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Preface

Language and presentation are inextricably linked. Essay writing is an art, one can master if one pledges to do so. Often, test takers and students struggle to write a good piece of essay though they are brilliant and filled with impressive ideas. The essay is a persuasion of one's ideas and perspectives that come from the mind and out into the open so that exam bodies or scholarship committee can contend with adopting or rejecting its validity.

Your points of view become downright unstoppable if they are presented with some care. It is definitely possible to make the examiner delighted to mark your essay high.

While studying an Executive Master of Business Administration at University of Prince Edward Island, Canada, I needed to submit individual and group assignments based on reading of research papers. It was tough though, but that infused a brand new confidence to transfer my skills to the student community. While writing and presenting those papers, for any content that was slightly irrelevant to the topic, I - sometimes we - in a group were penalized with a lower grade. Later on, it inspired me to fine-tune my language further. Being a voracious reader and having trained hundreds of students at my institute, there seemed a new chapter of learning evolved, and yet it is evolving for the better.

After a long-term experience of training students, one year ago, I set out to uncover consequential elements for effective and impressive writing. There seems to be an abundance of literature and an ocean of information present around us, but we fail to notice it. Consistent reading on various topics, newspaper, research papers, magazines, watching documentaries and media programs provide a wide range of information. Information and critical thinking are the key to essay writing. More importantly, how a student observes and uses these facilities for his purpose. Since I already had the context of thousands of research papers and books that we used for our coaching classes to train the student, I studied what I didn't know; presenting it in a persuasive manner, playing with words and idiomaticity, and discovering the interplay between an essay and a presentation.

I have tried to translate fifteen-years of learning to this masterpiece. I hope this book will help you improve your writing skills.

Hope you enjoy the experience!

Vinod Gambtoo
B.Com, EMBA, Canada

Nota Bene: Sample essays from number 91 to 100 read many high sounding words (full use of lexical features). They are high quality persuasive essays. Test takers/students whose English is at a moderate level can interchange the words from glossary to simplify for their use. Those who wish to have 9 in IELTS, 30 in TOEFL, and 90 in PTE in writing module assuming the similar level of performance in the remaining part of writing module should try to deliver such quality.

Such a write-up is best suited to scholarships, too.

Assessment criteria for essay

Examiners and scholarship committees use detailed and set performance descriptors while assessing an essay. There are six parameters that are taken into consideration:

- Task achievement
- Coherence and cohesion
- Lexical resource
- Grammatical range and accuracy
- Length*
- Legibility*

These six parameters must be met in order to score high in essay writing. Writing the essay is an art that one can master by following these parameters. While learning this art, certain misconceptions must be addressed to deliver a flawless and good quality essay. The detailed analysis of these points is as below:

• Task Achievement:

The very first step to begin with is to *analyze* the topic closely. Some writing topics require students to discuss and balance the arguments while others may demand discussion of causes and effects associated with the topic. In some topics, students are required to present their related specific examples, too. "To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement ?"- is one of the keywords where it instructs students to write both positives and negatives. Similarly, the essay demanding to write causes and effects has certain keywords. For example, "To what extent negative effects could impact?"

Therefore, the rationale is to follow the instructions. Failing to analyze the topic statement and given instructions would make students to have a false start. Once students are entangled with the false start, they never recuperate. Beyond doubt, they are unable to justify the essay at the end.

Secondly, the essay must *fully address all parts* of the task that include other criteria incorporated. Quantity never wins but quality - as mentioned above is an art. Before one starts writing, points needed to be addressed must be decided beforehand. The student might come up with ten points - five positives (causes) and five negatives (effects) but he needs to restrict the length and smartly discard the redundant points. If not so, this results in writing too many words to attract attention and scoring. Additionally, it is unwise to produce a dense write-up because the more you write the more the chances of mistakes.

Thirdly, another dimension that must be analyzed closely is the possibility of some points that can be discussed under one family head/point and should be treated

merely as a branch of the head. Hence try to club various - similar looking points - branches into one family head/point and present them. This checks repetition of points. To quote an instance, the student thinks about writing duties of Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) in a topic. The Law Enforcement Agency is a part of the government, and represents each other as far as crime detection or checking is concerned. Bifurcating LEA and the government merely to increase the number of words would make no sense. Therefore, choose a couple of points, prioritize, and if need be, club points that are on the same page. Ideally, three to five points are good enough for any essay.

Lastly, some students come up with good points, but they *fail to expand* them appropriately. Logical reasoning and development of points are of paramount significance. Therefore, it is wise to abstain from writing loose statements that have no head over its shoulders. They must effectively address the topic and task precisely.

- **Coherence and Cohesion:**

The essay ought to be like a water stream. It must flow smoothly. Think of the direction of a good movie. The audience is tied up with the quality direction of the movie. One awaits the meticulous direction, climax, journey definition, winning and losing and so on in the movie. Absence of quality direction confuses the audience. So does in writing! Each sentence and paragraph must complement each other from top to bottom. The essay should be *well organized and developed*. The student must be careful wherever a need arises to offer a crystal clear explanation or exemplifications, and/or details; he must be prompt in it. To achieve this requirement, *connectors* (connecting words/adverbs or phrases) play a vital role because they facilitate a smooth transition for a logical understanding. Refer to page *number 157* to learn those phrases and words. This will offer a clear edification for skillfully managing *paragraphing*, too.

Such skills exhibit unity and progression that are basic elements of coherence and cohesion. Beware of repeating words and copying from topic statements. Copying is a plagiarism, and it is termed as an offense in an academic setting.

- **Lexical Resource:**

Vocabulary is a vehicle for beautifying the write-up. Try to be consistent in using handsome lexical features throughout the essay. However, there is a word of caution here. Overusing high sounding words may not serve the purpose unless they are *appropriate to the point*. To illustrate: "I assassinated the housefly this morning", is something out of proportion. Be reasonable and try not to use those words that become an object of mockery and drag the scoring down for blunders.

It is important to keep *control of lexical features*. It should offer a wide range of vocabulary in a natural and sophisticated manner. One needs to remember that *appropriate word choice* and idiomaticity are a focal point.

- **Grammatical Range and Accuracy:**

Both the sentence structure and appropriate usage are a basic necessity for any language. Frequent or accumulation of errors in sentence structure leads nowhere. Therefore, *a wide range and variety of syntactic structures* represent clarity of the task, and checks the occasional obscure meaning. The sentence formation with a full range of accuracy and flexibilities produce desirable results and make sense.

Active and passive voice, tenses, modal verbs, relative pronouns, articles, prepositions, phrasal verbs, gerunds, punctuations and quotations, etc. are the basic pillars of language. Please learn them deeply; it is necessary, especially for those students who use English as a second language. They overly struggle with using articles in a correct manner.

The 'Auto Correct' feature of the computer has deteriorated our command over spellings. Students more often right click (auto correct) when any green or red line underneath the word pops up. This is a widespread complication. Therefore, in the event of skepticism over spelling, it is wise to replace the word with a fit synonym than to try out a wrongly spelt word on which the heart is set on.

- **Length*:**

Under- or over-length both do not serve the purpose. It is important to follow instructions given by the respective exam or the scholarship authority. There is a misconception on the minds of test takers that an under-length essay by ten words or so would not attract a penalty. No, it will. What is instructed is a part of compliance. One needs to abide by the instructions. For example, a minimum word requirement is 250 for an IELTS, 300 for a TOEFL, and 200 for a PTE. Writing below this threshold requirement would attract a penalty.

The word requirement for scholarships varies in some cases, but the normative one is 500 words. Sample essays in this book have a range from 250 to 325 words. Ergo, for scholarships, the candidate would need to produce more expansion of points and ideas. So is applicable to the TOEFL test takers for their 300-word threshold.

The acceptable length for an essay:

IELTS: between 250 and 325 words

TOEFL: between 300 and 325 words

PTE: between 200 and 300 words (try not to exceed the limit of 300 words)

Scholarship: Up to 500 words

- **Legibility*:**

This criterion is not applicable for a TOEFL, a PTE and a Scholarship since both these exams are computer based and the scholarship essay is always in a print mode.

The examiner would not call the test taker if he is unable to comprehend what is written. In sum, improve your handwriting if it is illegible for an IELTS exam

The flow chart of an essay

INTRODUCTION
- General statement
- Thesis statement

BODY PARAGRAPH
- Topic sentence including connective words
- Advantages (merits)/causes/agreement
- Relevant example

BODY PARAGRAPH
- Disadvantages (demerits)/effects/disagreement
- Relevant example

FURTHER BODY PARAGRAPH
- Personal opinion (check the type of essay)

CONCLUSION
- Conclusion (Reiteration of the topic statement or final assessment)

Note: Ideally, the essay should contain three-to-five paragraphs only. Some essays may not require students to write an opinion, and in that case, the fourth paragraph shown in the flow chart should be avoided.

There are certain established misconceptions on the mind of students about essays dealing with agreement or disagreement. Some students believe in taking an extreme stance by either supporting or rejecting the statement. Well, students have three options: 1) Full agreement (100%), 2) Full disagreement (100%), and 3) Partial agreement/disagreement (50:50, a balanced essay). Any of these writing patterns is acceptable without any equivocations.

Follow the below mentioned seven steps for writing an essay:

Step 1	Analyze the topic statement properly
Step 2	Think about a response
Step 3	Jot down points (both positives and negatives)
Step 4	Narrow down points (2-4 points are more than enough to develop an essay)
Step 5	Plan the answer (choose the points based on their importance, and structure your essay)
Step 6	Write the answer
Step 7	Edit (while editing, check grammatical errors, use better synonyms i.e., colossal for extremely large and fabulous for extremely good, check the length of content i.e. from 250 to 325 words maximum, spellings, fluidity of the content, etc.

WRITING TASK 2: Band Descriptors (public version) for IELTS

Band	Task Response	Coherence and cohesion	Lexical resource	Grammatical range and accuracy
9	• fully addresses all parts of the task • presents a fully developed position in answer to the question with relevant, fully extended and well supported ideas	• uses cohesion in such a way that it attracts no attention • skillfully manages paragraphing	• uses a wide range of vocabulary with very natural and sophisticated control of lexical features; rare minor errors occur only as 'slips'	• uses a wide range of structures with full flexibility and accuracy; rare minor errors occur only as 'slips'
8	• sufficiently addresses all parts of the task • presents a well-developed response to the question with relevant, extended and supported ideas	• sequences information and ideas logically • manages all aspects of cohesion well • uses paragraphing sufficiently and appropriately	• uses a wide range of vocabulary fluently and flexibly to convey precise meanings • skillfully uses uncommon lexical items but there may be occasional inaccuracies in word choice and collocation • produces rare errors in spelling and/or word formation	• uses a wide range of structures • The majority of sentences are error-free • makes only very occasional errors or inappropriacies
7	• addresses all parts of the task • presents a clear position throughout the response • presents, extends and support main ideas, but there may be a tendency to over-generalize and/or supporting ideas may lack focus	• logically organizes information and ideas; there is clear progression throughout • uses a range of cohesive devices appropriately although there may be some under-/over-use • presents a clear central topic with each paragraph	• uses sufficient range of vocabulary to allow some flexibility and precision • uses less common lexical items with some awareness of style and collocation • may produce occasional errors in word choice, spelling and/or word formation	• uses a variety of complex structures • produces frequent error-free sentences • has good control of grammar and punctuation but may make a few errors
6	• addresses all parts of the task although some parts may be more fully covered than others • presents a relevant position although the conclusions may become unclear or repetitive • presents relevant main ideas but some may be inadequately developed/unclear	• arranges information and ideas coherently and there is a clear overall progression • uses cohesive devices effectively, but cohesion within and/or between sentences may be faulty or mechanical • may not always use referencing clearly or appropriately • uses paragraphing, but not always logically	• uses an adequate range of vocabulary for the task • attempts to use less common vocabulary but with some inaccuracy • makes some errors in spelling and/or word formation, but they do not impede communication	• uses a mix of simple and complex sentence forms • makes some errors in grammar and punctuation but they rarely reduce communication
5	• addresses the task only partially; the format may be inappropriate in places • expresses a position but the development is not always clear and there may be no conclusion drawn • presents some main ideas but these are limited and not sufficiently developed; there may be irrelevant detail	• presents information with some organization but there may be a lack of overall progression • makes inadequate, inaccurate or over-use of cohesive devices • may be repetitive because of lack of referencing and substitution • may not write in paragraphs, or paragraphing may be inadequate	• uses a limited range of vocabulary, but this is minimally adequate for the task • may make noticeable errors in spelling and/or word formation that may cause some difficulty for the reader	• uses only a limited range of structures • attempts complex sentences but these tend to be less accurate than simple sentences • may make frequent grammatical errors and punctuation may be faulty; errors can cause some difficulty for the reader
4	• responds to the task only in a minimal way or the answer is tangential; the format may be inappropriate • presents a position but this is unclear • presents some main ideas but these are difficult to identify and may be repetitive, irrelevant or not well supported	• presents information and ideas but these are not arranged coherently and there is no clear progression in the response • uses some basic cohesive devices but these may be inaccurate or repetitive • may not write in paragraphs or their use may be confusing	• uses only basic vocabulary which may be used repetitively or which may be inappropriate for the task • has limited control of word formation and/or spelling; errors may cause strain for the reader	• uses only a very limited range of structures with only rare use of subordinate clauses • some structures are accurate but errors predominate, and punctuation is often faulty
3	• does not adequately address any part of the task • does not express a clear position • presents few ideas, which are largely underdeveloped or irrelevant	• does not organize ideas logically • may use a very limited range of cohesive devices, and those used may not indicate a logical relationship between ideas	• uses only a very limited range of words and expressions with very limited control of word formation and/or spelling • errors may severely distort the message	• attempts sentence forms but errors in grammar and punctuation predominate and distort the meaning
2	• barely responds to the task • Does not express a position • May attempt to present one or two ideas but there is no development	• has very little control of organizational features	• uses an extremely limited range of vocabulary; essentially no control of word formation and/or spelling	• cannot use sentence forms except in memorized phrases
1	• answer is completely unrelated to the task	• fails to communicate any message	• can only use a few isolated words	• cannot use sentence forms at all
0	• does not attend • does not attempt the task in any way • writes a totally memorized response			

Independent Writing Rubrics and Explanations (public version) for TOEFL iBT*

SCORE 5 RUBRIC: An essay at this level largely accomplishes all of the following:

- Effectively addresses the topic
- Is well organized and well developed, using clearly appropriate explanations, exemplification, and/or details
- Displays unity, progressing, and coherence
- Displays, consistent facility in the use of language, demonstrating syntactic variety, appropriate word choice, and indiomaticity, though it may have minor lexical or grammatical errors

SCORE 4 RUBRIC: An essay at this level largely accomplishes all of the following:

- Addresses the topic and task well, though some points may be fully elaborated
- Is generally well organized and well developed, using appropriate and sufficient explanations, exemplifications, and/or details
- Displays unity, progression, and coherence, though it may contain occasional redundancy, digression, or unclear connections
- Displays facility in the use of language, demonstrating syntactic variety and range of vocabulary, though it will probably have occasional, noticeable minor errors in structure, word form, or use of idiomatic language that do not interfere with meaning

SCORE 3 RUBRIC: An essay at this level is marked by one or more of the following:

- Addresses the topic and task by using somewhat developed explanations, exemplifications, and/or details
- Displays unity, progression, and coherence, though connection of ideas may be occasionally obscured
- May demonstrate inconsistent facility in sentence formation and word choice that may result in lack of clarity and may occasionally obscure meaning

SCORE 2 RUBRIC: An essay at this level may reveal one or more of the following weaknesses: following:

- Limited development in response to the topic and task
- Inadequate organization or connection of ideas
- Inappropriate or insufficient exemplifications, explanations, or details to support or illustrate generalizations in response to the task
- A noticeably inappropriate choice of words or word forms
- An accumulation of errors in sentence structure and/or usage

SCORE 1 RUBRIC: An essay at this level is seriously flawed by one or more of the following weaknesses:

- Serious disorganizations or underdevelopment
- Little or no detail, or irrelevant specifics, or questionable responsiveness to the task
- Serious and frequent errors in sentence structure or usage

SCORE 0 RUBRIC: An essay at this level merely copies words from the topic, rejects the topic, or is otherwise not connected to the topic, is written in a foreign language, consists of keystroke characters, or is blank

Converting Rubric Scores to Scaled Scores for the Writing Sections of the TOEFL iBT Test

Writing Rubric Mean	Scaled Score
5.00	30
4.75	29
4.50	28
4.25	27
4.00	25
3.75	24
3.50	22
3.25	21
3.00	20
2.75	18
2.50	17
2.25	15
2.00	14
1.75	12
1.50	11
1.25	10
1.00	8
	7
	5
	4
	0

*Reference: TOEFL Teacher Workshop Manual by ETS Propell

Writing Rubrics and Traits (public version) for PTE*

The item type Write essay is cored on 7 different traits:

Traits	Maximum raw score	Human rating	Machine score
Content	3	+	+
Form	2		+
Development, structure and coherence	2	+	+
Grammar	2	+	+
General linguistic range	2	+	+
Vocabulary range	2	+	+
Spelling	2		+
Maximum item score	15	11	15

The form and spelling traits do not require human ratings for training the automatic scoring systems as they can be objectively scored. It can be assumed (if the human raters work error-free) that the human rating on these two traits would have been identical to the machine score.

To make the total score from human rating comparable to the machine, we need to take the score as a proportion of the maximum obtainable score by dividing the observed total score by the maximum possible score.

An item is not scored if the test taker's response does not meet the minimum requirements for the traits content and form (i.e., when a test taker scores 0 for content and/or form).

Content	Form	Development, structure and coherence	Grammar
3: adequately deals with the prompt			
2: deals with the prompt but does not deal with one minor aspect	2: Length is between 200 and 300 words	2: shows good development and logical structure	2: shows consistent grammatical control of complex language. Errors are rare and difficult to spot
1: deals with the prompts but omits one major aspect or more than one minor aspect	1: length is between 120 and 199 or between 301 and 380 words	1: is incidentally less well structured, and some elements or paragraphs are poorly linked	1: shows a relative high degree of grammatical control. No mistakes which would lead to misunderstandings
0: does not deal properly with the prompt	0: length is less than 120 or more than 380 words. Essay is written in capital letters, contains no punctuation or only consists of bullet points or very short sentences	0: lacks coherence and mainly consists of lists or loose elements	0: contains mainly simple structures and/or several basic mistakes

General linguistic range	Vocabulary range	Spelling
2: exhibits mastery of a wide range of language to formulate thoughts precisely, give emphasis, differentiate and eliminate ambiguity. No sign that the test taker is restricted in what they want to communicate	2: Good command of a broad lexical repertoire, idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms	2: Correct spelling
1: Sufficient range of language to provide clear descriptions, express viewpoints and develop arguments	1: shows a good range of vocabulary for matters connected to general academic topics. Lexical shortcomings lead to circumlocution or some imprecision	1: one spelling error
0: contains mainly basic language and lacks precision	0: contains mainly basic vocabulary insufficient to deal with the topic at the required level	0: more than one spelling erro

*Reference: http://pearsonpte.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/PTEA_Score_Guide.pdf

A Critical Thinking Guide*

The following is a suggestion to help you develop critical thinking. It is essential for you to understand and be able to discuss issues, problems and current affairs facing modern society. In order to use the template below effectively, you will need to draw it out on a very large piece of paper and for each problem fill in as many causes, effects, solutions and related problems as you think of. The first one has been done for you.

	Problems	Causes	Effects	Solutions	Related Problems
A	Family Breakdown	Materialism Drugs Need for money	Drug use Immorality Poor grades at school	Therapy Education Family support	Illiteracy Alcoholism Crime
B	Internet Addiction				
C	Excessive TV watching				
D	Illiteracy				
E	Urbanization				
F	Extinction of Species				
G	Polarity of Wealth				
H	Corrupt Government				
I	Wars				
J	Intense Nationalism				
K	Crime and Violence				
L	Water Pollution				
M	Air Pollution				
N	Industrialization				
O	Population Explosion				
P	Racism				
Q	Sexism				
R	Desertification				
S	Drug Abuse				
T	Disposal of Waste				
U	Depletion of Ozone				
V	Acid Rain				
W	Loss of Rain Forest				
X	Cost of Education				
Y	Cultural Differences				
Z	Drying up of Rivers				

*Reference: Lloyd and Jacklin Roslyn. "THE IELTS TUTOR." 1999.

Before you write your essay, spend a few minutes and write some notes below that show your essay plans.

+*tves*	-*tves*

1. **Some people prefer to spend their lives doing the same things and avoid any change. Others, however, think that change is always a good thing. Discuss both views and give your opinion.**

People spending time doing the same things	People believing in change
Having passion for what they do	Bringing new experiences
A fear of uncertainty	Fortifying characteristics

Most of the people prefer sticking to the daily routine, whereas others always push their boundaries to change the **status quo** as they believe that the change would bring more benefits. In my opinion, I certainly agree to step outside of the comfort zone, and try new things.

Beyond doubt, there are several **compelling** reasons why some people dare not try new things and instead, fear embracing the change. Firstly, they see an **intrinsic** value in doing that. In other words, they have a lifelong passion for what they do every day. To quote an instance, a naval officer is happy with his job despite little earnings. What he wishes from his job is the level of satisfaction and recognition. Secondly, others may fear the uncertainty that prevents them from trying new things. For example, a father with infinite family responsibilities may become risk averse because even if he gets convinced to change, he would fear if he receives the same amount of earnings and satisfaction that he got in the previous job. Such human psyche itself speaks of why people embrace repetition.

There is a school of thought that believes change is **imperative**. They believe that trying new things could bring exciting experiences and kill **boredom** and a sense of **complacency**. For example, we would not have known much about other planets if **astronauts** were not sent into the outer space. Additionally, it is believed that making a change in life **fortifies** talent or characteristics. It simply allows people to move past their limiting beliefs. It is therefore essential that the boundaries and assumptions must be pushed and tested. A **sprinter** would not know how fast he is until he participates in the competition.

In conclusion, I **second** my **outlook** of embracing a change rather than fearing it despite **legitimate** reasons. (302 words)

Glossary:

status quo (noun): the situation as it is now, or as it was before a recent change, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you pay attention to it because it is so interesting and exciting, **intrinsic** (adjective): belong to or part of the real nature of something/somebody, **imperative** (adjective): very important and needing immediate attention or action, **boredom** (noun): the state of feeling bored; the

quality of being very boring, **complacency** (adjective): a feeling of satisfaction with yourself or with a situation, so that you do not think any change is necessary, the state of complacent, **astronaut** (noun): a person whose job involves travelling and working in spacecraft, **to fortify** (verb): to make a feeling or an attitude stronger, **sprinter** (noun): a person who runs, swims, etc. very fast over a short distance in race, **to second** (verb): to agree, **outlook** (noun): the attitude to life and the world of particular person, group or culture, **legitimate** (adjective): for which there is a fair and acceptable reason; valid; justifiable

2. **Some people prefer to live in the same place most of their life, but others like to live in different places. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

Advantages - living in the same place	Advantages- living in different places
Beneficiary of community spirit	Opportunity to experience a new world of neighborhood and place
Offering a convenience factor	Facilitating an opportunity for networking

Beyond doubt, living in the same place offers far too many benefits that cannot be ignored. Conversely, there is a group of people which opines that living in different places does have more challenges in life but, nonetheless, those challenges represent a cherished experience. To me, I believe in living in different places for many **worthwhile** reasons, as described in this essay.

Over the centuries, the fabric of society has been such that people believe in living in a close-knit community. There are apparent reasons as they feel a sense of belonging - everyone knows one another and treats them as a member of the family. Another reason that motivates to choose such neighborhood is a convenience factor. Truly, people develop a close relation by living together over the years. This companionship facilitates them to help one another if need be. For example, an old neighbor may **graciously** volunteer to watch the next-door house for signs of activity in need.

In contrast, others believe that living in different places allow them to experience a whole new world of the neighborhood and the place. Meeting or hanging out with new people unlocks the door of a new relationship, and a stage for knowing about other values. They become more **tolerant** to the society and learn to **coexist** with differences. Furthermore, one feels more connected with people who have very different backgrounds. This sets a solid platform for networking which invariably is useful in career making, too.

As has been noted, both **phenomena** have their own splendid offerings. However, experiencing different places for living leaves more benefits than the other one. (268 words)

Glossary:

worthwhile (adjective): important, enjoyable, interesting, etc. worth spending time, money or effort on, **graciously** (adjective): in a kind, polite and generous way, especially to somebody of a lower social position, **tolerant** (adjective): able to accept what other people say or do even if you don't agree with it, **to coexist** (verb): to exist together in the same place or at the same time, especially in a peaceful way, **phenomena** (noun, plural): a fact or an even in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood

3. **Many people work from home using modern technology today. Some people think that only the workers benefit from this and not the employer. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

Agreement	Disagreement
Digital nomads are difficult to be managed and held accountable	Ease of working from home may increase productivity
Hard to monitor employees' reliability	Employers saving money with this arrangement

The **phenomenon** - working from home - is a new trend these days. Taken at face value, there are always plenty of arguments for it. This modern way of working style has also brought some heated arguments against it. There are **compelling** reasons to contemplate over these arguments, too. This essay will discuss both aspects of this phenomenon, and the partial agreement.

At the onset, it is a tiring task for employers to track the performance of every **digital nomad**. For example, the standard measures of management and performance **go out of the window** in the case of distributed teams spread across in various locations. The traditional practices such as walking around to ensure everyone is working or helping a team member who seeks some help to clear doubts on a specific query become non-existent and useless. Therefore, it is hard to keep remote workers accountable. It is worth noting that how the absence of manager's presence can turn this work setting **catastrophic**. There is no proven mechanism available to verify the **authenticity** of the job done by the remote worker.

In contrast, there are apparent benefits associated with working from home for employers. This work setting no longer needs the employee to be in the same building. By this working arrangement, corporations could save a huge amount of fixed and variable costs that **incur** on every single employee. Additionally, several researches suggest that allowing employees working from home enhances their productivity. For example, Google Incorporation has a unique arrangement of permitting some employees to work from home.

In conclusion, it does have some downsides for employers with this modern way of working. But, looking at the advantages and arguments for working-from-home phenomenon, it certainly **outweighs** its demerits because it helps large- or medium- sized corporations to save their cost. (299 words)

Glossary:

phenomenon (noun, singular): a fact or an even in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you it is true, **digital nomad** (noun): people who are location independent and use technology to perform their job, **go out of the window** (idiom): to stop existing; to disappear completely, **catastrophic** (adjective): disastrous, **authenticity** (noun): the quality of being genuine or true, **to incur** (verb): become subject to (something unwelcome or unpleasant) as a result of one's own behavior or actions, **to outweigh** (verb): to be greater or more important than something

4. **Smoking in public areas and open spaces should be banned. Some people believe that restricting people from smoking in such areas is an act of snatching their freedom. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

Agreement	Disagreement
Impacting adversely on the health of both smokers and passive smokers	Government earns money from tobacco
-	Act of controlling smokers' freedom

Generally speaking, the debate on restricting people from smoking in public areas has brought a lot of attention across the world. It is, in fact, a never-ending discussion point in various parts of the world. However, the key issue here is how far the government can restrict a **law-abiding** citizen from this bad habit. Thusly, I do not agree with the statement fully.

Smokers would certainly not welcome such a move from the **law enforcement agency**. They believe that tobacco is a legal product, and if it does harm, it must be restricted at source - by means of shutting down growing of tobacco fields. At the same time, the government is in a fix, too. On the one hand, it is true that smoking has adverse effects on both smokers and passive smokers. On the other hand, the government has been earning a massive amount of tax revenue from the tobacco industry. The tax collected from this source is **invariably** used for the betterment of public.

The smoker community would feel that the government authority is trying to control their freedom. If it were to ban smoking in open spaces and public areas, we need pretty clear evidence that this would have direct health benefits. On this argument, the other group may not have any **imposing** rights.

Personally, I believe that it is hard to enforce such regulations even if the government favors non-smoking. It is significant that the government invests money and resources to educate people about the **detrimental** effects of smoking.

In conclusion, smoking should be banned in public spaces. How we do it is very important, not by enforcing or by enacting the law, but it should be done **by means of** educating people about its **nasty** impacts on the young generation. (296 words)

Glossary:

law-abiding (adjective): obeying and respecting the law, **law enforcement agency** (noun): a government agency responsible for the enforcement of the laws, invariably (adverb): always; without fail, **to impose** (verb): to force somebody/something to have to deal with something that is difficulty or unpleasant, **detrimental** (adjective): damaging; harmful, **nasty** (adjective): very bad or unpleasant

5. **Although more and more people read news on the Internet, newspapers will remain the most important source of news. Do you agree or disagree?**

Positives of online news	Negatives of newspapers
Convenience factor	Cost
Up-to-the-minute information	Environmental hazard

Generally speaking, it is **force of habit** that people prefer the conventional newspapers as a main source of news. However, this habit is being challenged, and news available on the Internet is **gaining momentum**. I completely disagree with the continued interest of conventional newspapers going forward.

There are many advantages associated with technology in every **sphere** of life. The speed and convenience of the Internet in this digital world are of **paramount** importance. This has led to an increase in the popularity of online news. First of all, online news instantly reaches the mass and provides **up-to-the-minute** details, 24 hours a day. Secondly, the ever-reducing costs of internet access coupled with smart phones have set a platform for more people to access news online. These numbers are refusing to decline, but moving only northwards.

On the contrary, the newspaper has some downsides and these downsides were not so **prominent** earlier as now. The first negative is **attributed to** its cost compared with its **counterpart**. The newspaper circulation is continually declining, and it seems that they are unable to **match up to** the competition of freely available plenty of information on the Internet. Now, in order to arrest this trend, most of leading newspapers have introduced online versions alongside

their printed editions. Another demerit that is **plaguing** newspapers is the threat of printing being an environmental **hazard.** These days, people take the environment very seriously. With growing environmental awareness, people do not mind rejecting newspapers that involves cutting tens of thousands of trees every year.

In my final analysis, I clearly see that conventional newspapers would struggle to survive in our society, and more and more people will switch to the Internet for news. (283 words)

Glossary:

force of habit (idiom): if you do something from or out of force of habit, you do it automatically and in a particular way because you have always done it that way in the past, **to gain momentum** (verb): the ability to keep increasing or developing, **sphere** (noun): an area of activity, influence or interest; a particular section of society, **paramount** (adjective): more importance than anything else, **up-to-the-minute** (adjective): having or including the most recent information, **prominent** (adjective): important or well known; noticeable; sticking out from something, **to attribute** (verb): to say or believe that something is the result of a particular thing, **counterpart** (noun): a person or thing that has the same position or function as somebody/something else in a different place or situation, **to match up to** (phrasal verb): measure up, **to plague** (verb): to cause pain or trouble to somebody/something over a period of time; trouble, **hazard** (noun): a thing that can be dangerous or cause damage

6. **Many people believe that the gap between rich and poor is widening nowadays because in the current economic situation the rich becomes richer while the poor becomes poorer. What kinds of problems this situation may cause? What measures can be taken to solve them?**

Causes	Effects
Growth of industrial capitalism	Economic upheaval
'Greed is good'	May lead to a hue and cry

The growth of industrial **capitalism** in the West during the 1950s and 1960s **paved the way for** the entire world **to follow suit**. Thankfully, this revolution has left the positive **fruition**, and led to prosperity for small sections of the population. However, the political and financial pundits believe that the middle-class people are squeezed further everywhere in the world. This essay discusses the burning issues, and offers the solutions.

'Greed is good' - that has been taught at all premium business schools, and a lot emphasis has been put on expanding capitalism. **Unequivocally**, this mindset of

business **tycoons** has helped most gains going to the top. **Invariably**, this greed at the top level leaves a sluggish income growth for the middle and the bottom level workers. The situation today is so bad that it could cause **enormous** domestic **upheaval**. What is more, ordinary people live with the fear of instability and inequality at all times. Convinced that a few tycoons are getting rich at the expense of the rest, and it is not a **perception**, but a naked reality.

The world is developing on the edge of a sword. Both ethical and political reasons are there to address the growing gap between rich and poor. Despite policymakers are well-versed with this terrible **predicament**, it is a hard job for them to resolve this economic mess. This situation has resulted in **a hue and cry** among the people. For instance, we have witnessed the **backlash** such as the **austerity** protests in Europe a few years back.

The only resolution to this **colossal** crisis for the government is to introduce the income redistribution and to ban the speculation of essential commodities on the exchange market. The income redistribution measure involves social investment, job training for adults and early childhood education while the ban on speculation will fight against rising **inflation**. (306 words)

Glossary:

capitalism (noun): an economic system in which a country's businesses and industry are controlled and run for profit by private owners rather than by the government, **to pave the way for** (idiom): to create a situation in which somebody will be able to do something or something can happen, **to follow suit** (idiom): to act or behave in the way that somebody else has just done, **fruition** (noun): the successful result of a plan, a process or activity, **greed** (noun): a strong desire for more wealth, possession, power, etc. than a person needs, **unequivocally** (adverb): very clearly and firmly; unambiguously, **tycoon** (noun): a person who is successful in business or industry and has become rich and powerful, **invariably** (adverb): always; without fail, **enormous** (adjective): extremely large; huge; immense, **upheaval** (noun): a big change that causes a lot of confusion, worry and problems, **perception** (noun): the way you notice things, especially with the senses; the ability to understand the true nature of something; insight, **predicament** (noun): a difficult or an unpleasant situation, especially one where it is difficult to know what to do; quandary, **hue and cry** (idiom): strong public protest about something, **backlash** (noun): a strong negative reaction by a large number of people, for example to something that has recently changed in society, **austerity** (noun): a situation when people do not have much money to spend because there are bad economic conditions; the quality of being austere, **colossal** (adjective): extremely large, **inflation** (noun): a general rise in the prices of services and goods in a particular country, resulting in a fall in the value of money, the rate at which this happens

7. **Politicians are more responsible for protection of the environment than individuals. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

Agreement	Disagreement
Legislation enacted and enforced by government	Civic responsibility and government efforts go hand in hand
Pursuit of robust economic growth	Support for eco-friendly products

Protecting the environment is an **hour of need**, and this issue is gaining maximum **traction** among all the countries. Holding responsible only the politicians for the destruction of the environment would totally be unwise and irresponsible perspective. I therefore partially agree with this statement.

Without any **qualms**, the government plays a decisive role in protecting the environment because it is responsible for formulating policies for protecting **Mother Nature**. There are **stringent** laws to reduce levels of environmental pollution in place. However, the question is how far they have been enforced successfully. For example, some Asian countries worry less about this issue though there are clear signs of **worsening** the environmental conditions. Their **inertia** is costing high and the future generation will **pay the price** for sure. Another reason for fueling this inertia is while being fully **cognizant** of this issue, and it is deeply purposeful. For instance, both China and India are pursuing the **robust** economic growth. Natural resources are used **rampantly** with a view to **appeasing** this mindset.

There is another perspective which is worth noting. People cannot **throw up their hands** and blame politicians only. The civic support to sustain any policy is always called for. Rightly, the government efforts and civic responsibility for any policy **go hand in hand**. It is also a duty of people to protect the environment by not polluting it further. To quote an instance, public transportation must be **prioritized** in order to decrease the **carbon footprints**. Or people should give first preference to eco-friendly products, such as paint, shoes, handicraft products, electric vehicles and so on.

In conclusion, we cannot afford to take risks when Mother Nature is threatened. Both parties should do their bit. Governments could revisit their policies by **shunning** those industries that **contaminate** water and air quality and people should support this cause at every level. (307 words)

Glossary:

hour of need (idiom): a time when somebody really needs something, almost a last chance, is their hour of need, **traction** (noun): the extent to which an idea, a product, etc. becomes popular or gains support, **qualm** (noun): a feeling of

doubt or worry about whether what you are doing is right; misgiving, **Mother Nature** (noun): the natural world, when you consider it as a force that affects the world and humans, **stringent** (adjective): very strict and that must be obeyed, **to worsen** (verb): to become or make something worse that it was before, **inertia** (noun): lack of energy; lack of desire or ability to move or change, **to pay the price** (idiom): to suffer because of bad luck, a mistake or something you have done, **cognizant** (adjective): having knowledge or understanding of something, **robust** (adjective): strong and healthy; sturdy; vigorous, **rampantly** (adverb): in a way that exists or spreads everywhere and cannot be controlled, **to appease** (verb): to make somebody calmer or less angry by giving them what they want, **to throw up one's hand** (phrase): to raise both hands in the air as an indication of one's exasperation, **to go hand in hand** (idiom): if two things go hand in hand, they are closely connected and one thing causes the other, **to prioritize** (verb): to put tasks, problems, etc. in order of importance, so that you can deal with the most important first; to treat something as being more important than other things, **carbon footprint** (noun): a measure of the amount of carbon dioxide that is produced by the daily activities of a person or company, **to shun** (verb): to avoid somebody/something, **to contaminate** (verb): to make a substance or place dirty or no longer pure by adding a substance that is dangerous or carries disease; adulterate

8. **Nowadays children are habituated towards playing games on computers. Does this affect their brain development? Give your views.**

Agreement	Disagreement
Correlation between violent games and aggression	Improving problem solving skills and logic
Excessive playing leads to social making isolation	Helping in quick thinking and fast analysis

The classic perception of video games is unproductive and an unhealthy waste of time **prevails** among certain social groups. However, this **myth** has been **debunked** by the recent research. It may **call for a paradigm shift** in some cases, too. This essay **represents** opposite ends of the **spectrum**.

Some people argue that playing video games on computers adversely affects the brain development of children. They **correlate** the increased aggressive thoughts, feelings and behavior of children with those violent games that they play more often. Furthermore, they also believe that excessive playing of video games isolates children from the real world. Convinced that they do not interact enough with family and friends, and it is something that is very essential for children in their early life.

On the contrary, there is no **skepticism** that the child trains his brain to come up with creative and unique idea to solve all sorts of puzzles when he plays a game, such as 'Angry Birds' or 'Cut The Rope'. While playing such games, children need to think rapidly and make fast analysis. This is a real brain workout for them. Additionally, such a brain workout helps them at a later stage of life. For example, the experience of playing battle or action video games offers a training tool for real-world situations. A soldier or a surgeon in the middle of battlefield does benefit from the experience of such games during **the moment of truth** to some extent.

In summary, it offers a sensational revelation on both ends when both positives and negatives are closely analyzed. This reminds us of a great expression - "Is this glass half-full or half-empty?" Overall, it seems that the benefits of playing video games cannot be ignored. (288 words)

Glossary:

to prevail (verb): to exist or be very common at a particular time or in a particular place, **myth** (noun): something that many people believe but that does not exist or is false; fallacy, **to debunk** (verb): to show that an idea, a belief, etc. is false; to show that something is not as good as people think it is, **to call for** (phrasal verb): to need something, **paradigm shift** (noun): a great and important change in the way something is done or thought about, **to represent** (verb): to symbolize, **spectrum** (noun): a complete or wide range of related qualities, ideas, etc., **to correlate** (verb): one of two or more facts, figures, etc. that are closely connected and affect or depend on each other, **skepticism** (noun): an attitude of doubting that claims or statements are true or that something will happen, **the moment of truth** (idiom): a time when somebody/something is tested, or when important decisions are made

9. What are the benefits of living in big cities, as opposed to rural areas? What are the problems of rural areas, and how can they be solved?

Advantages living in big cities	Disadvantages- living in rural areas
Better job opportunities	Lack of basic amenities
Problems of rural areas	Solutions to problems of rural areas
Deficit of development plans	Government and people together need to address this concern

Many people prefer living in big cities or metropolitan areas for plenty of reasons. While the countryside offers marvelous landscape and scenic **backdrop**, it certainly lacks many benefits compared with the city living. This essay **outlines** basic advantages of living in the city, and problems and solutions of rural areas with regard to living.

At first, metropolitan areas are said to be a land of opportunities. The employment picture in urban areas is far better as opposed to rural areas. This is the chief reason why people choose to live in the city over the rural areas. There are still **a good few** advantages, such as convenience of public transportation, endless entertainment options, social events, best possible medical care, sports facilities, and cultural **diversity** among other things.

In contrast, rural areas **lag** far **behind** in terms of offering higher standard of amenities, employment opportunities, better schools and others compared with their **counterparts**. So, young people **gravitate to** a city in search of jobs and for other facilities. The government often fails to have solid **measures** to **stimulate** employment in the countryside since their entire focus is to first develop cities for attracting investment and **electoral** gains. Such **ingrained prejudices** of them make the situation **go from bad to worse**.

