<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chores should be required.</th>
<th>Books are better than movies.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children should choose subjects they learn at school.</td>
<td>Screen time for children should be limited to 30 minutes per day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School cafeterias should only serve healthy foods.</td>
<td>All schools should have a uniform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework is unnecessary.</td>
<td>Summer is more fun than winter.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Christmas should be banned.

Every child should be in a sports club.

Every child should learn a new language.

Birthday parties are a waste of time.

Children should do 30 minutes of volunteer work at school.

Weekends should be three days long.

America is the most fascinating country.

Children should choose their own bedtime.
Sentence Starters

Giving Your Opinion

Introducing Your Argument
I think that...
I strongly believe that...
It is obvious that...
It is clear that...
My position is that...
It is undeniable that...
The fact is that...
I ask you to consider...
In my opinion, ...

Developing Your Argument
Furthermore, ...
In addition to...
Moreover, ...
Likewise, ...
Firstly, ...
Again, ...
Next, ...
The most compelling reason is that...
Without doubt, ...

Admitting Counter Arguments
Although it is true that...
Admittedly, ...
While some people may think that...
Unfortunately, it may be the case that...
I acknowledge that...
I can understand that...
I appreciate that...
It is unfortunately true that...
I concede that...

Countering
However, ...
Nevertheless, ...
Even so, ...
Whereas...
Nonetheless, ...
Despite...
But...
In fact, ...
Conversely, ...

Conclusion
In summary, ...
To conclude, ...
Finally, ...
All this taken into account, ...
In conclusion, ...
For these reasons, ...
All in all, ...
In short, ...
Ultimately, ...
ACTIVITY 2 – ADD A WORD or DROP IN A PHRASE

ADD A WORD

One technique to immediately improve the quality of vocabulary used within the sentences is to add extra detail through similes, metaphors, adjectives and adverbs. Begin with a simple sentence such as: The door opened.

- Add adjectives: The oak door opened.
- Add similes: The oak door, as hard as stone, opened.
- Add adverbs: The oak door, as hard as stone, opened gradually.
- Change the verb: The oak door, as hard as stone, unfastened gradually.

Make the following simple sentences more interesting by adding adjectives, similes, adverbs, changing the verb to one more interesting or other figurative language such as metaphors or personification.

The mouse shuddered.
The child sat down.
The glass shattered.
The waves crashed.
The snow fell.
The birds flew.
ACTIVITY 3 – SENTENCE OPENERS

• Create a simple sentence.
• Roll the dice.
• Whatever number it lands on begin that sentence with either
• E.g. The sun rose. = Gloriously, the sun rose. Shining, the sun rose. In the distance, the sun rose.

Sentence Openers

Choose a topic to write about. Roll a die to determine what sentence opener you will use, then write a sentence using that type of opener. Keep rolling until you have a paragraph.

- **Use a conjunction**
  While Dad cooked, Sarah watched television.

- **Use a noun or adjective**
  Toys covered the floor.

- **Use a verb- an ‘ing’ clause**
  Watching her step, Lucy climbed over the rocks.

- **Use an adverb- an ‘ed’ or a ‘ly’ clause**
  Scared by the sound, Ben screamed. Gently, she stroked the baby rabbit.

- **Use a feeling**
  Happily, she danced down the street.

- **Use a simile or metaphor**
  Like a swan, she glided across the room. An elegant swan, she glided across the room.
ACTIVITY 4 – INK WASTER

Choose one of the words from the word mat and write as many words as you can associated with the word in one minute. Repeat with other words of your choosing.
**Figurative Language**

**Metaphor**
- She is a ray of sunshine.
- Heart of stone.
- He is the light of my life.
- A rollercoaster of emotions.

**Personification**
- The snow speaks.
- The grass tickled my feet.
- The leaves danced on the trees.
- The husky corn spoke.

**Onomatopoeia**
- Crash! Splash! Boom!
- Pop! Bam! Snap!
- Honk! Buzz! Drip!
- Swish! Ring! Crackle!

**Alliteration**
- Evil eagles eat eels.
- Dreary, dismal darkness.
- Pretty purple purses.
- Adjectives and adverbs.

**Simile**
- Pure as snow.
- Quiet as a mouse.
- Busy as a bee.
- Cute as a kitten.

**Idiom**
- Time flies.
- Cat got your tongue.
- Broken heart.
- Face the music.

**Hyperbole**
- For the millionth time, be quiet!
- He’s got a brain the size of a pea.
- These shoes are killing me.
- Speed up- a snail can go faster than you!