The Role Model

Model Compositions for Lower Secondary



- Ideas on different topics/issues
- Tips on structuring good compositions
- Work on grammar
- Vocabulary enhancement
- Improve your spelling

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SECTION 1

Model Expository/ Argumentative Compositions

1. Why do people like to keep pets?



Let's Analyse this question

- 'why' – this instruction word means that we need to provide **reasons**
- 'people'- refers to **different individuals like children or adults**
- 'like to keep pets'- this means that they **love pets and they care for them at their home**.

This question requires students to explain a few reasons as to why different individuals love to have pets. The benefits of having pets need to be explained.

People like to keep different pets like fish, dogs, cats or hamsters. Some people love their pets very much and would do anything for them. Pets are adorable, they offer good companionship to their owners and make our lives interesting. People keep pets because of the many benefits they bring to them.

This is an introduction to the issue in the question. The third sentence provides the reasons that will be elaborated later on in the body paragraphs.

Pets are adorable and that is one reason as to why people like to keep them. Cute pets like hamsters and rabbits are nice to look at and take care of. It is also very interesting to see these pets play around in their cages or in the home. Such lovable pets bring life to a home.

This sentence brings across the reason that will be explained in this paragraph.

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Another reason for keeping pets is for companionship. Some people are lonely and they feel good when they spend time with their pets. Some children have no siblings and so they have no one to play with. Keeping a pet dog, for example, will allow these children a chance to play and enjoy. Pets can be good friends too. Dogs and cats can know when their owner is happy or sad. Whenever the owners return home, they will rush out to welcome them. Dogs bark loudly and excitedly when they see their owners.

This is the next reason. Note the use of the connecting phrase 'another reason'. Such connectors make your composition more coherent (that is, it shows there is a clear flow between ideas).

An example is used here to make the point clearer.

This explanation makes the idea of companionship clearer.



Finally, people like to keep pets because they love caring for animals. Some people love animals so much so that they keep a variety of pets- birds, dogs, cats, fish, hamsters and so on. They like to hear the sounds of these various animals and watching them everyday gives them tremendous joy. For these people, pets are their life and they will become very sad if any of their pets falls ill or dies.

This sentence again provides the main point in the paragraph. Note the use of the connector 'finally' which signals that this is the last reason.

There are many people who keep pets for different reasons. When one decides to keep a pet, one must be committed and ensure that the pet is well taken care of. Some people abandon their pets after a while and this should never be done. Pets are living things and they should always be treated well.

This sentence reminds the reader or the examiner of the focus of the question.

These few sentences serve to provide a closure to the issue (that is, they wrap up the composition by making a general observation of how pets should be treated).

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SECTION 2

Model Personal Recounts

1. Write about an incident when you were scolded for something you did not do.



Let's Analyse this question

- For this question, the student has to write about one incident only. The student has to select the best incident so that he or she can do well.
- The student must clearly know what a 'scolding' means. When someone scolds, he or she raises the voice , the tone is serious and harsh.
- The context or situation of the scolding is stated in the question clearly. The student has to focus on an incident where the scolding was for something he did not do. So, as he writes the recount, he must bring this out clearly (that is, he must clearly show that it was not his fault but was blamed instead).

It was a usual Sunday afternoon and my sister, Amanda, and I went out to the playground. When we arrived at the playground, we went to try out the slide. We loved climbing up to the top of the slide and rolling down. We used to tumble and fall when we were younger but now that we are older, we have become more skilled. The slide had many curves and it was at least two metres long, one of the longest that I have seen.

This paragraph sets the context by informing the reader about the place, people and things involved.

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On that day, there was only a young boy, Tony, who was at the playground. His mother was also there, supervising her son. The boy was at least five years younger than me. After playing a while, Amanda went to the nearby supermarket to get a drink to quench her thirst.

Another person is introduced in this paragraph.

I was alone playing with the boy. As I climbed to the top of the slide, I saw Tony there. He seemed nervous about going down the slide. I encouraged him to try and held on to his shoulders, gently helping him down the slide. He then started to roll down the slide. After about half a minute, I also rolled down the slide.

This paragraph describes how the writer helped Tony.



When I reached the bottom, I was shocked to see that Tony was bleeding and crying out loud. I rushed over to him and his mother who was by his side. Tony then wailed and told his mother that I had pushed him down the slide. I was taken aback. His mother was so angry that she started to scold me loudly. She said I was heartless and a big bully. She demanded I apologise to her son and warned me that she

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SECTION 3

Grammar Exercise

One sentence from each of the 50 compositions you have read in this book has been extracted for this exercise. Choose the most correct answer and tick (✔) it.

1. When one _____ to keep a pet, one must be committed and ensure that the pet is well taken care of.

   - ☐ **(a)** Decide
   - ☐ **(b)** Decided
   - ☐ **(c)** Decides
   - ☐ **(d)** Is deciding

2. Some television programmes are beneficial _____ they offer us information on different things and help us to relax after a difficult day at work or school.

   - ☐ **(a)** Since
   - ☐ **(b)** As
   - ☐ **(c)** Although
   - ☐ **(d)** While

3. If someone has a phobia of cats, he or she may get extremely worried when walking on the streets and may constantly _____ back and around to check if there are any cats around.

   - ☐ **(a)** Looks
   - ☐ **(b)** Looked
   - ☐ **(c)** Looking
   - ☐ **(d)** Look

4. Educational games and games that stimulate thinking are good _____ games that involve violence or that make one addicted are not so good.

