

Useful Phrases for C2 Essays

Introduction

- It is often said that...
- It is undeniable that...
- It is true that.../ clear that.../ noticeable that...
- It is a well-known fact that...
- Nowadays is often the topic of heated debate
- There are three main causes/results/solutions for this, namely X, Y, Z

Developing the first argument

- The first aspect to point out is that...
- Let us start by considering the facts.

The other side of the argument

- It would also be interesting to see...
- One should, nevertheless, consider the problem from another angle.
- Equally relevant to the issue are the questions of...
- On the other hand, we can observe that...
- The other side of the coin is, however, that...
- Another way of looking at this question is to...

Ordering elements

- There are at least xxx points to highlight/ consider.
- Firstly,.../ Secondly,.../ Finally,... (note the comma after all these introductory words.)
- As a final point...
- On the one hand, on the other hand...
- If on the one hand it can be said that... the same is not true for...
- The first argument suggests that... whilst the second suggests that...

Adding elements

- Furthermore, one should not forget that...
- In addition to...
- Moreover...
- It is important to add that...
- Additionally, ...

Accepting other points of view

- Nevertheless, one should accept that...
- However, we also agree that...
- By and large...
- Perhaps we should also point out the fact that...
- It would be unfair not to mention the fact that...
- One must admit that...
- We cannot ignore the fact that...

Personal opinion

- We/I personally believe that...
- Our/My own point of view is that...
- It is my contention that...
- I am convinced that...
- My own opinion is...

Others' opinions

- According to some critics/experts/proponents/opponents

Critics:

- believe that
- say that
- suggest that
- are convinced that
- point out that
- emphasize that
- contend that
- go as far as to say that
- argue for this

Introducing examples

- For example...
- For instance...
- To illustrate this point...
- From my own personal experience I can say that...

Saying what you think is true

- This leads us to believe that...
- It is very possible that...
- In view of these facts, it is quite likely that...

Certainty

- Doubtless,...
- One cannot deny that...
- It is (very) clear from these observations that...

Doubt

- All the same, it is possible that...
- It is difficult to believe that...

Accepting other points to a certain degree

- One can agree up to a certain point with...
- Certainly,... However,...
- It cannot be denied that...
- There is a lot of truth in that. However, ...
- One could agree up to a point.

Emphasizing particular points

- The last example highlights the fact that...
- Not only... but also... [inversion]
- We would even go so far as to say that...

Consequences

- From these facts, one may conclude that...
- That is why, in our opinion, ...
- Which seems to confirm the idea that...
- Thus,.../ Therefore,...

Comparison

- Some critics suggest..., whereas others...
- Proponents would argue
- Opponents might suggest that...
- Compared to...
- On the one hand, there is the firm belief that... On the other hand, many people are convinced that...

Conclusion

- The arguments we have presented... suggest that.../ prove that.../ would indicate that...
- From these arguments one must.../ could.../ might... conclude that...
- All of this points to the conclusion that...
- To conclude...
- What conclusions can be drawn from all this?
- The most satisfactory conclusion that we can come to is that...
- To sum up... we are convinced that.../ ...we believe that.../ ...we have to accept that...
- Given the above, it seems to me that...
- All things considered, it becomes clear that...