

WRITING

LETTERS

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task

Read the following part of letter you have just received from your pen-pal, Jack.

... How have you been? I haven't written to you for a very long time. I want to know more about your hobbies, especially your passion with music. What kind of music do you like? What musical instrument can you play? Who is your favorite singer?

Write a letter responding to Jack. You should write at least 120 words.

Dear Jack,

I'm very happy to receive your letter. I hope this letter finds you well. In your letter, I learnt that you want to know more about my hobbies, especially my passion with music. I'm writing to exchange some information.

Firstly, I love pop music when I was a child. I often listen to music with my friend on computer.

Secondly, the musical instrument which I can play is the guitar. I began playing guitar when I was 12 years old. I learned it from my father, my friend and on Youtube.

Finally, Justin Bieber is my favorite singer. He is not only a Canadian singer but also a songwriter. He has worked as a singer since 2007. Bieber is widely recognized for his genre-melding musicianship and has played an influential role in modern-day popular music. He has a lot of pop and R&B music like: Baby, Love Yourself, I Don't Care, As long As You Love Me, Peaches, Yummy...

That's all for now.

I'm looking forward to learning from you soon.

Best wishes,

Duyen

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task

You have just received a letter from Michael.

... I know that you have much free time at weekend and often play sports with friends, I really want to know more about this hobby. What sports do you like? Why do you often play sports? Do you have any favorite sport players?

Write a letter responding to Michael.

Dear Michael,

I am very happy to receive your letter. I hope this letter finds you well. In your letter, I learnt that you really want to know more about my sport hobby. I am writing to exchange some information.

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My favorite sport is football. I often play football with my friends in the football ground. I have played football for 6 years.

At the weekend, I often play football because it helps me relax and reduce stress after studying hard. Moreover, playing sport makes me stay healthy. I feel happy when I play football with my friends whether the result of match is win or lose.

My favorite football player is Son Heung-min. He is from Korea and now he is 30 years old. The club he is playing for is Tottenham Hotspur. Son Heung-min is the first Asian player in history to win the English Premier League Golden Shoe award. I admire him because of his handsome and perfect skills.

That's all for now,

I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Duyen

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You have just got a new pen-pal from England for some weeks. He loves Vietnamese culture and also knows that there are many popular festivals in Viet Nam. He asks you about your favorite festival in Viet Nam. Write a letter about 120 words to tell him about the festival you like, when it is and what you often do on this occasion.

Dear Michael,

I am very happy to receive your letter. I hope this letter finds you well. In your letter, I learnt that you really want to know more about my favorite festival in Viet Nam. I am writing to exchange some information.

The festival I like is Lunar New Year. It is the most important festival in Viet Nam. Just like in Western countries that follow Christmas is an important holiday, so is the traditional New Year's Day.

Lunar New Year usually occurs at the end of January or at the beginning of February. It often lasts for 7-9 days. At this time, all family members come back home and get together to prepare for Tet. We also buy some Tet food such as sweets, coconut jam, candied fruits, lemon seeds, rice cake, especially "Tet" cake.

There are so many activities to do on this occasion. Before Tet, the Vietnamese prepare many things for the three main days. We clean up the house and decorate with unreal apricot flowers on the wall, an apricot blossom in the center of the living room. We also hang the flag in front of the house. Before New Year's Eve about three or four hours, we spent this time hanging out with friends. At midnight, after the countdown time of about five seconds, we can see lots of fireworks in the sky. During Tet, we visit our relatives' homes and give wishes. The elder are giving lucky money, which is put into a red envelope as a symbol of luck and wish for a new age. Besides, Vietnamese usually go to pagodas or temples to pray for health, wealth, success... To Vietnamese, Tet is the happiest time of all year round.

That's all for now,

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Duyen

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

Read the following part of a letter you have received from Max.

I intend to visit your country and I really need your help now. I don't know much about your country. When is the best time to visit your country? What should I prepare when I come there? What activities can I do when I'm in your country? I hope you can give me some suggestions.

Write a letter responding to Max.

Dear Max,

I am happy to receive your letter. I hope this letter finds you well. In your letter, I learnt that you intend to visit my country. I am writing to give you some advice.

Firstly, the best time to visit my country is in spring. Because the climate is very cool that you can travel somewhere or just only go sightseeing. Besides, in spring, we have the Tet holiday, which is the most important holiday in my country that you can see many people with red or yellow clothes and a lot of beautiful apricot blossoms.

Secondly, there are so many things for you to prepare for your trip. The first thing is money. It helps you buy food, beautiful clothes or something you like. Next, you should bring a camera to take some pictures. My country have a lot of impressive and beautiful landscapes. Another good thing is mental comfort which can put your trip into the highest emotion.

Finally, there are plenty of activities you can do when you come to my country. You had better try some Vietnam's foods as Pho, Com Tam, Banh Mi,... . Another good idea is participating some traditional festivals such as Lunar New Year, Hung King festival,... You can also check in some famous dining establishments or parks.

That's all for now. I hope my advice could be a great help.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Duyen

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

Read the following part of a letter you have received from Nancy

... This summer, I will travel abroad with my family and we have just decided to travel to Korea, a country in Asia. I know that you're interested in this country, so I need some help. Can you tell me how the weather is in Korea? What activities can I do there?

Write a letter responding to Nancy.

