CPE Writing Part 1

# Step 1- Text analysis

* Read both texts and decide if they are complimentary or contrasting.
* Underline the two key content points in each text.

# Step 2 – Paraphrasing and summarising

* Brainstorm different ways to paraphrase and summarise the key points.
* What impressive structures can you use? Inversions, passives, collocations, expressions.

# Step 3 – Evaluate and react

* Decide which points you agree and disagree with.
* Brainstorm your own thoughts and experiences on the subject.

**Summarise, evaluate, react.**

## Introduction

**Present the topic of discussion and ask questions the essay will answer.**

Hardly a week goes by without another report of ................. appearing in the media.

Over the past ten years or so the media have frequently carried reports of ...............

The trend nowadays is towards (gerund)

How has the public’s opinion on this issue shifted over the last few years?

Although most people would generally agree that ............... few would deny that ................

This raises the issue of whether or not.................

This issue strikes a chord with the vast majority of the general public.

What impact, if any, have these shifts/changes/developments had on the general public’s psyche?

How are we to gauge the effect of such shifts/changes/developments?

Both (1) **extracts** (2) **discuss** the nature of these (3) **notions**, but from different (4) **viewpoints**.

\*synonyms for words in bold

## Paragraph 1 – Text 1

The first (1)**text** (2)**argues** that………

Try and sum up the first point neatly with an inversion:

**Seldom does** the airplane make the top 5, let alone the top spot when the lists of the so-called most influential inventions are drawn up.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Not since…. Only when….. Not until…. | Not only…. But also No sooner… than |
| Seldom/rarely…….. | Barely/scarcely/hardly……… when |

# Paragraph structure:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Option 1 | Option 2 |
| * Introduce content point 1 (paraphrased)
* Evaluate and react. (your opinion)
* Introduce content point 2
* Evaluate and react. (your opinion)
 | * Summarise both content points
* Own evaluations and reaction.
 |

# Stating opinion

Stating your opinion

As I see it,

It seems to me that ............ I would also say that ....

I am convinced that ...............

I am inclined to believe that ..................

There is no doubt in my mind that ..................

One of the drawbacks of ....... is ..........

However, one of the benefits is that ............

## EMPHASIZING

-**I would like to stress that** the research is still at an early stage.

-**It should be noted that** there are a number of alternative methods available.

-**It is worth bearing in mind** that 90% of the scientists researching herbicides in the US are employed by chemical companies.

## CAUSE

**-lead to:** The research could lead to a cure for many serious illnesses.

**-result in:** The fire resulted in damage to their property.

**-be responsible for:** He was responsible for the accident.

**-bring about:** The war brought about enormous social change.

**-give rise to:** Poor performance in exams can give rise to depression and even thoughts of suicide.

**-trigger:** to make something suddenly start to happen, especially a bad situation such as a crisis or a war, or a medical condition: Certain foods can trigger allergies.

**-contribute to:** Passive smoking could contribute to the development of respiratory diseases among nonsmokers.

**-factor:** Cost is often the deciding factor when choosing any product.

# Describing causes

One factor which has led to ............ is ..............

One of the factors which has brought this about is .........

The problem often stems from ....................

The situation has been exacerbated by ................

.............. has only made the situation worse.

One consequence of ................ is ................

# Concluding

All in all it seems to me that ...........

The obvious conclusion to be drawn is that .......................

All things considered, .............

On balance, I tend to believe that ............

The world would surely be a better place to live in if ..............

If people stopped ....ing, we would have/ we could look forward to a ...............

The prospects for the future will be bleak/grim unless ...................