

# Approaching material-based writing

You will be presented with a situation including a writing task and one to three pieces of material/sources (at least one of them will be in German) which help you produce a coherent (= easy to understand because it is clearly written and understandable) and cohesive (= clearly structured) text.

You have to use all the material/sources in your writing (at least 150/180/300 words). This does not mean that you describe the sources or quote them directly in your texts, but that you use the information/message taken from these sources to support your argumentation.

The language tends to be formal and impersonal.

## STEP 1 - Understanding the task

---

Read the situation and the task. Make sure you fully understand the topic!

## STEP 2 - Structuring

---

- Ü Brainstorm your ideas on the topic.
- Ü Look at the material given and make sure you understand the message/information provided in the different sources/pieces of material.
- Ü Structure your arguments, including the material you want to use as examples/explanations, etc.
- Ü Make sure the arguments are logically connected to the subject.
- Ü Note down some useful vocabulary on the topic.

## STEP 3 - Writing

---

- Ü **Introduce the topic** in general and state the problem. You may already use information from a source (e.g. quote, message of cartoon, etc.).
- Ü Present each of your **arguments** in a well-structured paragraph:
  - Present a general *statement* to convey your main idea/argument in a topic sentence.
  - Give *reasons* for your point of view (explanation) and provide suitable *examples/evidence* to support your line of argumentation (e.g. information from one of the materials).
  - Use linking words and phrases to guide the reader through the argument thus producing a coherent text.
- Ü Draw a **conclusion** e.g. by drafting a solution to the problem, giving a future outlook, etc.
- Ü Since you will also be marked on the appearance of your writing (FOBOSO 2017), start a new line after your introduction and indent each paragraph. Make sure your writing looks professional and tidy. If you have to cross out words or sentences use a ruler.