**Assessment Task 3: Research Essay Outline**

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| **Name:** | Ng Wei Yuen | | |
| **Student ID:** | 17109182 | **Class:** | English 2-4 |
| **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? | | |

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| **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** | * 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)   + violates at least 2 labour laws (dosomething, n.d.)     - 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):   + 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  o Harsh working environmental conditions  o Abuse and discrimination at work  o 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)**   * 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. |

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| **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)**   * 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):**  *Topic Sentence:*   * Children are often exploited and forced into child labour in sweatshops in less economically developed countries   *Explanation:*   * Children are forced into child labour due to   + Famine and War   + Poor education system and high dropout rates   + Poverty - plunging economy and lack of parental and financial support   + High demand for cheap labour   *Evidence 1 & Explanation:*   * 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)   + Children below the legal working age are still employed and exploited as labourers around the world. * According to Compassion International (n.d.), young people in less economically developed countries will drop out of school to work before their fifteenth birthday due to   + - Financial pressures and constraints       * Unable to afford basic needs * A child refugee named Françoise is forced to flee home and work due to war (Compassion International, n.d.)   + Children working, don’t have time for schooling (Hunter, 2015)     - * Violation of human rights   *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * Children who have been working as child labourers since young are more likely to be end up with underpaying jobs. (Compassion International, n.d.)   + Less opportunities and alternative jobs other than cheap labour available for people living in poorer countries     - Trapped in the poverty cycle. * Children are vulnerable to human trafficking (Citi, n.d)   *Linking Sentence:*  Child labour - often resorted to when facing livelihood and financial crisis |
| **Paragraph 3** | *Topic Sentence:*   * Sweatshops workers are forced to work under inhumane work circumstances while getting abused and neglected of their employment benefits usually due to a lack of compliance towards the labour laws and regulations.   *Explanation:*   * Harsh working conditions   + Forced overtime and long working hours   + Unsafe and unhygienic work environment   + Aggression and harassment towards workers who complained or took breaks * Tragedies and disasters - poor factory management   + Factories collapse due to overloading and overcrowding   + Factory fire due to improper factory design leading to fire trap * Neglected employment benefits   + Production is prioritised over welfare of workers     - No sick leaves allowed     - Lack of holidays     - Workers are not allowed to form or take part in union or a strike     - Lack of inspections for compliance of labour laws   *Evidence 1 & Explanation:*   * According to Hunter (2015), unregistered sweatshops are not inspected   + Does not comply with labour laws and regulations   + able to freely continue exploit workers with below minimum age * Women forced to take abortion to avoid maternity leave (South China Morning Post, 2003)   + Pregnant women are fired because they hamper production   *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * Collapse of Rana Plaza factory killed 1100 workers in Bangladesh (Hunter, 2015). While factory fire trapped and killed 300 workers (Forester, 2013)   + Sweatshop factories commonly does not follow safety regulations     - 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)   *Linking Sentence:*   * Sweatshop workers mistreatment usually arises when labour laws and regulations are ignored by their employers and supervisors. |
| **Paragraph 4** | **Concluding Paragraph (summarise situations)**   * 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 comfortable circumstances. |

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| **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)**   * Mental and physical health of the labourer * Absence of effective workers union |
| **Paragraph 2** | *Topic Sentence:*   * 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.   *Explanation:*   * Cause of stress - mental effects   + Low wages - minimise cost     - Financial pressure       * 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     - Decreased self esteem of workers may lead to       * Depression and suicidal tendencies       * Violence and anger issues - mass hysteria * Cause of stress - physical effects   + forced overtime and long working hours to cut cost and increase production output     - Physical strain on the worker’s body may lead to       * Injuries and mass faintings       * Insufficient rest and sleep         + Sickness - weakened immune system   *Evidence 1 & Explanation:*   * Merchant (2017) reports that depressed workers killed themselves due to stress from work at Foxconn, an Iphone factory in China   + 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)   *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * Verbal and sexual harassment is common in sweatshops in Myanmar (Hogan, 2018)   + 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)   + Some workers sleep and live in the factory (Hunter, 2015)   *Linking Sentence:*   * The mental and physical health of sweatshop workers are greatly affected by their working conditions. |
| **Paragraph 3** | *Topic Sentence:*   * Sweatshops workers are forced to work under inhumane work circumstances while getting abused and neglected of their employment benefits usually due to a lack of compliance towards the labour laws and regulations.   *Explanation:*   * Harsh working conditions   + Forced overtime and long working hours   + Unsafe and unhygienic work environment   + Aggression and harassment towards workers who complained or took breaks * Tragedies and disasters - poor factory management   + Factories collapse due to overloading and overcrowding   + Factory fire due to improper factory design leading to fire trap * Neglected employment benefits   + Production is prioritised over welfare of workers     - No sick leaves allowed     - Lack of holidays     - Workers are not allowed to form or take part in union or a strike     - Lack of inspections for compliance of labour laws   *Evidence 1 & Explanation:*   * According to Hunter (2015), unregistered sweatshops are not inspected   + Does not comply with labour laws and regulations   + able to freely continue exploit workers with below minimum age * Women forced to take abortion to avoid maternity leave (South China Morning Post, 2003)   + Pregnant women are fired because they hamper production   *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * Collapse of Rana Plaza factory killed 1100 workers in Bangladesh (Hunter, 2015). While factory fire trapped and killed 300 workers (Forester, 2013)   + Sweatshop factories commonly does not follow safety regulations     - 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)   *Linking Sentence:*   * Sweatshop workers mistreatment usually arises when labour laws and regulations are ignored by their employers and supervisors. |
| **Paragraph 4** | **Concluding Paragraph (summarise problems)**   * 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 |

