

HANDOUT

ARTICLE WRITING

Article writing is the process of creating a non-fiction text about current or recent news, items of general interest or specific topics. They are published in print formats, such as newspapers and magazines, or online.

The students will be asked to attempt a long piece of composition of minimum 100-120 words in length. The composition will be in the form of an article. The students may be provided with a verbal or visual input. They can take help from the given input, information or notes and can expand them in their own language to 100-120 words.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ARTICLE WRITING

1. Always study the given input, information or notes carefully.
2. Arrange them in a systematic order.
3. Develop each point in a simple, grammatically correct language.
4. Your article must present your ideas not in a sketchy but in a coherent and logical manner. Develop your writing into paragraphs.
5. Confine yourself to the given subject. Superfluous and unnecessary details must be avoided at all cost.
6. Articles are written to give information in a wide range of contexts for magazines or newspapers. They are a relatively long and sustained piece of writing. They give information on a variety of themes such as describing an event, person, someone's life and actions, places, and experiences. They can also be an expression of the writer's opinions on topics of social interest or arguments for or against a topic and they often offer suggestions.

Format:

1. Heading
 - eye-catching; encapsulating the central theme
 - Byline
 - by whom the article is written

2. Introduction
 - the opening paragraph (called the introduction) must:
 - state what the article is about
 - catch attention
 - arouse interest
 - limit and control what you plan to discuss in your article
 - use clear and precise language: may even contain a definition or quotation

3. Develop a cause-effect relationship
 - use facts
 - give examples to support your views
 - present arguments in a coherent, logical and convincing manner

4. Comparison and contrast
 - give views contrary to yours
 - compare and justify why your views are better

5. Conclusion
 - summing up—consolidation of ideas
 - offering suggestions/measures to improve the situation
 - personal observations and predictions

Remember:

- Don't attempt to write about every single piece of information—select relevant information.
- The article must be written in the appropriate format and style.
- Remember to keep within the word limit.

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