

Support and Oppose: How to Answer

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Learning Intentions

- To understand how to answer Support and Oppose questions.

Success Criteria

- I can successfully identify evidence from sources.
- I can use the correct structure to answer a Support and Oppose question.

In the National 5 Modern Studies exam, 30 of the 80 marks will come from enquiry skills questions. This will require you to use different sources to answer three types of questions:

- Option Choice (10 marks)
- **Support and Oppose (10 marks)**
- Conclusion (10 marks)

In this question, you will be given three sources of information and a person's viewpoint on a particular topic. Your task is to pick out information from the sources which **supports** the viewpoint (agrees) and **opposes** the viewpoint (disagrees). You will gain 1 mark for each relevant piece of evidence you use.

Key Points

- Before you start to write your answer, get 2 different colour of highlighters. Highlight the information which supports the statement in 1 colour, and the information which opposes the statement in a different colour.
- You can simply quote from the sources - there is no need to explain your quotes or evaluate them.
- Some information in the sources will link together, i.e. they will say similar things. You can group this information together in your answer to show that the sources back each other up. You will still get 1 mark for each piece of evidence.
- **You must use all three sources in your answer** - your answer will be capped at 8 marks if you only use two sources, and 6 marks if you only use one source.
- Make it clear to your marker whether the point you are making supports/opposes the viewpoint otherwise you will not get the mark.
- **You must how both support AND oppose arguments** otherwise you will only get a maximum of six marks.
- You do not need to split the answer 5 marks for support and 5 marks for oppose - you can decide if you want to split your answer 5/5, 6/4, 7/3, 8/2, 9/1. **You should aim to split your answer 6/4 but as long as you show both sides of the argument it doesn't matter.**

Answer template

If linking evidence	One reason to support/oppose (insert name from viewpoint) is in Source _ which says "..." This can be backed up in Source _ which says "..." (quote that is talking about the same thing).
If using single piece of evidence	One reason to support/oppose (insert name from viewpoint) is in Source _ which says "..." Another reason to support/oppose (insert name from viewpoint) is in Source _ which says "..."

Use the two sentence structures above until you have used 10 pieces of evidence.

