




Plans you can build in just a few minutes

ORAL COMMENTARIES



TIPS

- You don't have much time...
 - Have a typical structure in mind...
 - And use it nearly systematically.
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The Question

- The key to a good commentary is a good question to start with.
- An easy way is to focus on the main problem (or a secondary one) dealt with in the article,
- and enlarge it.

Examples of questions

1. Why do teenagers take so many risks?
2. Why, in such a rich country as the USA, can we still find hungry people?
3. Why isn't anybody reacting as regards global warming?
4. What can be done to abolish child labour?
5. Why are inter-generation relationships always so difficult?
6. What can be done to reach gender equality?

Structure your ideas

- Introduction
 - Start with a striking example.
 - Ask the question.
 - Give your structure.

Structure your ideas

- Part one: assess the situation
 - List all difficult situations linked to the problem.
 - Find examples.
 - Show how terrible the situation is.

Structure your ideas

- Part two: causes for the situation
 - How come we have reached this situation? Find who/what is to blame.
 - Find examples.
 - End on a positive note: there must be an outcome.

Structure your ideas

- Part three: solutions (this can be the longest part)
 - Start with the individual level: what can you do to help.
 - What can be done at your community level?
 - Companies, associations, non-profit charities...
 - Governments and laws.
 - International community: the UNO, international summits and agreements.

Structure your ideas

- Conclusion
 - Sum up briefly or find a new example.
 - Give your opinion.
 - Open up the debate.