MATURA WRITING TASKS

ESSAY

Level B2

Your goal at B2: Write a clear, well-argued essay with a strong thesis, topic sentences and varied linkers. Develop ideas with evidence, weigh both sides, and maintain a formal register.

B2 · PHASE 1 – WRITE A THESIS STATEMENT

A thesis states your main argument. Rewrite each vague opening as a clear thesis statement.

1 This essay is about social media.
2 I will write about the good and bad sides of tourism.
3 There are many opinions about homework.
4 Technology is a big topic these days.
5 Some people like exams and some don't.

B2 · PHASE 2 – PRECISE VOCABULARY

Replace the underlined word with a stronger, more precise alternative.

Weak	Stronger (your ideas)
a <u>big</u> problem	significant / pressing / …
a <u>good</u> argument	compelling / persuasive / …
<u>lots of</u> people	a considerable number of / …
this is <u>bad</u> for society	detrimental / harmful / …
it <u>helps</u> the economy	benefits / boosts / …

B2 · 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



B2 · PHASE 3 – TOPIC SENTENCES & SUPPORT

Each paragraph opens with a topic sentence. Write a topic sentence, then support it with a reason and an example.

1. a paragraph arguing that social media connects people
2. a paragraph arguing that tourism harms the environment
3. a paragraph arguing that exams cause stress

Model: Topic sentence → This is because… → For example,…

B2 · PHASE 4 – COUNTER-ARGUMENT & RESPONSE

A strong essay answers the other side. For each view, write the counter-argument and your response.

1. Homework improves learning.
2. Tourism is good for the economy.
3. Social media is harmful to teenagers.
4. Exams are a fair way to test students.

Use: Admittedly,… However,… / While it is true that…, …

B2 · PHASE 5 – LINKERS FOR EVERY JOB

Vary your linkers. Write one sentence using a linker for each job below.

- adding a point (Furthermore / Moreover)
- contrasting (However / Nevertheless / On the other hand)
- giving an example (For instance / To illustrate)
- showing result (Therefore / As a result)
- concluding (In conclusion / To sum up)

B2 · PHASE 6 – FORMAL REGISTER

Essays avoid casual language. Rewrite each sentence in a formal academic register.

1 I reckon phones are a big problem.
2 Loads of studies show this.
3 It's a no-brainer, really.
4 People are always going on about the climate.
5 At the end of the day, it's up to you.

B2 · PHASE 7 – GRAMMAR RANGE

Write one sentence of each type for an essay.

- a concession (Although…, …)
- an impersonal structure (It is often argued that…)
- a conditional (If… were…, … would…)
- a passive (It cannot be denied that…)
- a sentence beginning with a linker: Moreover / However / Consequently

B2 · PHASE 8 – DRAFT INTRODUCTION & CONCLUSION

Introduction: introduce the topic and state your thesis clearly (2–3 sentences).

Conclusion: restate your position and add a final thought (2–3 sentences).

B2 · FINAL WRITING TASK

FOR-AND-AGAINST ESSAY

As part of a school project on modern life, you have been asked to write an essay on the following title:

“Social media does more harm than good.” Discuss.

Write an **essay of 170–180 words** in which you:

- introduce the topic and state your position
- present arguments in favour, with support and examples
- present arguments against, and respond to them
- reach a clear, reasoned conclusion.

Use topic sentences, varied linkers and a formal register.