

READING

Task 1 (8 points)

Five people have posted reviews of the package holidays they have recently been on. Read the reviews and answer the questions below. For questions 1-8, choose from reviews A – E. Write the appropriate letter (A, B, C, D or E) next to the question (1-8). The reviews may be chosen more than once. An example (0) has been given.

PACKAGE HOLIDAYS: REVIEWS

A

We completed a fourteen-day guided tour of phenomenal Sri Lanka, taking in the tea plantations and a safari. In fact, we appreciated the experience with the locals, enjoying their delicious food and exceptional hospitality. The tour operator managed to meet all of our requirements and provided excellent support before and during the holiday. The accommodation was excellent. The restaurants were five-star, and I have never seen such a range anywhere, with Japanese, American, and Spanish food on offer, to name just a few. The staff at the hotel were friendly and always ready to help with any queries we had. On arrival, we were welcomed with cool glasses of orange juice, which immediately set the precedent for the entire holiday. The departure from the hotel was perfectly organised as our bags were collected by the porter as soon as we rang, and it made the whole experience of leaving the hotel hassle-free and, more importantly, stress-free.

B

We had a wonderful week-long break away from the UK, which we spent on Mauritius island. The tour operator has done impressive background research, offering fascinating options and not just the standard venues offered by other companies. This is an idyllic place to relax and unwind in the sun. We also did lots of activities including sea kayaking and cookery lessons. However, I wouldn't visit the tea plantation again since it was poorly organized, and we didn't even get a single cup of tea. As far as the accommodation is concerned, I have read a lot of negative comments from people who don't find it of high quality. To me it looks like people often go there with the thought that it is first-class accommodation and are disappointed. It is very basic indeed, but when you go on holiday, you only sleep in the apartment, not live in it. The hotel is a good base to visit other places as it is in the very heart of town and you literally take a five-minute walk to the beach with the shops being on your doorstep.

C

We had a wonderful holiday in India which will remain long in our memory. India is a breathtaking country full of splendid temples and palaces, peaceful rural scenes, and, most of all, friendly and welcoming locals. Even the noise and bustle is an experience in itself, and we enjoyed the contrast between the busy streets, quiet hotels, and rural experiences. We enjoyed immensely the peacefulness and variety of wildlife in the countryside. The guides were excellent throughout our stay, and the tour operator was there to support and advise when we needed it. The hotel was fantastic with a brilliant fountain in the main courtyard. Even though we did find the beds a little too hard for our liking, it was difficult to find anything we didn't really like.

D

We wanted to be more off the beaten track but still comfortable. So, we started with a few days in Mumbai and ended in Delhi. The operator is a tailor-made holiday company. Their itinerary is a wonderful mixture of must see sites and unexpected experiences, so we had a chance to visit ancient temples and palaces as well as national parks. Unluckily, on occasion we overheard a group of locals loudly declaring how they disliked tourists and couldn't wait to get their town back. We were satisfied with the hotel we stayed in. It was quite old but as it was quiet and one of the cheapest, we would consider going again. The rooms were very basic, but adequate. The food though was pretty dire and the staff, with the exception of those on the reception desk, were offhand. The hotel has an excellent swimming pool, but the pool area could do with some maintenance work. Well, bearing that in mind, it is fair value for the money.

E

We wanted a hassle-free trip with pre-arranged hotels and tours. We were absolutely thrilled with the itinerary which really exceeded our expectations. The tour operator took great care to ensure the holiday ran smoothly. We definitely lacked the opportunity to communicate with the local inhabitants of the island, though. What we struggle to understand is any of the positive reviews about the hotel we stayed in. Look through all the reviews and pick out the ones describing poor indifferent service, impossibility of booking the included restaurants, and lack of support from the hotel reps, and you will hit the nail on the head. Moreover, the hotel is not mosquito-free at all. They covered the bathroom windows with special nets, but still there were places mosquitos could come into the room. All we can guess is that all the other positive reviews are posted by the hotel owners themselves. Why do we think this? We suffered terrible service, we complained constantly to the local reps, and they promised twice to call us but failed both times.

Questions		Review
0.	<i>Which reviewer considers that other visitors had too high expectations of the hotel?</i>	<i>B</i>
1.	Which reviewer had the most negative experience with the locals?	
2.	Which reviewer highlights the convenient location of the hotel?	
3.	Which reviewer expresses a similar opinion to review B about their hotel?	
4.	Which reviewer describes the most positive experience?	
5.	Which reviewer questions the authenticity of the reviews they read?	
6.	Which reviewer acknowledges a minor inconvenience in the hotel?	
7.	Which reviewer was dissatisfied with the offered activity?	
8.	Which reviewer shares review C's opinion about the local residents?	

Task 2 (9 points)

Read the article about foodstagramming and the statements (1-9) below. Decide if they are true (T), false (F) or not mentioned (NM) based on the text. Tick (✓) the appropriate box. An example (0) has been given.

CLICK... BITE!

When the French inventor Joseph Nicéphore Niépce photographed a table setting with a bowl, bottle, and bread in 1832, he probably never imagined that he had laid the foundation for what turned into a global phenomenon known as 'Camera Eats First'. According to Wikipedia, 'Camera Eats First' is the behaviour and global phenomenon of people taking photos of their meals with digital or smartphone cameras before they eat, mostly followed by uploading the photos to social media. The term refers to how people 'feed' their cameras first by taking photos of their food before feeding themselves.

Until that moment, when the inventor of heliography took the oldest known photograph of a meal, food had only been painted. The meal still life has represented a separate still life genre since the early 1600s. Nowadays, food has become the most photographed subject on social media, and this passion has been transformed into a trend known as 'foodstagramming'. In the past, shellfish, artichokes, and lemons were particularly frequently selected as subjects for still lifes. Today, the most photographed food worldwide is pizza, closely followed by sushi. A visit to a restaurant without observing at least one 'foodstagrammer' has become increasingly rare, New York being the world capital of snapshot-loving foodies.

However, in the last 10 years, taking pictures of meals has become so rampant that some New York restaurants have decided to simply ban the practice on their premises. In the eyes of some restaurant operators and chefs, people constantly fiddling with cell phone cameras disrupt the ambience and often do injustice to the quality of the painstakingly prepared food, which is often lukewarm by the time the first bite is finally consumed. Another worrying thing is that a single poorly plated dish could go viral and unfairly harm the reputation of a restaurant.

Even if taking photos may rile some people in the restaurant kitchen or at the next table, foodstagrammers themselves may actually be at an advantage as the trend brings some health benefits. Several scientific studies have investigated the effect of taking pictures on the enjoyment of a dining experience and came to the same conclusion: it positively influences the perception of the food on our plates and it tastes particularly good to us afterwards. The main reason for this is anticipation: the process of delaying the meal by meticulously preparing the photo increases the enjoyment of the meal. We pay more attention to our food, eat with more awareness, and thus, more slowly, which in turn improves digestion.

It can also benefit the psyche as sharing food has always been a social ritual. Whenever family or friends are absent, sharing photos of food replaces this ritual, and we are happier when we can share our pleasure with others.

While the phenomenon of foodstagramming has now attracted research interest in the field of psychology, the photographic technology behind it is also becoming more of a science. Baking and cooking courses have long since ceased to consist solely of teaching food preparation; marketing plays an increasingly important role, too. The camera has become just as important a utensil as the wooden spoon. On countless Internet forums and food blogs, tips are exchanged on how best to present one's food, from the perfect arrangement of the food in a triangle for better image composition to the ideal shooting angle of 45 degrees.

No one can say whether Joseph Nicéphore Niépce was aware of these techniques when he composed his image. What we can assume with certainty, however, is that the wait made his meal all the more delicious.

(Adapted from www.goethe.de)

Statements		T	F	NM
0.	<i>The French inventor Joseph Nicéphore Niépce intended to develop a new trend known as 'Camera Eats First'.</i>		√	
1.	The 'Camera Eats First' trend refers to following famous chefs on social media.			
2.	Photographing restaurant meals has its roots in art.			
3.	Preferences for the kind of food to be depicted have remained the same.			
4.	Some restaurants assume that foodstagramming can harm the dining experience.			
5.	Some foodstagrammers intentionally manipulate their dish to make it look less appealing.			
6.	Researchers failed to identify the possible effects of taking pictures of food.			
7.	There is a link between a person's appreciation of food and the time spent expecting to consume it.			
8.	The 'Camera Eats First' trend might be advantageous for a person's physical and psychological well-being.			
9.	Cookery classes begin by considering the proper presentation of food for it to be photographed.			

Task 3 (8 points)

You are going to read an article about pets in the digital age. For questions 1-8 below, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best based on the text. Circle your chosen answer.

PETS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Our shared history with domestic animals goes back tens of thousands of years. However, technological advances in the last decades – computer, internet and social media – have revolutionized our means of communication and, particularly, our social lives. An obvious question is whether this technological evolution will also change human–animal relationships, and at the same time, the place of pets in human societies.