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Dear Nancy,

I am very happy to receive your letter. I hope this letter finds you well. In your letter, I learnt that you want to travel to Korea with your family this summer. I am writing to give you some advice.

Firstly, the weather in Korea has 4 seasons such as spring, summer, autumn and winter. Spring in Korea is very cool and comfortable. And autumn is too. These weather are suitable for people to have some outdoor activities. Winter in Korea is cold. At this time, you can see the snow appearing everywhere such as the car parked on the roadside or the alleys which are covered with the pure white of extremely romantic snow. Summer is the hottest season at about 25,4 degrees in Korea. This season is time for people to go to the beach, especially the East Sea, where the water is clear and cool. Summer in Korea also often rains, so a raincoat or an umbrella is also an item that should be in your bag.

Secondly, there are so many activities you can do in Korea, especially in summer. You can join in some famous activities such as the sand festival in Haeundae (Busan); the Boryeon mud festival at Daecheon beach,... . It is necessary to try some Korean foods. Tokbokki, Gimbab, Kimchi,... are traditional dishes and sold throughout the markets or tourist food courts. Another good idea is summer seafood, cold noodles, Gopchang,... . When you come to Korea, you can explore the world's well-known architectural works such as Namsan TV Tower, the Two Moon Building, the Bukchon Hanok ancient village,... Others you can do are going shopping, going to the beach, going sightseeing...

That's all for now. I hope my advice could be of great help.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Duyen

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

Read the following part of a letter you have received from an English friend, David

... I am going to take a language test next month. Could you give me some advice on how to improve my Listening skill? I also felt really nervous before the important test. What should I do to feel better?

Write a letter responding to your friend.

Dear David,

I am very happy to receive your letter. I hope this letter finds you well. In your letter, I learnt that you want to improve your Listening skill. I am writing to give you some advice.

Firstly, there are so many ways to enhance your Listening skill. One of them is to improve your vocabulary. Once you have many words, you can hear what they say clearer than you don't. Having a lot of words makes you feel confident when you have to take a test without psychological effects. Next step, it is important to pronounce those words exactly. Only learning by heart new words without not learning how to pronounce them can make you not know what they are saying.

Secondly, another good idea is to watch TV and movies in English with subtitles in both English and your mother tongue. This can be useful because it allows you to quickly figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word. Displaying English subtitles is also very useful. It helps you to

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improve your ability to combine speaking and even writing in English. Besides, speaking English with friends is also a good method. There is no need to speak English in complex things. You should begin with easy thing such as schooling, and life around you... . It is not only good for your but also helpful to your friends.

Finally, if you have a chance, try to talk with native speakers. When you talk with them, you ought to focus on how they connect sounds and stress words carefully. Speaking English with them helps you improve your Listening skill because you often learn to listen by listening to English radios and tapes so that you can hear the standard voice of foreigners. Then, what could be more wonderful than hearing directly from native speakers.

That's all for now. I hope my advice could be of great help.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Duyen

Task 1: You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

Read the following part of a letter you have received from an English friend, Jane

... I know that you are good at technology and you spend much time surfing the internet every day. How often do you surf the Internet? What is your favorite website? How is this website useful? What are some websites that I can use to enhance my English? I look forward to your reply.

Write a letter responding to your friend.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES ESSAYS

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Nowadays, the elderly tends to move to the countryside to live. Write an essay about the advantages and disadvantages of living in the countryside.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that senior have a tendency to move to the countryside to live after they retire from work. This essay will aim to examine both advantages and disadvantages of living in the countryside.

On the one hand, there are several benefits of living in the countryside. First of all, it is widely accepted that people in the rural regions are usually helpful and friendly. In fact, they often help one another with their fieldwork and other domestic matters. Secondly, the rural life is quiet and peaceful because there are fewer densely populated residential zones and less traffic there. Finally, it is undeniable that the environment in the countryside is fresh and pure because there are more trees and fewer industrial factories.

On the other hand, countrylife also involves various drawbacks. Firstly, the living standard in the countryside is modest and unaffordable for some dwellers because there are not many factories

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and business making it hard for local people to find well-paid jobs and improve their income. Moreover, it is well-known fact that healthcare services are not satisfied to serve rural residents. For example, there are not many well-equipped hospitals and well-trained doctors. Last but not least, countryside life is lack of entertainment. Actually, there are not entertainment infrastructure such as playgrounds and theaters for rural dwellers.

In conclusion, there are many advantages and disadvantages of living in rural regions. People need to be aware of the drawbacks and balance both sides so that they can get more benefits of countryside life.

Read the following extract from a book

...Over the last decade, the public transportation system has developed increasingly in developed countries. Because of its benefits, public transport is highly encouraged in many other countries.

Write an essay to an educated reader to state some benefits and drawbacks of public transport. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support you're answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that using public means of transport has been becoming increasingly popular in developed nations. This essays will aim to examine both advantages and disadvantages of public transport.

On the one hand, there are several benefits of public transport. First of all, it is widely accepted that using public vehicle is a method to be environmentally friendly. In fact, it helps to decrease air pollution and the pollutant released by petrol-run vehicles. Secondly, the congestion of the traffic will be limited because public transport can carry many people and minimize the number of vehicles on the roads. Finally, it is undeniable that public transport is more economical for many people such as students and the low-paid workers because you don't have to pay a lot of costs for gas, oil, maintenance, equipment repair, car washing...

