



Unit 8 — Opinion Essay Writing

Track E · Klasse 11 · Niveau E (Basisfach / Leistungsfach)

Learning objectives

- *I can read three opinion pieces and identify their thesis-evidence-counter-conclusion structure.*
- *I can use cohesion devices (lexical chain, anaphoric reference, conjunctive adverb) deliberately.*
- *I can write a 350-word opinion essay with a five-paragraph structure (intro / 2 body / counter / conclusion).*

Lead-in

The class read three contemporary opinion pieces from English-language outlets, each on a different topic: a 700-word column, a 1,400-word essay, a 300-word op-ed. Mr. Yilmaz framed the question: *how does length change the argument?* The class noticed that the 300-word op-ed had to land on its single best sentence; the 1,400-word essay could afford to lose two.

Key points

- **Lexical chain:** repeating the topic with varied vocabulary (*the policy, the cap, the regulation, the measure*).
- **Anaphoric reference:** *this argument, that concession, such a structure*.
- **Conjunctive adverbs:** *however, nevertheless, moreover, accordingly, in this regard, by contrast*.

Practise

- Build a 4-link lexical chain for *the four-day school week*: ____ → _ → _ → ____ .
- Match: *however* / *accordingly* / *by contrast* / *moreover* → contrast / consequence / contrast / addition.
- Build 4 sentences using 4 different cohesion devices on a single topic.

Your turn

Opinion essay, 350 words. Five paragraphs: intro / 2 body / counter / conclusion. Use lexical chain (3+ links) + 4 conjunctive adverbs + 1 anaphoric reference + 2 hedges.

Reflect

- I can identify thesis-evidence-counter-conclusion in three opinion pieces.
- I can use cohesion devices deliberately.
- I can write a 350-word opinion essay with a clear five-paragraph structure.