When considering this issue, it has been suggested that we should think about the 3Rs: refinement – not all species are suitable to be kept as pets, reduction – pet ownership as a luxury, and remote interactions with pets through technology and replacement – robot and virtual reality pets.

Firstly, refinement could involve restricting animal use allowed by society. As an illustration, keeping highly intelligent species (e.g., primates) in captivity is becoming increasingly questioned as we are unable to fulfil their social or mental needs. Thus, keeping single parrots may become socially unacceptable. This view is probably not so reliant on technological advances as ethical change progresses on its own, partly driven by cultural change. Nevertheless, technologies could improve animal welfare or help facilitate interactions, for example, remote communication between owners and their dogs left alone at home.

Secondly, reduction is an interesting proposal as there is a conflict between our remoteness from nature, which appears to stimulate pet keeping, and the sustainability of pet keeping in a growing, urbanized society. Pets are common in Western cultures and on the rise in Asia. Yet, it is difficult to imagine how more than half of the 9.6 billion people of 2050 could still keep pets. Efforts to develop cities designed to be green and pet-friendly are ongoing. However, a more realistic future is that pets may become luxury possessions for people who can afford to sustain the costs and fulfil their needs in terms of space, social, and mental needs, based on possibly higher ethical standards demanded by future societies.

The last option is the most intriguing, suggesting that technologies could allow us to replace animals as pets. The Tamagotchi, a handheld egg with a digital screen that one had to feed and take care of was the forerunner of the artificial pet movement in 1996. The idea behind its basic design was that physical appearance was not as important as the personal relationship with the owner. Recent research is focusing on identifying the features required by social robots to simulate live interactions, coming up with more realistic robotic animal designs. Overall, robotic pets appear to elicit similar responses from humans as live pets, but it is unclear whether they stimulate identical responses and replace that need for a pet.

There are also attempts to computer-simulate interactions with a pet, similar to online human social interactions. Potentially, virtual reality can fulfil all aspects of human-animal interaction apart from physical contact. However, several aspects still differ between today's virtual and robotic pets compared to live pets as the responsibility that we feel for each may differ. It also remains challenging to simulate the natural unpredictability of interacting with a live animal.

Artificial pet development and the underlying research remains in its infancy with much to be discovered. At present, artificial pets can be described as poor substitutes for their live counterparts. Yet, quick technological progress is to be expected, and this phenomenon raises many questions. Do animals make us human? Or are we witnessing a leap into what domestication always was: the selection of animals to be the perfect pets with a need to update the definition of pets as an animal or an artificial device? "Let the future tell the truth," to quote futuristic scientist Nikola Tesla.

(Adapted from Rault J-L (2015) *Pets in the Digital Age: Live, Robot, or Virtual?* Front Vet Sci.)

1. What does the author aim to do in the text?
 - A criticize the modern approach to keeping pets
 - B discuss the future of keeping pets
 - C explore reasons for people keeping pets
 - D discuss the advantages of keeping pets

2. What can be concluded from paragraph 2?
 - A Keeping pets will be strictly controlled.
 - B All live pets will be replaced by digital pets.
 - C People are likely to keep fewer live pets.
 - D Keeping pets will become unfashionable.

3. According to paragraph 3, what could people reconsider in the future?
 - A The reasons for keeping pets.
 - B The moral aspects of keeping pets.
 - C The need to improve technologies.
 - D The way they interact with pets.

4. Why do people decide to keep a pet?
 - A They feel a need to reconnect with nature.
 - B They would like to make cities more sustainable.
 - C It is considered to be part of culture.
 - D It is considered to be a status symbol.

5. Which is a more likely development, according to paragraph 4?
 - A Cities will become more suitable for keeping pets.
 - B People will become closer to nature.
 - C People will be getting more expensive pets.
 - D Keeping pets will become less affordable.

6. Why did the Tamagotchi have a simple design?
 - A It was impossible to create a more sophisticated design.
 - B The developers prioritised its function over the design.
 - C The owners found such a design more appealing.
 - D It helped the owners interact with the digital pet.

7. Why are virtual pets being developed?
 - A They could be used to teach children responsibility.
 - B They could help pet owners connect with each other.
 - C They could offer some elements of real-life pet-owner interaction.
 - D They could be trained to behave like real animals.

8. What does the author suggest in the final paragraph?
 - A Technologies could change our relationships with pets.
 - B Research into artificial pet development is advanced.
 - C Traditional pets will remain popular.
 - D Artificial pets are as popular as traditional pets.

LISTENING

Task 1 (6 points)

You will hear some people speaking about reading and writing books. For questions 1-6, match each speaker with the statement (A-G) that is true for them. Write the letter next to the speaker. You can use each letter only once. There is one extra statement. You will hear the recording twice.

READING AND WRITING BOOKS

		Statement
1.	Speaker 1	
2.	Speaker 2	
3.	Speaker 3	
4.	Speaker 4	
5.	Speaker 5	
6.	Speaker 6	

This person	
A	was encouraged to start writing by their teacher.
B	realized they had a talent for writing.
C	was surprised to find out that a certain genre could be enjoyable.
D	rediscovered their passion for writing.
E	followed a recommendation to try a new genre.
F	has been building up to writing a more extensive work.
G	started writing after having an emotional reaction to a book.

Task 2 (11 points)

You will hear a podcast about summer jobs. Complete the gaps in the notes on the programme with the missing information (words or numbers). Use up to three words or a number per gap. An example (0) has been given. You will hear the recording twice.

SUMMER JOBS

0. The speaker considers the fact about George Lazenby fascinating.

1. Lazenby's first summer job included selling _____.
2. The summer job helped Lazenby develop _____.
3. Getting a summer job is referred to as a _____.
4. Between 2006 and 2016, the number of teenagers having a summer job dropped by _____.
5. The study suggests that students choose _____ over getting a summer job.
6. The speaker's father expected him to pay for _____ himself.
7. The speaker claims that summer jobs helped him improve his financial situation and _____.
8. The speaker's first job involved working with _____.
9. Doing summer jobs, the speaker met people who influenced his _____.
10. A person he met during a summer job inspired the speaker to take up _____ as a career.
11. The speaker believes that any summer job provides teenagers with _____.

Task 3 (8 points)

You will listen to a podcast in which people are talking about fake news. Read the questions (1-8) and choose the correct answer (A, B, C) based on what you hear in the podcast. An example (0) has been given. You will hear the recording twice.

DISCUSSING FAKE NEWS

Example:

0. What happened during Donald Trump's first press conference?

- A He started discussing fake news.
- B He popularised the term 'fake news'.**
- C He warned media of the danger of fake news.

1. According to Julia, what should people do regarding fake news?

- A Limit sharing news on social media platforms.
- B Share information only if it can help someone.
- C Check if the information you post can be trusted.

2. According to Ross, what should people do regarding fake news?

- A Report people spreading fake news.
- B Inform the author of the post that it is fake news.
- C Ask for other people's opinion on the posted news.

3. Why did Ross suggest taking action when you see fake news?

- A We can decrease its harmful impact.
- B We can change people's opinions.
- C We can make ourselves feel better.

4. According to the discussion, why should everyone act like reporters?

- A To evaluate information before sharing it.
- B To be able to find information quicker.
- C To rely more on trustworthy sources.

5. What does a regular person need to do before retweeting an article?

- A Analyze the headline of the article.
- B Check who it was written by.
- C Check the content of the article.

6. According to Ross, why do people share certain information online?

- A People find information that supports their beliefs.
- B People do not have enough time to check information.
- C People share the information they find intriguing.

7. Which statement is true, according to Ross?

- A Links can sometimes be misleading.
- B People should learn to work with sources.
- C Most online sources cannot be trusted.

8. Which is true about the statistic that Ross mentions?

- A Ross managed to trace its source.
- B It was shared by one of Ross' listeners.
- C It illustrates how fake news spreads.

Task 1**E-mail (12 points)****You should spend about 25 minutes on this task.****Write between 120 – 150 words.**

You are an exchange student in England. You would like to join a debate club at your school and you have seen this advertisement. Study the advertisement and write an e-mail to the debate club organiser, Mr Milton, to apply to join the club:

- explain why you would like to join the club,
- suggest an issue you would be interested in discussing and give reasons why,
- decide what else you would like to know about the club and ask a question about it.

Do you want to speak up?

DEBATE CLUB

Debate and discuss topics about school and beyond!

Learn about current issues and how to win any argument!

Participate in inter-school debating competitions!

If you are interested, send an e-mail to Mr Milton at johnmilton@school.org

Notes

Task 2**Essay (20 points)****You should spend about 55 minutes on this task.****Write between 250 – 300 words.**

You are participating in an international youth newspaper essay competition on teenagers' career choices. Read the information provided and write an essay in which you:

- formulate the problem raised in both sources,
- propose and support at least two solutions to the problem,
- come to a conclusion.

Do not forget to use “quotation marks” if you decide to quote a phrase from the sources.

