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Writing an essay

Please note: There are writing homework titles at the end of this book.

An essay:

- is a short piece of writing that presents ideas on a particular topic and discusses them. The writer reaches some kind of conclusion at the end;
- is usually written by students (at school, college or university) for a teacher, professor etc.

"For young single adults, living alone is a better option than sharing accommodation." Discuss.

Most young single adults live either with family members or friends. However, these days, many are choosing to live on their own.

(2) Each paragraph should focus on a particular point, or aspect of the topic, that you want to discuss.

One advantage of not sharing accommodation is that you have **control over your time**. You can go out with friends whenever you like, but if you want a quiet evening with a book or film, for example, you can have it, there is nobody around to interfere with your plans.

(1) Start with general information that introduces the topic of your essay

Another benefit of living alone is that you are not forced to put up with other people's annoying habits, whether it is **dirty plates in the sink or loud music late at night**. Living alone means you automatically avoid the awkward conversations and arguments that housemates often have about things like this.

(3) Make your ideas clearer by illustrating them with examples.

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On the other hand, sharing accommodation with others is normally far cheaper than living alone, and this is a major advantage. Rent is cheaper as it is shared among everyone in the property, and heating and electricity bills are also lower for the same reason.

Furthermore, living with other people means you are **likely to have a more sociable lifestyle**. Of course, you can invite friends round when living alone but, in a shared house or flat, everybody else's friends come to visit too and you get to know more people. Perhaps more important than this, though, is that there is nearly always **someone around to chat with if you feel lonely**. Unlike someone who lives alone, you do not need to make arrangements to meet.

(4) Put closely related points together in the same paragraph.

In conclusion, **I feel that living alone is not the best option**. Humans are social animals, and I would always prefer to be around friends or family, despite how annoying they can occasionally be.

(5) Make sure your own personal opinion is clear in the conclusion.

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make out

straight away (right away)

reliable

take in

mummy

daddy

1142

manhood

womanhood

motherhood

last

flake

snowflake

absent

be inclined

accumulate

attic

1143

set fire to

arson

go through

drought

cool off

cool down

hostile

hostility

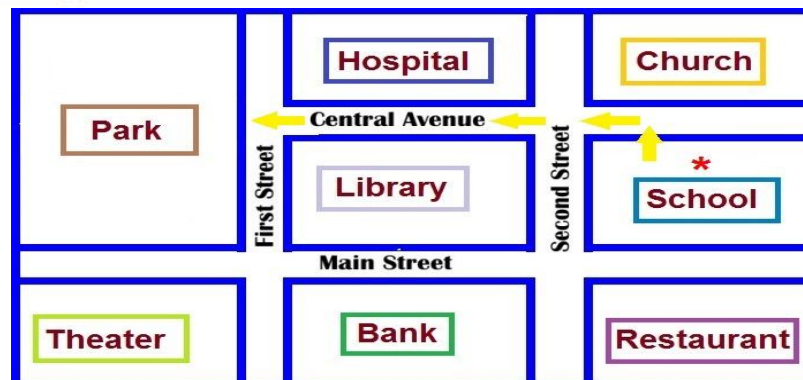
cease

over and over again

time and time again

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land up



stumble

supplement

vitamin

mineral

trace

comprehensive

ledge

1145 **scowl**



line up **sergeant**

nutrition **nutrient** **fertilizer**

junction **roundabout**

harsh

1146 **breathtaking**

Word pool 2: revision exercise

For each sentence below, choose one word from the word pool that fits correctly in the gap.

catalogue	debut	cellar	alien	pond
concrete	deodorant	rage	parade	bruise
feat	wolf	toddler	prey	density

- 1 The wine is stored down in our _____ as it stays fairly cool there even in the summer.
- 2 Nigel had seen this species of _____ several times before on his camping trips.
- 3 You should have seen Ronald when he was a little _____; he was so cute!
- 4 Winning that tennis competition twice is a major _____ for any professional player.
- 5 While waiting for its _____ to appear, this insect will remain completely still for many hours.

- 6 The comedy's about a friendly _____ that visits our planet on holiday and decides to stay.
- 7 The areas with the highest population _____ are on the west coast.
- 8 The price in your _____ is lower than in mine; I think you may have an old one.
- 9 Come and see the little _____ in the garden; it's even got fish in it!
- 10 Anna's _____ was a huge success, and her performances are continuing to improve.
- 11 When I heard what he'd done, the _____ I felt was incredible; I've never been so angry.
- 1147 12 I can't take part in the annual _____ this year because I'm away on business that weekend.
- 13 It's just a bad _____ luckily, but I thought I'd broken something at first.
- 14 At first, the new cinema looked good, but one year later, the _____ had turned grey and ugly.
- 15 I'm running out of _____, so could you get me some when you're at the chemist's, please?