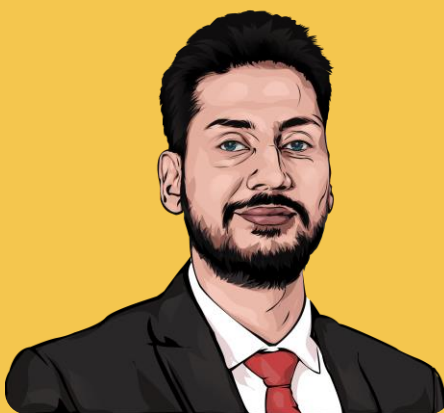


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Essay #1

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The percentage of overweight children in western society has increased by almost 20% in the last ten years.

Discuss the causes and effects of this disturbing trend.

Over the last ten years, western societies have seen **close to** a 20% rise in the number of children who are overweight. This essay will discuss some reasons why this has occurred and **examine the consequences** of this **worrying trend**.

The main cause of this problem is **poor diet**. Over the last decade there has been **a prolific increase** in the number of fast food restaurants. For example, on nearly every high street there is a MacDonal'd's, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pizza Hut. The food in these places **has been proven to be** very unhealthy, and much of the advertising is **targeted at children**, thus **ensuring** that they constitute the **bulk of the customers** of these establishments. However, it is not only due to eating out, but also the type of diet many children have at home. A lot of food consumed is **processed food**, especially with regards to **ready-made meals** which are a quick and easy option for parents who are working hard.

The effects of this **have been and will** continue to be very serious. Firstly, there has been a large increase in health related diseases **amongst** children, especially diabetes. This **debilitating illness** means a child has to be injected with insulin for the rest of their life. Not only this, very overweight children often experience bullying from other children, which may affect their mental health. The **negative stigma** of being overweight may also affect self-esteem.

To sum up, it is evident that there are several causes of obesity amongst children, and a variety of negative effects. Society must ensure steps are taken to **prevent this problem from deteriorating further**.

Essay #2

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In many parts of the world today there is a profitable market for products which lighten or whiten people's skin.

Outline the reasons for using such products and discuss what effects they have in terms of health and society.

In many countries, particularly places like Asia, **skin whitening products** are **incredibly popular** and provide **huge profits** for the companies involved in their sale. This essay will **examine the reasons** why people use these products and the effects this has on people's health and on society.

The principal reason that people use skin whitening products is because whiter skin is seen to be more **desirable** than darker skin. To understand why, we need to firstly look at history. In ancient times, people of a higher status **tended to stay** indoors, whilst people of a lower status worked outside, usually farming. As a result, those people who were indoors had much lighter skin, which means that whiter skin is now **associated with** having **a higher status** than dark skin. Another reason, which is partly related to this, is the desire for the 'Western' look. For example, plastic surgery to create western eyelids and noses is common in Asia, and the white skin is part of this. These beliefs and images are also **perpetuated** in the media, with adverts showing people with white skin as more successful and attractive.

However, despite the fact that having whiter skin may improve a person's **self-esteem**, these products can have negative effects. Regarding health, there are reports that people are harming their skin permanently as some products bought **over the counter** have **prescription-strength ingredients**. For instance, some contain **steroids or toxins** which can severely damage the skin and other parts of the body. In terms of society, there are also **detrimental effects**. Such behaviour **perpetuates** the belief that 'white' is better than 'black', and thus those with darker skin may **experience discrimination**.

In conclusion, people use whitening products due to the fact that white skin, usually through the media, is **portrayed as more desirable**. However, steps should be taken to change this image as the drawbacks of this are clear, with **potentially dangerous consequences** for people's future health and society as a whole.

Essay #3

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

As countries have developed there has been a trend towards smaller family sizes.

Why does this happen?
How does this affect society?

Many countries around the world are becoming richer as they develop and at the same time these countries are **seeing a reduction in** the size of the **family unit**. This essay will discuss the reasons for **this phenomenon** and **examine** some of the possible effects it will have on society.

One of **the principal reasons** for smaller family units is **birth control**. As a country develops and becomes richer, **birth control becomes more readily available**. This may be due to a rise in the number of medical clinics or the distribution of free **contraception**. The result of this is that people can choose family size. Another important factor is the rise in the levels of education that occur as a country develops, which means that women are more educated and more likely to be working. Consequently, many will want to delay having children and so will likely have fewer in the long-term.

This can impact on society in a number of ways. One positive effect is that the population will fall, which will likely result in less poverty as there will be **less competition for scarce resources**. The parents can also provide a better education to their children as it will cost less, which will benefit society **as a whole**. A possible negative impact is that there will be fewer younger people in the workforce in the future, **thus making** the **sustainability** of future economic growth **less certain**.

In conclusion, family size has fallen due to birth control and education, and this can have positive and negative impacts on society.

Essay #4

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many men and women are making the decision to have children later in life.

Why is this trend occurring?
What are the impacts of this development on both family and society?

In the past, it was a **natural step** that a couple would get married fairly young, and then **start a family**. However, this is **no longer the case** and the delaying of childbirth is becoming very common. This essay will consider the reasons for this trend and the possible effects on families and society.

The driving force behind this trend is **changing employment patterns**. As more women have **pursued** an education and entered the **workforce**, they tend to marry later and have children later in their life. This is **unavoidable** in many cases because women cannot combine family and work well due to **costly childcare**. Another factor is all the other opportunities available to everyone. For example, many men and women choose to travel around the world or take the chance to work in another country, thus **delaying settling down**.

There are a number of possible impacts on families and society. Firstly, with regards to families, it can be more difficult for older women to get pregnant and they may experience more health problems, such as a **miscarriage**, high blood pressure or diabetes, during pregnancy. Also, the parents may find the whole experience of bringing up children more tiring if they are older. **In one respect** it may be positive for society because if people are choosing to work for longer, a country will have **a productive workforce**. On the negative side though, in the long-term falling **fertility rates** will mean an **aging population** with a lack of young people to work and take care of the elderly.

In conclusion, there are several reasons that people are having children later in life, and this can have a number of impacts, both positive and negative.

Essay #5

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Levels of youth crime are increasing rapidly in most cities around the world.

What are the reasons for this, and suggest some solutions.

Over the last few decades, many cities around the world have **seen alarming increases** in the levels of **youth crime**. This essay will discuss the reasons for this and provide some possible solutions.

The first reason is connected with the family. **In order for** a child to grow up in a balanced way, it is very important that he or she is **nurtured well** by his or her parents. However, these days, **it is often the case that** children are **neglected**. This may be because of the fact that many parents in cities now both have to work so are often not around to give their children support when needed. Another factor is the increasing levels of poverty around the world. We have seen with globalization the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, and this **inevitably** means that those who are poorer will **have to resort to** illegal means to get what others have. Of course, this will include the children in the poorer families.

However, there are ways to **tackle such problems**. Firstly, one of the ways to **combat the problem** is to have **stricter punishments**. Although, as discussed above, it can be outside factors that lead to crime, it is still important to have **severe punishments to deter** teenagers **from crime**. **All too often**, because they are young, the courts are **too lenient**. Parents also have to take more responsibility for their children's actions. They too should be punished if their children commit crime.

To sum up, **several factors** have led to increases in youth crime, but **measures** are available to tackle this problem.

Essay #6

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Global warming is one of the most serious issues that the world is facing today.

What are the causes of global warming and what measures can governments and individuals take to tackle the issue?

Probably the most **worrying threat** to our planet at the present time is global warming. This essay will **examine the reasons** why global warming is **occurring** and discuss some possible solutions.

The predominant factors resulting in the warming of the earth are the **emissions** of CO2 and deforestation. CO2, which damages the ozone layer, comes from several sources, but the most **problematic** are those coming from the **burning of fossil fuels** from power plants. This releases thousands of tonnes of CO2 into the atmosphere every year. Another cause of these emissions is the burning of gasoline for transportation, which continues to grow because of our demand for cars and also our increasing worldwide consumption, resulting in an **escalating** need to transport goods. Also, forests store large amounts of carbon, so deforestation is causing larger amounts of CO2 to remain in the atmosphere.

Nevertheless, there are **potential ways** to solve these problems, or at least reduce the effects. Firstly, governments need to **reduce our dependence on** fossil fuels and **promote alternatives**. **Plant-derived** plastics, biodiesel, wind power and solar power are all things that are a **step in the right direction**, but governments need to **enforce** the limits on CO2 emissions for the polluting industries in their countries for these to be effective. Also, individuals can **play a part** by making **lifestyle changes**. People should try to buy cars with the best fuel economy, and only use their car when really necessary. They can also switch to energy companies that use **renewable energy** rather than fossil fuels. Finally, small things like buying **energy efficient** light bulbs, turning off electricity in the house, and planting trees in the garden **can help**.

To conclude, although global warming is a serious issue, there are steps that governments and individuals can take to **reduce its effects**. If we **are to** save our planet, it is important that this is **treated as a priority for all concerned**.

Essay #7

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Stress is now a major problem in many countries around the world.

What are some of the factors in modern society that cause this stress, and how can we reduce it?

Stress is a problem that can have **detrimental effects** on many people's lives, and there are **various factors** in modern society **responsible for** this. However, there are ways **to limit** the **potential impacts**.

The modern world we live in today **presents us with** many issues that we did not have to **cope with** in the past. Firstly, there are issues of terrorism that we are **constantly confronted** with in the media. **Whether** these are real **or not**, we are **led to believe** our lives are **in constant danger**, **be it** flying on a plane or travelling on public transport. Climate change is another worry that everyone has to face. The results of a significant rise in temperatures could **radically affect** our ways of life, and our children's too. There are also more health issues to be concerned about than in the past, with rises in Alzheimer's, diabetes, and stroke **to name but a few**. All of these concerns can result in stress.

Tackling such problems will not be easy, but there are **measures** that can be taken. Governments and the media could **play their part** by **ensuring** that instead of **persistently bombarding** us with such negative images and information about the **world in which we live**, we are given more **positive stories** too. However, **given** this is **unlikely to happen**, we need to develop our own strategies to **distract us from** these influences. Of course exercising regularly is one thing we should do as this has been shown to increase **endorphin levels** and lead to feelings of happiness. Sleeping enough helps us to **recuperate** and **restore** our body. Finally, eating properly can improve our health and result in less worry about **potential diseases**.

All in all, although there are many factors around us today which **lead to stress**, we can take steps to reduce it. **Given** that the **strains** we face in modern society will **likely get worse**, ignoring it is **not an option** for many people.

Essay #8

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

These days, many children have difficulty paying attention and concentrating in their classes at school.

What are the reasons for this?

How can it be dealt with?

Teachers are **increasingly** finding that their pupils **do not pay full attention** or **concentrate properly** during class time. This essay will **examine** the reasons for this and **suggest** some possible solutions.

One of the reasons for this is that teachers now **lack the freedom to discipline** children. In the past, teachers could use any methods they **felt appropriate** to **control pupils** in their class, **even if this meant** physical punishment. However, the **balance has now changed**, with children aware that there are limits to what a teacher can do and without these **restrictions** they do not concentrate if they do not want to. There **have**, for example, been cases where pupils have **sued** teachers for **disciplining** them **too harshly**. Children should of course not be **abused**, but teachers must be given more power to use the methods that they **find appropriate** to control the class **without fear of recrimination**.

Another factor may be the diet of children. Research has widely reported that the **additives** in a lot of the snacks and carbonated drinks that children drink regularly can **cause behavioural changes** such as **hyperactivity**. This may lead to a lack of ability to concentrate in class. To prevent this, schools **must make sure** that these snacks are not available at the school. Parents have **a part to play** as well, and they must ensure that their children are not given **too much of** these types of snacks at home.

To conclude, children may have **difficulty paying attention** in class because of a lack of discipline in schools and additives from snacks. However, the solutions are to give more power back to teachers and to **limit the availability of** certain foods.

Essay #9

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

International travel sometimes makes people prejudiced rather than broad minded.

What may be the reasons for this?

What can people do to improve their understanding of the countries they visit?

International travel is **regarded as** one of the **finest ways** of **broadening one's outlook** by understanding the **diversity** of different places, the people, their **culture and lifestyle**. On the **downside**, international travel has also led tourists to become **biased** and cold instead of **receptive** and **indulgent**.

One of the **primary causes** aiding this **unwanted outcome** is that what is considered **sacred** in one place may not **hold any value** for the tourists. In Arab countries, for instance, women are required to wear a burka or **unrevealing clothes**, and western women, not realizing the importance of being **fully clad**, may **develop an aversion** to why women in these countries are not treated the way they are. And **vice-versa**, a tourist **hailing from a reserved background** may not **identify with** the western culture, and **feel appalled by** the lifestyle of people there through **not knowing better**. Research **prior** to the trip can **resolve** this, or if there is a **tour guide** or **organizer**, they must **take it upon themselves** to educate the tourists about the local **values and culture** in a way that they understand and **empathise** rather than **look down upon** it.

Stereotyping is another **significant cause** of **prejudice** among tourists. The source of stereotyping is **media portrayal of** certain countries, places and people which is why tourists have **preconceived negative opinions** about these places when they arrive. Without really **getting to know** the local people, a trip may just **accentuate** these views. Awareness is the only cure to **break the stereotypes** and for this interaction amongst the local people and the tourists must be **rallied by** encouraging home stays so that the differences between reality and media portrayal can **come to the surface**.

In conclusion, international tourism **does have** its problems which can lead to prejudiced views. However, efforts in the right direction can **overcome** them.

Essay #10

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many museums and historical sites are mainly visited by tourists rather than local people.