In conclusion, the development of rural areas so far is **as good as it gets**. The government and the business community together must **address** this burning issue. There are **ways and means** to make the rural areas attracting ones. The significant developments in rural areas can take place only when the government and the business community **go hand in hand**, and try to create more opportunities and other basic facilities. Or the decline of the rural economy will cause urban migration, and it would be an **irreparable** loss to all **stakeholders**. (301 words)

Glossary:

backdrop (noun): everything that can be seen around an event that is taking place, but which is not part of that event, **to outline** (verb): to give a description of the main facts or points involved in something, **a good few** (idiom): several, **diversity** (noun): a range of many people or things that are very different from each other; variety, **to lag** (behind somebody/something) (verb): to move or develop slowly or more than other people, organizations, etc., **counterpart** (noun): a person or thing that has the same position or function as somebody/something else in a different place or situation, **to gravitate to** (phrasal verb): to move towards somebody/something that you are attracted to, **measure** (noun): an official action that is done in order to achieve a particular aim, **to stimulate** (verb): to make something develop or become more active; to encourage something, **electoral** (adjective): connected with elections, **ingrained** (adjective): (of a habit, an attitude, etc.) that has existed for a long time and is therefore difficult to change, **prejudice** (noun): an unreasonable dislike of or preference for a person, group, custom, etc. especially it is based on their race, religion, sex, etc., **to go from bad to worse** (idiom): (of a bad condition, situation, etc.) to get even worse, **as good as it gets** (idiom): used when you are saying that a situation is not going to get any better, **to address** (verb): to think about a problem or a situation and decide how you are going to

deal with it, **ways and means** (idiom): the methods and materials available for doing something, **to go hand in hand** (idiom): if two things go hand in hand, they are closely connected and one thing causes the other, **irreparable** (adjective): (of a loss, injury, etc.) too bad or too serious to repair or put right, **stakeholder** (noun): a person or company that is involved in a particular organization, project, system, etc., especially because they have invested money in it

10. Some parents think that helping their children with homework is good. Others think that children should do their homework on their own. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Agreement	Disagreement
Elementary school children needing help	Relying on parents' knowledge hurts children further
Children facing time constraint	Academic dishonesty

It is not a **cliché** but a common sight to see children are heavily burdened with excessive homework, especially in the Indian **subcontinent** these days. More often parents become involved in their children's homework. This essay discusses whether it is acceptable or not by analyzing perspectives of both ends.

To begin with, homework is a necessary evil. However, all the students have to go through this traditional academic requirement - some may enjoy it and others may **loathe** it. I believe that taking help from parents for homework could not benefit students, but it further hurts in their later years. There is a clear reason why this practice should not be supported. Relying on parents' knowledge for homework or assignments may lead to larger assignments being more difficult since the material was never learned **in the first place**. There is another point that relates to an academic dishonesty. Unless it is instructed categorically, homework is meant to be done by students only. Taking anybody's help for this job may be interpreted as the academic dishonesty.

Looking at this thought-provoking issue, it may **call for** some exceptions. Children going to elementary or primary schools are yet at the stage of learning. Some of them are brilliant to receive and grasp the learning in no time, but others may take some time. In such a special case, a helping hand just to push them to get going should not be seen as evil. Agreed that school comes first, but childhood must also be made enjoyable and worthwhile. Children need some time for fun and play, too. It is really very hard for them to successfully do a time management. Some help from parents **to counter** a time **constraint** situation of children should be treated with a little leniency.

To core out, I believe that homework must be done by children themselves because of their own good. Although there are a couple exceptions, they are not much convincing. (324 words)

Glossary:

cliché (noun): a phrase or an idea that has been used so often that it no longer has much meaning and is not interesting, **subcontinent** (noun): a large land mass that forms part of a continent, especially the part of Asia that includes India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, **to loathe** (verb): to dislike somebody/something very much; detest, **in the first place** (idiom): used at the end of a sentence to talk about why something was done or whether it should have been done or not, **to call for** (verb): to need something, **to counter** (verb): to do something to reduce or prevent the bad effects of something, **constraint** (noun): a thing that limits or restricts something, or your freedom to do something; restriction

11. Advertisements of snacks and toys have a great impact on children and their parents. So, the advertisements to children should be banned. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Bombardment of commercials making children own products	-
Difficulty for moderate earners fulfilling all desire of their children	-
Fallacious claims and untrue information presented to sell products	-

Countless adverts **corroborate** the **adage**, 'Seeing is believing', albeit children get affected negatively. Toys and snacks are made **ubiquitous**, inviting children to try them out incessantly. I am in **concord** with banning all such commercials. However, it seems that this issue is more academic than practical in real terms.

First and foremost, smart corporations target children for their products. Invariably, their marketing department **devises** a round-the-clock **bombardment** of commercials on TV. What children watch, they aspire to have all or for the sake of parity, they desire to **emulate** their **peers**. Consequently, it is a hard job for moderately earning parents to discipline and content their **offspring**.

Secondly, commercials are designed in a manner that children feel that they cannot do without them. For instance, the packaged food is full of **preservatives** and **additives**. Yet, they are depicted in a manner that once it is consumed, the child will become like a 'Superman'. **Bizarrely,** all in the name of bottom line, such **hokum** is sold by large corporations targeting moldable minds children.

Granted, large corporations need to run their show forever. But at whose expense is a question that **stirs** and presents an **ethical dilemma**. To me, there must be a demarcation drawn on what they claim, too. Many a time, they go on making **fallacious** claims and providing untrue information which does not serve the objective for **the greater good**. It is a shame!

In a nutshell, the demerits of commercials of toys and snacks **outweigh** their merits. There is always a line between 'use' and 'abuse' and we need to explain this to children. (266 words)

Glossary:

to corroborate (verb): to provide evidence or information that supports a statement, theory, etc.; confirm, **adage** (noun): a well-known phrase expressing a general truth about people or the world; saying, **ubiquitous** (adjective): seeming to be everywhere or in several places at the same time; very common , **concord** (noun): peace and agreement; harmony, **to devise** (verb): to invent something new or a new way of doing something; think up, **bombardment** (noun): an occasion when too many questions and criticisms are aimed at somebody or they are given too much information , **to emulate** (verb): to try to do something as well as somebody else because you admire them, **peer** (noun, usually plural): a person who is the same age or who has the same social status as you , **offspring** (noun): a child of particular person or couple, **preservative** (noun): a substance used to prevent food or wood from decaying, **additive** (noun): a substance that is added in small amounts to do something, especially food, in order to improve it, give it color, make it last longer, etc., **bizarrely** (adverb): in a very strange or unusual way; weirdly, **hokum** (noun): an idea, argument, etc. that you think is stupid, **to stir** (verb): to make somebody excited or make them feel something strongly; (of feeling or a mood) to begin to be felt, **ethical dilemma** (noun): a complex situation that often involves an apparent mental conflict between moral imperatives, in which to obey one would result in transgressing another, **fallacious** (adjective): wrong; based on a false idea, **the greater good** (phrase): a common expression which refers to the fact that you are doing something that most likely will not benefit you but many people, a community or even the human race according to the context. The expression is often used in political, religious or philosophical contexts, **to outweigh** (verb): to be greater or more important than something

12. Handwriting skills (using a pen, pencil or brush) are on decline. What can be the reason for this? Is it a positive or negative sign? Discuss.

Agreement	Disagreement/Cause
Written mode is obsolete	Handwritten content may be indecipherable
Lack of motivation for improving handwriting	-

Mahatma Gandhi, one of the great leaders of the 20th Century, once quoted, "Bad handwriting is a sign of imperfect education." His quote holds true in the current scenario where a few efforts are put in to address this emerging phenomenon. **Unequivocally**, bad handwriting is becoming a **norm** in the society. This essay outlines the negatives of this debatable issue.

A few factors are responsible behind inferior quality of handwriting. At the onset, the emergence of technological advancement changed the way man did his work. Gone are those days when people needed to write in their professional transactions. The manual work has been replaced by the computerized mode. This is one of the chief reasons where handwriting skills are less emphasized. Secondly, whether it is a professional or personal setting, the choice of people rests on preferring the typewritten content. What is more, they **belittle** the significance of good handwriting skills which are the established practice.

The opposite is true also. The handwritten content looks messy if the writing is illegible. We talk about any written work when we discuss handwriting skills. The written content is a message to the audience, and touches both head and heart. The objective gets fulfilled only when it is delivered in a neat way. **Perennially**, using electronic devices for the same **has the edge over** its counterpart. **Ergo**, I have no choice but to **second** this **outlook**, too. Moreover, we have no strict teachers who discipline students with their handwriting at an elementary level these days.

To core out, writing skills are certainly a thing of the past. It was considered a **boon** in the past, but not now anymore. Sadly, it is not a good sign though. At the same time, the society and the school together must not allow this **incredible** human skill to get **extinct**. (304 words)

Glossary:

indecipherable (adjective) : (of writing or speech) impossible to read or understand, **unequivocally** (adverb): very clearly and firmly; unambiguously, **norm** (noun): a situation or a pattern of behavior that is usual or expected, **to belittle** (verb): to make somebody or the things that somebody does seem

unimportant, **perennially** (adverb): in a way that continues for a very long time; in a way that happens again and again, **to have the edge over** (phrase): to be slightly better than someone or something else, **ergo** (adverb): therefore, **to second** (verb): to agree, **outlook** (noun): the attitude to life and the world of particular person, group or culture, **boon** (noun): something that is very helpful and makes life easier for you, **incredible** (adjective): impossible or very difficult to believe; unbelievable; extremely good or extremely large, **extinct** (adjective): (of a type of plant, animal, etc.) no longer in existence; (of a type of person, job or way of life) no longer in existence in society

13. **Nowadays many women are joining the police and military forces. However, some people believe that these jobs are not suitable for women. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

Agreement	Disagreement
-	Trend is changing
-	Unconstitutional to turn down a woman for a deserving job
-	Women superseding men in some areas

Dynamics of society are changing dramatically these days. It is not an entirely new sensation now that women are pursuing increasingly various types of professions that were hardly chosen by them in **yesteryears**. I support gender **equality** in employment, and agree that women should be permitted to work in any sector including law enforcement agencies and armed forces.

The key argument is it would be a **discriminatory** policy where women are turned down for any specific career. They have the same innate right to choose their careers whether it is the police or armed forces. For example, **pushing** a deserving woman **aside** for the post based on her sex would utterly be unfair and **unconstitutional**. The selection criteria for any job should be based on the candidate's academic background, relevant work experience, and best skills. Therefore, these forces should continue to employ deserving people regardless of the sex, and **uphold** gender equality.

It is a popular **misconception** that women are less able than men for certain jobs. In fact, I see it otherwise. Policewomen, for example, are gifted with better communication skills and **compassion**, and they may discharge their duties of controlling crime better than policemen. The physical strength is not only the **yardstick** for the armed forces or police, but other qualities such as leadership, planning, teamwork and communication. They also play a vital role. Thus, women are no lesser in importance when comes to perform their duties. They could **lend a helping hand** to policemen by their skills and knowledge.

In summary, beyond doubt, women should be allowed to work as policewomen and soldiers. Apart from physical strength, in many areas men are **superseded** by them. In no case, women should feel **a glass wall** in this modern and democratic era. (293 words)

Glossary:

dynamic (noun): the way in which people or things behave and react to each other in a particular situation, **yesteryear** (noun): the past, especially a time when attitudes and ideas were different, **equality** (noun): the fact of being equal in rights, status, advantages, etc., **discriminatory** (adjective): unfair; treating somebody or one group of people worse than others, **to push aside** (phrasal verb): to avoid thinking about something, **unconstitutional** (adjective): not allowed by the constitution of a country, a political system or an organization, **to uphold** (verb): to support something that you think is right and make sure that it continues to exist, **misconception** (noun): a belief or an idea that is not based on correct information, or that is not understood by people, **compassion** (noun): a strong feeling of sympathy for people who are suffering and a desire to help them, **yardstick** (noun): a standard used for judging how good or successful something is, **to lend a helping hand** (idiom): to help somebody, **to supersede** (verb): to take the place of something/somebody that is considered to be old-fashioned or no longer the best available, **a glass wall** (noun): a barrier to lateral movement within an organization, often due to prejudice

14. The research studies show that overeating is equally harmful to people's health as smoking. Therefore, the advertisements of certain food products should be banned similar to cigarettes. To what extent do you agree?

Opinions	Disagreement
Higher taxes on the junk food	Prohibition isn't a solution
Bringing awareness among people is key	-

It goes without saying that overeating is as harmful as any other nasty habits that man forms. However, the decision of banning adverts of certain food products may not deliver the desired results. This essay **depicts** the reasons for my disagreement, and offers some opinions.

Anything that exceeds in life may need us to look into its **detrimental** effects for short or long term. Overeating is one among them. The study also suggests that people are increasingly getting **obese** by overeating. Many factors are responsible for fueling this overeating culture, especially the constant bombardment of **commercials** on TV. The food services companies have figured out how to get people to voluntarily **brainwash** themselves for their benefits. Not only this, they go on claiming that their fast food - junk food - is as healthy as

homemade food. This is untrue because their food is full of **preservatives**, high calories, **additives**, sugar and fat.

It is high time to arrest this ever growing habit of overeating that **stems from** the **deceptive** commercials. Agreed, unlike commercials promoting smoking and liquor, the government is not in a position to ban the nuisance of such adverts. But, nonetheless, there are many other means to stop it. Firstly, the government could always tax heavily fast food items, the way they are **relentlessly** after cigarettes and alcohol. Secondly, together with schools, not-for-profit organizations, and parents should educate children and others about the harmful effects of overeating.

In conclusion, companies in question would do all **to prep** the advertised products sell through traditional campaigning, but the people and the government together need to **defeat** their efforts. (266 words)

Glossary:

to depict (verb): to describe something in words, or give an impression of something in words or with a picture, **detrimental** (adjective): harmful; damaging, **obese** (adjective): (of people) very fat, in a way that is not healthy, **commercial** (noun): an advertisement on radio or on television, **to brainwash** (verb): to force somebody to accept your ideas or beliefs, for example by repeating the same thing many times or by preventing the person from thinking clearly, **preservative** (noun): a substance used to prevent food or wood from decaying, **additive** (noun): a substance that is added in small amounts to something, especially food, in order to improve it, give it color, make it last longer, etc., **to stem from** (verb, not used in the progressive tenses): to be result of something, **deceptive** (adjective): likely to make you believe something that is not true; misleading, **relentlessly** (adverb): in a way that continues strongly, without stopping, giving up or getting less strong, **to prep** (verb): to prepare (something), **to defeat** (verb): to stop something from being successful

15. Many countries spend money to train the individuals to participate the International sporting events. Some people say that money should be spent on public development instead. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Lack of compelling reasons for considering the whole idea	Exhibiting the talent of country at the international competition makes sense
-	Honor and prestige

Spending money or not on training the athletes for international sporting events is a highly debatable issue because both arguments have their own **merits**. Some people believe that medals won at the international competition is a matter of honor and prestige while others believe that there are enough social causes that are in a **dire** need. I strongly support the view of investing in sports and players' training.

First and foremost, facilitating exceptional talent to shine at the international level should not be seen as a liability of the **public purse**. The medal won at the international sporting events is a reflection of a player's hard work which deserves appreciation of the world. Not only is it a moment of pride for the player but also for the country as a whole. The Olympic Games, for example, is a sporting event that provides a platform for athletes to realize their incredible dreams. The whole nation feels as if they have won the same trophy when any player wins a trophy. For many people, it is a priceless moment. What is more, the international recognition of being the best in sports is also a **covetous accolade** for the player and the country.

While there is some merit in the other argument. In some countries, governments struggle to finance public-sector expenditures. They are unable to **address** the basic social issues, such as poverty, infrastructure, education, and so on. Some people therefore put the public development first than anything else.

In conclusion, I believe that there are no **compelling** reasons for not investing in sports by governments. Investing in sports is one of the government's public expenditure from its **portfolio**. It also defines the principle of maximum social advantage. (286 words)

Glossary:

merit (noun): the quality of being good and of deserving praise, reward or admiration, **dire** (adjective): very serious, **first and foremost** (idiom): more than anything else, **to facilitate** (verb): to make an action or process possible or easier, **public purse** (noun): the funds raised by a government by taxation or other

means, **covetous** (adjective): having a strong desire for the things that other people have, **accolade** (noun): praise or an award for an achievement that people admire, **to address** (verb): to think about a problem or a situation and decide how you are going to deal with it, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you it is true, **portfolio** (noun): the particular area of responsibility of a government minister

16. Large international companies are becoming more powerful. Is this a negative development? Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Startups and the deserving entrepreneurs may be at the receiving end	Behind its success, founder's vision and team efforts are in a legitimate way
-	They are more productive, and paying higher wages

'The winner-take-all society' - the **adage** holds true not only for movie stars or athletes but also for large corporations. Most of the time, large multinational corporations are getting bigger in all perfectly **legitimate** ways. However, it would be unwise that these corporations to be tagged as a negative development. I completely disagree with this statement.

On the positive side, a corporation becomes bigger by no **fluke**. They get bigger by the founder's vision, and are backed by team effort over the years. Very few companies are armed with certain business skills, such as leadership, **perseverance**, innovation, competitiveness and others. Corporations with such qualities top the list. If other companies have not been able to do so, it means they lack something or other to compete with them. Furthermore, large corporations are generally more productive, and well-positioned to pay higher wages and to compete in the globalized economy.

On the negative side, large corporations operate at a bigger scale and enjoy **economies of scale**, and also take advantage of customer loyalty fully. In some cases, they have certain exclusive licenses for products or they have a **shield** of certain patents that prevent their rivals from competing. This **stifles** innovation, and at times startups and the deserving **entrepreneurs** get crushed invariably. There is another negative about large corporations which is very **dreadful**. Assume if any large corporation goes into **liquidation**, the government could be in trouble instantly. Thousands of workers become jobless overnight when the large corporation happens to shut. Such a situation is a **nightmare scenario** for both workers and the government.

In summary, I certainly acknowledge the fact that there are some concerns, but it is definitely not a negative development at all. This is the only way how the corporate world behaves, and any new entrant could win this race by inventing a better **mousetrap** for his customers. (308 words)

Glossary:

adage (noun): a well-known phrase expressing a general truth about people or the world; saying, **legitimate** (adjective): for which there is a fair and acceptable reason; valid; justifiable, **fluke** (noun): a lucky or unusual thing that happens by accident, not because of planning or skill, **perseverance** (noun): the quality of continuing to try to achieve a particular aim despite difficulties, **economy of scale** (phrase): a proportionate saving in costs gained by an increased level of production, **shield** (noun): a person or thing used to protect somebody/something, especially by forming a barrier, **to stifle** (verb): to prevent something from happening; to prevent a feeling from being expressed; suppress, **entrepreneur** (noun): a person who makes money by starting or running businesses, especially when this involves taking financial risks, **dreadful** (adjective): very bad or unpleasant, **liquidation** (noun): the process of closing a company, selling what it owns and paying its debts, **nightmare scenario** (noun): a situation which is very difficult to deal with, **mousetrap** (noun): a trap with a powerful spring that is used, for example, in a house, for catching mice; a trick that induces to do something

17. Nowadays we are producing more and more rubbish (garbage). Why do you think this is happening? What can governments do to help reduce the amount of rubbish produced?

Causes	Solutions
Lifestyle	Concept of the three 'R's: reduce, re-use, recycle
Mindset	Bringing awareness among people

Environmentalists have been warning, and worrying about the alarming rate at which mankind is producing garbage. This essay will discuss the reasons behind this **catastrophic** failure, and offers some valuable suggestions about possible government actions to address this issue.

At the onset, we could only blame ourselves for producing more and more rubbish every day. Products that are sold generally pre-wrapped in plastic or **polystyrene** containers. It is particularly popular among processed food industries. Beyond doubt, we are **plagued** by the convenience factor of modern life which means we have developed a habit of using and throwing this packaging away. Another cause responsible for the mountain of garbage is the explosion of population. The more we are, the more garbage we produce.

Indeed, there are always solutions to any **menace**. Together with government actions and ourselves we could reduce the problem of rubbish. Firstly, there is an established concept of the three 'R's: reduce, re-use and recycle. This concept **signifies** to change certain habits and policies of the government. We should try to limit the excessive use of packaging of goods at our level. Additionally, we should not throw the plastic bags away that we get from shops. Instead, they should be re-used until they are in a reusable condition. Finally, we should build pressure on local councils to force companies to adopt a complete recycling program. For instance, coffee shops in the USA sell around four billion disposable cups of beverage a year. This generates a tremendous environment impact and fills **landfills** with most cups, straws, **cup sleeves**, napkins and lids.

In conclusion, this cause needs attention and immediate action to protect our planet from the **proliferation** of garbage pollution. To do so, we must need to change our mindsets and lifestyles. (293 words)

Glossary:

environmentalist (noun): a person who is concerned about the natural environment and wants to improve and protect it, **catastrophic** (adjective): (of a natural event) causing a lot of damage and suffering; disastrous, **polystyrene also Styrofoam** in North American English (noun): a very soft plastic that is usually white, used especially for making containers that prevent heat loss, **to plague** (verb): to cause pain or trouble to somebody/something over a period of time, **to signify** (verb): to mean, **landfill** (noun): an area of land where large amounts of waste material are buried under the earth, **cup sleeve** (noun): the sleeve that is roughly cylindrical which fits tightly over handle-less paper coffee cups to insulate the drinker's hands from hot coffee or tea, **proliferation** (noun): the sudden increase in the number or amount of something; a large number of a particular thing

18. Government investment in the arts, such as music and theatre is a waste of money. Governments must invest this money in public services instead. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
Improving the lifestyle	Arts and culture sector is underserved
Propelling the employment growth	Prestige and honor

The government investment includes spending on various sectors. As to the allocation of money spent according to a set of criteria by the government, most of the time, the society is always divided in their opinions. A section of people believes in spending more money on public services rather than promoting arts and culture. However, I agree with this perspective partly, as described below.

The government has a lot many responsibilities with regard to achieving **equilibrium** in the economy by spending on various public services. For example, we are the **beneficiaries** of many facilities, such as public schools, roads, transportation means, and hospitals. The investment in public services is essential because they are done to address day-to-day requirements of the public. Without the investment in these sectors, there will be an adverse impact on the lifestyle and essential needs of people. Similarly, this investment also **propels** the growth of employment in the economy.

Having said the benefits of public services, by no means the investment in arts, music or theater should be squeezed. Importantly, there are two main reasons that advocate this spending. Firstly, it is hard for arts institutions and related services to generate revenues. Without the government funding, they will not be able to sustain. People get immense pleasure by involving themselves into various artistic activities. Additionally, there are also other people who love to **behold** their work and performance. Secondly, the richer the country is in this domain, the more prestige and honor it receives. There are certain things in our life which are beyond price, too.

On the balance of evidence, certainly public services cannot be put **on the back burner** because they improve the quality of life. I therefore believe that there should be a **proportionate** investment in arts and cultural activities since they are already **underserved**. (302 words)

Glossary:

equilibrium (noun): a state of balance, especially between opposing forces or influences, **beneficiary** (noun): a person who gains as a result of something, **to propel** (verb): to spur or drive into a particular situation, **to behold** (verb): to look at or see somebody/something, **on the back burner** (idiom): (of an idea, a plan, etc.) left for the present time, to be done or considered later, **proportionate** (adjective): increasing or decreasing in size, amount or degree according to changes in something else; proportional, **underserved** (adjective): (of an area or group of people) not getting enough help, products or services

19. Nowadays the crime rate among young people is increasing. Why do you think this is happening? What can be done by parents and teachers to reduce it?

Causes	Opinions/Solutions
Drugs and alcohol	Stricter policies and penalties
-	School and family playing a significant role

The rise in crime rate among young people is a serious matter of concern these days. It is **heart-wrenching** to see young people **going astray** in the society. This essay will examine the possible reasons of the increased crime rate among youngsters and possible solutions that could address this **menace**.

The possible reasons for the rise in the youth crime could be attributed to drug addiction, unemployment or troubled childhood. The principal cause, to me, is doing drugs and **binge** drinking among youth. It is a common sight to see teenagers drink excessively, and under the influence of alcohol they lose control and commit crimes. For example, it has often been witnessed that fights break out outside of pubs and clubs in New Delhi. Law enforcement agencies also **opine that** there is a direct connection of crime with the drug abuse these days. Additionally, some teenagers form a nasty habit of doing drugs and get addicted to it **profusely**. Their state is so bad that in order to feed their addiction, they do not mind committing any petty crimes.

There are ways to **combat** this sort of crime that has torn apart the life of youth. The stricter policies and penalties from the law enforcement agency could possibly **deter** young people from a life of crime. The other possible solution that might work is together parents and teachers explain them about the dangers of crime and bad habits. Last but not least, we must have an efficient system so that youth could remain better informed.

In conclusion, drugs and alcohol use could be primary reasons of the crime among young children. Both with the enforcement and counseling, the society could save them going astray and their precious life. (288 words)

Glossary:

heart-wrenching (adjective): causing great sadness; heartbreaking, **to go astray** (idiom): to go in wrong direction or to have the wrong result, **menace** (noun) a person or thing that causes, or may cause, serious damage, harm or danger; threat, **binge** (noun): a short period of time when somebody does too much of a particular activity, especially eating or drinking alcohol, **to opine that** (verb): to express a particular opinion, **profusely** (adverb): in large amounts, **to combat** (verb): to stop something unpleasant or harmful from happening or from getting worse, **to deter** (verb): to make somebody decide not to do something or continue doing something, especially by making them understand the difficulties and unpleasant results of their actions

20. **Every country has poor people and every country has different ways of dealing with the poor. What are some of the results for the world poverty? What can be done to help the poor?**

Causes	Opinions/Solutions
War and armed uprising	Peaceful negotiations
Population explosion and underdevelopment	Governments are addressing this concern
Unemployment and natural disasters	Richer nations are setting up industries

It is a fact that thousands of families, no matter how affluent the countries they live in, are living in grinding poverty. Poor people are **deprived of** essential goods and services to the point where their life becomes dreadful. This essay examines the interesting facts of poverty, and offers some possible solutions.

To begin with, the most important factor responsible for poverty is either war or an armed **uprising** in a country. Take for example, Syria has been going through the armed uprising for a few years. It is estimated that half of Syrians have been **displaced** by the fighting, and left with no shelter, food, and other essentials. Their children do not have access to drinking water and school. It is a **sorry plight** of all **war-torn** countries. War or an armed uprising is not a solution to any problem. The only solution they have is to sort out their disputes and disagreement by the **bilateral** peaceful dialogues.

Besides the war-torn countries, other strong countries such as India and China face the challenges of population explosion and underdevelopment. Their governments have a long way to go to create wealth per capita for their citizens. On a positive note, they have identified their **shortcomings**, and are fixing them by controlling the birth rate and developing resources. Other countries go through the problems of unemployment and natural disasters. They rely on the foreign aid to address their issues. But the richer nations now are trying to create job opportunities by industrializing such countries. Bangladesh is a classic example of being the number one country in the apparel manufacturing currently.

In conclusion, poverty is an **inescapable** reality, and each country has its own challenges - for some challenges they themselves are responsible and for others they depend upon the mercy of Mother Nature. **So far so good**, much good work is being done. (309 words)

Glossary:

deprived of (phrasal verb): to prevent somebody having or doing something, especially something important, **uprising** (noun): a situation in which a group of people join together in order to fight against the people who are in power; revolt; rebellion, **to displace** (verb): to force people to move away from their home to another place, **sorry plight** (noun): a difficult or bad situation, **war-torn** (adjective): a war-torn country or area is severely affected by the fighting that is taking place there, **bilateral** (adjective): involving two groups of people or two countries, **shortcoming** (noun): a fault in somebody's character, a plan, a system, etc.; defect, **inescapable** (adjective): (of a fact or a situation) that you cannot avoid or ignore; unavoidable , **so far so good** (idiom, saying): used to say that things have been successful until now and you hope that they will continue to be successful, but you know that the task, etc. is not finished yet

21. It is more important for schoolchildren to learn about local history than world history. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Familiarizing with history is important	World history is desirable in this globalized world
Helping to know about origin and core values	Handy in integrating into the foreign culture

Some people believe that the importance of the local or national history **outweighs** the importance of the world history. They opine that there are no benefits of understanding and learning the world history. I disagree with their points of view for some good reasons, as described below.

On the one hand, I **second** the **outlook** that schoolchildren ought to familiarize themselves with the local history. At the onset, it offers them a sense of belonging and pride when they learn about their history. Most countries had gone through a bloodbath for their freedom. They will know about invaluable sacrifices that their **ancestors** made for the freedom. Secondly, which is more important, they will learn about the origin and core values of their motherland. By this way, they will be able to carry forward their customs to the next generation with a story to tell always.

On the other hand, knowing about the world history has its own **distinctive** merits. In this globalized world, interdependence of trade has made people travel the world. These young children surely **reap** benefits when they are grown up and **mobile** for any purpose. Armed with the broader prospective, they are able to **integrate** into the local culture of other countries. This bank of

knowledge helps them to know about the past developments and the origins of people across the globe.

In conclusion, I support the notion of learning the history of the nation and world for young children as it makes sense and serves the purpose. (251 words)

Glossary:

to outweigh (verb): to be greater or more important than something, **to second** (verb): to agree, **outlook** (noun): the attitude to life and the world of a particular person, group or culture, **ancestor** (noun): a person in your family who lived a long time ago; forefather, **distinctive** (adjective): having a quality or characteristic that makes something different and easily noticed; characteristic, **to reap** (verb): to obtain something, especially something good, as a direct result of something that you have done , **mobile** (adjective): (of a person) able to move or travel around easily, **to integrate** (verb): to become or make somebody become accepted as a member of a social group, especially when they come from a different culture

22. Some people believe that sport competitions are a source of emotional stress for young people. Therefore, youth should be banned from participating in sports competitions. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Element of stress involved but it is offset	No compelling evidence available for stress
-	Helping children to remain fit and agile

There is no denying that competitions are a part of our life, and in fact, we have grown up either participating or watching it. No matter how hard the competitions are, the youth needs to **cope** with competitions and school exams that test either their mental strength or physical toughness. I disagree with the notion of banning youth from participating in sports competitions because of their emotional stress.

The very first argument against banning youth from participating in sports events is we have no **compelling** evidence that it works against their physical and mental strength. Rather, it works in their favor. Sports activities always make young people fit and **agile**. They also help them build their stamina. Another distinctive merit of competitions is they teach youngsters the important lessons of life - they experience both victory and defeat alike, and push themselves to manage both situations. They also get benefitted from certain **apparent** advantages, such as a spirit of belonging and **camaraderie**, teamwork,

leadership and mental toughness. Furthermore, several studies and researches **reveal** that children who participate in competitions enjoy the best mental and emotional health.

It is true that some children are unable to deal with emotional stress efficiently. But this negative is **offset** by other remarkable positives. A child without experiencing a sense of competition harms none but himself the most. For instance, games such as tennis, football, hockey, and others test their fitness level. A playful child is far better than a dull and obese child.

In conclusion, children have a better opportunity to learn **life skills** by means of participating in sports events. I acknowledge the fact that there is some amount of stress is involved, but banning children from participating sports activities does not serve the purpose. (291 words)

Glossary:

to cope (verb): to deal successfully with something difficult; manage, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you it is true, **agile** (adjective): able to move quickly and easily; nimble, **apparent** (adjective): easy to see and understand; obvious, **camaraderie** (noun): a feeling of friendship and trust among people who work or spend a lot of time together, **to reveal** (verb): to make something known to somebody; disclose, **to offset** (verb): to counteract (something) by having an equal and opposite force or effect, **life skill** (noun, usually plural): a skill that is necessary or extremely useful to manage well in daily life

23. Some people claim that governments should take action to ensure that people have a healthy lifestyle. Others, however, disagree and believe that people should decide themselves which way they prefer to live their life. To what extend do you agree, and suggest your opinions?

Agreement/Opinions	Disagreement
Health Advisory given on a regular note	Restricting people to make their choices is against the fundamental right
Offering food grains free or at subsidized costs to poverty-stricken families	People are enough sagacious to differentiate between what is right and what is wrong

It is **apparent** that any government would display concerns for the health of its citizens. In a democratic country, however, it is a big question that how far the government can intervene in the personal choices of citizens. This essay examines the possible role of government with regard to addressing the issue of an unhealthy lifestyle.

At the onset, it is understandable that the government would always be concerned about the **well-being** of its citizens. However, it cannot decide what should be on the plate of citizens. If they do so, it would be tagged as an open violation against the fundamental rights of citizens. People have to be allowed to make their own choices.

The government, on a regular basis, issues many health **advisories**, and gives the information about healthy and unhealthy food habits. I certainly believe that people are **judicious** enough to make the right choices. The health awareness that includes picking the right food was not so prominent as ever before as it is today. If people decide to choose an unhealthy lifestyle, they do it at their own risk.

At best, there are certain **benevolent** jobs that the government can perform in this disadvantaged area. In many poor countries, yet people go to bed with an empty stomach and live a life in a poor sanitation. Owing to the **abject** poverty, they do not have the fortune of a one-time meal even and remain **undernourished**. There comes the role of government because it is their duty to feed these people by offering them free food grains or at subsidized costs. This will ensure that every child will grow healthy.

In summary, the government has no right to impose its decision on this point. They can create awareness and educate people about the healthy eating habits. Every citizen has a right to healthy food, regardless of his financial situation. (312 words)

Glossary:

apparent (adjective): easy to see or understand; obvious, **well-being** (noun): general health and happiness, **advisory** (adjective): having the role of giving professional advice, **judicious** (adjective): careful and sensible; showing good judgment, **at best** (idiom): used for saying what is the best opinion you can have of somebody/something, or the best thing that can happen, when the situation is bad, **benevolent** (adjective): (especially of people in authority) kind, helpful and generous, **abject** (adjective): terrible and without hope, **undernourished** (adjective): in bad health because of a lack of food or a lack of the right type of food

24. Cycling has many benefits, yet in some countries there is a decrease in the number of people using bicycles as their main form of transportation. Why is it happening? Give suggestions on how to encourage people to use bicycles again?

Causes	Suggestions
Time constraint	Bringing awareness about the fitness benefit of cycling
Expansion of the middle class	-
Roads are not designed to safeguard cyclists	-

Public transportation and private cars have clearly taken over from the earlier trend of using bicycles for **commuting** in the world. Bicycle use seems to have gone into a **free fall**. This essay discusses the reasons behind this declining trend of bicycles, and offers some suggestions for a possible reversal.

Before the revolution of automobile industry, the bicycle was in a great demand. Now, the scenario has completely changed. The first cause of this decline is a time factor. These days, cities are getting larger, and using a bicycle as a transportation means makes no sense because it consumes a lot much time for a **roundtrip**. Secondly, a car was a luxury in the world from the 1960s to 1990s, only the upper-middle class and the rich could afford it then. Times have changed, and now they are not as expensive as they were before - **coupled with** improving affordability factor. Thirdly, which is very important in my view, the design of roads in some countries are not best suited for cyclists. Most have been designed to accommodate cars, motorbikes and trucks. This **poses** a threat to the life of the cyclist. Imagine a car behind the cyclist goes at a 90kmph speed. The cyclist is at risk of being **knocked down** by the car.

Candidly speaking, there are ways to encourage people to use bicycles, but it seems a **daunting** task. To begin with, mostly bicycle use has reduced to the exercise purpose. We should create awareness by explaining this benefit to the society. Secondly, the government ought to promote it aggressively for the benefits of citizens' health.

In conclusion, though there are **irresistible** advantages of cycling, it is really a tough job for the society and the government to bring the bicycle back on the streets because our lifestyle has changed dramatically. (304 words)

Glossary:

to commute (verb): to travel regularly by bus, train, car, etc. between your place of work and your home, **free fall** (noun): a sudden drop in the value of something that cannot be stopped , **roundtrip** (noun); going to a place and back again; for or connected with such a journey, **to couple with** (phrasal verb, usually passive): to link one thing, situation, etc. to another, **to pose** (verb): to create a threat, problem, etc. that has to be dealt with, **to knock down** (phrasal verb): to hit somebody and make them fall to the ground , **daunting** (adjective): making somebody feel nervous and less confident about doing something, likely to make somebody feel this way; intimidating, **irresistible** (adjective): so strong that it cannot be stopped or resisted

25. Academic institutions should only deal with academic studies and passing examinations. Skills such as cookery, woodwork, and tailoring are better to be taught at home by family members and friends. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement? Give reasons for your answer and include relevant examples from your own experience.

Agreement	Disagreement
Academic schools having their own concentration	-
Academic schools cannot burden students unnecessarily	-
Vocational colleges are available for the interested students	-

There is a clear **distinction** between academic schools and vocational schools as per their **concentration** in our academic setting. Most academic schools have set aside about one hour or so weekly for trade courses. I believe that this much focus is good enough for students, and those who desire to further study in these courses have an option of switching to trade schools. Thus, I agree with this topic wholly.

The primary goal of academic schools is to equip students with basic training in academics. Students who do well in their academic courses such as Science, Mathematics, Computer, History and Literature have altogether different career aspirations. Perhaps, they **aspire** to become doctors, engineers or professors. Generally, these jobs are well-paid, prestigious and in a great demand. On the other end, vocational courses are optional. Therefore, there is no need for academic schools to **burden** their students unnecessarily.

It is seen that students who struggle to study the primary academic subjects tend to choose the vocational courses. For them, whatever brief training about these courses have been offered at academic schools is sufficient for them. For example, once a student is convinced that what it takes to be a fitter, he could join the industry-specific learning course to help advance his career. This is how it works. To **reiterate** my point, I have never witnessed any crane operator or fitter complaining about the lack of trade schools for them. **Invariably**, this proves that there are the required numbers of schools available to accommodate this section of students. Alternatively, the help of family members and friends would be handy to the aspirants.

In conclusion, the traditional academic schools may not be required to provide the vocational training, such as carpentry, craft or cookery. They have been designed for specific academic courses. (299 words)

Glossary:

distinction (noun): a clear difference or contrast especially between people or things that are similar or related, **concentration** (noun): dealing with one particular thing above all others, **to aspire** (verb): to have a strong desire to achieve or to become something, **to burden** (verb): to give somebody a duty, responsibility, etc. that causes worry, difficulty or hard work, **to reiterate** (verb): to repeat something that you have already said, especially to emphasize it, **invariably** (adverb): always, without fail

26. Some people say that private schools should be banned because they give students an unfair advantage on others. To what extent do you agree or disagree? Give your opinions, and include relevant examples from your own experience.

Agreement	Disagreement
-	Banning private schools wouldn't address the issue
-	Private schools meeting the unmet demand

The quality of the school is of paramount importance since mankind's future prosperity depends on the human talent that comes from these schools. Our schools are divided into two sections: Private schools and Public schools. Oftentimes people believe that the student from a private school has **the upper hand** over the one from the other school. I am in agreement partially. This essay describes both ends of the discussion with my perspective.

First and foremost, teachers from public schools are not short of skills at all. The standard process of quality and aptitude check is done by the relevant authority while recruiting teachers. Yet it is true students studying in these schools **lag**

behind in terms of their aptitude development and competing skills with the world students. I believe that the biggest factor behind this poor performance is lack of commitment and accountability of teachers. Teachers' casual approach and insincerity in delivering the quality education impact heavily on students, especially students coming from poor families. The destitute is unable to afford the private schools.

In contrast, private schools are run like private organizations, and they know that their poor quality will throw them out of competition. Hence they recruit the best and qualified teachers to keep their quality **intact** all the time. This invariably benefits students. For example, private schools have **mushroomed** in India due to lack of quality public schools. I have witnessed parents in India spend their lifetime saving after the education of their children.

In my final analysis, every child has a right to access to quality education. Banning private schools will never address the rapidly **deteriorating** quality of public schools. While it is a **commendable** job of private schools that have met the unmet demand in our society. Governments should step up efforts to improve the quality of education of public schools. (306 words)

Glossary:

the upper hand (idiom): to get an advantage over somebody so that you are in control of a particular situation, **to lag behind** (verb): to move or develop slowly or move slowly than other people, organizations, etc., **intact** (adjective): complete and not damaged; undamaged, **to mushroom** (verb): to rapidly grow or increase in number, **to deteriorate** (verb): to become worse, **commendable** (adjective): deserving praise and approval

27. Nowadays children are consuming too many sugar-based drinks. What are the reasons and the solutions for this situation?

Causes	Solutions
Beverage companies having deep pockets for marketing	Government health advisories
Easy availability	Beverages should be taxed higher
Celebs' endorsement increasing popularity	Schools and parents needing to explain toxic effects

Needless to say that sugary drink **wreaks havoc** on the entire body of a child. This reality is well understood, yet we have failed to rescue children from unhealthy soft drinks. This essay examines the reasons of increased intake of sugary drinks, and suggests ways to tackle this situation.

Firstly, the bombardment of commercials from multinational beverage companies are presented in a manner that children feel that they cannot do without such sugary drinks. For instance, the sugary drink contains caffeine, lots of sugar and chemicals. Yet, they are depicted in a manner that once it is consumed, the child will become like a 'Superman'. **Bizarrely,** all in the name of bottom line, such **hokum** is sold by large corporations targeting moldable minds - children. Secondly, the easy availability of soft drinks makes it more popular. Lastly, large beverage corporations have **deep pockets** to **rope in** both national and international celebrities and sportspersons endorsing their products. Some children feel good by **emulating** their role models.

Looking at the current scenario of this bad habit among children, it is very hard for them to stay away from it. **To counter** this **menace**, the government must be on the front to lead the campaign by issuing health advisories against sugary drinks on TV, especially during the prime time. They can also increase the tax burden on such beverages, the way they do with tobacco and alcohol. This way these drinks will become more expensive - to some extent unaffordable for some children. Together Schools and parents can bring awareness among children about the **toxic** effects of such beverages.

