

Life Upper-intermediate Writing worksheet

Answer key

Units 7 & 8 Writing a for and against essay

1 Students' own answers

2 Wildlife is negatively affected by the plastic.

1 A lot of plastic is found in the sea.

5 We need global action.

3 There are different opinions on the straw ban.

4 Plastic straws can be replaced with paper ones.

3 Possible answers

Objective writing

Plastic consumption is a huge problem around the world. At least eight millions tons of plastic enter the ocean every year, destroying marine life.

They make up nearly 10% of the plastic found in the sea globally.

Plastic straws are too small to recycle ... and end up in the sea.

We can refer to the millions of tons of plastic that enter the sea each year.

Subjective writing

I am convinced that banning plastic straws in Cyprus is necessary.

I believe this is a brilliantly simple idea that will help the environment ...

Unfortunately, we need much bigger solutions ...

4 Quantity: *all (cafés and restaurants); too little*

Quality: *brilliantly simple; catastrophic (effect)*

5 Students' own answers

6 1 I am convinced that this is the right thing to do.

2 In my opinion, the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

3 There is no doubt in my mind that this is the correct approach.

4 I do not agree with that point of view.

5 This is the best thing for everyone, in my view.

6 I very much doubt that it is the most effective solution.

7 Possible answer

For	Against
Reduces air pollution	You can't drive if you want to go away for the weekend
Reduces noise pollution	Not practical for families with small children or elderly residents that might rely on car transport
Makes area safer (especially for children)	Public transport doesn't offer a good enough service to allow everyone to travel where they need to go to
Fewer road accidents	The infrastructure of most towns/cities means that people need to drive cars
Encourages people to walk and cycle more	Some people work at the weekend and need to drive to work

8 Possible answer

For Statement 1: makes the area safer for residents, especially children Supporting argument: reduces air pollution Supporting argument: fewer road accidents
Against Statement 1: the infrastructure of most towns/cities means that people need to drive cars Supporting argument: public transport doesn't offer a good enough service at weekends Supporting argument: some people work at the weekend and need to drive to get there
Your opinion A complete ban of cars in towns and cities at the weekend is not practical

9 Furthermore, ... ; To illustrate this ...; in addition ...

10 Model answer

Our cities and towns have become more and more congested with traffic. To address this problem, some people argue that cars should be banned in towns and cities at the weekend. However, many people disagree that this is the best solution.

It is clear that fewer cars means greater safety. Cars are a major cause of air pollution, which harms our health. Building on this, air pollution is more harmful to children travelling in cars and it is, in fact, safer to walk or cycle along the same congested road. Furthermore, fewer cars means fewer road accidents.

However, the infrastructure of most cities means that people need cars. An example of this is the fact that bus services are often reduced at weekends. In addition, many people work at the weekend and need a car as it is not possible to get there on public transport.

In summary, while I am convinced that we need to reduce traffic in towns and cities, I do not believe that banning cars at the weekend is the best solution. Alternatives such as using electric cars, and making walking and cycling more accessible are more viable options. (195 words)

11 Students' own answers

12 Students' own answers