

Boost Free Lessons - Year 9 English

Lesson 19: Persuasive Writing: PEEL

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Your task: Your school is considering removing all lunchtime clubs so that the break can be shortened by fifteen minutes.

Write a persuasive response of about 400 to 500 words arguing **for** or **against** this proposal. Your audience is the school executive.

Each body paragraph must follow the **PEEL** structure. You will be assessed on your thesis, your use of evidence, and your paragraph structure.

Worked Example 1

Building a PEEL paragraph from a single reason

1. **Point:** state the reason as a topic sentence. Lunchtime clubs are the only structured social contact some students have.
2. **Evidence:** give a fact, figure or example. A survey of Year 9 found that a third attend at least one club weekly.
3. **Explanation:** say why the evidence matters. Removing clubs removes the one part of the day these students are not alone in.
4. **Link:** connect back to your thesis. Fifteen minutes is not worth what it would cost them.
5. Every paragraph does one reason only. Two reasons in one paragraph means neither is properly explained.

Point, Evidence, Explanation, Link. One reason per paragraph.

Remember: Point, Evidence, Explanation, Link. One reason per paragraph, and the Explanation is the step that earns the marks.



Question 1: Plan your response before you begin writing.

1. My position, in one sentence

2. My thesis, naming two reasons

3. Paragraph one: Point and Evidence

4. Paragraph one: Explanation and Link

5. Paragraph two: Point and Evidence

6. What I am asking the executive to do



Question 2: Write your response below. Continue on the next page.

[illegible]

Continue your response here.

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Model Response and Self-Check: Persuasive Writing: PEEL**Model Response**

Lunchtime clubs should be kept, because they are the only structured social contact some students have during the school day, and because the fifteen minutes gained would not measurably improve learning.

Clubs provide social structure that the yard does not. A survey of Year 9 last term found that around a third of students attend at least one club each week, and that a quarter of those said they would otherwise spend lunch alone. For those students, the club is not an extra. It is the one part of the day with a reason to be in a room with other people, and it is organised so that joining in does not depend on already having friends. Removing it does not return those students to the yard; it removes the only alternative to it.

The time saved would also be smaller than it appears. Fifteen minutes across a five-period day adds three minutes to each lesson. Three minutes is less than the time a class typically takes to settle after a bell, which means the gain would be absorbed before any teaching happened. If the goal is more instructional time, this is an expensive way to achieve very little of it.

Some will argue that clubs require staff supervision that could be better used elsewhere, and that is a fair point. Supervision is a real cost. But most clubs are already run by two staff between them, and several are student-led with a teacher present only for duty of care. The saving is smaller than the proposal assumes, and it falls on the students who can least afford it.

I would ask the executive to keep the clubs and, if the timetable genuinely needs fifteen minutes, to find them somewhere that costs less.

Check your own response

1. I have chosen one position and argued it consistently.
2. My thesis states my position and names my reasons.
3. Each body paragraph makes one Point only.
4. Each paragraph contains Evidence.
5. Each paragraph Explains why the evidence matters.
6. Each paragraph Links back to my thesis.
7. I have acknowledged an argument against me.
8. I finish by asking for something specific.
9. My language suits a formal audience.
10. I have checked my spelling and punctuation.