Source 1:

One-third of Americans revealed they had no plans after graduating from college or high school, according to a new poll. The survey, conducted by OnePoll for Colorado University Global, asked 2,000 students about their plans for after leaving school or college. According to the data, 34% of respondents didn't have a plan, and 41% didn't even have a job lined up. Meanwhile, 17% who were attending college said they had no plans for after their senior year.

adapted from nypost.com

Source 2:

What you want to be when you grow up requires careful thought; teenagers need time to learn about and consider all options. However, the rush to get good grades leads to some students making hurried decisions, which may not be the best for them in the long-term. It's not like there's no support provided, but sometimes it is more damaging than helpful as the variety of careers that teenagers become aware of often leaves them even more uncertain of which one they want to pursue. Students choosing careers that may not suit them is detrimental because reconsidering a career is an enormous decision.

adapted from www.theguardian.com

Notes

Task 2 (20 points)

Essay

You should spend about 55 minutes on this task.

Write between 250 – 300 words.

A large rectangular box with a thin black border, containing approximately 30 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box, providing a template for an essay response.

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
(optimālais mācību satura
apgaves līmenis)
2023
SKOLOTĀJA MATERIĀLS
Mutvārdu daļa, 1. diena

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
(optimālais mācību satura apgaves līmenis)

Mutvārdu daļa, 1. diena
Skolotāja materiāls

Pie izglītojamajiem un personām, kuras piedalās eksāmena nodrošināšanā, no brīža, kad viņiem ir pieejams eksāmena materiāls, līdz eksāmena norises beigām nedrīkst atrasties ierīces (planšetdators, piezīmjdators, viedtālrunis, viedpulkstenis u. c. saziņas un informācijas apmaiņas līdzekļi), kuras nav paredzētas Valsts pārbaudes darbu norises darbību laikos.

2023

Paper 1

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on peer pressure. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Responding to peer pressure (when you agree to do something you would otherwise not do because others are doing it) is part of human nature — but some people are more likely to give in to such pressure, and others are better able to resist it and stand their ground. People who have low self-confidence, are unsure of themselves, or are new to the group, and those who tend to follow rather than lead could be more likely to seek their peers' approval by giving in to a risky challenge or suggestion.

www.kidshealth.org

Source 2:

Social media has great potential to increase feelings of peer pressure. One common social media misrepresentation is when people post the “best” of their lives, creating a false sense of reality. This can lead teens to compare the true reality of their lives to the “picture-perfect” portrayal of others' lives, and this creates feelings of inadequacy. Additionally, social media enables an environment in which people share abusive comments that they would not otherwise say in person.

www.childrens.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. How might teenagers become more critical users of social media?
2. Should influencers be responsible for what they post? Why/Why not?
3. What other challenges do young people face?

Paper 2

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on homework. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

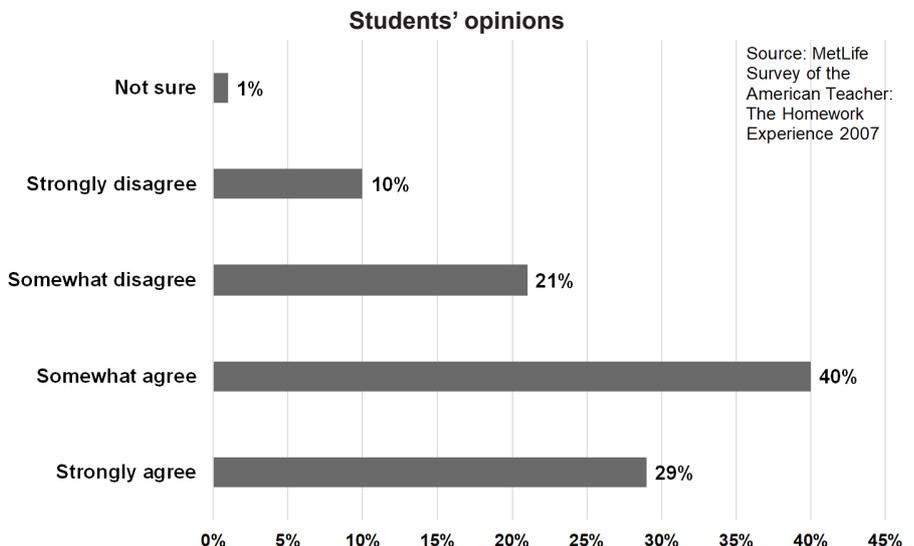
Source 1:

An important Education Department report, published in 2014, concluded that students in Year 9 in the UK who spent between two and three hours on homework on an average weeknight were almost 10 times more likely to achieve five good GCSEs (school exams students take at the age of 16) than students who did no homework at all. But when does homework become too much and not bring the expected results?

www.bbc.com

Source 2:

Do you agree that homework helps students learn more in school?



www.nea.org

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Why do some students ignore their homework?
2. What else could students do to succeed at their exams? Why?
3. Should getting good exam results be the main reason for studying hard? Why/Why not?

Paper 3

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on the problem of greenwashing. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Greenwashing describes a false, misleading, or untrue action or set of claims made by an organization about the positive impact that a company, product, or service has on the environment. The company pretends that its actions are environmentally friendly when they are not. A common example of greenwashing is including buzzwords in product descriptions such as 'eco', 'sustainable', or 'carbon neutral' while the organisations responsible for these 'green' products have done very little or nothing to reduce their carbon footprint.

www.adido-digital.co.uk

Source 2:

When buying something new, we consider the price, value, colour, and other factors that help us make our final decision. However, responsible shopping asks us to look more deeply than that. A responsible customer makes wise decisions, considering the human cost, quality, and low-environmental impact of the product. Like all sustainable travel and life practices, responsible shopping means doing research before buying and rethinking choices while looking for more eco-friendly alternatives.

www.timetravelbee.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. How could people become more responsible consumers?
2. Are young people in Latvia environmentally aware? Why do you think so?
3. Which issues should be addressed first – social issues or environmental ones?

Paper 4

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on travelling. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

When you wish to save money on your summer vacation, it is not unusual to plan a 'staycation' rather than a vacation. During a staycation, would-be travellers stay home rather than going to a new or exotic place. Saving money isn't the only positive aspect of a staycation. You can enjoy other benefits such as saving time, reducing stress, and helping your local economy by simply vacationing at home.

finance.yahoo.com

Source 2:

Travel in Postpandemic World NATURE rather than sightseeing

74% of the population of Europe lives in urban areas. Due to long lockdowns, people are rediscovering interaction with nature. They will choose a countryside vacation over city touring.

SUSTAINABLE options might win

Customers are becoming more aware of the direct environmental impact of their travel decisions. Will people want to pay more for a sustainable option? (Probably not due to a tighter budget.)

wearekba.medium.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. How have people's travelling habits changed recently?
2. How would you encourage more people to visit Latvia?
3. Would you agree that travel teaches us to be more empathetic and open-minded? Why/Why not?

Paper 5

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on learning languages. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

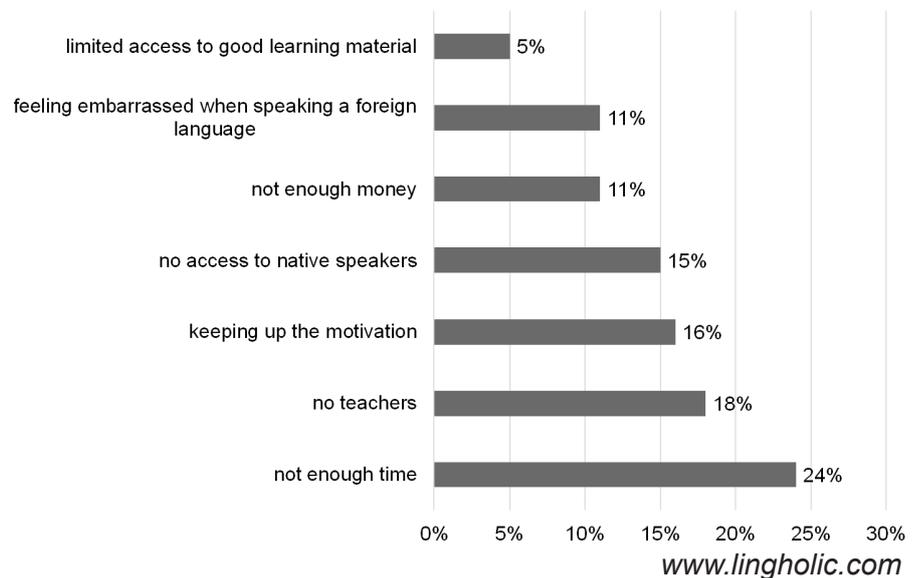
- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

It is clear that students can build vocabulary and learn key phrases through an app. Studies have shown that language apps, however effective or convenient, improve language skills only if the user is dedicated and invests a great deal of time in them; research conducted by Michigan State University suggests that many app-learners quickly give up with 36% of participants quitting their app within 12 weeks. Many learners who use such apps struggle to sustain a conversation beyond the ready phrases they have memorised.
www.futurelearn.com

Source 2:

Main difficulty experienced when learning a new language



Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. How can you become a better language learner?
2. Who is responsible for learning – the student or the teacher? Why?
3. Why do some people find it difficult to stay motivated when learning a language?