In summary, all **endeavors** must be **exercised** to make these drinks less popular and less affordable. To do so, every measure discussed above has to play its role. (292 words)

Glossary:

to wreck (verb): to damage or destroy something; to spoil something completely, **havoc** (noun): a situation in which there is a lot of damage, destruction or confusion, **bizarrely** (adverb): in a very strange or unusual way; weirdly, **hokum** (noun): an idea, argument, etc. that you think is stupid, **deep pockets** (noun): a large amount of money that can be spent, great financial resources , **to rope in** (phrasal verb): to persuade somebody to join in an activity or to help to do something, even when they do not want to, **to emulate** (verb):, **to counter** (verb):, **menace** (noun):, **toxic** (adjective):, **endeavor** (noun):, to exercise (verb):

28. The only reason people work hard is to earn more money. There are no other reasons to do it. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Obsolete notion	Human psychology has changed
-	Extrinsic value is as important as intrinsic value

Gone are the days when people had only worked for their **livelihood**. With time, the aspiration from the job has changed dramatically now. Today, people have various reasons for working for someone or for himself. **Ergo**, I partly agree with this statement, and describe my point of view favoring the partial agreement.

It is an undeniable truth that it was a time when people were driven only by the singular objective of earning money. Years back, in most countries, people struggled to make their ends meet. However, it has changed in the last fifty years. The **covetous** prosperity which was a dream to many has become reality in the 21st century in most countries. The way human psychology has **evolved**, the same way their aspirations have changed too. For example, an employee expects a job promotion not only for money, but he also feels that he deserves to move up the success ladder also.

On the contrary, various researches back the notion of people working for job satisfaction, creativity, and where the talent is **harnessed**. In democratic countries, governments have been under immense pressure of maintaining the equal distribution of income for their masses. This political will or a forced expectation has enabled people to have a decent livelihood **barring** in some countries. This has advantaged the people who are ambitious and with the rare talent to expect more from the job in terms of satisfaction rather than money. Furthermore, large corporations have also realized that money is not everything that can buy the talent for their growth. Therefore, they have gone a step ahead with nurturing the human talent.

In conclusion, I acknowledge the fact that money is a definite driver for many, but not for all on absolute terms. These days, people look at both aspects of **intrinsic** and **extrinsic** values from the job. (306 words)

Glossary:

livelihood (noun): a means of earning money in order to live, **ergo** (adverb): therefore, **covetous** (adjective): having a strong desire for the things that other people have, **to evolve** (verb): to develop gradually, especially from a simple to a more complicated form; to develop something in this way, **to harness** (verb): to control or use the force or strength of something to produce power or to achieve something, **barring** (preposition): except for; unless there is/are. **Intrinsic** (adjective): belonging to or part of the real nature of something/somebody, **extrinsic** (adjective): not belonging naturally to somebody/something; coming from or existing outside somebody/something rather than within from

29. Intelligence is most important component for leadership. Do you agree or disagree? Give your opinion and support it with adequate examples.

Agreement	Disagreement
Intelligence is one of the components, but not absolute	Other traits are also essential, such as emotional intelligence
-	No research has backed this notion to date

Prerequisite qualities to become a successful leader in the business or politics have continued to **spark** a storm of debate over the years. Some people **opine** that intelligence is the single most effective trait of leadership while others oppose it. I completely disagree with the statement for a few **compelling** reasons, as described below.

It is a well-established **myth** that intelligence could be the most important **trait** of leadership. However, no research has backed this myth to date. On the contrary, psychologists and the documented research believe that the successful leader is composed mainly of other qualities, such as toughness, determination and vision - the qualities traditionally associated with leadership.

Not only these qualities that make a person a successful leader. Findings also show some **substantial** evidence **underpinning** the fact that the leader must possess the other important skill which is the emotional intelligence. The emotional intelligence **denotes** self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, **empathy** and the social skill. Though it may sound the opposite businesslike, it clearly **resonates with** the measurable business results. For example, Martin Luther King Jr. whose goal was to end **racial segregation** and discrimination using peaceful means was driven by his emotional intelligence. He had a clear vision and mission for this solid cause. He is one of the most successful leaders of the 20th century because of other qualities including intelligence **without any qualms**.

In conclusion, I acknowledge the fact that intelligence is an essential skill for a leader, but with intelligence alone, we may not have the desired result. A successful leadership demands the **assortment** of traits and under situations which may evolve with time. (268 words)

Glossary:

prerequisite (adjective): that must exist or happen before something else can happen or be done , **to spark** (verb): to cause something to start or develop, especially suddenly , **to opine** (verb): to express a particular opinion, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you think it is true, **myth** (noun): something that many people believe but that does not exist or is false , **trait** (noun): a particular quality,

substantial (adjective): large in amount, value or importance; considerable, **underpinning** (noun): something that supports or forms the basis of an argument, a claim, etc. **to denote** (verb): to mean something; represent, **empathy** (adjective): the ability to understand another person's feelings, experience, etc., **to resonate with** (phrasal verb): to be full of a particular quality or feeling , **racial** (adjective): happening or existing between people of different races, **segregation** (noun): the act or policy of separating people of different races, religions, or sexes and treating them in a different way, **without any qualms** (phrase): without doubt, **assortment** (noun): a collection of different things or of different types of the same thing; mixture

30. Nowadays it is possible to use computers and mobile phones for automatic language translation, and there is no need for human translators and interpreters. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
-	Technology failing to convey the subtle nuances of meaning
-	Important taking cues from the context

Needless to say that human talent is unique and unmatchable in many cases. There are several mobile apps and software that have made the job of translation and interpretation easy **albeit** not popular and not useful **in its entirety**. I have reason to believe that the human talent and its **intervention** in certain jobs would never be replaced. This essay describes my disagreement **in light of** the recent trend of use of the technology for the said purpose.

The human talent in many jobs has been replaced by the technology. In some jobs, it is a **boon** for the society, but it has not been able to run over the human talent absolutely. Such is the truth with translation and interpretation of the **vernacular** language for various purposes. I believe that the automatic translation and interpretation using the technology is yet to make the **debut** in the society. The first distinctive merit to support my point is the technology cannot convey the **subtle nuances** of meaning of each word. It only offers the meaning of words, hence it cannot create a sensible context which is of **paramount** importance.

Secondly, it is significant to understand the meaning from the context. Or the whole idea could be **distorted** if the right meaning is lost. For example, the verb, 'kill' and **'assassinate'** have the same meaning of killing but both have different contexts altogether. Only the human talent can **distinguish** the difference of both meanings. It may create an utter confusion or misunderstanding if the tool does not figure out the right word.

In summary, the job of translators and interpreters is not yet under threat. The relevant apps and software lack **sixth sense**, and certainly they can **rival** humans in this department with a little success. (295 words)

Glossary:

albeit (conjunction): although, **in its/their entirety** (idiom): as a whole, rather than in parts, **intervention** (noun): action taken to improve or help a situation, **in light of** also **in the light of** (idiom): after considering something, **boon** (noun): something that is very helpful and makes. life easier for you, **vernacular** (adjective): (of language) spoken in a particular area or by a particular group, especially when it is not the official or written language; using a vernacular language, **debut** (noun): the first public appearance of a performer or a sport player, **subtle** (adjective): good at noticing and understanding things, **nuance** (noun): a very slight difference in meaning, sound, color, or somebody's feelings that is not usually very obvious, **paramount** (adjective): more important than anything else, **to distort** (verb): to twist or change facts, ideas, etc. so that they are no longer correct or true, **to assassinate** (verb): to murder an important or famous person, especially for political reasons, **to distinguish** (verb): to recognize the difference between two people or things; differentiate, **sixth sense** (noun): a special ability to know something without using any of the five sense that include touch, sight, etc., **rival** (noun): (of a person, company, thing, etc.) competing with another person, company, thing, etc.

31. Nowadays many people go shopping in their free time. Shopping has replaced many other activities that people used to choose as their hobby. What are the reasons for this? Is this a positive or negative development?

Causes/Reasons	Opinions
Excessive marketing	Only the consumer can restrain himself from being shopaholic
Credit card	-
Show-off	-

Life is **fecund**, so are the products. The visual **merchandising** was never so strong than what it is today, and smart corporations create the unwanted demand for consumers. It is true for some people, shopping has become a habit. The way this trend is gaining **momentum** is really a matter of concern for the society. This essay examines the reasons of this phenomenon, and suggests ways to tackle this situation.

People increasingly are involved in excessive shopping these days. It was a time, when people had a few hours they would play games or meet friends. It seems that this culture has been **hijacked** by the unwanted shopping. There are several

reasons behind this unwanted **consumerism**. Firstly, shoppers are bombarded with too many commercials. Constant commercials invite them to keep shopping, no matter if they really need that stuff or not. Secondly, the ready availability of credit cards has **fuelled** this trend, too. For example, though the **closet bursts at the seams** and the wallet is empty, yet people are **enticed** into buying more. That is because of the extra credit facility. Lastly, there is a **contagious** disease of showing off in our society. If only somebody has bought something, that does not mean others should follow the same.

There is no harm in shopping things that are in need. However, the compulsive shopping could lead an individual into a heavy debt - the debt from which he may not be able to **recuperate** for years. It is important that they **restrain** themselves from unwanted things. More importantly, credit cards are meant to be used for **contingencies** or till the point one can afford to pay back.

In conclusion, this trend is worrisome, and a lot many people have faced the financial crisis owing to their habit of **shopaholic**. Only the consumer can check himself from this nasty habit. (309 words)

Glossary:

fecund (adjective): able to produce a lot of children, crop, etc.; fertile, **merchandising** (noun): the activity of selling goods, or trying to sell them, by advertising or displaying them, **momentum** (noun): the ability to keep increasing or developing, **to hijack** (verb): to use or take control of something, especially a meeting, in order to advertise your own aims and interests , **consumerism** (noun): the buying and using of goods and services; the belief that it is good for a society or an individual person to buy and use a large quantity of goods and services, **to fuel** (verb): to increase something; to make something stronger; stoke, **closet** (noun): a small room or a space in a wall with a door that reaches the floor, used for keeping things, **to burst at the seams** (idiom): to be very full, **to entice** (verb): to persuade something/somebody to go somewhere or to do something, usually by offering something; persuade, **contagious** (adjective, figurative meaning): spread quickly to other people, **to recuperate** (verb): to get back money that you have spent or lost; recover; recoup, **to restrain** (verb): to stop yourself from feeling an emotion or doing something that you would like to do, **contingency** (noun): an event that may or may not happen; possibility, **shopaholic** (adjective): enjoying shopping very much and spending too much time or money doing it

32. Nowadays many people wear western clothes rather than their traditional clothes. What are the reasons for it? Is it a positive or negative development?

Causes/Reasons	Points for
Mobility of people	Protecting from the dress-based discrimination
-	Easy availability of western clothes
-	Enhancing the appearance

Western clothes without any doubt are gaining popularity in every part of the world for a variety of reasons. Some people argue that this development is negative because the traditional outfits are getting **obsolete**. However, this essay describes my point of view in support of western clothes.

In the last few decades, people have become more mobile for their studies and employment preferences. **The West** has registered an **unprecedented influx** of migrants, which is a chief reason behind popularity of western clothes. Indeed, western countries are the center of education and business these days.

Firstly, the western clothing protects the wearer from dress-based **discrimination**. For example, a person from the East with the traditional **attire** going to an American school might lead him into the cultural **alienation**. Wearing western clothes may help him to fit into the new surroundings at ease. Secondly, western clothes are easily available in all parts of the world. One does not need to struggle to get them while the traditional garments are available at selected places or stores. Thus, the shopper either has to get them from his own country or end up buying those clothes at higher prices in overseas markets. Thirdly, western clothes are very stylish, **dressy** and sensible and they **cater for** all ages. This argument may be subjective, but certainly western clothes enhance the appearance.

In conclusion, depending upon the city or the country, it is possible to spot some traditional garments, but these days they are confined only to certain events. It is not an entirely negative development if western outfits are chosen over the other ones. It comes down to the personal preference in the end. (278 words)

Glossary:

obsolete (adjective): no longer used because something new has been invented; out of date, **the West** (noun): Europe, North America and Canada, contrasted with Eastern countries, **unprecedented** (adjective): that has never happened, been done or been known before, **influx** (noun): the fact of a lot people, money or things arrive somewhere, **discrimination** (noun): the practice of treating somebody or a particular group in society less fairly than others, **attire** (noun): clothes, **alienation** (noun): the act of making somebody less friendly or sympathetic towards you, **dressy** (adjective): (of clothes) elegant and formal, **to cater for** (verb): to provide the things that a particular person or situation needs or wants

33. Some people believe that subjects such as art, music, drama and creative writing have a bright future. Therefore, schools should spend more time teaching these subjects. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
Offering bright prospects	These subjects are linked to natural talent
-	Unwise forcing other students to learn these courses

School includes both academic courses and co-curricular courses to mold a child for the **competence** level. Compared to the regular subjects, some people believe that other co-curricular subjects such as Art and Drama also offer a bright future to many, and hence they should be **emphasized** upon, too. This essay discusses the extent to which it might be true.

Traditionally, the school focuses upon the regular subjects, such as Science, Mathematics, Language, History and so on since they develop students' skills. The subjects in question are generally run alongside these courses. We must acknowledge the fact that all the students may not be interested in co-curricular subjects. For example, there could be a handful of students who may desire to become actors. Additionally, the research also suggests in most cases talent is natural to a student. Basic fundamentals to some extent are taught, but students build upon further based on their natural talent. Those who have a natural talent could pursue these kinds of courses by enrolling in Theater course later on. The learning of the regular courses will also help them do better in such professions too.

Alternatively, if a school chooses to pay lesser attention to the regular courses, it would be disastrous for the other students because these courses give fundamental knowledge, and familiarize them with other related functions. Convinced that the amount of time dedicated to co-curricular courses at school is not enough for some students, but it would be unwise to give more time and make other students learn these subjects forcefully.

In conclusion, I believe that the sufficient amount of time is given to courses, such as Art, Music, Drama and Creative Writing. Time taken off from the regular subjects may not do justice to the other students. (295 words)

Glossary:

competence (noun): the ability to do something well, **to emphasize** (verb): to give special importance to something; stress

34. Some people think that organizations would benefit more from younger managers than from older ones. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agreement: Younger Leaders	Agreement: Older Leaders
Welcoming changes	Years of experience
Risk-taking	Risk-averse
Receptive to feedback	-

There was a time when organizations looked only at experience by the number of years on the resume. However, gone are the days when jobs were allotted based on how many **wrinkles** could be seen on the face of the applicant who was given the **thumbs up**. At the same time, one cannot **disregard** the fact that older managers show some outstanding managerial qualities, too. Therefore, I agree with this statement partially.

To begin with the qualities of young managers, they are full of **zeal**, passion, and hard work. These are **underlying** qualities of them. They are successful because they welcome changes and embrace new ideas. For example, they are potential achievers and display courage to make difficult changes. Possibly **armed with** lesser amount of experience, they are more optimistic about proposals for change. Furthermore, they are well-versed about how to get others inspired and energized. It is also noted that younger leaders are better receptive to feedback which in turn helps corporations grow solidly. Although they may have less invested in the past, they are more willing to challenge the **status quo**.

In contrast, older leaders may not possess all these qualities, but they may have seen more ups and downs of the business than their counterparts **without any qualms**. They have matured from their mistakes, and hence they think twice to plunge into anything new. This does not demean their significance, but they analyze all the scenarios very carefully in order to avoid a **nosedive** situation.

In conclusion, both older and younger leaders have something to offer to the organization. I would say that older leaders are more of **risk-averse** and younger leaders are more of risk-taking. (280 words)

Glossary:

wrinkle (noun): a line or small fold in your skin, especially on your face, that forms as you get older, **thumbs up** (phrase): an indication of satisfaction or approval, **to disregard** (verb): to not consider something; to treat something as unimportant; ignore, **zeal** (noun): great energy or enthusiasm connected with something that you feel strongly about, **underlying** (adjective): important in a situation but not always easily noticed or stated clearly, **armed with something** (adjective): knowing something or carrying something that you need in order to help you to perform a task, **status quo** (noun): the situation as it is now, or as it was before a recent change, **without any qualms** (phrase): without doubt, **nosedive** (noun): deteriorating suddenly and dramatically, **risk-averse** (adjective): not willing to do something if it is possible that something bad could happen as a result

35. Nowadays overeating has become a serious problem for the wealthy nations, a problem even greater than hunger to others. Why is this happening? What can be the solutions?

Causes/Reasons	Solutions
Higher disposable income	Self-discipline for a healthy lifestyle
Agricultural revolution	Government health advisory

Times are changing indeed. A few decades back, increasing numbers of people died of hunger as opposed to having too much to eat these days, especially in wealthy nations. This essay examines the reasons behind this sensational trend, and **gauges** the possible solutions to **counter** it.

It is believed that the developed nations have been enjoying the prosperity since 1960s. This resulted in the expansion of the middle class with **disposable income** and resources. As the 19th century wore on, the agricultural revolution took place, and this revolution further got better during the said time in wealthy nations. In a nutshell, the better disposable income and the agricultural revolution together **propelled** the **phenomenon** of offering too much to eat. While the other nations, for some reason, could not keep up the same development, and had offered nothing to their people i.e. one-time meal. At the moment, first time on a global scale, the number of years of healthy living is lost, and hence more people are dying because of their overweight and disease **attributed to** obesity than **malnutrition**.

Beyond doubt, there exists a **myriad** of solutions to counter this negative development. For a healthy lifestyle, self-restrain from having too much food or **craving** must be exercised. People should stay off buying everything that is placed on the shelf. We have an expression: 'food is not love'. **Ergo**, while one eats or is fed, it does not need affection, but attention is of the greatest importance. Furthermore, the government should issue health advisories on a regular basis.

In conclusion, self-discipline toward our eating pattern is significant to achieve the **mantra** of 'Health is wealth'. Overeating is as **disastrous** as any nasty habits, such as smoking and drinking, and it **gives birth** to high body mass index (BMI) which may cause stroke and heart disease. (304 words)

Glossary:

to gauge (verb): to make a judgment about something, especially people's feelings or attitudes, **to counter** (verb): to reply to somebody by trying to prove that what they said is not true, **disposable income** (noun): money you are free to spend after paying taxes, etc., **to propel** (verb): to force somebody to move in a particular direction or to get into a particular situation, **phenomenon** (noun): a

fact or an event in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood, **to attribute** (verb): to say or believe that something is the result of a particular thing, **malnutrition** (noun): a poor condition of health caused by lack of food or lack of the right type of food, **myriad** (noun): extremely large in number, **craving** (adjective): a strong desire for something, **ergo** (conjunction): therefore, **mantra** (noun): a statement or slogan repeated frequently, **disastrous** (adjective): very bad, harmful or unsuccessful; catastrophic; devastating, **to give birth** (idiom, figurative): to produce a baby or young animal

36. **Some people say that the government should stop TV and newspapers from showing crimes because media coverage of violent crimes is frightening people and encouraging criminals. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?**

Agreement	Disagreement
Criminals copying the modus operandi	Prohibition never works
Criminals are attention seeker	Citizens learning positives from such reporting
Citizens getting frightened	-

Some people believe that violence **begets** violence. There is no doubt that the **sensationalist** coverage of violent crimes provides a free media platform to criminals. It also terrifies citizens. However, I do not believe in censoring or stopping the print or digital media from reporting such incidents for a variety of reasons, described as below.

The evidence does suggest that the reporting of violence can **trigger** further crime. On account of this, two patterns emerge in the society. Firstly, it encourages other criminals to copy the same **modus operandi** for their cause. Some criminals glorify acts of **wrongdoings** and **felony**. Secondly, some hardcore criminals need media coverage to spread their messages, create fear and recruit followers. Apparently, the criminal psychology **stemming** from these patterns is disturbing, and could **endanger** citizens' life and peace. Considering this fact, the first human reaction comes is to stop reporting such incidents.

In contrast, some people believe that shying away from the reality never serves the purpose. They **assert** that such reporting helps citizens to be aware of crimes happening around them. They get perceived warnings for their safety by watching or reading such crime reports. For example, the popular American show, 'Criminal Minds' analyzes the behavior of criminals. The informed and **sagacious** citizens learn the positives of this criminal show to protect themselves from falling into any trap.

In conclusion, this **ethical dilemma** reminds us of a great expression - "Is this glass half-full or half-empty?" I acknowledge the fact that media coverage of violence leads to further violence, and frightens people. At the same time, the prohibition of reporting violence does not serve the purpose in the democratic setting. (277 words)

Glossary:

to beget (verb): to make something happen, **sensationalist** (adjective, disapproving): getting people's interest by using shocking words or by presenting facts and events as worse or more shocking than they really are, **to trigger** (verb): to make something happen suddenly; set off, **modus operandi** (noun): a particular method of working, **wrongdoing** (noun): illegal or dishonest behavior; crime; offence, **felony** (noun): the act of committing a serious crime such as murder or rape; a crime of this type, **to stem from something** (phrasal verb): to be the result of something, **to endanger** (verb): to put somebody/something in a situation in which they could be harmed or damaged, **to assert** (verb): to state clearly and firmly that something is true, **sagacious** (adjective): showing good judgment and understanding; wise, **ethical dilemma** (phrase): a complex situation that often involves an apparent mental conflict between moral imperatives, in which to obey one would result in transgressing another

37. Nowadays many people are diagnosed with anorexia. What do you think the causes of this are? What can be done to improve the situation?

Causes/Reasons	Solutions
Biological	Seeking a professional medical treatment
Psychological	Misconception: Being thin is pretty
Environmental	-

Anorexia also known as **anorexia nervosa** is a life-threatening illness, especially affecting young women but not limited to them only. People are increasingly **diagnosed** with this disorder which is a point of concern. This essay examines the causes of this illness and possible solutions we have in our hand.

At the onset, anorexia is an eating cum emotional disorder. Yet the world scientists have not been able to **pinpoint** the exact cause of this illness. However, it is a widely held belief that it could be a combination of three factors: Biological, Psychological and Environmental. The biological **standpoint**: some people possess a genetic tendency toward perfectionism, **perseverance** and sensitivity. The psychological standpoint: some people, especially women, might have **obsessive-compulsive personality disorder (OCPD)** traits that make them stick to strict diets and to skip food despite being hungry. The environmental

standpoint: being thin is beautiful, and such obsession with young girls drags them to anorexia, too.

As long as anyone who suffers from anorexia **genetically**, the only solution available for them is to seek a professional medical help from doctors. However, there are solutions to **snap out of** this disorder for sure. **Misconception** of being **skinny** is more beautiful is challenged these days. For example, the popular Hollywood actor, Kate Winslet, openly claims that she is more blessed with her body curves than being skinny. Her claim **corroborates** the fact that she is **adored** by tens of thousands of people in the world yet. Thus, it proves that girls look prettier with the **angular** frame than being skinny.

In conclusion, anorexia developed genetically is curable, but it is a time-consuming process while anorexia developed from other reasons has a cure by changing the mindset and not to surrender to misconceptions. (290 words)

Glossary:

anorexia also anorexia nervosa (noun): an emotional disorder, especially affecting young women, in which there is an abnormal fear of being fat, causing the person to stop eating, **to diagnose** (verb): to say exactly what an illness or the cause of the problem is, **to pinpoint** (verb): to be able to give the exact reason for something or to describe something exactly, **standpoint** (noun): an opinion or a way of thinking about ideas or situations; perspective, **perseverance** (noun): the quality of continuing to try to achieve a particular aim despite difficulties, **obsessive-compulsive personality disorder** (noun): a personality disorder characterized by a general pattern of concern with orderliness, perfectionism, excessive attention of details, mental and interpersonal control, and a need for control over one's environment, at the expense of flexibility, openness to experience..., **genetically** (adverb): in a way that is connected with genes (=the units in the cells of a living thing that control its physical characteristics) or genetics (=the study of genes), **to snap out of** (idiom): to make an effort to stop feeling unhappy or depressed; to help somebody to stop feeling unhappy, **misconception** (noun): a belief or an idea that is not based on correct information, or that is not understood by people, **skinny** (adjective): very thin, especially in a way that you find unpleasant or ugly, **to corroborate** (verb): to provide evidence or information that supports a statement, theory, etc.; confirm, **to adore** (verb): to love somebody very much, **angular** (adjective): (of a person) thin and without much flesh so that the bones are noticeable

38. Some studies suggest that children spend more time watching TV than they did in the past and spend less on doing active and creative things. Why do you think this is happening? What methods and measures can be used to solve the issues?

Causes	Solutions
Lower pricing	Rationing viewing hours for children
Parents having no time for children	Neighborhood societies to be formed for playing
Nuclear Family	-
Lack of parks and other facilities	-

Excessive watching of TV has become the **social and cultural norms**, and it has certainly influenced the habit of children **adversely**. Instead of playing outdoor games, children seem to be watching TV increasingly after coming home from school. This trend is worrisome. This essay discusses the causes of this **phenomenon**, and offers some possible solutions.

There exists a **myriad** of reasons for children watching TV too much. Firstly, the satellite TV is available at a very cheap price, and they have designed a few dedicated channels exclusively for children. Furthermore, parents have used TV as a medium of babysitting, and hence children grow with this culture. Secondly, today's fast-paced life of parents has made them busy and exhausted. Therefore, they are unable to spend time with children. In the past, life was not so busy and parents were in a position to sit and play with children. Gone are those days now. Thirdly, in modern days, people prefer a nuclear family whereas there was a trend of a joint family in olden days. Because of this, there were other members of the family, such as grandparents who encouraged and looked after children in the absence of their parents. Lastly, cities have become concrete jungles, hardly leaving any space for parks and recreational activities.

There are simple solutions to this phenomenon. Parents need to restrict children from watching TV excessively. Watching TV for some time should be allowed. Therefore, they need to ration their viewing hours. Neighborhood societies should be formed so as children can be encouraged to play together. This way, they will also be able to make new friends for other activities.

In conclusion, anything in excess is undesirable, but children should therefore be allowed to watch TV in moderation. At the same time, they should be encouraged for outdoor games and creative work. (306 words)

Glossary:

norms (plural noun): standards of behavior that are typical of or accepted within a particular group or society, **adversely** (adverb): in a way that is negative and unpleasant and not likely to produce a good result, **phenomenon** (non): a fact or an event in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood, **myriad** (adjective): extremely large in number

39. More and more people buy or use cars and it makes an impact on the environment. Discuss consequences of this trend. What could be solutions to this problem?

Effects	Solutions
Using of unrestricted natural resources	Carpool
Exhausting toxic fumes	Efficient public transportation

It is said that **extravagant** car use has brought the world on the **brink** of climate change. Numbers of car users are increasing at an alarming rate. It seems that we have not reached the perfect solution to this environmental issue to date. This essay describes the **detrimental consequences** of excessive use of cars and ways forward to **counter** it.

Indisputably, from making a car to rolling it out on the road, it only damages the environment. Firstly, while manufacturing any car, steel, plastic, glass, paint, rubber among other things are used. The manufacturing process itself uses too many natural resources - a **scarce** commodity. Secondly, cars **emit** toxic **fumes** which are poisonous to human breathing. The exhaust from all **combustion** engines combined produces **lethal** effects on humans. Cars are a major contributor to the carbon dioxide, a **greenhouse gas**, which results in the global warming. Lastly, with the **advent** of automobile industry, the amount of natural resources and **fossil fuels** that mankind is using will lead up to the destruction of the environment without any doubt.

When solutions are discussed, there are many, but the **onus** is entirely on the car user. A carpool is an excellent way to discourage people to use cars for commuting. This way, we may be able to restrain more cars on the road. Some governments have been successful to address this concern by making their public transportation efficient. For example, the **farsightedness** of the City of London Corporation introduced the 'tube' for commuting for their citizens. Such a transportation mode is in need everywhere in the world.

In conclusion, more cars on the road are undesirable, and they are a serious threat to the environment. Rather than tagging the automobile industry as a chosen **culprit**, the people who buy and use cars are more responsible for this man-made **catastrophe**. (306 words)

Glossary:

extravagant (adjective): (of ideas, speech or behavior) very extreme or impressive but not reasonable or practical; exaggerated, **brink** (noun): if you are on the brink of something, you are almost in a very new, dangerous or exciting situation, **detrimental** (adjective): harmful; damaging, consequence (noun): a result of something that has happened, **to counter** (verb): to reply to somebody

by trying to prove that what they said is not true, **indisputably** (adverb): in a way that cannot be disagreed with or denied; undeniably, **scarce** (adjective): if something is scarce, there is not enough of it and it is only available in small quantities, **to emit** (verb): to send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc., fume (noun): smoke, gas, or something similar that smells strongly or dangerous to breathe in, combustion (noun): the process of burning, **lethal** (adjective): causing or able to cause death; deadly; fatal, **greenhouse gas** (noun): any of the gases that are thought to cause the greenhouse effect, especially carbon dioxide, **advent** (noun): the coming of an important event, person, invention, etc., **fossil fuel** (noun): fuel such as coal or oil, that was formed over millions of years from the remains of animals or plants, **onus** (noun): the responsibility for something, **farsightedness** (adjective): an understanding of the effects in the future of actions that you take now, and the ability to plan for them, **culprit** (noun): a person who has done something wrong or against the law, **catastrophe** (noun): a sudden event that causes many people to suffer; disaster

40. In many countries governments spend a lot of money on Internet infrastructure. Some say that it is reasonable to allocate these funds, but others disagree and say that many more important programs need this money. Discuss both views, give your opinion and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

For	Against
Serving for almost all the sectors	Existence of pressing needs
Vital for inclusive growth	-

The Internet has **revolutionized** the way we work, and has become a **crutch** to all. Considering its unlimited benefits, governments across the globe have **prioritized** the infrastructure of it. I support any steps taken to make the Internet infrastructure efficient and powerful, and see it as a vital investment for any country. At the same time, I also acknowledge the fact that there are other **pressing** issues that cannot be ignored, too. This essay discusses the arguments of both ends.

The Internet is important for a variety of reasons and benefits. It serves almost all the sectors, whether it is for business transactions or for personal entertainment. Today, it is quite possible for a student to **equip** himself with the required knowledge and educational degree by studying online, no matter how far he lives from the school. The list is endless. Additionally, more than its usefulness, it empowers citizens. All the information is accessible on various websites, and people can learn and know about their rights. For inclusive growth, the only tool that brings them forth is the Internet. **Ergo,** thinking of life without the Internet is something like a far-fetched dream.

There is no doubt that there are plenty of issues which need to be addressed by governments. Some of them are poverty, malnutrition among babies, sanitation, and unemployment. The government always **sets aside** some amount of funds considering the **gravity** of their situation. However, cutting down the funding set aside for the Internet infrastructure may not be a wise idea because it also generates direct or indirect revenues for the government, and offers employment opportunities, too.

In conclusion, the Internet infrastructure can be considered as a growth engine for economic development. The advantages of better Internet services **outweigh** all its disadvantages, and hence the spending on its infrastructure is justified. (302 words)

Glossary:

to revolutionize (verb): to completely change the way that something is done , **crutch** (noun); a person or thing that gives you help or support but often makes you depend on them too much, **to prioritize** (verb): to treat something as being more important than other things, **pressing** (adjective): needing to be dealt with immediately; urgent, **to equip** (verb): to provide yourself/somebody/something with the things that are needed for a particular purpose or activity, **ergo** (adverb): therefore, **to set aside** (phrasal verb): to save or keep money or time for a particular purpose, **gravity** (noun): extreme importance and a cause for worry, **to outweigh** (verb): to be greater or more important than something

41. Many people spend a large amount of money on celebrating birthdays and weddings. Others think that it is unnecessary to spend so much on these events. Discuss both views and your own opinion.

For	Against
Certain occasions are priceless and rare	The poor starves
Memories are treasured	-

How we measure our happiness is something that varies from person to person. There has been a new trend of celebrating various occasions, such as birthdays and weddings **extravagantly** in our society. This essay evaluates how far such a party inflation is right.

Some people argue that certain occasions are priceless and rare. They convey a special meaning to life. Thus, they believe that it is essential to make them worthwhile forever. By spending extravagantly on weddings and birthdays and inviting family members, relatives and friends to these events, they feel happy and satisfied. Such grand celebrations are their memories that they **treasure** always.

The opposite is true also. There are close to seven billion people on the earth and around 20% of them have no fortune of a one-time meal a day. Some people cannot **fathom** out why such poor people should sleep with an empty stomach. Considering such **compassionate** grounds, some people prefer not to spend extravagantly on parties, and have a **solemn** dinner with family that gives them all worth.

In my opinion, spending on parties should never be stretched. As long as the wallet permits to spend whatever amount of money on important events, one should not **shy away** from it. The reason behind this belief is very simple. When we spend money, it gives a livelihood to many i.e. restaurant, organizer, event manager, printer, fashion outlet and so on. In the end, these are the people or the business firms that employ people and run their families. This is how the economy functions.

In conclusion, whatever reasons we have for or against this trend, we should continue to spend on weddings or birthdays as long as it does not **pinch** us financially. At the same time, taking a **benevolent** interest in **eradicating** poverty may **heal the wounds** of many. (304 words)

Glossary:

extravagantly (adverb): in a way that is very extreme or impressive but not reasonable or practical, **to treasure** (verb): to have or keep something that you love and that is extremely valuable for you; cherish, **to fathom** (verb): to understand or find an explanation for something **compassionate** (adjective): feeling or showing sympathy for people who are suffering, **solemn** (adjective): (of a religious ceremony or formal occasion) performed in a serious way, **to shy away** (phrasal verb): to avoid doing something because you are nervous or frightened , **to pinch** (verb): to cost a person or an organization a lot of money or more than they can spend, **benevolent** (adjective): (especially of people in authority) kind, helpful and generous, **to eradicate** (verb): to destroy or get rid of something completely, especially something bad; wipe out, **to heal the wounds** (verb, figurative): to repair the damage that had been done

42. Many people believe that schools should teach students good behavior as well as other subjects. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
Students spending their one-third time at school	Parents are equally responsible
Teachers are armed with skills	Without parents' support, the process culminating self-defeating

Generally speaking, behavioral education is as significant as academic education for children to lead a successful life later on. The school is responsible for students' overall fundamental development. However, **imposing** the duty only on teachers about inculcating a sense of moral principles in children may not bear the desired outcome. Thus, I agree with this statement partly, and believe that it must be a mutual responsibility.

It is true that students spend their one-third time at school. They develop several precious skills, such as academic learning, **cognitive** skills, social interactions and etiquettes during their school hours. Teachers should emphasize the overall development of students, and they should **infuse** the moral principles in them along with their academic teaching. Furthermore, teachers are armed with better oratory and explanatory skills. They therefore could explain them the importance of these skills better than parents. There should be a frequent class that should aim at teaching important **traits** of life, such as honesty, loyalty, civic sense, public etiquettes and discipline.

Children spend two-thirds of their time with families. Oftentimes parents teach them about **congenial** behavior, discipline and some moral principles that they learn either from school or from the surroundings. All the moral principles that are learnt at school become **futile** if they are not supported further by parents. Furthermore, children pick up both good and bad behavior from the family first. For example, they observe certain acts of family members, such as abusive behavior, spitting anywhere, **confrontation, procrastination** and speaking in a loud tone. Therefore, if parents are not **vigilant** enough for disciplining their children, the whole purpose of learning and teaching **culminates** into a **self-defeating** exercise.

In conclusion, both teachers and parents are equally responsible for students' good behavior. The process of disciplining students must **go hand in hand**. (297 words)

Glossary:

to impose (verb): to introduce a new law, rule, tax, etc.; to order that a rule, punishment, etc. be used , **cognitive** (adjective): connected with mental processes of understanding, **to infuse** (verb): to have an effect on all parts of something, **trait** (noun): a particular quality in your personality, **congenial** (adjective): (of a person) pleasant to spend time with because their interests and character are similar to your own; suitable for something, **futile** (adjective): having no purpose because there is no chance of success; pointless, **confrontation** (noun): a situation in which there is an angry disagreement between people or groups who have different opinions, **procrastination** (noun): the act of delaying something that you should do, usually because you do not want to do it, **vigilant** (adjective): very careful to notice any signs of danger or trouble; alert; watchful , **to culminate** (verb): to end with a particular result, or at a particular point, **self-defeating** (adjective): causing more problems and difficulties instead of solving them; not achieving what you wanted to achieve but having an opposite effect, **to go hand in hand** (idiom): if two things go hand in hand, they are closely connected and one thing causes the other

43. Some people think that watching sports in free time is just a waste of time. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
-	Those who watch likely to play games later
-	Games teaching us success and defeat alike
-	Sense of belonging

Sport and fitness are closely **intertwined**. Some people prefer watching rather than taking part in sport. Watching sport may inspire viewers to get involved in sport or may offer an opportunity to learn other important skills. Some people believe that watching sports is a waste of time. However, I disagree with this **notion**, as described below.

Many people complain that their family members are being **couch potatoes**. It is true that watching games does not make anyone healthy and fit. At the same time, it should not be tagged as a waste of time. Experts believe that those who watch sports are more likely to play it later than those who do not watch it at all. Apart from the possibility of getting involved in a town team as an **amateur**, the viewer sets a playing environment for himself and for others in the family. There are other apparent benefits that are linked to watching sports. Games teach us how to accept success and defeat alike. Such traits are also useful in life.

Another benefit in watching sport is it gives us a sense of belonging. For example, when the national team plays an important tournament and **clinches** a victory medal, the whole nation feels as if they have won it. What is more, it is also a source of motivation and relaxation for many. People are living a highly stressful life these days, and sporting events and games may **rejuvenate** their mood and relax them mentally.

In conclusion, watching sports during leisure time is not at all a waste of time. In fact, it may animate the inherent talent of someone to play at a later stage. There is no denying that excessive watching of sports is **detrimental** to health. (290 words)

Glossary:

to intertwine (verb): to be or become very closely connected with something/somebody else, **notion** (noun): an idea, a belief or an understanding of something, **couch potato** (noun): a person who spends a lot of time sitting and watching television, **amateur** (noun): a person who takes part in a sport or other activity for enjoyment, not as a job, **to clinch** (verb): to succeed in achieving or winning something, **to rejuvenate** (verb): to make somebody/something look or feel younger, more lively or more modern, **detrimental** (adjective): harmful; damaging

44. In many countries school-age children spend their time doing excessive homework. Is it a good or bad thing? Give examples based on your own experience.

Positive Argument	Negative Argument
Reinforcing the classroom study	Excessive homework depriving extracurricular activities
Allowing children to work independently	Schools' ambition pressuring students
Children developing positive skills and habits	

Homework is a **precursor** to academic success for children and their further development. However, it has been noted that schools assign excessive homework to children. It **deprives** children of extracurricular activities which are as important as the foundation of studies. This essay examines the importance of homework, and suggests the amount of time to be spent for this activity.

There are countless benefits associated with doing homework. At the onset, imagining a school without the homework assignment would be unreasonable. Firstly, it allows school-age children to review and practice that has been covered in class. Learning in the classroom and doing homework are mutually **reinforcing** for students. Secondly, it **facilitates** children to work independently. This exercise

helps them **showcase** their **inherent** talent which could be buried under teamwork in some cases. Lastly, it helps children develop positive skills and habits. These **traits** will serve them positively throughout life.

Indisputably, **putting** children **through** homework for excessive hours is something that is **counterproductive**. The overall development comprising a **plethora** of extracurricular activities along with the fun part makes children more active and smarter. For example, the classic example of Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of Facebook, suggests that creativity is not **merely** developed at school. Furthermore, people experience a **perennially** popular race among schools for being the best nowadays. Such ambition of schools makes children **toil** tirelessly for excessive homework. Ergo, I believe that such ambition of schools must be **contained** to allow children to be children up to some extent.

To conclude, it is not a negative development at all. Homework is a central pillar of children's analytical and aptitude skills at school. The only improvement that is sought is not to burden children with only activity called homework. (287 words)

Glossary:

precursor (noun): a person or thing that comes before somebody/something similar and leads to or influences its development; forerunner, **to deprive** (verb): to prevent (a person or place) from having or using something , **to reinforce** (verb): to make a feeling, an idea, etc. stronger , **to facilitate** (verb): to make an action or a process possible or easier, **to showcase** (verb): to present somebody's abilities or the good qualities of something in an attractive way, **inherent** (adjective): that is a basic or permanent part of somebody/something and that cannot be removed; intrinsic, **trait** (noun): a particular quality in your personality, **to put through** (phrasal verb): to make somebody experience something very difficult or unpleasant, **counterproductive** (adjective): having the opposite effect to the one which was intended, **plethora** (noun): an amount that is greater than is needed or can be used; excess, **merely** (adverb): used meaning 'only' or 'simply' to emphasize a fact or something that you are saying , **perennially** (adverb): in a way that continues for a very long time; in a way that happens again and again, **to toil** (verb): to work very hard and/or for a long time, usually doing hard physical work, **ergo** (adverb): therefore, **to contain** (verb): to prevent something harmful from spreading or getting worse

45. In many cities the population is increasing. Some say that the urbanization process denies us knowing our neighbors, and this causes a loss of community sense. What is the main problem with this development? What measures can be taken to overcome it?

