

Text type	DISCUSSION (Erörterung)
Definition	a formal treatment of a topic in speech or writing
Purpose	consider both sides of a controversial issue, come to a conclusion
Some aspects of content and structure	<p>- clearly structured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction outlines the topic/attracts the reader's attention (if you deal with a quote you must make absolutely clear that you have understood its meaning) • main part considers both sides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>several arguments</u> for each side supported by <u>appropriate examples</u> ➤ <u>linear/ enumerative or dialectical approach</u> ➤ <u>each argument is presented in one (or more) separate paragraph(s)/topic sentences</u> • ending: a conclusion
Some aspects of language and style	<p>diction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - elevated vocabulary - words and phrases to <u>structure your text</u>, <u>link ideas</u> etc. - vocabulary to <u>express an opinion</u> <p>register:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - neutral to formal - straight-forward to complex sentence structures <p>tone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - serious
Useful vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When discussing ... , we must consider several aspects. - In the following I shall be concerned with ... - Those who advocate ... , often argue ... - first/ secondly/finally ... - in my opinion/to my mind/as far as I am concerned/ ... - In brief, ... - To sum up, ... - ... clearly outweigh(s) - Given all these considerations, it seems fair to say ...
Example	<p>"A wise man makes his own decisions, an ignorant man follows public opinion." (Chinese proverb)</p> <p>Discuss. (Abitur LK NT 2009)</p>
Ideas for exercises	focus on the two basic approaches by contrasting the different structures or complete texts

paraphrase the quote