

1 Writing a Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion

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In writing your series of paragraphs, you should consider the following:

- Read the topic question carefully and decide which stand (i.e., positive or negative) you are going to take in your series of paragraphs
- Be sure that you write at least three clearly-defined paragraphs (i.e., leave a blank line between

paragraphs, indent clearly, etc.); responses with fewer than three paragraphs will lead to a lower score

- Ensure that you have written in full sentence form, using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation (errors which prevent clear communication will lead to a lower score)
- In your first paragraph, state your opinion clearly
- In the middle paragraph(s), supply facts and ideas to support that opinion
- Summarize your ideas in the last paragraph
- Provide sufficient supporting details in your middle paragraph(s) to elaborate your ideas logically
- Use transitional words to create coherence between your sentences and paragraphs

2 Planning Your Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion

You may wish to develop a writing plan such as an essay planner similar to the one below.

