

Getting FIRST essays write

1. What are the task requirements?

2. What are the assessment criteria?

Write 140-190 words

Content

Include 3 ideas

Organisation

2 ideas given + 1 own
idea

Language

Communicative achievement

What do students struggle with?

- ❖ No plan
- ❖ No paragraphs
- ❖ Not addressing content points
- ❖ No topic sentences
- ❖ No linking ideas
- ❖ Inappropriate and/or overuse of linking words

Session objectives

Clear strategies for students

Develop a range of skills involved in the writing process:

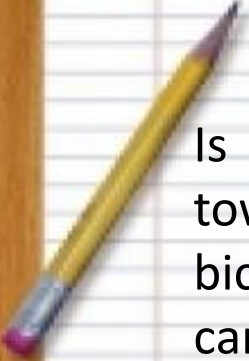
- ❖ Brainstorming
- ❖ Planning
- ❖ Drafting
- ❖ Checking

Why do people choose these forms of transport?



Speaking part 2
"I'd like you to compare the photographs and say why you think people choose these forms of transport."

Essay question



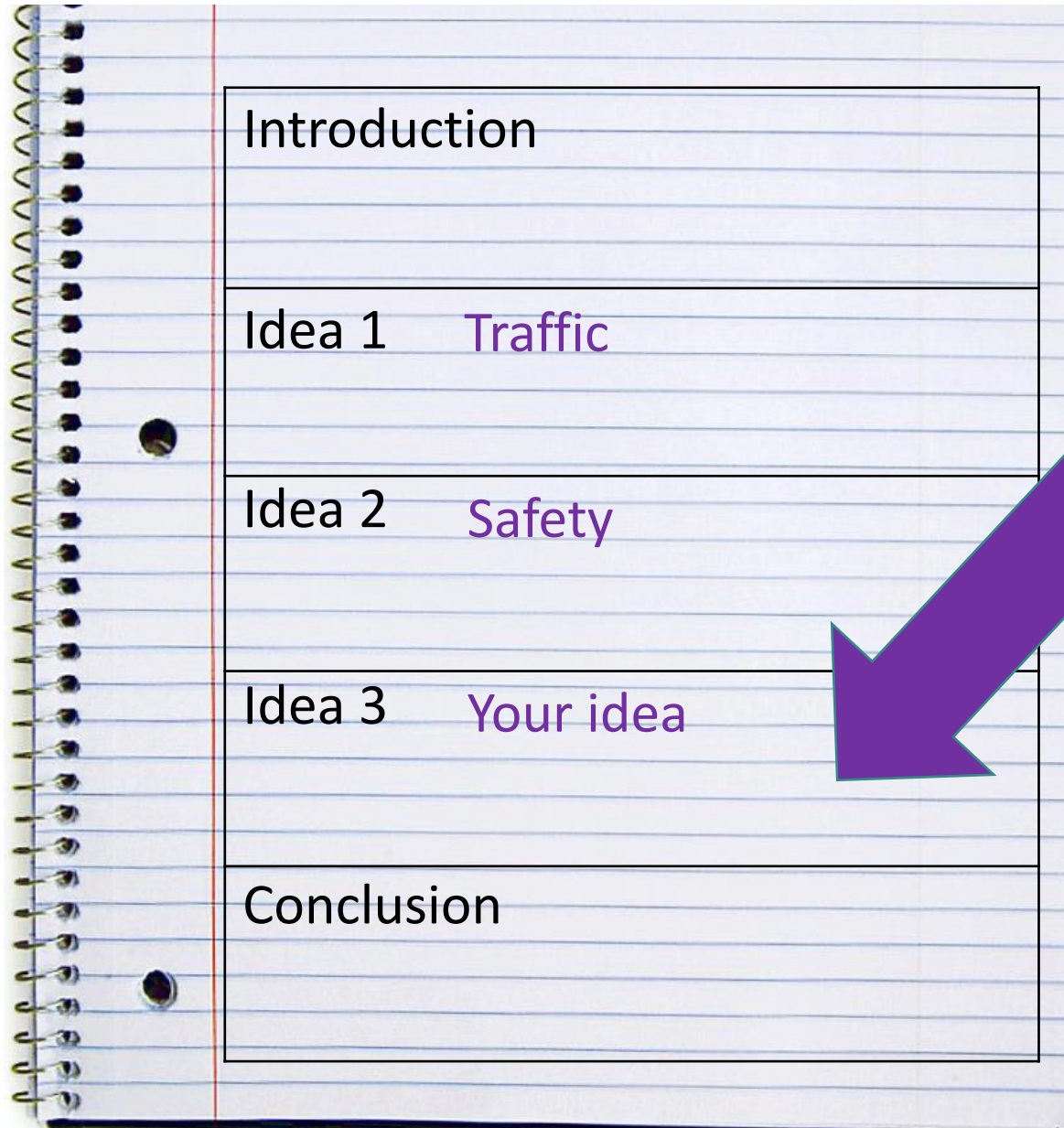
Is it better for people who live in towns and cities to travel by bicycle rather than using their cars?

