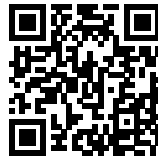


# SOLUTION Worksheet 1: Summary

Arbeitsblatt 1 zum Buch "Pocket Guide: Texte Schreiben im Englisch-Abitur"



1. Warm up: Put two commas into this sentence and the correct preposition after "excerpt":

In the excerpt \_\_\_\_\_ **from** \_\_\_\_\_ the article "In our times of division 'To Kill a Mockingbird' offers lessons in empathy", written by Michael Gerson and published in the Washington Post on 2 November 2016, the author praises the novel's value and Harper Lee's insightful skills.

2. Use words from the box to complete the table with synonyms:

to contemplate, to illustrate sth, to consider, to assert (that), to underscore (that), to expound (on sth), to maintain, to conceive (of sth as), to argue (that), to elaborate (on sth)

to claim	to explain	to stress	to think
to assert (that)	to illustrate sth	to underscore (that)	to contemplate
to maintain	to expound (on sth)	to illustrate	to conceive of sth as
to argue (that)	to elaborate (on sth)		to consider

3. Complete the table with words from the box. (Say whether each linking word is used to add another point or to highlight a contrast, or if it means "because of".)

Furthermore,... / while / Moreover,... / since / In contrast to ..., / due to / as / Additionally,... / despite

add a new point	show a contrast	give a reason
Furthermore, Moreover, Additionally,	While In contrast to despite	since due to as

4. Put in the correct prepositions:

- (a) According \_\_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_\_ the author,...
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_ **In** \_\_\_\_\_ the author's view,...
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_ **From** \_\_\_\_\_ the author's perspective,...
- (d) \_\_\_\_\_ **In** \_\_\_\_\_ the author's opinion,...

5. Complete the summary with the words from the box. (This is a sample answer for the LK Abitur task in Hessen from 2019. The task simply said: “Summarize the texts. (Material 1 + 2)”)

According to, concedes, concentrates on, despite, due to, Firstly, Finally, from, In his view, juxtapose, points out, praises, Secondly, While

In the excerpt \_\_\_\_\_ **from** \_\_\_\_\_ the article “In our times of division ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ offers lessons in empathy”, written by Michael Gerson and published in the Washington Post on 2 Nov 2016, the author \_\_\_\_\_ **praises** \_\_\_\_\_ the novel’s value and Harper Lee’s insightful skills.

Gerson \_\_\_\_\_ **concentrates on** \_\_\_\_\_ three central aspects when lauding the novel:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Firstly** \_\_\_\_\_, he \_\_\_\_\_ **points out** \_\_\_\_\_ that “To Kill a Mockingbird” – \_\_\_\_\_ **despite** \_\_\_\_\_ its author’s secluded life – has exerted an influence of great magnitude, especially with regard to its role during the civil rights movement. \_\_\_\_\_ **According to** \_\_\_\_\_ Gerson, it essentially served as a vindication of the movement and was particularly influential among the white population.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Secondly** \_\_\_\_\_, the author clarifies that “To Kill a Mockingbird” can by no means be regarded as children’s literature as it deals with serious, and perhaps unpalatable, issues. \_\_\_\_\_ **In his view** \_\_\_\_\_, the novel’s narrative perspective must not be confused with its target group.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Finally** \_\_\_\_\_, the author sheds light on Harper Lee’s view of humankind. \_\_\_\_\_ **While** \_\_\_\_\_ her characters can be inherently evil, Gerson underlines that her characters have the ability to change for the better. Thus, the novel generally views people in a positive light, especially as Scout changes her verdict of some of the characters. While Gerson lauds “To Kill a Mockingbird”, King claims that the novel’s literary merit is questionable. In his article “Mockingbird hits false note”, which was published in *The Australian* in 2010, he argues that the book’s narrative voice – it is told from a child’s perspective – cannot be reconciled with the harsh realities of racism in America.

While he \_\_\_\_\_ **concedes** \_\_\_\_\_ that “To Kill a Mockingbird” has significantly impacted the civil rights movement, the novel is dwarfed in comparison with famous Afro-American writers. This, according to King, is mainly \_\_\_\_\_ **due to** \_\_\_\_\_ the simplistic treatment of the black community. Moreover, King disapproves of the invisibility of blacks in the novel. Scout’s perception, in his view, focuses on the Finches, and makes the novel a children’s book. Thus, the two texts \_\_\_\_\_ **juxtapose** \_\_\_\_\_ two differing perceptions of the novel.