

Zoom in

1 Work in pairs. Tell your partner about your favourite book from childhood. Give as many details as possible.

- 1 When did you read it or who read it to you?
- 2 What did the cover look like?
- 3 Were there any illustrations?
- 4 Who was your favourite character?
- 5 Why did you like the book?

Practise

2 Read the instructions for the model essay carefully and underline the two aspects of the topic that you need to include. Then read the model essay and answer questions 1–4 below.

Miłośnicy książek mogą obecnie wybierać między tradycyjnymi publikacjami w formie papierowej a książkami elektronicznymi (ebooki), które ostatnio cieszą się coraz większą popularnością. Napisz rozprawkę na temat tego zjawiska, uwzględniając zarówno argumenty dotyczące przyjemności z czytania, jak i kwestii praktycznych.

MODEL ANSWER

Nowadays, many people are giving up paper books and switching to e-books. I strongly believe, however, that nothing can replace the 'old-fashioned' form of reading.

To start with, reading a paper book is a much more pleasant experience, especially when it comes to some of the gorgeous editions of certain classic works of literature with their beautiful covers and illustrations. Not only can you follow the print, but you can also flick through the pages and feel and smell the paper. As a result, you become more engrossed in the process of reading.

Additionally, contrary to general opinion, paper books might actually be more practical than their digital equivalents. Although e-books are relatively cheap, you need expensive equipment to access them, which is not available to everyone. For example, when you take a book to the beach, it is much easier to put it down and go swimming than is the case with an expensive e-reader. Besides, printed books require no battery charging.

Despite traditional books' numerous advantages, thanks to e-books, it's now possible to carry an entire digital library in your pocket and adjust the size of the print or the layout of the pages. Still, wider access to books on an e-reader will not automatically turn someone into a bookworm.

All in all, in my opinion, interacting with digital books will not replace the sensual satisfaction of reading a paper book – which does not need to be charged and which may be safely left in your backpack.

- 1 What opinion does the author present in the introduction?
- 2 What arguments does the author give in paragraphs 1 and 2 to support his/her opinion? What arguments are used in relation to each aspect of the question?
- 3 What is the role of paragraph 3?
- 4 What does the author say in conclusion? (the last paragraph of the essay)

GET SMARTER

Gdy piszesz rozprawkę, której celem jest wyrażenie opinii na jakiś temat, skorzystaj z poniższego ramowego planu:

Wstęp:

Przedstaw swoją opinię na temat przedstawiony w poleceniu.

Rozwinięcie (akapity 1 i 2):

Uzasadnij swój punkt widzenia w odniesieniu do obu aspektów polecenia (w modelowym eseju: przyjemność z czytania i kwestie praktyczne).

Akapit 3 (opcjonalnie):

Przedstaw punkt widzenia odmienny od twojego.

Zakończenie:

Podsumuj argumentację i odnieś się do opinii przedstawionej we wstępie.

3 Match the highlighted phrases from the model essay with the headings below.

• Expressing one's opinion:

In my view, It seems to me that, To my mind, _____,

• Introducing the first argument:

Firstly, To begin with, First of all, _____

• Adding points:

Secondly, Also, Furthermore, _____, _____

• Concluding:

In conclusion, To sum up, All things considered, _____

Which of the above phrases are NOT followed by a comma?

Podsumowując, moim zdaniem, e-booki nigdy nie zastąpią czytania książek w wersji papierowej.

2

► Zoom in

- 1 **Work in small groups. Imagine you could learn at home without having to go to a conventional school. What would your typical day look like? What subjects would you like to learn? How would your social and family life differ?**

► Practise

- 2 **Read the exam task and the model essay. What does the author think about homeschooling? Which paragraph presents the children's/parents' perspective?**

Coraz więcej rodziców w Polsce rezygnuje z tradycyjnego systemu oświaty i decyduje się uczyć swoje dzieci w domu. Napisz rozprawkę, w której wyrazisz swoje zdanie na temat edukacji domowej, przedstawiając zarówno argumenty z perspektywy dzieci, jak i ich rodziców.

MODEL ANSWER

While it is often still considered to be an educational **fad**, more and more Polish parents are choosing to educate their children at home instead of sending them to a conventional school. Personally, I believe that homeschooling may bring benefits to both children and their parents.

First of all, homeschoolers have an opportunity to receive a personalised education which matches their individual needs. They can learn at their own speed and get the educator's **undivided attention**. They can also focus on subjects of particular interest to them, which may help to develop their unique talents

Secondly, parents should have the right to choose the educational path for their children. Undoubtedly, teaching children at home means parents have more influence on their mental and emotional development and it may also protect them from **peer pressure** and bullying. Also, as they no longer need to follow the school calendar, parents gain more **quality time** with their families. For instance, they can freely plan holidays or special family occasions without the worry of their children missing lessons.

Of course, there are people who argue that homeschoolers are **deprived of** social interaction and might actually remain undereducated. They do not realise, however, that there are many opportunities to learn social skills outside school. Also, as some statistical data confirms, children taught at home do better at standardised tests than their peers.

In conclusion, I think that we cannot **underestimate** the advantages offered by home education, such as a more flexible curriculum, individual attention and the strengthening of family ties.

