

SWEEP

Another way to get a grade 9 in any article/ letter/ newspaper is referencing wider topics/ ideas.

What is SWEEP?

SWEEP is just a way you can gain more marks in your transactional writing. The examiner is looking for how you can zoom out and link it to wider issues. SWEEP helps you to do just that!

Society
World
Environment
Economy
Politics

Reminder:

Affect = how it impacts or changes people/ society etc in the present

Example: Teenagers are affected by the increasing pressure of exams

Effect = the results of something that has happened

Example: Climate change has effected the whole world

Society

- This focuses on what impact the topic/ subject you're given has on society as a whole.
- Society = people living in the community.
- Different groups in society: parents, students, the elderly, immigrants/ refugees, minorities, LGBTQ+ and religious communities etc.
- Think about: how it affects each of these groups, or the groups of people the topic/ subject impacts the most. You can also link it generally to how it effects people in society.
- Specific issues effecting specific communities: some communities within society face different issues, whether this be down to their geographical location or down to the norms within that community. E.g. the access to clean drinking water will be a societal issue some communities face in Africa.
- Think about: how specific communities (not just individuals) are affected.
- Overall: when speaking about society, focus on how it affects society as a whole, how it affects different groups and how it affects specific communities.

Sentence starters for general affect/ effect on society

- In today's society, we are faced with a myriad (a lot) of challenges that...
- It is undeniable that societies views on have drastically shifted in the past ...
- What does it say about our society when we ?
- You can't bypass that *insert* is detrimentally (negatively) affecting groups like ... in society...
- Our societies foundations have been built on Therefore, harshly conflicts this
- Given the social transformations we are facing because of ... it is imperative that...
- We are aiming for an egalitarian (everyone is equal) society and ... allows us to achieve this because...

Sentence starters for affect/ effect on specific groups in society:

TOP TIP: try use 'within society' or the word 'society' when you reference these groups. You will see below how we weave these in

- In societies rapidly changing landscape today, parents often find themselves...
- The heavy societal expectations and burdens (heavy load) thar are placed upon parents can consequently cause...
- Within our ever-changing society, the educational landscape is evolving at an even more rapid pace. This impacts students as
- The delicate balancing of mental health and academic achievements has become an insurmountable (too big to overcome) pressure within today's society as ...
- For centuries, we have shamefully neglected and abandoned the elderly in society once they ...
- Society's views of aging have advanced tremendously, however fundamental social issues like ... still...
- The brutal experiences of immigrants and refugees in our society today are caused by..
- Shaping the story and identity of our society, immigrants and refugees are the pillars of...
- Our progressive views within society have meant that the LGBTQ+ community have ...
- Inclusivity and an open minded are integral in crafting a society where LGBTQ+ individuals not only are accepted, are valued members of ...
- The diversity that religion brings to our society is not only enriching but allows...
- Our ceaseless (endless) commitment to inclusion and religious freedom plays a pivotal role in how society..

World

- We are now thinking of how it doesn't just affect/ effect communities, but how it impacts people on a global scale.
- Examples of world issue: global pandemics (COVID is a great example), poverty and inequality, water scarcity, food scarcity, cybersecurity, war, technological advancements (AI is a great example)

General sentence starters for the effect on the world:

TOP TIP: Try reference the word 'earth', 'world' or 'globe' when speaking of the world. See some examples below.

- Despite being one small planet in an infinite galaxy, we/it can't ignore the pressing problem of...
- As inhabitants of the earth, it is of paramount importance that we recognise...
- It is our duty as global citizens that we develop a collective global conscience in order to...
- In our intricately interconnected world, we have the opportunity...
- Across the world, an increasing amount of people are...

Sentence starters for specific global issues:

- It is our duty in the face of a global pandemic to...
- Pandemics do not recognise age, race, gender, countries or conflicts. This is why it is important that we rally together globally to...
- To globally diminish poverty and inequality, the first step is ...
- Empowering disenfranchised communities who have been abandoned, neglected and alienated globally will cause...
- Globally, a fundamental human right is constantly violated – the access to clean water. This causes...
- To diminish those suffering from water scarcity and cleanliness, across the world an active effort of ... should be made to...
- Our world, the one place we all share, is becoming a torturous nightmare for children and families who...
- Food scarcity is a widespread global phenomenon, affecting the 3rd world but also affecting some who live in...
- In every second of every day, everybody in the world is under the threat of cybersecurity because...
- The exponential (becoming more and more rapid) growth of technology is affecting individuals on a small scale, but most importantly the entire globe. It can't be ignored that...
- The emerging technology such as artificial intelligence could be posing a threat to the world as we know it as...

