MATURA WRITING TASKS

ESSAY

Level B1

Your goal at B1: Write a clear, well-organised essay with an introduction, body paragraphs and a conclusion. Give your opinion, support it with reasons, and use basic linking words.

B1 · PHASE 1 – MATCH THE PART TO ITS JOB

An essay has different parts. Match each part to its job. **Careful – they are not in the same order!** Write the pairs, e.g. 1–d.

Essay part	Its job (mixed up)
1 Introduction	a gives one main idea with a reason
2 Body paragraph	b sums up and gives your final opinion
3 Linking word	c introduces the topic and your opinion
4 Conclusion	d shows the other side of the argument
5 'On the other hand'	e joins ideas (e.g. also, however)

TASK: Which part would you write first, and which last?

B1 · PHASE 2 – LINKING WORDS (MATCH)

Linking words connect ideas. Match each one to its use. **The order is mixed up.**

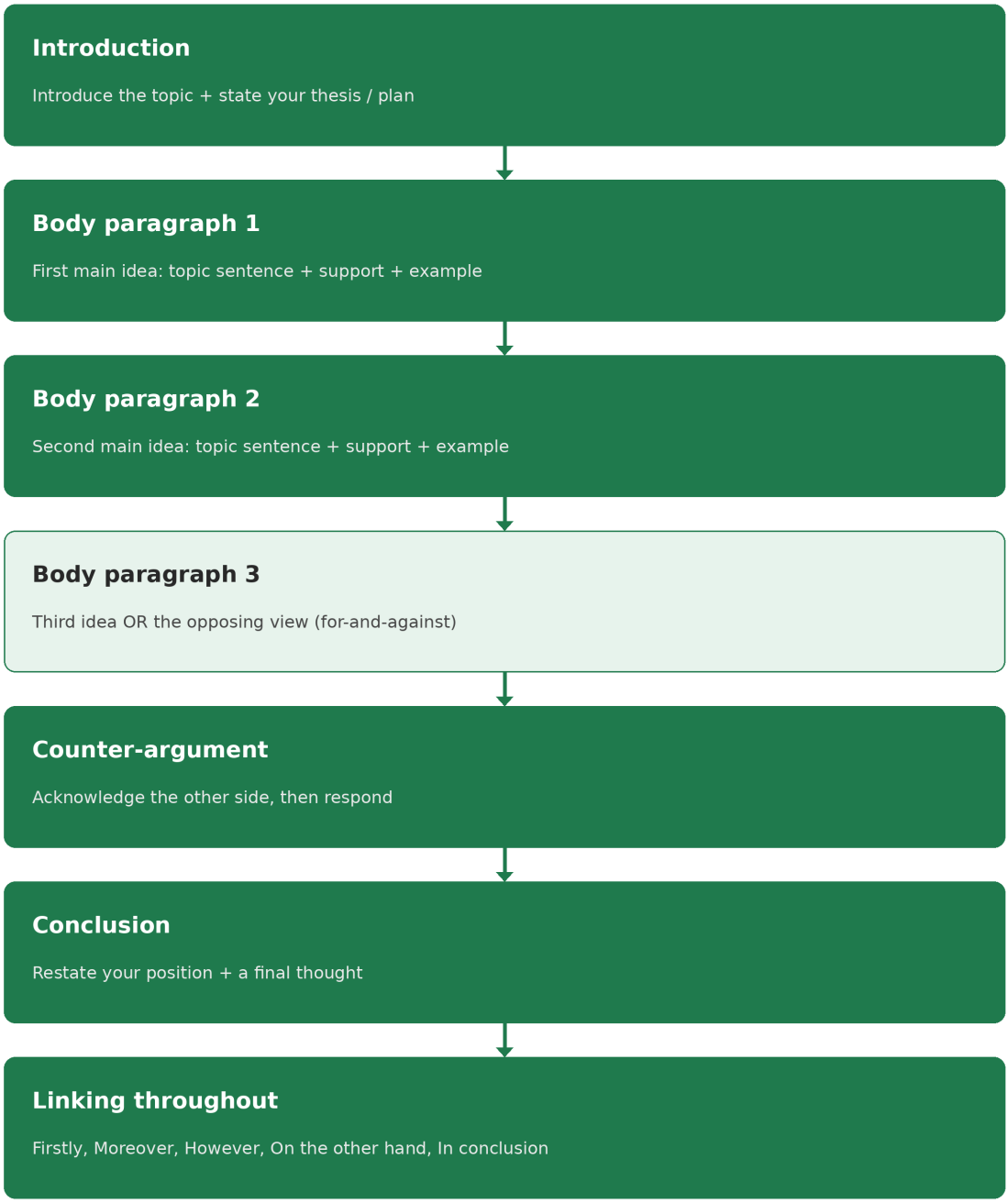
Linking word	Its use (mixed up)
1 Firstly,	a adds another idea
2 Also,	b shows the first point
3 However,	c sums up at the end
4 In conclusion,	d shows a contrast

