d Read each paragraph again, with its topic sentence. Answer the questions with a partner.
1 Where does the writer state his overall opinion about tourism?
2 How many arguments are given to support his view?
3 What is the purpose of paragraph 5?

Using synonyms and richer vocabulary
When you are writing an essay, remember to vary and enrich your vocabulary by using synonyms where appropriate.

e Find synonyms in the essay for the following words and expressions:
1 tourists   ---------,  ---------
2 effects    ---------
3 for example ---------
4 in general  ---------

USEFUL LANGUAGE
f Complete the missing words. Some (but not all) are in the model essay.

Giving personal opinions
1 I b________ that...
2 I f________ that...
3 In my v________, the influences of tourism are generally positive.
4 In my o________...
5 P________, I think that...

Introducing opposite arguments
6 Some / Many people a_________
7 It is often c_________ that popular destinations are spoiled by tourism.
8 There are t________ who say...

Refuting them
9 This m________ h________ been true in the past, but n_________
10 There are a number of f________ in this argument.
11 That is simply not the c________

PLANNING WHAT TO WRITE

a Read the essay titles below. For each one, decide which side of the argument you are going to take, and think of three or four reasons with examples.

Drivers should be charged for using roads linking major towns and cities.

Our lifestyles are less healthy than our grandparents'.

b Compare with a partner. Decide which you think are the three most important reasons. Decide on typical opposing arguments which you could refute.

c Choose which of the essays you are going to write. Decide on the main paragraphs and write topic sentences for each one. Show your topic sentences to a partner and see if you can improve each other's sentences.

TIPS for writing a discursive essay where you take one side of an argument:
• Organize your essay into paragraphs, with a clear introduction and conclusion (see p.118).
• Begin each paragraph with a clear topic sentence and then develop the idea.
• Use synonyms to avoid repeating yourself.
• Use a variety of phrases for giving your opinion and introducing an opposing argument and refuting it.

WRITING

Write an essay of between 200 and 250 words on one of the topics above.

DRAFT your essay.
• Introduction: Introduce the topic and state your opinion.
• Main argument: Write two or three paragraphs giving your reasons.
• Opposing arguments: Write a paragraph stating one or more common opposing arguments and refuting each one.
• Conclusion: Sum up, stating what your arguments have shown.

EDIT the essay, making sure you've covered the main points, cutting any irrelevant information, and making sure it is the right length.

CHECK the essay for mistakes in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and register.

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