Paper 6

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on teenagers' eating habits. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

As teens become more independent in their food choices, they sometimes enjoy indulging in some not-so-healthy options. If their friends have similar eating habits, they may underestimate how bad their diets really are because it seems normal to eat hot dogs and cookies for lunch. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, as many as 20% to 30% of teens do not eat breakfast on a regular basis. Teens hit fast food restaurants much more often than when they were younger.

www.verywellhealth.com

Source 2:

School plays an important role in shaping lifelong healthy eating habits. Healthy students are better learners. Research shows that eating habits and healthy behaviors are connected to academic achievement. Student participation in healthy eating programs is associated with better grades and standardized test scores, reduced absences, and improved memory.

www.cdc.gov

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Why is it important for teenagers to learn to cook?
2. How can social media encourage healthy eating habits?
3. What other factors might positively affect academic achievement? Why?

Paper 1

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on peer pressure. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Responding to peer pressure (when you agree to do something you would otherwise not do because others are doing it) is part of human nature — but some people are more likely to give in to such pressure, and others are better able to resist it and stand their ground. People who have low self-confidence, are unsure of themselves, or are new to the group, and those who tend to follow rather than lead could be more likely to seek their peers' approval by giving in to a risky challenge or suggestion.

www.kidshealth.org

Source 2:

Social media has great potential to increase feelings of peer pressure. One common social media misrepresentation is when people post the “best” of their lives, creating a false sense of reality. This can lead teens to compare the true reality of their lives to the “picture-perfect” portrayal of others' lives, and this creates feelings of inadequacy. Additionally, social media enables an environment in which people share abusive comments that they would not otherwise say in person.

www.childrens.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 2

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on homework. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

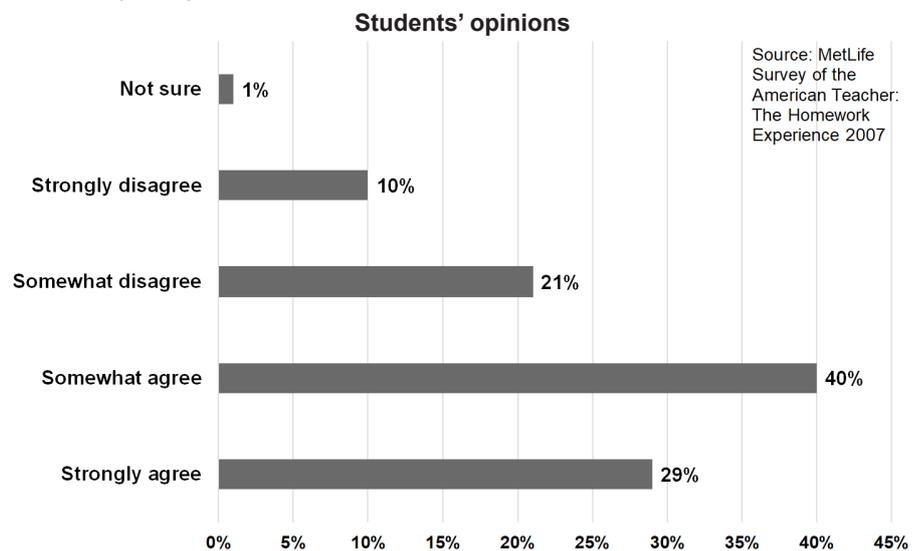
Source 1:

An important Education Department report, published in 2014, concluded that students in Year 9 in the UK who spent between two and three hours on homework on an average weeknight were almost 10 times more likely to achieve five good GCSEs (school exams students take at the age of 16) than students who did no homework at all. But when does homework become too much and not bring the expected results?

www.bbc.com

Source 2:

Do you agree that homework helps students learn more in school?



Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 3

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on greenwashing. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Greenwashing describes a false, misleading, or untrue action or set of claims made by an organization about the positive impact that a company, product, or service has on the environment. The company pretends that its actions are environmentally friendly when they are not. A common example of greenwashing is including buzzwords in product descriptions such as 'eco', 'sustainable', or 'carbon neutral' while the organisations responsible for these 'green' products have done very little or nothing to reduce their carbon footprint.

www.adido-digital.co.uk

Source 2:

When buying something new, we consider the price, value, colour, and other factors that help us make our final decision. However, responsible shopping asks us to look more deeply than that. A responsible customer makes wise decisions, considering the human cost, quality, and low-environmental impact of the product. Like all sustainable travel and life practices, responsible shopping means doing research before buying and rethinking choices while looking for more eco-friendly alternatives.

www.timetravelbee.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 4

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on travelling. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

When you wish to save money on your summer vacation, it is not unusual to plan a 'staycation' rather than a vacation. During a staycation, would-be travellers stay home rather than going to a new or exotic place. Saving money isn't the only positive aspect of a staycation. You can enjoy other benefits such as saving time, reducing stress, and helping your local economy by simply vacationing at home.

finance.yahoo.com

Source 2:

Travel in Postpandemic World NATURE rather than sightseeing

74% of the population of Europe lives in urban areas. Due to long lockdowns, people are rediscovering interaction with nature. They will choose a countryside vacation over city touring.

SUSTAINABLE options might win

Customers are becoming more aware of the direct environmental impact of their travel decisions. Will people want to pay more for a sustainable option? (Probably not due to a tighter budget.)

wearekba.medium.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 5

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on learning languages. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

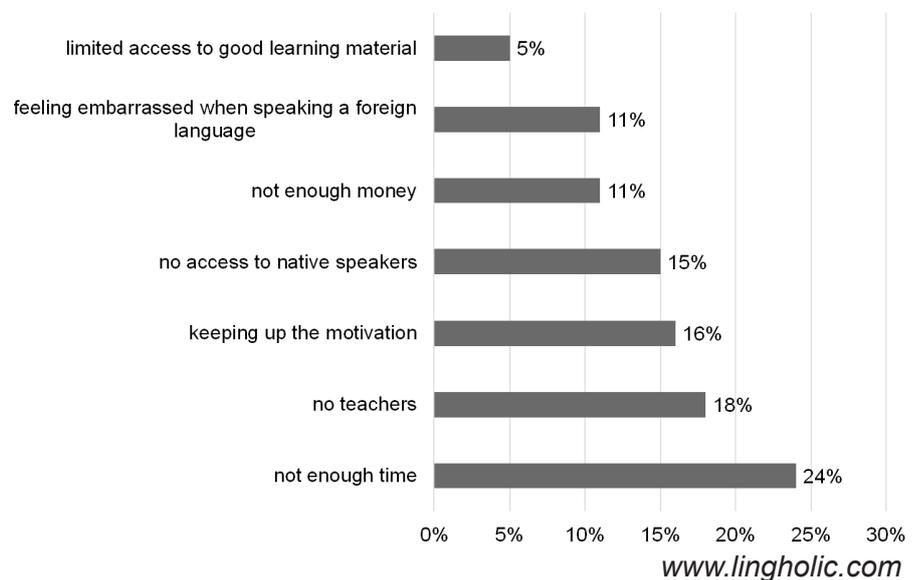
- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

It is clear that students can build vocabulary and learn key phrases through an app. Studies have shown that language apps, however effective or convenient, improve language skills only if the user is dedicated and invests a great deal of time in them; research conducted by Michigan State University suggests that many app-learners quickly give up with 36% of participants quitting their app within 12 weeks. Many learners who use such apps struggle to sustain a conversation beyond the ready phrases they have memorised.
www.futurelearn.com

Source 2:

Main difficulty experienced when learning a new language



Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 6

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on teenagers' eating habits. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

As teens become more independent in their food choices, they sometimes enjoy indulging in some not-so-healthy options. If their friends have similar eating habits, they may underestimate how bad their diets really are because it seems normal to eat hot dogs and cookies for lunch. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, as many as 20% to 30% of teens do not eat breakfast on a regular basis. Teens hit fast food restaurants much more often than when they were younger.

www.verywellhealth.com

Source 2:

School plays an important role in shaping lifelong healthy eating habits. Healthy students are better learners. Research shows that eating habits and healthy behaviors are connected to academic achievement. Student participation in healthy eating programs is associated with better grades and standardized test scores, reduced absences, and improved memory.

www.cdc.gov

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
(optimālais mācību satura
apgaves līmenis)
2023
SKOLOTĀJA MATERIĀLS
Mutvārdu daļa, 2. diena

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
(optimālais mācību satura apgaves līmenis)

Mutvārdu daļa, 2. diena
Skolotāja materiāls

Pie izglītojamajiem un personām, kuras piedalās eksāmena nodrošināšanā, no brīža, kad viņiem ir pieejams eksāmena materiāls, līdz eksāmena norises beigām nedrīkst atrasties ierīces (planšetdators, piezīmjdators, viedtālrunis, viedpulkstenis u. c. saziņas un informācijas apmaiņas līdzekļi), kuras nav paredzētas Valsts pārbaudes darbu norises darbību laikos.