Write about:

1. Traffic
2. Safety
3. _____ (your own idea)

Write 140 – 190 words

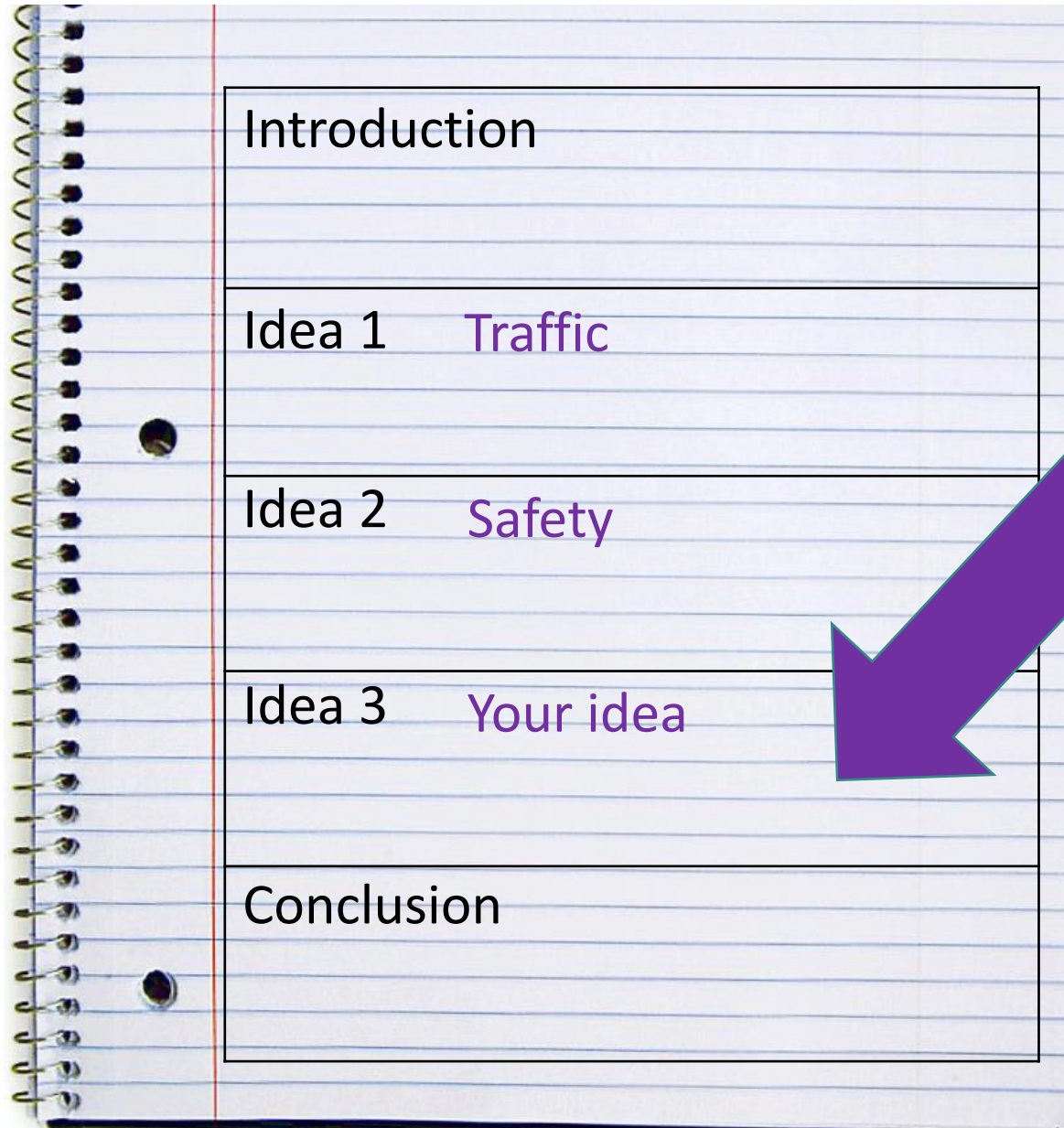
Essay format



What is a topic sentence?

- First sentence in a paragraph
- Determines the topic
- All other ideas are related to the topic sentence

Essay format



1. You don't have to buy petrol or pay for many repairs.
2. Finally, it is much cheaper to use a bike.