Why is this?

What can be done to encourage local people to visit museums and historical sites?

Although most places have sites of **historical interest** and a **variety of** museums to visit, it is **predominantly** tourists who come to see them, not local people. This essay will examine the reasons for this before suggesting some possible **methods of attracting** local people.

The main factor is the different motivations of tourists and local people. For a tourist, the aim when visiting another country, city or region, is to learn about that new place and **possibly** to understand its culture and history. Visiting historical sites and museums is **an excellent way to do this**. On the other hand, local people have often lived in the area for **much of their lives**, and have **either** learned this at school **or** understand it **through personal experience**. In addition, tourists are on holiday and have **set aside** time and money for these activities. However, local people may be too busy working and **prioritise** their spending on **such things as** school, shopping and socialising.

Despite this, attendance of local people could be encouraged in **a variety of ways**. First and foremost, the **perception** of museums and historical sites could be changed by holding events at these places. For example, they could **hold cultural festivals** or **galas** for the community to celebrate a **unique aspect** of that particular place. Another possibility is to have special promotions, such as a reduced price or free tickets provided in local newspapers and magazines. Related to this, **concession cards** could also be provided to local people so they are encouraged to come more regularly.

In conclusion, tourists have different motivating factors to local people, **which accounts for** the reasons that they are **more likely to** visit museums and historical sites. **That said**, it is possible to **encourage attendance** by local people through cultural events and promotions.

Essay #11

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, families are not as close as in the past and a lot of people have become used to this.

Why is this happening?

Do the advantages of this trend outweigh the drawbacks?

There **has been a trend** over **recent decades** for families to become less close than they were in the past and this situation is **largely accepted** in society. This essay will discuss the reasons for this and **examine the benefits and drawbacks of** this development.

One of the first reasons for a **decline in the closeness of families** is connected to the busy lifestyles that we now **lead**. Most people are **having to work longer hours** and often both parents work, so they simply do not have **as much time** to spend with each other as they did in the past. Another factor is the **materialistic and consumer driven culture** we now live in, which has led to **less value being placed on family relationships**. Modern technology also means that people are more interested in their online life than interacting with their family in their free time.

It could be argued that this has benefits. If people are not so close with their family, they are **free to pursue** their own **dreams and aspirations**, and to focus on improving their own lifestyle. However, I believe that there are far more **negative outcomes**. The most **important factors** leading to a **fulfilled and happy life** are **emotional security** and comfort. Without these we are in danger of feeling lost. It is a difficult world we live in and we need the support of people close to us to **cope with** modern life. We are seeing a rise in **mental health problems** in many countries and this **may well be** a factor in this.

To conclude, busy modern lifestyles, changing **cultural values** and modern technology are causing families to become less close. We should **try to halt** this trend as it has more negative than positive outcomes.

Essay #12

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In recent times, many people are making the decision to live alone.

What are the causes of this?

Does it have positive or negative effects on society?

There has been a **tendency** in many countries **over recent years** for more people **of all ages** to choose to live alone. This essay will discuss the reasons for this and explain why this can have both advantages and disadvantages for society.

One reason for this trend is **economic**. People are generally more **affluent** than in the past, and this means that they can **afford to make the choice to** live alone, something not always possible in the past. In addition to this, there are also **cultural factors**. There used to be more pressure to **marry young** and think about **having a family**. Now though, people **desire self-fulfilment**, and will marry later or divorce if their marriage is not happy. Also, the developments in communication technology such as social media mean that people can live alone but still **feel connected to others**.

I would argue that this development has positive as well as negative impacts on society. A positive impact is that individuals who are young and single have helped to **revitalise** cities around the world, as they are more likely to live in central locations and **socialise**, spend money and **participate in public life** than those living with others. However, a drawback is that some people living alone who experience problems may not have an **outlet to talk** about them. This **lack of social support** could lead to more **mental health problems** in the **general population**, which would **need to be dealt with** by **public health care services**.

To conclude, **economic and cultural factors**, and changes in communication have **resulted in** more people living alone, and, although this has benefits to society, there are also negative impacts.

Essay #13

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Overpopulation of urban areas has led to numerous problems.

Identify one or two serious ones and suggest ways that governments and individuals can tackle these problems.

Many countries of the world are **currently experiencing problems** caused by **rapidly growing populations** in **urban areas**, and both governments and individuals **have a duty to find ways to overcome** these problems.

Overpopulation can lead to overcrowding and **poor quality housing** in many large cities. **Poorly heated or damp housing** could cause significant health problems, resulting in illness, such as bronchitis or pneumonia. Another **serious consequence** of overcrowding is a **rising crime rate** as poor living conditions may lead young people **in particular to take desperate measures** and **turn to crime** or drugs.

In terms of solutions, I believe the government should be **largely responsible**. Firstly, it is **vital** that the state provides essential housing and healthcare for all its **citizens**. Secondly, **setting up community projects to help foster more community spirit** and help **keep young people off the street** is a good idea. For example, **youth clubs** or evening classes for teenagers would **keep them occupied**. Finally, more **effective policing** of inner city areas would also be beneficial.

Naturally, individuals should also **try to address** these problems. One way is to put pressure on the government **to ensure** they tackle the problems by, for instance, **forming action groups to lobby** the government and **request intervention and adequate funding**. They could also form **Neighbourhood Watch** areas to try and help reduce the high levels of crime.

Therefore, it is clear that the problems caused by overpopulation in **urban areas** are very serious. Yet if governments and individuals **share a collective responsibility**, then it **may well** become possible to **offer some solutions**.

Essay #14

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays more and more older people who are looking for work have to compete with younger people for the same jobs.

What problems does this cause?
What are some possible solutions?

It is common these days for older people who need employment to **compete with** people much younger for the same type of work. While this can create problems, there are steps that can be taken to **reduce the impacts**.

The main problem is that older people may **find it more difficult to secure** work, which arises because younger people are **more likely to have up-to-date qualifications and experience**. For example, **information technology is integral to a variety of jobs** these days and the skills needed for this are **rapidly changing**. Young people **may well** have recent knowledge through university or through using technology in their **leisure time**. If older people cannot **secure** work, this leads to other problems. As they are **likely to have a family to support**, they may not have an **adequate income to provide for** their children's education or other such **necessities**.

It is the government that needs to **take measures to ameliorate** such problems. This needs to begin with **ensuring** that older people have all the skills needed to **compete** in the job market, which **could be achieved by** providing free training on the most important job requirements at local community colleges, for example. In addition to this, the government **needs to encourage employers** to change their **employment practices** by **promoting the value of** experience that older workers can **bring** to a job.

To conclude, the **main issue with** competition for work between these groups is that older people may start to **find it more difficult** to find work. However, despite this, through the right training and changes to **recruitment practices**, older people can compete on **an equal footing** to the **younger generation** in the **jobs market**.

Essay #15

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In order to solve traffic problems, governments should tax private car owners heavily and use the money to improve public transportation.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of such a solution?

Traffic congestion in many cities around the world is **severe**. One possible solution to this problem is to **impose heavy taxes** on car drivers and use this money to make public transport better. This essay will discuss the benefits and drawbacks of such a measure.

One of the first benefits of such a measure is that the heavy taxes would **discourage car owners** from using their cars because it would become very expensive to drive. This would mean that they would begin to **make use of** public transport instead, thus reducing traffic problems and pollution as well. Another benefit would be that much more use would be made of public transport if it was improved. **It is often the case that** public transport in cities is very poor. For example, we often see old buses and trains that people **would rather not use**. High taxes would **generate enough money** to **make the necessary changes**.

Nevertheless, there are drawbacks to such a solution. First and foremost, this would **be a heavy burden on** the car drivers. At present, taxes are already high for a lot of people, and so further taxes would only mean less money at the end of the month for most people who may **have no choice but to** drive every day. In addition, this type of tax would **likely be set at a fixed amount**. This would mean that it would **hit those with less money harder, whilst** the rich could likely **afford** it. It is therefore not a **fair tax**.

To conclude, this solution is **worth considering** to improve the current situation, but there are advantages and disadvantages of **introducing such a policy**.

Essay #16

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Do the dangers derived from the use of chemicals in food production and preservation outweigh the advantages?

Most foods that are purchased these days in small stores and supermarkets have chemicals in them as these are used to improve production and **ensure** the food **lasts for longer**. However, **there are concerns** that these have harmful effects. In my opinion, the **potential dangers** from this are greater than the benefits we receive.

There are **several reasons** why chemicals are placed in food. Firstly, it is to improve the product **to the eye**, and this **is achieved via** the use of colourings which **encourage** people to purchase food that may **otherwise not look tempting** to eat. Another reason is to preserve the food. **Much of** the food we eat would not actually last that long **if it were not for** chemicals they contain, so again this is an advantage to the companies that sell food as their products have a **longer shelf life**.

From this **evidence**, it is clear to me that the main benefits are, therefore, to the companies and not to the customer. Although companies **claim** these **food additives** are safe and they have research to support this, the research is **quite possibly biased** as it comes from their own companies or people with connections to these companies. It is common to read reports these days in the press about **possible links** to various health issues such as cancer. Food additives have also **been linked to** problems such as **hyperactivity** in children.

To conclude, **despite the fact that** there are benefits to placing chemicals in food, I believe that these **principally help** the companies but could be a danger to the public. It is **unlikely** that this practice can be stopped, so food must be clearly labelled and it is my hope that **organic products** will become more **readily available** at **reasonable prices** to all.

Essay #17

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays many people have access to computers on a wide basis and a large number of children play computer games.

What are the positive and negative impacts of playing computer games and what can be done to minimize the bad effects?

Access to computers has increased significantly **over recent decades**, and the number of children playing games on computers has increased **too**. This essay will **consider** the positive and negative impacts of this and discuss ways to **avoid the potential negative effects**.

With regards to the positive effects, playing computer games can develop children's **cognitive skills**. Many popular games require **abstract and high level thinking skills** in order to win, skills that may not be taught at school. For example, children need to follow instructions, solve **complex problems** and use **logic** in many of the games that are **currently popular**. Such experience will be beneficial to a child's **progression into an adult**.

However, **concerns have been raised** about **the prolific use of** computer games by children, **much of it** related to the violence they contain. The problem is that in **many of** the games children are **rewarded for being** more **violent**, and this violence is **repeated** again and again. For instance, many games involve children helping their character to kill, kick, stab and shoot. This may lead to increased **aggressive** feelings, thoughts, and behaviours.

In order to minimize these negative impacts, parents need to take certain steps. Firstly, some video games are **rated according to their content**, so parents must check this and ensure their children are not allowed to **have access to games** that are **unsuitable**. Parents can also **set limits on** the length of time games are played. Finally, parents should also **take an active interest** in the games their children are playing so they can **find out** how they feel about what they are **observing**.

To sum up, there are benefits of computer games, but there are disadvantages too. However, if parents **take adequate precautions**, the **severity** of these negative impacts can be **mitigated**.

Essay #18

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In some countries it is now illegal to reject someone applying for a job because of his or her age.

Do you think this is a positive or negative development?

It is now **fairly common** to **exclude** the age of a job applicant from an application form so that the **selection of a candidate** is not **based on this criteria**. I **view this as** a positive development.

There are **certain reasons** that an employer may feel this is not **a step in the right direction**. The main one is that they may feel they need to know a person's age because the job is not **suitable** for an older person. This, for example, could be because they think there is a need to be very **physically fit**, such as work within the **construction industry** where **heavy lifting** is needed or other work where someone is **expected to be** very active all day.

However, **as a general rule** it is better if **rejection on the basis of age** is not **permitted**. **Although** some jobs **do need** younger people, many employers will **simply** reject a candidate **unfairly**. For instance, they may simply **be concerned about** the image of the company and think a younger person will **fit the face of the company** better **even though** an older person may be **just as capable** of **carrying out the role**.

Another reason is that older people have things to **offer employers** that younger people **may not be able to**. If it is a job **within a particular field**, such as law or accountancy, then the older person will have many skills in this area through working in it for so long. In addition to this, they will also bring **a wealth of life experiences** that a younger person may not have, which is also **beneficial** to any role.

All in all, it is **therefore** a positive development if employers cannot reject someone because of their age. **Hopefully** more countries will **adopt this rule** so older people **have equal opportunities** everywhere.

Essay #19

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many old buildings protected by law are part of a nation's history. Some people think they should be knocked down and replaced by new ones.

How important is it to maintain old buildings? Should history stand in the way of progress?

Most nations around the world have **at least some, or possibly many**, old buildings such as temples, churches and houses in their cities, villages and surrounding areas which **have historical significance**. In my opinion, it is very important to **maintain** these, but this does not mean **progress should stop**.

Preserving certain old buildings is important for **several reasons**. Firstly, these **structures provide an insight into** the history of our countries, showing us how people many centuries ago lived their lives. Without them, we could only learn by books, and it would **undoubtedly** be sad if this was the only way to see them. Many of these buildings are also very beautiful. **Take for example** the many **religious buildings** such as churches and temples that we see around the world. Not only this, but on a more **practical level**, many of these buildings **provide important income** to a country as many tourists visit them **in great numbers**.

However, this certainly does not mean that **modernization** should be **discouraged**. I believe that old buildings can be protected **in tandem with** progress. For example, in many circumstances we see old historic buildings **being renovated whilst maintaining their original character**, and being used for modern purposes. Also, **in no way does** history **hinder progress**, and **in fact it is the opposite**. By studying and learning about our history, we understand more about **the world we live in**, and this helps us to **build a better future**.