2023

Paper 1

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on disinformation. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

When people share or interact with disinformation they see online, they have essentially been persuaded to do so by its originators. How does this happen? In some circumstances, we may carefully consider the information available. At other times, we make quick decisions. Sharing information on social media is likely to be spontaneous and quick, rather than a considered action that people spend time deliberating over.

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

Source 2:

A study (2020) on social media finds that 59% of US adults believe the information shared on social platforms is inaccurate. That means that over half of US adults who use social media to get news question its accuracy. It appears that what they find does not give them the answers they are looking for. Just 30% of respondents say social media helps them understand current events, and 23% even say it leaves them more confused.

www.searchenginejournal.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Why do some people think that social media is a good place to find news?
2. Is it possible to stop using social media? Why/Why not?
3. Should censorship be introduced in any way? Why/Why not?

Paper 2

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on smartphones. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
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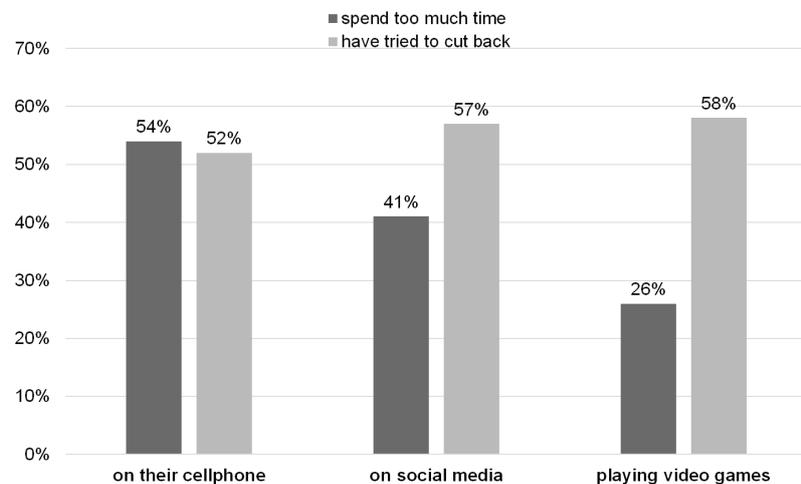
Source 1:

Both Apple and Google have recently announced new features for their smartphone operating systems that will help users keep track of their screentime and possibly limit it. While that certainly shows the companies' willingness to help limit the negative effects of excessive smartphone use, ultimately, it's in the consumers' hands to change their possibly unhealthy habits.

www.statista.com

Source 2:

Majority of Teens Admit to Excessive Cellphone Usage



Based on interviews with 743 teens (aged 13-17) in the U.S. conducted in March and April 2018

www.statista.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. In what way do digital devices dominate our lives?
2. Can digital detox have positive long-term effects? Why/Why not?
3. What advice should be given to people with a smartphone addiction?

Paper 3

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on climate change awareness. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

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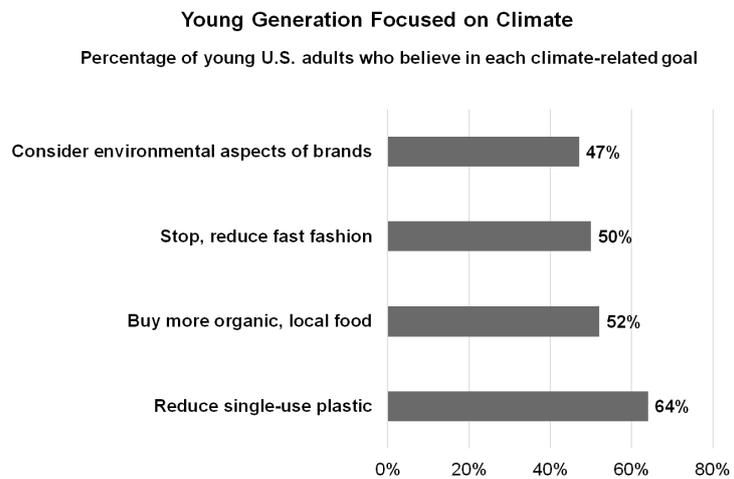
- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

According to Bloomberg, TikTok stars and YouTube gamers are part of a new wave of young influencers promoting climate change awareness. Millions of kids and young adults tune in to live gamer streams and watch TikTok videos every day. In between games and other content, creators with hundreds of thousands of followers speak positively about climate-friendly actions.

www.statista.com

Source 2:



www.statista.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Are there any other ways to raise teenagers' awareness of climate change? Please explain.
2. How does climate change affect people's daily lives?
3. What might be the drawbacks of using social media to inform the public?

Paper 4

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on overtourism. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Large scale tourism has been shown to increase pollution and be generally detrimental to the local natural environment. Foreign-owned companies often dominate the tourism business in some countries. On the other hand, tourism boosts the economy, creates thousands of jobs, develops the infrastructure of a country, and encourages cultural exchange between foreigners and citizens.

www.talesfromafork.com

Source 2:

CONSUMERS WANT TO TRAVEL MORE SUSTAINABLY

84% want to reduce general waste on future trips

83% want to reduce their energy consumption

79% want to use more environmentally friendly modes of transport

76% are keen to reduce water usage

69% are committed to reducing the carbon footprint of their trip

Survey conducted in 2021.

Participants: 29,349 people aged over 18 from 30 countries.

www.statista.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. How can we raise people's awareness of the effects of overtourism?
2. Which is more important - financial benefits of tourism or preserving cultural heritage? Why?
3. What else could tourists do to be more responsible?

Paper 5

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on career education. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

A new study of over 1000 British 13-16-year-olds reveals that 66% of respondents believe grades to be the main focus of the current education system, as opposed to future careers (13%) or wellbeing (9%). In addition, 54% of the students said that their schools do not consider individual career ambitions, choosing instead to focus on grades achieved. This research highlights the concerns that teenagers have about their education and career pathways – more support is needed to help them plan their futures.

www.openaccessgovernment.org

Source 2:

The main function of secondary education is to prepare students for the workplace. The choices that young adults make in school can have long-lasting effects on their careers. Career education helps students develop the skills that are needed to evaluate potential career paths. It provides them with the skills, knowledge, and encouragement they need to get the most out of their desired career. Students display higher levels of engagement and motivation when they have a clear understanding of what they want to do when they leave school.

www.positiveaction.net

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. What might help teenagers in choosing a career path? How?
2. What would you consider to be a successful career? Please explain.
3. Should hobbies and interests be considered when choosing a career? Why/Why not?

Paper 6

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on studying abroad. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Some experts say making a decision to study abroad is one of the wisest decisions one can make as a student. The experience you get studying in another country could be very helpful and beneficial in your future. Study abroad helps you be informed about a culture you have never encountered before, meet new people, and become more responsible.

www.content.wisestep.com

Source 2:

The idea of studying abroad can seem like a fabulous opportunity, but there are also plenty of potential challenges. Firstly, you may experience language problems, especially if you need to understand it thoroughly enough to attend school or university. Next, you may experience culture shock or find yourself feeling alone without any social and emotional support from relatives and old friends. Finally, there are likely to be increased costs involved with studying abroad – both education and everyday expenses.

www.owlcation.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. What advice would you give to someone who is planning to study abroad?
2. What are the best ways for international students to get involved in local culture?
3. How can studying abroad influence your career choice?

Paper 1

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on disinformation. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

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- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

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www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

Source 2:

A study (2020) on social media finds that 59% of US adults believe the information shared on social platforms is inaccurate. That means that over half of US adults who use social media to get news question its accuracy. It appears that what they find does not give them the answers they are looking for. Just 30% of respondents say social media helps them understand current events, and 23% even say it leaves them more confused.

www.searchenginejournal.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 2

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on smartphones. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
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- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
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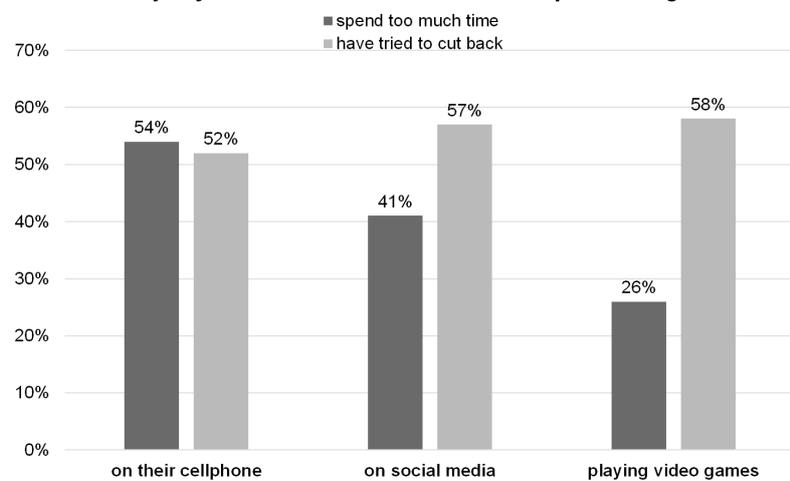
Source 1:

Both Apple and Google have recently announced new features for their smartphone operating systems that will help users keep track of their screentime and possibly limit it. While that certainly shows the companies' willingness to help limit the negative effects of excessive smartphone use, ultimately, it's in the consumers' hands to change their possibly unhealthy habits.