3. For this reason it is preferable to cycle to work, but only if you can avoid the busy main roads and follow more pleasant routes.

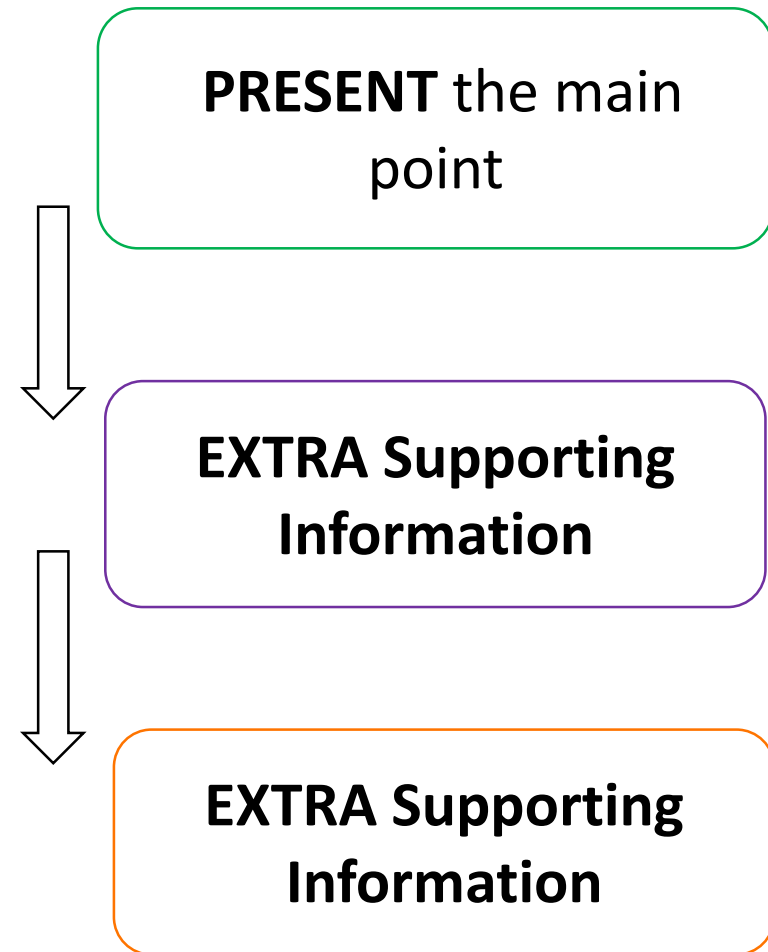
2. Finally, it is much cheaper to use a bike.
1. You don't have to buy petrol or pay for many repairs.
3. For this reason it is preferable to cycle to work, but only if you can avoid the busy main roads and follow more pleasant routes.

- What is the topic sentence?