To conclude, I believe that it is very important to **protect and preserve** old buildings as we can learn about our history **as can others** from other countries. **Such knowledge** can also help us to understand how to **modernize** our countries in the best way.

Essay #20

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Examine the arguments in favour of and against animal experiments, and come to a conclusion on this issue.

Issues related to **animal experimentation** are **frequently discussed** these days, **particularly** in the media. It **is often said** that animals should not be used in testing because it is **cruel and unnecessary**. This essay will **examine the arguments for and against** animal testing.

On the one hand, the **people who support** these experiments say that we must do tests on animals. For instance, many famous **lifesaving drugs** were invented in this way, and animal experiments may help us to **find more cures** in the future. **Indeed**, possibly even a cure for cancer and AIDS. Furthermore, the animals which are used are not **usually wild** but **are bred** especially for experiments. Therefore, they believe it is not true that animal experiments are **responsible for reducing** the number of wild animals on the planet.

On the other hand, others feel that there are good **arguments against** this. First and foremost, animal experiments are **unkind** and **cause animals a lot of pain**. In addition, they feel that many tests are not really important, and in fact animals are not only used to test new medicines but also new cosmetics, which **could be tested** on humans instead. Another issue is that sometimes an experiment on animals gives us the wrong result because animals' bodies are **not exactly the same as our own**. **As a consequence**, this testing may not be providing the safety that its **proponents claim**.

In conclusion, I am of the opinion, **on balance**, that the benefits do not **outweigh** the disadvantages, and testing on animals **should not continue**. Although it may **improve the lives of** humans, it is **not fair** that animals should suffer **in order to** achieve this.

Essay #21

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many people are too scared to leave their home because of a fear of crime.

Some people think that more should be done to prevent crime, whereas others feel that nothing can be done.

What are your views?

Over recent decades, there has been an increasing fear of crime in many countries. Although some think that there is little that can be done to reduce the levels of crime, I believe there are measures that can be implemented.

Those that believe that nothing can be done hold this view for several reasons. Firstly, they think that a fear of crime is a state of mind perpetuated by the media. For example, we are constantly bombarded with negative news stories about crime and violence on our streets. Thus the belief is that whatever we do to reduce levels of crime, people will still be scared. Another belief is that crime is caused by wider structural issues in society that are too difficult to tackle, such as the growing income gap between the rich and the poor. Little then can be done about this issue in our capitalist societies.

However, I feel that there are solutions that will ensure people feel safer outside their homes. Governments can increase the numbers of police in local communities and more 'neighbourhood watch' schemes should be encouraged, both of which increase safety and deter crime. The media should also be encouraged to present more positive stories in the news about how crime is being tackled rather than the focus on the negative. In terms of the structural issues, governments should attempt to tackle issues of poverty through better income distribution.

To conclude, there is a widely held view that nothing can be done to prevent crime. In contrast to this opinion, I would argue that there are options available that would help prevent crime and therefore reduce the fear of crime.

Essay #22

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays the way many people interact with each other has changed because of technology.

In what ways has technology affected the types of relationships people make?

Is this a positive or negative development?

It is evident that technology has transformed the ways of communication and influenced relationships in a variety of ways. In my opinion, there are both positive and negative effects of this.

The principal way in which relationships have been affected is that they tend to be at a distance rather than face-to-face. The advent of the internet has made it easy for business owners to communicate across the world, with remote job opportunities one call away. Online educational programs are available for people residing in different countries, and it is no longer a dream to attend live classes from the comfortable environment of a home. Not only this, the social platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube have revolutionized relationships, be it making online friendships with people from other countries or staying in touch with loved ones. Based on this perspective, technology has influenced relationships in a positive way.

However, despite these advances, the quality of interaction has significantly declined in several respects. If people are developing most of their relationships online, this means that they may also have less face-to-face contact. This kind of contact on a personal level is important for human beings to feel wanted and a part of society. This may be a particular problem for children's social development as they used to be seen playing out on the streets but are now too often indoors. Technology can also mean people are detached from what is going on around them even when they are out, as can be seen by the many people staring into their mobile phones as they travel or walk around.

In conclusion, technology has brought some positive development in the ways people interact with each other. However, there are also some negative impacts of technology on the types of relationships people make.

Essay #23

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many museums charge for admission while others are free.

Do you think the advantages of charging people for admission to museums outweigh the disadvantages?

Some museums have an **admission charge** while some do not. In my opinion, the **drawbacks of an entrance fee** are **eclipsed by** its benefits **in the sense that** the income will **be ploughed back into operation** and development of the museums.

A **major disadvantage** of an admission fee is **the possibility of** reducing the number of visitors. Museums **house exhibitions and artefacts** of great **educational and historical value**. If the **chief aim** of a museum is to introduce the local community, admission should be free to the public and visitors. **Take** some folk museums in Hong Kong, which **preserve historic relics** and **display folk customs**, for example. Admission to these folk museums, which are often **monuments**, is **free of charge**. If they had **charged an entrance fee**, many might have **turned to** other activities.

Granted, an entrance fee **might** have a negative effect on the **admission figures**, but an income is **favourable** to museums **in terms of operation**. Museums **feature** educational exhibitions at times, and this could not have been done without a sum of money expended on **hiring professionals** and buying equipment. The Hong Kong Space Museum, for instance, has monthly **exhibitions** on different issues and professional **docents** are **employed** to take visitors on a **guided tour around** the museum. This example **speaks volumes** about how a **reasonable admission charge** is **advantageous to** the operation of a museum.

In conclusion, the disadvantages of an **admission fee** are **overshadowed** by the benefits **accruing** from a **stable source of income**. Therefore, **having weighed up the pros and cons**, I am **convinced that** museums should charge an entrance fee **for the sake of** operation and development.

Essay #24

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some parents think that childcare centres provide the best services for children of pre-school age. Other working parents think that family members such as grandparents will be better carers for their kids.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Some argue that when parents are at work, **close relations** provide the best care to young children, while others believe **day care centres offer a better service**. It is agreed that while some relatives take care of youngsters **extremely well**, **childcare professionals** offer a **better overall** service.

Many parents in **full-time employment** prefer to leave **their young ones** with grandparents and **siblings** when they are at work. This is often a **trust issue**, as the parents feel their child will be safer with someone from within the **family nucleus**. For example, a recent study showed that 62% of working mothers prefer a member of **the immediate family** to **provide care** when they are working. However, most **kin** are not **trained childcare professionals** and may not have the **skills required to** fully **nurture** a child.

Daycare centres may be a better option **due to the fact that** most of their staff are **highly skilled professionals**. Many of their staff are highly trained and have **diplomas** in child development. For instance, if you want a job in a Montessori school, they will **insist** that you are fully qualified, with many of their staff having degrees in early years development. In spite of this, there have been recent **high-profile cases of abuse** within these **establishments** which **makes** some parents **wary**.

In summary, although there are some **issues involving** trust, **as long as** parents **vet** each school properly, the high level of service provided by daycare professionals **trumps** that of **unqualified** family members.

Essay #25

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe that unpaid community service should be a compulsory part of high school programmes (for example, working for a charity, improving the neighborhood or teaching sports to younger children).

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is often argued that school curricula should include community work, and pupils ought to do it free of charge. This essay will show that such experience at school can be beneficial for children as they learn to be better people and more responsible citizens of their country.

Undoubtedly, volunteering teaches people to empathise with others, not to be indifferent to others' needs and lend a hand to strangers when it is needed. It is crucial that children acquire these qualities since a very early age, and schools can provide a great opportunity to do that. Looking from my vantage point, I can say that the school where I used to study made me a kinder, more considerate person when my fellow pupils and I participated in a special programme that was aimed at helping older people do housework.

Many educators around the world claim that it is important to make even young children aware of the fact that they are citizens of their country, and that they have their rights and responsibilities. Community service can certainly raise this awareness by showing that even very young people can improve the world around them. For example, in my hometown in Russia, schoolchildren are encouraged to collect recyclable materials such as plastic, paper and glass, and everything that is collected by them accounts for three-quarters of all recyclables in the region.

In conclusion, unpaid labour for the sake of a better neighbourhood has many advantages such as learning to be caring to others and to be in charge of what happens in one's community. While some countries such as Russia has partly adopted community service for their curricula, more countries can incorporate this element in theirs in the future.

Essay #26

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Women and men are commonly seen as having different strengths and weaknesses.

Is it right to exclude males or females from certain professions because of their gender?

Males and females are often viewed as having differing skill sets. It is agreed that it is correct to exclude people from certain jobs on the basis of their gender, but only in very limited circumstances.

For many years the general consensus in the armed forces is that women should not be allowed to participate in combat missions. This is because most women lack the brute strength required for this particular occupation and it is, therefore, right to prevent them from joining the ranks. For example, the American Army recently allowed some women to fight on the front line and the Department of Defence deemed the experiment a failure, due to lack of fighting effectiveness. Despite this, many women have fought in many wars, famously on the Eastern Front for Russia and the Viet Cong in Vietnam, so maybe it is men's attitudes that prevent them performing rather than their stature.

Society has yet to accept men in many traditionally female positions, such as nanny or beautician. Businesses feel that it is fine to not hire men for these posts because most of their customers would not be willing to have a man perform that service. I personally know of one example when a friend failed at the interview stage when applying to become kindergarten teacher because he was the wrong gender.

To summarise, in limited circumstances it is just to prohibit people from certain occupations, but only if they cannot physically perform or if the general consensus is that it is a single sex post.

Essay #27

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Every year several languages die out. Some people think that it is not important because life will be easier if there are fewer languages in the world.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

It is argued that the **annual extinction** of many languages is not a problem because having just a few languages **leads to** a more **convenient** life. It is disagreed that the **convenience** of using just a few **key languages** makes the **dying out** of **less spoken dialects** acceptable.

A language is not just a **group of spoken words** but the key to someone's **cultural identity**. Language has **evolved over thousands of years** to **reflect what it means to be** from a particular place. For example, the Irish language has one of the **widest vocabularies** in the world and reflects their **tradition of storytelling**. Despite this, English has become the first language of **the Irish**, as many feel it **makes it easier to** communicate with the world.

By speaking **just a couple of languages**, such as English and Chinese, you **alienate billions of people throughout the world**. English may be common, but it is not the '**lingua franca**' many people think it is and it would **take generations** for everyone to learn it. Countries like Korea and Vietnam have been trying to **adopt English as a second language** for a long time, but most of their people still can't fully **grasp** it. However, English has been **the language of business** for a long time and it should be **encouraged** to help a country become more **economically competitive**.

To conclude, **commonly spoken languages** may make life more **straightforward**, but this should not **be at the expense of less prevalent languages**, in order to avoid the **erosion of culture** and the **alienation** of many countries.

Essay #28

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Governments should spend more money on education than on recreation and sports.

Do you agree or disagree?

It is argued that countries should **allocate more funds** to education than to **leisure and competitive games**. It is agreed that national budgets should **prioritise** schools and universities **over** sports and play.

Investment in its **education system** is one of the best ways to improve a country's economy in the **long term**. The more students entering third level education, the more skilled a workforce will be and this leads to **higher innovation and productivity**. For example, South Korea and Finland took the decision to **invest a large proportion of their budget** in education and this has **reaped benefits in the form of** high-tech companies such as Samsung and Nokia. However, people cannot work hard **all the time** and these companies **do provide** leisure facilities for their workers.

Education is not just about improving the economy it also has many **social benefits**. **Well educated people tend to be** more aware of **social evils** such as drugs and alcohol. For example, Singapore educates all of its citizens on the **dangers of drugs** and this has resulted in one of the lowest **levels of drug abuse** in the world. Despite this, sports can also teach children **valuable soft skills**, such as teamwork and **work ethic** which also help **curb social ills**.

In conclusion, education should **take precedence over** sports **when it comes to funding** due to the many **socio-economic benefits** it brings. It is recommended that governments **continue to pump money into** schools and universities **in order to realise long-term goals**.

Essay #29

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Most high-level positions in companies are filled by men even though the workforce in many developed countries is more than 50 percent female. Companies should be required to allocate a certain percentage of these positions to women.

Do you agree?

It is argued that corporations should be **compelled to** give a **certain proportion of** their **executive level roles** to females **given that over half of** the workforce is female in the West. It is agreed that businesses should be **obliged to assign** a significant percentage of **top-level posts** to women.

Despite years of **so-called 'equal rights'** for women in the workplace they continue to **be underpaid**. Many women who do exactly the same job as their male colleagues earn less money and this is **unfair**. For example, a recent survey of **accountancy and legal firms** in the United Kingdom **found that** women earn on average 17% less than men with **identical roles**. However, this may be due to women taking **maternity leave** and falling behind **their male counterparts**.

This unfairness is compounded by the fact that females are currently getting higher grades in most university courses. Even previously **male-dominated fields**, such as law and medicine, now see women in the **ascendency** and they should, **therefore**, be **rewarded with top roles**. For example, females recently **outperformed** males for the first time in law in U.K. universities. Despite this, employers should **bear in mind** that roles should be **handed out on merit**, not gender alone.

In conclusion, women **do deserve** an **equal share** of the good jobs available, namely because they are **capable of** doing an equally good job as men and are achieving **higher academic standards** than men at university. It is **recommended** that companies **heed the advice** in this essay and **make** their **hiring practices fairer**.

Essay #30

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Life was better when technology was simpler.

To what extent do you agree and disagree?

It is argued that our lives were **more fulfilling** when technology was **less advanced**. This essay disagrees with this statement and believes that computers and the internet have **made life better**.