- 3 **Match the highlighted phrases in the model essay with the definitions (a–f) below.**

- a lacking something _____
- b to think that something is worth less than it really is _____
- c the influence that other people of your own age/social background have on the way you behave _____
- d an interest or fashion that is popular only for a short time _____
- e time that you spend with someone, usually your partner or child, doing enjoyable things together _____
- f concentrated on one person or idea _____

GET SMARTER

Pamiętaj, aby wymienić i logicznie uzasadnić argumenty na poparcie swojego stanowiska.

- 4 **Work in pairs. What arguments does the author of the essay use to support or develop the opinions below? Write down the key ideas.**

- 1 Homeschoolers have an opportunity to receive a personalised education. *They learn at their own speed ... get teachers' undivided attention.*
- 2 Parents should have the right to choose the educational path for their children.
- 3 Parents gain more quality time with their families.
- 4 Homeschoolers are deprived of social interaction and might actually remain undereducated.

- 1 Equal educational opportunities should be available to all people, irrespective of their age, sex, health condition or disability. Integrated schools are democratic because
- 2 Students, as well as teachers, sometimes have negative attitudes towards people with disabilities. As a result,
- 3 Students develop tolerance and empathy towards others, which, in turn,
- 4 It seems likely that the majority of teachers would be more positive
 - a if they had more knowledge about students with disabilities and effective strategies for working with such students.
 - b at their core, as they eliminate social barriers for the disadvantaged.
 - c enables them to become better citizens, committed to both their communities and social change.
 - d some disabled students may fail to receive the educational and social support they need to cope with schoolwork.

Wypowiedź powinna zawierać od 200 do 250 słów i spełniać wszystkie wymogi typowe dla formy wskazanej w poleceniu.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Practise

1 Read the sentences (1–7) below. What part of speech is the missing word? Match the sentences with categories (a–g) below. Then complete the sentences with appropriate words.

- 1 First of all, I want you all to know that we don't hold you responsible _____ what happened last night.
 2 By the time I got to the party, all of the birthday cake _____ already been eaten.
 3 The more expensive the accommodation, _____ higher the standards you might expect.
 4 Sue is _____ late for appointments. You can be sure she will be here on time.
 5 The instructions are provided _____ in English and Polish, so you won't have a problem understanding them.
 6 _____ the fact that she had all the necessary qualifications, she didn't get the job.
 7 The woman introduced _____ as a private detective.

- a auxiliary verbs (He **has** come back. I **can't** dance.)
 b prepositions (They congratulated me **on** passing my exam. I am not good **at** maths.)
 c adverbs (She is **never** late. **First**, you need to finish your homework.)
 d pronouns (The book isn't **hers**. She is a girl **whose** mother comes from China. **It** takes a lot of time. **There** is a mouse in the kitchen.)
 e articles (**The** book which I'm reading is very interesting.)
 f determiners (There were only **a few** people there. **Each** building has a big garage.)
 g conjunctions (**Although** it rained, we went for a walk. I will come **if** he invites me.)

GET SMARTER

- Zadania typu *test luk otwartych* sprawdzają znajomość konstrukcji gramatycznych i kolokacji. Zanim zaczniesz rozwiązywać to zadanie, przeczytaj cały tekst. Na podstawie fragmentów przed luką i po nich ustal, jaką częścią mowy jest brakujący wyraz.
- Po uzupełnieniu ponownie przeczytaj cały tekst, aby sprawdzić, czy jest spójny i logiczny.
- Pamiętaj, że w danej luce może znaleźć się TYLKO jedno słowo.

2 **EXAM TASK** Uzupełnij poniższe teksty, wpisując w pozostawione luki jeden wyraz, tak aby otrzymać logiczny i gramatycznie poprawny tekst. Wymagana jest pełna poprawność ortograficzna wpisywanych wyrazów.

A

Do you want to improve your cooking skills but you don't know where to start? Or maybe you can already cook quite well but you want to impress your friends with something more extravagant ¹ _____ merely spinach lasagna? Whether you are a beginner or an aspiring master chef, here comes the best cooking guide ever. Being a home-made cook I ² _____ to be sceptical about cookery books and always claimed that there was more to cooking than ³ _____ following a recipe. I took pride both in my ability to combine flavours in a creative way and to invent new dishes. ⁴ _____ I lacked, however, was the knowledge of some basic as well as more advanced cooking techniques. Thanks to 'Step by Step Cooking,' not only ⁵ _____ I learn plenty of useful kitchen tricks, but I also mastered some variations of some good old-fashioned recipes and learnt a ⁶ _____ about a wide range of ingredients. The book is a must! Buy it! Read it! Cook!

B

It is often said that the world belongs to the brave, that is, loud and talkative extroverts, keen ¹ _____ team projects and socialising. In fact, being an introvert has never been ² _____ difficult as it is in today's corporate culture, with its big school classrooms, open offices and team-building activities. Susan Cain's TED talk on *The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* provides a new perspective on the topic. Contrary ³ _____ stereotypes, introverts are not necessarily weird and anti-social loners. What really characterises them is the fact that they are good listeners, don't like ⁴ _____ risks and think before they speak. These are not negative traits, are they? It's just a matter of the differences in ⁵ _____ extroverts and introverts get energised. ⁶ _____ the former gain energy when in the company of other people, the latter recharge their batteries by spending time alone. Being introverted ⁷ _____ nothing to do with lack of confidence or initiative. With their creativity and in-depth insight, introverts constitute a great percentage of the world's best thinkers, scientists and artists.