- The topic of the paragraph is: _____

1 paragraph = 3 sentences

- Each paragraph is focused on **one** point.
- In a FIRST essay, there are **three** main paragraphs, so **three, separate** points.
- The main point of each paragraph should be obvious from the **topic sentence**.
- The rest of the paragraph content is **connected to** the main point.



P

Present the main idea
(Topic Sentence)



E

Explain the idea



E

Explain more
More detail/an example

Present the main idea

Paragraph 3: **Cost**

Finally, it is much cheaper to use a bike. You don't have to buy petrol or pay for many repairs. For this reason it is preferable to cycle to work, but only if you can avoid the busy main roads and follow more pleasant routes.

Explain the idea

Explain the idea with more detail or give an Example

Introduction

Idea 1:

P

Point

E

Explain

E

Explain/Example

Idea 2:

P

Point

E

Explain

E

Explain/Example

Idea 2:

P

Point

E

Explain

E

Explain/Example

Conclusion

1. What's more cycling in cities can be dangerous, due to the risk of accidents.
 2. First of all, there is an enormous amount of cars and trucks on the roads nowadays, causing long queues of traffic, especially during the rush hour.
3. Cyclists, however, end up breathing in car fumes on a daily basis.
 4. Another option would be to leave their vehicles at home and cycle instead.
5. Furthermore, waiting in traffic jams causes great stress for drivers.
6. Next, it is often argued that travelling by bicycle is healthier.

P First of all, there is an enormous amount of cars and trucks on the roads nowadays, causing long queues of traffic, especially during the rush hour.

E What's more, waiting in traffic jam causes great stress for drivers.

E Another option would be to leave their vehicles at home and cycle instead.

P Next, it is often argued that travelling by bicycle is healthier.

E However, cyclists end up breathing in car fumes on a daily basis.

E Furthermore, cycling in cities can be dangerous, due to the risk of accidents.

