What's the difference between 'comment on' and 'discuss'?

**This is what the Operatorenkatalog says:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| comment on… / state… | give your opinion, back it up with all the relevant points |
| discuss | consider all sides of an issue by providing relevant arguments and concrete examples |

(https://km-bw.de/site/pbs-bw-new/get/documents/KULTUS.Dachmandant/KULTUS/KM-Homepage/Artikelseiten%20KP-KM/Schularten/Gymnasium/Servicepaket%20Stand%20November%202018.pdf)

**What does this mean for the structure of my essay?**

**COMMENT ON** **DISCUSS**

You give your personal opinion (= thesis) and then support it with arguments, facts etc.

**There is no need to look at the side you don't agree with!**

**conclusion (with your personal opinion)**

**the side that you agree with:**

* arguments, facts
* examples
* consequences
* etc.

**the side that you DON't agree with:**

* arguments, facts
* examples
* consequences
* etc.

**conclusion**

**support for your opinion:**

* arguments, facts
* examples
* consequences
* etc.

**thesis** (= your opinion)

**introduction**

You provide arguments for **both sides** of the issue. Then, as a conclusion, you state which of the two sides you agree with.

Please remember:

* Begin a **new paragraph** for each new idea.
* Make sure you use **topic sentences** (= introductory sentences to a block, e.g. *However, there are many people who disagree with this opinion.*)
* Make sure you use **linking words** to structure your ideas.
* Don't just list arguments. Explain them, give examples, show consequences…. your essay will be a lot more convincing that way.
* Remember to write in **formal style** (no colloquialisms, no slang, use full forms (e.g. *he is, they are* instead of *he's* and *they're*).