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| **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):**   * Modernisation or upgrading of equipments and factory to increase productivity. * Reform and effective enforcement of labour law and regulations |
| **Paragraph 2** | *Topic Sentence:*   * Modernise and upgrade equipments and factory environment to improve productivity and ease workload of workers.   *Explanation:*   * Improved productivity   + Workers are provided and supported with more efficient equipments - improved workflow and ease their effort     - Less workload - less stress and health problems * Upgrade and maintain factories facilities in accordance to building regulations   + Safer occupational of factories premises     - Reduce risk of injuries and death   *Evidence 1 & Explanation:*   * Workers demand for higher wages must be commensurate with productivity (Vaswani, 2013)   + Train workers to upskill to increase productivity * Modernization of manufacturing systems to improve production chain to increase productivity (Potočnik, 2015)   + - Workers less workload due to better production workflow   *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * In response to collapse of the Rana Plaza factory, the factories in Bangladesh have improved their structure for safety reasons (Epatko, 2018)   + 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.   + Human labour will be obsolete in the future as machinery becomes more efficient, thus reduce the number of sweatshops human exploitation   *Linking Sentence:*  Worker’s workload can be reduced if the production workflow is improved and updated to be efficient. |
| **Paragraph 3** | **Second Body Paragraph (Second Solution):**  *Topic Sentence:*   * Formation of union and stronger enforcement of stricter rules and regulations to protect the workers in sweatshops will solve labour issues   *Explanation:*   * Formation of workers union   + 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   + Increase minimum wage     - Workers – able to afford their basic necessities     - Less financial pressure   + Reduced working hours and abolish forced overtime     - Provide workers more time to rest       * 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     - Children will no longer be exploited to work, have more opportunities and time for education and schooling   *Evidence 1 & Explanation:*   * Labour reform in india provides benefits for the workers such as reduced working hours, maternity benefits and employee compensations (SHRM India Content Team, 2017)   *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * Workers in unions are able to consult and negotiate with employers for their own benefits such as fair and reasonable wages (Morris, 2009)   *Linking Sentence:*   * Enforcing stricter laws will benefit and improve the working conditions of the workers |
| **Paragraph 4** | **Concluding Paragraph (summarise solutions)**   * 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** | **Introductory statement that defines the issue (provide a complete sentence): – How effective are the solutions? What is the best solution? Why?**   * Effective worker union supported by effective government enforcements |
| **Paragraph 2** | *Topic Sentence:*   * Minimise friction between employee and employers will lead to higher productivity and higher satisfaction due to conducive work environment   *Explanation:*   * Good working environment   + Advantage to employee and employer     - Higher wages incentive in tandem with higher productivity   + Improved mental and physical health of employee   + Improve profitability to fund equipments and facilities   *Evidence 1 & Explanation*  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)  *Evidence 2 & Explanation:*   * Being in a workers union provides job security as advocacy are guaranteed   *Linking Sentence:*   * Workers union help employees and employers negotiate for better results and work conditions |
| **Paragraph 3** | **Concluding Paragraph (summarise evaluation)**   * Workers who are in a union are able to enjoy benefits thus this help mitigates a problem a worker may face |

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| **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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