Point

Explain

Explain/Example

What's more

However

Furthermore

Next

For this reason

Finally

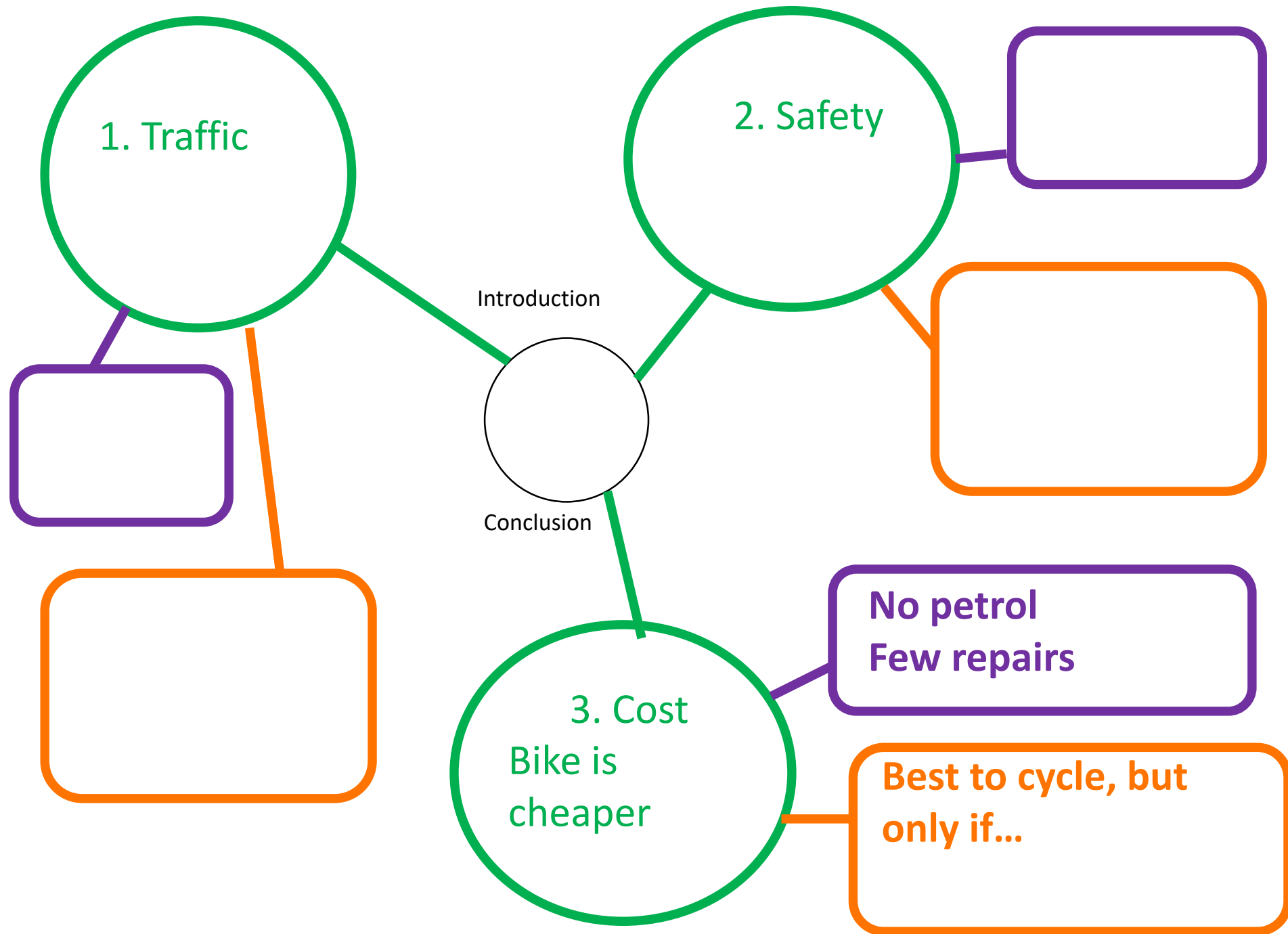
First of all

What **linking words and phrases** does the writer use:

1. To introduce the first main idea?
2. To introduce the second main idea?
3. To introduce the final main idea?
4. Add more information? (2 answers)
5. To justify an opinion?
6. To show a contrasting idea?

What **linking words and phrases** does the writer use:

1. To introduce the first main idea? **First of all**
2. To introduce the second main idea? **Next**
3. To introduce the third (writer's own) main idea? **Finally**
4. Add more information? (2 answers) **What's more/Furthermore**
5. To justify an opinion? **For this reason**
6. To show a contrasting idea? **However**