Environment

- The environment is a great one to talk about and most students will quite easily be able to include how different ideas/ events effect the environment.
- **What impacts the environment:** deforestation (cutting down trees), pollution, urbanisation (increasing people that live in a town) and transportation.
- **Environmental effects:** Global warming. This includes sea levels rising, extreme weather, ecosystems being disrupted, scarcity of natural resources and health risks.
- **Societal effects:** you can also speak of how environmental problems link to social problems and effects. Because of the impact of global warming, societally (and even globally) we're trying to: reduce our carbon footprint (people taking public transport instead of cars), recycle and use more renewable energy.

General sentence starters for the effect on the environment:

TOP TIP: Try use the word 'environmental', 'environment' or 'ecosystem' when you reference this to make sure it is clear to the examiner. See below our examples:

In the crux of an environmental crisis, there is an ever-growing demand for...

- We are being ceaselessly (endlessly) reminded by Mother Nature that we are ruining her and violently destroying her by...
- The imminent environmental threats are causing...
- There is a profound amount of beauty and serenity in the earth around us: the whispers of the gentle wind, the iridescent sun, the symphony of nature's melodies. Yet, this is rapidly being destroyed by...

Sentence starters for the environmental effects

- The ruthless encroachment (cover more and more of an area) of global warming not only causes mass devastation for our environment, but is also...
- If there is one issue we should collectively attack, it is the issue that effects all of our homes. All of our lives. Global warming. It is inconceivable...
- The sea levels rising are yet another clear and shameful piece of evidence for how we are neglecting our environment. This not only...
- From destructive tornados to everlasting droughts, the extreme weather episodes are becoming more...
- The preservation of our beloved eco-systems requires a collective rally of environmentally conscious individuals who...
- The global destruction global warming is causing is inconceivable. If you can't comprehend the magnitude of suffering we are inflicting upon our earth, comprehend the magnitude of suffering you are inflicting upon your health. The rising temperatures and air pollution are...
- By protecting our vulnerable earth, you will be protecting your vulnerable children's future homes and health. We can't ignore...

Economy

- **Economy** = referring to the money that comes in and out of a country or globally as a result of people trading things like food, clothes, skills and services.
- **Different parts of the economy:** the harvesters (people who work with nature like farmers), the builders (people who make things like cars, houses), the helpers (people who provide a service, like a teacher), the thinkers (people who make important decisions, like the government) and the leaders (people who run big companies, like amazon)
- **Effects of the economy being bad:** less job opportunities, pay for jobs may go down, things become more expensive (including bills and mortgages) and therefore people have to cut back on their spending. When they cut back on their spending, it affects all of the people above.
- **Example:** if people cut back on their spending (because they need to save money) then farmers may get less money as people are buying less. The farmers then have to put up their prices as they're struggling now, and the cycle continues.

General sentence starters about the economy:

TOP TIP: Try to use the word 'economic' 'economy', 'recession' or 'economic downturn'. See some examples below.

- If ... commences, economic downturn will prevail (win). Nobody is exempt from economic downturn, no person or business can escape the effects of...
- As the rusted cogs of the economic machine begin to slow and worsen, this has a direct impact on...
- The challenges of a tumultuous (turbulent/ unstable) economy pose a threat to...
- ... can have an adverse (bad) effect on the economy as it will reinforce the never-ending cycle of prices rising, people holding back their money and businesses suffering.

Sentence starters for the effects of the economy worsening

- As a result of ... this could exacerbate economic downturn. Already a potent consequence of this is the scarcity of jobs which leads...
- If ... happens then... will cause a recession (another word for economic downturn) and will lead to devastating effects on both the economy and individuals
- The erosion of wages exacerbates the financial and emotional stress families have to endure
- Rising bills and mortgages cause... as a result of....

Politics

Politics = sets of rules and decisions a group of people will make that will impact a group or country. It normally involves decisions around how society should work together, laws and general leadership

Who makes the decisions: political leaders

Effects of politics: laws and regulations, economic policies (can link this nicely to economy), education (can link this to society), environmental policies (guess which one you can link this too) and social welfare (e.g. NHS, benefits, healthcare)

Think about: political policies can impact every part of SWEEP

General sentence starters for politics

TOP TIP: use the word 'political' or 'politics'

- Political decisions have a profound impact on And As...
- In the complex sphere of politics, one issue that is a byproduct of ... is...
- The intricacy of politics means that ... can easily be ... if a political leader decides...
- Democracy is thrown into question when laws around ... are created despite them having an adverse effect on...
- The intensity of the political climate escalates, consequently causing...

