Task 1: (30 points)

Read the text below and create a graphic display or an outline that categorizes the points made in the

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**Working – Then and Now**

When a reader wrote to the advice columnist Ann Landers saying he could not find a job in spite of acollege degree and work experience, Ann suggested that perhaps the man's attitude was to blame. Anavalanche of mail told Ann that she was behind the times. In the decades since Ann Landers began writingher column, the job market has undergone a mixed bag of changes. Today's workplace is more diverse,more demanding, and less secure than the workplace of the 1960s

The most positive change in *the workforce is that it has become more diverse.* In the 1960s, executivejobs went mostly to white males, while women and minorities were steered toward secretarial or janitorialjobs. Today, an ever-widening crack in the door to the executive suite is admitting all ethnic groups andboth genders. Minorities have moved from the mail room to the board room, and females from the typingpool to the executive suite. There is likewise a diversity in mindset. Once, the "corporation man" wasesteemed because his values and his ideas were likely to be in line with those of upper management. Now,however, employees are no longer expected to be yes-men or yes-women. Corporations now have becomemore creative and competitive, so the employee with a different slant on things is useful. Greater diversityhas made today's workplace stronger and more vital.

Today's workplace also makes more demands on its workers' time than the workplace of the sixties. Inthose days, "nine to five" was the rule rather than the exception, and if a worker took an hour for lunch,the true workday was only seven hours long. The work week spanned Monday through Friday, andweekends were for rest. Today, split shifts, extended shifts, and brown-bag lunches at the desk arecommon. The downsized workforce of today means that the average worker simply has more to do, evenif that work has to be done on weekends or after hours.

The most profound change in today's workplace is a change in the level of job security. When acollege graduate from the class of 1965 went to work for a company like IBM, he expected to retire thirty-five years later with a gold watch and a fat pension. He could be assured that if he did his job reasonablywell, he would not be fired. Today, however, the first job after college is seldom a permanent one. It is anitem for the resume, a steppingstone to other jobs. Pensions have changed as well. Once totally financedby employers, pensions have evolved into 401k's and IRAs that are at least partially financed byemployees themselves. The worst aspect of today's workplace is that good employees with many years ofservice have no guarantee of keeping their jobs. If the company downsizes to cut costs, the worker's jobmay be eliminated regardless of years of service.

Since the 1960s, the job market has changed drastically. Today's workers face a workplace that is morediverse, more demanding, and much less secure.

Task 2: (70 points)

**Comparison/contrast essay**

The education in Vietnam has been strongly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Write an essay of about 350 words to compare and contrast student life regarding online learning and on-campus learning before and during the pandemic. Pay attention to the use of academic language and a clear text structure