**How to Write a For & Against Essay**

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| Teenagers have always spent a lot of time watching television. **As a result**, there is growing concern about the influence of television.  | **Introduction**1. State a fact – **use the perfect tenses**
2. Introduce your topic
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| **On the one hand**, it is thought that watching television can cause damage. They claim that repeatedly watching violence on TV has a negative effect on many teens and can cause violent behavior. **Moreover**, they worry that some teens spend more time watching television than socializing with their friends.  | **Disadvantages** * Causes violence
* No time to socialize

- **First sentence should include a gerund.**  |
| **On the other hand**, if teenagers watch television, it is likely that they will learn a lot of useful information. **For example**, there are educational programs about a wide variety of topics; from the environment to technology. **In addition**, there are programs especially for teenagers that deal with important issues **such as** friendship, trust and drugs. Such programs can help teenagers understand these issues better.  | **Advantages** * Educational
* Addresses teen issues

- **First sentence should include the 1st conditional.**  |
| **In conclusion**, although violence on TV or watching too much TV may be harmful, I believe that the benefits of television are greater than any harm it might cause. However, ultimately each parent must choose what is best for his or her own teenager.  | **Conclusion**1. Add concluding comments
2. State your opinion if asked
3. Throw it back to the reader
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**Things To Remember**

1. **Separate Your Paragraphs.** – Put aline between each paragraph
2. **Do NOT state your opinion at the beginning -** You can state your opinion at the end of the essay if the question asks for it or says that you may do so.
3. **Don’t repeat your argument** - Make sure that you have two arguments for (advantages) and two arguments against (disadvantages).
4. **Provide Examples -** You must provide examples to support your arguments.
5. **Use Connectors -** The second, third and fourth paragraph should each start with a connector. You should use additional connectors throughout the essay as well.