[OSSLT-Literacy Preparation](http://www.tvdsb.ca/webpages/cameronm/osslt-literacy.cfm?subpage=84762) » [Essay Writing-About](http://www.tvdsb.ca/webpages/cameronm/osslt-literacy.cfm?subpage=113154)

**Essay Writing-About**

Writing a Mini Opinion Essay

Students are provided with a statement or question.  Students need to answer "yes" or "no", forming an opinion on the topic.  The essay which they develop supports and proves their opinion.  Students should not argue both "yes" and "no".  They need to "choose a side" (much like a debate) and prove their answer with reasons, proofs and examples. (expected length:  2 pages handwritten)

Suggested practice?

Think of "hot topics" that are often debated in society or issues that are discussed in the media.  Create a statement from these "issues" and allow your student to prove one side of the argument.

* Should all car manufacturers be required to produce hybrid vehicles?
* Is graffiti art or is it a crime?
* Should extra-curricular activities be compulsory for high school students?
* Should young people be forced to stay in school under the government's new Learning to 18 Policy?
* Should students be required to study a foreign language at high school?
* Should pop music/rock music be taught as a music course in secondary schools?
* More and more teens every year are suffering from eating disorders, can we blame the media for this trend?

Essay Format:  Always indent a new paragraph.  Ensure you have a topic sentence and a concluding sentence.  Try to include linking and organization words like, "secondly", "lastly".

* Paragraph One:  Restate the question in the form of an opinion.  Briefly state the three main reasons that the essay will discuss.  Ensure you have a topic sentence and concluding sentence.
* Paragraph Two:  Reason one.  Include examples to prove your reason (minimum of 2).
* Paragraph Three:  Reason two.  Include examples to prove your reason (minimum of 2).
* Paragraph Four:  Reason three.  Include examples to prove your reason (minimum of 2).
* Paragraph Five:  This is your concluding paragraph.  Do not include new information in this paragraph.  The purpose of this paragraph is to summarize all the information and ideas that you have already presented.  Restate your position on the issue and restate your main three reasons (in different words, if possible).