On the other hand, public transport also involves various drawbacks. Firstly, it is time-consuming when using public transport because people need to wait for some minutes to catch a bus or a train, so they have to be punctual in order to not to miss. Moreover, it is well-known fact that public transport makes us feel uncomfortable. For instance, a bus can carry so many people that we feel suffocated (*ngheẹt thở*) and it is common to jostle (*chen lấn*) on the bus. Last but not least, it is very inconvenient to use public transport that may make us be late for school or work.

In conclusion, there are many advantages and disadvantages of public transport. People need to be aware of the drawbacks and balance both sides so that they can get more benefits of public transportation system.

Read the following extract from a book

...Many students now have the opportunity to study in other countries, Studying abroad may bring some benefits to some students, but it also has a significant number of disadvantages.

Write an essay to an educated reader to state some advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that many students have a chance to study in other countries. This essay will aim to examine both pros and cons of studying abroad.

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On the one hand, there are several benefits of studying abroad. First of all, it is widely accepted that finding well-paid jobs is easier after studying abroad. In fact, the world is becoming increasingly globalized and companies are investing millions of dollars in developing foreign markets. Therefore, employers are fond of students who have studied overseas – who are seen as autonomous and independent. Secondly, abroad students can experience new life because studying abroad teaches you how to be independent, do everything on your own, be accustomed with new culture. Finally, it is undeniable that we will have more chances to approach to the advanced education system because students often choose the developed countries where invest modern education system such as USA, UK, Australia to study.

On the other hand, studying abroad also involves various drawbacks. Firstly, studying abroad makes us feel homesick because we have to live in a very far place from home and it seems a little hard when coming home. Moreover, it is well-known fact that the price of studying overseas is expensive. For instance, both tuition and living expenses have a very high cost than it is in our country which allow us to use money effectively and economically. Last but not least, we could deal with culture shock, even language barriers. Actually, each country has its culture and we must get used to it. It seems very hard for us to get into the habit of our surroundings at the beginning time we live and it takes much time to learn.

In conclusion, there are many advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad. People need to be aware of drawbacks and balance both sides so that they can get more benefits of studying abroad.

PROBLEMS – REASONS – SOLUTION ESSAYS

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task

In modern society, children do not have a healthy lifestyle. Write an essay to find out the causes and outline the overcome this issue.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that many children nowadays do not have a healthy lifestyle. This essay will aim to examine the causes and outline possible strategies to overcome these issues.

Children's tendency to have unhealthy lifestyle is possibly caused by many contributing reasons. First of all, the major reason of children's unhealthy lifestyle is that many children tend to adopt sedentary lifestyle which is brought by modern societies. In fact, they tend to watch an excessive amount of television and do not engage much in active or creative activities. Children are addicted to a lot of vivid and colorful animation shows on television. Besides, parents have insufficient supervision of their children's daily activities. Secondly, poor dietary choices can negatively impact children's health. For example, children prefer fast foods or snacks which have a high level of saturated fats and harmful ingredients. Finally, a lack of physical exercise also contributes to children's unhealthy lifestyles.

This problem can be successfully improved by some feasible measures. Firstly, one of the notable strategies to solve this problem is to put a limit on children's amount of watching television time. This could be done by activating parental supervision on children's study and relaxation timeables. In addition, another potential measure is that parents must spend more time engaging in outdoor or creative activities with their children. For example, parents spend time cooking healthy

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meals for their children. Finally, playing sports and participating in other physical exercises are also a resolution to tackle this issue. In fact, parents could form a family sport and encourage their children to join instead of watching television or playing online games.

In conclusion, there are several reasons why children have an unhealthy lifestyle. This negative trend could be tackled by a number of possible remedies.

Recently, children have a tendency to watch TV too much and become passive to do creative activities. Write an essay to find out the causes and outline the solutions to overcome this issue.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that many children nowadays have a trend to watch an excessive amount of television and do not engage much in active and creative activities. This essay will aim to examine the causes and outline possible strategies to overcome these issues.

Children's tendency to be in front of the screen too much is possibly caused by many contributing reasons. First of all, the major reason of watching telly too much is that children's television programs are being broadcast all day with additive contents, such as vivid and colorfull animations. Cartoon Network and Disney Channel with their all-day-long series of animation shows are an evident. Secondly, parents nowadays are busy with their work, so they want children to focus on an activity that does not require much of their attention such as watching television. These reasons make children spend more time in front of the television screen; this sedentary lifestyle prevents them from participating in active or creative activities.

This problem can be successfully improved by some feasible measures. Firstly, one of notable strategies to solve this problem is to put a limit on the amount of time that a child can watch television. This could be done by activating the parental control mode and setting a fixed operating time limit on their television set. Another potential measure is that parents must spend more time engaging in outdoor or creative activities with their children. For example, parents could form a family sport team that practices on a regular basic, which may appeal to children more than television.

In conclusion, there are several reasons why children have excessive amount of watching TV. This negative trend could be tackled by a number of possible remedies.

Recently, many species around the world have become extinct annually and become endangered. Write an essay to find out the causes and outline the solutions to overcome this issue.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that many species around the world become extinct and each year, more become endangered. This essay will aim to examine the causes and outline possible strategies to overcome these issues.

