Abi-Training: Writing a comment

Englisch · Klasse 12 · mittel · Lösungen

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Name: _____ Datum: _____

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1 Understand the task. Rewrite each Abitur task in your own words: What exactly must you do, and in what form?

comment = give and justify your opinion. assess = weigh up and come to a judgement. discuss = arguments for and against, then a conclusion.

a) „Comment on the view that social media has made political debate worse."
Give your own opinion on whether social media has damaged political debate and justify it with arguments and examples; a structured text with a clear thesis.

b) „Assess the role of the individual in fighting climate change."
Weigh up how much a single person can achieve against climate change compared with governments and companies, and come to a judgement.

c) „Discuss whether English should be the only working language of the EU."
Present arguments for and against one working language, consider consequences, and end with a reasoned conclusion.

2 Build the argument: For the first task in A, collect material.

Examples from your course topics (media, democracy, globalisation) count more than general statements.

a) Two arguments supporting the view (with a concrete example each):
e.g. Algorithms reward outrage (example: emotional posts spread faster than corrections); filter bubbles reduce contact with other views (example: recommendation feeds).

b) Two arguments against (with example):
e.g. Movements can organise and be heard without media gatekeepers (example: Fridays for Future); fact-checking and open debate are possible in real time (example: community notes).

c) Your position in one sentence:
e.g. Social media has not made debate worse in itself, but its business model has, and that is what should be regulated.

3 Paragraph craft: Rewrite the weak paragraph so that it has a topic sentence, evidence, explanation and a link to the thesis.

Topic sentence → example/evidence → explanation of why it matters → link back.

a) Weak: „Social media is bad for debate. There are many fake news. People get angry. Also the algorithms. This shows that social media is bad."
e.g. One reason why social media damages political debate is that its algorithms reward emotion rather than accuracy. Studies of major platforms have shown that posts expressing anger are shared several times more often than neutral corrections. As a result, the most extreme voices become the loudest, while measured arguments disappear from the feed. Debate thus becomes a competition in outrage rather than an exchange of reasons — which is exactly the view the task asks us to comment on.

4 Write the comment (250 to 300 words) on the first task in A.

Vary sentence length. Use precise linking words (whereas, consequently, admittedly, in contrast). No „In this essay I will".

a) Introduction with a hook and your thesis, two or three body paragraphs, one counter-argument taken seriously, conclusion with an outlook or a demand.
Own text. Check: hook and thesis, each paragraph with topic sentence and example, counter-argument answered, conclusion with outlook, 250 to 300 words, varied linking words.