**EXAM QUESTIONS**

**Part 1:**

***Write sentences as required to rebut the following opposing argument:***

**Computers will never completely replace people since they can only perform repetitive less-skilled jobs.**

(Oshima & Hogue, 2017)

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| ***Write 1-2 sentence(s) to…*** | **Your sentences** |
| * 1. Introduce the opposing argument (in bold) | **Some people may think that computers will never completely replace people since they can only perform repetitive less-skilled jobs that do not require much intelligence, creativity, or judgment. They may believe that humans have unique abilities and qualities that computers cannot replicate or surpass, such as intuition, emotion, morality, and innovation. They may also argue that computers are dependent on human input and programming, and that they cannot learn or adapt to new situations without human guidance.** |
| * 1. Rebut the opposing argument (in bold) | **This argument is based on the assumption that computers are limited in their capabilities and cannot handle complex or creative tasks. However, this assumption is false, as computers have shown remarkable progress in various fields that require intelligence, innovation, and adaptability. For example, computers can now write poems, stories, code, essays, songs, and even create graphic art using artificial intelligence models. Computers can also play chess, go, and other games at a superhuman level, as well as diagnose diseases, translate languages, and drive cars. These are not repetitive less-skilled jobs, but rather challenging and sophisticated ones that demonstrate the potential of computers to surpass human performance in many domains. Therefore, computers will not only replace people in some tasks, but also outperform them in others.** |

**Note:** Use appropriate structure to introduce and rebut the opposing argument. Full development with examples and evidence is not required.

**Part 2:**

***Write an argumentative essay of about 350 words on ONE of the following topics (70pts):***

**Topic 1**: **“Schools should use electronic books to save paper.”**Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use reasons and examples to support your ideas. Please be noted that an effective argumentative essay should contain opposing argument(s), rebuttal(s) to the opposing argument(s), and your own arguments.

Electronic books, or e-books, are digital versions of printed books that can be read on various devices, such as computers, tablets, smartphones, or e-readers. E-books have become increasingly popular in recent years, especially among young people who are familiar with technology and online platforms. Some people argue that schools should use e-books to save paper and reduce environmental impact. However, others disagree and claim that e-books have many disadvantages compared to printed books. In this essay, I will examine both sides of the argument and explain why I agree with the statement that schools should use e-books to save paper.

One of the main advantages of e-books is that they can save a lot of paper and trees. According to a study by the Environmental Paper Network, the global paper industry consumes about 40% of the world’s industrial wood and is responsible for 10% of the world’s carbon dioxide emissions. By using e-books instead of printed books, schools can reduce their paper consumption and carbon footprint significantly. For example, a school in Florida saved about 2 million sheets of paper per year by switching to e-books. E-books can also help schools save money on printing, shipping, and storage costs.

Another benefit of e-books is that they can provide more convenience and accessibility for students and teachers. E-books can be downloaded and accessed anytime and anywhere with an internet connection. They can also be updated easily and quickly without having to reprint or replace the old versions. E-books can also offer interactive features, such as audio, video, hyperlinks, annotations, and quizzes, that can enhance the learning experience and engagement of students. E-books can also be customized according to the preferences and needs of each student, such as font size, color, brightness, and language.

However, some people oppose the use of e-books in schools and prefer printed books for various reasons. One of the main drawbacks of e-books is that they can cause eye strain and fatigue for readers who spend long hours staring at screens. E-books can also affect the reading comprehension and retention of students, as they may skim or skip pages more easily than printed books. Moreover, e-books may not be compatible with all devices or formats, and they may require batteries or electricity to function. E-books may also pose security and privacy risks, as they may be hacked or infected by viruses.

Despite these challenges, I believe that e-books are more beneficial than harmful for schools and students. E-books can help schools save paper and protect the environment, as well as provide more convenience and accessibility for learners and educators. E-books can also offer more interactive and personalized features that can improve the quality and effectiveness of education. Therefore, I agree that schools should use e-books to save paper.

References: : The State of the Global Paper Industry : Florida school district saves millions by going digital

**Topic 2**: **“The healthcare system should be free to all people.”**Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use reasons and examples to support your ideas. Please be noted that an effective argumentative essay should contain opposing argument(s), rebuttal(s) to the opposing argument(s), and your own arguments.

Healthcare is a basic human right that should be accessible and affordable for everyone, regardless of their income, age, gender, race, or location. However, many countries in the world do not have a universal healthcare system that covers all their citizens and residents. Instead, they rely on private insurance companies or out-of-pocket payments that can be costly and inefficient. Some people argue that the healthcare system should be free to all people, meaning that the government should provide and fund healthcare services for everyone through taxes or other sources of revenue. However, others disagree and claim that a free healthcare system would have many negative consequences for the economy, the quality of care, and the individual freedom. In this essay, I will examine both sides of the argument and explain why I agree with the statement that the healthcare system should be free to all people.

One of the main advantages of a free healthcare system is that it can improve the health and well-being of the population. A free healthcare system can ensure that everyone has access to preventive, primary, and emergency care, as well as medications, treatments, and surgeries. A free healthcare system can also reduce health disparities and inequalities among different groups of people, such as the poor, the elderly, the disabled, and the minorities. A free healthcare system can also promote public health and prevent the spread of infectious diseases, such as COVID-19. For example, a study by the World Health Organization found that countries with universal health coverage had lower mortality rates and higher life expectancy than countries without it.

Another benefit of a free healthcare system is that it can save money and resources for the society and the individuals. A free healthcare system can reduce the administrative costs and overheads of dealing with multiple insurance companies and providers. A free healthcare system can also lower the prices of drugs and services by negotiating with pharmaceutical companies and suppliers. A free healthcare system can also eliminate or reduce the financial burden and stress of medical bills and debts for patients and their families. For example, a study by Harvard University found that medical expenses were the leading cause of bankruptcy in the United States.

However, some people oppose the idea of a free healthcare system and prefer a market-based or mixed system for various reasons. One of the main drawbacks of a free healthcare system is that it can increase the taxes and deficits for the government and the taxpayers. A free healthcare system can be very expensive to implement and maintain, especially in countries with large populations or aging demographics. A free healthcare system can also create a dependency culture and reduce the incentive for people to work or pay for their own health care. Moreover, a free healthcare system may not be sustainable or efficient in the long run, as it may face challenges such as rising costs, limited resources, fraud, waste, and corruption.

Another disadvantage of a free healthcare system is that it can compromise the quality and choice of care for patients and providers. A free healthcare system can create long waiting lists and rationing of services, as well as shortages of doctors, nurses, beds, and equipment. A free healthcare system can also limit the options and preferences of patients and providers, such as choosing their own doctors, hospitals, or treatments. A free healthcare system can also stifle innovation and competition in the health sector, as well as infringe on the privacy and autonomy of individuals. For example, some critics argue that a free healthcare system would give too much power and control to the government over people’s health decisions.

Despite these challenges, I believe that a free healthcare system is more beneficial than harmful for society and individuals. A free healthcare system can improve the health and well-being of everyone, as well as save money and resources for everyone. A free healthcare system can also be designed and implemented in a way that addresses its potential problems and drawbacks, such as by setting reasonable budgets, standards, regulations, incentives, and safeguards. Therefore, I agree that the healthcare system should be free to all people.

References: : Universal health coverage (UHC)) : Medical Bankruptcy in United States : The Case Against Universal Health Care

**This is the end of the test.**