The Big Debate: Discussion Text Planner

Learning objective: To structure a balanced discussion text exploring different viewpoints on a complex topic.

Use this template to organise your arguments for a balanced discussion. Remember to use formal, objective language and include 'for' and 'against' points before reaching a personal conclusion. You may ask Leo for advice on choosing strong, poetic vocabulary to make your points more persuasive.

Word bank: furthermore · conversely · consequently · nevertheless · on the other hand · in summary · evidence suggests · perspective

1. Introduction: State the topic clearly and explain why it is currently being discussed. Give a neutral overview. (2 marks)

2. Arguments For: Write two or three points that support the topic, using formal conjunctions to link your ideas. (3 marks)

3. Arguments Against: Write two or three points that oppose the topic, ensuring you use contrasting language. (3 marks)

4. Personal Conclusion: Summarise the main arguments and state your own view based on the evidence you have provided. (2 marks)

5. Vocabulary Check: Select three sophisticated words from the word bank and write them into sentences related to your topic. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Once you have completed your plan, write your full discussion text on a separate sheet of paper, ensuring you use a mix of passive voice and modal verbs to maintain a formal tone.