

Road to HKDSE 2016

Writing Notes 9 (Two-sided argumentative essays)

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***筆記在第二頁開始**

A. 框架

Title (標題)

A double-edged sword / A mixed blessing / a blessing or a curse? / A boon or a bane / A godsend or a scourge

段落1

Introduction + Aim of Writing (背景介紹 + 寫作目的)

Body (內文)

段落 2 (好處1)

- ◇ 標題句 + 詳細解釋 (普遍情況 + 個別例子)

段落 3 (好處2)

- ◇ 標題句 + 詳細解釋 (普遍情況 + 個別例子)

段落 4 (過渡段)

- ◇ 承上啟下

段落 5 (壞處1)

- ◇ 標題句 + 詳細解釋 (普遍情況 + 個別例子)

段落 6 (壞處2)

- ◇ 標題句 + 詳細解釋 (普遍情況 + 個別例子)

段落7

Conclusion (總結 + 對未來的期望)

B. 歷屆試題

	題目	考核重點
1	<p>06 UE Q2</p> <p>Your school principal has told the tuck shop to stop selling “junk food”, such as fish balls and soft drinks, in response to the government’s campaign to promote healthy eating. However, this policy has evoked a strong reaction from some students who insist on their right to exercise freedom of choice. You are a reporter for the school newspaper and have just attended a meeting between the principal and representatives of parents, teachers and students. Write an article for the school newspaper describing the viewpoints and arguments of the different parties. Give your article a title.</p>	<p>a. Write an article for the school newspaper</p> <p>b. Describe the viewpoints and arguments of the different parties.</p> <p>c. Give your article a title</p>
2	<p>06 UE Q3</p> <p>The government has successfully convicted a person of infringing copyright. The person had used internet technology to upload movies and allow other users to download them. You are a computer enthusiast and you often download music and movies. Write a letter to the editor of the Young Post commenting on the rights and wrongs of downloading entertainment from the Internet and whether you think people will continue to break the law when they risk being prosecuted. Sign your letter “Chris Wong”. Do not write any address.</p>	<p>a. Write a letter to the editor of the Young Post</p> <p>b. Commenting on the rights and wrongs of downloading entertainment from the Internet</p> <p>c. whether you think people will continue to break the law</p>

	題目	考核重點
3	<p>05 UE Q3</p> <p>You are a reporter for a travel magazine which has just conducted a survey to collect opinions about Hong Kong from visiting Mainland tourists. Write an article giving a broad outline of the survey results. You should report on the tourists' impressions of Hong Kong and Hong Kong people, including the negative as well as the positive aspects. Also suggest measures that can be taken by the Hong Kong Tourism Board to enhance Hong Kong's competitive edge as an attractive destination for Mainland tourists.</p>	<p>a. Write an article for a travel magazine</p> <p>b. The negative and positive aspects of mainland tourists' impressions of Hong Kong and Hong Kong people</p> <p>c. Suggest measures that can be taken by the Hong Kong Tourism Board</p>
4	<p>00 UE Q3</p> <p>In Europe and North America, it is quite common for students to work full time for one year before entering university. Recently, some employers and educationalists have suggested that secondary school graduates in Hong Kong should do the same. Write an article for the school newspaper providing arguments for and against this suggestion. End the article by giving your own opinion. Give your article a title.</p>	<p>a. Providing arguments for and against the idea of "gap year"</p> <p>b. End the article by giving your own opinion.</p> <p>c. Give your article a title.</p>

題目常見字眼

the viewpoints and arguments of the different parties	the rights and wrongs	the negative as well as the positive aspects
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providing arguments for and against	the benefits and drawbacks	the benefits and difficulties
the advantages and disadvantages	the pros and cons	

C. 範例

Learning English through Debating

It has become a trend for Internet users to discuss matters of all aspects of life including social issues by posting messages and videos on websites and forums. It is considered an effective way to voice and share opinions and their comments are often quoted by the mass media. Write an article for your school magazine, discussing how this new channel of communication can have a positive effect on the society and suggest if there might be possible problems. You should give real-life examples to support your points. Give your article a suitable title.

標題	Videos and messages on the Internet – a double-edged sword
Paragraph 1 (介紹)	<p>1. 借人物入題</p> <p>Staring at her computer screen, Christine screams piercingly when the click through rate of her newly posted video has just reached ten thousand. Upon having more and more followers on Youtube, she is churning out more and more videos criticizing the current social issues. Christine is just one of users posting videos and messages on the Internet and trend has been proliferating all over the globe. Distant is the geographical proximity among Internet users. Yet, near is their understanding among each other.</p> <p>2. 帶出題目</p> <p>Sharing all matters of life on the Internet through messages and videos enables all users in the globe to peel and reveal others' personal life. No longer is this phenomenon preposterous. Rather, this is ubiquitous. Is this beneficial or detrimental to society?</p>