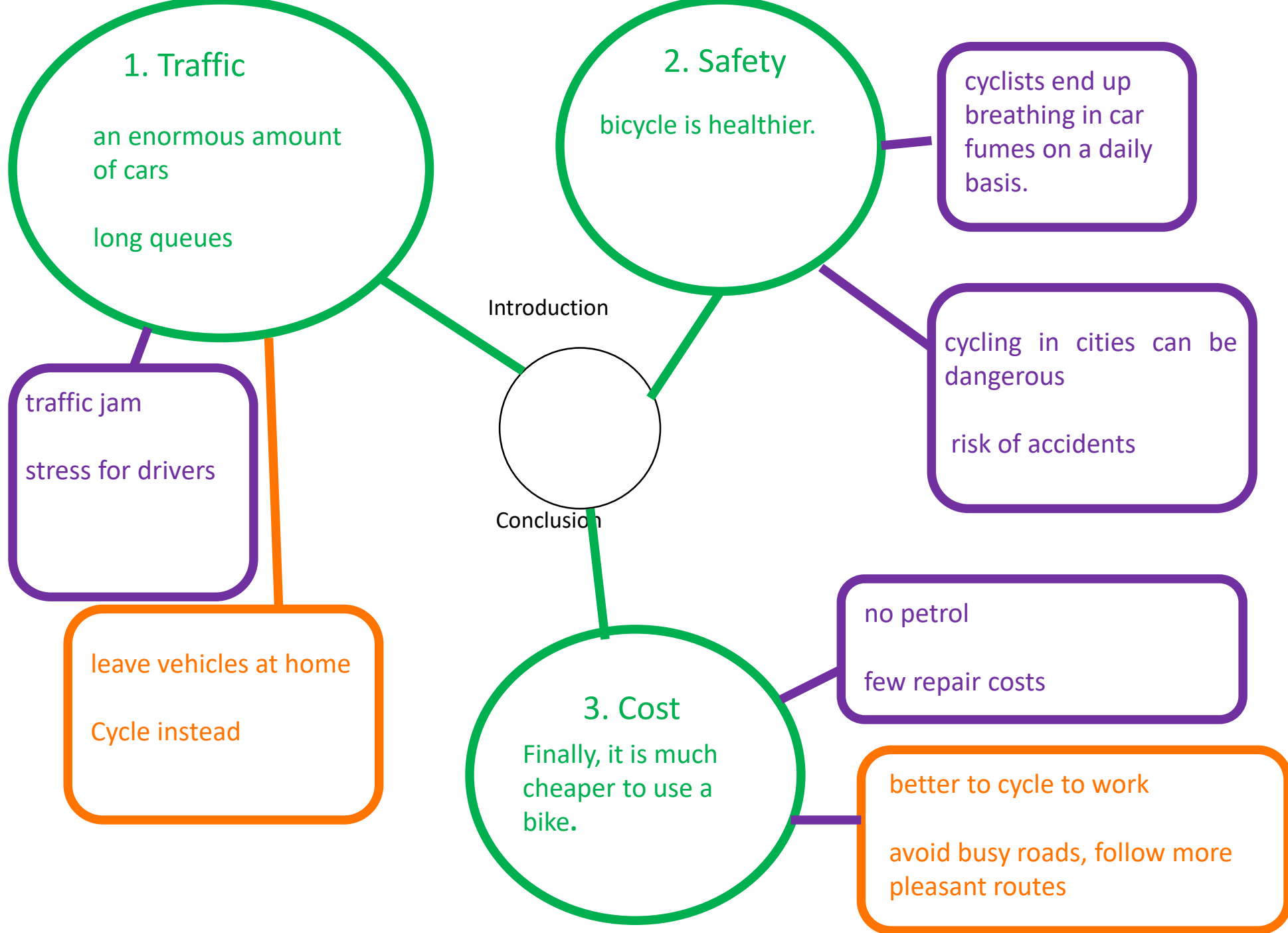
This essay discusses the advantages and disadvantages of cycling to work in an urban environment. It considers traffic congestion, the dangers to cyclists and the savings that can be made by using two wheels instead of four.

_____, there is an enormous amount of cars and trucks on the roads nowadays, causing long queues of traffic, especially during the rush hour. _____, waiting in traffic jams causes great stress for drivers. Another option would be to leave their vehicles at home and cycle instead.

_____, it is often argued that travelling by bicycle is healthier. Cyclists, _____, end up breathing in car fumes on a daily basis. What's more cycling in cities can be dangerous, due to the risk of accidents.

_____, it is much cheaper to use a bike. You don't have to buy petrol or pay for many repairs. _____, it is preferable to cycle to work, but only if you can avoid the busy main roads and follow more pleasant routes.

In conclusion, I believe we should cycle wherever possible. However, not enough is being done to encourage people to leave their cars at home and this needs to be addressed urgently.



