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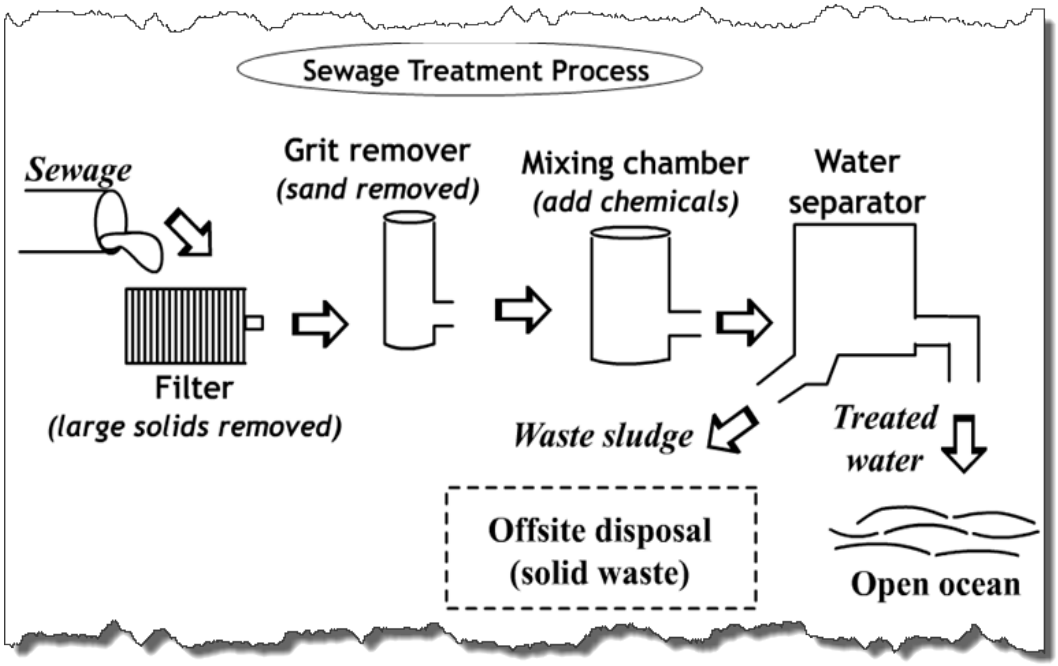
"Essential IELTS Language: Sequencing" @ http://www.youtube.com/ESL4free



The diagram describes the sewage treatment process. First, the sewage in poured into a filter where large solids are removed. Then it is send to a grit remover for sand removal. During the next stage chemicals are added to the remaining sewage in a mixing chamber. Finally, it is sent to a water separator, where waste sludge and water are separated. The sludge is sent for offsite disposal as solid waste and the water is released into the open ocean as treated water.

"In the first stage the sewage" or "In the initial stage the sewage" could also replace "First" at the beginning of the sentence.

"After that" or "following that" could also replace "then" (or "next" if it is at the beginning of the sentence).

"During the next stage" could also be written as "During the following stage".

It is best to use "finally" to show the process is complete. It is also possible to write "In the last stage it is sent to a water separator..." or "In the final stage...".

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Many people believe that teachers in schools and colleges will be replaced by technology that delivers learning.

Do you think this will happen? Do you think this is desirable?

I believe there are a number of reasons why technology should never replace teachers. Firstly, students can only develop as human beings if they have human interaction; a school, with real teachers and students, plays an important role in an individual's overall social development. Secondly, students can only really learn by questioning and discussing what is being taught with their teachers and fellow students; they cannot do that with computers. Finally, computers cannot create and evaluate knowledge and learning resources, only real teachers can do that.

Note when ordering the points in an argument use "firstly" "secondly" "thirdly" (etc.) and "finally".

You can also use "first", "second". "third", etc. Use a comma after these words at the beginning of a sentence.

These terms do not always have to be at the beginning of a sentence. For example, "I would argue, firstly, that students can only develop..."