

Assessment Task 3: Research Essay Outline

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Topic:	Sweatshop		
Question:	1. There have been claims that sweatshop workers in developing/under-developed countries are being exploited. What are the problems that sweatshop workers face? How can these problems be addressed?		

Introduction (3 Paragraphs)

What information is necessary for the introduction?

- Definition of terms related to the topic
- Brief introduction to the problem
- Include in-text citations

Paragraph 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sweatshop- “a shop or factory in which employees work for long hours at low wages and under unhealthy conditions” (Merriam-webster.com, n.d., para.1)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ violates at least 2 labour laws (dosomething, n.d.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ E.g minimum wage and overtime, child labor, occupational safety and health, workers' compensation, or industry registration (Tenement Museum New York City, n.d.)● Occur in two situations (Turner & Kirchhof, 2018; South China Morning Post, 2003):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Underprivileged and underage workers are forced into cheap labour in an effort to survive and support their families.○ Working conditions and regulations are ignored and rebuked by employers
Paragraph 2	Brief problem introduction Sweatshops exploitation <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Harsh working environmental conditions○ Abuse and discrimination at work○ Neglect of labour regulations - violation of human rights - child labour, underpay, neglect of workers' welfare, anti-union and strikes
Paragraph 3	Thesis Statement (Complete sentence) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● This essay investigates the abuse and exploitation of sweatshop workers in less economically developed countries as well as the problems a sweatshop worker may face from work daily, while suggesting and evaluating the possible solution to these problems.

Situation (4 Paragraphs)

What information is necessary for the situation section?

- Provide TWO (2) current situations related to the topic
- In each situation, provide at least TWO (2) examples
 - TWO [2] in-text citations

Paragraph 1	Introductory Statement (introduce the 2 situations): (Context of the problem) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Exploitation of underprivileged and underaged labourers in poverty.● Harsh working conditions and tragedies due to ignorance of labour laws and regulations.
Paragraph 2	First Body Paragraph (First Situation): <p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Children are often exploited and forced into child labour in sweatshops in less economically developed countries <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Children are forced into child labour due to<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Poverty - plunging economy and lack of parental and financial support○ Poor education system and high dropout rates○ High demand for cheap labour○ Famine and War <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Children as young as 5 years old are forced to leave their schools and home in order to work in low paying jobs in Congo (Turner & Kirchhof, 2018)<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Children below the legal working age are still employed and exploited as labourers around the world.● According to International (n.d.), young people in less economically developed countries will drop out of school to work before their fifteenth birthday due to<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Financial pressures and constraints<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Unable to afford basic needs● A child refugee named Françoise is forced to flee home and work due to war (Compassion International, n.d.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Children working, don't have time for schooling (Hunter, 2015)<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Violation of human rights <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Children who have been working as child labourers since young are more likely to be end up with underpaying jobs. (Compassion International, n.d.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Less opportunities and alternative jobs other than cheap labour available for people living in poorer countries<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Trapped in the poverty cycle.● Children are vulnerable to human trafficking (Citi, n.d) <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p>

	Child labour - often resorted to when facing livelihood and financial crisis
Paragraph 3	<p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sweatshops workers are forced to work under inhumane work circumstances while getting abused usually due to a lack of compliance towards the labour laws and regulations. <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harsh working conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forced overtime and long working hours ○ Unsafe and unhygienic work environment ● Tragedies and disasters - poor factory management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Factories collapse due to overloading and overcrowding ○ Factory fire due to improper factory design leading to fire trap <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● According to Hunter (2015), unregistered sweatshops are not inspected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Does not comply with labour laws and regulations ○ able to freely continue exploit workers with below minimum age <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collapse of Rana Plaza factory killed 1100 workers in Bangladesh (Hunter, 2015). While factory fire trapped and killed 300 workers (Forester, 2013) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sweatshop factories commonly does not follow safety regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ lack of emergency exits and fire extinguishers (Hunter, 2016) ■ Poor building maintenance and overcrowding ● 40 sweatshop workers die in China nationwide everyday from workplace accidents (Wiseman, 2001) <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sweatshop workers mistreatment usually arises when labour laws and regulations are ignored by their employers and supervisors.
Paragraph 4	<p>Concluding Paragraph (summarise situations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children are victims of sweatshop exploitation - unethical practice - should be in school instead of working -violation of human rights ● The workers in sweatshops are pressured with overwhelming production expectation thus they have to work under uncomfortable circumstances.