www.statista.com

Source 2:

Majority of Teens Admit to Excessive Cellphone Usage



Based on interviews with 743 teens (aged 13-17) in the U.S. conducted in March and April 2018

www.statista.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 3

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on climate change awareness. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

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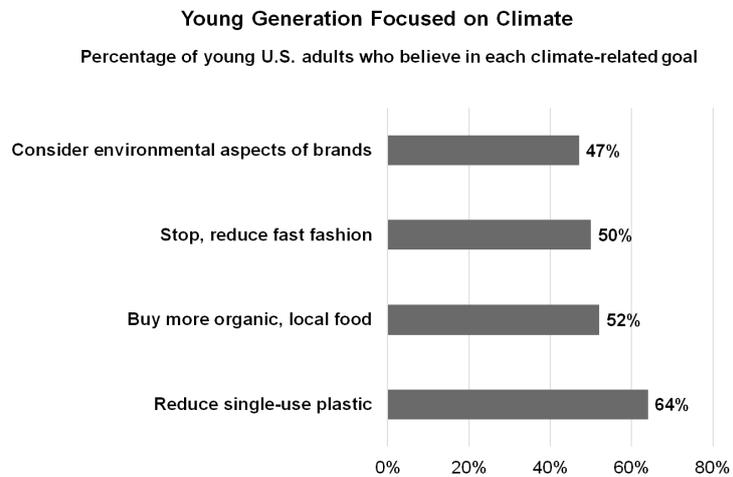
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Source 1:

According to Bloomberg, TikTok stars and YouTube gamers are part of a new wave of young influencers promoting climate change awareness. Millions of kids and young adults tune in to live gamer streams and watch TikTok videos every day. In between games and other content, creators with hundreds of thousands of followers speak positively about climate-friendly actions.

www.statista.com

Source 2:



www.statista.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 4

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on overtourism. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Large scale tourism has been shown to increase pollution and be generally detrimental to the local natural environment. Foreign-owned companies often dominate the tourism business in some countries. On the other hand, tourism boosts the economy, creates thousands of jobs, develops the infrastructure of a country, and encourages cultural exchange between foreigners and citizens.

www.talesfromafork.com

Source 2:**CONSUMERS WANT TO TRAVEL MORE SUSTAINABLY**

84% want to reduce general waste on future trips

83% want to reduce their energy consumption

79% want to use more environmentally friendly modes of transport

76% are keen to reduce water usage

69% are committed to reducing the carbon footprint of their trip

Survey conducted in 2021.

Participants: 29,349 people aged over 18 from 30 countries.

www.statista.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 5

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on career education. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

A new study of over 1000 British 13-16-year-olds reveals that 66% of respondents believe grades to be the main focus of the current education system, as opposed to future careers (13%) or wellbeing (9%). In addition, 54% of the students said that their schools do not consider individual career ambitions, choosing instead to focus on grades achieved. This research highlights the concerns that teenagers have about their education and career pathways – more support is needed to help them plan their futures.

www.openaccessgovernment.org

Source 2:

The main function of secondary education is to prepare students for the workplace. The choices that young adults make in school can have long-lasting effects on their careers. Career education helps students develop the skills that are needed to evaluate potential career paths. It provides them with the skills, knowledge, and encouragement they need to get the most out of their desired career. Students display higher levels of engagement and motivation when they have a clear understanding of what they want to do when they leave school.

www.positiveaction.net

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 6

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on studying abroad. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Some experts say making a decision to study abroad is one of the wisest decisions one can make as a student. The experience you get studying in another country could be very helpful and beneficial in your future. Study abroad helps you be informed about a culture you have never encountered before, meet new people, and become more responsible.

www.content.wisestep.com

Source 2:

The idea of studying abroad can seem like a fabulous opportunity, but there are also plenty of potential challenges. Firstly, you may experience language problems, especially if you need to understand it thoroughly enough to attend school or university. Next, you may experience culture shock or find yourself feeling alone without any social and emotional support from relatives and old friends. Finally, there are likely to be increased costs involved with studying abroad – both education and everyday expenses.

www.owlcation.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
(optimālais mācību satura
apgaves līmenis)
2023
SKOLOTĀJA MATERIĀLS
Mutvārdu daļa, 3. diena

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
(optimālais mācību satura apgaves līmenis)

Mutvārdu daļa, 3. diena
Skolotāja materiāls

Pie izglītojamajiem un personām, kuras piedalās eksāmena nodrošināšanā, no brīža, kad viņiem ir pieejams eksāmena materiāls, līdz eksāmena norises beigām nedrīkst atrasties ierīces (planšetdators, piezīmjdators, viedtālrunis, viedpulkstenis u. c. saziņas un informācijas apmaiņas līdzekļi), kuras nav paredzētas Valsts pārbaudes darbu norises darbību laikos.

2023

Paper 1

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on social media. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

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In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
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- state your opinion on the issue,
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- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Social media is a big part of many teens' lives. A 2018 Pew Research Center survey of nearly 750 13- to 17-year-olds found that 45% are online almost constantly and 97% use a social media platform such as YouTube, Instagram, or Snapchat. However, social media use can negatively affect teens by distracting them, disrupting their sleep, exposing them to bullying, gossip, unrealistic views of other people's lives, and peer pressure. Other studies have also observed links between high levels of social media use and symptoms of depression or anxiety.

www.mayoclinic.org

Source 2:

Teens say social media helps strengthen friendships and provide emotional support:
81% feel more connected to their friends.
69% think it helps them interact with a more diverse group of people.
68% feel as if they have people who will support them through tough times.

Source: Survey conducted March 7 – April 10, 2018.

'Teens' Social Media Habits and Experiences'
www.pewresearch.org

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. What are the risks of being online?
2. Should people be allowed to say anything they want on the Internet? Why/Why not?
3. What would you say is the best contribution the Internet has made to society? Why?

Paper 2

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on news. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions. Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk. You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

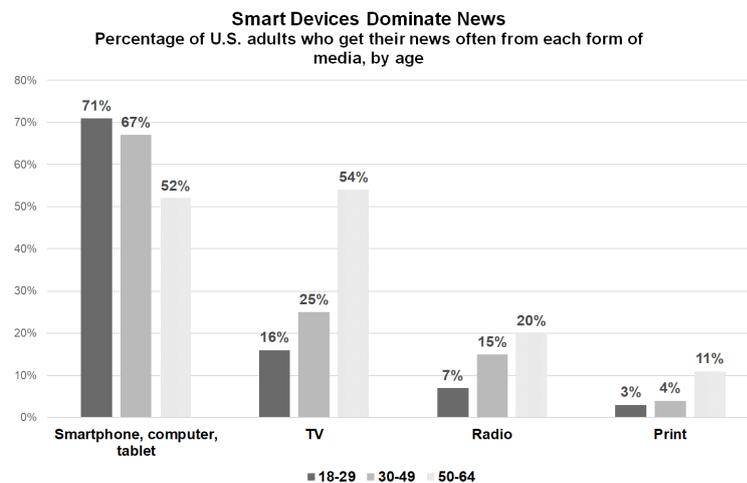
- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Social media is a ubiquitous part of our society, but can it be a trusted news source? Not always. Because social media is a public platform, anyone—including news outlets—can post anything without being accountable for fact-checking. Fake news on social media may be unavoidable. However, you can help stop the spread by thinking critically.

www.mailchimp.com

Source 2:



Survey conducted Aug. 31–Sept. 7, 2020

Source: Pew Research Center

www.statista.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. What are the possible consequences of fake news?
2. What groups are most likely to believe a fake news story? Why?
3. Why do certain topics become the focus of fake news?

Paper 3

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on sports. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions. Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk. You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

In the USA, playing organized youth sports has a price tag. Expenses such as team enrolment fees, equipment and uniform costs, travel, and other expenses are often substantial and beyond the already stretched budget of many families. Consequently, some children are not able to play on organized youth teams, resulting in a significant number of America's children not being engaged in sports and recreation. They are often idle and alone and their numbers are growing.

www.smithsonianmag.com

Source 2:

Team sports are about so much more than just physical benefits. This is especially true when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Apart from the obvious physical benefits, team sports can also help with emotional development. Team athletes are constantly working with other people, many of whom can become positive role models. Team sports can foster mentorship between older players and younger players, coaches and athletes. Players who have positive sports mentors when they are young are also more likely to seek effective role models throughout life.

www.edutopia.org

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Can playing sports have a positive effect on students' academic achievement? Why/Why not?
2. How can young people be motivated to stay healthy?
3. Should sports celebrities become role models? Why/Why not?