Causes	Opinions/Solutions
Individualistic nature	Religious congregation
Distance	Bringing awareness among people

Urban **sprawl** is responsible for several negative **consequences**. It has certainly impacted the life of people in megacities, and the community sense continues to become absent in present days. This essay examines the causes of the loss of community sense in cities, and offers possible measures to arrest this trend.

The sense of community which is very common in rural setting is a rare thing in megacities these days. It is such because the urban setting is all about the individualistic in nature. People focus on their own affairs, and pay less attention to their friends, relatives and neighbors. This is a pure **hallmark** of urbanization. Another dimension of the absence of the community sense is the distance. Cities have become bigger, and getting bigger every day. Therefore, the distance of traveling takes out more time to sustain the sense of community. Understandably, people get a day or two during the weekend to run their **errands** and for other pending social or personal commitments. This denies them socializing with others more often.

The measures to counter this trend are not as simple as they are assumed to be. Firstly, the religious **dignitaries** and **monks** should organize more social cum religious gatherings at the places, such as temples, churches, mosques and **synagogues**. In the name of faith, people may **congregate** which is also a part of the community sense. Secondly, those who are not religious types, a sense of awareness and benefits of the community should be created and explained. They can be **roped in** by organizing frequent community events.

In conclusion, the community sense is **starkly** absent in urban living, and it is hard to revive the same culture owing to the challenges described above. Yet there is a hope to revive this culture by **meticulous** plans. (297 words)

Glossary:

sprawl (noun): a large area covered with building that spreads from the city into the countryside in an ugly way, **consequence** (noun): a result of something , **hallmark** (noun): a feature or quality that is typical of somebody/something, **errand** (noun): a job that you do for somebody that involves going somewhere to take a message, to buy something, deliver goods, etc., **dignitary** (noun): a person

who has an important official position; VIP, **monk** (noun): a member of a religious group of men who often live apart from other people in monastery and who do not marry or have personal possessions, **synagogue** (noun): a building where Jews meet for religious worship and teaching, **to congregate** (verb): to come together in a group, **to rope in** (verb): to persuade somebody to join in an activity or to help to do something, even when they do not want to, **starkly** (adverb): in a way that is easy to see because it is very different; clearly; completely, **meticulous** (adjective): paying careful attention to every detail; thorough; fastidious

46. Many schools are arranging unpaid work for teenagers to get some work experience in institutions or companies, because it is beneficial for students as well as institutions? To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Learning punctuality	Possible exploitation
Learning life skills	-
Developing networking	-

It is an unarguable truth that unpaid internships work **wondrously** for students in a professional life later on. The positives of unpaid internships **outweigh** its negatives. Although there are handful disadvantages of this arrangement, yet I support this notion fully.

There are countless benefits associated with allowing students to participate in unpaid internships. To begin with, they get to learn and practice the punctuality. Evidently, the importance of time management is emphasized in work settings and they have no option but to follow that strict time management **regime**. Secondly, they learn important life skills, such as how to adjust to disagreement, compromise, and state opinions objectively. These are the traits that decide their success in later years. Lastly, their brief working for corporations allows them to capitalize this opportunity on developing a network of professionals for the future.

In contrast, exactly what can be called a perfect unpaid internship is still a **grey area**. In some cases, school authorities **collude** with companies that hire students for internships, thereby the **kickbacks** are **disguised**. The companies get benefited from the labor at no cost. Furthermore, experts also believe that some companies **exploit interns** and **toil** them tirelessly for the jobs which they have not been recruited for in the first place.

In conclusion, I support this academic arrangement because students gain **hands-on** experience, and a high probability of getting employed by the same company in later years. There is a **caveat** of **abuse** which is to be **restrained** by the relevant authorities. (250 words)

Glossary:

wondrously (adverb): in a way that is strange, beautiful or impressive; wonderfully, **to outweigh** (verb): to be greater or more important than something, **regime** (noun): a method or system of organization or managing something, **grey area** (noun): an area of a subject or situation that is not clear or does not fit into a particular group and is therefore difficult to define or deal with, **to collude** (verb): to work together secretly or illegally in order to trick other people, **kickback** (noun): money paid illegally to somebody in return for work or help; bribe , **to disguise** (verb): to hide something or change it, so that it cannot be recognized; conceal, **to exploit** (verb): to treat a person or situation as an opportunity to gain an advantage for yourself, **intern** (noun): a student or new graduate who is getting practical experience in a job, for example during the summer holiday/vacation, **to toil** (verb): to work very hard and/or for a long time, usually doing hard physical work , **hands-on** (adjective): doing something rather than just talking about it , **caveat** (noun): a warning that particular things need to be considered before something can be done, **abuse** (noun): the use of something in a way that is wrong or harmful; misuse, **to restrain** (verb): to stop something that is growing or increasing from becoming too large

47. The best way to reduce poverty in developing countries is by giving up to six years of free education to children, so that they can at least read, write and use numbers. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
Education helping fight against poverty	-
Controlling child labor	-
Creating the educated legacy	-

Education plays an important role in reducing poverty. The developing countries, at times, struggle to help those who are uneducated. I believe that by offering free education to students up to year 6 would bear positive fruits in the long term. Such programs may not serve the purpose completely, but it does offer people some basic literacy to further move on. Ergo, I completely agree with this statement.

It is true to state that free education has an effect in the fight against poverty. Only the human talent can bring the prosperity to the people and the nation. Hence it is of utmost priority to invest in the human talent by offering free education. In the European nations, for instance, children have the right to free and compulsory primary and secondary education. Many other developing nations have recognized this need, and are moving into the right direction of making education accessible to all.

There are a number of benefits associated with free education up to the primary level. First of all, it might help control the child labor for the underprivileged family. Some children have no fortune of going to school because they have no financial assistance from their parents. Secondly, the primary level of education would enable them to read, write and calculate numbers. This much of education will at least help them know their rights. Lastly, there is more likelihood of passing the culture of education down to the next generation. It means the educated parents would ensure that their children receive education for better opportunities and a quality life.

In conclusion, I do believe that free education has the potential to change the life of people, and it is a key to success. It is also a universal truth that education has helped countless people think critically and research a lot many things. (306 words)

48. Spending public money to promote healthy lifestyle that leads to an improved quality of life is better than spending it on treatment of people who are already ill. To what extend do you agree or disagree with the statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
Healthy lifestyle leading to prosperity	-
Reducing the burden on healthcare system	-
All stakeholders should work together to serve the purpose	-

The **adage**, "Prevention is better than cure", holds true. The healthy society means the healthy progress of a country on all fronts. It is also true that prevention costs lesser than the cure to the government. Considering only the benefits, I am in agreement with the statement fully.

A healthy lifestyle is symbol of productivity and prosperity. By numbers, the health care system always comes in the top three priorities, and sometimes a considerable loss to the **Exchequer** in the developed nations. The government can reduce this expenditure by bringing awareness among people about the supreme benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Furthermore, they must invest public money in the meaningful social drive that promotes the healthy lifestyle.

An ill society is a monster to its people and country while the healthy society is directly linked to a better productivity. For example, the Indian government had identified the menace of polio in the 1980s. The government decided to eradicate polio from the society, and there was a continuous focus on vaccinating every child against polio. Today, polio is not in existence in India. As

discussed, not only the government should spread awareness about the healthy lifestyle but also the bad habits that lead to deadly disease. They are smoking, drinking and drug abuse. The money well spent on the healthcare system or awareness for the same ensures the citizens are healthy and happy.

In conclusion, this is one of the most important causes on this earth. Therefore, all the stakeholders, such as the government, people, not-for-profit organizations and doctors must work together for the greater good. Only the healthy citizens can make a difference for all. (275 words)

Glossary:

adage (noun): a well-known phrase expressing a general truth about people or the world; saying, **exchequer** (noun): the government department that controls public money; treasury

49. Some people say that living in high-rise apartments feels very lonely, and makes people unhappy. Others say that there are advantages to living in an independent house. Discuss both views and give your opinions.

Points against high-rise apartments	Points for independent houses
Lack of functional space	Privacy
Certain restrictions	Ample amount of space

The human is a social creature, and is born with different types of **disposition.** Some people prefer to live in a high-rise apartment for a variety of reasons and others choose an independent house. This essay will examine the disposition of mankind with regard to living preference.

Some people believe that living in a high-rise apartment is all about being all alone always. They argue that they have neighbors above, below, and both sides of them. Yet the **zest** of neighborhood is missing. Another negative point is one may experience the lack of functional outdoor space, whether it is a **patio**, yard or deck. The high-rise apartment does not offer too much space to move around within the apartment. Lastly, some high-rise buildings do not permit pets. Some people feel that it is an **infringement** of their rights in this case. All these factors combined may lead to some amount of loneliness and frustration to owners.

On the flip side, people who live in the independent house such as a bungalow, manor, or villa believe that they enjoy the best of nature. By disposition, some people prefer not to be watched and disturbed by neighbors. They have ample amount of space for playing and keeping pets of their choices.

To me, the challenges lie in both types of accommodation for people. However, blaming the type of the residence such as the high-rise building for loneliness and unhappiness is untrue because there are ways to overcome these difficulties.

In conclusion, the high-rise building does have some negatives, but at the same time, it also offers other benefits, such as security, amenities, views and location. Living in the high-rise building can be made enjoyable. (282 words)

Glossary:

disposition (noun): the natural qualities of a person's character; temperament, **zest** (noun): the quality of being exciting, interesting and enjoyable, **patio** (noun): a flat hard area outside, and usually behind, a house where people can sit, **infringement** (noun): an act of breaking a law or rule, **on the flip side** (phrase): sharply contrasted side or aspect of something or someone; in contrast

50. Many people believe that the government of a country should pay for health care and education of its citizens. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give your opinion.

Agreement	Disagreement
Government must offer basic education and basic health care facility	People should take the medical insurance covering the advanced treatments
	Interest-free loan for higher education

Some people believe that only the government should take responsibility of its citizens' health and education. However, I believe that the education up to Year 12 and basic health care should be accessible to all at no cost. I agree with this topic partly, and this essay discusses my points of view.

Irrefutably, every citizen pays direct or indirect taxes to the government. The fund collected from tax-earned money is meant for spending on welfare and well-being of citizens. There are countless poor people who are **deprived of** basic needs, such as basic education and the health care support. If the government is not in a position to offer such basic facilities, it will suffer from loss of productivity and economic contribution that is generated from the human talent.

On the other end, the advanced health care and higher education cost highly to the government. For example, the surgery of **cataract** costs nothing these days while the surgery of knee replacement costs the dizzying amount. Thus, instead of relying on the government's contribution for the expensive surgery

treatments, individuals should take the medical insurance to cover the cost of such expensive treatments. In most countries, governments have made accessible the education and health care support to their citizens at no cost or at subsidized prices. Similarly, some citizens' higher education could cost thousands of dollars. After completion of higher education, the citizen himself **reaps** more benefits than what the government does. There comes an **ethical** question as to why the government should bear the cost of higher education for its citizens. Agreed, the government needs to offer an interest-free loan to its citizens.

In conclusion, the government must ensure that no person should die for want of any treatment and remain uneducated in the society. At the same time, the **underprivileged** citizens must be identified and supported equally. (308 words)

Glossary:

irrefutably (adverb): in a way that cannot be proved wrong and must therefore be accepted, **to deprive of** (phrasal verb): to prevent somebody from having or doing something, especially something important, **cataract** (noun): a medical condition that affects the lens of the eye and causes a gradual loss of sight, **to reap** (verb): to obtain something, especially something good, as a direct result of something that you have done, **ethical** (adjective): connected with beliefs and principles about what is right and wrong , **underprivileged** (adjective): having less money and fewer opportunities than most people in society; disadvantaged

51. Some people say that it is better for children to grow up in a city, while others say that growing up in the countryside is better. Do you agree or disagree? Give your opinion.

Points for city	Points for countryside
City has all	Lower crime rate
Better recreational facilities	Peaceful and quiet
Hustle and bustle energizing children	Pure weather

Needless to say that the **dwelling place** plays an integral part in a child's growing up. The advantages of living in a city for the child's progress outweigh the disadvantages of it. I agree with this topic fully, and this essay describes why I take this **stance**.

At the outset, the city is full of life, and children are the great **beneficiaries** of it. Firstly, the city has all for children. Some of them are better school, recreational club, gaming facility, and so on. It is believed that children's growth more or less depends upon the quality of the school. Children's two-thirds of time is spent in the school. In most countries, good schools are located in the city **barring** a few

that are located in the countryside. Secondly, recreational facilities also play a vital role in children's growth. For example, a child's inherent talent of playing any game is **bolstered** in the city because it has a wide variety of facilities. Lastly, that **hustle and bustle** of the city energizes and prepares them for a pressure situation.

In contrast, the countryside does offer some remarkable benefits for children. Some advantages are the lower crime rate, seemingly peaceful and quiet, and the best of them is pure weather.

In conclusion, considering the benefits of the countryside with regard to children's growing up, they may not be so beneficial for life skills and career aspirations for them. Living in the city for children has some negatives. Yet the city **has the edge over** its **counterpart**. (256 words)

Glossary:

dwelling place (noun): the place where somebody lives, **stance** (noun): the opinion that somebody has about something and express publicly; position, **beneficiary** (noun): a person who gains as a result of something, **barring** (preposition): except for, unless there is/are, **to bolster** (verb): to improve something or make it stronger, **hustle and bustle** (noun): a large amount of activity and work, usually in a noisy surrounding, **to have the edge over** (idiom): to be slightly better than someone or something else, **counterpart** (noun): a person or thing that has the same position or function as somebody/something else in a different place or situation

52. Nowadays many nations are facing the problem of declining numbers of students attending Science subjects at university. What do you think are the underlying reasons for such a trend? How can it affect these nations, and why?

Causes	Effects
Smorgasbord of subjects for selection	The economy of some countries could fall behind
Parents and teachers are ill-informed	Stifling the scope of invention
Over expectations for good grades	-

The issue of growing numbers of students **abandoning** Science subjects is alarming. It is a wake-up call for the education sector, governments and industries. It further continues to spark off the debate. This essay further describes this issue in detail.

Over the past two decades, this issue has been worsening. There are a few probable reasons behind this trend. Firstly, the most likely cause of this decline is the **smorgasbord** of subjects that a student can choose from. This academic

arrangement allows students to choose the subjects of their convenience. Secondly, teachers and parents are also to be blamed. They lack knowledge about the job prospects in Science subjects. They are not uninformed, but definitely they are ill-informed about bright careers in this field. Lastly, parents have over expectations for their children and push them to **prioritize** good grades, and as a result **steer** them **away** from such subjects.

Without any **qualms**, this negative development could cost a nation highly. This could lead to a **deficit** of the future scientific workforce. For instance, both the USA and the UK have heavily invested in the education sector, especially in the subjects, such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). This could cause their economies to fall behind other countries. Apart from disadvantages to the economy of any country, the biggest concern is it would **stifle** the scope of invention. We are well aware that how important inventions are to address the challenges.

In conclusion, there is a **myth** about Science subject that it is only meant for ultra-brilliant students. Governments, teachers and parents can together make this subject more marketable because there is no **dearth** of jobs for students choosing Science subject. (281 words)

Glossary:

to abandon (verb): to leave a thing or place, especially because it is impossible or dangerous to stay, **smorgasbord** (noun): many different types of something that are offered, **to prioritize** (verb): to treat something as being more important than other things, **to steer away** (verb): to take control of a situation and influence the way in which it develops, **qualm** (noun): a feeling of doubt or worry about whether what you are doing is right; misgiving, **deficit** (noun): the amount by which something, especially an amount of money, is too small or smaller than something else, **to stifle** (verb): to prevent something from happening; to prevent a feeling from being expressed; suppress, **myth** (noun): something that many people believe but that does not exist or is false; fallacy, **dearth** (noun): a lack of something; the fact of there not being enough of something; scarcity; shortage

53. It has been suggested that everyone in the world wants to own a car, a TV, and a fridge. Do you think the disadvantages of such a development outweigh its advantages? Give your opinion.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Enjoying the world of things	People buying unwanted things
Improving the social standing	Environmental issues
-	Consumerism at the expense of the lower-class society

Consumerism is an economic theory that began its **ascent** after the industrial revolution in the world. It is a common human behavior of wanting luxurious and other items to fulfill his desire. I acknowledge the fact that it has some disadvantages, but it is not a negative development at all. This essay examines both perspectives.

The phenomenon of consumerism gained **momentum** after the industrial revolution. Goods were produced in great quantities at lower prices. It was a time when only the rich could afford certain things, such as TV, car, or refrigerator. However, it is now affordable to **the masses. Unequivocally**, it has advantages such as the consumer could enjoy the world of things. Furthermore, the **propensity** of buying such things comforts the life of people. What is more, it also motivates to work hard to improve the social standing by owning them.

On the flip side, people buy too many unwanted things. Such people damage the environment, and use up resources faster than they are produced. This leads to many environmental issues. Experts also believe that the upper and middle class often benefit at the expense of the lower-class societies. This situation widens the gap between the societies.

To me, every coin has two sides. Large corporations keep pushing white goods, electronic items and automobiles for their benefits. People oblige the same. As long as people need those things, they should buy them. I am against those people who buy stuff for the sake of parity or in the absence of the real need.

In conclusion, it is easily said than done, but mankind has been habituated with various types of goods. It is hard to reverse this trend. The only thing we can hope from people is to be reasonable to **Mother Nature**, and do not buy them excessively. (301 words)

Glossary:

consumerism (noun, often disapproving): the buying and using of goods and services; the belief that is good for a society or an individual person to buy and

use a large quantity of goods and services, **ascent** (noun): an upward path or slope, **momentum** (noun): a force that is gained by movement, **the masses** (noun, plural): the ordinary people in society who are not leaders or who are considered to be not very well educated, **unequivocally** (adverb): very clearly and firmly; unambiguously, **propensity** (noun): a tendency to a particular kind of behavior; inclination, **on the flip side** (phrase): sharply contrasted side or aspect of something or someone; in contrast, **Mother Nature** (noun): the natural world, when you consider it as a force that affects the world and humans

54. We are wired at all times. Smart phones have changed the way we communicate with people in the world. More than its advantages, it is seen as a distraction. How badly is your society influenced, and what solutions are there to stay away from this device? Discuss.

Effects	Solutions
Health complications	Going out and meeting the world
Becoming unsocial	-

Mankind has **outpaced** in technological advancements than its expectations. It has definitely changed the way we work, and the way we think. In many **spheres**, technology has proven to be useful and handy. The smart phone is one among them, but there is a growing sense that it makes people dull, **obese** and unsocial. This essay examines the adverse effects of this issue, and offers some solutions.

It is a common sight these days that people are **glued** to their smart phones excessively. Experts believe that spending too much time using smart phones is not productive at all. In fact, the continuous beeping of messages on the phone disturbs and diverts the attention from the productive jobs. It costs highly to corporations, and that is why most large corporations have banned using smart phones at work. Furthermore, children are at high risk because they feel more advanced by remaining in touch with the latest technology and gadgets. It is nothing, but a clear-cut delusion.

On the other side, it is a **myth** that being alone is **absurdity**. We read a book, paint a picture or do some exercise. We are being productive and present - not reserved and **recluse**. It is essential to talk to one another and learn to coexist. We are becoming unsocial. We are surrounded by children who were born watching us living like robots. They think it is the norm. We need to stop this, and the simple solution is to go out, meet and talk to the world.

In sum, the smart phone is not our **Waterloo**, but anything that is in excess is always harmful. Using the smart phone when it is needed is always **pragmatic**. Otherwise, it is a **distraction**. (287 words)

Glossary:

to outpace (verb): to surpass or exceed, as in speed, development or performance, **sphere** (noun): a particular social world; stratum society, or walk of life, **obese** (adjective): very fat or overweight; corpulent, **to be glued to something** (idiom): to give all your attention to something; to stay very close to something, **myth** (noun): something that many people believe but that does not exist or is false; fallacy, **absurdity** (noun): the quality of being completely ridiculous and not logical and sensible, **recluse** (noun): a person who lives alone and likes to avoid other people; loneliness, **Waterloo** (noun): a decisive or crushing defeat, **pragmatic** (adjective): practical point of view; practical, **distraction** (noun): a thing that takes your attention away from what you are doing or thinking about

55. Zoos are meant for entertainment at the cost of animals' right to roam around without restrictions. Therefore, zoos should be banned. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
-	Technological advancements canceling the argument for having existence of zoos
-	Animals are treated badly

There has been a growing concern among various schools of thoughts that zoos are a **primitive idea**. Technological advancements have definitely facilitated people to know and see other species that have been living with us on the earth over centuries. I completely disagree with this statement considering the basic right of animals.

Over the years, there has been a **notion** that zoos allow people and children to see animals in the traditional cages. If zoos were not in existence, people would need to go to their natural **habitats** to **behold** them. However, this argument gets cancelled **owing to** the technological advancement. These days, people have an option to view them on TV and computer screens in high definition videos. Agreed, the live fun part is missing in this process, but it is harmless at the same time. This argument is supported by the recent declining trend of visitors to zoos now.

Moreover, the animal rights groups and awareness were not so **prominent** before as now. There have been many cases where zoos have been unable to take a proper care of **captive** animals. Sometimes the animals die of **malnutrition** or the **brutality** committed by zookeepers. **On top of it**, the captive animals are under immense pressure because they are born to **roam** around

freely in open areas or in natural habitats. It is against their natural **instinct**. They are simply jailed for no crime committed by them.

Conversely, there is no harm if the **endangered species** are kept in zoos for some time until their population grows to acceptable numbers. But in that case, it is even wise to build wildlife parks than caged **enclosures**.

In a nutshell, technological advancements have evidently replaced the idea of building zoos now. Zoos require **compelling** reasons and advantages if they were to be built or continued in this modern world. (307 words)

Glossary:

primitive idea (adjective): old-fashioned, **notion** (noun): an idea, a belief or an understanding of something, **habitat** (noun): the place where a particular type of animal or plant is normally found, **to behold** (verb): to look at or see somebody/something, **owing to** (preposition): because of, **prominent** (adjective): important or well-known, **captive** (adjective): kept in confinement or restraint, **malnutrition** (noun): lack of proper nutrition; inadequate or unbalanced nutrition, **brutality** (noun): quality of being brutal; cruelty; savagery, **on top of something** (idiom): in addition to something, **to roam** (verb): to walk or travel around an area without any definite aim or direction; wander, **instinct** (noun): a natural aptitude or gift, **conversely** (adverb): in a way that is opposite or reverse of something, **endangered species** (noun): a species at risk of extinction because human activities, changes in climate, changes in predator-prey ratios, etc., especially when officially designated as such by a government agency, **enclosure** (noun): something that encloses, as a fence or wall, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you feel it is true,

56. Some people believe that it is a good idea to express their points of view and ideas through social media. However, others believe opposite. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
The best tool for expressing	-
A boon for shy people	-

Social media and social networks are the best tools for people to express their stand and feelings. **As it happens**, some people are **extrovert** whereas others are **shy**. As long as any comments, status, Twitter updates or photos are not objectionable to society, this tool is a remarkable help to all. Hence I agree with the statement fully. However, the only reasonable question **poses** here is how we define the term 'objectionable'.

There is a **proliferation** of internet users and subscribers to social media websites now. People use social media for their various conveniences. People who are very vocal on any issues or expressive in their emotions use social networking sites. It shows who one is and what one's interests and disagreements are. There is no harm sharing one's point of view unless it **jeopardizes** or **provokes** a **faction** of people on certain issues. At the same time, posting any idea could be **abused** or **hijacked** by some for their good as well. Thus, there is a **caveat** to some extent.

This tool is really a **boon** to those personalities that are shy. Shy people at times do not express their views openly or to the audience, fearing they would be objected or simply due to the low confidence presenting themselves in the public arena.

To put it in a nutshell, the primary issues in using social media for personal views - that can be termed as a 'freedom of speech'- are the ones which have made people think that many people with extreme views shake or disturb the peaceful **harmony**. As long as social media is used for fun and progressive ideas, it should be welcomed. (277 words)

Glossary:

as it happens (idiom): used when you say something that is surprising, or something connected with somebody else has just said, **extrovert** (noun): an outgoing, gregarious person, **shy** (adjective): (of people) nervous or embarrassed about meeting and speaking to other people, **to pose** (verb): to ask a question, especially one that needs serious though; to create a threat, problem, etc. that has to be dealt with, **proliferation** (noun): a rapid and often excessive spread or increase, **to jeopardize** (verb): to risk harming or destroying somebody/something; endanger, **to provoke** (verb): to anger, vex, enrage or exasperate, **faction** (noun): a small group of people within a larger one whose members have some different aims and beliefs to those of the larger group, **to abuse** (verb): to make rude or offensive remarks to or about somebody; insult, **to hijack** (verb, disapproving): to use or take control of something, especially a meeting, in order to advertise your own aims and interests, **caveat** (noun): warning or caution; admonition, **boon** (noun): something that is very helpful and makes life easier for you, **(put something) in a nutshell** (idiom): (to say or express something) in a very clear way, using few words, **harmony** (noun): a state of peaceful existence and agreement

57. Global warming is a big concern these days. Though there has been much noise made on this issue, carbon emission is not being curtailed. Are we contributor to this issue? What solutions do you propose to counter this issue? Discuss.

Effects	Solutions
The aspiration of robust growth	Renewable energies
Excessive usage of air-conditioners, aerosol sprays and vehicles	-

Industrialization **coupled** with our lifestyle and pollution free earth does not **go hand in hand**. Rightly said, 'Human race itself is a **plague** to Mother Nature'. Global warming is not only a concern, but it is also a **monster** that will **engulf** humanity gradually. This essay examines the adverse effects with the possible solution.

Floods, overheating, excessive snowing and an increase in the sea level are some of the byproducts of global warming. As per the International Energy Agency (IEA), global carbon emissions remained at thirty two **gigatonnes** in 2014. The average global surface temperature is rising, and must be limited to no more than 2 Celsius (C) compared with the pre-industrial level to avoid a dangerous climate change. This data is alarming, and **poses** a threat to mankind and other species on this earth. Every country is after a **robust** economic growth. This means that more natural resources will be consumed to sustain this mindset. On top of it, our lifestyle such as using of excessive air-conditioning, **aerosol sprays**, vehicles that emit CO^2, refrigerators are among others to add more emissions.

It goes without saying that all of us are only responsible in one way or the other that has called upon doomsday sooner. At the same time, if we were to **disown** such lifestyle, it looks more academic than practical.

To me, the only solution to cut the carbon emission is to **embrace** renewable energies as much as possible. I am also **optimistic** to the fact that the world has identified this issue. It is moving in a right direction to **counter** it.

So far so good, renewable energies are **paving** the way to **mitigate** the risk of climate change. However, we must see how many countries take this matter seriously to fix this burning issue. (296 words)

Glossary:

couple with (phrasal verb): to link one thing, situation, etc. to another, **to go hand in hand** (idiom): if two things go hand in hand, they are closely connected and one thing causes the other, **plague** (noun): any cause of trouble, annoyance or vexation, **monster** (noun, figurative meaning): an imaginary creature that is very large, ugly and frightening, **to engulf** (verb): to swallow up in or as in a gulf;

submerge, **gigatonnes** (noun): one billion tons, **to pose** (verb): to assert, state or put forward, **robust** (adjective): strong and healthy; hardy; vigorous; rich and full-bodied, **aerosol sprays** (noun): a type of dispensing system which creates an aerosol mist of liquid particles, **it goes without saying** (idiom): to be very obvious or easy to predict, **to disown** (verb): to refuse to acknowledge as belonging or pertaining to oneself; deny the ownership of or responsibility for; renounce; repudiate, **to embrace** (verb): to accept an idea, a proposal, a set of beliefs, etc., especially when it is done with enthusiasm, **optimistic** (adjective): disposed to take a favorable view of events or conditions and to expect the most favorable outcome, **to counter** (verb): to do something to reduce or prevent the bad effects of something; counteract, **to pave the way to/for** (idiom): to lead up to, **to mitigate** (verb): to make less severe

58. Obesity these days is very common in our society. Some people believe that overeating habit and less physical exercise have left obese people to suffer from various illnesses. Discuss the reasons of obesity and solutions to remain fit

Causes	Solutions
Sedentary lifestyle	Self-discipline toward eating habit
Junk foods	Organic food
Absences of fitness regime	Exercise

Generally speaking, **obese** people are at risk of various diseases which could amount to the loss of their lives, too. **Unarguably**, the common belief is held true that we are what we eat. This essay discusses the causes, and offers the possible solutions.

Obesity is attributed to various factors, such as **genetic**, overeating, consumption of **junk foods**, and **sedentary** lifestyle. Once a person becomes obese, it has several side effects. Primarily, this is connected to the lifestyle of a person. People are under massive pressure to perform whether on the professional or personal front, this leaves no time for them to pick the right food and follow the fitness regime. It also affects the look and personality of the sufferer, and they look more aged than their actual age.

Another factor responsible for obesity is what we eat day in, day out. People switch to junk foods in order to save time or a **craving** factor. Furthermore, increased **hormones** in meat or excessive usage of pesticides while growing vegetables and fruits are chiefly responsible for obesity and other illnesses.

There are several solutions **to get rid of** obesity. What is important to achieve this target is self-discipline toward our eating pattern and a resolution to form a diet-and-fitness regime every day. Agreed, **organic food** is expensive, but it costs less

when compared to the long-term medical bills. While exercising, it more depends on an individual's mental strength and will power. One hour for self would not cause the world to turn **upside down**.

In conclusion, to put it simply, while one eats or is fed, it does not need affection, but it needs attention. Staying healthy and fit is not only beneficial to the individual but also reduces the burden on the health care system of the country. (298 words)

Glossary:

obese (adjective): (of people) very fat, in a way that is not healthy, **unarguably** (adverb): in a way that nobody can disagree with, **genetic** (adjective): connected with genes, **junk food** (noun): food that is quick and easy to prepare and eat but that is thought to be bad for your health, **sedentary** (adjective): characterized by or requiring sitting posture, **craving** (adjective): a strong desire for something, **hormone** (noun): a chemical substance produced in the body or in a plant that encourages growth or influences how the cells and tissues function; an artificial substance that has similar effect, **to get rid of** (idiom): to make yourself free of somebody/something that is annoying you or that you do not want; to throw something away, **organic food** (noun): food that is produced or practiced without using artificial chemicals, **upside down** (adjective): in a position in which the top of something is where the bottom is normally found and the bottom is where the top is normally found

59. Online shopping seems to be replacing the traditional method of buying. However, some buyers are skeptical to this practice. Discuss both benefits and risks associated with online shopping.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Hassle-free process of shopping	Post-sale defects
Low price	Counterfeit products

'Online shopping: the endgame will be click-and-collect.' Truly said, the ecommerce has been gathering **momentum**, and seems to be replacing the **bricks-and-mortar** shopping. This essay discusses both positives and negatives of online shopping.

With the **advent** of technological advancements, the consumer behavior and choices to pick stuff have changed dramatically. Early 2000 was the time that laid the foundation for ecommerce, and since then it has been on the **upswing**. Televisions, social media and newspapers are full of **commercials** of online retailers that offer heavy discounts to consumers on various products. Eventually, consumers are always price-conscious, and they would opt for a

hassle-free process of buying stuff. Online shopping meets this expectation fully, and it saves both time and money to a great extent.

In contrast, some people yet believe that the Web Sale is a **passing fad**. They make strong arguments on post-sale defects when stuff is bought online. Many shoppers have had bitter experiences such as going through below par experience while replacing **merchandise** under a warranty period. The down point does not stop here. Recent controversies began to surface when a few ecommerce websites sold **counterfeit** stuff, too. This incident **spooked** the confidence of online buyers.

So far so great! Aggressive marketing, free home delivery, heavy discounts and ease of shopping certainly have the edge over other factors. More importantly, this trend has set to grow higher because large corporations save a lot of money, and this directly impacts their **bottom lines**. Therefore, they will not sit **still** for sure.

In my final analysis, online shopping is a way forward as long as its drawbacks are addressed. Consumers are smart and online buying has touched their mind and heart both. Youngsters are more into buying online, and they are the ones who would **dictate** the future trend. (300 words)

Glossary:

momentum (noun): the ability to keep increasing or developing, **bricks-and-mortar** (adjective): pertaining to conventional stores, businesses, etc., having physical buildings and facilities, as opposed to Internet or remote services, **advent** (noun): the coming of an important event, person, invention, etc., **upswing** (noun): a situation in which something improves or increases over a period of time; upturn, **commercial** (noun): an advertisement on the radio or on television, **hassle-free** (adjective): not annoying or complicated, **passing fad** (noun): gradually disappearing fashion, **merchandise** (noun): goods that are bought or sold; goods that are for sale in a shop/store, **counterfeit** (noun, adjective): (of money and goods for sale) made to look exactly like something in order to trick people into thinking that they are getting the real thing; fake, **to spook** (verb): to frighten a person or an animal; to become frightened, **bottom line** (noun): the amount of money that is a profit or a loss after everything has been calculated, **still** (adjective): not moving; calm and quiet, **to dictate** (verb): to control or influence how something happens; determine

60. Nuclear technology offers more destruction than a help to society. Yet, this technology is not being shunned. Do we really need this technology to survive? Discuss.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Useful for cancer patients	Ominous effects of the failed nuclear reactor
Protecting from a war threat	False start could result in war

Inventors and scientists have certainly helped the world with life-supporting inventions that comfort life. At the same time, some of advancements in various sectors have been questionable since they offer a little help to mankind. Nuclear technology is one among them. At its face value, it is seen **grotesque**. This essay discusses both positives and negatives of nuclear technology.

Indisputably, many developed countries have adopted the nuclear technology and have **paved the way for** others **to follow suit**. Some countries have established their nuclear reactors in the name of security to protect their political boundaries. Others aspire to compete with them for the sake of parity or in fear. This mad rush seems to have a 'no stop' though the world has experienced its **ominous** effects. For example, Chernobyl disaster during the 1980s in the **erstwhile** Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR) is a **precedent**. This **catastrophic** event engulfed thousands of lives, and left the reactor site **contaminated**. The proliferation of nuclear reactors in the world is **alarming**. We are living on edge.

However, there is always a bright side of any debatable issue. Nuclear technology is used in **chemotherapy** for patients that suffer from cancer. It is used for burning the cancerous cells. Despite its benefits, it is not a fully proven medical procedure to date. At the same time, we cannot ignore its marvelous positive impacts on some patients.

On the balance of arguments, the disadvantages of nuclear technology outweigh the advantages associated with it. Nuclear technology used for medicinal or peaceful purpose is always welcomed, but for destruction, it must be **abhorred**. No matter, countries armed with nuclear technology have signed a **non-proliferation** treaty (NPT), but a false start from one country could bring the world on the **brink** of destruction. (292 words)

Glossary:

grotesque (adjective): odd or unnatural in shape, appearance, or character; fantastically ugly or absurd; bizarre, **indisputably** (adverb): in a way that cannot be disagreed with or denied; undeniably, **ominous** (adjective): portending evil or harm; foreboding; threatening, inauspicious, **to pave the way for** (idiom): to

create a situation in which somebody will be able to do something or something can happen, **to follow suit** (idiom): to act or behave in the way that somebody else has just done, **erstwhile** (adjective): former, **precedent** (noun): a similar action or event that happened earlier, **catastrophic** (adjective): disastrous event; calamitous, **to contaminate** (verb): to make impure or unsuitable by contact or mixture with something unclean, bad, etc., **alarming** (adjective): causing worry and fear, **chemotherapy** (noun): the treatment of disease by means of chemicals that have a specific toxic effect upon the disease-producing microorganisms or that selectively destroy cancerous tissues, **to abhor** (verb): to hate something, for example a way of thinking or behaving, especially for moral reasons; loathe; detest, **non-proliferation** (noun): a limit to increase in the number of nuclear and chemical weapons that are produced, **brink** (noun): if you are on the brink of something, you are almost in a very new, dangerous or exciting situation

61. Numbers of road accidents are increasing day by day. Automobile companies have ensured to have better safety measures. However, cases are on the rise. Why is it so? Discuss.

Causes	Effects
Reckless driving	-
Nuisance of jaywalkers and stray animals	-

The law enforcement department of most countries has to deal with the **nightmare** of increasing number of accidents on the road. Compared to the past, the number of accidents has definitely grown, but we must not forget that the number of vehicles has increased **manifold** too. Some accidents occur due to **reckless** driving and others for faulty safety measures. This essay discusses the causes for concern.

Road accidents are a common sight these days. Primarily, such accidents are **attributed** to the mistake of a driver. Some irresponsible drivers drink and drive. Others are simply reckless and have no honor for safety of others. Other factors such as two-wheeler drivers more often **swerve** in front of other vehicles that result in a deadly **collision**. In some countries, there is also a nuisance of **jaywalkers** and **stray animals** coming into a way to drivers. Falling asleep while driving to a long distance is also a huge contributor to highway accidents.

Alternatively, automobile companies have improved the safety features to a great deal. Certain safety features such as speed-limiting tech and city auto-braking feature were never **in place** years back. For example, Volvo cars focus on the human life. But the biggest worry lies that these safety features are available only in the high-priced car which does not cater to the masses.

In my opinion, only a driver is in full control of the vehicle, and he only can ensure his own safety and of others. The disciplined driving defines self-control, a lane driving, driving under a prescribed limit and a 'no circus-show' on the road would reduce the number of accidents.

To core out, we may go on **embedding** life-saving safety features in our vehicles, but they must **be coupled with** self-discipline and the strictest law and enforcement for desired results. (299 words)

Glossary:

nightmare (noun): a terrifying dream in which the dreamer experiences feelings of helplessness, extreme anxiety, sorrow, etc., **manifold** (adjective): many; of many different types, **reckless** (adjective): showing lack of care about danger and the possible results of your action; rash, **to attribute** (verb): to say or believe that something is the result of a particular thing, **to swerve** (verb): to turn aside abruptly in movement or direction; deviate suddenly from the straight or direct course, **collision** (noun): the act of colliding; a coming violently into contact; crash, **jaywalker** (noun): a person who crosses a street at a place other than a regular crossing or in a heedless manner, as diagonally or against a traffic light, **stray animals** (noun): wandering or roaming animals, **in place** (idiom): in the correct position; ready for something, **to embed** (verb): to fix something firmly into a substance or solid object, **to be coupled with** (idiom): to connect or join to something

62. Most governments emphasize much on tourism. It brings both income and trouble while promoting tourism. Discuss both avenues of this topic.

Advantages	Disadvantages
A source of revenue	Terrorists and spies disguising themselves as tourists
Cultural exchange	-

The world was never so connected as it is today. This is **attributed** to many reasons, and one among them is governments making tourism easier for other nationals. Undoubtedly, tourism brings a handsome amount of revenue stream for some countries but at the cost of national security in some cases too. This essay attracts both support and criticism.

Any wise policy maker would **affirm** that the tourism is an **integral** part of the economy and **milieu**. By means of tourism, a country can expect visitors who contribute to its Gross Domestic Product **(GDP)** fractionally or largely. In recent years, it has been observed that countries such as India, the USA, the UK, Australia, South Africa and others are very **proactive** to promote their tourism. Tourism not only generates revenue but also facilitates nationals from other countries to meet new people. This exchange helps both parties to understand other cultures and values to a great extent.

Every coin has its two sides. In some cases, the host country experiences the **disguised** visitors. They could be potential terrorists or **spies** from sending countries. This **poses** a threat to the host country's security. It is a **daunting** task for the host country to identify such threats. There is another difficulty for the host country which is to identify **demagogues** and religious heads that spread violence or incite the public using their ideologies for wrong purposes. These people could damage the peace and **fraternity** of the host country.

Overall, tourism is the best policy to connect various countries. This facilitates knowing and **tolerating** other cultures that **alleviate** differences that they may have. At the same time, the visitor needs to be responsible and respecting while visiting any country. (283 words)

Glossary:

attribute (verb): to say or believe that something is the result of a particular thing, **to affirm** (verb): to state firmly or publicly that something is true or that you support something strongly; confirm, **integral** (adjective): necessary to the completeness of the whole, **milieu** (noun): surroundings, especially of a social or cultural nature, **GDP** (noun): the total value of all the goods and services produced by country in one year, **proactive** (adjective): (of a person or policy) controlling a situation by making things happen rather than waiting for things to happen and then reacting to them, **to disguise** (verb): to change the appearance or guise of so as to conceal identity or mislead, by means of deceptive garb, **spy** (noun): a person employed by a government to obtain secret information or intelligence about another, usually hostile, country, especially with reference to military or naval affairs, **to pose** (verb): to create a problem, threat, etc. that has to be dealt with, **daunting** (adjective): making somebody feel nervous and less confident about doing something, likely to make somebody feel this way, **demagogue** (noun): a political leader who tries to win support by using arguments based on emotion rather than reason, **fraternity** (noun): a group of people sharing the same profession, interests or beliefs, **to tolerate** (verb): to endure without repugnance; to put up with, **to alleviate** (verb): to make easier to endure; lessen; mitigate

63. Studying overseas helps students to be more marketable. However, while studying overseas, the students go through many difficulties. Discuss advantages and disadvantages associated with studying abroad.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Making students composed and articulate	Homesickness
Fine-tuning the foreign language	Exorbitant expenses

The importance of theoretical knowledge while studying can never be ignored. However, more than studies, how well a student **incorporates** his learning in his surroundings and other practical settings is a key to success. Studying overseas is **a feather in the student's cap** as far as this combination is concerned. This essay attracts both support and criticism.

