	Firstly, Secondly, Finally,
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