

Writing task 2, lesson 8: Problem and solution essay

Here's the question and the full essay that you saw in the lesson:

***In many countries schools have severe problems with student behaviour.
What do you think are the causes of this?
What solutions can you suggest?***

It is true that the behaviour of school pupils in some parts of the world has been getting worse in recent years. There are a variety of possible reasons for this, but steps can definitely be taken to tackle the problem.

In my opinion, three main factors are to blame for the way young people behave at school nowadays. Firstly, modern parents tend to be too lenient or permissive. Many children become accustomed to getting whatever they want, and they find it difficult to accept the demands of teachers or the limits imposed on them by school rules. Secondly, if teachers cannot control their students, there must be an issue with the quality of classroom management training or support within schools. Finally, children are influenced by the behaviour of celebrities, many of whom set the example that success can be achieved without finishing school.

Student behaviour can certainly be improved. I believe that the change must start with parents, who need to be persuaded that it is important to set firm rules for their children. When children misbehave or break the rules, parents should use reasonable punishments to demonstrate that actions have consequences. Also, schools could play an important role in training both teachers and parents to use effective disciplinary techniques, and in improving the communication between both groups. At the same time, famous people, such as musicians and football players, need to understand the responsibility that they have to act as role models to children.

In conclusion, schools will continue to face discipline problems unless parents, teachers and public figures set clear rules and demonstrate the right behaviour themselves.

(270 words, band 9)

Analyse the essay by completing the following tasks:

1. Count the sentences in each paragraph. Did I use my normal approach, writing two sentences for the introduction, five sentences for each main paragraph and one sentence for the conclusion?
2. Highlight the linking words in each main paragraph. Which method did I use in each one: 'firstly, secondly, finally' or 'idea, explain, example'?
3. Underline the good vocabulary that I mentioned at the end of the video lesson.

Answers:

1. I did use my normal approach: 2 sentences, 5 sentences, 5 sentences, 1 sentence.
2. Linking in paragraph 2: firstly, secondly, finally, and
Linking in paragraph 3: start with, also, at the same time, who, and
Both paragraphs have a “firstly, secondly, finally” structure with three separate ideas.
3. See the video lesson.