

WRITING A DISCUSSION

Purpose:

*To present information
about different sides of
an issue or topic.*

Study**ladder**



Examples of Discussions:

*newspaper editorials,
letters to the editor, radio
or television
presentations and
interview programs.*



Structure:

1) Statement of Issue:

Statement of the issue and a preview of the main arguments.

2) Arguments:

Series of arguments and counter-arguments, with evidence for each point of view.

3) Recommendation:

A concluding statement that summarizes. This can include a personal recommendation.

Structural Features:

** Use a title.*

** Organize arguments and counter-arguments by paragraphs.*

Language Features:

- * Uses present tense. Examples: I am, we are.***
- * Uses words that show cause and effect. Examples: therefore, as a result, consequently.***
- * Uses conjunctions and connectives. Examples: because, furthermore, besides.***
- * Uses ordinals to show order of importance of arguments. Examples: firstly, second, in the first place, finally.***

Techniques:

- * Use formal and impersonal language to remain objective.***
- * Provide the audience with an overview of different views on the topic.***
- * Use evidence to elaborate on all arguments.***