

Text structure: writing criteria teaching notes

1.	Text function	The writing argues.
2.	Theme	The theme about the council's plan is maintained.
3a.	Text structure: Introduction	Opposition to the council plans is clearly stated in the introduction.
3b.	Text structure: Arguments	The first argument is concerned with the extra traffic being caused by the temporary building work. The second argument describes the uses that people make of the trees and includes their beauty. The argument is rounded off with the point that pulling out the trees would disrupt everything.
3c.	Text structure: Conclusion	The conclusion does not summarise arguments nor does it restate opposition. It introduced new information about a petition, and is not a distinct stage in the text.
4.	Refutation	The writer acknowledges the extra traffic but makes a case for it being temporary, undermining the strength of the Council's position.
5.	Rhetorical Devices	Affective language includes <i>short-cut seekers, sentimental reasons, family memories, disrupting, encourage</i> . These are strong examples, but do not portray a range of devices.
6.	Paragraphs	The writing is effectively paragraphed. The second last sentence <i>Taking them out...</i> could belong in the previous paragraph, but there is sufficient evidence of correct paragraphing for a score of 1.
7.	Format	There is no return address provided.
8.	Pronouns	Pronouns are correct.
9.	Sentence structure	All sentences are correctly structured. <i>The extra traffic is only temporary...</i> contains a non-finite dependent clause. <i>I am telling you that...</i> contains two dependent clauses.
10.	Tense	Tense is consistent.
11.	Clause pattern	Clause pattern is always correct.
12.	Agreement	Subject-verb agreement is always correct.
13.	Prepositions	A preposition is missing in the first line <i>to object [to] your suggestion</i> .
14.	Articles and plurals	Articles and plurals are always correct.
15.	Punctuation	Sentence punctuation is always evident. Simple punctuation is correct. Complex punctuation includes correct uses of a colon and a hyphen.
16.	Spelling	There is one error in the spelling, <i>everything</i> , but many words with difficult or unusual patterns are spelled correctly, e.g. <i>petition, burial, temporary, encourage, surrounding</i> .

(Source: *ELLA 2001 Writing Task Marking Procedures*, page 37)