RÚBRICA

	MUY BIEN 10	REGULAR 5	MAL 0
Uso, gramática-contenidos	Utiliza los contenidos gramaticales vistos y los usa adecuadamente	Comete algunos errores	Errores gramaticales graves: falta de concordancia
Vocabulario, idioms, frases hechas	Utiliza vocabulario adecuado y nuevo para el tema	Léxico suficiente pero poco variado	Léxico no apropiado ni variado
Organización. Párrafos. presentación	Se ajusta al tipo de texto. Deja márgenes. Letra clara	La estructura se ajusta al tipo de texto pero la presentación es algo deficiente.	No se distinguen párrafos. Letra ilegible
Ideas	Ideas variadas	Pocas ideas y repetidas	Escasez de ideas

Connectors

OPINION ESSAY

4º ESO · ENGLISH · OPINION ESSAY

How to write a great INTRODUCTION

3 moves · useful phrases · a model · your turn!

The 3-move recipe

A good introduction is a **funnel**: it starts wide and general, and gets narrower until it reaches **your opinion**.

1 HOOK
Grab your reader's attention with a question, a surprising fact or a bold statement.

2 BACKGROUND
Introduce the topic and show that people have different opinions about it.

3 THESIS
Say clearly what YOU think. Add your main reason with *because*.

Phrases you can use

Pick 1–2 from each box. Don't use them all!

1 HOOK — *grab their attention*

- Have you ever wondered why ...?
- Imagine a world where ...
- What would you do if ...?
- Did you know that ...?
- It is a well-known fact that ...
- According to a recent study, ...
- Nowadays, more and more people ...
- There is no doubt that ...

Tip: *Start with a question or a surprising fact. Never start with "I am going to talk about ..."*

2 BACKGROUND — *set the scene*

- In today's society, ...
- These days, ... is a hot topic.
- Over the last few years, ... has become ...
- There is a lot of debate about whether ...
- Opinions are divided on this issue.
- It is often said that ...
- Many people think that ...
- Some people argue that ..., while others believe that ...

Tip: *Go from general to specific, and show that there are two sides to the debate.*

3 THESIS — *your opinion*

- In my opinion, ...
- Personally, I believe that ...
- From my point of view, ...
- I strongly agree / disagree that ...
- I am firmly convinced that ...
- As far as I am concerned, ...
- In this essay, I will explain why ...
- That is why I think that ... because ...

Tip: *Be clear and direct: your reader must know your opinion after this sentence.*