   - ☐ **(a)** Since
   - ☐ **(b)** But
   - ☐ **(c)** Because
   - ☐ **(d)** And

5. Hobbies allow us to connect with other people who have the same interests as _____.

   - ☐ **(a)** Us
   - ☐ **(b)** Ours
   - ☐ **(c)** We
   - ☐ **(d)** Them

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SECTION 4

Vocabulary Exercise

One sentence from each of the 50 compositions you have read in this book has been extracted for this exercise. Choose the most correct answer and tick (✔) it.

1. Pets are adorable; they offer good _____ to their owners and make our lives interesting.
   - ☐ **(a)** Friendliness
   - ☐ **(b)** Companionship
   - ☐ **(c)** Comradeship
   - ☐ **(d)** Benefits

2. Some television programmes are harmful as they _____ negative values.
   - ☐ **(a)** Instruct
   - ☐ **(b)** Depict
   - ☐ **(c)** Reveal
   - ☐ **(d)** Impart

3. We need to _____ our fears so that we can overcome them.
   - ☐ **(a)** Oppose
   - ☐ **(b)** Provoke
   - ☐ **(c)** Challenge
   - ☐ **(d)** Confront

4. Children who are exposed to _____ games would want to play continuously without taking a break.
   - ☐ **(a)** Addictive
   - ☐ **(b)** Enthusiastic
   - ☐ **(c)** Allergic
   - ☐ **(d)** Fanatic

5. Hobbies allow us to _____ with other people who have the same interests as us.
   - ☐ **(a)** Connect
   - ☐ **(b)** Communicate
   - ☐ **(c)** Distance
   - ☐ **(d)** Convey

6. Some _____ people drive expensive luxury cars.
   - ☐ **(a)** Luxurious
   - ☐ **(b)** Branded
   - ☐ **(c)** Affluent
   - ☐ **(d)** Prosperous

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SECTION 5

Spelling Exercise

One sentence from each of the 50 compositions you have read in this book has been extracted for this exercise. Each sentence contains a spelling error. The word that is incorrectly spelled is underlined. Write the correct spelling in the blank provided.

1. Pets are addoroble, they offer good companionship to their owners and make our lives interesting.

   Correct spelling:

   _____

2. 'Just for laughs' is one example of a programme that is humaras and enables us to laugh.

   Correct spelling:

   _____

3. These people will have a difficult time when they need to go to ocassions where there are many people.

   Correct spelling:

   _____

4. However, it is true that some games are highly addicdive and violent.

   Correct spelling:

   _____

5. Collecting stamps, currency from different countries or even painting can be favourite pasetimes for many people.

   Correct spelling:

   _____

6. Traffic congestions cause a great deal of inconvienice to people.

   Correct spelling:

   _____

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Answers

SECTION 3: Grammar Exercise

1. C	**14.** B	**27.** D	**40.** A
2. B	**15.** B	**28.** A	**41.** D
3. D	**16.** C	**29.** C	**42.** D
4. B	**17.** D	**30.** C	**43.** B
5. A	**18.** A	**31.** B	**44.** D
6. D	**19.** C	**32.** A	**45.** C
7. A	**20.** C	**33.** B	**46.** A
8. B	**21.** D	**34.** D	**47.** C
9. B	**22.** C	**35.** C	**48.** C
10. A	**23.** C	**36.** C	**49.** D
11. B	**24.** A	**37.** A	**50.** D
12. B	**25.** B	**38.** C	
13. C	**26.** A	**39.** D	

SECTION 4: Vocabulary Exercise

1. B	**14.** A	**27.** A	**40.** D
2. D	**15.** D	**28.** C	**41.** B
3. D	**16.** B	**29.** B	**42.** B
4. A	**17.** B	**30.** D	**43.** B
5. A	**18.** D	**31.** A	**44.** A
6. C	**19.** C	**32.** A	**45.** C
7. B	**20.** B	**33.** D	**46.** B
8. A	**21.** A	**34.** A	**47.** C
9. D	**22.** A	**35.** C	**48.** C
10. C	**23.** D	**36.** B	**49.** A
11. A	**24.** C	**37.** A	**50.** D
12. C	**25.** D	**38.** C	
13. D	**26.** D	**39.** C	

SECTION 5: Spelling Exercise

1. Adorable	**5.** Pastimes
2. Humourous	**6.** Inconvenience
3. Occasions	**7.** Rebellious
4. Addictive	**8.** Ignorant
9. Preferences	**30.** Forward
10. Misbehaviour	**31.** Embarrassed
11. Perseverance	**32.** Fortunately
12. Losses	**33.** Disaster
13. Jewellery	**34.** Pleasantly
14. Knowledgeable	**35.** Fulfill
15. Necessities	**36.** Disappeared
16. Difference	**37.** Opportunity
17. Difficulties	**38.** Encouraging
18. Capable	**39.** Harmony
19. Strength	**40.** Preparations
20. Illnesses	**41.** Competition
21. Offence	**42.** Fascinated
22. Curious	**43.** Dilemma
23. Successfully	**44.** Patience
24. Threaten	**45.** Devastating
25. Boast	**46.** Quietly
26. Apologise	**47.** Treasure
27. Vividly	**48.** Silently
28. Memorable	**49.** Grateful
29. Passionate	**50.** Cleanliness

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