



CURRENT AFFAIRS & PERSUASIVE WRITING CLASS

Audience:
Middle –
High School
students
S3-S4

Prepare for
HKDSE
IELTS/TOEFL
IGCSE/IB
Exams

**Class
Duration:**
1.5 hr

A Critical
Reading &
Writing
Intensive
Course

JACK & JILL TREEHOUSE

ENROLMENT:

[Mid-Levels]

Contact: 3102-1328

WhatsApp: 5930-7509

[Taikoo Shing]

Contact: 3102-1308

WhatsApp: 5930-8213

+ Class Outline:

- Current Affairs & Persuasive Writing is a reading and writing intensive course meant to improve students critical thinking and all-around capability, with a focus on the type of **argumentative and analytical** essays required in many standardized exams. Centered on topics in everyday life and current affairs, students will **read, analyze, discuss, and write** about questions such as the benefits and drawbacks of mobile payment systems, the correct role of parents in managing their child's life, the environmental downsides of tourism, and the debate over architectural preservation vs. urban development.

- **TOPICS:**

Students will be exposed to current affairs that are topical and highly relevant within a thoughtful and in-depth framework that fosters critical thinking and thorough analysis.

Reading materials will be taken from The Guardian, The New York Times, The Financial Times etc.

- **TOPIC EXAMPLES**

- Generation Z
- The Impact of 5G
- The History of Racial Division
- The Urgent Need for Control on Mount Everest



- **Other Important Class Information:** Active class participation is required. Students will read and discuss essays together, and work to outline the homework essay. Also, as this class is focused on making persuasive arguments about a wide variety of topics, students will work on clearly articulating their views and opinions. Students must also maintain a notebook of vocabulary, key writing ideas and phrases, and essay outlines. Together with the class lesson sheets, this will provide students by the end of the course with **a wealth of resources for future study.**
- **Format:** We will spend two classes exploring one topic. The first lesson will expose students to advanced reading material taken from newspaper papers, academic journals etc. to broaden their general knowledge, **sharpen their critical** thinking and strengthen their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills as well as building their vocabulary in academic English. The second lesson students will be taught to structure and plan an outline of an **argumentative essay** and work on the draft of the essay.
- **Class Homework:** Students will be responsible for writing a 450-650 word essay using that outline and other materials. By the end of the course, some students can work on writing longer, more detailed essays, while others can work on focusing and tightening their argument and writing.