New phones, such as the iPhone, have made our daily lives much **less laborious** and give us more free time. Jobs that required lots of **energy and time** can now be done **at the touch of a button**. For example, if we wanted to communicate with one another in the past, we had to write a letter, take it to the post office and then **wait for it to be delivered**, whereas these days we can simply **tap the email icon** on our touch screen and send a message in seconds.

The internet has also **enriched our lives** by providing us with more information **than we could ever need**, **thus making** us more **independent and effective learners**. In the past students **had to rely on** a teacher or physical books for their education and these were often **either** unavailable **or** in a **format** that most people did not want, but now we can **pick and choose** what we want to learn. For example, there are now thousands of free online courses available on YouTube that anyone can watch and learn from anywhere in the world.

In conclusion, life **has been improved** by **technological advancements**, particularly **labour saving devices** like phones and **learning opportunities** provided by the internet.

Essay #31

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Giving lectures in auditoriums to large numbers of students is an old way of teaching. With the technology available today there is no justification for it, and everything should be done online.

To what extent do you agree or disagree? Give your own opinion.

It is argued that teaching in lecture halls to large numbers of students is **outdated** and that instead, these should **take place exclusively** on the internet. This essay disagrees with the above statement.

Learning **via** computer **may be convenient**, but it stops students and teachers actually talking to each other about their subject. **Pupils** need to ask the teacher questions **in order to** fully understand the material and they also need to talk about the topic to **help them remember** and fully understand it. For example, the School of Law at Queen's University allows students to question the professor at the end of each lecture and then they have a **seminar** in which learners can debate each topic, resulting in some of the best exam results in the UK.

Presenting lectures **solely online** also **presents the problem of** students not being motivated to watch them. It would be very difficult to know who actually viewed the lecture and if students know this, it is **likely to result in** more people not watching and not being fully prepared for the exam at the end of the course. For instance, Udemy, the **online learning company**, found that only 12% of people who purchased their online courses actually watched all the videos and completed the online tasks, **principally due to lack of supervision**.

In conclusion, **exclusively online lectures** are a bad idea because they do **not allow face-to-face communication** and they can lead to a **drop-off in student attendance**.

Essay #32

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In most developed countries shopping is not only about buying the goods you need, it is also perceived as entertainment.

Is it a positive or negative development? Give your own opinion and examples based on your experience.

In many developed nations, **consumerism** is not only about buying the **everyday things** we need to **survive** but is also seen as **a form of entertainment**. This essay will argue that this is a very negative development because of the **detrimental effect** marketing and advertising has on people and the fact that it is a very **unproductive hobby**.

The main reason people buy **luxury items** is because of the **influence multinationals' marketing campaigns have** on them. We are **constantly bombarded** with messages telling us that if we buy a certain product we will be happier, more beautiful or more complete. In many ways, these companies **trick us into buying** their products, when **all we need to be happy** are much simpler items. For example, fashion chains like Chanel and Prada tell people that they are only **good enough** if they wear nice clothes and use **glamorous models** to **make people feel unsatisfied** with their **appearance**.

Shopping for goods that you don't really need is also not the most **productive** thing you can do **with your time**. Not only is it a **huge waste of money**; it **does nothing to develop** a person either **physically or intellectually**. If we compare this activity with other popular **pastimes** like sport, reading or even watching movies, we can see how **unfulfilling** shopping really is. For instance, most of my friends who spend their weekends shopping have nothing else to talk about, other than their **purchases**, whereas my friends who use their time more wisely are often much **more interesting to talk to**.

In conclusion, people should only shop for **the necessities** and not for **pleasure** because they are **being manipulated by transnational companies** and there are also much **more constructive ways** for people to spend their free time.

Essay #33

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

With the increased global demand in oil and gas, undiscovered areas of the world should be opened up to access more resources.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

This essay disagrees that **untapped resources** should be **explored** because of the **environmental risks** and the fact that there are **renewable options** available.

Many argue that **energy companies** should be **granted access to previously unexplored areas**, but this would be a **huge mistake** because of the **potential for environmental damage**. **Drilling for non-renewable energy resources** is **incredibly damaging** to the **local ecosystem** and these areas are often in **sensitive places**, such as the Arctic or National Parks in the United States and Canada. The Deep Water Horizon disaster demonstrated just how **disastrous** an oil spill can be for the animals and plant life in the **local vicinity**. Therefore, damaging these **untouched areas** is **too much of a risk** and oil companies should be **banned** from doing business there.

Taking these risks becomes **pointless** when you **consider** that there are **plenty of viable alternative energy sources** available. Solar, wind and **tidal** energy could **replace our reliance on** oil and gas completely within just 15 years if the industries were given enough funding. CEO of Solar City and Tesla, Elon Musk, recently **demonstrated** this by drawing a very small square on a map of the United States and **stating confidently** that small area could **power the whole of the country** if covered with solar panels. He also stated that we could **further reduce our need** for oil by building electric cars **rather than** those with **combustion engines**.

In conclusion, **sensitive areas** should not be **made available to** fossil fuel companies because of the environmental risks and the fact that our future energy **needs can be met** by **renewable energy**.

Essay #34

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people say that the best way to improve public health is by increasing the number of sports facilities. Others, however, say that this would have little effect on public health and that other measures are required.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

It is often argued that **expanding** the number of **leisure amenities** is the **most appropriate way of boosting** the health of the **general public**, while others feel that this is not a **viable solution** and believe other steps are **needed**. This essay will argue that **sports complexes** are not the best answer and education is a more **suitable option**.

A **greater availability of recreation facilities** might help some become healthier but it is **unlikely to** have an effect on the **unhealthy masses**. Most health problems do not **stem from** a lack of opportunities, but from a lack of motivation. For example, Cambridge University found in a recent study that 62% of men and women who paid for an annual gym membership failed to go **entirely** after just one month.

A **public awareness campaign** about the dangers a **sedentary lifestyle** can have on one's fitness would affect **not only** people's wellbeing **but also** their understanding of the issue. This is because most men and women are **unaware of** the harm they are doing to themselves by not exercising regularly and warning them about the **risk factors** would have a **motivating effect**. For instance, the 'Go walking' campaign in Northern Ireland in 2006 led to **obesity-related illnesses**, like heart disease and stroke, **falling by almost a quarter**.

In conclusion, although an **increased availability** of **sports centres** can **influence the wellness of** the public to a **certain extent**, it is **only through** education **that** the **real benefits can be realised**.

Essay #35

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Scientists predict that in the future cars will be driven by computers.

What are the reasons behind this?
Is it a positive or negative development?

In the **coming years**, experts believe that **vehicles will be driven autonomously** by computers. This should **be seen as a positive development** because it will **prevent accidents and save lives**.

In the **past few years**, there has been an **explosion in** the advancement of **autonomous vehicles** due to **A.I. Advanced computer learning** means that cars and other vehicles can move from point A to point B **without the need for human interference**. Due to the **nature of these self-learning computers**, the more they drive, the better they become and this will soon mean that it will be quite normal for people **to be driven by** computers. For example, Google, Tesla, and Apple all have autonomous driving projects, with Tesla announcing that all of its vehicles will be self-driving within 5 years.

This should **be welcomed** because, despite some **initial safety concerns**, it will **ultimately** save lives. This is because most **collisions** are due to **human error** and as **machine learning** gets better and better it will completely **eliminate human involvement**. This will mean that incidents such as **drink driving, falling asleep at the wheel and speeding** become a thing of the past. For instance, Elon Musk of Tesla Motors announced that its 'Auto Pilot' system has **logged** over 10 million miles with only one accident. Similar distances with people driving would have resulted in **far more road traffic accidents**.

In conclusion, the **emergence of computer-controlled transportation** will **inevitably** become the **new standard** in driving as computers learn more and **should be viewed positively** as it will **improve safety standards**.

Essay #36

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that universities should provide graduates with the knowledge and skills needed in the workplace. Others think that the true function of a university should be to give access to knowledge for its own sake, regardless of whether the course is useful to an employer.

What, in your opinion, should be the main function of a university?

Whether a university's role should be to prepare **graduates** for **specific jobs** **or simply** to educate without a **particular vocation** in mind is a **debatable issue**. This essay believes that universities fulfill both purposes.

Some students have a very **specific job in mind** when they **enroll** at university. Medicine, dentistry and accountancy have **clear career paths** and they allow people to focus on and then **undertake** a certain profession **upon graduation**. This suits those who have **decided on a career** and it avoids them wasting time **studying a more general subject** like English. For instance, in the United States, you must complete four years of higher education before you can study law and many feel that these four years are a waste of time, that **would have been** better used focusing on their **chosen discipline**.

However, this is **not suitable for everyone** and many people **have no idea** what job they would like to do when they are 18. For these young people, it is better to do a **non-vocational course**, such as philosophy and simply **add to their intellect** without a career goal in mind. If they were **forced** to study a more **practical subject**, they are **more likely to quit** or become **disillusioned** because they don't see the point of their chosen subject. For example, The Times recently reported that **only 50% of law graduates** actually want to become lawyers at the end of their studies.

In conclusion, the **function** of college is to **both** prepare students for the **workforce** **and** provide knowledge and which one a person chooses should **depend on their preference** at the time.

Essay #37

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that students who achieve the best academic results should be rewarded. Others believe it is more important to reward students who show improvement.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

It is often argued that **pupils** with the **highest grades** should be **honoured**, while others feel those who improve the most should be **commended**. This essay will discuss both points of view and argue that those who attain the **highest marks** should get the rewards.

Many **support the view** that only the **top students** should **get recognition in the form of rewards**. They think that this is **only fair** and that **excellence and hard work should be recognised**. This essay agrees with this view because it **incentivises** learners to **strive to be** the best and **fosters healthy competition**. For example, in the United Kingdom's top universities, like Oxford and Cambridge, many professors **publish exam results publicly** to increase motivation.

Alternatively, others **advocate** commending those who **develop the most** over a term or school year. They believe that this **encourages** those who are **closer to the bottom** of the class to get better and **takes into account** that not everyone can be top of the class. This essay disagrees with this view because it **encourages mediocrity** and is **unfair** to those students who have worked hard to **achieve academic distinction**.

In summary, although there are **strong arguments** to recognise students for improving, it is more important to give the **high achievers** the **accolades** in the **interests of fairness** and the **spirit of excellence**.

Essay #38

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that it is better to educate boys and girls in separate schools. Others, however, believe that boys and girls benefit more from attending mixed schools.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

It is often argued that school children should go to **single sex schools**, while other would say that males and females get the most out of **integrated schools**. This essay will argue that despite there being **some social benefits** to females and males going to the same school, the **academic advantages** of educating them **separately** make it more **worthwhile**.

Many feel that **mixing both sexes at school** helps to develop **social skills** and makes people **less awkward** around the **opposite sex** later in life. This is **especially true** for males, who often find it difficult to **approach and talk to women socially** if they don't **get used to** it first in the classroom. For example, the Sunday Times recently reported that men who did not have **regular social contact** with girls when they were growing up are 68% more likely to suffer from anxiety **when in the company of** females.

Despite the argument above, it is difficult to argue with the fact that single-sex schools **consistently top examination league tables**. In **nearly every area** of the United Kingdom, the top schools only allow boys or girls to attend and this may lead to **higher grades** because students can **focus exclusively on** their studies. Personally, I went to a school for both boys and girls and found that I had to deal with many **more distractions** compared to friends who attended the local **boys-only** college.

In conclusion, **integrating the sexes** can **prevent social awkwardness later in life** and **make pupils more sociable in the company of other genders**, but a school's **primary purpose** is to educate and those with just one sex or the other **outperform** those that allow both.

Essay #39

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Multinational companies are becoming increasingly common in developing countries.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this?

More and more **transnational corporations** are **setting up branches** and factories in less developed nations. This essay will first suggest that **reduced labour costs** is the **primary benefit** for these companies, while **bad publicity** because of **Human Rights abuses** is the main drawback.

The main reason multinationals **set up shop** in **poorer countries** is because it is much cheaper for them to **get their goods manufactured there**, due to **comparatively lower** salaries. In an **ever more competitive marketplace**, it is simply **unsustainable** for most companies to pay **western wages** when they can pay someone a **fraction of the cost** to do the same job. For example, the only reason an iPad or iPhone can be sold for less than \$499 is that a worker in China can **assemble the unit** for approximately one-tenth what an American would **expect to be paid**.

Despite this **economic benefit**, Apple has recently **come under scrutiny** because of **appalling conditions** in many of its Asian factories. Workers in their Foxconn plant in China had to work under such **grim circumstances**, including **15-hour shifts**, **pressure to meet unrealistic quotas** and **low wages**, that several of them **committed suicide** by **leaping off the factory roof**. The New York Times reported that this resulted in a 12% drop in the sale of Apple products, **especially after it was reported** that Apple had **installed nets** to stop any employees killing themselves in the future.

In conclusion, **huge global companies** may **reap the rewards of low operating costs** in developing countries, but they should also **keep in mind** that they **have a responsibility towards** their workers and any **infringements of** their rights could **negatively affect their image** and **stock price**.

Essay #40

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In some countries the average weight of people is increasing and their levels of health and fitness are decreasing.

What do you think are the causes of these problems and what measures could be taken to solve them?

In some nations, people are getting **heavier** and **standards of health and well-being** are **falling**. This essay will suggest that the **principal cause of** these issues is the **type of nourishment** they are eating and submit a **government education program** as a **viable solution**, followed by a **reasoned conclusion**.