TASK: Write four sentences about school, one with each linking word.

B1 · THE STRUCTURE YOU ARE BUILDING TOWARDS

Study this plan before you start. An essay presents ideas and arguments in a clear, formal way. It has an introduction with your main idea, body paragraphs that each make one point with support, and a conclusion. Linking words hold it together. Every task in this booklet helps you build one part of it.

AN ESSAY — STRUCTURE



B1 · PHASE 3 – PUT THE ESSAY IN ORDER

These sentences from a short essay are in the **wrong order**. Number them 1–5 to build the essay.

a In conclusion, I believe uniforms are a good idea.
b Many schools ask students to wear a uniform.
c Firstly, uniforms make everyone feel equal.
d On the other hand, some students say uniforms are boring.
e Also, they save time in the morning.

*Remember: **introduction** first, **conclusion** last, points in the middle.*

B1 · PHASE 4 – GIVING YOUR OPINION

Essays include opinion phrases. Complete each one with your own idea.

1 In my opinion, _____.
2 I think that _____.
3 I believe _____ because _____.
4 Personally, I feel that _____.
5 It seems to me that _____.

B1 · PHASE 5 – POINT + REASON + EXAMPLE

A good paragraph gives a point, a reason and an example. Complete each one.

1 Sport is good for young people because _____. For example, _____.
2 Reading helps you learn because _____. For instance, _____.
3 Homework can be useful because _____. For example, _____.

B1 · PHASE 6 – FOR AND AGAINST

Many essays show both sides. For each topic, write one point **for** and one **against**.

1 School uniforms
2 Mobile phones in class
3 Doing sport every day
4 Learning online

B1 · PHASE 7 – FORMAL OR INFORMAL? (MATCH)

An essay is formal. Match each informal phrase to its formal version. **The order is mixed up.**

Informal	Formal (mixed up)
1 Loads of people think…	a In addition,…
2 And another thing,…	b Many people believe…
3 It's kind of bad.	c It has certain disadvantages.

B1 · PHASE 8 – SPOT & FIX THE MISTAKES

Each sentence has one mistake (grammar, linking or style). Find it and rewrite it.

1 In my opinion I think uniforms are good.
2 Firstly, sport is healthy, secondly is fun, and also good.
3 Many peoples believe that homework is useful.
4 In conclusion, so I think phones should be banned.
5 I agree with this because it because it helps students.
6 On other hand, some students disagree.

B1 · PHASE 9 – PLAN YOUR ESSAY

Write short notes for each part.

Part	My notes
Introduction (topic + opinion)	_____
Point 1 + reason	_____
Point 2 + reason	_____
Other side	_____
Conclusion	_____

B1 · FINAL WRITING TASK

Read the task, then write your essay.

Your English teacher has asked the class to write a short essay on the following topic:

“Should students wear school uniforms?”

Write an **essay of 120–150 words** in which you:

- introduce the topic and give your opinion
- give one or two reasons for your view, with examples
- mention what people on the other side think
- write a short conclusion.

Use linking words and keep a fairly formal tone.