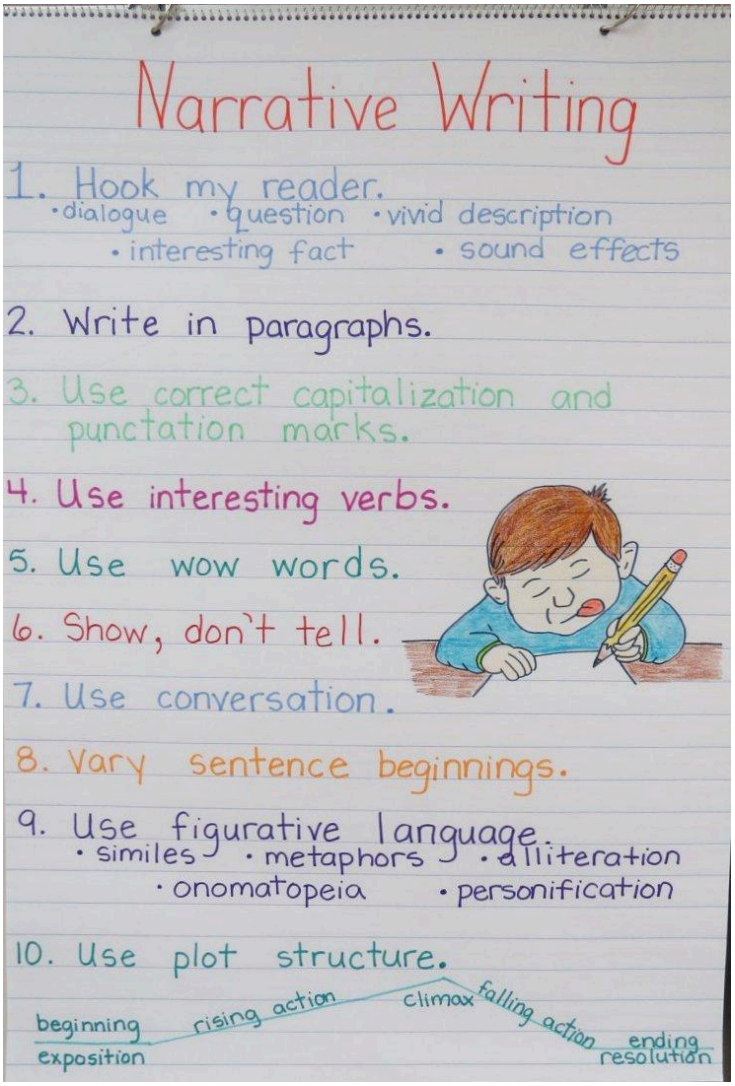
How to write a

Letter / email

The Perks of Learning Languages



1. Write an opening formula
2. Introduction: Initial greetings and reason why you are writing
3. Body: Divided in two paragraphs. Information that you want to transmit.
4. Conclusion: Say what you expect from the person you are writing to.
5. Closing fomula, Signature



The Day Everything Changed

Lost in a Strange City

A Message in a Bottle

My Most Unforgettable Journey

The Secret Door

The Unexpected Guest

A Wish That Came

The Mysterious Package

A Friend from the Future

The Day I Got Superpowers

An Accident That Changed My Life

The Last Time I Saw Him/Her

The Dream I'll Never Forget

🧠 Useful Vocabulary for Narrative Writing (Intermediate English)

✅ Common Verbs for Narration

- Action Verbs:
    - went, ran, walked, climbed, jumped, entered, left, fell, arrived, turned, escaped, followed
- Speech Verbs *(para diálogos y narración)*:
    - said, told, asked, replied, shouted, whispered, explained, warned, admitted
- Thinking/Feeling Verbs:
    - thought, realized, remembered, believed, felt, hoped, wondered, noticed
- "Story Movers" *(avanzan la historia)*:
    - started, began, continued, stopped, decided, tried, managed, faile

🕐 Time Expressions *(para estructurar la narración)*

- One day / One night
- Suddenly
- A few minutes later

- In the beginning
- After that
- Then
- Later on
- Finally / In the end
- The next morning
- As soon as...

😲 Descriptive Vocabulary (Adjectives & Adverbs)

Adjectives (to describe people, places, emotions, etc.):

- scary, exciting, dark, strange, mysterious, quiet, loud, beautiful, cold, tired, lost, angry, surprised

Adverbs (to describe actions more vividly):

- quickly, slowly, suddenly, carefully, nervously, happily, sadly, quietly, unexpectedly

🎭 Useful Phrases for Storytelling

- *It all started when...*
- *I couldn't believe what I saw.*
- *Out of nowhere...*
- *To my surprise...*
- *I'll never forget that day.*
- *Without thinking, I...*
- *As I turned the corner...*
- *It felt like a dream.*
-

- **CORRECTION TEST**

🕰️ 1. The Day Everything Changed

It was a **bleak, windswept Monday morning** in early November, and from the moment I opened my eyes, I had a bad feeling about the day. My alarm clock had betrayed me, ringing thirty minutes late. Consequently, I leapt out of bed, hastily got dressed, and sprinted out of the house, barely managing to grab my backpack. The sky was dark and heavy with clouds, and before long, icy rain began to pour.

As I raced toward the bus stop, the bus pulled away right in front of me. “Typical,” I muttered under my breath. Since there was no point in waiting for the next one, I decided to run the entire way to school. By the time I arrived, my hair was plastered to my forehead, my clothes were drenched, and I was completely out of breath.