Sentence starters for the effects of politics:

- Well crafted laws and regulations cannot be overstated, nor ignored, especially in the face of...
- Chaos. Disorder. Anarchy. A world absent of watertight regulations and policies. If we ignore ... we could cause this disaster.
- Our economic prosperity is inextricably (closely) linked with the political sphere. If politics isn't ... then economic downturn will ensue.
- Democracy dances with economic excellence, without one, there can't be the other
- Political failures leads to a chain reaction of educational failures. Children's bright and prosperous futures lay in the hands of...
- The priorities of our political leaders correlates with how education is prioritised as...
- Environmental policies are the building blocks to a more sustainable earth. If ...
- When examining the human impact on the environment, environmental policies cannot be disqualified for being...
- Our precious NHS is reliant on being help up by political policies that...
- The fate of our healthcare hinges on the political decision we make regarding social welfare policies as...

Examples of SWEEP

2017 Paper: “Parents today are over-protective. They should let their children take part in adventurous, even risky, activities to prepare them for later life”

My stance: Agree- by allowing children to take part in these activities, equips them with not only resilience but a tool kit for success in the future. These are detailed examples of how you could use SWEEP to make really engaging points to drive your argument.

Society:

In contemporary society, we grapple with a myriad (lots of) challenges that could potentially be addressed by allowing children more freedom for **enriching adventures** and even calculated, strategic risk-taking. Childhood equips individuals with essential cognitive tools to comprehend the **multifaceted** (has many sides) complexities of the world around them. When children enthusiastically engage in activities involving an element of risk or thrilling adventure, they **fortify** (protects/reduces) their **cognitive** abilities, enabling them to contribute more effectively to society as they mature, **unburdened** (freed) by undue fear of taking calculated risks.

Society thrives on the daring nature of visionary risk-takers and the invaluable lessons **gleaned** (taken) from occasional failures. Without a willingness to courageously undertake bold and **innovative** (new methods/ideas) initiatives, personal and societal growth becomes **stunted** (stopped). Consequently, a society that fails to foster such qualities in its members risks **stagnation** (no progress) rather than progress.

World:

In the 21st century, the **exponential growth of technology** has a profound impact, both individually and globally. It's undeniable that this growth has its roots in parents who encouraged their children to engage in adventurous and 'risky' activities. Consider, for example, the upbringing of Steve Jobs, where **audacity** (willing to be bold) and a **willingness to take risks were fostered**. Similarly, reflect on the early years of Alexander Graham Bell — did they not encourage a spirit of **innovation** (creating new ideas) and **non-conformity**?

It's an undeniable fact that avoiding adventurous experiences in childhood leads to adults lacking creativity and a sense of adventure. These individuals not only influence the wider world but also leave a **lasting mark on history**.

Politics:

In the world of politics, being willing to take well-thought-out risks and embrace new challenges is of **paramount importance**. Leaders who have faced tough times and learned how to handle uncertainty while growing up tend to show more **strength, adaptability, and creative thinking** when they deal with complex political problems.

Additionally, getting exposed to risk and adventure at a young age can help kids develop a sense of **responsibility and independence**. These qualities are integral in the world of politics. When parents let their children explore, make choices, and even make mistakes, they're basically helping future leaders become better at making informed decisions and tackling the tough parts of political leadership head-on.

Examples of SWEEP

2020 Paper: “People have become obsessed with travelling even further and faster. However, travel is expensive, dangerous, damaging and a foolish waste of time!”

Economy:

Contrary to the assertion that travel is an **extravagant and imprudent (not showing care) pursuit**, it is essential to recognise its **multifaceted contributions** to our modern economy. Travel, in its various forms, serves as a **potent catalyst** (kicks it off) for economic growth, fostering industries such as tourism, hospitality, and transportation. These sectors generate substantial revenue, create countless job opportunities, and stimulate local economies. While travel indeed entails costs and potential risks, it is far from a "foolish waste of time"—as it plays a **pivotal role in nurturing economic prosperity and global harmony**.

Environment (this one be a hard one to argue against but as long as you give reasons, then you can absolutely argue it).

In **contestation** of the claim that people's enthusiasm for extended and swifter travel is merely a wasteful and **perilous** (full of danger) preoccupation, it is imperative to acknowledge the **complex** relationship between travel and the environment. While it is undeniable that travel, especially via certain modes of transportation, can contribute to **environmental degradation and resource depletion**, it is equally important to notice initiatives such as eco-tourism and the development of energy-efficient transport systems. Moreover, travel serves as a way for fostering global environmental awareness, inspiring individuals to **develop an environmental conscience**, and **championing conservation** efforts worldwide.