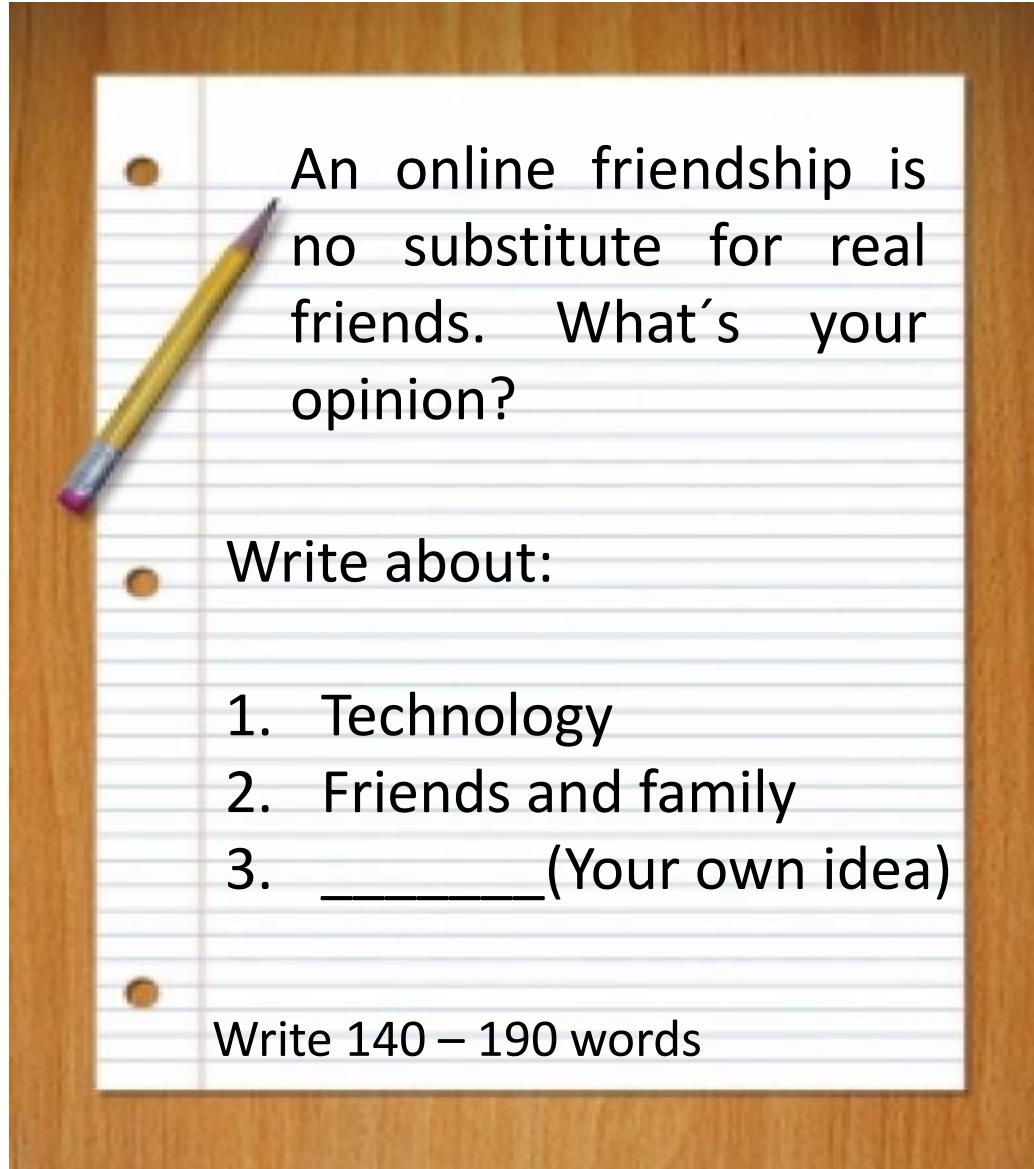
Why do people choose to meet people in these ways?



Speaking part 2

"I'd like you to compare the photographs and say why you think people choose to meet people in these ways."