However, at that very moment, when everything seemed to be falling apart, **something remarkable happened**. Sitting beside my usual seat was a **new student** — Emma, who had just moved from **Vancouver**. She glanced up, smiled warmly, and said, “Looks like the weather’s not on your side today.” Her sense of humor immediately broke the ice.

During lunch, we talked non-stop and discovered we shared the same passions: **music, travel, and books that kept you awake at night**. **Moreover**, she was bold and funny, the kind of person who lights up a room. Over the following weeks, we became inseparable. We started writing songs together, rehearsing secretly in the music room, and laughing until our stomachs hurt.

Looking back, I realize that day was a turning point. Missing the bus — something I had cursed that morning — led me straight to a friendship that changed my life. **Ever since**, I’ve believed that even the worst days can hide the best beginnings. **After all, every cloud has a silver lining.**

🗺️ 2. Lost in a Strange City

When I first arrived in **Prague**, I was instantly captivated. The **gothic spires**, **narrow cobblestone alleys**, and **echoing church bells** made the city feel like something out of a fairy tale. On my third day, I decided to wander aimlessly through the old town, confident that my sense of direction would be enough. It wasn’t.

After an hour of walking, I realized I was **utterly lost**. The streets twisted and turned like a maze, and my phone battery had died. Since I didn’t want to panic, I told myself to stay calm. Nevertheless, a wave of anxiety crept over me as I realized I had no idea how to get back to my hotel.

I tried asking for directions, but most people just smiled apologetically. **Meanwhile**, the sun began to set, painting the rooftops with golden light. In desperation, I decided to follow the distant sound of music, hoping it would lead me somewhere familiar. To my astonishment, I stumbled upon a lively **street performance** — dancers spinning to the rhythm of an accordion.

The crowd's laughter and energy gave me courage. As I turned around, I suddenly spotted a familiar landmark: the **Astronomical Clock** in the main square. Without thinking twice, I **broke into a run**, weaving through the crowd until I reached it. A mix of relief and pride washed over me.

That night, as I sat by my hotel window, watching the lights shimmer on the Vltava River, I realized something profound. **Getting lost had forced me to trust my instincts and embrace uncertainty.** In contrast to what I'd feared, it wasn't frightening — it was freeing. **Eventually**, I understood that sometimes, losing your way is the only way to truly find yourself.

🌊 3. A Message in a Bottle

It was late afternoon, and the sun hung low over the horizon, setting the sea ablaze with golden fire. The air was warm, yet a faint breeze carried the salty scent of the ocean. I walked along the shoreline, lost in thought, as the waves whispered softly at my feet. Suddenly, something glimmered among the rocks.

To my surprise, it was a **weathered green bottle**, its surface scratched and faded by time. Inside, a tightly rolled piece of paper lay trapped. Intrigued, I knelt down and managed to uncork it. Carefully, I pulled out the note and read:
"To whoever finds this — don't lose hope before the tide turns. Every sunrise offers a new beginning."

At first, I thought it was some kind of joke, yet the message felt strangely personal. Since I had recently gone through a difficult breakup, those words struck me deeply. However, before I could reflect further, dark clouds began to gather, and thunder rumbled in the distance.

The wind picked up, waves crashing violently against the shore. Instinctively, I grabbed the bottle and ran for shelter beneath a nearby cliff. Rain poured down in sheets, but I couldn't stop smiling. Despite the storm raging around me, I felt a sudden and inexplicable calm — as if the sea itself had spoken to me.

When the storm finally subsided, the world seemed quieter, fresher. I walked back to the edge of the water, holding the bottle tightly. **Consequently**, I decided to throw it back into the ocean, whispering, "Let someone else find their hope."

Admittedly, it might sound foolish, but that message — simple yet powerful — changed my perspective. **Since that day**, I've believed that fate sometimes hides in

plain sight, waiting for the right wave to carry it to you. After all, hope, like the ocean, always returns.

SKILLS BOOST

THINK

Choose the problem that you want to talk about. Use your ideas from exercise 1.