The advantages are numerous when the student decides to pursue his degree overseas. The very first benefit is the student is out of his 'comfort zone'. There is no doubt, when a student travels abroad for study it makes him more **composed** and **articulate**. Once the student is in such a spot, he goes through a **litmus test** of **adapting** to a new culture. This **reinforces** his learning though. Secondly, the student is able to **fine-tune** his knowledge of a foreign language. Knowledge of a second language could be the edge over others in the career path. As we know, the world is interconnected nowadays. Extra information on the other culture and market conditions could be useful in growing in the professional stature.

On the downside, some students feel homesick the moment they reach overseas. They are unable to **put up with** the initial **teething troubles,** and they fail miserably in every aspect. A returning student is further broken than ever before. Secondly, it is always an expensive **proposition** for the student studying overseas. The student may have **a big hole in his savings owing to** certain **exorbitant** expenses, such as hiked tuition fees for international students, procuring boarding and lodging facilities, traveling and commuting expenses and others.

To recapitulate, I clearly support those who wish to pursue their degree overseas. Studying overseas helps students to be more marketable and improves their **mettle** on practical aspects. We must see benefits after studying, and that is **paramount**. (303 words)

Glossary:

to incorporate (verb):, **a feather in one's cap** (idiom): a praiseworthy accomplishment; distinction; honor, **composed** (adjective): calm and in control of your feelings, **articulate** (adjective): (of person) good at expressing ideas or feelings clearly in words, **litmus test** (noun): a crucial and revealing test in which there is one decisive factor, **to adapt** (verb): to change your behavior in order to

deal more successfully with a new situation; adjust, **to reinforce** (verb): to strengthen, **to fine-tune** (verb): to make very small changes to something so that it is as good as it can possibly be, **to put up with** (phrasal verb): to accept somebody/something that is annoying, unpleasant, etc.; tolerate, **teething troubles** (plural noun): the difficulties or problems that arise during the initial stages of a project, enterprise, etc., **proposition** (noun): the act of offering or suggesting something to be considered, accepted, adopted or done, **to make a (big) hole in something** (idiom): to use up a large amount of something that you have, especially money, **owing to** (idiom and connector): because of, as a result of, **exorbitant** (adjective): (of price) much too high, **to recapitulate** (verb): to sum up statements or matters, **mettle** (noun): courage and fortitude; disposition or temperament, **paramount** (adjective): chief in importance or impact; supreme; preeminent

64. Population explosion is a concern for a few nations. Some countries formulated a one - child policy, and others are contemplating the same. Is it a right thing for a country to interfere in restricting population? Discuss.

Effects	Solutions
Using of more natural resources	Advocating to control the birth rate
Impacting well-being and prosperity	-

How far the government can **intervene** in some issues is always a debatable point. The population explosion has led some countries to rethink and **impose** some regulations. To date, China is the only country that has been able to do so. Limiting the population for the greater good is always a **commendable** job in any country. This essay discusses the causes for concern.

Over seven billion people **inhabit** the earth, and these numbers are refusing to decline yet. Human population is like a plague **epidemic** which is a **menace**. The question in the human overpopulation is - do we have sustainable and renewable resources to support this explosion? The answer is negative. Countries such as China and India are front runners in this race. The Chinese authorities were **undaunted** to restrict couples with the one-child policy. None other than China has implemented the one-child policy.

Restricting overpopulation is the need of the hour. At the simplest, overpopulation means using of natural resources **by leaps and bounds**, and emitting more greenhouse gas. Environmentalists note that it also gives birth to many environmental **catastrophes**, such as **desertification**, global warming, carbon emission, **scarcity** of drinking water, a threat to **flora** and **fauna** and others. Anything that exceeds the limit is always **detrimental**. Apart from these serious issues, it is the well-being and prosperity of individual that matters the most.

I would always advocate population control measures where needed. The human population has been increasing since the end of the **Black Death,** around the year 1350. In the last 50 years, it has **surmounted** all the records and if it is not stopped, there will be a disaster on the earth. The **mortality rate** is declining and it will decline further. **Ergo**, the only solution on hand is to control the birth rate. (299 words)

Glossary:

to intervene (verb): to interfere with force; to come between disputing people, groups, etc., **to impose** (verb): to introduce a new law, rule, tax, etc.; to order that a rule, punishment, etc. be used, **commendable** (adjective): deserving praise and approval, **to inhabit** (verb): to live in a particular place, **menace** (noun): a person or thing that causes, or may cause, serious damage, harm or danger; threat, **undaunted** (adjective): undismayed; not discouraged; not forced to abandon purpose or effect, **by leaps and bounds** (idiom): to improve very quickly; in large amounts, **catastrophe** (noun): a sudden and widespread disaster, **desertification** (noun): the rapid depletion of plant life and the loss of topsoil at desert boundaries and in semiarid regions, usually caused by a combination of drought and the overexploitation of grasses and other vegetation by people, **scarcity** (noun): insufficiency or shortness of supply; dearth, **flora** (noun): plants, **fauna** (noun): all the animals living in an area or in a particular period of time , **detrimental** (adjective): harmful; damaging, **the Black Death** (noun): the name used for the very serious infectious disease, (called bubonic plague), which killed millions of people in Europe and Asia in the 14th century, **to surmount** (verb): to prevail over, **mortality rate** (noun): death rate, **ergo** (adverb and connector): therefore

65. Punctuality is expected in all spheres of life. Nonetheless, some people do not believe in this. Do you think that a person is at loss if he is not punctual? Discuss.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Outliers working only under pressure	Procrastination is a bad quality
-	Impacting on the doer and the corporation

The **trait** of punctuality **stems from** the umbrella of discipline. Some people are **unerring** punctual whereas others **dillydally** in all jobs that they have undertaken in life. Punctuality may not produce a positive end result in all occasions, but definitely it does not harm. I completely agree that procrastinators are at loss.

Generally speaking, in most cases, punctuality is a virtue **inherited** either by family or culture. A child would not realize that the punctuality plays a vital role in life unless he is **inculcated** upon. **Procrastination** is a bad quality of the human. Firstly, it becomes a habit and then a crutch. **Invariably,** it impacts directly on the person who procrastinates on every walk of life. He may be subjected to the heat of the boss professionally, and could be **mocked** socially too.

The recent surveys conducted by Business Economic Forums note that procrastinators could become a liability to a corporation in the long run. Because of this, companies have formulated the strictest penalties for those who do not report for duty on time. It is evident that it is a great loss to them and companies also.

Interestingly, there is another perspective that also **prevails** upon. Some people perform well only under pressure situation or with a tight deadline. This **notion** has also been held true. It is a common sight to see some children perform well in school exams while they are close to them. They do not take the task seriously in the beginning, but do make up the speed of recovery in the end.

In conclusion, everybody on the earth would support the punctuality because it has many positive aspects. The person who delays could potentially be at loss in some cases. **Nonetheless,** we must recognize **inconceivable** quality of those procrastinators who have challenged them. They are truly **outliers.** (304 words)

Glossary:

trait (noun): a distinguishing characteristic or quality, especially of one's personal nature, **to stem from** (phrasal verb): to be result of something, **unerring** (adjective): always right or accurate; unfailing, **to dillydally** (verb): to waste time, especially by indecision; vacillate; trifle; loiter, **to inherit** (verb): to have qualities, physical features, etc. that are similar to those of your parents, grandparents, etc., **to inculcate upon** (verb): to implant by repeated statement or admonition; teach persistently and earnestly (usually followed by *upon* or *in*), **procrastination** (noun): delaying or putting off, especially something requiring immediate attention, **invariably** (adverb): always; without fail, **to mock** (verb): to attack or treat with ridicule, **to prevail** (verb): to be widespread or current; exist everywhere or generally, **notion** (noun): an idea, a belief or an understanding of something, **nonetheless** (adverb and connector): however; nevertheless, **inconceivable** (adjective): incredible, unimaginable, unthinkable, unbelievable, not conceivable, **outlier** (noun): a person, thing or a fact that is very different from other people, things, or facts, so that it cannot be used to draw general conclusions

66. Rich nations should help poor nations in order to alleviate poverty and related issues. However, some people believe that it is the sole responsibility of poor nations to address this issue. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
On humanitarian ground, poor nations should be helped	Becoming overly reliant on foreign aide
-	Should help to build industries

It goes without saying that this topic is very **subjective**. Those who support humanity totally on emotions would support the idea of rich nations supporting the **impoverished** ones. However, there is a school of thought that argues against it. I do not agree with this topic fully.

There are several countries in the world that have been going through a phase of **abject** poverty. Citizens of such countries have a **Herculean** task to meet the basic needs, such as food, clothes, water and shelter every day. Some of these countries are highly reliant on foreign aid. It is undoubtedly a **noble** work of rich nations that have **pledged** to address this cause. Every year, billions of dollars are **poured into** assisting various nations to ease their **distress**.

Unarguably, when a nation decides to extend a financial assistance to any country, it is the money that has been collected by means of taxes. Some people argue that why they are made to pay their hard-earned money without their authorization. There is also another group that holds the **notion** of 'survival of the fittest'. They argue that poor nations become overly reliant on foreign aid and their government is not focused on **alleviating** poverty. We make things worse by **subsidizing** poor nations.

To me, wealthy nations should not help other nations by providing only **staples** and other essential items that support life. It is **imperative** that they should focus on inclusive growth. The inclusive growth is something that helps nations to build various industries that bring a livelihood to them.

In a nutshell, conscious efforts must be exercised to build a nation by addressing root causes. This way, the donation recipient countries would hold their chin up, and they may be in a position to help others in the long run. (299 words)

Glossary:

subjective (adjective): based on your own ideas or opinions rather than facts and therefore sometimes unfair, **impoverished** (adjective): reduced to poverty, **abject** (adjective): utterly hopeless, miserable, humiliating or wretched, **Herculean** (adjective): very hard to perform, **to mire** (verb): to involve; entangle, **noble** (adjective): having fine personal qualities that people admire, such as

courage, honesty and care for others, **to pledge** (verb): to bind by or as if by a pledge; promise solemnly, **to pour into** (phrasal verb): to provide a large amount of money for something, **distress** (noun): great pain, anxiety, or sorrow; acute physical or mental suffering; affliction; trouble, **unarguably** (adverb): in a way that nobody can disagree with, **notion** (noun): an opinion, view, or belief, **to alleviate** (verb): to make something less severe; ease, **staple** (noun): a basic or necessary item of food, **to subsidize** (verb): to give money to somebody or an organization to help pay for something; to give a subsidy; fund, **imperative** (adjective): absolutely necessary or required; unavoidable,

67. There are various types of music in the world. Music reflects the culture of a country, and is used for several purposes in the society. Has the importance of international music increased in your culture? Discuss.

Points for Music	Points against Music
A reflection of society	-
Used for multiple purposes	-

Like stories, music connects one generation to the other **incessantly and instantaneously**. Music has been an integral part of our society because it represents identity, taste, struggle, region, and religion. This essay discusses one of the best **attainments** of mankind which is Music.

Words fall short when we define music. It is a perfect art, and we cannot imagine life without music. It is a total reflection of society. Whether people are happy or sorrowful, they use music happily according to their needs. Jazz, Rock, Pop, Traditional music is some of the **genres** that are used by all ages. At times, **peers** and others are categorized or judged based on music that they listen to. Over the decades, music has been **evolving** and various types of music have **made a mark on** the music industry. For example, the fusion music is a new **hybrid** for youngsters now. Music is used for multiple purposes which are not confined only to **soothing** feelings, but it is also used for reducing stress level as a remedy. It works as a means of learning, relaxation and fun.

Technological advancements and globalization have set a platform for people to access international music anywhere. It **transcends** political boundaries. In India, the popularity of international music has gained in the last two decades. At the same time, the popularity of traditional music has not gone down either.

In the end, music is one of the sacred tools of enjoyment that touches both heart and mind **concurrently**. From the time of birth, humans have an **ingrained** appreciation for music. With time, selection of musical genre will keep changing **inevitably**. Any music that offers **glee, zip** and entertainment would rule. (281 words)

Glossary:

incessantly (adverb): continuing without interruption; ceaselessly; unendingly, **instantaneously** (adverb): immediately, **attainment** (noun): achievement, **genre** (noun): a style, especially in the arts, that involves a particular set of characteristics, **peer** (noun): a person who is the same age or who has the same social status as you, **to evolve** (verb): to develop gradually, especially from a simple to a more complicated form; to develop something this way, **to make a mark on (something)** (idiom): to have an important effect of something, **hybrid** (noun): anything derived from heterogeneous sources, or composed of elements of different or incongruous kinds, **to soothe** (verb): to make a tense or painful part of your body feel more comfortable; relieve, **to transcend** (verb): to be or go beyond the usual limits of something; exceed, **concurrently** (adjective and connector): occurring or existing simultaneously or side by side, **ingrained** (adjective): firmly fixed, deeply-root; inveterate, **inevitably** (adverb): as is certain to happen, **glee** (noun): a feeling of happiness, usually because something good has happened to you, or something bad has happened to somebody else; delight, **zip** (noun): energy or speed

68. A new phenomenon of working from home is shaping up in the world. How far do you agree with this new work setting? Discuss both positive and negative points.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Ease in performing any job	Networking with others is hampered
Time saving	-
Costing less and reducing pollution	-

Working-from-home **phenomenon** has been gaining **momentum** for the last few years. Gone are those days when employees - in a limited number of work settings - were needed at the workplace to transact and discharge their duties. Email, video conferencing, mobile telephone and others have redefined the way we are working now. This essay examines the facts more closely.

How wonderful it is when we have no need to report to office. It was incredible and a **novel** idea some time back while it is now gaining acceptance gradually. Thankfully, technological advancements have eased many complex tasks of business that seemed **baffling** before. This means that we no longer need to be in the same building. Working from home definitely helps the worker to perform his duty easily and in a relaxed manner. Corporations, in turn, are able to save some fixed cost that **incurs** on every employee. Not only employees and employers benefit from this new phenomenon but it also helps reduce CO^2

emission. It is because many employees do not need to drive to the workplace. Apparently, this solves other issues such as pollution, and companies would need far less office space and parking facilities.

Certain demerits of working-from-home phenomenon cannot be **ruled out** at the same time. Working in confines of four-walls **deters** employees from meeting new people and colleagues at the workplace. This could potentially be a great loss in the long run. While meeting others at the workplace and outside, employees tend to develop themselves in many ways. The virtual world, to some extent, is acceptable, but not wholly.

In conclusion, as with most aspects of life, the balance must be maintained, and it is the only solution. The successful business always **entails** working as a team, **brainstorming** and sharing ideas. (296 words)

Glossary:

momentum (noun): the ability to keep increasing or developing, **phenomenon** (noun): a fact, occurrence, or circumstance observed or observable, **novel** (adjective): of a new kind; different from anything seen or known before, **to baffle** (verb): to confuse, bewilder, perplex, **to incur** (verb): to come into or acquire (some consequence, usually undesirable or injurious), **to rule out** (verb phrase): to prove to be unrelated or not for consideration; eliminate; exclude; to make impossible or impracticable, **to deter** (verb): to prevent; arrest; check, **to entail** (verb): to cause or involve by necessity or a consequence, **brainstorming** (noun): intensive discussion to solve problems or generate ideas

69. Sex selective abortion - mainly for girls - has been very common in some countries. What is the scenario of this illegal practice in your country? What solutions do you offer to address this issue?

Effects	Solutions
Gender imbalance	Strictest punishment
-	Bringing awareness among people

Needless to say that **prenatal sex determination** with a view to aborting female **fetuses** is totally **inhumane** and unacceptable. Alarmingly, this **gruesome** practice has taken a **grotesque** form in some countries. This has resulted in a sheer gender imbalance. This essay discusses a more detailed look at the adverse effects of this growing problem in many countries.

Thought - it is the only singular element that makes or breaks the society. There has been enough noise made for gender equality across the world. However, it seems that we are far away from the reality. In some countries, such as China, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and some regions of East Asia and North Africa,

feticide is very prevalent and common. People who give importance to a male child over a female one for any reason are sick. The government investigative agencies have clearly pointed out that we have made the situation from bad to worse. Long back, **infanticide** was a way to get rid of a female child, and now it is feticide - a moderate version offered by a **butcher disguised** as a doctor.

In India, it is a common belief among some families that girls are a burden on their family. The boy is someone who is instrumental in familial **propagation**, security for elderly family members, and a performer of family ancestral **rites** and carries the family name to the next generation. Such social context has **fuelled** the unwanted prenatal sex determination. This is absolutely **absurd**.

In conclusion, I **stress** the **mega** solution to this issue is to bring awareness among the people. It is important that the government **enacts** the strictest law for those who commit this **heinous** crime. It is a sophisticated murder and the **culprits** - both doctors and parents involved in this **wrongdoing** - must be prosecuted as murderers. (302 words)

Glossary:

prenatal sex determination (noun): sex determination before birth, **fetus** (noun): the young of an animal in the womb or egg, especially in the later stages of development when the body structures are in recognizable form of its kind, in humans after the end of the second month of gestation, **inhumane** (adjective): not caring about the suffering of other people or animals; very cruel; callous **gruesome** (adjective): causing great horror; horribly repugnant; grisly, **grotesque** (noun): extremely ugly in a strange way that is often frightening or amusing; strange in a way that is unpleasant or offensive, **feticide** (noun): the act of destroying a fetus or causing an abortion, **infanticide** (noun): the act of killing an infant, **butcher** (noun): a person whose job is cutting up and selling meat in a shop/store or killing animals for this purpose, **to disguise** (verb): to change your appearance so that people cannot recognize you; conceal; to hide something or change it, so that it cannot be recognized, **propagation** (noun): multiplication by natural reproduction, **rite** (noun): a particular form or system of religious or other ceremonial practice, **to fuel** (verb): to increase something; to make something stronger; stoke, **absurd** (adjective): utterly or obviously senseless, illogical, or untrue; contrary to all reasons or common sense; laughably foolish or false, **to stress** (verb): to emphasize a fact, an idea, etc., **mega** (adjective): extremely, **to enact** (verb): to pass a law, **heinous** (adjective): hateful; odious; abominable; totally reprehensible, **culprit** (noun): a person who has done something wrong or against the law, **wrongdoing** (noun): illegal or dishonest behavior; crime; offence

70. Homemade food has been replaced by fast food these days. Is it good for the society? Discuss the merits and demerits of both.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Hygiene	Time consuming
Taste and flavor maintained	-

Fast paced lifestyle and **inundated** pressure at the workplace have changed the mindset of people with regard to the food pattern. Most people, these days, believe that homemade food takes a considerable amount of time to prepare and wastes precious time. However, others argue that it is worth looking at benefits of homemade food. This essay examines the facts more closely.

There are several benefits associated with the homemade food. The very first one is it meets a **hygiene** factor. The family member ensures the utmost care of using fresh vegetables or meat, right **condiments** that are not harmful to health and high quality oil that is unadulterated. More importantly, it features the cleanliness while cooking food. Secondly, taste and flavor are maintained according to the taste of the family. Also, eating food at home is all about family bonding. Historically, food was made at home and the family had their **supper** and lunch at the table together.

In contrast, **dynamics** have changed dramatically in the current scenario. Time is the most precious factor these days. Cooking food at home consumes much time. Therefore, the world has witnessed a massive growth of fast food chains. People have no time and need to rush to their workplace. It makes sense that they **grab** a sandwich and an energy drink from the **drive-through** while driving to the workplace.

However, there is a **caveat** to this new **phenomenon**. The biggest concern is the hygiene issue. Food is made in the kitchen, away from your eyes. Consumers have no idea about the kitchen hygiene and quality of ingredients. That is why, for example, Subway sandwich is the most preferred sandwich compared to others for health conscious people.

In my final analysis, the homemade food is supreme without any **equivocations**. It is healthy and less expensive. But there is no harm having food outside once a while to refresh the taste. (316 words)

Glossary:

to inundate (verb): to give someone so much work or so many things that they cannot deal with it all, **hygiene** (noun): the practice of keeping yourself and your living and working areas clean in order to prevent illness and disease, **condiment** (noun): something used to give a special flavor to food, as mustard, ketchup, salt

or spices, **supper** (noun): dinner, **dynamic** (noun): the way in which people or things behave and react to each other in a particular situation, **to grab** (verb): to have or take something quickly, especially you are in a hurry, **drive-through** (noun): a restaurant, bank, etc. where you can be served without having to get out of your car, **caveat** (noun): a warning that particular things need to be considered before something can be done, **phenomenon** (noun): a fact or an event in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood

71. Computers are integral part of the society now. However, computers have spoiled children in many ways. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Computer addiction leading to long-term illnesses	-
Children living in a virtual world	-
Paving the way for the junk food	-
Access to forbidden websites	-

Today life without a computer is a fantasy. The advancement of technology has changed the entire world - the way we work, and the way we think. Children are not in **isolation** too. Though the computer is seen as a **salvation** in many ways, there is a growing concern about how **adversely** children are being impacted. I agree with this topic fully.

We often **get carried away** only with the positives of it. Imagine a child during the 1980s and before, he would be playful in the field. He would make new friends and socialize with them, read school books and go to museums and libraries. Gone is this sight now, children are all the time wired with the digital world. They live in a virtual world that has cancelled their options of playing in the field. They play Candy Crush, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings to name a few. Games are for fun, but fun coupled with a fitness option is more desirable.

In addition, getting **glued** to the computer is **perilous** in many ways. First of all, their addiction leads them to a wide range of long-term illnesses. Children become **obese** and get **inflicted** with the back pain and eye sore. Secondly, they may have five hundred friends on 'Facebook' but hardly anyone to stand by them in person. Thirdly, this phenomenon has **paved the way for** the junk food for the **gluttonous** children. Lastly, one of the most frightening issues is the child has an access to **forbidden** websites, such as pornography ones. We support sex education, but not the culture of being a **pervert**.

Conclusively, the situation is not getting better off at all. The biggest challenge lies ahead of us is the computer getting replaced by smartphones and tablets now. This adds more complications. There is always a line between 'use' and 'abuse' and we need to explain this to children. (317 words)

Glossary:

isolation (noun): the act of isolating or the condition of being isolated, **salvation** (noun): a way of protecting somebody from danger, harm, disaster, loss, etc., **adversely** (adverb and connector): negatively; skeptically, **to get carried away** (idiom): to get very excited or lose control of your feelings, **to glue** (verb): to join or fasten with glue, **perilous** (adjective): involving or full of grave risk or peril; hazardous; dangerous, **obese** (adjective): (of people) very fat, in a way that is not healthy, **to inflict** (verb): to impose as something that must be borne or suffered, **to pave the way for** (idiom): to create a situation in which somebody will be able to do something or something can happen, **gluttonous** (adjective): tending to eat and drink excessively; voracious, **to forbid** (verb): to hinder or prevent; make impossible; prohibit (something), **pornography also porn** (noun): books, magazines, DVDs, etc. that describe or show naked people and sexual acts in order to make people feel sexually excited, especially in a way that many other people find offensive, **pervert** (noun): a person who practices sexual perversion; deviant; weirdo, **conclusively** (adverb): in a way that proves something, and that allows no doubt or confusion

72. We have witnessed that parents spending ample amount of money on their children's parties. Some believe that it is a waste of money and this trend is getting worse. What do you think about this? Do parents have any solution to this issue?

Causes	Effects
Emulating peers	Parties costing a dizzying amount
Idolizing sportspeople and celebrities	Moderate earners facing challenges

Party inflation is **pinching** parents' pockets these days. We have seen an undoubted increase in the **extravagant** children's party. However, parents can **restrain** their children from throwing ever-more-fancy parties. This essay examines both the causes and effects.

Parents are not wrong if they do not do a big party. Children are innocent as well as young, and tend to **emulate** their **peers**. What children are watching and digesting is giving them higher expectations. Disney on the ice rink, Alice in Wonderland theme, and a colorful mushroom theme hall are some of the examples that children dream for their birthday parties. Such parties cost a **dizzying** amount. The cost of raising a child itself is a challenge for moderate earners, and this adds further pressure on them.

When we **contemplate** upon the factors that have influenced the trend of expensive parties, we face the stark reality. Children **idolize** sportspeople and celebrities. They keep watching and observing 'page 3 culture' styled parties and get wrongly influenced. Together parents and schools must make this **crystal clear** about the negative **consequences** if this is not stopped.

There are options we have on hand to counter this **emergent** partying culture. The only solution is parents organize a 'present-free birthday' for their children. Birthdays are meant for celebration in a simplified manner that fit in a family's values, but it should not be a **show-off**. This idea can only work if all the parents agree collectively not to have party bags or presents.

In a nutshell, children may **aspire** of all the things that they know of. It is the parents who need to discipline them about not to be extravagant at an early or later stage. We need to bring the days of jelly and ice-cream in the back garden - the simplest form of a birthday celebration. (303 words)

Glossary:

to pinch (verb): to stint (a person, family, etc.) in allowance of money, food, or the like, **extravagant** (adjective): excessively high; wasteful, **to restrain** (verb): to stop something that is growing or increasing from becoming too large, **to emulate** (verb): to try to do something as well as somebody else because you admire them, **peer** (noun): a person who is the same age or who has the same social status as you, **dizzying** (adjective): making or tending to make one dizzy, **to contemplate** (verb): to think about whether you should do something, or how you should do something; consider; think about/of, **to idolize** (verb): to admire or love somebody very much; worship, **crystal clear** (adjective): very easy to understand, completely obvious, **consequence** (noun): a result of something that has happened, **emergent** (adjective): new and still developing, **show-off** (noun): a person who tries to impress other people by showing how good he or she is at doing something, **in a nutshell** (idiom): all in all; sum, **to aspire** (verb): to long for, aim or seek ambitiously

73. Some people do not believe in paying taxes. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Moral responsibility of citizens	-
Lame excuses	-

Some people measure their estimation of what a 'fair share' of tax would be with how much the state cares about them. Around the world, it is a **cliché** that the government does not do enough for the welfare of people. I acknowledge the fact that some people do not believe in paying taxes, and it is unacceptable. This essay examines the facts more closely.

A country - government - has many bills to pay on every day basis like other citizens. They need to ensure having the entire system in place to run a country. The government spends a massive amount of money in the road system, defense, law enforcement agency, transportation, irrigation system, health care system, various subsidies to support low earning citizens, agriculture and so on. We term this **outlay** as a 'public expenditure'. In turn, it is a simple math. When a country spends, it needs a consistent inflow of revenues. The government has multiple avenues to collect funds and one among them is taxing the citizen.

Paying taxes is linked to the **conscience** of a citizen. Law-abiding citizens consider paying tax is a moral responsibility in building the nation while others **evade** taxes. Tax evaders always have **lame** excuses when asked to pay taxes. They believe wrongly that the government does not spend income earned from taxes appropriately. The biggest excuse for them is they quickly **conclude** that the government is corrupt. Another **perspective** of people is the government should impose heavy taxes on large corporations because they have ample amount of wealth and they **misappropriate** the **Exchequer's** income the most.

All in all, it is not important what the country has done for them, but what they have done for the country is something to be noted. A good citizen can contribute his fair share to the state by paying tax only. (308 words)

Glossary:

cliché (noun): a phrase or an idea that has been used so often that it no longer has much meaning and is not interesting, **outlay** (noun): the money that you have to spend in order to start a new project, **conscience** (noun): the part of your mind that tells you whether your actions are right or wrong, **to evade** (verb): to avoid; dodge, **lame** (adjective): (of an excuse, explanation, etc.) weak and difficult to believe; feeble; unconvincing, **to conclude** (verb): to decide or believe something as a result of what you have heard or seen, **perspective** (noun): point of view, **to misappropriate** (verb): to apply wrongfully or dishonestly, as funds entrusted to one's care, **Exchequer** (noun): a treasury, as of a state or nation

74. Women are changing all frontiers by their skills. At the same time, they are failing as a mother too. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Hard to balance both professional and personal life	-
Taking too much of time	-
Child growing with a motherhood deficiency	-

Back in time, women were the guardian of the home, looking after household **chores**, running usual **errands** and raising children. The role of woman has **evolved** with time. Now the woman is much more independent and stronger than ever before. But, the society is paying the price for this 'new **avatar'** of the woman. I fully support this topic though there is some disagreement.

Indisputably, from kitchen to office every woman is trying to **cope** with all the situations. At times, they are **triumphant** too. As we know, it is really a hard job for anyone to balance both professional and personal life. **Dynamics** and situations in the past were quite different. People did not live under pressure of career growth, **bottleneck competition**, long commuting hours and others. Now times have changed. Working means giving away a one-third of the day and sometimes more. The situation gets worse for women and they get stuck **between a rock and a hard place**. They need to rush back home and attend household chores again, especially women with young babies are at the receiving end.

This situation impacts young children **adversely**. Mother is unable to spare the required amount of time with babies. In absence of attention, the child feels neglected in some cases. He grows with **deficiency** of motherhood. This causes a **detrimental** effect on children eventually. They become **rebellious** and disobedient. When asked or explained for such behavior, they fault parents only. I agree with the statement somewhat considering the above-mentioned aspects.

In conclusion, I **acknowledge** the fact that women are reaching many important **milestones** professionally. At the same time, time spent in making career may fail them on their personal fronts. (281 words)

Glossary:

chore (noun): a task that you do regularly; an unpleasant and boring task, **errand** (noun): a short and quick trip to accomplish a specific purpose, as to buy something, or deliver a package, or convey a message, often for someone else. **to**

evolve (verb): to develop gradually, **avatar** (noun): exemplar, personification, **indisputably** (adverb): unquestionably real or valid, **to cope** (verb): to deal successfully with something difficult; manage, **triumphant** (adjective): having achieve victory or success; victorious, **dynamic** (noun): the way in which people or things behave and react to each other in a particular situation, **bottleneck competition** (noun): steep competition, cut-throat competition, **between a rock and a hard place** (idiom): in a situation where you have to choose between two things, both of which are unpleasant, **adversely** (adverb): in a way that is negative and unpleasant and not likely to produce a good result, **deficiency** (noun): the state of not having, or not having enough of, something that is essential; shortage, **detrimental** (adjective): harmful; damaging, **rebellious** (adjective): defying or resisting some established authority, government, or tradition; inclined to rebel, to acknowledge (verb): to accept that something is true; recognize, **milestone also milepost** (noun): a very important stage or event in the development of something

75. In some countries, disabled people face a lot of troubles to access public and private facilities. What solution do you have to help such people? Discuss.

Agreement	Disagreement
Disabled people are left behind	-
Facilities and public places aren't disabled-friendly	-

It is needless to say that some governments have not recognized the importance of disabled people. They are left to struggle to access certain facilities **day in, day out** regardless of **exceptional** talent they may possess. The essay examines the facts more closely.

It is **heart-wrenching** to witness the disabled people being **discriminated** in some parts of the world. A disabled person does not only mean someone who is on the wheelchair but also the others who are mentally challenged, blind, and with hearing and walking **impairments.** Oftentimes they are discriminated by both the government and fellow citizens.

The government's part of doing for the disabled is to provide them with the basic and accommodating facilities. At the same time, they must **enact** the strictest rules for others to facilitate these 'special citizens'. They can do that by regulating certain facilities and things with the required standard measures. For example, all the buildings must be disabled-friendly. The building should have the **provision** of **ramps**, suitable width corridors, disabled toilet facilities, and possible customized lifts.

Additionally, the government must understand that faulty facilities make life difficult for all. **Potholes** on the road, faulty street lights, and absence of proper signs on roads are some of the basic requirements to **avert** any **fatalities** or injuries to all citizens including the disabled. **On top of it**, any assistive device for the disabled must be tax-free with subsidized prices.

In the end, the pledge to accommodate these special citizens also **mandates** everyone to do his part. Anybody providing services to the disabled must ensure them of having a happy experience. The developed nations such as the UK and the USA have a clear-cut regulation called Disability Discrimination Act and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) respectively. The same way, all countries should **follow suit**. (298 words)

Glossary:

day in, day out (idiom): every day for a long period of time, **exceptional** (adjective): unusually excellent; superior, **heart-wrenching** (adjective): causing great sadness; heartbreaking, **to discriminate** (verb): to show partiality; distinguish, **impairment** (noun): the state of being diminished, weakened or damaged, especially mentally or physically, **to enact** (verb): to pass a law, **provision** (noun): arrangement or penetration beforehand, as for the doing of something, the meeting of needs, the supplying of means, etc., **ramp** (noun): a sloping surface connecting two levels; incline, **pothole** (noun): a large rough hole in the surface of a road that is formed by traffic and bad weather, **to avert** (verb): to prevent something bad or dangerous from happening, **fatality** (noun): a death that is caused in an accident or a war, or by violence or disease, **on top of something** (idiom): in addition to something, **in the end** (phrase): to recapitulate; core out, **to mandate** (verb): to make mandatory, **to follow suit** (idiom): to follow in the same pattern

76. People do not have much interest in visiting museums, and they believe that it is not worth. What steps should governments take to make museums a chosen place? How significant they are in the culture? Discuss.

Causes	Solutions
Less marketable	Boost funding
Less entertaining	Visiting experience ought to be made easy and enjoyable

The **notion** about visiting museums varies from person to person. To me, museums are a true reflection of **cultural heritage**. However, museums have been unable to attract footfalls in many places **owing to** a poor marketing. This essay examines the facts more closely.

People visit various places according to their taste. Most of the time, people desire to have a complete entertainment as well as **edification**. The primary role of a museum is to **exhibit** a well-preserved collection of interesting objects. The collection at the museum **relives reminiscences** of ancient history, and in some cases, it is **contemporary** too. Some people believe that the museum ought to **incorporate state-of-the-art** facilities that make them more marketable. They may visit it with a view to knowing about the past, and that experience can be made easy and enjoyable when technology such as videos and headsets are placed. Visitors can visualize the content and listen to the commentary. This process serves both purposes - learning and entertainment.

Museums today are in **dire straits**, and need a **boost** of funding and promotion. The government may not **prioritize** because it does not generate revenues from them. But I disagree with this perspective. We have witnessed a **proliferation** of tourism promotion by many countries. They focus on aspects, such as cultural heritage, landscape, night life, beaches, national treasures and museums. A domestic and international visitor would surely be attracted when it has a value for money.

In summary, it is essential that the government makes the museum worthwhile for visitors by a strategic promotion. The **curator** needs to come up with **novel** ideas to increase numbers of visitors. I would support the idea of nominal entry fee because that revenue will save the museum from being in a **dilapidated** state. (294 words)

Glossary:

notion (noun): an idea, a belief or an understanding of something, **cultural heritage** (noun): the legacy of physical artifacts and intangible attributes of group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present and bestowed for the benefit of future generation, **owing to**

(preposition): because of, **edification** (noun): knowledge; betterment; enlightenment, **to exhibit** (verb): to display, **to relive** (verb): to experience again, as an emotion, **reminiscence** (noun): recollection; memory, **contemporary** (adjective): existing, occurring, or living at the same time; belonging to the same time, **to incorporate** (verb): to include something so that it forms a part of something, **state-of-the-art** (noun): the latest and most sophisticated or advanced stage of a technology, art, or science, **dire straits** (noun): a very difficult position especially because of lack of money, **boost** (noun): something that helps or encourages somebody/something, **to prioritize** (verb): to give priority, **proliferation** (noun): the sudden increase in the number or amount of something; a large number of particular thing, **in summary** (idiom): in sum, **curator** (noun): the person in charge of a museum, art collection, etc., **novel** (adjective): different from anything known before; new, interesting and often seeming slightly strange, **dilapidated** (adjective): reduced to or fallen into partial ruin or decay, as from age, wear or neglect

77. Safety of people is a big concern nowadays. Thus, some people believe that it is not wrong to use video cameras to watch and record people's activities in public places. Others believe that it has many negative consequences and it should not be permitted. To what extent do you agree or disagree ?

Agreement	Disagreement
Protecting citizens	Infringement in a private life
-	Abuse of collected data

Generally speaking, recording anybody's activities in public places by using video cameras or other devices may be termed as an **intrusion** of the private life. **Thusly**, it is highly controversial. **Nonetheless**, it is **indispensable**. I agree with this statement fully.

People's safety is of **paramount** significance **in light of** disturbing events, such as terrorism, rising crime rate and violent civil rights movement, etc. However, the basic constitutional right of a citizen prescribes no **infringement** in a private life. There is a school of thought which believes that such data can be used against the individual in some cases by the government. The government is made of both good and evil officers, and it is hard to track each one's intent. The government always desires to expand the **surveillance** powers of intelligence on everyone. Whether or not they do it with a good intent, people feel that such acts destroy their private life.

Alternatively, there is an **ethical dilemma** that exists for the government, too. The government is often bashed by the media and citizens in the events of **dreadful** security **lapses** and **scattered heinous** crime. It is a common human

tendency, when things go wrong the first person to be blamed is government. The government can secure citizens by many ways, but one of the important ways is to track the movement of every **rogue offender**. While doing that, apparently innocent people will also get ground. The surveillance system would never **discriminate** anyone. When we argue such an issue, it seems that the government should be allowed to do this job because they have to put **felons** and enemies of the state **behind bars**.

In conclusion, it is acceptable as long as people's actions get videotaped in public places for the security reasons. The innocent person should not view this as a threat. (303 words)

Glossary:

consequence (noun): result, **intrusion** (noun): something that affects a situation or people's lives in a way that they do not want, **thusly** (adverb and connector): thus, **nonetheless** (adverb): despite the fact; nevertheless, indispensable (adjective): too important to be without; essential, **paramount** (adjective): more important than anything else, **in (the) light of** (idiom): after considering something, **infringement** (noun) a breach or infraction, as of a law, right, or obligation; violation; transgression, **surveillance** (noun): a watch kept over a person, group, etc., especially over a suspect, prisoner, or the like, **ethical dilemma** (noun): a complex situation that often involves an apparent mental conflict between moral imperatives, in which to obey one would result in transgressing another, **dreadful** (adjective): frightful; dire; terrifying, **lapse** (noun): a small mistake, especially one that is caused by forgetting something or by being careless, **scattered** (adjective): spread far apart over or a wide area or over a long period of time, **heinous** (adjective): morally very bad, **rogue** (adjective): behaving in a different way from other similar people or things, often causing damage, **offender** (noun): a person who commits crime, **felon** (noun): culprit, offender, **behind bars** (idioms) in jail

78. Some people believe that elderly parents ought to live at senior homes. Others believe that they should live with family members. Do you agree or disagree ?

Agreement	Disagreement
Moral responsibility	A cycle of culture
Blessings	Independency
A helping hand	-

Living with or without elderly parents **rests on** cultural values where one has grown with. Some people view it as rude to separate parents at the age when they need family members the most. While in some countries, they **perceive** it more **accommodating** when elderly people live in senior homes. I agree with the idea of living together with parents.

Living together with elderly parents has many worthwhile benefits. To begin with, it is a moral responsibility of a child to take care of them. When he was young, they **sweated** over **raising** him and never **turned a blind eye to** his needs. It would be a **rampant** idea to forget the parents who incessantly and **untiringly** supported the child. Secondly, family becomes whole where the blessings of elderly people exist. Thirdly, individuals and their children remain occupied with endless responsibilities and pressure at workplace or school. Parents are an extending help to **alleviate** these complications. Leaving parents in isolation to suffer during the last stage of life is over the top.

The opposite is also true. They argue that it is nothing wrong to do that because it is a cycle of the culture - today he separates his parents, tomorrow he will be left by his children. Another dimension is parents have also a full right to live their life happily and without worries. They can do so by living and enjoying alone. Parents have not signed a lifetime agreement **to mother** their children.

In summary, the advantages of keeping parents together **outweigh** the disadvantages of it. At the same time, it is unfair to judge people on their subjective choices. What is right in one culture may not be the same in the other culture. (288 words)

Glossary:

to rest on (phrasal verb): to depend or rely on somebody/something, **to perceive** (verb): to notice or become aware of something; to understand or think of somebody/something in a particular way, **accommodating** (adjective): easy to deal with; eager to help or please; obliging, **to sweat** (verb): to work hard, to raise (verb): to care for a child or young animal until it is able to take care of itself, **to turn a blind eye to** (idiom): overlook; deliberately overlook, **rampant** (adjective): violent; furious; raging, **untiringly** (adverb): not tiring or ceasing; indefatigable; persistent, **to alleviate** (verb): to make something less severe; ease, , **to mother** (verb): to care for somebody/something because you are their mother, or as if you were their mother, **to outweigh** (verb): to be greater or more important than something

79. Child abuse on the Internet has increased dramatically. What steps are available for individuals and the government to stop it? Present your solutions to stop the child abuse.

Discussion points	Solutions
Offenders waiting for people's mistakes	Bringing awareness
Parents aren't tech savvy	Co-ordinated efforts of cybercrime team and government are sought

The media often **unmask** and break the new type of crime news - child abuse. The victim goes through tremendous mental **agony**, and in some cases, they take harsh steps to end their life too. The society has an offender **unleashed**, walking on the street in a **disguised** form. This essay examines the facts more closely.