Problems (4 Paragraphs)

What information is necessary for the problems section?

- Provide TWO (2) current problems related to the topic
- In each problem, provide at least TWO (2) evidence [cause/reason/effect]
 - TWO [2] in-text citations

Paragraph 1	Introductory Statement (introduce the 2 problems): (Its causes and effects) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mental and physical health of the labourer● Absence of effective workers union
Paragraph 2	<p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Workers in sweatshops tend to experience a great deal of stress arising from the overwhelming expectation of the employer which may be harmful to their mental and physical health. <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cause of stress - mental effects<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Low wages - minimise cost<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Financial pressure<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Unable to afford basic necessities to support self and family● Fear of losing job● Tendency to commit theft and other crimes○ Verbal and sexual harassment at work<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Decreased self esteem of workers may lead to<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Depression and suicidal tendencies● Violence and anger issues - mass hysteria● Cause of stress - physical effects<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ forced overtime and long working hours to cut cost and increase production output<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Physical strain on the worker's body may lead to<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Injuries and mass faintings● Insufficient rest and sleep<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sickness - weakened immune system <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Merchant (2017) reports that depressed workers killed themselves due to stress from work at Foxconn, an Iphone factory in China<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Workers who are subjected to high stress have high suicidal tendencies○ Suicide is so common in China that barriers are deployed on walls to prevent workers from falling (Merchant, 2017)● Sweatshops workers earn less than \$10 USD per month in Bangladesh (Hunter, 2015) <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Verbal and sexual harassment is common in sweatshops in Myanmar (Hogan, 2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workers do not report incidents to police out of fear of losing their jobs (Hogan, 2018) ● Workers suffer from sleep deprivation as they are forced to work overtime and are not given enough breaks (Mezzadri, 2017) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some workers sleep and live in the factory (Hunter, 2015) <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The mental and physical health of sweatshop workers are greatly affected by their working conditions.
Paragraph 3	<p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workers are not provided with enough welfare and support when there is a lack of effective union. <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Insufficient worker welfare and support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neglected employment benefits at work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Production is prioritised over welfare of workers ■ No sick leaves allowed ■ Lack of holidays ■ Workers form or take part in union or a strike are fired ■ Lack of inspections for compliance of labour laws <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sweatshop workers who protested were with by the police during a union protest (BBC News, 2014) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mass hysteria - ineffective and violent <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Women forced to take abortion to avoid maternity leave (South China Morning Post, 2003) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pregnant women are fired because they hamper production <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If unions are not effective, worker's welfare and support will be neglected which results in a tougher worklife
Paragraph 4	<p>Concluding Paragraph (summarise problems)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sweatshop workers have to deal with mental and physical abuses from work due to poor working conditions ● Worker demands and complaints are ignored when there is bad governance

Solutions (4 Paragraphs)

What information is necessary for the solutions section?

