

Erwartungshorizont:

*Students' work is to be assessed both in terms of content and language according to the respective rating scales.*

Students are expected to change the text type into an e-mail, using topic specific vocabulary as exemplified in the content points below. As the addressee is a teacher, neutral to formal style should be employed.

Public controversy about violence, vandalism and bullying in German schools: a politician has argued in favour of video surveillance in schools; a sociologist is against it.

arguments in favour of video surveillance:

- students subject to bullying can be protected and violence prevented or reduced
- cameras might be a deterrent
- vandalism, burglaries and theft after school can be prevented
- cameras might also help to reduce or prevent theft and destructive behaviour among students

arguments against video surveillance:

- cameras would have to be virtually everywhere, otherwise the scenes of violence would shift to locations out of view
- not only would cameras have to be positioned in classrooms and schoolyards, but also in toilets, locker rooms etc., and this would infringe upon students' privacy; in Germany, cameras can only be set up in public places.
- bullying and violence can be prevented more effectively by employing more teachers and by creating an atmosphere of mutual trust
- there is no long-term effect associated with surveillance systems, especially if an incident is not dealt with at once; immediate action cannot be guaranteed, since control and analysis of material are expensive and time consuming
- video surveillance can also have undesirable or detrimental effects: as soon as cameras are in place, both teachers and students are under permanent suspicion; minor accidents can escalate into court cases