Many species's tendency to become extinct and endangered is possibly caused by many contributing reasons. First of all, the major reason of species loss is due to the actions of people. For example, people destroy forests and areas where species live in order to build homes and clear land for farming purposes. Big factories also ruin animals have no place to live. Another reason is hunting and poaching of animals for their meat, fur or other products. For example, leopard skins used to be popular for rugs and other animal products were used for rugs and other animal products were used for souvenirs and decoration.

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This problem can be successfully improved by some feasible measures. Firstly, one of notable strategies to solve this problem is to make parks and reserves to protect animal's natural home areas. These reserves can use tourism as a way to find money and make people to know about the problem. For example, lion parks in Africa are very popular and help to protect many endangered species. Another potential measure is that endangered species of animals can be born in breeding centers to help keep the animals alive. Even if they are never released to the wild, the species will still be preserved.

In conclusion, there are several reasons why extinction of animal species increases annually. This negative trend could be tackled by a number of possible remedies.

Human in modern days has to face environmental pollution. Write an essay to find out the causes and outline the solutions to overcome this issue.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that human has to deal with environmental pollution. This essay will aim to examine the causes and outline possible strategies to overcome these issues.

The environmental pollution is possibly caused by many contributing reasons. First of all, the major reason of environmental pollution is that toxic wastes from farming activities are an alarming issue. In fact, when farmworkers do farming, they tend to dump chemicals into the rivers. Besides, overusing of fertilizers causes bad long-term effects on vegetation and soil fertility. Secondly, garbage from human activities is another major cause leading to environmental pollution. For example, they dump pollutants such as plastic or non-biodegradable packing in the ground has affected the ecosystem and led to soil pollution. Finally, exhausted smoke from factories and vehicles also causes environmental pollution. Most of the carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere comes from coal burning power plant, factories and vehicles.

This problem can be successfully improved by some feasible measures. Firstly, one of notable strategies to solve this problem is to raise people's awareness on environmental pollution. This could be done by government should do this through workshops and seminars to help people understand about the damages caused by environmental pollution. In addition, another potential measure is that government should have laws to punish people who dump the garbage. For example, if we have laws for throwing garbage in the wrong place, people will be more self-conscious and the environment will be better protected. Finally, growing trees is an effective measure to contribute the environment fresher. In fact, trees produce oxygen and help to reduce noise. This means the more trees we grow everyday, the cleaner atmosphere we enjoy.

In conclusion, there are several reasons why environmental pollution is a significantly urgent problem. This negative trend could be tackled by a number of possible remedies.

Read the following extract from a book.

...Nowadays, deforestation is the cutting down of trees in the forest in a large number. Deforestation has always been a threat to our environment. Deforestation is becoming a serious problem in the world.

Write an essay to an educated readers to state some causes and effects of deforestation. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

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In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that deforestation is becoming a serious problem in the world. This essay will aim to examine the causes and outline possible strategies to overcome these issues.

Deforestation is possibly caused by many contributing reasons. First of all, the major reason of deforestation is that the increasing need for fuel. In fact, wood is also used as fuel, therefore trees are cut for supplies. It is used as fuels are charcoal and firewood. Secondly, the growth of timber industry has a devastating impact on our environment. For example, the demand for paper, furniture whose the timber industries needs a large amount of wood supply to make this product. Finally, the need for settlement land also contributes to deforestation. With the growing population, people tend to cut down too many trees and use that land to build homes, roads and other facilities for their livelihood.

This problem can be seriously harmful with some bad consequences. Firstly, one of disastrous effects of deforestation is the loss of natural habits for species. Forest provides more than a home for diverse collection of living things. And now, their habitat is definitely destroyed which means they lost available food, shelter, and breeding habitat; and in the long run, deforestation can pose a serious threat to Earth's biodiversity. In addition, another dangerous consequence is that a greater amount of greenhouse gas will be released into the atmosphere. Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air and store it inside them, and when they are cut down, the stored carbon dioxide is released back into the atmosphere, which can accelerate the global warming process. Finally, deforestation weakens and degrades the soil. In fact, forested soil is more resistant to erosion and extreme weather events. Without forests, soil erodes and becomes increasingly fragile, thus leaving an are more susceptible to natural disasters such as flooding, landslides...

In conclusion, there are several reasons why people do deforestation. This negative problem leaves an excessive number of dangerous result that should be prevented.

...Nowadays, childhood obesity is becoming a serious problem in the world.

Write an essay to an educated readers to state some causes and effects of deforestation. Include reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that childhood obesity is becoming a serious problem in the world. This essay will aim to examine the causes and outline possible strategies to overcome these issues.

Children's tendency to have obesity is possibly caused by many contributing reasons. First of all, the major reason of children's obesity is that poor dietary choices can negatively impact children's health. For example, children prefer fast foods or snacks which have a high level of saturated fats and harmful ingredients. Candy and desserts also cause weight gain, and more evidence points to sugary drinks, including fruit juices and spot drinks, as culprits in obesity in children. Secondly, lack of physical exercise contributes to children's obesity. In fact, many children tend to adopt passive lifestyle which is brought by modern societies. This is more likely to gain weight because they don't burn as many as calories. Finally, family factors have also been associated with the increasing cases of obesity. Family habits, whether they are sedentary or physically active, influence the child.