Make notes about the situation and why it's a problem.

PREPARE

Organise your notes into four paragraphs:

Paragraph 1 opening greeting and reason for writing

Paragraph 2 introduction to the situation

Paragraph 3 more detailed information about the situation

Paragraph 4 concluding phrase and closing greeting

WRITE

Write your email. Use the example in exercise 1 and your notes to help you.

CHECK

Read your email and answer the questions.

1 Have you used informal linkers?

2 Have you used at least two relative clauses?

3 Have you included vocabulary related to friends, character adjectives and phrasal verbs?

4 Have you used the correct opening and closing greetings?

FORMAL E MAIL

Part of the Email	What it Includes	Useful Phrases / Vocabulary
1. Greeting (Saludo)	**Forma educada de empezar el email**	• ***Dear Sir/Madam,*** **(si no conocen al destinatario)** • ***Dear Mr/Ms + surname,***
2. Introduction (Introducción)	**Decir quién eres y por qué escribes**	• ***I am writing to…*** • ***I am contacting you because…*** • ***My name is…, and I would like to…***
3. Body (Contenido)	**Información principal. Pueden ser 1–2 párrafos.**	**Para continuar:** • ***Firstly… / Secondly…*** • ***In addition…*** • ***Furthermore…*** **Para pedir información:** • ***Could you please tell me…?*** • ***I would like to know…***
4. Closing (Cierre)	**Resumen breve, agradecimiento, despedida**	**Para terminar el email:** • ***Thank you for your time.*** • ***I look forward to hearing from you.***

		• ***Should you need any further information, please let me know.***
5. Sign-off (Despedida)	**Fórmula final + nombre**	**• *Yours sincerely,* (si saben el nombre del destinatario)** **• *Yours faithfully,* (si NO lo saben)** **• Nombre y apellido**

🗣️ Useful Vocabulary

Verbs

- ***request*** **(solicitar)**
- ***inform*** **(informar)**
- ***apply for*** **(solicitar formalmente)**
- ***attach*** **(adjuntar)**

Formal Connectors

- ***However,***
- ***Moreover,***
- ***As a result,***
- ***Therefore,***

Polite Expressions

- ***I would be grateful if…***
- ***I apologize for any inconvenience.***
- ***Thank you in advance***

📢 **1. Vacancy Announcement: Study at Our High School Next Year**

📣 **Apply Now to Join Riverdale International High School!**

Riverdale International High School is now accepting applications for the next academic year. We offer high-quality education, modern facilities, and a friendly environment where students from different countries can grow and succeed.

We offer:

- Excellent teachers
- Science and computer labs
- Sports and music activities
- International exchange programmes

Requirements:

- Students aged 14–17
- Good academic record
- Basic level of English

How to apply:
Send your school report, a motivation letter, and the application form to:
admissions@riverdalehs.edu

Deadline: *30th April*

📢 **2. Job Offer: Summer Camp Activity Leader**

☀️ **GreenLake Summer Camp – Now Hiring!**

We are looking for enthusiastic and responsible young people to work as Activity Leaders at our summer camp in July and August.

Responsibilities include:

- Helping organize games and sports
- Supervising groups of children
- Assisting with daily camp routines

We are looking for someone who:

- Enjoys working with children
- Is energetic and creative
- Speaks English at an intermediate level

We offer:

- Free accommodation and meals
- A friendly working environment
- Salary depending on experience

📧 **Apply at:** jobs@greenlakecamp.com
🗓️ **Applications close:** 15th May

📢 **3. Admission Notice: Football Club Tryouts**

⚽ **Join the Lions Football Club! Tryouts This Weekend**

The Lions Football Club is inviting new players to take part in our official tryouts for next season. If you love football and want to improve your skills, this is your chance!