Undoubtedly, many innocent and young children **fall into the trap**. Parents post images of their child on social websites to share their happiness with others. They are **oblivious** to the fact that in some cases, all these images are being abused by offenders and **pedophiles**. Generally, most people are **naïve** and new to the ill effects of technology. They share snaps on image-hosting platforms that create a specific web address link. This is where they fail to identify the right platform. Once a photo is uploaded, it is taken by criminals hiding in plain view on entirely **legitimate** websites. The same photo keeps circling on various websites and smartphone.

It is a **nightmare**. Tackling such crimes requires the coordinated efforts worldwide. It **transcends** political boundaries. Thus, **cybercrime detection cells** across the globe must work jointly and share information on a real time basis. Apparently, the first step starts from parents and children to defeat such crimes. While uploading a private collection of images, **utmost** care should be taken to protect the 'view' of such snaps only to the selected people. This is the best precaution one can take to stop the abuse. Children should be trained not to upload any snaps on **anonymous** websites strictly. The government needs to be vigilant on home-grown as well as overseas criminals/hackers.

In a nutshell, it is a serious concern. Both people and the government must do their part to protect the future of children. (297 words)

Glossary:

child abuse (noun): mistreatment of a child by a parent or guardian; including neglect, beating, and sexual assault, **to unmask** (verb): to reveal a true character of; disclose; expose, **agony** (noun): extreme physical or mental pain, **to unleash** (verb): to release from or as if from a leash; set loose to pursue or run at will, **to disguise** (verb): to change your appearance so that people cannot recognize you; conceal, **undoubtedly** (adverb and connector): without any doubts, **to fall into**

the trap (idiom): to do/avoid doing something that is a mistake but which seems at first to be a good idea, **oblivious** (adjective): unaware, **pedophile** (noun): an adult sexually attracted to young children, **naïve** (noun): simple; candid; open; plain, **legitimate** (adjective): lawful; legal; valid; licit, **nightmare** (noun): an experience that is very frightening and unpleasant, or very difficult to deal with, **to transcend** (verb): to be or go beyond the usual limits of something; exceed, **cybercrime** (noun): criminal activity or a crime that involves the Internet, a computer system, or computer technology, **utmost** (noun and adjective): chief; highest; foremost, **anonymous** (adjective): without any name acknowledged; of unknown name, **(put something) in a nutshell** (idiom): (to say or express something) in a very clear way, using few words

80. Degree awarded by a school is not the only indicator of success. Individuals without the formal education have progressed too. Discuss both points of view, and quote instances.

Points for degree	Points for life skill & informal education
School enlightening knowledge, theory and practical aspects	Risk takers based on experience are as good as other students
Making students more composed and articulate	-

From early civilization to the modern era, the significance of **alma mater** has never **diminished**. It is commonly believed that a formal degree is a certificate of achievements. It may be true, but does not truly reflect as a **barometer** of success. This essay examines the facts more closely.

Success is always assessed **intrinsically** and **extrinsically** including several **parameters**. However, it would be unwise to link it to only with academic attainments. Chiefly, school enlightens knowledge, theory and practical aspects on various courses. This learning is, in turn, used in the formative years of the starter for a new career. **Nonetheless**, the world has witnessed many successful entrepreneurs and **outliers** who either were school **dropouts** or never had any formal education. There is no doubt that education makes a person more composed and literate, but experience makes a person more articulate **in light of vivid hues** of life.

Some experts have **coined** a term called 'paralyzes through analysis.' This **signifies** that in some cases detailed analysis **incorporating** theory and practical aspects in certain subjects makes the person **risk-averse**. The world has **applauded** and criticized only the risk takers. Because they are the ones who dare to change the definition of **stereotyped** norms. We have a classic example of Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of 'Facebook'. He dropped out of school only to coin a new definition of the innovator and entrepreneur.

Of course, school is an **integral** part of our society and without it, the society may become directionless. To me, only the quality school manufactures leaders and prepares students to face and challenge the **headwinds** lying ahead.

In conclusion, the success must be measured by the real achievements. The society should have a large heart to accept the person's **accolades regardless of** the brand image of school that is associated with him. (302 words)

Glossary:

alma mater (noun): school, **to diminish** (verb): to reduce; lessen, **barometer** (noun): something that shows the changes that are happening in an economic, social or political situation, **intrinsically** (adverb): in a way that belongs to or is part of the real nature of somebody/something, **extrinsically** (adverb): not belonging naturally to somebody/something; coming from existing outside somebody/something rather than within them, **parameters** (noun) limits or boundaries; guidelines, **nonetheless** (adverb): nevertheless; despite the fact, **outlier** (noun): a person or thing differing from all other members of a particular group or set, **dropout** (noun): a person who leaves school or college before they have finished their studies, **in (the) light of** (idiom): after considering something, **vivid** (adjective): intense, **hue** (noun): color, **to coin** (verb): to make; invent; fabricate, **to signify** (verb): to mean, **to incorporate** (verb): to embody, **risk-averse** (adjective): not willing to do something if it is possible that something bad could happen as a result, **to applaud** (verb): to express praise for somebody/something because you approve of them or it, **stereotyped** (adjective): conventional; hackneyed, **integral** (adjective): being an essential part of something, **headwind** (noun): a source of resistance, as to progress or success, **accolade** (noun): any award; honor, **regardless of** (idiom): in spite of; without regard for.

81. Animal testing should be banned for drug research? Do you agree or disagree.

Agreement	Disagreement
Totally inhumane	Pharmaceutical corporations bragging about invented vaccines and drugs
Alternative technologies are available	-

The first reaction of any human is to end animal testing without any **equivocations**. Animals are just like us: they breathe, eat, sleep, reproduce and feed their young ones. However, most scientists would vote against this notion **citing** medical research has saved billions of lives to date. Yet, I disagree with them, **inasmuch as** I **assert** it unreasonable.

It is pointless and unethical to take the animal's life for the sake of testing. The drug and administration reports around the world affirm that 92 out of 100 drug tests that pass animals fail. It is a self-evidentiary report itself. We know that it is not proven fully, then why animals are being subjected to long and painful experiments. They are **caged** for this purpose. The dead body of the animal gets disposed if the experiment fails or the animal is again forced back into the same cage for further observations. For example, it is **ruthless** to blind a monkey to make new **mascara**. It is utterly cruel and inhumane.

We live in the 21st century, and for every small cause we have social workers, civil rights movements and the state administration protecting us from the potential harm. But this cause looks highly **underrepresented**. Another argument against medical testing on animals is we have alternative technologies, such as bioengineering and computer modeling that are harmless and accurate to a great extent.

In contrast, we have large pharmaceutical corporations that have invested billions of dollars in researching for every single disease to save mankind. They believe that the world would have lost billions of lives due to various illnesses had animals not tested with new formulations.

In conclusion, whatever arguments in favor of animal testing presented are **puerile** considering the **trauma** and pain animals go through. It is **horrid** to kill poor breathing animals. (302 words)

Glossary:

equivocation (noun): a way of behaving or speaking that is not clear or definite and is intended to avoid or hide the truth, **to cite** (verb): to quote (a passage, book, author, etc.) especially as an authority, **inasmuch as** (conjunction): used to add a comment on something that you have just said and to say in what way it is true, **to assert** (verb): to state clearly and firmly that something is true; affirm, **to**

cage (verb): to put or confine in or as if in a cage, **ruthless** (adjective): without pity or compassion; cruel; merciless, **mascara** (noun): a substance used as a cosmetic to color the eyelashes and eyebrows, **to underrepresent** (verb): to give inadequate representation to, **puerile** (adjective): childishly foolish; immature or trivial, **trauma** (noun): a body wound or shock produced by sudden physical injury, as from violence or accident, **horrid** (adjective): extremely unpleasant or disagreeable; shockingly dreadful; abominable

82. Crime among teenagers is increasing day by day. What sorts of punishment would you suggest for these children?

Discussion Points	Solutions
Juvenile tantrums	Emphasizing more on correctional policies
Penalizing them harshly is a regressive idea	The society should accept them

Juvenile delinquency has **peaked alarmingly** everywhere, and it is a **brutal** process to deal with. Juvenile **tantrums** appear not to be keeping with the **adolescent's** age. It is a sensitive issue whether to punish young offenders with the strictest degree or they should be allowed to **rehabilitate** on **compassionate** grounds. This essay examines the facts more closely.

It is a dreadful sight to see children going **astray**, and involving themselves in the world of crime. Many a time, young children get arrested for simple or **aggravated** assault, theft, **dope** and others. It is well documented that putting teenagers **behind bars** for their offences surely would not serve the purpose. Rather, it would be a **regressive** idea. Psychologists believe that the **harsh** punishment **alienates** children further from the society. It is hard for them to **reintegrate** into the society subsequently.

Every country has separated the juvenile crime court from the criminal court. Their singular objective is to **emphasize** more on the correctional policy. Children are immature, and sometimes both restless and wild too. One misstep in tackling them could invite more troubles to the victim (offender) and the society as a whole.

I believe that such delinquent adolescents are in **dire** need of counseling, affection and acceptance from the society. Psychologists are crucial in helping out to understand children's violent behavior. Parents, friends and the society need to play a role of savior. An advocacy oriented program and a family-centered preventative intervention program coupled with the state run rehabilitation centers must go hand in hand to bring these children right back on to the track.

In summary, I **stress** that these children should be treated in a special manner so as they can self-realize their **wrongdoings**. Once they do so, the punishment for them should be to serve the community on various causes for some time. (304 words)

Glossary:

juvenile delinquency (noun): behavior of a child or youth that is so marked by violation of law, persistent mischievousness, antisocial behavior, disobedience, or intractability as to thwart correction by parents and to constitute a matter for action by the juvenile courts, **to peak** (verb): to attain a peak of activity, development, popularity, etc., **alarmingly** (adverb): fearfully, **brutal** (adjective): cruel; inhumane; savage, **tantrum** (noun): a violent demonstration of rage or frustration; a sudden burst of ill temper, **adolescent** (adjective): growing to manhood or womanhood; youthful, **to rehabilitate** (verb): to restore to a condition of good health, ability to work, or the like, **compassionate** (adjective): sympathetic; merciful; humane, **to go astray** (idiom): to go in wrong direction or to have the wrong result, **aggravated** (adjective): annoyed; irritated; LAW: characterized by some feature defined by law that enhances the crime, as the intention of the criminal or the special vulnerability of the victim, **dope** (noun): a drug that is taken illegally for pleasure, **behind bars** (idiom): in prison **regressive** (adjective): becoming or making something less advanced; degenerating one; deteriorating one, **harsh** (adjective): ungentle and unpleasant in action or effect, **to alienate** (verb): to make somebody feel that they do not belong in a particular group, **to emphasize** (verb): to lay stress upon; stress, **dire** (adjective): very serious, **to stress** (verb): to emphasize a fact, an idea, etc., **wrongdoing** (noun): behavior or action that is wrong, evil or blameworthy

83. Many countries spend a large amount of money on various researches. Some people believe that it is a waste of money because there are many poor people who do not have enough money to buy their meals. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this topic?

Agreement	Disagreement
Research giving many remedies for various illnesses	Other pressing needs such as hunger need to be addressed
Improved life expectancy	-

The **quest** for something new that could comfort mankind is the central idea behind every type of research undertaken. It serves the purpose for **the greater good, albeit** such ambitious plans get **confronted** by some people across the world. They believe that this investment should rather be used for **eradicating** poverty and other important issues. I agree with this statement partially.

Researching into life-saving drugs and life-comforting devices is an essential element behind the whopping investment made by corporations and the government. When positives of research are compared with negatives, they certainly outweigh the disagreements. For example, the **life expectancy** was nearly 30 years around two centuries back. Anybody who had **contracted** certain diseases, such as jaundice, malaria, flu, and dengue fever had died because we did not have the effective **remedy**. Now the scenario has completely changed. Scientists by means of research and **sheer perseverance** have gifted us several preventive measures and vaccines to **shield** our body. Today, life expectancy has reached nearly 65 years and it is estimated to touch 90 years in the near future by virtue of medical research.

The opposite is true also. The World Bank reports that over two billion people on the earth earn less than $2 a day. This means that they do not have enough livelihoods to **appease** the hunger. It is horrible to witness thousands of people **starve** every day, and a little is done to address their **distress**. It is also true that sometimes billions of dollars are merely spent on researching a potato.

In conclusion, both points of view have strong merits. It is hard to find a middle ground in this issue. **Ergo**, it is an **ethical dilemma**, and the only solution is to spend proportionally considering the **gravity** of seriousness of the subject being researched. (299 words)

Glossary:

quest (noun): a search or pursuit made in order to find or obtain something, **the greater good** (phrase): a common expression which refers to the fact that you are doing something that most likely will not benefit you but many people, a community or even the human race according to the context. The expression is

often used in political, religious or philosophical contexts, **albeit** (conjunction): although , **to confront** (verb): to face in hostility or defiance; oppose, **to eradicate** (verb): to uproot, **whopping** (adjective and adverb): very large of its kind; thumping; extremely; exceedingly, **to outweigh** (verb): to be greater or more important than something, **life expectancy** (noun): the probable number of years remaining in the life of an individual or class of person determined statistically, affected by such factors as heredity, physical condition, nutrition, and occupation, **to contract** (verb): to get or acquire, as by exposure to something contagious, **remedy** (noun): something that cures or relieves a disease or bodily disorder; a healing medicine, application or treatment, **sheer** (adjective): complete and not mixed with anything else, **perseverance** (noun): the quality of continuing to try to achieve a particular aim despite difficulties, **to appease** (verb): to satisfy, allay, or relieve; assuage, **to starve** (verb): to die or perish from lack of food or nourishment, **distress** (adjective): a feeling of great worry or unhappiness; great suffering; hardship; suffering and problems caused by not having enough money, food, etc., **ergo** (adverb): therefore, **ethical dilemma** (noun): a complex situation that often involves an apparent mental conflict between moral imperatives, in which to obey one would result in transgressing another, **gravity** (noun): serious or critical nature

84. Some people prefer to read, watch or listen to national news only. Others believe in updating themselves with international news. Discuss your point of view and preference.

Points for national news	Points for international news
Describing current affairs	Natural inclination for information enlightenment
Connected to routine life	Some people have business or employment exposure internationally
Broadcast in the vernacular language	-

The media has been one of the most powerful tools to express ideas and information over the centuries. However, keeping oneself updated with domestic or international news is a subjective choice. This essay discusses both preferences.

Certainly, the domestic news over international one plays a dominating role for most people. There are clear reasons behind it. At the **onset,** local or national news is directly linked to people's life. It keeps them informed about the current affairs of the country. In some **spheres** of life, receiving a piece of information timely could help a person take the right decision at the broader level. Secondly, there are enormous updates that impact the routine life. Some of them are

weather and traffic jam reports. This helps us know such updates beforehand, and that could save time and allow us to adjust our schedule accordingly. Lastly, national news is broadcast in a **vernacular** language which is easy to comprehend. One does not need to put efforts to process a foreign language mainly English.

Conversely, there are some people who are deeply interested in knowing of what is happening around the world regardless of benefits of international news. They are desirous of remaining tuned to the world by choice. To some extent, some international news updates have a **ripple effect**, and failing to **acknowledge** them could impact **adversely**. For example, in the business world, news transmitted in real time plays a critical role, especially in the stock market. Another factor responsible behind this choice is people either travel a great deal internationally or they have any business exposure overseas. Therefore, it makes sense for them **to keep abreast** of international news.

By summing up the discussion, I believe that it all depends upon the person's interest. I personally like to remain tuned to international news over national one. (304 words)

Glossary:

apparently (adverb): (sentence modifier) it appears that; as far as one knows; seemingly, **onset** (noun): a start; beginning, **sphere** (noun): an area of activity, influence or interest, a particular section of society; domain, **vernacular** (adjective, of language): native or indigenous (opposed to literary or learned), **conversely** (adverb): in a way that is opposite or reverse of something, **ripple effect** (noun): a situation in which an event or action has an effect on something, which then has an effect on something else, **to acknowledge** (verb): to admit to be real or true; recognize the existence, truth, or fact of, **adversely** (adverb): in a way that is negative and unpleasant and not likely to produce a good result, **to keep abreast of** (adverb): equal to or alongside in progress, attainment, or awareness

85. In schools, year-end final exam performance is taken into consideration for students' ability. Some students do not do well in the final exam though they are brilliant. Is it a correct process to assess a student's ability? To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
A fair policy in some academic disciplines	Exam phobia
-	Some students are good at the practical learning

Schools have implemented a formal testing system at the end of the year as a tool to assess students' ability. However, some students do not keep up with the pressure of exam thereby resulting in under performance. Therefore, I agree with this topic partly.

The very first **drawback** of this system is that some students - despite they are brilliant - have an exam **phobia**. They get nervous, and it impacts their performance greatly. **Owing to** this mental paralysis, they are unable to perform well. A student learns several important skills through his studies all year long. Judging him in a three-hour exam is simply unfair.

Another downside factor of this process is that some students are not psychologically prepared for the formal exam. On the contrary, they outperform if their course is packaged with practical learning or on-job-training (OJT). A classic example is a study pattern adopted by trade based courses. The final assessment is focused on how students participate practically. For example, a **plumber**'s skill is assessed based on how he fits a **tap** - a leakproof one - somewhere during his course or apprenticeship.

Agreed, in some fields of study, schools must **evaluate** students' ability by means of the formal exam assessment. To quote an instance, medicine based courses make students prepare and learn academic knowledge for the final exam assessment. If they fail, they need to retake the course.

Conclusively, except a few courses based on academic knowledge, the student's ability should be assessed on how he has performed practically over the whole period of study rather than a two- or three-hour exam at the end of the year. (270 words)

Glossary:

drawback (noun): a disadvantage or problem that makes something a less attractive idea, **phobia** (noun): a persistent, irrational fear of a specific object, activity, or situation that leads to a compelling desire to avoid it, **owing to** (idiom and connector): because of; as a result of, **plumber** (noun): a person who installs

and repairs piping, fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with the water supply, drainage systems, etc., both in and out of buildings, **tap** (noun): a faucet or cock, **to evaluate** (verb): to form an opinion of the amount, value or quality of something after thinking about it carefully; assess, **conclusively** (adverb and connector): convincingly, decisively, definitively, or determinately

86. Speaking more than one language is important these days. Therefore, children should start learning a second language during their school time. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Child is good at learning a second language	It may weaken the learning of native language
Child becoming more marketable	

Increasing globalization has made people travel beyond their country for leisure, study and business objectives. A person **armed with** fluency in a second language above his native language surely **has the edge over** others. There are many **persuasive** advantages when the person learns a second or third language as a child. I agree with this statement with an exception, described as below.

Ostensibly, the child is at his best when he is very young as far as the second language learning is concerned. Once the child grows older, **unarguably** his **faculties** start **decaying** because he is **besieged** with too many tasks to perform. When the child grows, he grows with multiple external concerns, such as working, pursuing interests, doing household **chores**, and attending to family priorities. This leaves him with a **scanty** amount of time to focus on learning a new language. While at a younger age, he is able to retain learning of a new language with **finesse**, and put into practice efficiently. The child **excels** in pronouncing words and sounds if it is taught at the school level with a proper coaching.

Irrefutably, the benefits of second language are enormous. Familiarization of second language helps the person **converse** with people from other provinces and countries. This makes them more marketable, and chances of getting employed are high if they join with a corporation that is spread in other countries later on.

However, an argument can be made that extra concentration on other language may weaken the learning of native language. In some cases, children remain confused in both primary and secondary language, and that may result in losing command of both languages. But this can be fixed by means of separate and specific classes for each language.

To sum up, the benefits of second language are remarkably useful. Therefore, it should be promoted at the school level. (309 words)

Glossary:

armed (with something) (adjective): knowing something or carrying something that you need in order to help you to perform a task, to have the **edge** over (noun): a quality or factor that gives superiority over rivals, **persuasive** (adjective): able, fitted, or intended to persuade, **ostensibly** (adverb and connector): evidently, seemingly, supposedly, and for all intents and purposes, **unarguably** (adverb): in a way that nobody can disagree with, **faculty** (noun): any of the physical and mental abilities that a person is born with, **to decay** (verb): to be destroyed gradually by natural processes; to destroy something in this way; rot, **to besiege** (verb): to lay siege to; surround, **chores** (noun): the everyday work around a house or farm, **scanty** (adjective): meager; scant in amount, quantity, etc.; barely sufficient, **finesse** (noun): adroit and artful management, **to excel** (verb): to be very good at doing something, **irrefutably** (adverb and connector): absolutely; assuredly; certainly; clearly; plainly, **to converse** (verb): to engage in conversation, **to sum up** (verb phrase and connector): to epitomize; close; examine; conclude

87. Traffic jam problem has worsened recently. What solutions do you have to decrease the traffic problem?

Effects	Solutions
Roads are saturated now	Promoting public transportation
-	Heavy levies
-	Traffic management system

Economic **surge** and increasing numbers of vehicles have **saturated** the roads in many countries. This has caused delays, **bumper-to-bumper** traffic and a waste of precious time termed as an **opportunity cost**. The scenario is no way getting better, as will now be explained.

The very first solution is to promote public transportation extensively in the city. In most cities, the width of roads would remain as it is against the increasing number of vehicles. Better availability of public transport may make people think about alternatives. Therefore, the local council should look at **facilitating commuters** with a higher frequency of buses or trains with expanded timetable.

There is another approach to tackle the issue of traffic congestion is by imposing a levy on car drivers. Extra levy for using a particular road would make car drivers use the road only when it is really needed. Take the case of Toronto city where one express highway called '407' attracts the levy of $22 per single use during

peak hours. Naturally, this regulation has left positive outcomes as expected by the city council. Furthermore, some cities introduced a smart idea of allowing vehicles on certain days.

Concurrently, many cities are struggling to reduce the road saturation though they have imposed extra cost. The other solution to encounter this difficulty is to implement the traffic management systems efficiently. The systematic perpendicular intersections, lane driving, signaling **preempting** traffic jam are also significant steps that reduce the traffic **snarl** and **cumbersome** experience of drivers.

As has been noted, there are certain **measures** on hand **to get rid of** traffic jam. For this, a **meticulous** traffic management and obedience in following the system by the drivers are key factors. (282 words)

Glossary:

surge (noun): a sudden increase in the amount or number of something; a large amount of something; upsurge; rush, **to saturate** (verb): to fill somebody/something completely with something so that it is impossible or useless to add any more, **bumper-to-bumper** (phrase): very close together, as cars in a traffic jam, **opportunity cost** (noun): the money or other benefits lost when pursuing a particular course of action instead of mutually-exclusive alternative, **to facilitate** (verb): to make an action or a process possible or easier, **commuter** (noun): a person who commutes, especially between home and work, **concurrently** (adverb): at the same time, **to preempt** (verb): to take action in order to prevent (an anticipated event) happening; forestall, **snarl** (noun): a complicated or confused condition or matter, **cumbersome** (adjective): burdensome; troublesome, **measure** (noun): an official action that is done in order to achieve a particular aim, **to get rid of** (idiom): to make yourself free of somebody/something that is annoying you or that you do not want; to throw something away, **meticulous** (adjective): precise; thorough

Glossary:

without reservation (phrase): completely, **freshman** (noun): a first-year student at a university or college, **exertion** (noun): physical or mental effort; the act of making an effort, **to prioritize** (verb): to treat something as being more important than other things, **meticulously** (adverb): in a way that pays a careful attention to every detail; thoroughly; fastidiously, **to reinforce** (verb): to strengthen; augment; increase, **what is more** (phrase): used to add ideas, or information, **to patrol** (verb): (of a police officer, solider, etc.) to pass along a road, beat, etc., or around or through a specified area in order to maintain order and security, **errand** (noun): a job that you do for somebody that involves going somewhere to take a message, to buy something, deliver goods, etc., **linens** (noun): bedding, tablecloths, shirts, etc., made of linen cloth or a more common substitute, as cotton, **breakdown** (noun): a breaking down, wearing out, or sudden loss of ability of function efficiently, as of machine, **thriving** (adjective): booming; burgeoning, enormous

89. Some people believe that criminals should be educated, not imprisoned in order to decrease the crime rate. Others believe that it is not an effective measure to solve this issue. Discuss.

Disagreement	Solutions
Criminals should be prosecuted	Needing a mechanism against victims
A shame if a criminal goes unpunished	Reintegration of criminals in the society should be encouraged

The fundamental foundation of civic society is aimed at treating every citizen equally regardless of his **creed**, caste, social status and stature he comes from. However, it is unjust to offer **clemency** to criminals since their acts have harmed or disturbed someone or administration, as discussed below.

There are many reasons why I believe that criminals should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The very first reason is it sends a strong message to the society that there is no soft treatment for **offenders**. Showing **leniency** by means of educating criminals on morality is simply a **mockery** of the country's constitution because the moral has nothing to do with education. A classic example we have is many a time we have seen a PhD degree holder with no **conscience**. Next is the state is unable to return the victim what has been taken from him. Indeed, his faith in the judiciary system will badly be **dented** if the offender is freed unpunished. Subsequently, the penalty in place would make the offender to **introspect** about his either petty or **heinous** crime.

In contrast, we have innocent people who are victims of **frivolous lawsuits**. The law is blind and only believes in **profound** evidence. Treating innocent people

who are caught by a **cold-blooded conspiracy** on a same scale is unfair. It is easier said than done, but there is no remedy for such victims.

In conclusion, it is wise to educate and **rehabilitate** those criminals who are mentally challenged but not mentally sick. I would also advocate **reintegrating** the criminal to the society after he has served the sentence which has changed him as a 'good man'. (278 words)

Glossary:

to imprison (verb): to confine in or as if in a prison, **creed** (noun): any system, doctrine, or formula of religious belief, as of a denomination, **clemency** (noun): an act or deed showing mercy or leniency, **offender** (noun): a person who commits a crime, **leniency** (noun): clemency, **mockery** (noun): comments or actions that are intended to make somebody/something seem ridiculous, **conscience** (noun): the part of your mind that tells you whether your actions are right or wrong, **to dent** (verb): to damage somebody's confidence, reputation, etc., **to introspect** (verb): to examine one's own thoughts or feelings, **heinous** (adjective): (of a person or wrongful act, especially a crime) utterly odious or wicked, **frivolous** (adjective): characterized by lack of seriousness or sense **lawsuit** (noun): a case in a court of law involving a claim, complaint, etc., by one party against another; suit at law, **profound** (adjective): deep; sagacious, **cold-blooded** (adjective): (of people and their actions) showing no feelings or pity for other people, **conspiracy** (noun): a secret plan by a group of people to do something harmful or illegal, **to rehabilitate** (verb): to help somebody to have a normal, useful life again after they have been ill/sick or in prison for a long time, **to reintegrate** (verb): to integrate (someone) back into society

90. Currency notes have been replaced by the plastic money, and now it is all about online transactions. Discuss advantages and disadvantages of the online money transactions.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Convenience factor	Safety feature
Mobile transactions	Some people aren't tech-savvy

Times are changing, and what was seen as a faraway reality is happening now. The society has evolved from a **barter** system to the online transaction for exchanging goods and services. However, some people are **skeptical**, and believe that the online transaction is a passing **fad**. But I disagree with them completely.

To begin with the positives, the first important advantage is the convenience factor. Gone are the days, when somebody had to write a check and waited until the bank check got realized onto the bank account. Online transactions save time for the user, reduce the cost to the bank, and most importantly it is environment-friendly. Secondly, the mobile phone app allows doing any transaction **on the run**. This feature **supersedes** all the benefits offered by the currency note. Because the payer does not need to carry a **bulgy** wallet stashed with currency notes.

Online transactions do have some serious concerns, too. The biggest concern against all benefits is the safety feature. Cybercrime is rising, and people **fall prey** to **phishing** and their sensitive bank and card details get **hacked** by the offenders. It is a dreadful scenario. Additionally, it seems that the traditional method of using currency notes and coins is the safest mode of transacting. **Simultaneously**, we must look at the other factor that many people do not possess bank accounts. They are not technology **savvy**. Nor do they want to become such for some reason. Therefore, to reach out to such people for the same - which are in great numbers in developing nations - is a **daunting** task.

As we have seen, both aspects of online transactions, but the future belongs to the people with a changing attitude. At the same time, the pursuit of making online transactions safe and easy by banks globally would increase the share of online users going forward. (307 words)

Glossary:

barter (noun): exchange of commodities rather than by the use of money, **skeptical** (adjective): having doubts that a claim or statement is true or that something will happen, **fad** (noun): something that people are interested in for only a short period of time; craze, **on the run** (idiom): moving quickly; hurrying about, **to supersede** (verb): to replace in power, authority, effectiveness,

acceptance, use, etc., as by another person or thing, **bulgy** (adjective): puffy; swollen, **to fall prey to (something)** (idiom): (of a person) to be harmed or affected by something bad, **phishing** (noun): an activity of tricking people by getting them to give their identity, bank account numbers, etc. over the Internet or by email, and then using these to steal money from them, **to hack** (verb): to circumvent security and break into (another's server, website, or the like) with malicious intention, **simultaneously** (adverb): concurrently, **savvy** (noun): practical knowledge or understanding of something, **daunting** (adjective): making somebody feel nervous and less confident about doing something; likely to make somebody feel this way; intimidating

91. Neighbors are essential in our life. What qualities do you seek from your neighbors? Use specific details and examples in your essay.

Points for Discussion	-
Should be congenial, magnanimous and friendly	-
Enormous benefits of having good neighbors	-

Good neighbors impact our life positively to a great extent. Therefore, I firmly believe that good neighbors are not lesser than good friends since they **stand by** us in both good and bad times. This essay examines the facts more closely.

Emphatically, there is no checklist that exists for qualifying someone as a good neighbor. Because the expectation for the neighbor varies from person to person and up to some extent, it depends on the cultural background where one comes from. The basic qualities that the neighbor has to have are **congenial, magnanimous**, friendly, helping and non-interfering. Such qualities sweeten the relationship forever, and **ward off animosity**. The good neighbor is a highly regarded and important person, because he may be the first to rush for **lending his helping hand** during crisis.

There are instances where people live in a society, but hardly are they social to each other. In other words, they wear a total unsocial and **indifferent** attitude. Agreed, no one has time in this busy world, but a few precious moments for a neighbor would not cause the world upside down. The positive neighborhood not only helps somebody to be happy in personal life but also helps the person network on a professional front. The advantages are enormous with a peaceful neighborhood. In most cases, one deserves a good neighbor only when he is good to the others first.

Luckily, I am blessed with extraordinarily amazing neighbors. The true neighborhood was tested when I was offshore once. My mother once happened to fall sick all of a sudden, and it was my neighbor who had rushed to my family first before friends and extended family arrived.

In conclusion, a good neighborhood makes your life peaceful and happy. Without a peaceful neighborhood, there could be an unnecessary **chaotic** struggle. (301 words)

Glossary:

to stand by (phrasal verb): to help somebody or be friends with them, even in difficult situations, **to ward off** (phrasal verb): to protect or defend yourself against danger, illness, attack, etc., **animosity** (noun): a strong feeling of opposition, anger or hatred; hostility, **to lend a helping hand** (idiom): to help somebody, **emphatically** (adverb and connector): strongly expressive, **congenial** (adjective): agreeable, suitable or pleasing in nature or character, **magnanimous** (adjective): generous in forgiving an insult or injury; free from petty resentfulness or vindictiveness; high-minded; noble, **indifferent** (adjective): without interest or concern; not caring; apathetic, **pristine** (adjective): having its original purity; uncorrupted or unsullied, **chaotic** (adjective): in a state of complete confusion and lack of order

92. Some people think that professional athletes make good role models for young people, while others believe that they do not. Discuss both these points of view, and give your opinion.

Positives	Negatives
Youth emulating their lifestyles	Taking drugs to enhance performance
Athletes representing hard work and motivation	-

Sports are a **quintessential** aspect of the society these days. The youth **perceives** his favorite athlete as a role model, and often **emulates** the lifestyle that is associated with him. However, all athletes who are being **enchanted** by youth may not deserve the same respect owing to their disrespectful approach towards sports. This essay examines the facts more closely.

Professional athletes are not only an **embodiment of sheer** hard work and motivation but also represent societal values, such as morals and ethics. In a way, an ethical and top class athlete motivates the existing and forthcoming generation in marking an **esteem** name. Their dedication toward sports is viral that **transcends** all political boundaries. People track every piece of information about their favorite players, especially the young generation. Such inspiration could help the youth engage in a life-making career in sports, too. This culture is welcomed without any **equivocations.**

In contrast, some athletes become very short-sighted, and deviate from their paths of success. In some instances, they are puffed up with unwanted pride and involve themselves in unacceptable activities. Some athletes take drugs to

enhance their athletic performance. This situation has a **ripple effect** in the society. They are a 'hero' to some, **invariably** their fans **imitate** without **conscience**. Therefore, it is significant for various bodies such as sports association, family, school and others to warn the people about this sort of menace for their good.

In my opinion, as long as the professional athletes motivate the community by their performance, it ought to be adored. At the same time, it must be **abhorred** the moment athletes **embrace** any anti-social habit.

To core out, sport is a human institution. We should not place value on athletes, but place value on the impact of their profession that has on humanity. (298 words)

Glossary:

quintessential (adjective): of or relating to the most perfect embodiment of something, **to emulate** (verb): to imitate with effort to equal or surpass, **to perceive** (verb): to become aware of; know; or identify by means of the senses, **to enchant** (verb): to subject to magical influences; to bewitch, **undesirable** (adjective): not desirable or attractive; objectionable, **embodiment** (noun): the act of embodying, **to embody** (verb): to provide with a body; incarnate; make corporeal; express; personify, **sheer** (adjective): unqualified; utter, **esteem** (noun): respect or regard, **to transcend** (verb): to overpass, **equivocation** (noun): ambiguous expression, **ripple effect** (noun): a spreading effect or series of consequences caused by a single action or event, **invariably** (adverb & connector): unchangingly; static or constant, **to imitate** (verb): to follow or endeavor to follow as a model or an example, **conscience** (noun): the inner sense of what is right or wrong in one's conduct or motives, impelling one toward right action, **to abhor** (verb): to detest utterly; loathe; abominate; to regard with extreme repugnance or aversion, **to embrace** (verb): to adopt; to hug; to take or receive gladly or eagerly

93. Is freedom of speech necessary in a democratic society? Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Innate right	Absence of this right could harm the society
A basic vehicle of communication	Abuse of this right is prevalent

Freedom of speech has been one of the most debated topics in the world of late. At the simplest, freedom of speech is an **innate** right of a citizen in democratic countries. Absence of freedom of speech could potentially harm not only the society but also the nation as a whole in the long term. I completely agree with this statement.

The constitutional right of freedom of speech and expression was never so prominent until the last century. This concept was originated back in the sixth century in England, with a 'soft' version only to **evolve** with passing time. Currently, it is termed as one of the **cherished** and basic rights of the society. Speech is a basic vehicle for communication of beliefs, thoughts and ideas. One of the brightest points of this concept is people are able to share their **perspective** without **hindrance** and fear. This **facilitates** the **inclusive growth** of society. It is often seen where freedom of speech is **suppressed**, the society becomes lawless, and many people's lives get threatened. **Ergo**, it is hard to survive without it.

On the downside, some people argue about the limit of freedom of speech. In some countries, freedom of speech exists, but not absolute. There is a growing concern about how this concept is being misused by some **extremists**. Hate speeches, fighting words, **obscenity**, child **pornography** and **defamation** are some instances that have taken place in the name of expression of speech. It is absolutely **controversial** in this sense. Furthermore, some individuals judge ethical beliefs differently because of their race, sex, and background.

In a nutshell, a true and **pristine** sense of expression of speech is a part of society. **Inevitably**, a line of demarcation must be drawn between right and wrong to keep its original form **intact**. (298 words)

Glossary:

innate (adjective): inborn; existing in one from birth, **to evolve** (verb): to develop gradually, **to cherish** (verb): to hold or treat as dear; feel love for; nurture; cling fondly, **perspective** (noun): the state of one's idea; the facts known to one; a mental view, **hindrance** (noun): a person or thing that makes it more difficult for somebody to do something or for something to happen, **to facilitate** (verb): to make easier or less difficulty; help forward (an action, a process, etc.), **inclusive**

growth (noun): a concept that advances equitable opportunities for economic participants to economic growth with benefits incurred by every section of society, **to suppress** (verb): to put an end to the activities of (a person, body of persons, etc.); do away with by or as by authority; abolish; stop (a practice, custom, etc.); keep in or repress (a feeling, smile, groan, etc.); vanquish or subdue (a revolt, rebellion, etc.); quell; crush, **ergo** (conjunction and adverb): therefore, **on the downside** (connector and phrase): in contrast, **extremist** (noun): a person who goes to extremes, especially in political matters; a supporter or advocate of extreme doctrines or practices, **obscenity** (noun): the character or quality of being obscene; indecency; lewdness, **pornography** (noun): obscene writings, drawings, photographs, or the like, especially those having little or no artistic merit, **defamation** (noun): the act of defaming; false or unjustified injury of the good reputation of another, as by slander or libel; calumny, **controversial** (adjective): of, or relating to, or characteristic of controversy, or prolonged public dispute, debate, or contention; polemical; argumentative; disputatious, In a nutshell (idiom): in very brief form; in a few words, **(put something) in a nutshell** (idiom): (to say or express something) in a very clear way, using few words, **pristine** (adjective): having original purity; uncorrupted or unsullied; primitive, **inevitably** (adverb): unable to be avoided, evaded or escaped; certain; necessary, **intact** (adjective): not broken, altered, or impaired; remaining uninjured, sound, or whole; untouched; unblemished

94. Woman is better at parenting than man. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Woman developing a supernatural connection	'Man of the house' characteristic
Woman is perceived to be softer	Man assuring of providing vital needs
Woman is overprotective	-

It is an old **cliché** - the woman is a world-class **nurturer**, and caring for her **offspring** - that is being challenged these days in society. In some cases, it appears that it is hard to **discredit** the man for his dedication and sacrifice that are displayed in parenting. I agree with the statement partially.

Raising children is one of the most **worthwhile** jobs. It is full of **complexities** when it is **executed**. Psychologists are united in opinion that the woman, without a doubt, plays a crucial role in this job. At the **onset**, biologically, she carries a child for almost nine months which is where she develops a **supernatural** connection with the baby before it is born. Secondly, she is perceived to be softer and more comforting to children. These **traits** please and confide in children. **Last but not least**, she is often overprotective and over-involved for the child's welfare.

On the flip side, the man is not far away in parenting race, and making some good progress. It would be unwise to **belittle** his role in **upbringing** children. The need of 'Man of the house' **characteristic complements** the other half of this job. He assures of providing **vital** needs, such as financial security, counseling children for their best careers, helping them decide on extracurricular activities and to name a few. Furthermore, he also participates in upbringing tasks, household **chores** and others.

To me, the woman is more flexible - more like a mediator at times - and **permissive**. These qualities win the hearts of children. The opposite is true also. The man is more **authoritarian** and **disciplinarian** that may **spook** children when they are very young, but these have their own merits.

Overall, both man and woman play their different roles in raising children. Back in days, there is evidence that woman **had the upper hand** in parenting, but it is not the case now. (316 words)

Glossary:

cliché (noun): a trite, stereotyped expression; a sentence or phrase, usually expressing a popular or common thought or idea that has lost originality, ingenuity, and impact by long overuse, **offspring** (noun): a child of a particular person or couple, **nurturer** (noun) someone who feeds and protect, **counterpart** (noun): a person or thing closely resembling another, especially in function, **to discredit** (verb): to defame; disbelieve; give no credence to, **to raise** (verb): to breed or grow, care for, or promote the growth of, worthwhile (adjective): valuable, rewarding, beneficial, **complexity** (noun): complication, **to execute** (verb): to carry out; accomplish; perform or do, onset (noun):, **supernatural** (adjective): of a superlative degree; preternatural; abnormal, **trait** (noun): a distinguishing characteristic or quality, especially of one's nature; peculiarity; attribute; mark; property, **last but not least** (idiom): used when mentioning the last person or thing of a group, in order to say that they are not less important than the others, **on the flip side** (phrase): in contrast, **to belittle** (verb): to regard or portray as less impressive or important that appearances indicate; depreciate; disparage, **upbringing** (noun): the care and training of young children or a particular type of such care and training, **characteristic** (adjective and noun) special; peculiar; attribute; property; trait, **to complement** (verb): to complete; form a complement to, **vital** (adjective): important; critical, **authoritarian** (noun): a person who favors or acts according to authoritarian principles, **disciplinarian** (noun): a person who enforces or advocates discipline, **to spook** (verb): to frighten; scare, **to have the upper hand** (idiom): to get an advantage over somebody so that you are in control of a particular situation

95. Some corporations believe that the quality of multitasking is not needed in employment. However, reputation of multitasking quality is gaining in the world. Discuss both points of view.

Agreement	Disagreement
Delusion	A snake oil symposium
Perceived value	Causing loss of productivity

Multitasking: is it a **boon** or a **bane**? Though the term multitasking has become much more **prevalent** in last twenty years, it is actually not an entirely new **sensation**. Corporations across the world focus only on the **bottom line** so as to maximize shareholders' wealth. They therefore expect from an employee to do multiple jobs at one go, and make him stretch his ability. I believe that it is absolutely **unwarranted**.

