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

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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)

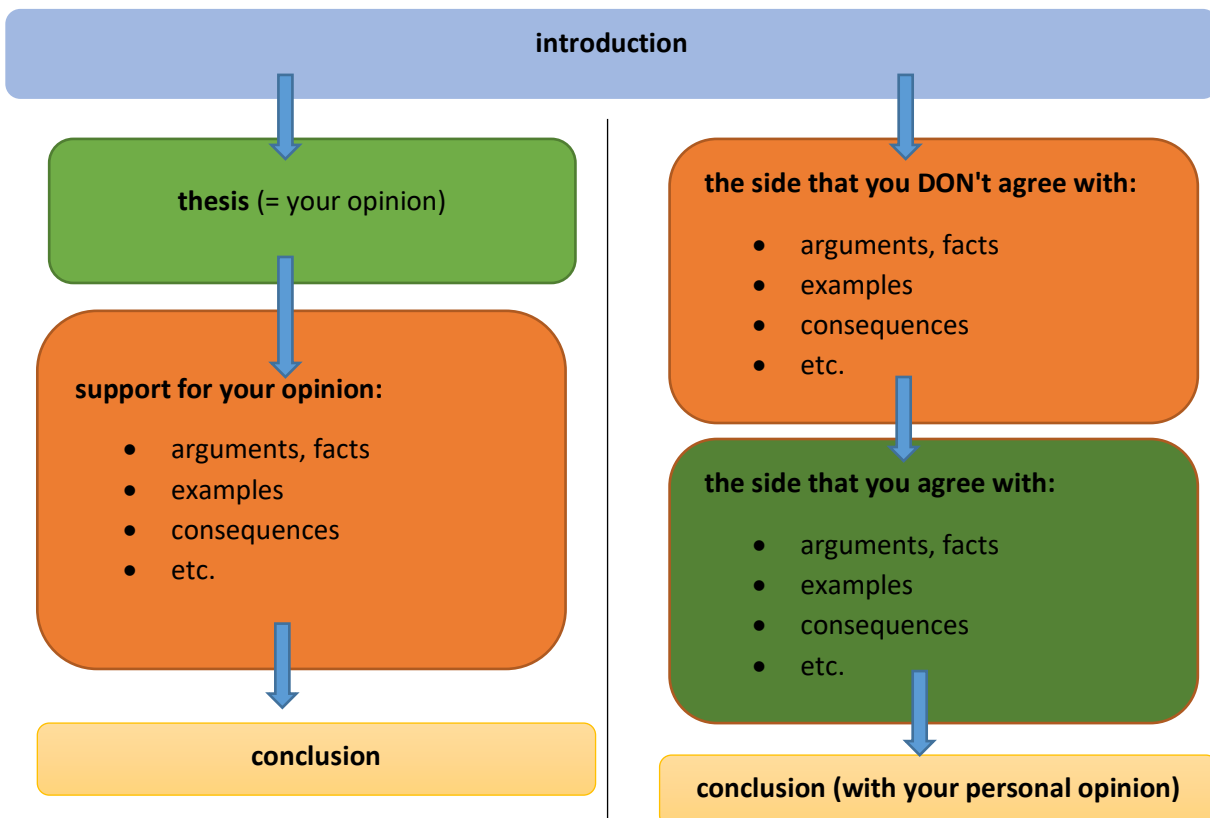**What does this mean for the structure of my essay?**

COMMENT ON

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!

DISCUSS

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

introduction

thesis (= your opinion)

support for your opinion:

- arguments, facts
- examples
- consequences
- etc.

conclusion

the side that you DON't agree with:

- arguments, facts
- examples
- consequences
- etc.

the side that you agree with:

- arguments, facts
- examples
- consequences
- etc.

conclusion (with your personal opinion)

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*).