We are looking for players who:

- Are between 13 and 17 years old
- Have basic football experience
- Are motivated and willing to train regularly

Tryouts:
📅 *Saturday and Sunday, 10:00–13:00*
📍 Lions Stadium Training Field

What to bring:

- Sports clothes
- Football boots
- Bottle of water

For more information, contact **info@lionsfc.org**

FOR AND AGAINST ESSAY – STRUCTURE & USEFUL LANGUAGE

HOW TO WRITE FOR AND AGANST ESSAYS

1. INTRODUCTION

- Introduce the issue without stating your opinion (NO OPINION)
- Most people would agree that...
- In this day and age it is popularly believed that...
- However, I would like to show that there are always two sides to every story.
- The following essay takes a look at both sides of the argument..



2. ARGUMENTS FOR

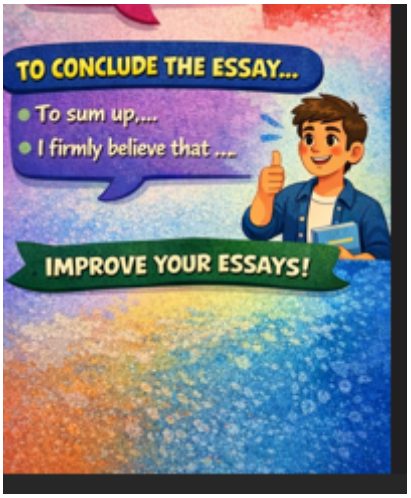


- On the one hand,...
- Another / A further / An additional advantage of...
- Moreover,/ Furthermore,/ In Addition, What is more, ...
- Take for example the case of...
- For example, / For instance, ... such as...

3. ARGUMENTS AGAINST:



- On the other hand,...
- An additional drawback...
- However / In spite of this, Although ...



1. **Is online learning the new way to study in the future?**
2. **.Is playing video games good or bad for teenagers?**
3. **Should homework be done on computers instead of paper?**

-

📝 HOW TO WRITE A REPORT

📌 1️⃣ What Is a Report?

A report is a formal piece of writing that:

- **Presents information**
- **Analyses a situation or problem**
- **Makes recommendations**

👉 The style must be formal, objective, and well organised.

🏗️ 2️⃣ STRUCTURE OF A REPORT

🔹 A) Title

The title should be clear and specific.

Examples:

- ***Report on School Facilities***
- ***Report on Students' Use of Mobile Phones***
- ***Report on Environmental Problems in Our Town***
- ***Report on School Trips***

🔹 B) Introduction

In this paragraph, you should:

- **State the purpose of the report**
- **Explain what the report will include**

✏️ Useful Phrases:

- **The purpose of this report is to...**
- **This report aims to...**
- **This report will analyse...**
- **The following report is based on...**
- **This report outlines...**

Model example:

> **The purpose of this report is to analyse the use of mobile phones at school and suggest possible improvements.**

🔹 C) Main Body (2–3 Paragraphs with Headings)

Each paragraph should have a clear heading.

Example Headings:

- **Current Situation**
- **Problems**

- **Survey Results**
- **Students’ Opinions**
- **Advantages and Disadvantages**

✏️ Useful Linking Words:

- **Firstly,**
- **Secondly,**
- **In addition,**
- **Moreover,**
- **Furthermore,**
- **However,**
- **On the other hand,**

✏️ Useful Phrases for Describing Results:

- **According to the survey...**
- **Most students believe that...**
- **A large number of students think that...**
- **It was found that...**
- **The majority of students said that...**

✏️ Useful Phrases for Describing Problems:

- **One of the main problems is...**
- **Another issue is...**
- **This may cause...**

- **This can lead to...**
- **It has been reported that...**

🔹 D) Conclusion and Recommendations

In this final section, you should:

- **Summarise the main points**
- **Suggest possible solutions**

✏️ Useful Phrases for the Conclusion:

- **In conclusion,**
- **To sum up,**
- **All things considered,**
- **In summary,**

✏️ Useful Phrases for Recommendations:

- **It is recommended that...**
- **The school should...**
- **Students could...**
- **One possible solution would be...**
- **It would be advisable to...**
- **It is suggested that…**
-


OPINION