There is a widespread assumption about employee's multitasking skill that it is useful for corporations. It is a kind of **a snake oil symposium**. At face value, it looks a boon, but the analysis and facts show otherwise. Multitasking causes loss of productivity, switching between **cognitive** tasks costs time and money both. Furthermore, inattention causes more mistakes, anxiety; prevents a critical innovation. The human brain, unlike computers, takes around twenty five minutes to return to the original task where it was left off. This results into Continuous Partial Attention (CPA) which can be termed as an illness. Ergo, it nowhere serves the purpose for corporations.

There are apparent benefits associated with multitasking, whether it is perceived or real. Firstly, it helps the doer feel a sense of accomplishing more in a short time. At the same time, the employee becomes more marketable compared to his **peers**. Secondly, employees feel confident in writing this **attainment** on their resumes, too. They, **unarguably**, believe that no time is wasted away, and it also helps them kill **boredom**. **Headhunters capitalize** on such employees' so called quality and **misconception**, and **up** their expectations for them to complete many jobs at a time. This habit of some corporations becomes a **crutch** forever. **Invariably**, both corporations and employees believe that multitasking is a boon.

In my final analysis, the **demerits** associated with multitasking **outweigh** the merits of it. On the other hand, mono-tasking is a more established and proven method of working. (315 words)

Glossary:

multitasking (noun): the ability to do several things at the same time, **boon** (noun): blessing; benefit, **bane** (noun): a person or thing that causes misery or distress; a fatal poison, **prevalent** (adjective): widespread, **sensation** (noun):

very great surprise, excitement or interests among a lot of people; the person or the thing that causes this surprise; surprise, **bottom line** (noun): ultimate result; outcome, **unwarranted** (adjective): not justified; authorized, **a snake oil symposium** (noun): fraud; liar; nonsense, **cognitive** (adjective): concerned with the act or process of knowing, perceiving, etc., **peer** (noun): a person who is equal to another in abilities, age, background, qualifications and social background, **attainment** (noun): a persona acquirement; achievement, **unarguably** (adverb): in a way that nobody can disagree with, **boredom** (noun): dullness; doldrums; weariness, **headhunter** (noun): a personnel recruiter for a corporation or executive recruitment agency, **to capitalize** (verb): to take advantage of (usually followed by *on*), **misconception** (noun): a belief or an idea that is not based on correct information, or that is not understood by people, **to up** (verb): to raise, **crutch** (noun): something that supports or sustains; a long staff of wood or metal having a rest for the armpit, for supporting the weight of the body, invariably (adverb):, **demerit** (noun): disadvantage, **to outweigh** (verb): to exceed in value, importance, influence, etc.; to exceed in weight

96. The increasing numbers of young girls are looking for the perfect match though they are surrounded by acceptable male friends. Yet they remain confused about choosing a life partner. Discuss your points of view as per your country's context.

Points for discussion	-
Girls are independent	-
Preferring safety and freedom of singlehood	-

The never-ending confusion pertaining to the **soul mate** search is widespread in the modern society. It seems that **dynamics** of searching a partner are changing considerably in Indian society. The situation is, no way, getting better, and this trend is worrisome and frustrating for young girls these days. This essay examines the facts more closely.

Searching a right match was never so difficult before in India. Things changed **dramatically** in the late twentieth century when girls had realized that it was a need to be independent and have a career. They stepped out of their homes for livelihood or ambition. This new characteristic is a positive sign. They hang out in mixed groups, claiming men as buddies and are keen to settle down. But **when it comes to** the **crux**, they reject one **suitor** after another, preferring the safety and the freedom of singlehood.

Two generations ago, a girl was handed over in matrimony to a family and a man. She had no choice but to adjust to the whole new environment with the family and the man. Later, **perception** and expectations changed for good. The literacy rate was on the rise, and girls were provided more space. They were educated,

set on a defined career path, and then introduced to a few boys selected carefully by their parents. More or less they were confined to home with a strictly supervised upbringing.

Today, by the time the issue of marriage is raised, she has already been working for a number of years. They are independent, and count several men as friends and colleagues. Financial stability and personal security are no longer their **triggers** for marriage. Nor is curiosity about the other sex, or romance and relationship.

In sum, parents are more like a friend to their children now. They arm them with the best education, **sterling** values and a sense of dignity. Thus, women will make their decision by their own going forward. (323 words)

Glossary:

soul mate (noun): a person with whom one has a strong affinity, shared values and tastes, and often a romantic bond, **dynamic** (noun): a basic or dynamic force, especially one that motivates, affects development or stability, etc., **dramatically** (adverb and connector) rapidly; very suddenly and to a very great and often surprising degree, **when it comes to** (idiom): used when you have to decide something or say what you really think, **crux** (noun): a vital, decisive, basic or pivotal point, **suitor** (noun): a man who courts or woos a woman, **perception** (noun): awareness; recognition; sense, **trigger** (noun): anything, as an event or act, that serves as a stimulus and initiates or precipitates a reaction or series or reactions. (Idioms: quick on the trigger: quick to act or respond), **daunting** (adjective): intimidating; frightening, **at disposal** (noun): something or someone available for help or used, **sterling** (noun): noble; honorable; worthy; first-rate

97. Some employees believe that more than financial incentives, passion and job satisfaction work for them. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Extrinsic values	Intrinsic values

Traditionally, employees are categorized into two types - A) those who work for **intrinsic** values, and B) those who work for **extrinsic** values. **Perception** and expectations may vary from employee to employee. However, the various researches suggest that employees love to work with those corporations where esteem is **intact** and their passion and job satisfaction are met. I agree with this topic partly.

It is believed that nothing great was ever achieved without **enthusiasm**. It is true, we benefit from the work of genius people, inventors and innovators about who we know nothing. **Irrefutably**, oftentimes these **outliers** struggled to make their ends meet while they were set on a path to change the definition of certain things they were in. They **persevered** until they succeeded, not for money, but they wanted to gift something to humanity. They were driven by their **intrinsic** values. They became a role model for others forever, and inspired people of all ages from generation to generation. Therefore, it is a choice that the employee makes. Some employees only choose passion and job satisfaction as key drivers over **monetary** benefits.

Alternatively, some employees are driven by only extrinsic values. To them, the only professional growth indicator is 'financial incentives'. They have a singular vision that how far they can reach in materialistic achievements.

The way some people want to become leaders, the same way some employees want to become followers. However, large corporations expect from employees to be working for them from passion **standpoint**. To quote an instance, passion of every employee at Google Incorporation is **harnessed** and motivated. This can clearly be seen in their vision statement.

At last, working for passion and job-satisfaction is more rewarding for employees than financial gains. At the end of the day, the employee has to please himself by balancing work/stress situation. (303 words)

Glossary:

intrinsic (adjective): belonging to a thing by its very nature; innate; real, **extrinsic** (adjective): not essential or inherent; not a basic part or quality; extraneous, **perception** (noun): the way you notice things, **intact** (adjective): complete and not damaged; undamaged, **enthusiasm** (noun) lively interest, **outlier** (noun): nonconformist, maverick; someone who stands apart from others of his or her group, as by differing behavior, beliefs, or religious practices, **monetary** (adjective): of or relating to money, **standpoint** (noun): the mental position, attitude, etc., from which a person views and judges things, **to harness** (verb): to bring under conditions for effective use; gain control over for a particular end

98. You do not buy stuff but corporations make you buy stuff through aggressive marketing and promotion these days. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Plenitude	-
Aggressive marketing	-
Consumer behavior	-

Plenitude - it refers to a bombardment of things (wanted or unwanted) or expectations that **dwells on** consumer behavior. Large corporations have abused consumer psychology by presenting numbers of unwanted things **persistently**. They did it with innovations, and thereafter under the **guise** of so called 'new version', '2016 model', '**cannibalizing** of existing products' and so forth. I completely agree with this statement.

The human species is born with **greed**. **The more the merrier**. Invariably, the smart corporations have been gifted with this human psychology analysis. **Thusly**, a marketing department was set up to sell these products. All products either originated or manufactured by different corporations were not the direct needs of mankind. However, they were presented and marketed in a manner as if mankind would not do without them.

Things were made **ubiquitous**, inviting people to own them. Life is **fecund**, so are corporations; to push their limits to sell their products. Not for their **philanthropic** objectives they have for mankind. But, corporations became larger. So were their unduly pressure to perform and sustain against their **counterparts**. All in the name of **bottom line**, corporations went on imposing things on the society. Whatever it could be, but we are all responsible for this man-made **viral**, and the deadly **contagious disease** called the consumption of unwanted things.

It is the people who will have to decide whether to accept this plenitude or reject it **outrightly**. However, it is easily said than done. This will **persist** forever through the **vortex** of **ethical dilemmas**. The nature of **idiosyncratic** and non-idiosyncratic people with infinite numbers of them will propel this **menace**.

In conclusion, mankind once tastes the good of anything, hardly changes it for lifelong. Therefore, like it or not, this phenomenon will remain unchanged forever. (292 words)

Glossary:

plenitude (noun): fullness or adequacy in quantity, measure, or degree; abundance, **to dwell on** (phrasal verb): to think or talk a lot about something, especially something it would be better to forget, persistently (adverb): in a way

that shows that you are determined to do something despite difficulties, especially when other people are against you and think that you are being annoying or unreasonable, **guise** (noun): a way in which somebody/something appears, often in a way that is different from usual or that hides the truth about them/it, **to cannibalize** (verb): to remove parts, equipment, assets, employees, etc., from (an item, product, or business) in order to use them in another, **greed** (noun): a strong desire for more wealth, possessions, power, etc. than a person needs, the more the merrier (idiom, saying): the more people or things there are, the better the situation will be or the more fun people will have, **thusly** (adverb & connector): thus, therefore, **ubiquitous** (adjective): existing or being everywhere, especially at the same time, omnipresent, **fecund** (adjective): producing or capable of producing offspring, fruit, vegetation, etc., in abundance; prolific; fruitful, **philanthropic** (adjective): benevolent, **counterpart** (noun): a person or thing that has the same position or function as somebody/something else in a different place or situation, **bottom line** (noun): the amount of money that is a profit and loss after everything has been calculated, **viral** (adjective): like or caused by virus, **contagious disease** (noun): communicable disease; a disease transmitted through direct contact with an infected individual or indirectly through vector, **outrightly** (adverb): completely, **to persist** (verb): to continue steadfastly or firmly in some state, purpose, course of action, or the like, especially in spite of opposition, remonstrance, etc., **vortex** (noun, literary): a very powerful feeling or situation that you cannot avoid or escape from, **ethical dilemma** (noun): a situation requiring a choice between equally undesirable alternatives, **idiosyncratic** (adjective): a characteristic, habit, mannerism, or the like, that is peculiar to an individual, **menace** (noun): something that threatens to cause evil, harm, injury, etc.

99. Some people believe that people should retire at the age of 65. Whilst others believe that they should be allowed to work as long as they want to. What is your point of view? Discuss.

Agreement	Disagreement
Population is increasing	-
Could rage an upheaval in the economy if youth is unemployed	-

Retirement at 65 is a default retiring age which has been **phased out** in some countries. It is the **prerogative** of the employer to set a retirement age for their human talent. **Conversely**, some people believe that the young generation is **deprived** of their rights to integrate into society economically if people are allowed to work beyond their retirement age. I agree with this statement.

The benefits are obvious when a long tenure of office is **in place** for both employers and employees. Employees who have worked for a long time have a better **insight** and knowhow of the firm. This saves resources, time, cost and wastage for corporations. Because both parties are **aligned** with each other's expectations, they prove to be the instrument of cost effectiveness. It is a **'win-win** situation'.

On the contrary, it seems that allowing employees to work beyond the retirement age **outweigh** its advantages. The population across the world - estimated to touch seven billion people by 2020 - is rising against opportunities in the labor market. This may **rage** an **upheaval** in the economy. The second point is certain jobs require a great amount of **precision**, alertness, insight and physical and mental strength. The human body is designed to **decay** its **faculties** as time passes. Such a scenario could have detrimental effects. For example, a pilot beyond 65 could **jeopardize** the lives of passengers owing to his **debilitating** health and weak eyesight.

In conclusion, both the government and corporations are meant to create jobs. Joblessness could take a **monster** form and **destabilize** the whole system. Thus, retiring at 65 is justified, but there should be a little accommodation for retired personnel to come to a consulting board in the event of any need. (289 words)

Glossary:

to phase out (phrasal verb): to stop using something gradually in stages over a period of time, **prerogative** (noun): an exclusive right, privilege, etc., exercised by virtue of rank, office, or the like, **conversely** (adverb and connector, sentence modifier): in a contrary or opposite way; on the other hand, **to deprive** (verb): to remove or withhold something from the enjoyment or possession of (a person or persons), **in place also into place** (idiom): working or ready to work, **insight**

(noun) perception; intuition; apprehension; understanding; grasp, **to align** (verb): to bring into cooperation or agreement with a particular group, party, cause, etc.; to arrange in a straight line; adjust according to a line, **win-win** (adjective): (of a situation) in which there is a good result for each person or group involved, **to outweigh** (verb):, to be greater or more important than something, **to rage** (verb): to move, rush, dash or surge furiously, **upheaval** (noun): strong or violent change or disturbance, as in a society, **precision** (noun): the state or quality of being precise, **to decay** (verb): to become decomposed; to rot, **faculty** (noun) an ability, natural or acquired, for particular kind of action; exceptional ability or aptitude, **to jeopardize** (verb): to hazard; to risk; imperil; put in jeopardy, **to debilitate** (verb): to make weak or feeble; enfeeble, **monster** (noun): fiend; brute; demon; devil; miscreant, **to destabilize** (verb): to make unstable

100. Immigrating to a new country is a hard task because a person has to adopt a new culture. Some believe that the immigrant can survive within his minority community. Discuss your views and who you support.

Discussion Points	Opinion
Adopting a new culture is a better decision	-
Economic integration is in favor of immigrants	-

'In Rome, do as the Romans do'- this **adage** holds true. The immigrant's life without social **integration** on the foreign land would be a great loss to none but to himself. Adopting a new culture does not necessarily imply to **disown** one's own culture. This essay examines the facts more closely.

Often low-populated countries come up with a policy to invite the talented immigrants. They do so because they expect newcomers to meet the shortage crisis of certain occupations. At the same time, they want their population to be expanded with an appropriate integration of their both fronts - social and economic. The immigrant would not be able to grow fully until he is **in sync** with the local culture. He needs to immerse himself into a new and dynamic culture of the new land. Or he would face **alienation**, and may **cap** his own progress in the long run.

Bizarrely, it is a **myth** that adopting a new culture is a **curse** for some. If the detailed analysis carried out, it would term 'adopting a new culture' means 'adapting to a new culture'. Another important dimension in this case is how come the host society would accept one until he connects to them. It ought not to be a **dilemma** for the immigrant.

The history is evident that culture is an **inherited** fragrance and **tolerance** is **divine**. It **bridges the gap** between two. A step forward to know others holds a

reciprocal response. People honor others when they are honored. Moving to another country and ignoring the **indigenous culture** and people is disrespect to them. This does not serve the purpose. **On the contrary**, it is an invitation to miseries.

In conclusion, the culture of the immigrated land is like a **foster** mother who is as good as the **biological** one. Surviving within the minority community is not the factor for which the person chose to immigrate, but to grow and **flourish**. (323 words)

Glossary:

adage (noun): a traditional saying expressing a common experience or observation; proverb, **integration** (noun): an act or instance of combining into an integral whole; assimilation, **to disown** (verb): to decide that you no longer want to be connected with or responsible for somebody/something, **in sync** (idiom): in agreement with somebody/something; working well with somebody/something, **alienation** (noun): the act of alienating, or of causing someone to become indifferent or hostile; disaffection; estrangement; indifference; separation, **to cap** (verb): to put a maximum limit on (prices, wages, spending, etc.), **myth** (noun): something that many people believe but that does not exist or is false; fallacy, **curse** (noun): something that causes harm or evil, **dilemma** (noun): a situation requiring a choice between equally undesirable alternatives, **to inherit** (verb): to receive as if by succession from predecessors; receive (a genetic character) by the transmission of hereditary factors, **tolerance** (noun): a fair, objective, and permissive attitude toward those whose opinions, beliefs, practices, racial or ethnic origins, etc., differ from one's own; freedom from bigotry, **divine** (adjective): of or related to God, especially the Supreme Being; heavenly; holy; angelic, **to bridge the gap/gulf/divide** (idiom): to reduce or get rid of the differences that exist between two things or groups of people, **reciprocal** (adjective): mutual, **indigenous** (adjective): originating in and characterized of a particular region or country; native, **on the contrary** (connector and phrase): in contrast, **foster mother** (noun): woman who takes another person's child into her home for a period of time, without becoming his or her legal parent, **biological one (mother)** (noun): natural mother, **to flourish** (verb): to thrive; prosper

101. Miscarriage of justice has ruined many lives in the world. The victim is offered nothing when he is acquitted. What is your take on this issue?

Discussion Points	Opinion
Abuse of judiciary system	Presto disposal system
Innocent people are oppressed	

Sympathy and good luck are the only three words for those who are caught in the net of **miscarriage** of justice across the globe. It is a **sheer** pity for the sufferer. It is a **tantalizing paradox** that democracy, at times, does not **even** the score in some cases. I completely agree with this topic.

Generally speaking, when the society hears about any crime or **offender**, they become judgmental. Like the judiciary system, they are unable to judge appropriately until all the facts are in. Money, greed of power, and **devious** people with **mala fide** intentions are a few causes that **agonizes** innocent people everywhere. Once an innocent person gets into this web, he loses everything - time, money, happy moments and others. With the **alleged** offender, the family or someone close to him gets ruined too.

Agreed, we are not here to advocate the **rogue** offenders, but certainly those who fall **prey** to any **conspiracy theory** by **unconscionable felons**. What is appalling to this **plight** is today we have the latest technology such as lie detectors, **narcoanalysis tests**, forensic science, phone recording devices, and cameras that can straighten many cases immediately. Yet we are far away from a real justice in some cases. Undoubtedly, it is a torture to the sufferer, especially the ones who are unable to afford to defend their cases by retaining the renowned and learned counsels in the court.

In the final analysis, the law makers must adopt a **presto** disposal system for all the cases. Where the recruitment of additional judges and other relative human talent with resources are needed, they must ensure to provide those facilities for citizens. Most importantly, those who try to play with the system must be punished accordingly so that the false cases do not get registered. (298 words)

Glossary:

to acquit (verb): to relieve from a charge of fault or crime; declare not guilty, **miscarriage** (noun): failure to attain the just, right, or desired result, **sheer** (adjective): utter **tantalizing** (adjective): having or exhibiting something that provokes or arouses expectation, interest or desire, especially that which remains unobtainable or beyond one's reach, **paradox** (noun): a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or absurd but in reality express a possible truth, **to even** (verb): to make even, level, smooth, **offender** (noun): culprit; felon, lawbreaker; delinquent, **devious** (noun): not straightforward;

shifty or crooked, **mala fide** (adjective): in bad faith; not genuine, **to agonize** (verb): to suffer extreme pain or anguish; be in agony; torture, **alleged** (adjective): declared or stated to be described; asserted, **rogue** (noun): a dishonest, knavish person; scoundrel, **prey** (noun): a person or thing that is the victim of an enemy, a swindler, a disease, etc.; gull, **conspiracy theory** (noun): a theory that explains an event as being the result of a plot by a covert group or organization; a belief that a particular unexplained event was caused by such a group; the idea that many important political events or economic or social trends are the products of secret plots that are largely known to the general public, **unconscionable** (adjective): not guided by conscience; unscrupulous, **felon** (noun): culprit; criminal, **plight** (noun): a condition, state, or situation, especially an unfavorable or unfortunate one, **narcoanalysis test** (noun): a method of psychological investigation in which the conscious or unconscious unwillingness of a subject to express memories or feelings is diminished by the use of a barbiturate drug, **presto** (adverb and adjective): quickly, rapidly, or immediately; quick or rapid

102. Capital punishment is yet prevalent in many societies. Most people believe it as an outrageous act to take someone's life. Do you agree or disagree?

Agreement	Disagreement
Exception - gruesome crimes such as genocide	Medieval practice
-	The full extent of law is available

By and large, capital punishment is a **medieval** practice. **Instantaneously**, when capital punishment is discussed in the public arena, it seems that we have gone back to the law that had existed a century back. It has little to help the **culprit** on **humanitarian** grounds. Ergo, I disagree with this policy.

At the onset, capital punishment was prevalent a century back almost in all parts of the world. It was chiefly influenced by the regional culture and the political **ideology** or the ruler's will. However, the situation and **dynamics** then were totally different compared with the current scenario. **Pagans**, emperors and others used capital punishment to silence their enemies. Severe historic forms of capital punishment included **electrocuting**, **lynching** in the public, **beheading**, **gassing**, and stoning the offender were adopted.

Conversely, things and dynamics have changed dramatically in this modern era. Right now, the concept of nation state is all about citizenship. Offenders, these days, are prosecuted to the full extent of law. In fact, **sentencing** someone by means of capital punishment for some **gruesome** crime is a lesser punishment than what the offender deserves. Across the world, there is a section of

lawmakers which is against capital punishment. Sadly, around thirty six countries today actively practice this form of punishment, and it is allowed in their constitution.

I am against capital punishment, but not for those offenders who are involved in **genocide**, war crimes or mass murder. There should be no **immunity** to such **heinous** crimes because it is a **disgrace** to humanity. For other crimes, the offender should be prosecuted to the full extent of law.

In conclusion, no state has a right to end a human life unless compelling circumstances demand so. (284 words)

Glossary:

by and large (idiom and connector): in general; on the whole, medieval (adjective): connected with the Middle Ages (about AD 1000 to AD 1450), **instantaneously** (adverb) occurring, done, or completed in an instant, **culprit** (noun): a person or other agent guilty of or responsible for an offense or fault, **humanitarian** (adjective): concerned with reducing suffering and improving the conditions that people live in, **ideology** (noun): the body of doctrine, myth, belief, etc., that guides an individual, social movement, institution, class, or large group, **dynamics** (plural noun): the way in which people or things behave and react to each other in a particular situation, **pagan** (noun): a person who is not a Christian, Jew, Muslim or Hindu; a heathen; (of a person) an uncivilized and unenlightened, **to electrocute** (verb): to kill by electricity, **to lynch** (verb): to put to death, especially by hanging, by mob action and without legal authority, **to behead** (verb): to cut off the head of; kill or execute by decapitation, **to gas** (verb): to overcome, poison, or asphyxiate with gas or fumes, **conversely** (adverb): in a way that is the opposite or reverse of something, **to sentence** (verb): to say officially in court that somebody is to receive a particular punishment, **gruesome** (adjective): causing great horror; horribly repugnant, grisly, **immunity** (noun):, the state of being protected from something, **heinous** (adjective): morally very bad, **genocide** (noun): the deliberate and systematic extermination of a national, racial, political, or cultural group, **disgrace** (noun): a person or thing that is so bad that people connected with them or it feel or should feel ashamed

103. Some people think that the road safety will only be possible to achieve by increasing the legal age limit for new drivers. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agreement	Disagreement
Reckless driving of young drivers	No compelling evidence against young drivers

The numbers speak for themselves. When we analyze the numbers of accidents of any country, youth seems to be blamed first. In other words, they are the **soft target** in this episode. However, increasing the legal age limit for new drivers to avoid accident may not act as a deterrent. This essay discusses both **perspectives**, but I do not agree with this **notion**.

People differ from their views with regard to the question **posed** here. Broadly, the reasons **attributed** to accidents are drinking and driving, falling asleep while driving, lacking driving experience and **reckless** driving. We have no **compelling** evidence that those who are older i.e. 21 year old or above may not meet with accidents. The only responsible attribute somewhere close to the young driver is a reckless driving. Granted, reckless driving is seen more with younger drivers than older ones. However, no statistics have shown any **alarming** rate of increasing numbers of accidents because of this issue only. Ergo, the whole discussion gets cancelled invariably.

There is no denying that older drivers may be more responsible in their driving. However, it is more an assumption than a reality. For example, females are **perceived** more likely to kill someone when driving than males. However, the research undertaken by the UK Road Safety Panel does not agree with this **preconceived** notion. It reports that males of all ages are 77% more likely to kill someone when driving than females.

In conclusion, the strict punishments can certainly help reduce the numbers of accidents on the road **regardless of** age. I also believe that other road safety measures should be taken into consideration to address this issue. (275 words)

Glossary:

soft target (noun): a person or thing that it is very easy to attack, **perspective** (noun): a particular attitude toward something; a way of thinking about something; viewpoint, **notion** (noun): an idea, a belief or an understanding of something, **to attribute** (verb): to say or believe that something is the result of a particular thing, **reckless** (adjective): showing a lack of care about danger and the possible results of your actions, **compelling** (adjective): that makes you think it is true, **alarming** (adjective): causing worry and fear, **to perceive** (verb): to understand or think of somebody/something in a particular way; see, **preconceived** (adjective): (of idea, opinions, etc.) formed before you have enough information or experience of something, **regardless of** (preposition): paying no attention to something/somebody; treating something/somebody as not being important

104. It is good to have English as a global language. Do you agree or disagree with the statements? Explain your reasons and include relevant examples from your own experience.

Agreement	Disagreement
World economy is interconnected	Some people feeling threatened about their language being taken over
World's information and Internet is full of English language	-
Dominance of USA and UK	-

English language rules the world. Many people may not like the emergence of English language as a second official or unofficial language for a variety of reasons. However, there is no alternative but to accept English as a global language for its widespread use. This essay discusses why English is so important, and my support to this topic.

Looking at the statistics of English language usage, we believe that there is no other language which could be any closer to its popularity. There are **boundless** reasons for it. Firstly, the world economy is more interconnected than ever before. English is used as the business and finance language. Secondly, it is believed that 75% of the world's information is in English, and it accounts for more than 50% information on the Internet. Such widespread usage is a kind of a language monopoly which seems **impenetrable**. Whether we like it or not, mighty countries such as the USA and the UK influence the world in various ways. Therefore, there is no stopping for this language to spread further in coming years, too.

In contrast, some people accept English as a language of communication internationally, but not absolutely. They feel threatened about their own language, and wrongly link it to their culture, too. For example, Quebec in Canada gives a great deal of importance on French language. Understandably, their **incessant** love toward French language can also be reflected in their immigration policies. Quebec **prioritizes** the applications of intended immigrants who have a better functional understanding about French language.

In conclusion, English is one of most preferred international languages for communication. People across the globe have adapted to this language. (276 words)

Glossary:

boundless (adjective): without limits, seeming to have no end, **impenetrable** (adjective): that cannot be passed through, entered or seen through, **incessant** (adjective): never stopping; constant, **to prioritize** (verb): to treat something as being more important than other things

105. Nowadays children prefer electronic games to other games and toys? Why is it happening? Is it a positive or negative development?

Positives	Negatives
A range of games	Expensive
Convenience factor	Lack of fitness features
Designed for all ages	-

The importance of traditional games and toys is declining among children these days. Electronic games have completely dominated the leisure time of children. Considering the positives and negatives of electronic games, I would not term it as a negative development, but it is not totally positive either. This essay discusses both views.

With time, it is natural to have many new things that become the part of our life. Electronic games i.e. video games are not in isolation. In fact, their popularity has been gaining since the beginning of the 21st century. There are many good reasons for its popularity. Firstly, it offers a range of games that offer both joy and **edification**. It is believed that some video games play an integral part in enhancing **cognitive** skills of children. Secondly, there is a convenience factor that cannot be disregarded. Playing some traditional games requires a large playground with the suitable weather. All children are unable to access such basic combinations of outdoor games. Electronic games are generally played at home. Lastly, some electronic games have been designed for all ages with the interactive option. This means that other family members can also play together and share a sense of **belonging** and entertainment.

On the contrary, there are certain negatives of the electronic games. They are expensive, and all parents may not be able to afford them. More importantly, these games lack the fitness feature for children. Thus, there is a chance that children may become **obese**.

In conclusion, there is a clear ethical dilemma to which game to support. Electronic games help children improve their aptitude and intelligence level while traditional games **endow with** the fitness. Both qualities are imperative for children, and hence I believe that we should bring awareness among children about the significance of all types of games. (302 words)

Glossary:

edification (noun): the improvement of somebody's mind and character, **cognitive** (adjective): connected with mental processes of understanding, **belonging** (noun): the feeling of being comfortable and happy in a particular situation or with a particular group of people, **on the contrary** (idiom): showing or proving the opposite, **obese** (adjective): (of people) very fat, in a way that is not healthy, **to endow with** (phrasal verb): to give something to somebody/something

106. It has become easier and more affordable for people to travel to other countries. Is it a positive or negative development? Give your opinion and relevant examples from your experience.

Positives	Negatives
The middle class expansion	-
Countries becoming proactive in inviting travelers	-
Low airfare and affordable options offered by ecommerce sites	-

Needless to say that tourism was just a dream of the middle-class people a decade ago. Tourism is one of the world's fastest-growing industries. All credit goes to the expansion of the middle class in many parts of the world. To me, it is an absolute positive development.

There are a few factors that attribute to the growth of travelers, especially in the last decade. Before we **delve into** the **drivers** of tourist numbers, first and foremost, we need to see why there is a sudden rise of the affordability factor of travelers. Money changes hands. Owing to globalization, a lot of money from **the West** has moved into **the East**. This has **given birth to** a new group of travelers from the East. Before that, only people from wealthy countries had traveled extensively, and now there is an addition. This is a chief reason behind the growth of travelers.

Secondly, countries such as USA, UK, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and other European countries consider the tourism industry is one of the economic drivers and **boosters** to their GDP. Therefore, these countries have been promoting their destinations proactively.

Lastly, other factors such as the low airfare and tour organizing ecommerce websites, such as AirBNB, OYO, Expedia, Makemytrips, etc. have made traveling easier and affordable to the masses. For example, one-week holiday package for Goa could cost $2000 for a couple in India. At the same, if the couple agrees to pay another $1000, AirBNB would organize their trips to France and Germany in the same budget. Such options were not available some years back. Now it is a reality, luckily.

In conclusion, it is a positive development with a far-reaching economic impact for the host countries and the precious experience of traveling life for travelers. (296 words)

Glossary:

to delve into (phrasal verb): to try hard to find out more information about something, **driver** (noun): one of the main things that influence something or cause it to make progress, **the West** (noun): Europe, North America, and Canada contrasted with Eastern countries, **the East** (noun): the countries of Asia, especially China, Japan and India, **to give birth to** (idiom, figurative): to produce a baby or young animal, **booster** (noun): a thing that helps, encourages or improves something/somebody

107. When it comes to research on family history, some people prefer not to dig into the past; instead they just focus on their future. Discuss the positives and negatives of this approach, and include your own opinion.

Positives	Negatives
Knowing about the roots	Waste of time
Learning from the past failures and accomplishments	-

Researching family history is a very wide subject, and there are a few approaches prescribed. Some people believe that it is a waste of time **evaluating** the family history because no one has ever achieved anything from digging into the history. Instead, more emphasis should be laid about the future. This essay discusses both aspects of this topic.

History is full of **glory**, adventure, innovation, **blunder**, **genocide** and others. Mankind has evolved from **the Ice age** to this modern era. We could not **fathom** out what the man could possibly mean then. All this information is **intriguing**, but the new generation is no longer **enchanted** with the history. They believe that a lot many worthwhile things to do in the present and for the future. Instead, they are more inclined to learn how life will **fare** in coming years.

In contrast, there is a **school of thought** that believes knowing and evaluating the history is as important as making plans for the future. The accomplishments and blunders of the history are taken into the consideration to **ascertain** the solutions of existing challenges to some extent. Our shadows - in other words, genetic inheritance - play an integral part in shaping our personality.

To me, spending time after knowing and revealing about what had happened in the past may be worthless. Challenges and dynamics of the present time are nowhere close to those which were in the past. However, the basic knowledge about our roots and history of the land is always desirable seeing their positives.

In conclusion, spending time on thinking about the present and the future makes sense. At the same time, a little time allocated for evaluating the family history is also desirable. (283 words)

Glossary:

to evaluate (verb): to form an opinion of the amount, value or quality of something after thinking about it carefully; assess, **glory** (noun): fame, praise or honor that is given to somebody because they have achieved something important, **blunder** (noun): a stupid or careless mistake, **genocide** (noun): the murder of a whole race or group of people, **the Ice Age** (noun): one of the long periods of time, thousands of years ago, when much of the earth's surface was covered in ice, **to fathom** (verb): to understand or find an explanation for something, **intriguing** (adjective): very interesting because of being unusual or not having an obvious answer, **enchanted** (adjective): filled with great pleasure, **to fare** (verb): to be successful/unsuccessful in a particular situation; get on, **school of thought** (idiom): a way of thinking that a number of people share, **to ascertain** (verb): to find out the true or correct information about something

108. Some people say that we do not need printed newspaper anymore. To what extent do you agree or disagree? State your opinion.

Agreement	Disagreement
Cost effective	-
Convenience	-
Environment friendly	-

Several people opine that all kinds of printed materials should be **shunned** because they impact the environment **adversely. On top of it**, the advent of computer-based reading could replace the existing century-long habit of reading spreadsheet newspapers. I agree with this notion without any qualms.

There are many **compelling** reasons that we can do without the printed newspaper. Firstly, the Internet allows us to familiarize with the latest news and the information of our choice at no cost. Moreover, it is cost effective for readers. For example, a reader could access a wide and varied selection of reading resources and contents. While the newspaper offers only the content that is published on a particular day. Secondly, the best part of doing away with the newspaper and switching over to the computer-based reading is it gives readers a better convenience. Readers can **keep abreast of** news or any information **on the run** as well.

Finally, the issue of **deforestation** continues to spark off debates everywhere in the world. The paper and pulp industry is also responsible for this man-made **catastrophe** somewhat. Increasing awareness about the global environment has **stirred** people. They believe that cutting trees is against their moral obligation. This has encouraged them to adopt the eco-friendly products only. **Ergo**, the device-based reading is on the **upswing** these days.

To me, it will be hard for some people to change their habit of wanting only the printed newspaper, but sooner or later they will also adapt to the computer-based reading.

In conclusion, great ideas started on paper. But it is time we should change some of our old habits for **the greater good**. Therefore, the device-based reading should be supported beyond doubt. (282 words)

Glossary:

to shun (verb): to avoid something, **adversely** (adverb): in a way that is negative and unpleasant and not likely to produce a good result, **on top of something** (idiom): in addition to something, **compelling** (adjective): so strong that you must do something about it, **to keep abreast of something** (idiom): to make sure that you know all the most recent facts about a subject, **on the run** (idiom): continuously active and moving around, **deforestation** (noun): the act of cutting down or burning the trees in an area, **catastrophe** (noun): a sudden event that causes many people to suffer; disaster, **to stir** (verb): to make somebody excited or make them feel something strongly, **ergo** (adverb): therefore, **upswing** (noun): a situation in which something improves or increases over a period of time, **the greater good** (phrase): a common expression which refers to the fact that you are doing something that most likely will not benefit you but many people, a community or even the human race according to the context. The expression is often used in political, religious or philosophical contexts

109. Nowadays, most large companies operate multi-nationally. To what extent those companies should have responsibility toward local communities in which they operate?

Agreement	Disagreement
Environmental responsibility	-
Regular corporate tax payment	-
Job creation for the local community	-

As companies become larger, they **transcend** political boundaries to **boost** their **bottom lines**. While doing their expansions multinationally, large corporations must **emphasize** the development of local communities being their one of the top priorities. I completely agree with this topic.

In business, nothing comes without sacrificing certain things. The first comes on that list is the damage that they do environmentally. Manufacturing units of such companies exert negative impact on the region's air and water quality in various ways. Hence it is essential that companies should **endeavor** to restrict the level of **contaminants** released to **mitigate** the risk of environmental **hazards**. For

example, Union Carbide Corporation, the subsidiary of Dow Chemical, USA **slaughtered** mankind, other **species** and **fauna** to maximize the bottom line numbers in India. Such **havoc** should never be repeated.

Secondly, the **public purse** is always filled by the tax collection. From this collection of taxes, the local government allocates funds for various programs that uplift or better the life of the community. Multinational companies must understand this fact, and be **steadfast** loyal to make the payment of taxes on time. Not only this, they must restrain from exploring any **loopholes** of the system to evade payment of taxes.

Last but not least, in order to connect well with the local community, generally these companies source raw materials locally, and play an instrumental role of job creation for them. It is essential that they remain **aligned** with this philosophy, and do all the best that they can.

In conclusion, it is a moral responsibility of companies to **adhere to** principles of corporate social responsibility (CSR) for the better future of theirs and of the local community. (277 words)

Glossary:

to transcend (verb): to be or go beyond the usual limits of something; exceed, **to boost** (verb): to make something increase, or become better or more successful, **bottom line** (noun): the amount of money that is a profit or a loss after everything have been calculated, **to emphasize** (verb): to give special importance to something; stress, **to endeavor** (verb): to try very hard to do something; strive, **contaminant** (noun): a substance that makes something impure, **to mitigate** (verb): to make something less harmful, serious, etc.; alleviate, **hazard** (noun): a thing that can be dangerous or cause damage, **to slaughter** (verb): to kill a large number of people or animals violently, **species** (noun): a group into which animals, plants, etc. that are able to breed with each other and produce healthy young are divided, smaller than a genus and identified by a Latin name, **fauna** (noun): all the animals living in an area or in a particular period of history, **havoc** (noun): a situation in which there is a lot of damage, destruction or confusion, **public purse** (noun): the funds raised by a government by taxation or other means, **steadfast** (adjective): not changing in your attitudes or aims; firm, **loophole** (noun): a mistake in the way a law, contract, etc. has been written which enables people to legally avoid doing something that the law, contract, etc. had intended them to do, **last but not least** (idiom): used when mentioning the last person or thing of a group, in order to say that they are not less important than the others, **to align** (verb): to change something slightly so that is in the correct relationship to something else, **to adhere to** (phrasal verb): to behave according to a particular law, rule, set of instructions, etc. to follow a particular set of beliefs or a fixed way of doing something

110. People think that old buildings should be knocked down and given way to the new buildings. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? How important are old buildings to us?

Agreement	Disagreement
Old buildings have intrinsic value	Poor in condition and with no special value should be demolished
A sense of heritage	Urban development
Some businesses thriving in old buildings	-

Different buildings have different **lifespans** and values depending upon the weather, geological **constraints** and construction norms of a country. **Tearing down** old buildings indiscriminately and without understanding the real worth of them will be **over the top**. I agree with this statement partly, as described below.

Some old buildings have **intrinsic** value. They are a perfect reflection of the history and civilization. Every city needs old buildings to maintain a sense of **heritage** and permanency. People and tourists take pleasure witnessing the **aesthetic** and cultural history of a particular area. There is no doubt old buildings attract people because of their architectural marvelous, unique shapes and warmth. Therefore, there is no other alternative, but to preserve them at any cost because of their historic significance.

In contrast, each old building may not be the perfect candidate for conservation. The above-mentioned buildings signify heritage properties, monuments, buildings representing the center of attractions and are of special values. Other buildings which are in a **dilapidated** condition or awkwardly blocking the urban development need to be knocked down if they were meant to be for the renewed needs of the city. For example, the civic authority must tear down those buildings that **pose** a threat to people who live in them and **pedestrians** owing to its poor condition and low quality construction.

I assert that new buildings make sense for certain businesses, and there is no denying. However, I also believe that restaurants, pubs, bookstores, galleries, small start-ups and even some banks thrive in old buildings.

In conclusion, it is the civic authority or any other concerned department that has to assess whether a building needs to be **demolished** or not. Old buildings that carry the special value should be conserved for various benefits. (291 words)

Glossary:

lifespan (noun): the length of time that something is likely to live, continue or function, **constraint** (noun): a thing that limits or restricts something, or your freedom to do; restriction, **over the top** (idiom, abbreviation **OTT**): done to an exaggerated degree and with too much effort, **to tear down** (phrasal verb): to pull or knock down a building, wall, etc., **intrinsic** (adjective): belong to or part of the real nature of something/somebody, **heritage** (noun): the history, traditions and qualities that a country or society has had for many years and that is considered an important part of its character, **aesthetic** (adjective): concerned with beauty and art and the understanding of beautiful things, **dilapidated** (adjective): (of furniture or building) old and in a very bad condition, **to pose** (verb): to create a threat, problem, etc. that has to be dealt with, **pedestrian** (noun): a person walking in the street and not travelling in a vehicle, **to demolish** (verb): to pull or knock down a building

111. Discuss the reasons why people define happiness differently, and how to obtain happiness?

Points for discussion	
Definition varying from person to person	-
Basic survival needs are prerequisites	-

How we measure our life with regard to happiness is a very **subjective** topic. It varies from person to person. The personal nature of happiness itself is such **complex** that it is hard to define. It is a sense of feeling. This essay discusses happiness, and how it is felt by different types of people.

At the onset, we have no magical store where we walk into and buy happiness. We have a never-ending list of dreams or material possessions. All of them may not be achievable yet we are happy for some reason. That is why nobody has ever fully understood happiness for themselves and for others. For example, the job promotion could please some people, whereas climbing Mount Everest and reaching at the top of it could please others. More than that, most people define it as 'the state of being happy' but in reality it works otherwise. It should be defined as 'to choose to be happy'.