This problem can be successfully improved by some feasible measures. Firstly, one of notable strategies to counteract this problem is that parents must spend more time doing healthy activities. For example, parents can teach kids to cook healthy foods for themselves and ban junk food and fizzy drinks in school. In addition, another potential measure is that playing sports and participating in

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other physical exercises are also a resolution to tackle this issue. This could be done by parents that could form a family watching television or playing online games. Finally, parents need change bad habits. In fact, parents could play sports with kids, participate in outdoor activities together.

In conclusion, there are several reasons why children have obesity. This negative trend could be tackle by a number of possible remedies.

AGREEING – DISAGREEING ESSAYS

Method 1: PARTIALLY AGREE (BALANCE)

Internet is bad for children. To what extent, do you agree or dis agree?

In recent years, there has been growing an agruable idea that children have a tendency of surfing the Internet everyday. Some people say that the Interenet is bad for children. The agruments both for and against whether kids should surf the Internet or not will be examined in this essay.

On the one hand, those who favor that the Internet has many advantages give their reasons as follows. Firstly, they are able to widen their knowledge because on the Internet, there is a lot of information about the culture, customs, people, and lanscapes... all over the world. Secondly, a lot of educational videos teach various kinds of foreign languages. Therefore, they can improve a large amount of vocabulary, and study many different languages. Finally, Internet is one of the ways to entertain effectively. It is necessary to reduce strain after a hard-studying day by watching domestic and international films.

On the other hand, some other people who hold a different attitude argue that Internet has many weakness. First of all, it seems that it can easily lead to game addition. Then, they will neglect their study. Moreover, it also has negative impacts on young people because on the Internet, there are many films unsuitable to children with obscene and violent content. Last but not least, if kids are in front of screen for a long, it is easier to lead to passiveness. They are no longer interested in doing physical exercises or outdoor activities.

To sum up, surfing the Internet has both sides. In my opinion, I completely agree with the former view that surfing the Internet has more benefits than drawbacks. Therefore, it is necessary to be aware of drawbacks so that we can balance both sides.

... There is a sentence: “Watching game shows is more beneficial than harmful”. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Write an essay to an educated reader to state whether you agree or disagree with the statement above. Include any reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an agruable idea that people have a tendency of watching game shows everyday. Some people say that the game shows is good for them. The agruments both for and against whether people should watch game shows or not will be examined in this essay.

On the one hand, those who favor that watching game shows has many advantages give their reasons as follows. Firstly, they are able to widen their knowledge because on the game shows, there are a lot of information about the culture, custom, people, country. and landscapes... all over the

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world. Secondly, watching game shows is one of the ways to entertain effectively. It is necessary to reduce strain after a hard-studying day by watching domestic and international game shows. Finally, a lot of handicraft game shows inspire creativeness. This can help us improve our dexterity and agility.

On the other hand, some other people who hold a different attitude argue that watching game shows has many weaknesses. First of all, it seems that it can easily lead to game shows addiction. Then, they will ignore their study or work. Moreover, it also has negative impacts on young people because they usually spend much time on watching game shows. Last but not least, people are in front of screen for long, it is easier to lead to passiveness. They are no longer interested in doing physical exercises or outdoor activities.

To sum up, watching game shows has both sides. In my opinion, I completely agree with the former view that watching game shows is more beneficial than harmful. Therefore, it is necessary to be aware of drawbacks so that we can balance both sides.

Some people believe that the advent of the Internet may be one of the most important technological developments and allows people to improve the quality of their life.

Write an essay to an educated reader to state whether you agree or disagree with the statement above. Include any reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that people have a tendency of using the Internet everyday. Some people believe that the advent of the Internet may be one of the most important technological and allows people to improve the quality of their life. The arguments both for and against whether people should use the Internet or not will be examined in this essay.

On the one hand, those who favor that the Internet has many advantages give their reasons as follows. Firstly, they are able to widen their knowledge because on the Internet, there is a lot of information about the culture, people, and landscapes... all over the world. Secondly, it is conceivable that the Internet helps us connect with people. Therefore, people can chat together, exchange and share information, experiences, and feelings on forums and blogs. Finally, the Internet is one of the ways to entertain effectively. It is necessary to reduce strain after a hard-working day by watching domestic and international films.

On the other hand, some people who hold a different attitude argue that Internet has many weaknesses. First of all, it seems that it can easily put a curb on their activeness. They are no longer interested in doing physical exercise or outdoor activities because they spend too much time in front of screen. Moreover, it also has negative impacts on people because the light emitted from the screen of electronic devices, which seriously affected physical and mental health. Last but not least, too much focusing on the Internet can easily contribute to real-life distractions. Instead of centering on finding future jobs by learning the necessary skills, people only pay heed to becoming “keyboard heroes” or famous online.

To sum up, using the Internet has both sides. In my opinion, I completely agree with the former view that using the Internet is more beneficial than harmful. Therefore, it is necessary to be aware of drawbacks so that we can balance both sides.

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Some people say that living in an extended family offers several benefits. Others, however, say that it is better to live in small family units.

Write an essay to an educated reader to state whether you agree or disagree with the statement above. Include any reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that some people say that living in an extended family offers several advantages. Others, however, say that it is better to live in small family units. This essay will examine these kinds of family.

