

Lesson 6

Teacher's Notes

Writing 1 p. 14

- 1a** Introduce the topic by asking students when they first started learning a foreign language and how they found the experience.
- 1b** Students read the essay prompt and discuss their opinion in pairs. Ask them to think of two reasons for their opinion.
- 2** Students read the sample essay on page 193 and compare the ideas with their own.
- 3** Go through the questions with the class as a whole. You may also want to check at this stage that students know how to lay out paragraphs.
- 4** Ask students to compare the first sentences of the two body paragraphs and establish that they support the writer's opinion.
- 5** Students look at the model essay and work in pairs to answer the questions.
- 6** Students read the essay prompt and work in pairs to brainstorm some reasons and examples to support their opinion. They then choose two reasons and write two paragraphs, working either individually or in pairs. Stronger students may be able to write three paragraphs but emphasise that each one should deal with a slightly different idea. When they have finished writing, they compare paragraphs with another student or pair and check them against the points on the checklist. Again, this is easier if they read the paragraphs more than once: once focusing on linguistic issues such as grammar and spelling and once focusing on the development of ideas. Finally, students make any necessary adjustments to their paragraphs in the light of their partner's feedback. Although there is no time in the test to write a complete second draft, it is helpful for students to get into the habit of checking and improving their work.

1a–b

Students' own answers

2

The opinion expressed is: 'Learning a second language from an early age is beneficial and all children should be encouraged to do it.'

3a

1 para. 1 2 paras 2 and 3 3 para. 4

3b

1 B 2 A 3 C

4

Students' own answers

5

1 topic sentence 2 the main idea of the paragraph
3 discourse marker 4 between one paragraph and the next 5 first and second body paragraphs consist of reasons

6

Students' own answers