

5.7 Writing

An article

I can introduce the topic of main paragraphs, generalise and discuss consequences in an article.

- 1 You are going to suggest a suitable job for your partner based on his/her interests. In pairs, follow the instructions.
 - 1 Thinking about yourself, make a list of the following items:
 - two personal interests
 - the two school subjects you enjoy most
 - two university subjects that interest you
 - 2 Exchange lists with your partner and suggest at least one job that would suit him/her, based on their interests.
 - 3 Do you like your partner's suggestion(s)? Why?/Why not?
- 2 Read the writing task and Ben's article. Do you agree with the author's point of view? Why?/Why not?

An increasing number of young people choose a university subject based on what is likely to lead to a good job rather than what interests them. Write an article for a website in which you explain the reasons for such a decision and discuss the possible consequences.

- 3 Read Ben's plan. Then mark the paragraphs in his article.

Introduction

Introduce the topic. Refer to school. Ask the reader what they would do.

Main paragraph 1

Though interesting, some subjects are unlikely to lead to a career. Graduates have to be lucky, or the best, to get a job.

Main paragraph 2

Even if some subjects are likely to lead to a job, how will you motivate yourself to study a subject you find boring? Likely to lead to low grades and unhappiness.

Conclusion

Difficult decision. I'll take my chances on a subject I enjoy. Four years is a long time so think carefully!

- 4 Underline two sentences in Ben's article that tell you what the topic of each main paragraph will be.

Teen2Teen

School

Relationship

Parents

Health

Career



Ben, Manchester posted on 7 March, 8.17 p.m.

We are not robots

At school we all have to study the subjects we do not like alongside the ones we find interesting. However, would you consider spending four years studying a single subject that does not interest you in order to have a bigger chance of getting a good job? Although some university courses sound very interesting, young people often avoid them because in many cases they don't lead to an obvious career. Examples include film studies, popular music and philosophy. To get a job in one of these areas, graduates have to be very lucky or be the very best. It is fair to say that there are not many millionaire philosophers in this world! Understandably, many students decide that a more practical degree, in accountancy or engineering, for example, is a safer option, even if the particular subject doesn't really interest them. However, we are humans, not robots, and opting for a subject we find boring creates significant problems when it comes to motivation. The outcome of such a choice could be low grades and a very unhappy time at university. Deciding which way to go is difficult, but personally, I think I will take my chances and choose a subject I am interested in. Four years is a long time to dedicate yourself to anything, especially if you do not enjoy it. It is a good idea to think very carefully before you make your choice. It could affect the rest of your life.