- Provide TWO (2) solutions related to the topic
- In each solution, provide at least TWO (2) evidence
 - TWO [2] in-text citations

Paragraph 1	Introductory Statement (introduce the 2 solutions): <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Modernisation or upgrading of equipments and factory to increase productivity.● Reform and effective enforcement of labour law and regulations
Paragraph 2	<p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Modernise and upgrade equipments and factory environment to improve productivity and ease workload of workers. <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Improved productivity<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Workers are provided and supported with more efficient equipments - improved workflow and ease their effort<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Less workload - less stress and health problems● Upgrade and maintain factories facilities in accordance to building regulations<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Safer occupational of factories premises<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Reduce risk of injuries and death <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Workers demand for higher wages must be commensurate with productivity (Vaswani, 2013)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Train workers to upskill to increase productivity● Modernization of manufacturing systems to improve production chain to increase productivity (Potočník, 2015)<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Workers less workload due to better production workflow <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● In response to collapse of the Rana Plaza factory, the factories in Bangladesh have improved their structure for safety reasons (Epatko, 2018)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Facilities improved -better work environment - workers less risk and death - improve productivity● According to Manyika et al. (2018), artificial intelligence and robots could eliminate as much as 30 percent of the world's human labor by 2030.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Human labour will be obsolete in the future as machinery becomes more efficient, thus reduce the number of sweatshops human exploitation <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p> <p>Worker's workload can be reduced if the production workflow is improved and updated to be efficient.</p>
Paragraph 3	<p>Second Body Paragraph (Second Solution):</p> <p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formation of union and stronger enforcement of stricter rules and regulations to protect the workers in sweatshops will solve labour issues <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formation of workers union <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workers voice must be heard and taken into action ○ Educate workers requirements and information about the law ○ Workers union working in consultation with non government organisations ● Rules and Regulations should favor workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase minimum wage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Workers – able to afford their basic necessities ■ Less financial pressure ○ Reduced working hours and abolish forced overtime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provide workers more time to rest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Balanced life between work and family ■ Less strain and stress on their body and mental health. ○ Increasing minimum working age law and ban child labour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Children will no longer be exploited to work, have more opportunities and time for education and schooling <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Labour reform in india provides benefits for the workers such as reduced working hours, maternity benefits and employee compensations (SHRM India Content Team, 2017) <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workers in unions are able to consult and negotiate with employers for their own benefits such as fair and reasonable wages (Morris, 2009) <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enforcing stricter laws will benefit and improve the working conditions of the workers
Paragraph 4	Concluding Paragraph (summarise solutions)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Improving factory environments and equipments helps increase production efficiency● Stricter labour laws and rules helps protect worker rights and improve their working conditions
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Evaluation (3 Paragraphs)

What information is necessary for the evaluation section?

- Choose the best solution out of the two you have provided
- Provide an explanation (no in-text citation required)

Paragraph 1	<p>Introductory statement that defines the issue (provide a complete sentence): –</p> <p>How effective are the solutions? What is the best solution? Why?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effective worker union supported by effective government enforcements
Paragraph 2	<p><i>Topic Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimise friction between employee and employers will lead to higher productivity and higher satisfaction due to conducive work environment <p><i>Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good working environment<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Advantage to employee and employer<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Higher wages incentive in tandem with higher productivity○ Improved mental and physical health of employee○ Improve profitability to fund equipments and facilities <p><i>Evidence 1 & Explanation</i></p> <p>Unions allows workers to negotiate for higher wages, benefits and better working conditions for their members. This that there is a fair coverage and increased safety for union workers. (Weinlick, 2015)</p> <p><i>Evidence 2 & Explanation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being in a workers union provides job security as advocacy are guaranteed <p><i>Linking Sentence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workers union help employees and employers negotiate for better results and work conditions
Paragraph 3	<p>Concluding Paragraph (summarise evaluation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workers who are in a union are able to enjoy benefits thus this help mitigates a problem a worker may face

Conclusion

What information is necessary for the evaluation section?

- Provide a concluding statement
- Provide a summary

Concluding Statement:

- An effective functioning workers union both at a factory and at national level will protect workers right from being abused and exploited. At the same time, employers should upgrade and modernize their factory so as to enhance productivity

Summary:

- Workers union should be allowed to reform at national level
- National workers union should be formed to coordinate all unions
- Conducive government regulations with regards to labour law

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