<p>Paragraph 2</p> <p>(好處1)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>To commence with, the videos and messages on the Internet can <u>arouse the awareness</u> of citizens towards current issues.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>In bygone days, newspapers used to be the <u>fountain</u> for people to access the latest information. But nowadays, videos and messages online have <u>delicately taken up the role</u> of newspapers in an <u>intriguing</u> way. In this way, the general public can have a more <u>thorough</u> knowledge about the recent happenings in their community through browsing messages and videos online. Hardly can society progress if people do not contribute their opinion. Consequently, the deeper the people's understanding about current issues, the higher the chance that they will share and contribute their ideas and beliefs.</p> <p>3. 詳細解釋 – 個別例子</p> <p>Take the national educational <u>saga</u> as an <u>instance</u>. Some Internet users on hkgolden, hkyahoo and hkdiscuss posted their opinion through messages or even videos on the Internet, <u>venting their wrath</u> against the implementation of the new subject. This <u>triggers</u> other people's awareness of this issue. Step by step, <u>the majority of</u>, if not the entire society will be brought together, and they will work <u>hand-in-hand</u>, to create an ideal society with better policies.</p>
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<p>Paragraph 3</p> <p>(好處2)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>It is also worth noting that the messages and videos on the Internet can eliminate the distance in a society microscopically, or to a marcoscopic view, the whole world.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>Without messages and videos online, there would be less communication between friends overseas, not to mention strangers.</p> <p>Nevertheless, thanks to the prevalence of posting messages and videos online, not only can people keep in touch with family members, relatives or friends dwelling in every corner of the world, they can also meet new friends with similar viewpoints and interest.</p> <p>Messages and videos online perhaps act as a means to drive people of different or even polarized background together, going beyond the geographical, racial and religious borders.</p>
<p>Paragraph 4</p> <p>(過渡段)</p>	<p>1. 承上</p> <p>It is crystal clear that posting messages and videos online brings blessings to our society.</p> <p>2. 啟下</p> <p>Nonetheless, we need to recognize that the possible curses of the phenomenon should by no means be underestimated.</p>

<p>Paragraph 5</p> <p>(壞處1)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>First and foremost, no one can guarantee that all messages and videos <u>circulated</u> on the Internet are <u>genuine</u> as the Internet is a virtual world.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>As a result, the messages and videos online become the <u>hotbed</u> of disease-like rumours that are promptly and extensively spread online.</p> <p>3. 詳細解釋 – 個別例子</p> <p>Let's adjust our hour-hand backwards to the time of the Japanese nuclear crisis happening in the wake of a devastating earthquake in 2011. What comes immediately to our mind? So <u>fatuous</u> were some Chinese <u>netizens</u> that they created rumours on the Internet, claiming that salt could prevent one from the <u>lethal repercussion</u> brought by radiation. Misled by the rumours, one followed another, rushing to supermarkets to <u>snatch</u> as much salt as possible. Sadly but truly, it was revealed that there was no scientific proof for the claim.</p> <p>Apparently, this is a lesson for us to learn about the possible <u>menace</u> brought by the <u>viral</u> messages and videos online.</p>
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<p>Paragraph 6</p> <p>(壞處2)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>It should also be remembered that the pervasiveness of online videos and messages may contaminate the mind of our next generation.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>When it comes to the dissemination of online information, violence and pornography arguably spring up to our mind, let alone other ethically unacceptable information.</p> <p>3. 詳細解釋 – 個別例子</p> <p>Sad to say, we are exposed to a world of malice and mishap. Imagine this: an impressionable and impetuous child witnesses the entire processes of the brutal suicide attacks and execution of kidnappers by the members of ISIS through an online live streaming channel. With the proliferation of hatred and the glorification of Islamic terrorism, the child may be misled to think that violence is a legitimate means to solve every problem in the world and become a barbaric serial killer himself. As we can see, the ramifications brought by the spread of online videos and messages can be catastrophic and even beyond remedy.</p>
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<p>Paragraph 7</p> <p>(總結)</p>	<p>1. 總結全文</p> <p>Evidently, online videos and messages are a double-edged sword which on one hand <u>deepens public interest</u> in current affairs and eliminate geographical distance, but on the other hand, spread rumours and <u>breed hatred</u>.</p> <p>2. 展望將來 – 盡量減低網上資訊的壞處</p> <p>As Confucius says, “Wishing to cultivate our persons, we first rectify our hearts. Wishing to rectify our hearts, we first seek to be sincere in our thoughts.” It is of the utmost importance to <u>work in harness</u> and <u>inculcate</u> cyber ethics <u>in</u> the Internet users in the globe. Only through the concerted efforts of parents, schools and governments can we create an <u>amiable</u> and harmonious cyber world.</p>
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Adapted from the essays of St. Paul's Co-educational College

Learning English through Social Issues

More and more young people are making friends on the Internet. Meanwhile, many parents and teachers have expressed concern about this trend.

Write an article for the school newspaper to explain both the advantages and disadvantages of internet friendships. Give the article a title.