On the one hand, those who favor that living in a traditional family has many benefits give their reasons as follows. Firstly, there is always a baby sister around. When you need to go to the market, meet friends or aren't feeling well, there is always someone available to help you take care of the kids. Secondly, it is able to get better advice from older people. In fact, older people live longer and experience more difficulties and challenges. Therefore, they have a lot of experiences and useful skills in life. Finally, having better care is necessary in case of sickness.

On the other hand, some other people who hold a different attitude that it is better to live in small family units. Firstly, living in a nuclear family can help to have a relationship together easier. It is common that there is no generation gap between parents and children. We also meet everyday, enjoy the meal together everytime that helps to get closer and closer. Secondly, it is conceivable that living in a small house is more freedom than living in a traditional family. In fact, it is easy feel more comfortable thanks to the wide space and a few members in family. Finally, children have to learn how to be independent. For example, kids have to prepare for their meal, be aware of studying on their own when their parents are not at home.

To sum up, both extended family and nuclear family have their own benefits. Therefore, people should raise awareness of their advantages to balance both sides.

Some people prefer the quiet life of the countryside while others prefer the hustle and bustle of city life.

Write an essay to an educated reader to state whether you agree or disagree with the statement above. Include any reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that country life is favourable because of its quietness while city life is chosen due to hustle and bustle way. This essay will examine both city life and country life.

On the one hand, those who favor that city life has many advantages give their reasons as follows. Firstly, it is compelling to say that there are several modern infrastructure in city life. For example, there are various hospitals, schools, universities, parks, supermarket with modern facilities. Secondly, residents can be easy to find high-paid jobs. In fact, many big factories and business rent employees with high salary which can improve their life. Finally, it is well-known fact that healthcare services satisfy serve urban residents. There are many well-equipped hospitals and well-trained doctors.

On the other hand, some other people who hold a different attitude argue that country life also has many benefits. First of all, it is widely accepted that people in the rural regions are usually helpful and friendly. In fact, they often one another with domestic matters. Secondly, the country life is quiet and peaceful because there are fewer densely populated residential zones and less traffic there.

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

Finally, it is undeniable that the environment in countryside is fresh and pure because there are more trees and fewer industrial factories.

To sum up, both city life and country life have their own benefits. Therefore, people should raise awareness of their advantages to balance both sides.

Method 2: TOTALLY AGREE / DISAGREE

Children should participate in team sport. Do you agree or disagree?

In recent years, there has been growing an agreeable idea that children should participate in team sport. I completely agree with the statement. In this essay, I will present my viewpoint and opinion.

Firstly, the team sport train children to have cooperative skills. For example, to play football they must work together to win the match. It teaches them to have a sense of responsibility which is important in study and future work. Playing team sport at the young age allows them to participate in social activities, work together to gain goal.

Secondly, team sport helps to build up critical thinking. In fact, they learn easily new things together, and sort out weaknesses. They are able to find the best way to complete the aim. As a result, they will be flexible to brainstorm and be creative in their study and their work.

Some opponents say that some children who are not interested in team sport feel uncomfortable. After having bad experiences with team sports, they feel discouraged to play such kind of sport.

In conclusion, team sports offer many benefits to children. Therefore, adults should encourage them to take part in this kind of sport.

Fast food is now universally (=popularly) in most countries and is coming increasingly popular. Some feel that this is a positive trend, while others do not. What is your opinion?

In recent years, there has been growing an agreeable idea that people have a tendency of eating fast food. Some people say that using fast food is harmful for their health. In my opinion, fast food offers many positive sides to human. In this essay, I will present my viewpoint and opinion.

Firstly, fast food is delicious and tasty. Eaters are serviced by well-trained chefs. Therefore, meals not only have reasonable price but also is nutritious. Moreover, decorated food attracts customers. Besides, it is clearly to see that its flavor is typical that makes them hungry.

Secondly, fast food is convenient. People are able to purchase in many different places such as supermarkets, varied stores. And it is easy to see Fast food chain on the street. Besides, it helps people to save time to take a rest instead of cooking for long. It also offers delivery service, people need only a phone call to order the meal.

Some opponents say that Fast food contains a lot of cholesterol and salt which harm on health. It can cause cancer, high blood pressure and heart diseases.

To sum up, Fast food is increasing more and more in our life. It is necessary that nutrition experts should pay attention to the ways to help fast food more healthful for people.

Student should wear uniform to go to school. Do you agree or disagree?

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that people have a tendency of not wearing uniform to go to school. In my opinion, it is mandatory that students should wear uniform to go to class. In this essay, I will present my viewpoint and opinion.

Firstly, uniform should be mandatory at school because it makes everyone equal. In this way, the rich kids are on the same level as the poor. The poor students no longer feel ashamed when they wear old-fashioned clothes. Therefore, it is hard to distinguish whose family background is better. As a result, the poor feel more confident to attend class.

Moreover, uniform contributes to establish school's rules. By this way, students are taught to be responsible to obey the school's discipline. That makes them more mature. They will know to get along well with the community day by day and know what they should do and what they should not do.

Some opponents say that uniforms take away from personal freedom. Because they are not able to wear their favorite clothes. Sometimes, the low-standard materials of uniform make them uncomfortable.

