

Sample of a successful essay

This essay is successful because the writer closely follows the structure of an academic essay. Further, they use an objective and formal style.

*Children should begin learning a foreign language as soon as they start school.*

*Do you agree or disagree with this statement?*

Contact the Writing Clinic of OJZ or join a specific course to help you learn how to write an academic essay.

In the present world of internet, travel, and unlimited connectivity across the globe, it is hardly any surprise that people from distant corners of the planet interact with each other more often than ever before. Such interactions necessitate an establishment of a channel, through which people from various countries could communicate and although automatic translator programs have come a long way, nothing compares to a knowledge of a foreign language. The demand for afternoon language schools and personal language teachers follows an upwards trend and it is only natural that an increased emphasis is put on language classes in early school years. **Children should start learning a second language in their first year of the school, because it will allow them to achieve a high level of language proficiency, thus making them better equipped to navigate in the globalized world.**

**Strong thesis statement: the writer has a clear standpoint on the issue and provides one main reason to justify their opinion.**

Effective topic sentence: the writer summarises the main argument that they will deal with in the rest of the paragraph.

**Children who start learning a foreign language early have better chance at mastering the language to a high degree. Numerous studies conclude that there are so-called critical periods in language learning. These periods define the best time in the child's mental development to start learning another language and also warn that once past a given period, certain skills might be beyond obtainable. Studies show that people who start learning a foreign language in later stages of brain development, past the critical period, have much harder time absorbing more subtle elements of the language.** Starting early thus gives the best chances at obtaining a high level of mastery.

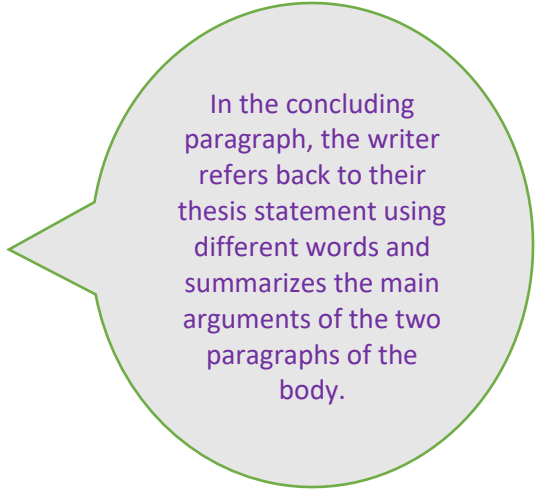
The writer develops the main idea in the topic sentence by providing objective evidence. They refer to studies conducted in the field and provide support for their main argument.

Learning a second language from a young age has positive effects on cognitive functions of the brain. Recent developments in the study of human neurology show that by studying a second language, the brain establishes new neural connections. This points to a fact that it is

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important to start learning another language when the brain is still growing and malleable. It also suggests that the newly formed neural connections can help with other aspects of the mind, like creativity and memory. Specific attention was given to the study of numbers and since different languages use varying systems of keeping track of them, it has been suggested that being able to operate in several languages allows for better understanding of mathematics.

**In conclusion, children who start learning a foreign language as soon as they start with their primary education have got better prospects for their future in areas beyond just communication. Compared to children who start later, they are more likely to become highly proficient in the language. Further, knowing another language also means knowing another system of thinking, which develops creativity and openness and although some might argue that the children are not ready for language learning at such a tender age, the evidence points to the contrary.**



In the concluding paragraph, the writer refers back to their thesis statement using different words and summarizes the main arguments of the two paragraphs of the body.