Paper 4

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on listening to music. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

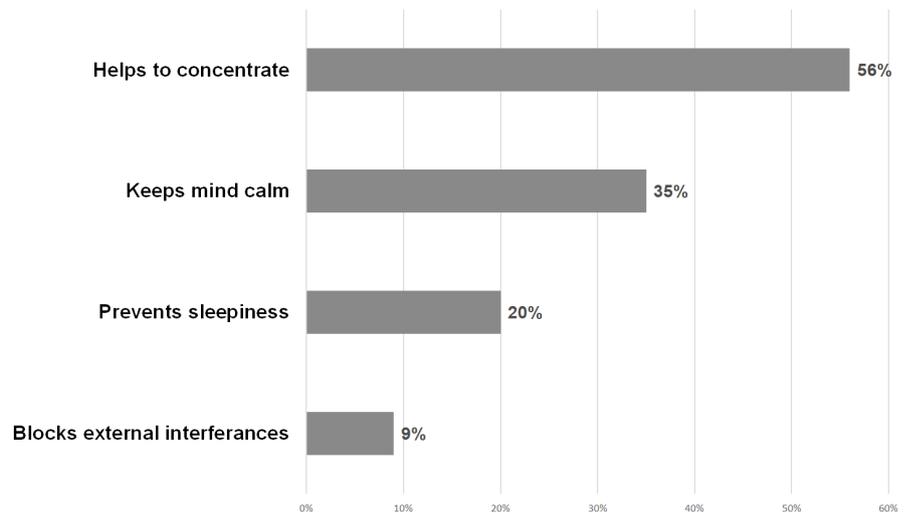
Source 1:

Listening to music while studying is common among students. Many studies support the idea that background music promotes cognitive performance, but other studies have emphasized poorer performance while doing more complex cognitive tasks when listening to music. Pop music, in particular, was said to be distracting. However, music can also be motivational. The creation of a positive mood by music inevitably improved concentration while studying.

www.researchgate.net

Source 2:

Reasons for listening to music while studying as chosen by students



www.researchgate.net

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. What else can help students concentrate while studying?
2. Does listening to different genres of music affect you differently? Why/Why not?
3. What other purposes can music serve?

Paper 5

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on keeping resolutions. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

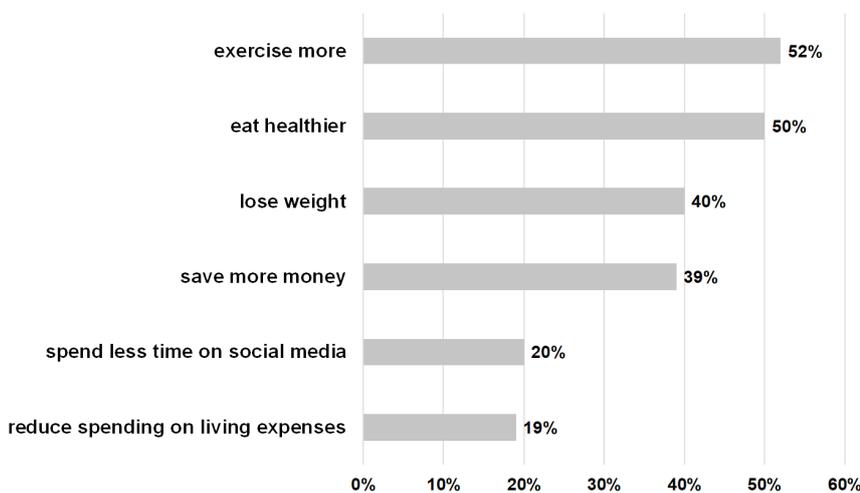
You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

America's Top New Year's Resolutions for 2023
Most common New Year's resolutions among U.S. respondents who have made one or several



413 U.S. adults (18/89 y/o) surveyed Oct. 25-Nov. 2, 2022

Source: Statista Global Consumer Survey

Source 2:

Many of us give up on New Year's resolutions within a few weeks. While we may have the right idea about what we want to improve, it is the "how are we going to achieve it" piece that is lacking. Relying purely on willpower to achieve our goals will often result in failure. Setting our sights on quick fixes to long-standing problems won't work either. However, if we create a system that transforms desired behaviors into default behaviors, success becomes much more likely. Building better habits can ensure that our goals, and our self-esteem, remain stable throughout the year.

www.forbes.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Why do people find it difficult to break a habit?
2. What could help people keep themselves motivated?
3. How can developing better habits help someone achieve their goals?

Paper 6

Task instructions:

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on films and cinemas. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After the talk, I will ask you three questions.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Anyone who shares a deep love of film can tell you that watching a film in a cinema is generally much better than watching it at home. Why? Because you benefit from an experience as opposed to just a basic viewing. You get top-notch projections, audio-visual impact and impeccable surround sound thrown in with the joy of seeing a brand new movie for the first time. Then there's also the social aspect to think about - the pure magic of watching with complete strangers as a collective group and sharing.

www.filminquiry.com

Source 2:

In their current state, most cinemas are quickly becoming a thing of the past. The majority of people are finding more value in streaming services such as Netflix and Amazon because they're cheaper in the long run, easier, and more convenient. Ultimately, movie theatres have to stop competing on convenience and start focusing on the viewers' overall experience. To draw customers back, they need to offer more than just a simple, straight-forward way of watching the latest movies.

www.filminquiry.com

Ask the student three questions after the talk:

1. Do you think watching movies will ever stop being popular? Why/Why not?
2. What is more important in a film – the plot or the special effects? Why?
3. How might technology influence the future of entertainment?

Paper 1

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on social media. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Social media is a big part of many teens' lives. A 2018 Pew Research Center survey of nearly 750 13- to 17-year-olds found that 45% are online almost constantly and 97% use a social media platform such as YouTube, Instagram, or Snapchat. However, social media use can negatively affect teens by distracting them, disrupting their sleep, exposing them to bullying, gossip, unrealistic views of other people's lives, and peer pressure. Other studies have also observed links between high levels of social media use and symptoms of depression or anxiety.

www.mayoclinic.org

Source 2:

Teens say social media helps strengthen friendships and provide emotional support:
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69% think it helps them interact with a more diverse group of people.
68% feel as if they have people who will support them through tough times.

Source: Survey conducted March 7 – April 10, 2018.

'Teens' Social Media Habits and Experiences'
www.pewresearch.org

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 2

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on news. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

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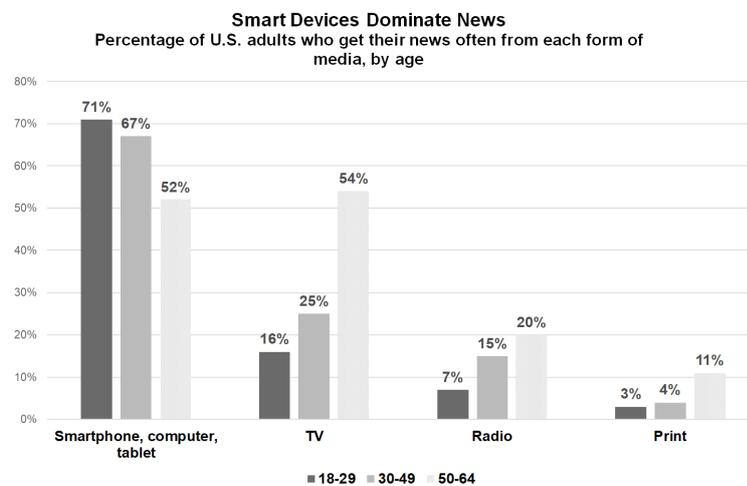
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Source 1:

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www.mailchimp.com

Source 2:



Survey conducted Aug. 31–Sept. 7, 2020

Source: Pew Research Center

www.statista.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 3

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on sports. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

In the USA, playing organized youth sports has a price tag. Expenses such as team enrolment fees, equipment and uniform costs, travel, and other expenses are often substantial and beyond the already stretched budget of many families. Consequently, some children are not able to play on organized youth teams, resulting in a significant number of America's children not being engaged in sports and recreation. They are often idle and alone and their numbers are growing.

www.smithsonianmag.com

Source 2:

Team sports are about so much more than just physical benefits. This is especially true when group sports activities are incorporated into a young person's life. Apart from the obvious physical benefits, team sports can also help with emotional development. Team athletes are constantly working with other people, many of whom can become positive role models. Team sports can foster mentorship between older players and younger players, coaches and athletes. Players who have positive sports mentors when they are young are also more likely to seek effective role models throughout life.

www.edutopia.org

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 4

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on listening to music. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

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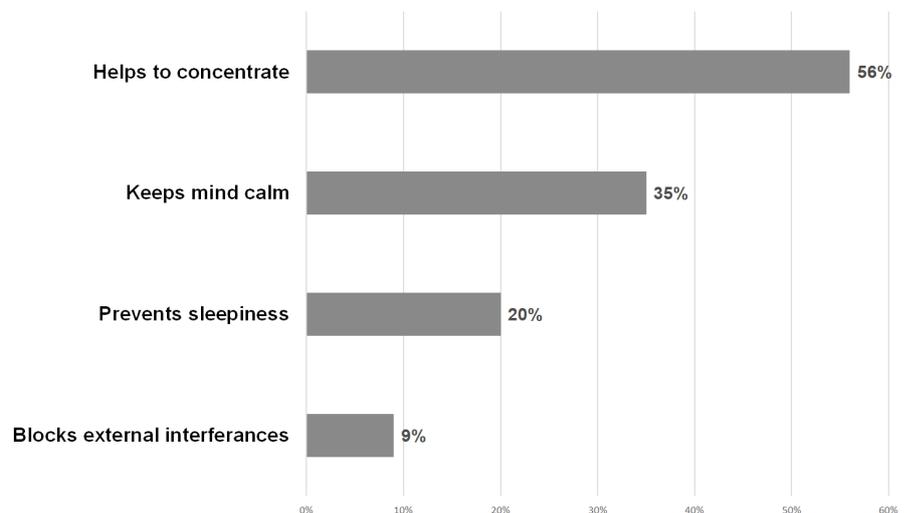
Source 1:

