

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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