SEMINAR 1: ARGUMENTATIVE COMPOSITIONS (ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES)
What’s the structure of such a type of composition?

- Introduction
- Advantages
- Disadvantages
- Conclusion
Imagine you have to write a composition with the following title: “Flat-sharing. Advantages and disadvantages”.

PARAGRAPH 1: INTRODUCTION
Sharing a flat is a very common life experience both for university students and young professionals.

PARAGRAPH 2: ADVANTAGES
There are certain advantages of sharing a flat. First of all/firstly, secondly, above all, in addition, furthermore, moreover …

PARAGRAPH 3: DISADVANTAGES
On the other hand, there are also disadvantages. However, there are also disadvantages. In contrast, there are also disadvantages.

PARAGRAPH 4: CONCLUSION
To sum up, In conclusion, On the whole, there are both advantages and disadvantages. If you get on well with your flatmates, you will probably enjoy flat-sharing very much, but…
SOME TIPS FOR WRITING AN ARGUMENTATIVE COMPOSITION

1. Make two lists – one of advantages, one of disadvantages.

2. Decide in what order you will mention the points.

3. Decide what to say in the introduction.

4. Decide what to say in the conclusion.

5. Use expressions from above. Here you have some more:
   One of the advantages/disadvantages of … is …
   The (main) advantage/disadvantage of … is …
   The (main) drawback of … is …
   The (main) problem with … is …
   A further/an additional advantage (of) is…
   A further/an additional problem (with) … is …

6. Write your composition in four paragraphs:
   Introduction, Advantages, Disadvantages, Conclusion.
Write the following argumentative composition:

“Advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad”

No. of words per composition: 175.

Space between the lines: 2 cm

Deadline: 16th December 2008