標題	Online friendship – a blessing or a curse?
<p>Paragraph 1</p> <p>(介紹)</p>	<p>1. 背景介紹</p> <p>Nowadays, meeting new friends is not <u>confined to</u> schools, workplaces and churches. It takes place on the Internet as well. Teenagers are especially enthusiastic about making friends online, probably due to their <u>passion for</u> socializing, desire for excitement, and <u>familiarity with</u> information technology. With the increasing popularity of social networking websites such as Facebook and Myspace, it can be foreseen that there will be more and more chances for young people to meet random strangers online.</p> <p>2. 帶出題目</p> <p>Nevertheless, while a lot of students consider Internet friendship as a form of leisure activity, many parents and teachers have <u>expressed grave concern over</u> this phenomenon. To explore the issue, this article will first discuss the benefits before investigating the drawbacks of cyber friendship.</p>

<p>Paragraph 2</p> <p>(好處1)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>To commence with, internet friendships can <u>widen our horizons</u>.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>It is worth noting that there are hundreds of millions of Internet users around the world. Many nice, smart people are <u>out there</u> for us to meet. Young people can make use of the Internet to discuss various issues, including global current affairs, their favourite pop idols as well as the latest fashion trends and share their opinions with one another.</p> <p>3. 總結句</p> <p>Through establishing cyber friendships can we enrich our knowledge and enhance our critical thinking and logical thinking</p>
<p>Paragraph 3</p> <p>(好處2)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>Apart from broadening our horizons, young people can meet friends with similar interests and hobbies online, <u>forging new friendships</u> and widening their social circle.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>In bygone days, international communication was restricted by geographical barriers. Nonetheless, the pendulum has swung the other way. Thanks to the <u>advent</u> of the Internet, the world has become <u>flatter</u> and <u>geographical constraints</u> have been <u>eliminated</u>. Cyberspace has allowed teens to meet people of different nationalities on the Internet, ranging from the <u>ebullient</u> Brazilians to the <u>meticulous</u> and <u>methodical</u> Germans.</p> <p>3. 總結句</p> <p>Evidently, internet friendships can broaden our horizons, helping us learn more about the <u>kaleidoscope</u> of world cultures.</p>

<p>Paragraph 4</p> <p>(過渡段)</p>	<p>1. 承上</p> <p>It is crystal clear that internet friendships bring <u>blessings</u> to youngsters.</p> <p>2. 啟下</p> <p>Nonetheless, we need to recognize that the possible <u>curses</u> of the phenomenon should by no means be underestimated.</p>
<p>Paragraph 5</p> <p>(壞處1)</p>	<p>1. 標題句</p> <p>First and foremost, it is extremely difficult for adolescents to develop deep, solid friendships on the Internet.</p> <p>2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況</p> <p>Due to the lack of face-to-face interaction, cyber friendships often have <u>shaky foundations</u>, lacking the warmth and intimacy of traditional friendships among classmates or colleagues. Chatting online with people you have never met through such platforms as Yahoo Messengers, Weibo or online forums may sometimes feel just like making friends with a robot or a machine without a face or emotions.</p>

Paragraph 6

(壞處2)

1. 標題句

Worse still, students are likely to encounter bad influences while making friends online.

2. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況1

As young people are often **immature**, they may lack the judgment to **distinguish right from wrong**. Since youngsters are **impressionable**, online friendship may **brainwash** them with corrupt ideas and **lead them astray**.

3. 詳細解釋 – 個別例子1

The global **proliferation** of ISIS, which is a terrorist group **advocating** hatred and bloodshed, is a case in point. **Captivated** by the utopic world **portrayed** by the members of ISIS on the Internet, teenagers from different parts of the world have **fled** to Syria and Iraq to join the ISIS and participate in **gruesome** terrorist attacks, slaughtering hundreds of innocent people.

4. 詳細解釋 -- 普遍情況2

Equally alarming is that some **ill-intentioned** people, such as **perverts**, gangsters may **resort to** the Internet as a means to approach young people and **entice** them to engage in criminal offences.

5. 詳細解釋 – 個別例子1

Glance through the newspapers in recent months and you are bound to see the news of teenagers being arrested by the police as they had trafficked drugs. Not only will they incarcerated for several years, their future will be ruined due to their criminal records.

6. 總結句

Evidently, with **the multitude of unscrupulous** terrorists and criminals **disseminating** their **evil thoughts**, internet friendships can become a curse **haunting** the adolescents forever.

<p>Paragraph 7</p> <p>(總結)</p>	<p>1. 總結全文</p> <p>As shown above, while internet friendships can be a blessing benefitting the teenagers, it can easily <u>metamorphose</u> into a curse jeopardizing their future.</p> <p>2. 展望將來 – 盡量減低網上資訊的壞處</p> <p>Thus, youngsters must be careful and alert whenever they want to meet new people online. Never should they disclose personal information to any strangers. Otherwise, it will be too late to feel regret when tragedies occur.</p>
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