The main cause of the **health crisis** currently **affecting so many individuals** is **over-consumption of poor quality sustenance**. **Convenience food** and **junk food**, such as **microwave dinners**, chocolate bars, McDonald's and pizza, have become a **ubiquitous part of** modern life. Eating **too much of these high-fat meals** causes many to **gain weight** and this **has knock-on effects** on someone's **general wellness**. For example, the movie 'Super Size Me' demonstrated that a person who eats this kind of food all the time will not only get fat but also **suffer from** such things as **raised blood pressure** and even **fatty liver disease**.

The most practical solution to this problem is a **government-sponsored awareness campaign**. An **effective advertising campaign** could **warn of the dangers of a poor diet** and **hopefully, raise awareness amongst the public**. This **raised awareness** of the problem would lead many people **starting a healthier regime**. For example, the U.K. recently **lobbied** their citizens to eat 5 pieces of fruit and vegetables a day and this resulted in a **dramatic decrease** in **obesity-related illnesses** such as stroke and heart disease.

In summary, the **current health crisis** has been caused by an **over-reliance on unhealthy food** and **states** should **curtail this** by **educating** men and women **on how to make healthier choices**.

Essay #41

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays more and more people have to compete with young people for the same jobs.

**What problems does this cause?
What are some possible solutions?**

Those seeking a job are now facing stiffer competition from the younger generation. This essay will suggest that the main problem this causes is higher poverty among older people and propose lowering the retirement age as a possible solution, followed by a reasoned conclusion.

Increased competition from today's youth has left many over 50s in poverty. If a young and old person apply for the same job, it is often the case that the younger individual will have more qualifications and may also be willing to work for less money, leaving many seniors without work and 'left on the scrapheap'. For example, a recent survey showed that since the financial crisis in 2008, fuel and food poverty has increased by 82% amongst the aged. Despite this, many of the older generation own their own property and have large savings and therefore, are somewhat insulated from these troubles.

The most viable answer would be to drop the age of retirement. Most industrialised countries could afford to lower this from 65 to 60, thus allowing millions of people to simply retire and be looked after by the state. For instance, Finland recently decreased the retirement age for all government employees to free up more jobs for their graduates. However, this initiative may be very unpopular with the business community, who would have to pay for many of these early retirements.

In summary, the increased rivalry between young and old in the job market has resulted in the impoverishment of many of our older citizens and countries should consider reducing the age of retirement to solve this.

Essay #42

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays the way people interact with each other has changed because of technology.

**In what ways has technology affected the types of relationships people make?
Has this become a positive or negative development?**

Modern advancements have altered the way we communicate with one another. This essay will discuss how we can now form bonds with people all over the world, and then state that on the whole, this is a very welcome development.

For the first time in human history, people can communicate with someone they have never met before, in a country they have never been to, through the internet. These may not be the same kind of friendships we traditionally form face-to-face, but it is hard to dispute that they are not 'relationships'. Social media, such as Facebook and Instagram, provide a platform that allows us to chat and comment on someone else's life instantaneously. For example, there are now IELTS groups on Facebook where students can help and support each other by providing helpful resources and feedback on essays.

Overall, this new phenomenon has great benefits, principally encouraging tolerance of other cultures. Before computers we hardly ever came across someone from another culture, let alone people from a myriad of different places in one Facebook group. This has led to people understanding that we are all mostly the same and you should not judge someone because they were born in a different place. For example, thousands of Palestinians and Israelis have joined the same online groups that show support for peace and solidarity, something that would not have been possible 25 years ago.

In conclusion, the web has changed our interactions forever, making the world a global village where people can freely chat and form lasting connections and this essay only sees this as a good thing that will continue to bring citizens of the world together.

Essay #43

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The best way to understand other cultures is to work for a multinational organisation.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Multinational organisations can be found in most major cities around the world these days. Although working for such a company provides the opportunity to mix with people from a variety of cultural backgrounds, I would argue that this is not necessarily the best way to learn about other cultures.

There is no doubt that for some people, working for a multinational organisation will enhance their understanding of other cultures. The first reason is that in a multinational organisation one can learn about the customs and traditions of other countries through mixing with people from different backgrounds who work in the company or in liaising with colleagues abroad. Exposure to other languages is also likely, something that gives a much greater depth of understanding of a culture. There may also be the chance to relocate to work in another country, which would mean complete immersion in that culture.

However, there are a number of reasons that it is not necessarily the best way. Firstly, there is no guarantee that you will be a person who gets such exposure to other cultures as it depends on your position within the company. Not all employees have roles where they regularly mix with other cultures. Also, there are also other excellent ways to achieve such a goal. For example, many people these days travel the world, and this is an opportunity to meet and spend time with people from other countries. It is also possible to do voluntary work with organisations and charities that work in other countries, something that would mean you meet a mix of people rather than just those who work in companies.

In conclusion, despite the potential ways in which working for a multinational company can result in contact with people from other cultures, I believe that it cannot be assumed it is the best way as there are other options to do this.

Essay #44

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

According to a recent study, the more time people use the Internet, the less time they spend with real human beings. Some people say that instead of seeing the Internet as a way of opening up new communication possibilities world-wide, we should be concerned about the effect this is having on social interaction.

How far do you agree with this opinion?

It is evident that, at present, people are spending a considerable amount of time on the Internet, and thus spending less time with real people. I strongly agree that although this use of the Internet has greatly increased the level of communication available, it has also had detrimental effects on the amount and type of social interaction that takes place.

The benefits of the Internet in terms of increased communication are clear, with people connected across the globe. In the past, communication was only possible by phone or mail, which entailed time and expense. It also usually meant just keeping in contact with those people already known to you. With the internet, this has changed dramatically. Email and social networking sites such as Facebook and MSN have created online communities that are global in scale, and they have fostered communication between people and countries that we would not have thought possible in the not too distant past.

That said, there is no doubt in my mind that this has had negative impacts on social interaction. People, especially the younger generation, spend hours of their time online, chatting and on forums. Although this can be beneficial, it is certainly not the same as real interaction with human beings and does not involve the same skills. It is important that children have and maintain real friendships in order to develop their own interpersonal skills. Not only this, it can also have negative effects on local communities if people are spending most of their time communicating online and not mixing in their neighbourhoods, and possibly lead to feelings of isolation for those individuals who do not have a 'real' person to turn to in times of need.

To conclude, I believe that the internet has undoubtedly been beneficial, but there are good reasons to be concerned about social interaction in our societies. It is therefore important that we maintain a balance between our online life and our contact with real human beings.

Essay #45

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some of the methods used in advertising are unethical and unacceptable in today's society.

To what extent do you agree with this view?

The world that we live in today is dominated by advertising. Adverts are on television, on the World Wide Web, in the street and even on our mobile phones. However, many of the strategies used to sell a product or service can be considered immoral or unacceptable.

To begin with, the fact that we cannot escape from advertising is a significant cause for complaint. Constant images and signs wherever we look can be very intrusive and irritating at times. Take for example advertising on the mobile phone. With the latest technology mobile companies are now able to send advertising messages via SMS to consumers' phones whenever they choose. Although we expect adverts in numerous situations, it now seems that there are very few places we can actually avoid them.

A further aspect of advertising that I would consider unethical is the way that it encourages people to buy products they may not need or cannot afford. Children and young people in particular are influenced by adverts showing the latest toys, clothing or music and this can put enormous pressure on the parents to buy these products. In addition, the advertising of tobacco products and alcohol has long been a controversial issue, but cigarette adverts have only recently been banned in many countries. It is quite possible that alcohol adverts encourage excessive consumption and underage drinking, yet restrictions have not been placed on this type of advertising in the same way as smoking.

It is certainly true to say that advertising is an everyday feature of our lives. Therefore, people are constantly being encouraged to buy products or services that might be too expensive, unnecessary or even unhealthy. In conclusion, many aspects of advertising do appear to be morally wrong and are not acceptable in today's society.

Essay #46

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Currently there is a trend towards the use of alternative forms of medicine. However, at best these methods are ineffective, and at worst they may be dangerous.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Alternative medicine is not new. It is accepted that it pre-dates conventional medicine and it is still used by many people all over the world. I am unconvinced that it is dangerous, and feel that both alternative and conventional medicine can be useful.

There are several reasons why the conventional medical community is often dismissive of alternatives. Firstly, there has been little scientific research into such medicine, so there is a scarcity of evidence to support the claims of their supporters. Furthermore, people often try such treatment because of recommendations from friends, and therefore come to the therapist with a very positive attitude, which may be part of the reason for the cure. Moreover, these therapies are usually only useful for long-term, chronic conditions. Acute medical problems, such as accidental injury, often require more conventional methods.

On the other hand, there remain strong arguments for the use of alternatives. Despite the lack of scientific proof, there is a lot of anecdotal evidence to suggest that these therapies work. In addition, far from being dangerous, they often have few or no side effects, so the worst outcome would be no change. One of the strongest arguments for the effectiveness of alternative therapies in the West is that, whilst conventional medicine is available without charge, many people are prepared to pay considerable sums for alternatives. If they were totally unhelpful, it would be surprising if this continued.

I strongly believe that conventional medicine and alternative therapies can and should coexist. They have different strengths, and can both be used effectively to target particular medical problems. The best situation would be for alternative therapies to be used to support and complement conventional medicine.

Essay #47

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Government investment in the arts, such as music and theatre, is a waste of money. Governments must invest this money in public services instead.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

These days, the government spends a large part of its budget not only on public services, but also the arts. Although I agree that it is important to spend money on public services, I do not think spending on the arts is a waste of money.

There are several reasons for spending a significant amount of the government budget on public services. First and foremost, public services are the things such as hospitals, roads and schools, and these things determine the quality of life that most of us will have. For example, if the government does not spend enough money on hospitals, the health of our society may decline. Similarly, if not enough money is spent on schools, our children may not be properly educated. Also, it will be the poor in our society that will be affected more if we do not spend enough on these things because they are the ones more dependent on such services.

However, this does not mean that the arts should be completely neglected. To begin, it is difficult for many arts institutions to generate much profit, so without some help from the government, many theatres and other such places may have to close. Moreover, the arts also have an important impact on our quality of life. Many people get great pleasure in going to see music and theatre performances so it is important that the government assists such institutions so that they can continue to provide entertainment to the public.

To sum up, there are clear benefits of ensuring a large amount of investment goes into public services as this influences the quality of life for nearly all of us. That said, I do not believe spending money on the arts is a waste of money as this too provides important benefits.

Essay #48

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

As people live longer and longer, the idea of cloning human beings in order to provide spare parts is becoming a reality. The idea horrifies most people, yet it is no longer mere science fiction.

***To what extent do you agree with such a procedure?
Have you any reservations?***

It is evident that, at present, people are spending a considerable amount of time on the Internet, and thus spending less time with real people. I strongly agree that although this use of the Internet has greatly increased the level of communication available, it has also had detrimental effects on the amount and type of social interaction that takes place.

The benefits of the Internet in terms of increased communication are clear, with people connected across the globe. In the past, communication was only possible by phone or mail, which entailed time and expense. It also usually meant just keeping in contact with those people already known to you. With the internet, this has changed dramatically. Email and social networking sites such as Facebook and MSN have created online communities that are global in scale, and they have fostered communication between people and countries that we would not have thought possible in the not too distant past.

That said, there is no doubt in my mind that this has had negative impacts on social interaction. People, especially the younger generation, spend hours of their time online, chatting and on forums. Although this can be beneficial, it is certainly not the same as real interaction with human beings and does not involve the same skills. It is important that children have and maintain real friendships in order to develop their own interpersonal skills. Not only this, it can also have negative effects on local communities if people are spending most of their time communicating online and not mixing in their neighbourhoods, and possibly lead to feelings of isolation for those individuals who do not have a 'real' person to turn to in times of need.

To conclude, I believe that the internet has undoubtedly been beneficial, but there are good reasons to be concerned about social interaction in our societies. It is therefore important that we maintain a balance between our online life and our contact with real human beings.

Essay #49

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Air traffic is increasingly leading to more noise, pollution, and airport construction. One reason for this is the growth in low-cost passenger flights, often to holiday destinations.

Some people say that government should try to reduce air traffic by taxing it more heavily.

Do you agree or disagree?

Over recent years there has been an enormous increase in the amount of air traffic around the world resulting in various problems, and a major cause of this has been the growth of low-cost airlines. Although some people believe that taxes should be increased for air travel, I disagree.

Those that support taxing airlines believe that this will result in a reduction in this type of travel and thus solve the problems of pollution, noise and construction. This is because a tax would make the cost of travelling more expensive, which will, they claim, lead to a decrease in demand. Proponents of this solution believe that taxes are fair because everyone has to pay them and it is a workable solution that will have the additional bonus of providing an income for the government.

However, there are a number of reasons why this is not the right course of action. Firstly, a tax is not fair because it will adversely affect people on lower incomes. Such a tax would have to be a fixed amount paid equally whether you are rich or poor, which means that those on lower incomes would find it more difficult to travel, but it would likely have little effect on the lives of those with a higher income. In addition, such a tax would not work. For example, we have seen taxes increase in most countries on cars, but this has had little effect, with car use continuing to grow.

To sum up, it is evident that introducing heavy taxes on air travel is not fair or workable. If we continue to explore alternatives, we can continue to enjoy the benefits that air travel offers.

Essay #50

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

University education should be free to everyone, regardless of income.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Over recent years, more and more people have been attending university and arguments have persisted as to whether students should pay for this privilege not. Although there are convincing arguments on both sides, I strongly believe that it should be free.