To sum up, uniform is an essential part of schooling and should not be neglected at any cost. From what has been discussed, I hold a belief that uniform is doing wonders and it should not be banned, thus it may leave some bad effects on children attitudes.

With increased use of computers, the Internet and smartphones, office workers can do much of their work from home instead of working in offices everyday. Therefore, some people think that working from home should be encouraged as it is good for office workers.

Write an essay to an educated reader to state whether you agree or disagree with the statement above. Include any reasons and any relevant examples to support your answer.

In recent years, there has been growing an arguable idea that people have tendency of working from home. Some people say that working from home should be encouraged as it is good for office workers. In my opinion, working from home offers many positive sides to people. In this essay, I will present my viewpoint and opinion.

Firstly, it is compelling to say that working from home does not take our time too much. People don't have to spend a large amount of time each day going to work and then back home. People only need to be in front of screen when working at home. This helps them get more time to do other things such as housework, cooking... They can spend extra time with other momentous task or with their children or spouse which strengthens family relationships.

Secondly, working from home offers comfort. The office workers who work from home are under less pressure than those who work in office. They don't have to travel long distances to get work, which helps them finish jobs faster and more effectively. Besides, they can work at any time of the day. There is no set timetable, you can work for a few hours and take a rest or just work when you have free time. This is a great way to keep yourself relaxed and enjoy the pleasure life.

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

Some opponents say that working from home can lead to isolation. No one around to communicate with might actually make them more stressed and have worse effects on their mental health than working in office.

To sum up, working from home gains ground nowadays, especially after COVID-19. From what has been discussed, I hold belief that working from home is doing wonders for people and they should concentrate on negative aspects to put a curb on the demerits it brings them.

FORMAL LETTER

a. Advanced vocabulary:

I am writing to enquire whether.....

b. Formal linking words/phrases:

(Consequently, however, therefore, for this reason)

Dùng câu tường thuật....

c. Passive voice: (Câu bị động)

d. Polite forms without contractions:

I would be grateful if.....

I would appreciate it if you could.....

I would like to apply.....

(Không ghi tắt: ✓ I am..... ✗ I'm.....)

(*) **Application form:**

Qualification: Certificate, degree, level.

Nói về nghề nghiệp: I work as.....

Ưu tiên dùng thì *HIỆN TẠI HOÀN THÀNH TIẾP DIỄN*

Form lá đơn xin việc:

(**) **In the opening remarks/ reason(s) for writing:**

Tên của một công việc, địa điểm và thời gian bạn thấy nó thông báo.

Vd:..... vị trí quản lý thông báo ở báo Herald hôm qua.

Dear Mr. Green,

Dear Sir/Madam,

Yours sincerely

Yours faithfully,

(**) **In the main body paragraphs:**

- Tuổi, công việc hoặc học hành hiện tại (vd. I am a nineteen-year-old university student)
- Bằng cấp, chứng chỉ (vd: I have a BA in French)
- Kinh nghiệm (vd: I have been working as a waiter for the last two years)
- Kỹ năng và tính cách phù hợp cho công việc.

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

Vd: I am a good and careful driver. I consider myself to be mature and responsible.

(**) In the closing remarks:

- Một số thông tin khác (Khi nào rảnh để phỏng vấn, thời gian và địa điểm có thể liên lạc, thư giới thiệu, điều chú ý với mong muốn lá thư xin việc của bạn sẽ được chấp nhận,...)

Vd: I will be available for an interview in September.

I enclose references from my last two employers.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course(soon).

- Thường dùng:
- + **Hiện tại đơn** để miêu tả kỹ năng hoặc tính cách.

Vd: *I am a patient and reliable person*

- + **Quá khứ đơn** để nói về những kinh nghiệm trong quá khứ.

Vd: *I left school in 1994, I worked for General Motors for four years.*

- + **Hiện tại hoàn thành** để nói về công việc hoặc học hành hiện tại.

Vd: *I have been working for LTU for two years.*

I have recently finished secondary school.

You saw this advertisement in a local newspaper and have decided to apply for the job

St. George Primary School is looking for a young, energetic and experienced schoolteacher to join us in September. Must be a good organizer and keen on sports.

Please apply in writing to Mrs. Hunter, giving details of qualifications, skills and previous experience and saying why you think you are suitable for the job. Closing date 12th May.

Dear Mrs. Hunter,

With reference to your advertisement in Thursday's edition of the Daily Star, I am interested in application for the position of primary school teacher.

I am 28 years old and currently teacher in Margate, I have a BSc degree awarded by Glasgow University in 1997. I completed my certificate in Education at Preston Teacher Train College in 1998.

I have been working for Margate Education Department since 1999. During this time, I have enjoyed teaching a variety of subjects, including English, General Science and Games.

I consider myself to be punctual, hard-working and fair. I enjoy working with children and have good organizational skills.

I enclose a reference from my present employer. I would be grateful if you would consider my application. I am available for interview any weekday morning. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

Steven Davies

You have seen an advertisement in an English newspaper for a job working as an office worker in an international company and you would like to apply for the job. Write an application letter to the manager of the company. In your letter:

- Introduce yourself
- Explain why you want to apply for that position.
- Qualifications: B.A in Office Administration, Certificate of Computer, IELTS Certificate at band 5.0.
- Qualities: friendly, out-going, reliable, sociable, good organizational skill, good communication skill
- Secretary for Export company

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to apply for the position of part-time shop assistant which was advertised in this week's edition of the Frankfurt English News.

