

TUTORING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Tutorat par les pairs en anglais langue seconde




Tutoring Writing Resource

Writing lesson



2022

Québec 

STEP 1: Assessment

Find out what help the tutee needs with the writing.

What have you written so far?

Can I see the instructions?

STEP 2: Theory

- Read the first draft
- Ask questions to find out about the text.
 - What is the topic?
 - What is the topic sentence = topic + opinion (main point that you want to make)?
 - What are your arguments?
 - Which transitions did you use to connect your ideas?
 - Did you summarize the main ideas in the concluding sentence?

STEP 3. Controlled and Communicative

- Go sentence by sentence using correction techniques to deal with major grammar errors.
 - o Inform your tutee that there is an error
 - o Point out the error if necessary.
 - o Instruct your tutee to find the answer in their grammar book or with resources you provide.

STEP 4. Production Task

- Reread the text.
- Instruct the tutee to write a second draft at home having revised the grammar and vocabulary.

STEP 5: Final Review

What new words did you learn?

Tutor Note

- Ask “how do you say” questions with the words the tutee does not mention.

Important

- Write down the words you learned today and study them.

Sample Opinion Paragraph

In order to help your tutee appropriately structure a text and become familiar with the terminology, an example of an opinion paragraph is provided below.

Title

Becoming a Vegetarian Is a Good Idea

Topic sentence = topic + opinion

Becoming a vegetarian is not an easy decision, but it is a good idea for three reasons. **First**, the benefit you will see as a vegetarian is that you save money¹. **For example**, compare the price of vegetables to the price of meat or chicken. Meat and chicken are more expensive than vegetables. **Second**, following a vegetarian diet is great for your health². **Specifically**, you will consume less fat and cholesterol after you stop eating animal products. **Finally**, a vegetarian diet is better for the planet³. **In other words**, a vegetarian diet requires less fossil fuel than a meat diet; **as a result**, it produces fewer greenhouse gases. **To conclude, there are many advantages to being a vegetarian.**

Concluding sentence

The numbers 1-2-3 indicate each one of the arguments

Transition words are in green

Transitions

Transitions are words or expressions that help the reader follow the order of your ideas. They connect your sentences to one another and show the reader the relationship between your ideas.

Purpose	Transition	Use
Addition	Also, Besides, In addition, Moreover, Furthermore	To show that the second ideas is a logical result of the first idea.
Cause & effect	Thus, As a result, Therefore, Consequently	To show that the second ideas is a logical result of the first idea.
Clarification	In other words	When you are not sure that your readers will understand your first point, you may want to give some supplementary explanation.
Comparison	Similarly, Likewise	To show what two things have in common.
Contrast	Yet, However, Nevertheless, Still, Even though, On the other hand	To show differences between two ideas, or, to add a more positive comment after you have said something negative.
Emphasis	In fact, Indeed	Use when you want to show more strongly the importance of the first idea
Illustration	Specifically, For example, For instance	To clarify a point by offering an illustration.
Sequence or Time	First, Second, Third, Finally, The first, The second, The last, Then, Soon	To easily identify main ideas and understand when something happened in relation to another action.
Conclusion markers	To conclude, In conclusion, To sum up	To introduce the final comment or summary in the last paragraph.