As discussed, one of the big **conundrums** of the definition of true happiness is that it is impossible to give, but there are certain **indisputable prerequisites** for achieving it. Firstly, our basic survival needs such as food, shelter and clothes are first to be met to feel or experience an absolute happiness. Without meeting these basic needs, happiness **eludes**. Secondly, the priceless moments which are part of happiness are generally found in sharing and experiencing them with family and friends. Life in isolation - no matter how successful one is - leads nowhere but in darkness. Other key drivers are individualistic, and have a wide scope of definition.

In conclusion, it is hard to define a true happiness, but I believe that happiness does not depend on external conditions, but it is **governed** by our mental attitude. (297 words)

Glossary:

subjective (adjective): based on your own ideas or opinions rather than facts and therefore sometimes unfair, **complex** (adjective): difficult to understand, **conundrum** (noun): a confusing problem or question that is very difficult to solve, **indisputable** (adjective): that is true and cannot be disagreed with or denied; undeniable, **prerequisite** (noun): something that must exist or happen before something else can happen or be done, **to elude** (verb): if something eludes you, you are not able to achieve it, or not able to remember or understand it, **to govern** (verb, often passive): to control or influence somebody/something or how something happens, functions, etc.

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CONNECTORS AND PHRASES AND THEIR PURPOSE

Sequence: to denote order of information or occurrences; logical expansion of points of view/ideas	to begin with, first, second, third, again, and, and then, also, next, afterward, still, too, and so forth, earlier/later, at the first place, at the onset, consequently, concurrently, simultaneously, subsequently, finally, previously, before this, following this/that, initially
To add ideas/information	despite the fact, what is more, in addition, additionally, furthermore, further, similarly, besides, lastly, nor, finally, equally important, not only..but also
To compare and contrast points of view, ideas and events	in contrast, while, whereas, but, yet, on the other hand, nonetheless, nevertheless, on the contrary, though, although, vis-à-vis, despite the fact, despite, conversely, balanced against, by comparison, where, although this may be true, as opposed to, up against, still, in spite of, even though, alternatively, every coin has two sides, the opposite is true, on the flip side, on the downside
To show certainty/emphasis	it goes without saying, it is needless to say that, without any equivocations, without a doubt, without reservation, perennially, absolutely, obviously, in any case, in fact, indeed, definitely, naturally, never, always, irrefutably emphatically, extremely, positively, of course, plainly, unquestionably, surprisingly, beyond question, indisputably
To show similarity	similarly, likewise, to equate with, on a same scale
To express time or sequence of events	first, second, third, etc., immediately after, afterward, later, after some time, after a few hours, next, and then, formerly, erstwhile, before, thereafter, as soon as, as long as, no sooner than, ago, until, till, since, just as, while, immediately, last but not least, former...latter

To make a point	that is, moreover, furthermore, in fact, evidently, since, for the same reason, in any case, besides, because, for, in other words, granted, agreed
To define	is, to refer to, to define, to mean, that is
To add an example to a point or idea	to quote an instance, for instance, for example, to illustrate, such as, to exemplify, take the case of, on this occasion, in this case, take the case of as an illustration, to demonstrate, in this situation, in another case
To summarize the topic or conclude points of view, ideas, events or discussion	hence, in my final analysis, ergo, to core out, in sum, in brief, as has been noted, as a result, thereby, eventually, in the end, as we have seen, summing it up, in conclusion, consequently, therefore, thus, thusly, accordingly, as I have shown, admittedly
To denote an exception (to show an exception to a regular practice or norm, event, ideas and so forth)	at times, sometimes, yet, however, despite the fact, once in a while, nevertheless, in spite of, it is clearly an exception to the norm

Important Prepositions:

There are certain verbs, nouns, adjectives and participles that take the particular Prepositions after them. One needs to practice by using these prepositions combined with verbs and others in their sentences. This practice will help deliver a polished combination of words and range of grammatical fluency in their expressions. In a way, it invariably displays finesse in language. How does this help score in the exam? Say, a student writes, "He often alluded to his helplessness" is a correct formation of sentence. Those who have not practiced or ignorant about this basic formation tend to write this way: "He often alluded for his helplessness". Both sentences look similar but the former one is correct by English Grammar requirement, and the latter one is absolutely wrong because 'for' wrongly has been used in place of 'to'.

1. **Abhorrence of**: I have an *abhorrence of* waste of time in life.
2. **Abhorrent to**: Slavery and gender inequality are *abhorrent to* the Indian society.
3. **Absorbed in**: Whenever I meet Susan, she is always *absorbed in* her novels.
4. **Abstain from**: I *abstain from* having meat.
5. **Abstemious in**: Sameer is *abstemious in* choosing the right diet.
6. **Abstinence from**: My father is a total *abstinence from* strong drink.
7. **Acquainted with**: Please *acquaint* me *with* your story first.
8. **Acquiesce in**: Some political parties reluctantly *acquiesced in* the demonetization policy in India.
9. **Acquitted of**: The shameless and unconscionable offender was *acquitted* on the grounds *of* insufficient evidence.
10. **Adapt to**: *Adapting to* a new culture does not mean to disown your own culture.
11. **Addicted to**: The youth these days is *addicted to* smart phones.
12. **Adequate to**: Her explanation was not *adequate to* the issue that emerged.
13. **Adhere to**: On student visa, the student must *adhere to* the immigration laws of a particular country.
14. **Adjacent to**: My villa is *adjacent to* the lake.
15. **Affection for**: My *affection for* animals was ridiculed by some people in the past.
16. **Affectionate to**: Saina is *affectionate to* the poor.
17. **Afflicted with**: Many fellow citizens of mine are *afflicted with* Tuberculosis.
18. **Afraid of**: I am not at all *afraid of* his bully.
19. **Agreeable to**: I do not think that they will be *agreeable to* our new policy.

20. **Akin to**: What she felt was more *akin to* frustration than anger.

21. **Alien to**: The job reservation in India is *alien to* the fundamental right of the citizen.

22. **Alight from**: The moment she *alighted from* a taxi, she was robbed by junkies.

23. **Alive to**: The government was not *alive to* the difficulties that citizens would face after the demonetization policy.

24. **Allegiance to**: Achilles, the great never affirmed his *allegiance to* Agamemnon.

25. **Alliance with**: The US, in *alliance with* other countries, decided to attack Iraq.

26. **Allot to**: The retired army veteran was *allotted to* a gas station as a token of appreciation by the state.

27. **Allude to**: I was expecting this problem to be *alluded to* briefly in the meeting, but it did not happen unfortunately.

28. **Alternative to**: The automobile industry is seeking *alternatives to* the combustion engine.

29. **Ambition for**: I am surprised to see your lofty *ambition for* life.

30. **Amenable to**: Some people are really adamant. They are never *amenable to* reasonable arguments.

31. **Analogous to**: My freedom of speech has often been thought of being in some way analogous to disruption.

32. **Antidote to**: Scientists have failed to invent an effective *antidote to* this kind of poison.

33. **Antipathy to**: I hate those people who have a growing *antipathy to* animals.

34. **Anxiety for**: The people of India and Pakistan have *anxiety for* the hostility to end forever.

35. **Anxious for**: Nikita, the step mother of Aisha, was never *anxious for* her.

36. **Apologize to**: Mr. Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India, should have *apologized to* all Indians for the debacle of Sino-Indian War, 1962.

37. **Apology for**: The department sought an official *apology for* her wrongdoings.

38. **Appetite for**: Laura has an insatiable *appetite for* success, and does not mind going to any extent to prove her right.

39. **Applicable to**: New regulations are not *applicable to* those applications which were lodged before 1st September 2016.

40. **Appoint to**: Mr. Rajan was *appointed to* oversee the operations department last year.

41. **Apprehensive of**: The moment Sam finished his speech, he was *apprehensive of* his blatant allegations against the school varsity.

42. **Apprised of**: Oftentimes, the innocent people are not fully *apprised of* the real picture of situations by the media.

43. **Approach to**: The school committee must sit and ponder over a different approach to discipline and the sports facilities.

44. **Appropriate to**: Writing style for an IELTS exam must be *appropriate to* the prescribed parameters of the British Council.

45. **Aptitude for**: Natasha showed an exceptional *aptitude for* music.

46. **Ascribe to**: Nathan always *ascribes* his failures *to* lame excuses and the luck factor.

47. **Aspire to**: Chawla's son *aspires to* be a national-level footballer.

48. **Assent to**: The German Government gave its *assent to* ban internal combustion engines by 2030.

49. **Assiduous in**: The best part of Shivani is she is *assiduous in* her duties.

50. **Associate with**: I had warned you not to *associate with* those people, but you never listened to me.

51. **Assurance of**: Can we have a firm *assurance of* support from politicians over this issue?

52. **Assured of**: Nobody was ready to move in there until they were *assured of* the guaranteed safety.

53. **Atone for**: By worshiping God, you would not *atone for* your misdeeds for sure.

54. **Attachment to**: Mother's strong *attachment to* a child is never questionable.

55. **Attend to**: It is a duty of the doctor to *attend to* his patients.

56. **Attention to**: Never pay any *attention to* what he says.

57. **Attribute to**: The first negative is *attributed to* its cost compared with its counterpart.

58. **Aware of**: They assert that such reporting helps citizens to be *aware of* crimes happening around them.

59. **Backward in**: Maria is not *backward in* coming forward (=she is not shy).

60. **Bargain with**: Samantha tried to *bargain with* Alex but he was stubborn.

61. **Bear with**: I will not answer until you *bear with* me.

62. **Belong to**: He *belongs to* the Elite Club of whose members always wear a condescending attitude.

63. **Beneficial to**: Staying healthy and fit is not only *beneficial to* the individual but it also reduces the burden on the health care system of the country

64. **Bereft of**: She was *bereft of* any hopes from the community.

65. **Beset with**: A life *beset with* mental torture leads nowhere.

66. **Beware of**: *Beware of* stray dogs on this street!

67. **Blame for**: Don't *blame* others *for* your failures.

68. **Boast of**: You know why I dislike that filthy rich guy because he always *boasts of* his material riches.

69. **Busy with**: During the day, he is always *busy with* meetings. Therefore, I suggest you to meet him in the evening.

70. **Candidate for**: He is a sure *candidate for* victory.

71. **Canvass for**: Stakeholders are being *canvassed for* their views on the implications of proposed policies.

72. **Capacity for**: My mother has enormous *capacity for* our tantrums.

73. **Care for**: You *cared for* nothing but only your money.

74. **Cautious of**: The government warned all citizens to be *cautious of* accepting their statement as fact.

75. **Certain of**: If you are *certain of* becoming a successful player, you should seriously focus on playing tennis more.

76. **Characteristic of**: These are the *characteristics of* highly desirable women.

77. **Charge of**: The President took *charge of* his office yesterday.

78. **Clamor for**: People were on the streets, and *clamored for* the resignation of those ministers who were involved in the scam.

79. **Clash with**: Nine terrorists were neutralized in a *clash with* soldiers.

80. **Coincide with**: How can his story *coincide with* his brother's?

81. **Comment on**: I was exhilarated when Roberta *commented on* my work positively.

82. **Common to**: Such deterioration of health is *common to* all cancer patients.

83. **Comparable to**: His writing and oratory skills are *comparable to* none in my company.

84. **Comparison with**: *Comparison with* the other automobile companies, Toyota makes the maximum profit per car in the world.

85. **Compassion for**: After years when he met his ex-girlfriend, she was filled with overwhelming love and *compassion for* him.

86. **Compatible with**: Finally, their marriage ended in divorce because they found themselves not *compatible with* each other.

87. **Compensation for**: Sometimes there is no *compensation for* the lost time.

88. **Complain of**: She *complained of* getting a migraine, and hence I let her go.

89. **Complaint with**: I have no *complaint with* my past because that was the time, in fact, I lived like a kid.

90. **Comply with**: Be careful! Always *comply with* the assignment deadline at school.

91. **Composed of**: It was a great joke. The committee was *composed of* only business tycoons who were utterly self-centered.

92. **Concession to**: He was an arrogant boss; he made no *concession to* anyone if they had failed.

93. **Condemned to**: William was *condemned to* a three-month imprisonment for aggravated assault.

94. **Condole with**: We *condole with* the families of soldiers who laid down their lives for our nation.

95. **Conduce to**: The company elaborated three chief factors *conduce to* the price hike.

96. **Conducive to**: Weather is *conducive to* playing the match today.

97. **Confident of**: I am *confident of* making progress on this assignment now.

98. **Conform to**: Eccentricity of my views does not *conform to* the philosophy of this group.

99. **Conformable to**: Civil laws must be *conformable to* the constitution irrespective of caste, creed or religion.

100. **Conformity with**: Those civil laws that are not in *conformity with* the constitution bring frustration to certain sections of communities.

101. **Congenial to**: The situation is not *congenial to* submission of our proposal to the top management at the moment.

102. **Conscious of**: Some children are very much *conscious of* having failed their teachers.

103. **Consecrated to**: Swami Vivekanand *consecrated* his life *to* God.

104. **Consent to**: Parents who give *consent to* underage children for driving will be prosecuted in the event of an accident.

105. **Consistent with**: This move was expected because it is *consistent with* the company's long-term vision.

106. **Conspicuous of**: The straight-line design is a *conspicuous* feature *of* his interior designing.

107. **Contemporary with**: Bon Jovi cannot be believed as a *contemporary* singer *with* Zed Leppelin.

108. **Contempt for**: The police officers showed *contempt for* their own safety during riots.

109. **Content with**: Not *content with* humiliating publicly, she went on accusing me of misappropriating the funds also.

110. **Contrary to**: *Contrary to* the fact, Rita behaved very decently.

111. **Contrasted with**: The promises made before the election were sharply *contrasted with* the present actions of the government.

112. **Contribute to**: I have a simple question for you. What have you *contributed to* humanity to date?

113. **Conversant with**: In order to succeed on the foreign land, you need to be fully *conversant with* their culture also.

114. **Convicted of**: Jack, the ripper was *convicted of* a series of murders.

115. **Convinced of**: I am less *convinced of* her right intentions.

116. **Convulsed with**: Kapil Sharma undoubtedly makes the audience get *convulsed with* laughter.

117. **Cope with**: It was a tough job, but I somehow *coped with* it.

118. **Correct in**: Beware of challenging him intellectually; he seems to have been *correct in* his debate.

119. **Correspond with**: Your story does not *correspond with* the facts mentioned by your mother.

120. **Covetous of**: Stop being *covetous of* others' wealth. Start working.

121. **Craving for**: My daughter has a *craving for* chocolates.

122. **Credit with**: It is a paradigm shift. The company is *credited with* innovative ideas that were never thought of.

123. **Customary for**: It is *customary for* them to bring running shoes for the marathon.

124. **Dabble in**: He is a very talented tennis player, but I do not know why he does not *dabble in* the national level competitions.

125. **Deaf to**: There is no point talking to him. He is blinded by misconceptions and *deaf to* any change.

126. **Debar from**: She was caught doping. I am sure she will be *debarred from* the competition now.

127. **Decide on**: I am unable to *decide on* who to be blamed for this mess.

128. **Deficient in**: Generally speaking, the Indian food is *deficient in* proteins but it is tasty.

129. **Defrauded of**: The entire family together *defrauded* that innocent chap *of* $10,000.

130. **Deliberate (on)**: You do not really need to *deliberate (on)* whether to accept this job or not. Accept it.

131. **Delight in**: He takes great *delight in* picking his nose publicly. Gee!

132. **Delighted with**: I am *delighted with* her job performance, and she is a sure candidate for a better appraisal this year.

133. **Deliverance from**: The absolute *deliverance from* slavery has not been achieved yet in some parts of the world.

134. **Deluge with**: I was *deluged with* countless emails to respond only in a day.

135. **Depend on**: *Depending upon* circumstances, the company may tweak existing policies.

136. **Deprived of**: A child who is *deprived of* mother's attention suffers a lot at a later stage.

137. **Derive from**: Anna *derived* a great applause *from* her speech.

138. **Derogate from**: People who *derogate from* facing challenges do not progress.

139. **Descent from**: Bobby traces his line of *descent from* the Scottish culture.

140. **Design for**: I was asked by the student community to *design* an advert *for* their campaigning.

141. **Desire for**: His *desire for* wealth led him to the criminal world.

142. **Desirous of**: The British Government was *desirous of* ruling India further, but the Second World War had cost them too much, and hence they decided against it.

143. **Desist from**: After realizing a defeat, Alexander the great *desisted from* advancing toward India.

144. **Despair of**: I *despair of* Rakesh; he cannot survive this job because he lacks competency to hold his job.

145. **Destined for**: She was always *destined for* a finance career.

146. **Destitute of**: The government seemed *destitute of* the inconvenience of people.

147. **Detract from**: The director of the Bourne series was determined not to let anything *detract from* the suspense and climax.

148. **Detrimental to**: Sugary juice is *detrimental to* health.

149. **Deviate from**: Please focus, don't *deviate from* the main topic.

150. **Devoid of**: Her speech was absolutely *devoid of* the logical sense.

151. **Devoted to**: What is the inspiration after his success? He is always *devoted to* his work.

152. **Die of**: Millions of people across the globe *die of* hunger every year.

153. **Differ from**: Our perspectives always *differ from* each other's.

154. **Digress from**: There is no point of discussion with him. He is very popular for *digressing from* the main of concern.

155. **Digression from**: After plenty of *digression from* the issue, eventually he came to the point.

156. **Diligent in**: I need to read more before I can be more *diligent in* this subject.

157. **Disagree with**: I *disagree with* this notion.

158. **Disapprove of**: I strongly *disapprove of* drinking and driving, but my brother never follows.

159. **Disastrous to**: The government's existing policies are *disastrous to* the middle class.

160. **Disgrace to**: This sort of nonsense behavior is a *disgrace to* the teaching profession.

161. **Disgusted with**: I was *disgusted with* myself for wasting precious time debating on this topic.

162. **Dispense with**: Let's *dispense with fear* and formalities and speak openly.

163. **Dispose of**: It is a trying process for the police department to *dispose of* stolen vehicles from their site.

164. **Dissent from:** In politics, whether any decision is positive or negative, the opposition party always *dissents from* the ruling party.

165. **Distrust of:** We have no compelling evidence against him. Then why to have *distrust of* his intention?

166. **Distrustful of:** Zeenat is always *distrustful of* his advice.

167. **Divest of:** After her pregnancy, she was *divested of* much of her responsibility.

168. **Dream of:** I never *dreamt of* becoming CEO of this company.

169. **Drenched with:** In fear, Ritika's face was *drenched with* sweat.

170. **Due to:** Many children remain malnourished *due to* poverty,

171. **Dwell on:** Stop *dwelling on* your mistakes, forget and move.

172. **Eager for:** I was *eager for* studying in Canada, but my student visa application got denied.

173. **Elicit from:** In IELTS, the interviewer tries to *elicit* information *from* the student.

174. **Eligible for:** Am I *eligible for* this plan?

175. **Embark on:** At the age of 40, she dared to *embark on* a new career in marketing.

176. **Emerge from:** Eventually he realized that he could not *emerge from* his shadows.

177. **Eminent for:** I thank you this *eminent* debater *for* his valuable contribution to the debate on this issue.

178. **Encouragement to:** Her presence itself is a great *encouragement to* students.

179. **Encroach on:** If you have not learnt how to tackle people, they will surely *encroach on* your time.

180. **Endowed with:** James had *endowed* his son *with* the quality of humanity that he wanted him to possess.

181. **Enlarge on:** I would not understand your point until you *enlarge on* your last comment.

182. **Enlist in:** The police department requested to *enlist* the help of the public *in* catching the murderer.

183. **Entitled to:** She was *entitled to* stay in a five-star hotel by her company.

184. **Enveloped in:** Since Laila did not perform well in exams, she was *enveloped in* feelings of fear.

185. **Envious of:** Some people are *envious of* her professional stature.

186. **Equal to:** Marcus is *equal to* none.

187. **Escape from**: Whatever you do, but you cannot *escape from* the reality.

188. **Esteem for**: This software is *esteemed for* its features to the designer community.

189. **Excel in**: Ronaldo has always *excelled in* football.

190. **Exclude from**: Try to *exclude* anger *from* your persona.

191. **Exemption from**: Certain products are subject to *exemption from* GST.

192. **Experience of**: I have the *experience of* ten years.

193. **Experienced in**: Mother is always *experienced in* nurturing children.

194. **Exposed to**: Nila never wanted to *expose* her anxiety and despair *to* anyone in the office.

195. **Expostulate with**: Agreed, people can *expostulate with* the Prime Minister on any point, but never rebel.

196. **Failure of**: After the *failure of* her first marriage, she was devastated for some time.

197. **Faithful to**: Every citizen must be *faithful to* his country.

198. **Fall in**: I cannot help *falling in* love with you.

199. **Fatal to**: Demonetization could prove *fatal to* business that runs on cash.

200. **Favorable to**: The new laws of the student visa are *favorable to* both parties.

201. **Fearful of**: *Fearful of* a low score in IELTS, Anjali immediately booked another date of exam.

202. **Feel for**: I really *feel for* her, yet I cannot help her for some reason.

203. **Fill with**: His eyes were *filled with* confidence.

204. **Fit for**: I ordered a shirt only to return it later because it was not *fit for* the purpose.

205. **Fitness for**: Firstly, I was not convinced to hire him for this job, but other members considered his *fitness for* the task.

206. **Foiled in**: Terrorists were *foiled in* their attempt to set the building ablaze.

207. **Fond of**: I am *fond of* reading novels.

208. **Fondness for**: The *fondness for* animals that she has is never questionable.

209. **Foreign to**: Racism is *foreign to* my boss.

210. **Gifted with**: William was *gifted with* the brilliant skills of painting.

211. **Glory in**: Samantha *gloried in* her leisure time during vacation.

212. **Good for**: He is *good for* nothing.

213. **Grapple with**: *Grappled with* the credit crunch, the company had to put off its plan to expand business in other states.

214. **Grateful for**: I am really *grateful for* some teachers who taught me in a manner that speaks for success now.

215. **Greedy of**: He is *greedy of* power. So are we! Let's see who wins.

216. **Guilty of**: The jury found him *guilty of* misappropriation of money.

217. **Heedless of**: When I was very young, I was always *heedless of* my parents' advice.

218. **Hope for**: *Hope for* the best!

219. **Hostile to**: Their decision was *hostile to* the basic rights of the student.

220. **Hurtful to**: Rejection of the student visa was very *hurtful to* Manish.

221. **Ignorant of**: You cannot be *ignorant of* the naked reality.

222. **Immaterial to**: it is *immaterial to* me whether he likes the proposal or not.

223. **Impertinent to**: It was not *impertinent to* inquire the price of this service.

224. **Impervious to**: He is pretty thick-skinned and *impervious to* such criticism.

225. **Implicated in**: Many politicians were *implicated in* the 2G scandal.

226. **Impose on**: The government has *imposed* an extra duty of 2% *on* the population.

227. **Incentive to**: I do not see any *incentive to* this reform act.

228. **Incidental to**: I-phone discovery was *incidental* to Steve Jobs.

229. **Inclined to**: I am *inclined to* be a successful businessman.

230. **Increase in**: The wheat *increased* in price.

231. **Indebted to**: I am *indebted to* Shantanu Agrawal for his critiquing.

232. **Indifference to**: She was always *indifference to* the needs of her husband.

233. **Indifferent to**: She cannot afford to be *indifferent to* her family.

234. **Indigenous to**: The peacock is *indigenous to* India.

235. **Indispensable to**: Maria's job performance was *indispensable to* the department.

236. **Indulge in**: Don't *indulge in* any illicit activities or you will be in trouble.

237. **Infatuated with**: Rihana was completely *infatuated with* John.

238. **Infected with**: Patients who are *infected with* Tuberculosis are kept in separation.

239. **Inference from**: We drew a subtle *inference from* the available data.

240. **Infested with**: The whole house was *infested with* ants and other mosquitoes.

241. **Inimical to**: Too much of sweet is *inimical to* health.

242. **Innocent of**: The jury found him *innocent of* all charges.

243. **Insensible to**: Now she is totally *insensible to* her comments.

244. **Insist on**: I *insist on* going to Goa than Kerala.

245. **Intercourse with**: Sheila denied having any *intercourse with* her boyfriend.

246. **Interested in**: If you are *interested in* this proposal, let me know now.

247. **Intimacy with**: Though Alex enjoyed an *intimacy with* the boss, he was not spared.

248. **Intimate with**: The *intimate* connection *with* the corporate world helped him scale the ladder of success swiftly.

249. **Intrigue with**: Kashmiri separatists *intrigue with* the Pakistan Government to destabilize India.

250. **Intrude on**: Videotaping people's movement is an act of *intruding on* their private lives.

251. **Invested with**: Stay *invested with* the market, it will bounce back gradually.

252. **Invitation to**: Removing army from the border is an open *invitation to* infiltration across the border.

253. **Involve in**: She was *involved in* too many activities.

254. **Irrelevant to**: Whatever you are saying is totally *irrelevant to* this point.

255. **Irrespective of**: People in India are treated equally, *irrespective of* religion.

256. **Judge of**: He is a good *judge of* music.

257. **Key to**: *Key to* success is perseverance and innovation.

258. **Lead to**: It looks that this road *leads to* Mumbai.

259. **Leniency to**: His *leniency to* the team cost me higher.

260. **Liable to**: I was not responsible for this loss, and hence I am not *liable to* make any payment.

261. **Likeness to**: Madame, do you think that is an exact *likeness to* the man you saw on the street?

262. **Liking for**: Natalie has a *liking for* various story books.

263. **Limited to**: Racial discrimination is not *limited to* one country. It exists everywhere.

264. **Listen to**: Don't ever *listen to* him. He is a liar.

265. **Lost to**: England *lost to* India by 80 runs.

266. **Loyal to**: Sharmila is *loyal to* her family, and I think she will not share any information about her sister.

267. **Match for**: No other school comes even close to *matching* Harvard *for* the research environment and facilities.

268. **Material to**: She concealed the information on purpose, and that was *material to* the case.

269. **Meddle with**: Don't *meddle with* my laptop!

270. **Menace to**: Pollution is a potential *menace to* global warming.

271. **Motive for**: I saw through her ulterior *motives for* this crime beforehand.

272. **Mourn for**: The entire nation is *mourning for* our brave soldiers today.

273. **Natural to**: Singing is *natural* to me.

274. **Necessary to**: Do you think it is *necessary to* yell?

275. **Need for**: There is no *need for* beating around the bush.

276. **Notorious for**: The country is *notorious for* farming opium.

277. **Obedience to**: Soldiers always act in *obedience to* the government.

278. **Obedient to**: I am always *obedient to* my father's wish.

279. **Object to**: We *objected to* the government's discriminatory law on the Gay rights.

280. **Objection to**: I have no *objection to* this proposal.

281. **Obliged to**: They wanted to compete with us, and we *obliged to* them.

282. **Observance of**: Some people are *observance of* traditional practices, but I am not.

283. **Obstruction to**: Please move aside, you are an *obstruction to* my view.

284. **Occur to**: This idea never *occurred to* me.

285. **Offensive to**: His derogatory remarks were quite *offensive to* the audience.

286. **Opportunity for**: There are boundless *opportunities* available *for* engineers.

287. **Overcome with**: She tried hard to *overcome with* all grudges.

288. **Painful to**: It is always *painful to* see any animal struggle for life.

289. Part with: Before *parting with* money, always read the insurance documents first.

290. Partial to: She is *partial to* potatoes.

291. Partiality for: We can notice his *partiality for* the West.

292. Passion for: I have a *passion for* jogging.

293. Peculiar to: Sarcasm that is *peculiar to* the elite class of our society.

294. Penitent for: The murderer was not *penitent for* his crime at all.

295. Persevere in: Despite failures, he *persevered in* his attempts to convince the world about his innovation.

296. Persist in: Stop *persisting in* blaming yourself for what has happened.

297. Pertinent to: Please jot down your points *pertinent to* the topic under discussion.

298. Pine for: I *pine for* the pristine beaches of Brisbane.

299. Pity for: I feel *pity for* you.

300. Pledged to: Achilles never *pledged* his allegiance *to* Agamemnon.

301. Popular with: Demonetization policy is likely to prove *popular with* the middle-class voters.

302. Postscript to: I failed to take consideration of information which was *postscript to* the message.

303. Predilection for: My sister who is a renowned artist has a *predilection for* bright colors.

304. Preface to: Please read the *preface to* this book.

305. Prefer to: I *prefer to* have short vacations rather than a long vacation.

306. Preferable to: Anything was *preferable to* the heated argument to reduce the tension.

307. Prejudicial to: The bank's decision to expand its branches could be *prejudicial to* its future in such a condition.

308. Prepared for: Terrorists were not *prepared for* any surgical strike from Indian Army, and were caught napping.

309. Preserve from: Please *preserve* this bottle *from* direct sunlight.

310. Pretend to: She *pretends to* be a very happy woman, but she is not.

311. Pretext for: She always leaves early on Fridays on the *pretext for* having work to do.

312. Prevent from: This process will *prevent* it *from* decaying.

313. **Prior to**: For refund, please contact us *prior to* the orientation day of school.

314. **Productive of**: The result is *productive of* team work.

315. **Proficient in**: Not only in English language, but she is *proficient in* French language, too.

316. **Profitable to**: I do not see this decision could be *profitable to* us in the long run.

317. **Prohibit from**: American citizens were *prohibited from* travelling to the Middle East.

318. **Prone to**: This road is *prone to* accidents. Be careful!

319. **Proof of**: I forgot to keep the receipt as *proof of* purchase.

320. **Proper for**: It was a time when people saw it not *proper for* girls to go out alone.

321. **Protect from**: It is a daunting task for parents to *protect* their children *from* bad companies.

322. **Proud of**: I am *proud of* you, my son.

323. **Qualified for**: He is not *qualified for* this job.

324. **Quarrel with**: Do you think that you could *quarrel with* my research?

325. **Ready for**: I am *ready for* all it takes to do this.

326. **Recoil from**: Though Stuart was a good friend to Michelle, but she always *recoiled from* his touch.

327. **Recover from**: The market is *recovering* fast *from* the low that it made last week.

328. **Reduced to**: For him, life has *reduced to* only survival now.

329. **Refer to**: I am looking for a good carpenter. If you have someone in your acquaintance please *refer* him *to* me.

330. **Reference to**: This book is full of *references to* writing an essay for IELTS, PTE or TOEFL.

331. **Refrain from**: *Refrain from* touching this wall because it has been painted this morning.

332. **Regardless of**: We welcome everyone *regardless* of social status.

333. **Related to**: First I thought it was about me. Later I realized that it was not *related to* my work.

334. **Relations with**: *Relations with* European countries are getting better first time.

335. **Remiss in**: He has been clearly *remiss in* discharging his duty.

336. **Remonstrate with**: Parents *remonstrated with* the school authority about the decision of hiking tuition fees.

337. **Remorse for**: He must be prosecuted to the full extent of law because he has no *remorse for* what he has done.

338. **Repent of**: There is no point *repenting of* your sins now. Time has gone!

339. **Replete with**: This book is *replete with* sample answers.

340. **Reputation for**: I am well aware of his *reputation for* being sarcastic in all matters.

341. **Resemblance to**: Any incidents *resemblance to* this story may be coincidental.

342. **Respite from**: After the crash on last Friday, there is some *respite from* losses today.

343. **Result of**: As a *result of* his incompetence, he was dismissed from the job.

344. **Revert to**: After so many years of labor, I am sad to see him *reverting to* his old habits of doing drugs.

345. **Satisfied with**: I am not *satisfied with* his performance at all.

346. **Sensible of**: I am *sensible of* the fact that improving English is a little bit of a cumbersome job for students.

347. **Sequel to**: It is a popular *sequel to* Jason Bourne.

348. **Sick of**: I am *sick of* seeing his face, tell him to go away.

349. **Side with**: People who *side with* others based on religious beliefs are only fools.

350. **Sorry for**: I am *sorry for* your loss.

351. **Start for**: Quickly Rachel *started for* the library, but goons blocked her way.

352. **Stoop to**: That was a nightmare. I could not believe that person like him ever *stooped to* cheating.

353. **Subject to**: You may get refund *subject to* the approval from the headquarter.

354. **Submission to**: We all made a joint *submission to* Dean about our demands.

355. **Subsist on**: We have no enough food to *subsist on*.

356. **Succession to**: His dull son became chairman in *succession to* Richard Gere.

357. **Succumb to**: The wounded patient survived for three days, but eventually he *succumbed to* death.

358. **Sue for**: He was *sued for* committing adultery.

359. **Sufficient for**: Do we have *sufficient* evidence *for* indicting this rogue assassin?

360. **Suitable to**: This weather is *suitable to* crops.

361. **Suit to**: The best part of him is he can *suit* his style *to* whoever he is with.

362. **Supplement to**: Please read through the *supplement to* the book and it will answer your query.

363. **Sure of:** I am not *sure of* the positive outcome if we move in this direction.

364. **Surety for**: His decision for standing *surety for* $10,000 worth loan troubled him in the event of default.

365. **Surrender**: *Surrender* your weapon or you will be shot!

366. **Suspicious of**: Looking at the sight of scene, I am *suspicious of* tampering of evidence.

367. **Sympathize with**: Lawyers must stop *sympathizing with* felons in some cases.

368. **Tantamount to**: An insider told that the step would be *tantamount to* declaring war on the Indian automobile industry.

369. **Taste of**: Amul, the *taste of* India!

370. **Temptation to**: The swanky car is always a *temptation to* thieves.

371. **Testify to**: The movie *testifies to* the struggle of ordinary women against sexism.

372. **Tolerant of**: The Tulsi plant is not *tolerant of* chilly weather of Canada.

373. **Touched with**: Some of the essays in this book are *touched with* the reality of life.

374. **Traitor to**: Dawood Ibrahim is a *traitor to* our nation.

375. **Trample on**: The stray dog *trampled on* flowers this morning.

376. **Trifle with**: One should not *trifle with* the patience of workers.

377. **True to**: This episode is *true to* life.

378. **Useful for**: This book is *useful for* all students.

379. **Versed in**: He was well *versed in* civil law.

380. **Vie with**: Girls *vied with* each other to impress Bryan Adams.

381. **Weary of**: I soon grew *weary of* listening to his old stories.

382. **Wish for**: I *wish* him *for* a great success.

383. **Worthy of**: She is not *worthy of* any attention.

384. **Yearn for**: She always *yearned for* a baby boy.

385. **Zealous for**: He is always *zealous for* helping others.

Did you know? :

English Writing rules are not a cakewalk and oftentimes are difficult to remember, too. We know this fully, especially when we consider the **fluidity** of language, style preferences, the **maze** between the Victorian and North American English, and coupled with thousands of exceptions to the rules. It is truly overwhelming for some students.

Certain mistakes are very common and there are chances that they are the same ones that you struggle with the most. Here is a beginner's list of common errors, and you should avoid them! Beware of these mistakes in your writing and then you are on the path of delivering the right, clean and neat English language with a view to scoring a high band in an IELTS.

'Which' Versus 'That':

Most students believe both words 'which' and 'that' are interchangeable. But it is not in reality. The word 'Which' starts a clause or phrase has no vital meaning to sentence. A comma is placed before 'Which' and if the clause ends before the sentence does, the clause ends in a comma. While 'That' introduces a sentence and it has a vital meaning to sentence. It does not require any commas.

For example-

Corporate Finance, *which* involves numbers that confuses many, really is the key to understanding how macro and personal economy works.

The course *that* was the hardest for me to learn turned out to be the easiest one.

E.g. versus i.e.:

Both e.g. and i.e. are used to add information but they are not interchangeable in any case. Short for *exempli gratia* stands for 'for example', and it is a Latin Word. Any word/information that follows 'e.g.' must be an example or illustration of information that **preceded** it. Whereas the word 'i.e.' is a short form of *id est* and it is also a Latin word. It stands for 'in other words' or 'that is'. It denotes a restatement of the preceded statement. Both are immediately followed by a comma.

I love playing games - e.g., cricket, soccer, and badminton.

I love playing games i.e., playing games gives me full satisfaction.

- **Confusable words:**

Certain words confuse people. That is why; they are termed as confusable words. They look similar and may be closely related, but not identical in meaning. For example, *bath* and *bathe*.

In other words, they look almost similar when they are written but have a completely different meaning. For example, *complement* and *compliment*.

Be aware of such confusable words because one jumbled up letter could destroy the real essence of your statement.

Some words not only look similar when written but also sound similar. For example, *stationary* and *stationery*.

- **Parallelism:**

This point is very important for the test taker. It is fairly common to hear mistakes such as 'I love to play soccer, sing, and watching the game of cricket.' Parallelism plays a vital role in both spoken and written English. When there is more than one phrase, clause or item, and is a style issue, it allows the examiner or listener to take in information in a balanced rhythm. Chiefly, every item in a formation must be in the same context, in the same form and in the same tense.

For example-

I love to play soccer, sing and watch the game of cricket.

Not: I love to play soccer, to sing and watching the game of cricket.

I would love reading a novel, playing with kids, and reading stories for disabled children.

Not: I would love to read a novel, playing with kids, and reading stories for disabled children.

- **Apostrophe use:**

Apostrophes denote contractions and possession. Do not use them to form plural words.

Contractions: She doesn't support his perspective.

Possession: I always applaud the student's ability to mingle with others.

Plural possession: I always applaud the students' ability to mingle with others.

Remember: We often see *it's* and *its*. *It's* with an apostrophe either means *It has* or *It is* and this contraction is never possessive, whereas 'its' is a possessive adjective. We can also use apostrophe for pluralizing abbreviations e.g. MBA's, MLA's, etc. But, it is not much followed in written English and people generally like to pluralize abbreviations without apostrophe; as, MBAs, MLAs, etc.

- **Sentence Structure.**

Fundamentally, the sentence does not have completeness unless it maintains the rule of thumb of subject verb agreement. It is merely a fragment if there is any missing part. You have a run-on sentence if there are too many doers or too many actions; or if several doers and their actions are joined incorrectly. It could be tough for test takers to spot their mistake. The best and proven practice is to vocalize your write-up. When you read your own content, you may be able to spot a fragment or a run-on.

For example:

Fragment: Even if I learn how to design a website, doing something you have never done before.

Fix: Even if I learn how to design a website, doing something you have never done before could be challenging.

Run-on Sentence: Even if I learn how to design a website, doing something you have never done before could be challenging, the student, who chooses to be a web designer, learns it with a passion and immerses himself into it.

Fix: Even if I learn how to design a website, doing something you have never done before could be challenging. The student, who chooses to be a web designer, learns it with a passion and immerses himself into it.

- **Pleonasm**

Pleonasm refers to the use of more words than are necessary to express an idea i.e., **redundancy**. It is **derived** from a Greek word that means 'excess'. Some students complicate the language for no reason. They have a habit of using redundant in sentences or with particular words.

For example-

Judy married Joshua last year.

Not: Judy married ~~with~~ Joshua last year.

She is my cousin.

Not: She is my cousin ~~sister~~.

- ~~Tuna~~ fish burger: We order a fish burger.
- My ~~own~~ eyes: I saw him with my eyes.
- ~~Free~~ gift: Natalie received a gift.
- ~~Foreign~~ imports: Certain reading glasses are imports from Germany.
- ~~Actual~~ facts: Don't judge anyone until all facts are in.
- Busy ~~in~~: James was busy gathering required documents.
- Circle ~~around~~: When you circle the building, you may see a puppy en route.
- Could ~~possibly~~: You could either accept or reject it.
- ~~Current~~ incumbent: The higher voting percent suggests the incumbent will be defeated in this election.
- Crisis ~~situation~~: During financial crisis in the US, there was a ripple effect on the banks worldwide.
- Confused ~~state~~: I am confused whether or not to accept this deal.
- Cope ~~up~~ with something: He was not able to cope with the stresses and the strains of the job.
- Discuss ~~on~~: We discussed this matter at length.
- Drop ~~down~~: The topline revenue dropped to $13 Million last year.
- Empty ~~out~~: 'Empty his pocket' was a scream from the back.
- ~~Future~~ plans: What plans have you dreamt of?
- Gather ~~together~~: We gathered last night to discuss this matter.
- Join ~~together~~: Why don't you join us?

- Lift ~~up~~: The US fed lifted the interest rate this month and cleared the uncertainties in the stock market.
- Meet ~~together~~: Let's meet.
- Meet ~~with~~: I met Julia.
- ~~New~~ Innovation: This innovation will disrupt the Information Technology World.
- Open ~~up~~: Open the door.
- Pursue ~~after~~: I pursued the degree in Biology.
- Raise ~~up~~: It is the time that the company has to raise the salary package of seniors.
- Revert ~~back~~: Once you receive this email, kindly revert immediately.
- ~~Safe~~ haven: Some countries are a tax haven for tax evaders.
- ~~Total~~ destruction: The earthquake wrecked the city, everywhere there was destruction.
- ~~Ultimate~~ goal: My goal is to train students for a good score in an IELTS exam.
- Visible ~~to the eyes~~: It is visible; one does not need to put efforts for the same.

To enlighten yourself with such learning that could enhance your English proficiency, please refer to 'A Masterpiece of Letters'. It contains some invaluable explanation about English language.

Good luck for your exam!