Essay question

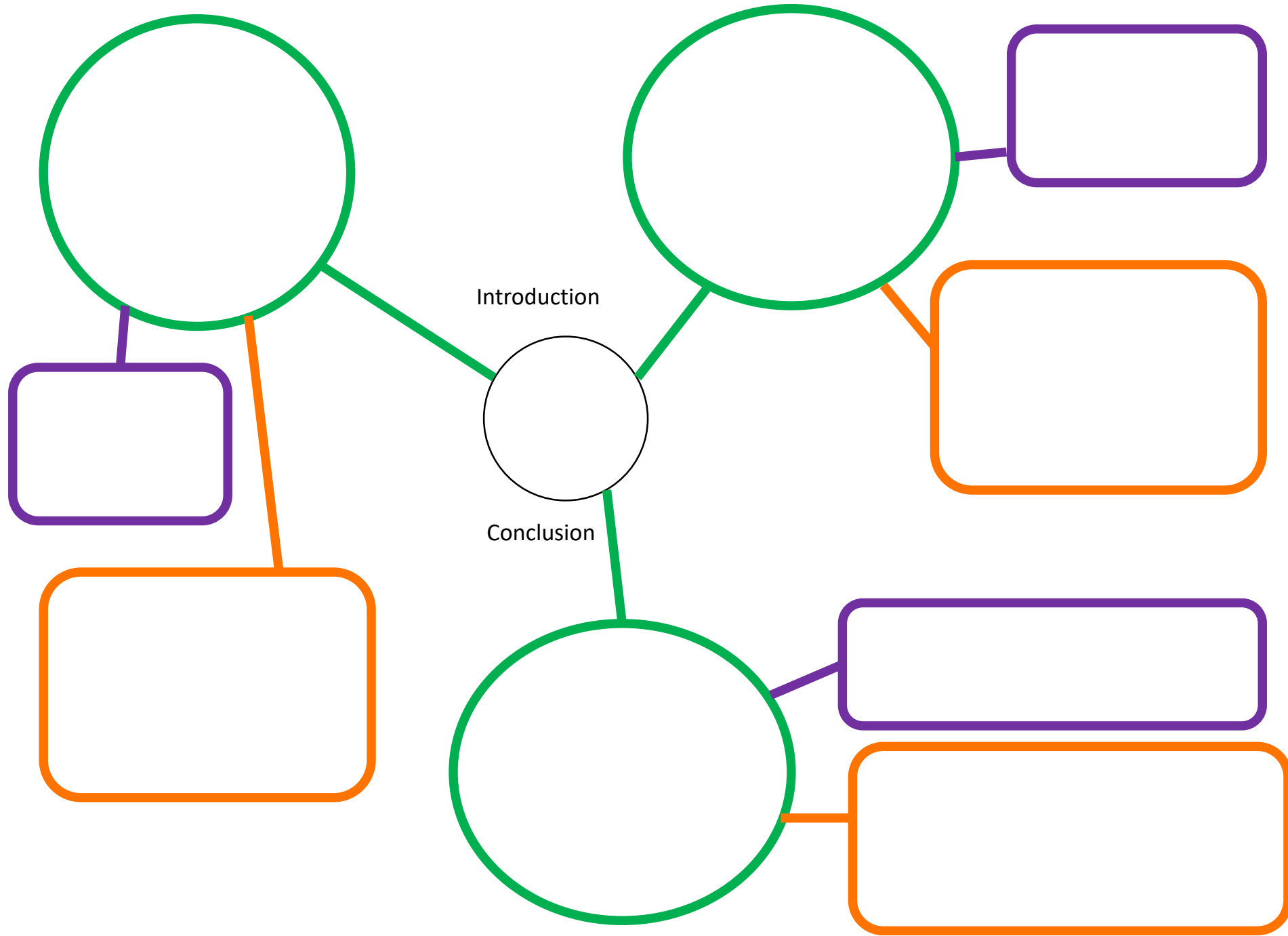


An online friendship is no substitute for real friends. What's your opinion?

Write about:

1. Technology
2. Friends and family
3. _____ (Your own idea)

Write 140 – 190 words



In EVERY paragraph you should:

Present Main Idea

Explain the idea

Explain the idea **in more detail** or give an example

Main idea

Explain

Explain



CHECK YOUR PARAGRAPH!

- ❖ Is the topic of your paragraph very clear from the first sentence?
- ❖ Have you explained your main idea? Or have you expressed a contrasting idea?
- ❖ Have you given extra information? Or an example?
- ❖ Have you used linking expressions? Which ones? Are they used appropriately?

Let's reflect

- ❖ Students have to think about what they have done
- ❖ Encourages peer correction
- ❖ Makes writing into an interactive activity

Getting FIRST essays write

Thank you!

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