One argument put forward in favour of charging students is that education is becoming more expensive to fund as universities grow in size. Consequently, making students pay may maintain standards and ensure the quality of the teaching. In addition, it is argued that most students benefit from university in terms of higher paid jobs, so it is fair that they pay for at least some of the cost, especially given that the majority of students attending university are from the middle classes. Last but not least, in many countries, there is a shortage of people to do manual jobs such as plumbing and carpentry, so making university more expensive may encourage people to take up these jobs.

However, there are a number of arguments in favour of making university education free for all. Firstly, it will encourage more people to attend and this will benefit society. This is because it will lead to a more productive and educated workforce. Research has generally shown that those countries that have a better educated population via university have higher levels of innovation and productivity. In addition, there is the issue of equality of opportunity. If all students are required to pay, those on a low income may be dissuaded from attending, thus making it unfair. The reason for this is that they will likely not be able to secure financial support from their family so they will be concerned about the debts they will incur in the future.

In conclusion, I am of opinion that all education should remain equally available to all regardless of income. This is not only fair, but will also ensure that countries can prosper and develop into the future with a well-educated workforce.

Essay #51

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Governments should be responsible for funding and controlling scientific research rather than private organizations.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Undertaking scientific research is imperative if countries want to progress and compete in a globalized world. However, the funding and controlling of this research remain contentious issues. In my opinion, the government should have the predominant responsibility for these.

One of the first issues is the knowledge that we gain from research. If governments are responsible then they are driven by the need to make advances in knowledge in order to improve people's lives. This is because they are accountable to the public and the research is paid for by taxes. On the other hand, private organizations are driven by profit. This may mean that some research that could be valuable to society may not begin because there is no monetary gain.

Another issue related to this is the research process. When the funding for research comes from the same organization that is going to gain from a favorable outcome, there is a strong potential for biased results. Taking drugs companies as an example, legislation usually requires rigorous trials for new drugs that can take many years to complete. The companies have large amounts of money invested in such research and the need for positive results is paramount. It is difficult for a scientist to remain impartial in these circumstances. However, if this is controlled and funded by governments, their accountability means that such conflicts of interest are less likely to occur.

On balance, I would argue that although it is not realistic to remove all opportunities for privately funded research, governments should have the main responsibility for the monitoring and controlling of this. Strong checks and balances need to be in place to ensure future research is ethical and productive.

Essay #52

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Smoking not only harms the smoker, but also those who are nearby. Therefore, smoking should be banned in public places.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Medical studies have shown that smoking not only leads to health problems for the smoker, but also for people close by. As a result of this, many believe that smoking should not be allowed in public places. Although there are arguments on both sides, I strongly agree that a ban is the most appropriate course of action.

Opponents of such a ban argue against it for several reasons. Firstly, they say that passive smokers make the choice to breathe in other people's smoke by going to places where it is allowed. If they would prefer not to smoke passively, then they do not need to visit places where smoking is permitted. In addition, they believe a ban would possibly drive many bars and pubs out of business as smokers would not go there anymore. They also argue it is a matter of freedom of choice. Smoking is not against the law, so individuals should have the freedom to smoke where they wish.

However, there are more convincing arguments in favour of a ban. First and foremost, it has been proven that tobacco consists of carcinogenic compounds which cause serious harm to a person's health, not only the smoker. Anyone around them can develop cancers of the lungs, mouth and throat, and other sites in the body. It is simply not fair to impose this upon another person. It is also the case that people's health is more important than businesses. In any case, pubs and restaurants could adapt to a ban by, for example, allowing smoking areas .

In conclusion, it is clear that it should be made illegal to smoke in public places. This would improve the health of thousands of people, and that is most definitely a positive development.

Essay #53

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It has been claimed that workers over 50 are not responsive to rapidly changing ideas in the modern workplace and that for this reason younger workers are to be preferred.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Some people believe that due to the rapid changes occurring in modern work places, it is better to employ younger than older people. I do not believe that this is the case.

One argument in support of younger employees is that older employees could be more set in their ways and potentially against any change. To an extent this may be true, but there are many flexible and intelligent workers over 50, while there are inflexible and narrow-minded younger ones. Attitude towards change is a result not of age but of personality type.

That said, physical changes occurring with age could mean certain jobs are more suited to a younger person. For instance, psychologists seem to be in agreement that memory declines with age for people not remaining mentally active. In high-tech industries such as computer programming, where it is so important to be able to work with so much information, numbers and calculations, being younger may be an advantage.

However, older workers have a wide range of other positive attributes that they can bring to their working environment. Generally, they have more work experience than those who are younger. In addition, as can be seen with the trend of many department stores in the UK to take on older people, they are seen to be more reliable and respectful. These are important in any kind of working environment.

In conclusion, therefore, there is not the evidence to support employing young people as opposed to those over 50. It would seem that a mix of the best qualities of old and young is preferential in order to ensure the most productive environment evolves.

Essay #54

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Every one of us should become a vegetarian because eating meat can cause serious health problems.
To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Vegetarianism is becoming more and more popular for many people, particularly because of the harm that some people believe meat can cause to the body. However, I strongly believe that it is not necessary for everybody to be a vegetarian.

Vegetarians believe that meat is unhealthy because of the diseases it has been connected with. There has been much research to suggest that red meat is particularly bad, for example, and that consumption should be limited to eating it just a few times a week to avoid such things as cancer. Meats can also be high in saturated fats so they have been linked to health problems such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

However, there are strong arguments for eating meat. The first reason is that as humans we are designed to eat meat, which suggests it is not unhealthy, and we have been eating meat for thousands of years. For example, cavemen made hunting implements so that they could kill animals and eat their meat. Secondly, meat is a rich source of protein which helps to build muscles and bones. Vegetarians often have to take supplements to get all the essential vitamins and minerals. Finally, it may be the case that too much meat is harmful, but we can easily limit the amount we have without having to cut it out of our diet completely.

To sum up, I do not agree that everyone should turn to a vegetarian diet. Although the overconsumption of meat could possibly be unhealthy, a balanced diet of meat and vegetables should result in a healthy body.

Essay #55

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe that they should be able to keep all the money they earn, and should not have to pay tax to the state.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

People work hard and earn money which ideally they would like to retain for themselves. However, a significant portion of this usually has to be given to the state. In my view, it is right that people pay their fair share of taxes.

Money is everything in today's livelihoods. This is because money is used to buy all the necessities such as food, water, and shelter. Money is also used to help a family's children in the form of school fees and other activities. In addition to this, people do not only need money to cater for their necessities, but also for future investments. The more that people have to invest, the more they believe they can accumulate in the long term. As a result, many are reluctant to lose some of their income through the deduction of tax.

Nevertheless, citizens should be obliged to pay taxes to the government for a number of reasons. They should accept that the taxes they pay help the government offer them the public services all over the country. These public services are things such as the construction of roads, bridges, public hospitals, parks and other public services. The same tax money helps the country's economy to be stable. Through taxes, the government can pay off its debts. In short, tax money is a way of ensuring that people have comfortable livelihoods.

In conclusion, even though many people think that they should not pay taxes, that money is useful to the stability of any country. Therefore, people should not avoid paying taxes as it may affect the country's economy and services that it provides.

Essay #56

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Formal examinations are the only effective way to assess a student's performance. Continual assessment such as course work and projects is not a satisfactory way to do this.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Many educational establishments such as schools and universities are choosing to assess their students through course work and projects undertaken during term time rather than the traditional examinations. Continual assessment can be an effective way to evaluate student's abilities, but formal examinations should also be maintained.

There are two principal benefits of formal examinations. Firstly, they are a fair system as every student has an equal opportunity since they all sit the same exam at the same time, meaning that those students who work hard should be rewarded with a high grade. In addition to this, it is also difficult to cheat if the exam is properly invigilated. However, some students naturally excel in exams, whereas others find it difficult to work under these stressful and time-constrained conditions. Formal exams, may not, therefore, always reflect a student's true ability.

Continual assessment, on the other hand, allows those students who work at a slower pace more time to work on their course work and projects. The teacher can also observe and assist students who may be weaker, thus providing them with the opportunity to improve during the term. Not only this, projects encourage team work, an important skill that is necessary for future employment. Focusing only on formal exams may mean that this important component of children's development is not seen as important by teachers or students.

To conclude, it is evident that both continual assessment and formal examinations are effective in different ways, but they also have weaknesses. I would therefore argue that in order to have robust evaluation procedures in the future, both should be used to assess students during their education.

Essay #57

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Although more and more people read news on the internet, newspapers will remain the most important source of news.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is common at the present time to see people getting updates on the latest news from the internet rather than the traditional method of reading a newspaper. I would argue that electronic sources of news will gradually replace that of the newspaper.

Newspapers remain an important source of news for several reasons. The first of these is that the older generation still prefer to read their news this way, which is because they have traditionally bought a newspaper over the years and so do not wish to change or simply do not know how to do so online in some cases. In addition to this a newspaper also comes with other supplements, such as magazines and television guides, and sources of entertainment, such as crosswords. This makes it more attractive for some than going online.

However, though newspapers may not disappear completely, the Internet is likely to become the more dominant source of news over time. This is primarily because younger people tend to read the news online and prefer not to pay for it, so those reading newspapers, the older generations, will gradually decline. This links in with the second reason, which is that as media companies start to see a drop in income from newspapers, printing them will become unprofitable and they will be forced to find ways to make money from news online.

In conclusion, although newspapers remain popular today, they will gradually be replaced by the desire to read the news through electronic sources. This may be a sad loss given their history, but unfortunately it is an unavoidable development.

Essay #58

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe the aim of university education is to help graduates get better jobs. Others believe there are much wider benefits of university education for both individuals and society.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

These days, more and more people are making the choice to go to university. While some people are of the opinion that the only purpose of a university education is to improve job prospects, others think that society and the individual benefit in much broader ways.

It is certainly true that one of the main aims of university is to secure a better job. The majority of people want to improve their future career prospects and attending university is one of the best ways to do this as it increases a person's marketable skills and attractiveness to potential employers. In addition, further education is very expensive for many people, so most would not consider it if it would not provide them with a more secure future and a higher standard of living. Thus job prospects are very important.

However, there are other benefits for individuals and society. Firstly, the independence of living away from home is a benefit because it helps the students develop better social skills and improve as a person. A case in point is that many students will have to leave their families, live in halls of residence and meet new friends. As a result, their maturity and confidence will grow enabling them to live more fulfilling lives. Secondly, society will gain from the contribution that the graduates can make to the economy. We are living in a very competitive world, so countries need educated people in order to compete and prosper.

Therefore, I believe that although a main aim of university education is to get the best job, there are clearly further benefits. If we continue to promote and encourage university attendance, it will lead to a better future for individuals and society.

Essay #59

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that the best way to reduce crime is to give longer prison sentences. Others, however, believe there are better alternative ways of reducing crime.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Crime is a serious and growing problem in most societies. Although many people believe that the best way to tackle this is to place people in prison for longer periods, others are of the opinion that other measures will be more effective.

There are benefits of giving offenders longer prison sentences. Firstly, spending a long time in prison provides an opportunity for the prison services to rehabilitate a prisoner. For example, someone who has committed a serious offence such as assault will need a long time in prison in order to be sure they can be re-educated not to re-offend. In addition to this, longer prison sentences will act as a deterrent for someone who is thinking of committing a crime.

However, some people argue that leaving people in prison for a long time means that they will mix with other criminals and so their character will not improve. One alternative is community service. This gives an offender the opportunity to give something positive back to society, and so it may improve their character. Also, the government could focus its resources on the causes of crime, which would lead to less crime in the future.

In my opinion, it is important to look at alternative methods. Many countries have lengthy prison sentences, but crime has continued to increase throughout the world, so it is clear that this is not completely effective. That said, long prison sentences should remain for those who commit serious crimes such as assault or murder, as justice for the victim and their family should take priority.

To conclude, there are good arguments for and against long sentences, so governments must continue to research the various methods of crime reduction to ensure effective policies are in place.

Essay #60

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

A growing number of people feel that animals should not be exploited by people and that they should have the same rights as humans, while others argue that humans must employ animals to satisfy their various needs, including uses for food and research.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Some people believe that animals should be treated in the same way humans are and have similar rights, whereas others think that it is more important to use them as we desire for food and medical research. This essay will discuss both points of view.

With regard to the exploitation of animals, people believe it is acceptable for several reasons. Firstly, they think that humans are the most important beings on the planet, and everything must be done to ensure human survival. If this means experimenting on animals so that we can fight and find cures for diseases, then this takes priority over animal suffering. Furthermore, it is believed by some that animals do not feel pain or loss as humans do, so if we have to kill animals for food or other uses, then this is morally acceptable.

However, I do not believe these arguments stand up to scrutiny. To begin, it has been shown on numerous occasions by secret filming in laboratories via animal rights groups that animals feel as much pain as humans do, and they suffer when they are kept in cages for long periods. In addition, a substantial amount of animal research is done for cosmetics, not to find cures for diseases, so this is unnecessary. Finally, it has also been proven that humans can get all the nutrients and vitamins that they need from green vegetables and fruit. Therefore, again, having to kill animals for food is not an adequate argument.

To sum up, although some people argue killing animals for research and food is ethical, I would argue there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate that this is not the case, and, therefore, steps must be taken to improve the rights of animals.

Essay #61

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that the main factors influencing a child's development these days are things such as television, friends, and music. Others believe that the family still remains more important.

Discuss both opinions and give your opinion.

While parents obviously play a major role in the way that their child develops as they get older, many people believe that social factors outside of the family now influence children much more. This essay will examine both sides of the argument.