Listening to music while studying is common among students. Many studies support the idea that background music promotes cognitive performance, but other studies have emphasized poorer performance while doing more complex cognitive tasks when listening to music. Pop music, in particular, was said to be distracting. However, music can also be motivational. The creation of a positive mood by music inevitably improved concentration while studying.

www.researchgate.net

Source 2:

Reasons for listening to music while studying as chosen by students



www.researchgate.net

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Paper 5

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on keeping resolutions. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

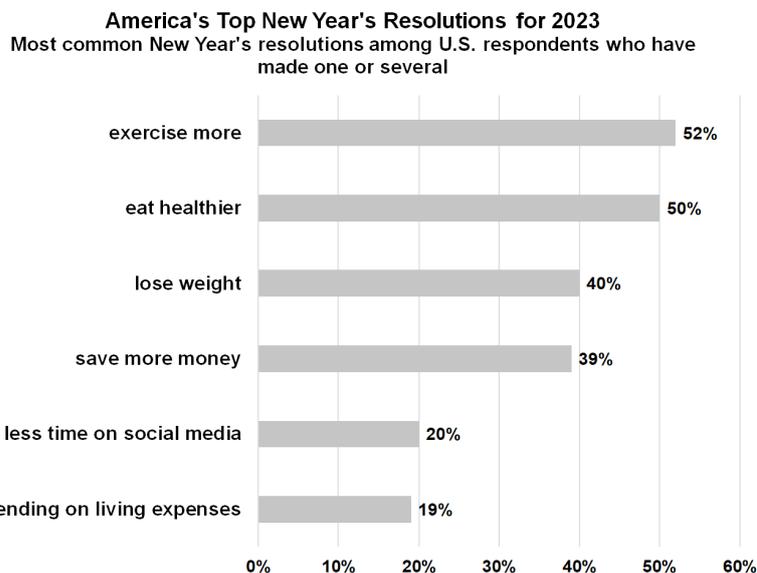
Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk.

You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
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- state your opinion on the issue,
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Source 1:



413 U.S. adults (18/89 y/o) surveyed Oct. 25-Nov. 2, 2022

Source: Statista Global Consumer Survey

Source 2:

Many of us give up on New Year's resolutions within a few weeks. While we may have the right idea about what we want to improve, it is the "how are we going to achieve it" piece that is lacking. Relying purely on willpower to achieve our goals will often result in failure. Setting our sights on quick fixes to long-standing problems won't work either. However, if we create a system that transforms desired behaviors into default behaviors, success becomes much more likely. Building better habits can ensure that our goals, and our self-esteem, remain stable throughout the year.

www.forbes.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

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You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on films and cinemas. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion.

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www.filminquiry.com

Notes

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Uzdevuma izpilde (10 punktu); vērtē katru daļu atsevišķi			Vārdu krājums, gramatika, valodas plūdums un izruna (15 punktu); vērtē visai atbildei kopā		
punkti	Sagatavotā runa (organizācija, argumentācija un iedevumu izmantošana)	Mijiedarbība informācijas nodošanā (jautājumu izpratne un atbildes uz jautājumiem)	Valodas bagātība (valodas apjoms, diapazons)	Valodas līdzekļu lietojuma pareizība (gramatiski pareizs un leksiski precīzs valodas lietojums)	Valodas plūdums (izruna, uzsvāri, ritms un intonācija)
5	Pilnībā izpilda visus uzdevuma nosacījumus. Izteiktais viedoklis ir skaidri strukturēts, pamatots ar argumentiem un piemēriem no citām mācību jomām; analizē uzdevumā un iedevumos piedāvāto informāciju.	Pārliecinoši un argumentēti atbild uz visiem jautājumiem, sniedzot precīzas, izvērstas atbildes, un akcentē paralēles ar iepriekš teikto.	Izmanto piedāvātajai saziņas situācijai atbilstošus un daudzveidīgus valodas līdzekļus. Ir bagāts vārdu krājums, lai spētu sniegt skaidru salīdzinājumu, izteiktu argumentētu viedokli, īpaši nemeklējot vārdus.	Pārsvarā runā gramatiski pareizi un leksiski precīzi; nav kļūdu, kas rada pārpratumus.	Runā tekoši. Pauzes ir pamatotas. Izruna un intonācija ir pārsvarā mērķvalodai atbilstoša.
4	Izpilda visus uzdevuma nosacījumus. Izteiktais viedoklis ir strukturēts, pamatots ar argumentiem un piemēriem no savas pieredzes; salīdzina uzdevumā un iedevumos piedāvāto informāciju.	Droši un argumentēti atbild uz visiem jautājumiem, sniedzot atbilstošas un izvērstas atbildes, un atsaucas uz iepriekš teikto.	Lieto saziņas situācijai piemērotus valodas līdzekļus. Pietiekams vārdu krājums, lai spētu brīvi izteikties par dažādiem tematiem; reti meklē vārdus vai izsakās aprakstoši.	Pārsvarā pareizi lieto dažādus valodas līdzekļus; nedaudzās kļūdas un pārtiekšanās netraucē saziņai.	Runā diezgan tekoši. Izvēloties piemērotus izteikumus, iespējamās pauzes nevieta. Izrunā iespējamās nelielas kļūdas.
3	Daļēji izpilda uzdevuma nosacījumus. Izteiktais viedoklis ir saprotams un daļēji strukturēts, pamatots ar argumentiem vai piemēriem; pārstāsta uzdevumā un iedevumos piedāvāto informāciju.	Atbild uz visiem jautājumiem, sniedzot īsas, konkrētas atbildes; dažreiz pamato ar piemēriem vai argumentiem.	Lieto pietiekamu vārdu un struktūru krājumu, lai spētu izteikties vispārīgi un aprakstoši; pārmērīgi izmanto iedevuma leksiku.	Diezgan pareizi izmanto biežāk lietotos valodas līdzekļus; kļūdas netraucē saziņai.	Runā ar vilcināšanos, meklējot vārdus. Izrunas kļūdas nekavē izpratni.
2	Daļēji izpilda uzdevuma nosacījumus. Izteiktais viedoklis ir saprotams, saistīts ar uzdevumā un iedevumos piedāvāto informāciju.	Atbild uz jautājumiem ar intervētāja palīdzību. Sniedz īsas un vienkāršas atbildes, izmantojot iegaumētas frāzes.	Lieto ierobežotu vārdu krājumu un vienkāršas, vienvērtīgas struktūras, lai izteiktos par doto kontekstu.	Izmanto biežāk lietotos valodas līdzekļus ar kļūdām, kuras dažreiz traucē uztvert teikto.	Runā ar biežām pauzēm, izmantojot atsevišķus izteikumus. Izrunas kļūdas var kavēt izpratni.
1	Ietver dažus uzdevuma nosacījumus. Sniedz galvenokārt atsevišķus, savstarpēji nesaistītus apgalvojumus.	Atbild uz dažiem jautājumiem, izmantojot atsevišķus vārdus un vienkāršas frāzes.	Bieži atkārto vienas un tās pašas frāzes, mēģinot noformulēt domu.	Valodas līdzekļu lietojums ir daļēji saprotams.	Runā izmanto ļoti īsus, izolētus izteikumus.
0	Nolasa oriģinālo tekstu vai savus pierakstus.	Nesniedz atbildi uz jautājumiem.	Valodas lietojums nepietiekams, lai novērtētu.		

1. vērtējums

EKSĀMENS ANĢĻU VALODĀ
 (optimālais mācību satura apguves līmenis)
 2023
 RUNĀŠANAS PRASMES VĒRTĒJUMS

Skola _____

Intervētāja vārds, uzvārds _____ Datums _____

Vērtētāja vārds, uzvārds _____

Obligāti jāraksta pilns skolēna kods! (12 cipari)**Nepareizi ierakstītu ciparu drīkst labot, izmantojot korektoru!****Ja protokola lapā nav aizpildītas visas 18 ierakstiem atvēlētās ailes, neaizpildītās nedrīkst aizsvītrot vai veikt jebkādu ierakstus!**

	Skolēna kods	Uzdevuma izpilde		Valodas			Kopā (25 p.)
		Sagatavotā runa (5 p.)	Mijiedarbība inform. nodoš. (5 p.)	bagātība (5 p.)	līdz. liet. pareizība (5 p.)	plūdums (5 p.)	
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17	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
18	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Vērtētāja paraksts _____