I am a 16-year-old student. In December I passed the examination for the First Certificate in English with grade A. It is my ambition to become a teacher of English. Therefore, employment in an English-language bookshop particularly appeals to me.

Despite my lack of formal work experience, I feel that I would be well-suited for the position. For the past two years I have been a volunteer helper in our school library. In my school report I was described by the librarian as enthusiastic, dedicated and reliable.

Since the school holidays include the months of July and August, I will have no other commitments and would be available to work at any time, excluding Saturdays, for as many hours as needed.

I may be contacted at the above address, or by telephone on 436 1708. I look forward to receiving a reply in due course.

Your faithfully,

Steffi Braun

You saw this advertisement in a local newspaper and have decided to apply for the job

Hard-working young assistant wanted for part-time work in a bookshop during July/August. No sales experience needed, but a good understanding of English is essential.

Apply in writing to Bookworms.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to apply for the position of part-time bookshop assistant which was advertised in this week's edition of the Tuoi Tre Newspaper.

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

I am a 19-year-old student. In April, I passed the examination for the First Certificate in English with grade A. It is my ambition to become an English teacher. Therefore, employment in an English – language bookshop particularly appeals to me.

I used to be a saleclerk for Circle K convenience store last year. For the past five months I have been a volunteer helper in our school library.

I consider myself to be friendly, out-going and reliable. Besides, I also have good organizational skill and communication skill.

Since the school holidays include the months of July and August, I will have no other commitments and would be available to work at any time, excluding Sundays, for as many hours as needed.

I may be contacted at the above address, or by telephone on 0856 068 959. I look forward to receiving a reply in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Le Truong Ngoc Duyen

You are planning to look for an opportunity to do a volunteer work in an organization working with children. Write an application letter to the organization you want to work with and tell them:

- What skills and experience you have
- Why you are interested in working with them
- When you will be able to start

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to your advertisement on the bulletin board of university. I am interested in application for the position of an English teacher for a voluntary organization working with children.

I am 25 years old and currently teaching assistant in CIC English Center. I have a TOEIC 900 certificate awarded by Can Tho University in 2018. I completed my college degree in English Language Teacher Education at Can Tho University in 2021.

I have been working for CIC Foreign Language Center since 2020. During this time, I have enjoyed teaching a variety of Cambridge certificate, including Movers, Flyers, KET and PET.

I consider myself to be friendly, sociable, reliable and enthusiastic. I enjoy working with children and have good organizational skills, good communication skills.

I enclose a reference from my consultant. I would be grateful if you would consider my application. I would be available to work any time, excluding Saturdays, for as many hours as needed. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Le Truong Ngoc Duyen

COMPLAINT LETTERS

In a formal letter making a complaint, you may use a mild tone, for complaints about minor problems, or a strong tone, for complaints about more serious matters, especially when you are extremely upset or annoyed. However, the language you use should never be rude or insulting.

- In the **opening remarks**, you should state your complaint, including details of what has happened and where/when the incident took place.

Mild:

- I am writing in connection with .../to complain about ... the terrible behaviour/ attitude/ rudeness of ...
- I am writing to draw your attention to ... which ...

Strong:

- I wish to bring to your attention a problem which arose due to your staff/ inefficiency ...
- I am writing to express my strong dissatisfaction at ...
- I wish to express my dissatisfaction/ unhappiness with the product/ treatment I received from ... on ...

- In the **main body paragraphs**, you present each of the specific points you are complaining about. You start a new paragraph for each point and justify these points by giving examples/reasons.

- Although you advertise “top quality”, I felt that the product I purchased was well below the standard I expected.

- In the **closing remarks**, you should explain what you expect to happen (e.g. to be given a refund/ replacement/ apology/etc).

Mild:

- I hope you will replace ...
- I feel/ believe that I am entitled to a replacement/refund ...
- I hope that this matter can be resolved/ dealt with promptly.

Strong:

- I insist on/ I demand a full refund/ an immediate replacement/etc or I shall be forced to take legal action/ the matter further.
- I hope that I will not be forced to take further action

You recently bought a calculator, but you were given the wrong model by mistake. When you complained, the shop assistant was rude to you. Write a letter to the company's complaints department, explaining the reasons for your dissatisfaction and saying what action you expect the company to take.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Lê Trương Ngọc Duyên

I am writing to express my strong dissatisfaction at the disgraceful treatment I received at the Walford branch of Stimpson's Electronic yesterday afternoon.

Firstly, the product I was given was not the model I had asked for. The new X-401 calculator was demonstrated to me by the sales assistant, and I agreed to buy it. However, on unpacking my purchase, I saw that I had been given the smaller X-201 model instead.

In addition to, this calculator was much cheaper than the model I requested and paid for. It didn't have many of the features I needed and was much more basic than the one I was shown to begin with.

Futhermore, I was deeply offended by the behaviour of the sales assistant when I went back to the shop to complain. He was not only impolite, but also unhelpful. He refused to contact the manager when I asked to speak to him about the incident.

As you can imagine, I am extremely upset. I must insist on a full refund, to make matters worse a written apology from the local manager, or else I shall be forced to take further action. I expect to hear from you as soon as possible.

Your faithfully,

Caroline Adams