There is no doubt that there are factors external to the family that significantly impact on a child's development. For example, there is television and the internet. Children these days have access to these much more than they used to in the past, and they will pick up language and see things that will teach them about life. Friends also have an important influence as a child will often copy peers that they admire and respect. This could be positive behaviour but it could also be negative, such as smoking or taking drugs.

Ultimately, however, it is family who have the most important impact. Children spend nearly all of their time with their family, especially in their early years. They develop their confidence, socialisation skills, morals, values and views on life through their interaction with them. Proof of the importance of this can be seen in the differences between some children. Those that grow up in a dysfunctional home often eventually have problems themselves, whilst those that are brought up in a warm and close environment end up more confident and secure in adult life.

To conclude, it is the family that can provide a supportive, secure, and nurturing environment, which is crucial to the way in which a child becomes an adult. Although it is clear that social factors play a part, I would argue that it is the former that is the most important.

Essay #62

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe that it is the responsibility of individuals to take care of their own health and diet. Others however believe that governments should make sure that their citizens have a healthy diet.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

An increasing concern for many governments around the world is the declining health of their citizens due to a poor diet. While some people believe governments should be responsible for improving the health of their nation, others believe it is up to the individual. This essay will examine both sides of the argument.

There is no doubt that individuals must take some responsibility for their diet and health. The argument to support this is the fact that adults have free will and make their own choices about what they eat and the exercise that they do. Children are also becoming less healthy. However, their parents are the ones who provide their evening meals so it is their responsibility to ensure these meals are nutritious and encourage them to avoid junk food and sugary snacks during the day.

Despite these arguments, there is also a case for advocating the intervention of the state. People these days often have little choice but to depend on fast food or ready meals that are high in sugar, salt and fat due to the pressures of work. Governments could regulate the ingredients of such food. Some governments also spend huge amounts of tax money on treating health problems of their citizens in hospitals. It would be logical to spend this on preventative measures such as campaigns to encourage exercise and a good diet.

Having considered both sides of the issue, I would argue that although individuals must take ultimate responsibility for what they eat, governments also have a role to play as only they can regulate the food supply, which openly encourages a poor diet. It is only through this combination that we can improve people's health.

Essay #63

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some working parents think that childcare centres provide the best care for children who are still too young to go to school. Other working parents think that family members such as grandparents will be better carers for their children.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Although it is common for parents these days to place their children that are pre-school age into childcare centres, some people criticise this and argue that children will receive a better level of care from relatives such as grandparents. Personally, I would argue that the best choice is to send children to a childcare centre.

Those that support care through grandparents cite several reasons for this. Firstly, they claim that this is the safest option due to the fact that they are family members so they can be trusted at all times to put the health and safety of the child first. Another important consideration is costs. Parents will have to pay to place their children in a childcare centre, and with the financial burdens that families face these days, using relatives to care for children would be a considerable cost saving.

Despite these benefits, there are clear advantages of using professional carers. First and foremost, staff members at most centres are fully trained in early childhood education so they understand child development and will be able to nurture the child's growing skills in the best way. Not only this, since there are a mix of instructional activities during the day such as painting, singing, and storytelling, children's creativity and learning will be developed. Last but not least, children can benefit from the opportunity to socialize with other children, which they might not get to do with a relative caring for them at home.

To conclude, I am of the opinion that the advantages of using childcare facilities to look after pre-school children clearly outweigh the benefits of using relatives. This is because the environment they are brought up in will result in children who are well-educated, creative and sociable.

Essay #64

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people prefer to provide help and support directly to those in need. Others however prefer to give money to national and international charitable organisations. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Giving money to those in need can be a personally satisfying experience, but there is a choice between donating nationally and internationally through charities or giving directly to those around you. This essay will consider the merits of both approaches.

The first advantage of providing direct support is that you can know exactly how your money is being spent. For example, if you give money directly to people in your local village or town, you can see where it has gone. When you donate to larger charitable organisations, on the other hand, you are not sure how much will actually be given to those in need as opposed going on other costs such as administration and expensive marketing campaigns. Another benefit is that you can see the impacts on those you are helping, which can lead not only to great personal satisfaction but also to respect from others in the local community who appreciate the work you do.

There are advantages, however, in giving to charities that are national and international. First and foremost there is the choice of good causes. Locally the kinds of places to help may be limited, but in larger organisations you can get involved in such activities as sponsoring a child or conserving wildlife. Not only this, donating to larger charities with an international reach means having the knowledge that you are involved in issues of fundamental global importance, such as curing diseases and human rights, or helping those caught up in tragic environmental events, such as flooding, earthquakes and famines.

In conclusion, given the benefits of both, I would argue that an individual should make their own choice based on their personal preferences and whichever provides them with the most personal satisfaction. What is crucial is that we continue to give to those who are more in need than ourselves.

Essay #65

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that zoos are all cruel and should be closed down. Others however believe that zoos can be useful in protecting wild animals.

Discuss both opinions and give your own opinion.

Zoos remain popular places for people to visit for entertainment and to learn about wild animals. Although some people are of the opinion that zoos can provide a sanctuary for endangered animals and so should be kept open, I believe that the cruelty that animals suffer outweighs this benefit, and that they should be shut down.

These days, animals are under threat from humans in many ways, seen for example in the way that their habitats are being destroyed through the cutting down of rain forests, or through poaching. Following on from this, the argument is that zoos can protect some of these animals who are under threat. The reason is that they are in a safe environment managed by trained staff who can ensure the animals are looked after and can produce offspring. There are examples of successes in this respect, such as with Pandas who have been endangered for many years but have been protected.

However, there are more convincing arguments for why zoos should be shut down. Firstly, even though some species are under threat, there are lots of animals who do not fall into this category and who are there just for the entertainment of visitors. While it may be fun and educational to see them, animals are not meant to be caged, and their distress can often be seen in the way many of them pace back and forwards all day. Not only this, if the prime reason of zoos is to protect animals, this could be done in other environments such as wild life parks where the animals have more freedom.

In conclusion, animals should be protected but this does not have to be in zoos. Zoos are cruel to animals, not similar enough to their natural habitat, and they should be closed down.

Essay #66

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that in the modern world we are more dependent on each other, while others think that people have become more independent.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

It has always been the case that in certain ways our lives are intertwined with the lives of others. However, in the modern era, some people believe that dependency between people has increased, whereas others believe that people have grown to be more independent.

One reason that people think we are more dependent on each other is because of our reliance on others to provide a positive image of ourselves. People are bombarded these days with pictures of beautiful models and people who seem to have perfect lives. Many people therefore feel the need to go on social media, such as Facebook and Instagram, in order to post pictures and they need others to get as many 'likes' as possible. In addition to this, because of the hectic and busy lives some families lead, it is argued they are dependent on others to support them, such as with grandparents helping to take care of their grandchildren because the parents don't have time.

However, despite this, overall I believe that people are generally more independent. This can be seen in the way that so many people live away from their families and lead their own lives. For example, families used to live nearby to each other, but nowadays people often reside in different cities to their parents and siblings or in other countries, seeing each other only rarely in some cases. Not only this, people prefer more privacy than in the past and do not require help from others, seen in the way that neighbours these days often do not know each other or interact at all.

In conclusion, although in certain ways people are more dependent, it is generally the case that people now live more independent lives. Only over time will it be revealed as to whether this is a positive or negative development for society.

Essay #67

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Leaders and directors in an organization are normally older people. Some people think younger leader would be better.

Do you agree or disagree?

It is true that higher positions are prevalently held by aged members in many organizations these days. While some people believe younger people would demonstrate better leadership, it is in my opinion that senior managers possess more advantages over the young in leading a company.

To begin with, it is usually difficult for the young to compete with the old in terms of experience. Those who have gained adequate experience can more effectively manage to lead the individuals of an organization than those who do not. The reason for this is that business matters often require the people in charge to have not only the knowledge of coping with problematic situations but also strong nerves to calmly find a feasible solution. As a result, years of experience in a relevant position tend to make the elderly better candidates than those who are relatively young and new to the tasks.

Another advantage belonging to aged people is that they are likely to receive more support from the people in an organization. As the time spent working with the staff of the senior is often longer, they can understand their colleagues better, achieving more popularity. It is interpersonal communication skills and approval of other people that can tremendously affect the success of a leader. Younger members, on the other hand, will need more time to make contributions over time to prove themselves worthy.

In conclusion, I believe that critical positions of authority should be given to senior staff members for the certain reasons mentioned rather than the young.

Essay #68

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Leaders and directors in an organization are normally older people. Some people think younger leader would be better.

Do you agree or disagree?

People have different views about whether older or younger people are more suitable for important positions in organisations. While I accept that old individuals have significantly important qualities, I believe younger ones are more likely to become good leaders.

On the one hand, elderly people can be good leaders for some reasons. Firstly, as old people have worked for many years, they have accumulated much more work experience compared to younger workers. This might allow them to make wiser decisions and bring success to the company they work for. Secondly, older people are often more respected by others. Therefore, they can have a more powerful voice within the company, and people are more likely to listen to them. If leaders are young, they might find it hard to influence other employees.

On the other hand, I believe it will be better if young people take up important positions. The first reason is that since young individuals tend to be physically stronger, they can handle big responsibilities and much work. Being a leader requires people to work with much pressure, and old people are often not capable of doing that. Additionally, younger people are usually more creative, so they are more likely to find newer and better improvements which benefit the entire organisation. For example, a young manager can come up with a new advertising strategy for a product, which contributes to the increasing sales of the company.

In conclusion, while I accept that old individuals can be good leaders of an organisation, I believe these important positions should be given to younger people.

Essay #69

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that there should be some strict controls about noise. Others think that they could just make as much noise as they want.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

People have different views about whether noise should be limited. While some individuals believe the level of noise being created should be strictly controlled, I would argue that people should have the right to produce noise if they want to.

On the one hand, there are several reasons why the government should control the amount of noise produced. The first reason is that too much noise can significantly affect people's health. Living in a place that is too noisy can cause problems such as headaches, which can decrease the health levels of people, especially old ones. Additionally, noise can disturb people's work or study. For example, a university student will not be able to concentrate on his preparation for exams if his neighbours keep singing too loud.

However, I believe people should be allowed make as much noise as they want because of some reasons. Firstly, producing noise is sometimes considered a type of recreational activities. For instance, singing or cheering for a football club can be relaxing, and everyone has the right to do those things. Secondly, as the world is becoming more modern, people have found ways to deal with the problem of noise. Scientists have invented walls and windows that can block out the noise, which allows individuals to focus on their work without being disturbed. Therefore, the problem of noise can be reduced and there is no need for people to keep quiet.

In conclusion, while many people believe there should be controls about noise, I believe we have the right to create noise when we want to.

Essay #70

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that there should be some strict controls about noise. Others think that they could just make as much noise as they want.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

People hold different views about whether people should have the freedom to produce noise or comply with some regulations of it. In my view, it is important that noise making be put under control.

On the one hand, it is understandable why some people believe in their rights to generate noise freely. As people these days often have to suffer from considerable stress at work or school, they tend to find an effective way to relieve it. In some cases, recreational activities such as karaoke singing or party holding can bring a certain amount of relaxation, mitigating stressful situations for everyone. If too strictly imposed, any restriction of noise may deter people from gaining access to one of the useful methods of relaxing.

However, I can understand the arguments against noise makers. Firstly, excessive levels of noise can cause serious disturbance to the nearby residents who also have the rights to take a proper rest after a tiring day. Those who are affected by the loud sounds from their neighbours may not only be unable to relax but also have their levels of discomfort increased. In the long term, this will definitely have a negative impact on their quality of life. Another reason for this opinion is that too much noise can produce detrimental effects on the health of the unintentional hearers. For example, constant exposure to high pitch noise can result in auditory problems, for example hearing loss. Hearing-impaired individuals are very likely to experience difficulty in their daily life.

In conclusion, although there are good reasons why people should be allowed to make as much noise as they wish, in my opinion some appropriate controls are necessary.

Essay #71

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It is now possible for scientists and tourists to travel to remote natural environment, such as the South Pole.

Do the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?

As technology has developed, people can now travel to remote natural areas. While this trend is beneficial to some extent, I would argue that its disadvantages are more significant.

On the one hand, visiting isolated natural places has some benefits. Firstly, this is a newer and more interesting type of travelling. Since going to other cities or countries has been too common for most people, it might be more exciting for them to explore new places such as the South Pole or the Amazon rainforest. This gives them valuable experiences and unforgettable memories. Secondly, when visiting remote areas, people, especially scientists, might acquire more knowledge about the natural habitat. For example, when coming to the North Pole, scientists can learn about the life of polar bears which live far away from humans.

On the other hand, I believe this development has far more drawbacks. The first one is that travelling to remote natural areas can be risky if the travellers are not sufficiently prepared. For instance, the temperature at the South Pole is usually very low, which adversely affects people's health. Travelling to forests can also be dangerous as people have to face the risk of being attacked by animals. Also, since visiting isolated places often requires a large amount of investment in researching and ensuring the safety of travellers, the costs of travelling tend to be high. Therefore, it seems like only scientists and rich people can afford this activity, so this development is likely to benefit only a small group of individuals.

In conclusion, I believe the disadvantages of people being able to travel to remote areas outweigh its advantages.

Essay #72

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It is now possible for scientists and tourists to travel to remote natural environment, such as the South Pole.

Do the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?

It is true that humans can now set foot in wild regions far away from civilisation. While I accept that this development can have certain benefits for the human race, I believe that it is likely to have a harmful impact on nature.

