

▶ **SF 45****Writing a comment**

*The aim of a comment is to demonstrate that you are able to present your opinion on a certain topic in a coherent form.*

- Step 1:** Read the task carefully and make sure you know what is required of you. Form your opinion on the topic.
- Step 2:** Collect and group arguments and examples to support your opinion – either in a mind map or as an outline. This way you have an overview of what you want to say, and you can plan your introduction.
- Step 3:** Make an introductory statement in which you rouse the reader's interest and refer to the task. Give your general opinion on the topic and outline reasons for your opinion ▶ **SF 37**.
- Step 4:** Devote one paragraph to each of the arguments you want to present. Illustrate your arguments with appropriate examples.
- Step 5:** Make your concluding statement, in which you sum up your opinion and your arguments ▶ **SF 37**.

**Language help**

- I am of the opinion that ... / I take the view that ...
- As far as I understand / can see ...
- I think/believe/suppose ...
- I am sure/convicted/certain that ...
- There are many reasons for ... / There is no doubt that ...

**Practise: Write a comment stating your opinion on one of the following quotations:**

- a) “When the well is dry, we know the worth of water.” (Benjamin Franklin)
- b) Girls from Africa and India have to walk to springs instead of schools. Who’s to blame?

**8** 1. Allgemeine Fertigkeiten**Die eigene Textproduktion: Aufgaben zum Text**

Lies den **Text**/die Texte zunächst in Ruhe durch und sieh dir dann die **drei Aufgaben** zum Text an. Es könnte hilfreich sein, jeweils alle Wörter zu **unterstreichen**, die beschreiben, **was du tun sollst**.

**Aufgabe 1** (Inhaltsangabe):

Outline the author's arguments for and against selling sweets at school.

(Wichtige Verben: to outline [darlegen]; summarize [zusammenfassen]; to describe [beschreiben]; to point out [herausstellen])

**Aufgabe 2** (Analyse):

Analyse the rhetorical devices the author uses to convince the readers.

(Wichtige Verben: analyse; characterize; ...)

**Aufgabe 3** (Kommentar/argumentativer Text ODER kreativer Schreibauftrag):

What do you think about selling sweets at school? Give reasons.

Or

Imagine you were the headmaster of your school and you wanted to forbid selling sweets at school. Write a convincing speech addressed to the pupils.

Unterstreiche nun **im Text** die für Aufgaben 1 und 2 relevanten Informationen. Benutze am besten verschiedene Farben.

## 1.2 Wie ich einen logisch strukturierten Text schreibe

Ganz allgemein besteht jeder gute Text aus **drei Teilen**:

**1. Einleitung (introduction)**

In manchen Fällen ist es wichtig, in der Einleitung den **Text zu nennen, auf den du dich beziehst**, z. B.:

- "The given text is an excerpt from the short story *Indian Camp* by E. Hemingway." (→ Inhaltsangabe S. 15)
- "Your article *Violence in early childhood* (April 6<sup>th</sup>) has touched me." (→ Leserbrief S. 19)
- "I would like to apply for the job as ... which was advertised in ..." (→ Bewerbungsschreiben S. 20)

In anderen Fällen wird das **Thema** genannt, z. B.:

- "Many people think that smoking shouldn't be allowed in public places."  
(→ argumentativer Text S. 24)
- "The speaker uses many rhetorical devices to convince the audience of his opinion that ..."  
(→ Analyse einer Rede S. 27)

## 2. Hauptteil (body/main part)

z. B.

- Handlung/Hauptthesen (→ Inhaltsangabe S. 15)
- Argumente (→ argumentativer Text S. 24)
- Analyse rhetorischer Mittel (→ Analyse einer Rede S. 27)

## 3. Zusammenfassung/Schlussfolgerung (conclusion)

z. B.

- "All in all, I think that there are lots of convincing arguments against smoking in public places."  
(→ argumentativer Text S. 24)
- "In general, the speaker tries to convince his audience by appealing to their conscience."  
(→ Analyse einer Rede S. 27)

Die Gedankengänge in den verschiedenen Textteilen müssen nachvollziehbar verknüpft und damit logisch strukturiert werden. Hierbei helfen dir die sogenannten **connectives**, die in keinem Text fehlen dürfen. Du solltest also möglichst viele davon kennen.

### Improve your texts – Use connectives!



<b>To show order</b>	<b>Um zu strukturieren</b>
To begin with ...	Zunächst ...
Finally, ...	Abschließend ...
Firstly, (secondly, thirdly etc.) ...	Erstens, zweitens, ...
Next, ...	Als nächstes ...
<b>To express your opinion</b>	<b>Um deine Meinung auszudrücken</b>
From my point of view, ...	} Meiner Meinung nach ...
In my opinion, ...	
The way I see it, ...	
To my mind, ...	
I think/believe that, ...	Ich denke, dass ...
<b>To compare and contrast things</b>	<b>Um Dinge zu vergleichen und zu kontrastieren</b>
Although ...,	Obwohl ...
Compared to ..., this is ...	Verglichen mit ... ist dies ...
On the one hand, ... on the other hand, ...	Einerseits ... andererseits

<b>To express an opposite point of view</b>	<b>Um eine gegenteilige Meinung auszudrücken</b>
But in my opinion, ...	Aber meiner Meinung nach ...
Despite this/in spite of the fact that ..., I think	Trotz der Tatsache ... denke ich ...
I, however, ...	Ich jedoch ...
In contrast to ...,	Im Unterschied zu ...
Instead of (+ -ing form) ...,	Statt ...
<b>To refer to something or someone</b>	<b>Um sich auf etw./jem. zu beziehen</b>
According to ...,	Gemäß ...
Considering ...,	Wenn man ... bedenkt ...
<b>To express or add ideas</b>	<b>Um Ideen auszudrücken oder zu ergänzen</b>
Additionally, ...	Darüber hinaus ...
Moreover, ...	Außerdem, ...
Furthermore, ...	
Admittedly, ... / I have to admit that ...	Ich muss zugeben, dass ...
<b>To express reason and purpose</b>	<b>Um den Grund und Zweck auszudrücken</b>
As ...,	Da ...
... because ...	... weil ...
Because of this, ...	Wegen der/des ...
Consequently, ...	Infolgedessen ...
In order to ...,	Um zu ...
That explains why ...	Das erklärt, warum ...
That is why ...	
Therefore, ...	Daher ...
For this reason, ...	
<b>To express condition</b>	<b>Um Bedingungen auszudrücken</b>
Even if ...,	Sogar wenn ...
If ...,	Wenn/Falls ...
Provided that ...,	Wenn sichergestellt ist, dass ...
<b>To show consequences and conclusions</b>	<b>Um Folgen und Schlussfolgerungen aufzuzeigen</b>
All in all, ...	Zusammenfassend ...
As a result, ...	Daraus ergibt sich ...
Consequently, ...	Daher ...
It follows that, ...	Daraus folgt, dass ...