Writing to Advise, Persuade or Argue

1. Your (female) friend has been offered a scholarship at an all-girls sixth form but is undecided about whether to accept. Write a letter to your friend advising him whether to accept or turn down this opportunity.

2. Girls are more delicate and thus better at certain tasks like knitting, cooking and domestic chores”. Write a speech for a classroom debate arguing for or against this point of view.

3. A close relative has refused directly to attend a family wedding – the first for some years. Write a letter to your relative persuading them to come along.

4. The 2012 Olympics are a waste of time and money – surely it would be better to buy new hospitals and schools for local communities.” Write a speech for a classroom debate arguing either for or against this point of view.

5. Your friend has been offered the chance to attend a school abroad for a year. He is undecided about what to do. Write a letter to your friend advising him whether to accept or turn down this opportunity.

6. “It’s better to have a job that’s safe, secure but boring, rather than one which appears more exciting and glamorous”. Write a speech for a classroom debate arguing either for or against this point of view.

7. What advice would you give to a friend who is deciding how to spend his or her summer holidays?

8. Some people think that coursework is a bad idea, with many dangers, whilst others think that it helps students to achieve their best. Argue either for or against one of these views.

9. “Computer Games have the potential to change people’s lives for the better.” “Getting involved in real-life is better than playing brain-dead computer games.” Argue the case either in favour or against the playing of computer games.

10. A local newspaper has asked readers for ideas on how to improve the environment in your area. Write a letter to the newspaper, giving your ideas on this subject.

11. The school has asked pupils for ideas on how to improve teaching and learning in and out of the classroom. Write a letter to the headteacher, giving your ideas on this subject.

12. A friend has become addicted to social networking sites like MySpace or FaceBook. Write them an email persuading them to find more constructive ways of spending their free time.