

# Should We Explore the Deep Sea or Outer Space?

*Learning objective: To structure a balanced discussion text using formal language and logical arguments.*

Follow this writing frame to present both sides of an argument. Use the word bank to help you link your ideas together. Remember to keep your tone formal and objective.

There is an ongoing debate regarding which area of discovery deserves more funding: the mysterious depths of our oceans or the vast, unexplored reaches of outer space.

*Word bank: furthermore · conversely · on the other hand · consequently · in addition · nevertheless · evidence suggests · some people argue · however · in conclusion*

**1. Introduction: State the debate clearly. Why is this topic important? Start with: 'The question of whether we should prioritise deep-sea exploration or space travel is a significant topic because...' (2 marks)**

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**2. Arguments FOR deep-sea exploration: What are the benefits? Start with: 'Supporters of oceanic research argue that...' (2 marks)**

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**3. Arguments AGAINST deep-sea exploration (or FOR space): What are the counter-arguments? Start with: 'On the other hand, many believe that space exploration is more vital because...' (2 marks)**

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**4. Balanced Viewpoint: Can you find a middle ground? Start with: 'While both areas offer incredible opportunities for scientific advancement, it is important to consider...' (2 marks)**

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**5. Conclusion: Summarise your thoughts and give a final statement. Start with: 'In conclusion, although there are valid points on both sides, I believe that...' (2 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Research one piece of technology used by oceanographers (like Finn the dolphin might use) and one piece used by astronomers (like Nova the owl) to support your arguments with specific examples.*