On the one hand, undertaking expeditions to the wilderness can be valuable in terms of both science and recreation. There are a considerable number of undiscovered secrets that can be tremendously useful for researchers to conduct their studies. For instance, environmental scientists can analyse the data about the thickness of ice layers over millions of years in both hemispheres to predict the possible changes in global temperatures. Such findings are crucial for the governments to develop appropriate plans to alleviate global warming. Furthermore, the untouched beauty of these areas is usually appealing to travellers, providing people with an attractive option of holiday destination or excursion.

However, I would argue that these positive aspects are outweighed by the drawbacks. When people are given full and easy access to the distant and unpopulated areas, there are likely to be more moving there to reside or start their business. It has been shown that substantial damage has been done to nature such as massive deforestation or water contamination due to humans' lack of environmental awareness. If there is inadequate protection of the environment from this type of action, wild regions in the world will no longer exist, unspeakably affecting not only the overall ecology but also the lives of other people.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential dangers of travelling to wild environments are more significant than the possible benefits for the mentioned reasons.

Essay #73

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people say that too much attention and too many resources are given in the protection of wild animals and birds.

Do you agree or disagree about this opinion?

The protection of wildlife has become a frequent subject of debate with strong arguments for and against. Personally, I believe that humans are paying too much attention and allocating too many resources to this issue, as will now be explained.

Firstly, if we allow any species to disappear, this is actually not a disaster. Some people may argue that the biology will be seriously affected if birds and wild animals are on the verge of extinction, but this is an exaggeration. Fossil evidence suggests that the mass disappearance of the dinosaur did not cause any harm to other species on the Earth but merely triggered the emergence of others such as the mammal. Therefore, we should not devote too much attention to the protection of wildlife.

Secondly, public money is limited. This means that the national budget should be allocated to more urgent issues rather than expending too much in the conservation of wild animals and birds. For example, more resources should be diverted to medical research to find out remedies for fatal diseases such as HIV and cancer, which may help to save thousands of lives in society.

Finally, the government can simply protect wildlife by continuing campaigns to raise public awareness of the protection of wildlife habitats, or impose stricter punishments on activities that may harm wild animals. Any individual who hunts wildlife for food or for pleasure should be given a heavy fine, and this may discourage them from threatening the life of wild animals.

In conclusion, while I do not refute the argument for the conservation of wildlife, I believe that it should attract less attention and fewer resources from the public.

Essay #74

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many museums and historical sites are mainly visited by tourists but not local people.

Why is this the case and what can be done to attract more local people to visit these places?

There are a number of factors that explain why many museums and historical sites fail to attract the attention of the locals. However, this issue can be resolved by adopting a number of solutions, as will now be discussed.

Perhaps the primary reason is that local inhabitants often do not have interest in visiting these places as they tend not to be attracted by places and objects that are familiar to their cultural backgrounds. For example, many museums in Ho Chi Minh City welcome thousands of travelers from Hanoi annually, in contrast to the number of local residents who visit the museums and historical sites here in my home city of Hanoi.

Another reason stems from historical attractions themselves. They are often poorly conserved due to a low budget for operation while the authority does not make an attempt to improve the situation. Take the Air Defense museum in Hanoi as an example. For years, there has been no change for the better, at least visually, to attract the locals, and this is the reason why most of its visitors are tourists.

However, a range of available options can be taken to tackle the problem. The simplest one is that the authority should continue campaigns aiming at encouraging local people to visit these attractions. They could also consider rearranging and redecorating historical places to make them more interesting and attractive for all visitors. To achieve this, the government ought to allocate more public money to the conservation of these places.

In conclusion, various measures need to be taken to gain back local residents' interest in museums and historical sites.

Essay #75

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that the best way to increase road safety is to increase the minimum legal age for driving cars or riding motorbikes.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Some individuals believe raising the minimum legal age for driving cars or riding motorbikes is the most effective method of increasing road safety. While I accept that this policy is good to some extent, I believe it is not the best because there are much better measures to reduce traffic accidents.

It might be a good idea to increase the minimum age required for driving because of some reasons. Firstly, since younger people are usually less mature and less responsible with their manners, they might not be aware of the importance of following the rules. Therefore, it is reasonable to ban them from travelling on the street to prevent them from breaking the law and causing accidents. Secondly, as older people are more experienced, they can know how to react quickly to handle dangerous situations on the road, while younger ones might not be able to. To illustrate, if the brakes of a car suddenly stop working, a young driver might panic, and accidents are more likely to occur.

However, I would argue that there are much better methods of ensuring road safety. The first one is to have stricter punishments for driving offenders. For example, people who break traffic rules should be required to pay huge fines or be banned permanently from commuting on the street. This makes commuters more likely to respect the law, and traffic accidents can be limited. Another solution is to encourage people to use public transport rather than private vehicles. This can be done by reducing the price and increasing the frequency of buses and tubes to make it more convenient for users.

In conclusion, I believe apart from increasing the legal age for driving, there are more effective ways to make sure that travelling on the street is safe for everyone.

Essay #76

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The use of mobile phone is as antisocial as smoking. Smoking is banned in certain places so mobile phone should be banned like smoking.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It has been claimed that like smoking, mobile phones should be banned in some places due to their harmful effects. While I accept that the use of mobile phones is antisocial in some ways, I believe it has more benefits and therefore should not be prohibited.

On the one hand, I agree that the use of mobile phones can sometimes be antisocial. Firstly, these devices might disturb people's work or study in some cases. For example, the sound from a mobile phone can interrupt a lecture, which affects the concentration of students. Secondly, the use of mobile phones also adversely impacts communication between people. Since individuals currently tend to spend too much time using mobile phones, they seem to have less time to interact with others.

On the other hand, I disagree that mobile phones should be banned because of some reasons. The first one is that since they allow people who live far away from each other to speak or send messages, they help people keep in touch more easily. For instance, students who study abroad can use mobile phones to make phone calls or even video calls with their family. The second reason is that mobile phones often provide users with many useful applications such as maps and weather forecast, which can make people's lives become easier. Additionally, using mobile phones is not as bad as smoking as some people think. While smoking directly affects people's health and leads to health problems, the negative influences of mobile phones are less serious.

In conclusion, while I agree that mobile phones are sometimes antisocial, I believe they should not be banned.

Essay #77

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some students take a year off between school and university, to work or to travel.

Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

It is true these days that many high school leavers choose to start their work or take a trip before going to university. While a gap year can bring some immediate drawbacks, I am convinced that it is more likely to have long-term benefits for their lives.

On the one hand, young students are very likely to encounter several difficulties when delaying their university study. One of these problems is the delay in academic progress caused by spending one year off school. It is understandably almost impossible for young people to enjoy their experiences in doing a job or travelling to a new place but still arrange a certain amount of time for revision. As a result, gap-year takers may have to face the challenge of becoming familiar with the knowledge at school again, receiving more pressure of catching up with their peers. Besides, the life out of university campus may prove to be mentally and physically overwhelming for inexperienced school leavers. They, for instance, may be at risk of being exploited in an exhausting job or face potential dangers on their trips to a new country. If not well prepared for such possible obstacles, young high school graduates can suffer from unintended consequences.

On the other hand, I would argue that these disadvantages are outweighed by the positive effects. A gap year is an ideal opportunity for students to learn about what is not taught at university. Working with other people who are experts in a particular field can give these newcomers not only understanding of the job but also valuable practical lessons to help them become more mature. When it comes to applying for a position in a company, employers tend to favourably consider applicants who possess extensive experience in life and the occupation. Furthermore, in terms of recreation, having a year to relax can be advantageous as students can have a chance to relieve stress in study. With a comfortable and willing attitude, undergraduates can acquire knowledge more effectively in comparison with those who go to university straightaway.

In conclusion, despite some negative aspects, it seems to me that the benefits of a gap year are more significant for the reasons mentioned.

Essay #78

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, many families have both parents working. Some working parents believe other family members like grandparents can take care of their children, while others think childcare centres provide the best care.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Currently, many parents tend to be busy working, and they need to rely on someone else to take care of their offspring. While some people think childcare organisations can offer the best care, I would argue that it is better for children to be looked after by their grandparents.

On the one hand, it is believed that youngsters should be sent to childcare centres for some reasons. The first one is that since those centres are professional organisations, their staff are often well trained and therefore have good babysitting skills. For example, when a child falls over and gets himself injured, a staff can react quickly and give him first aid. Furthermore, children can have a chance to make friends with their peers when coming there, which might increase their communication and language abilities. If they are looked after by their family at home, they might feel a bit lonely.

On the other hand, I believe it is a better idea for grandparents to take care of their grandchildren. Firstly, as grandparents have lived for many years and have brought up their own offspring, they have much experience in raising children. For instance, they might know how to calm the baby down when he cries. Secondly, grandparents are family members, so they love their grandchildren more than other people do. As a result, they tend to spend much more time and effort caring for their grandchildren compared to a childcare staff member. Finally, youngsters looked after by their grandparents are likely to become more family-oriented and appreciate the value of a happy family.

In conclusion, while there are some benefits of children being sent to childcare centres, I believe they should be raised by their own grandparents.

Essay #79

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that famous people can help international aid organizations to draw attention to important problems. Others believe that the celebrities can make the problems seem less important.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

There has been much debate regarding the role of famous people in raising public awareness of major issues. While celebrities can attract people's attention to the problems, I would argue that they are likely to make the problems become less crucial.

To begin with, well-known people can assist international aid organisations in raising people's awareness of social issues. Firstly, celebrities can communicate information about big problems to a large audience around the world. For example, by taking part in the Ice Bucket Challenge in 2014, various celebrities such as Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg have helped the ALS Organisation to let millions of people know about a disease called ALS. Secondly, since people tend to listen to the ones they admire, famous people are much more likely to be able to ask their fans to take appropriate actions. For instance, a well-known football player can ask people to donate money to help homeless individuals.

However, I believe famous people might make the problems become less important. The first reason is that individuals tend to only pay attention to what celebrities do and say rather than what messages they want to convey. In the aforementioned example about the Ice Bucket Challenge, many people watched the videos of celebrities taking up the challenge without actually learning anything about the ALS disease. This makes little contribution to solving the problem compared to the large number of famous people involved. Furthermore, in order to attract viewers, wellknown people usually try to deliver their messages in a funny and entertaining way, which might lead to the problems becoming less serious.

In conclusion, while celebrities can contribute greatly to tackling social problems, I believe they are more likely to make these problems seem less important.

Essay #80

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that the increasing use of computers and mobile phones in communication has negative effects on young people's reading and writing skills.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Such technological equipment as mobile phones and computers have acquired their significance in the modern-day communication of the young. Personally, I believe that this has both positive and negative effects on their reading and writing skills.

On the one hand, I agree that excessive reliance on these devices is responsible for the young generation's poor performance in reading and writing. Firstly, many people have a strong preference for computer software when composing text documents due to its convenient functions. For example, Microsoft Word provides users with the ability to modify or erase a piece of text without effort, simultaneously slowing down the writing speed of the users. In addition, young people who spend much time playing with their phones and computers are likely to have insufficient time for reading activities. Gradually, the lack of practice may impair their reading competence in the long term.

On the other hand, it is also true that the proper use of electronic devices can have a positive effect on reading and writing skills. The Internet has now been made accessible through both mobile phones and computers, allowing young readers to gain knowledge from a wider range of sources. Online English newspapers, as an example, are useful for English learners to enrich their vocabulary. Using computers to write blogs is also a good way to enhance the writing skill. Today, the availability of Internet infrastructure can enable bloggers to update their stories at their convenience. By writing regularly, the writing ability of a person is certain to improve.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the use of electronic equipment items can have both advantages and drawbacks for the reading and writing skills of users, depending on the way they are used.

Essay #81

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, more and more older people who need employment compete with the younger people for the same jobs.

What problems this causes? What are solutions?

It is true that there has been increasingly more competition between the young and the old who are in search of the same job. Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, steps can be taken to mitigate these potential problems.

As more elderly applicants have to compete with the younger ones for a job, several related problems can be anticipated. The main issue is that this will obviously pose more challenges for the young who are struggling to find a place in the labour market. Older people, understandably, are usually given more favourable consideration by recruiters due to their vast experience in comparison with the young generation, which can lead to a shortage of work for younger people, increasing the rates of unemployment. Furthermore, when being unemployed and lacking a stable source of income, people are likely to commit crimes such as robbery to feed themselves and their family. As a result, not only will the citizens' quality of life diminish, but their safety will also be threatened.

However, there are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems described above. Firstly, decreasing the legal retirement age can alleviate the pressure of competition the young have to take. Secondly, increasing the state pension is also an ideal option for this issue because some retirees who find their pension sufficient for living will not have to return to work. Finally, governments can create more available jobs by attracting international organizations to invest with additional incentives.

In conclusion, various measures can be taken to tackle the problems that are certain to arise as older people are competing with the young for the same job.

Essay #82

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that schools should reward students who show the best academic results, while others believe that it is more important to reward students who show improvements.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Giving encouragement is a necessary practice in every education system. In some countries, a form of awards is often given to those who achieve the highest level of academic attainment, but this is not the most desirable solution, as will now be discussed.

There are those who argue that students with the best academic results should be rewarded. The core of this argument is that this may encourage students to study hard for the best grade, and that those who excel at academic performances should be praised for their efforts. However, only some students who are very smart can be able to come top in formal exams while normal students may think that they are incapable of competing with more intelligent students at all. Therefore, slow students might feel reluctant to bury themselves in study to achieve higher scores.

However, I side with those who believe that schools should reward those who endeavour to study and make great improvements in the educational environment. For example, when I was a child, I often received a small gift from my parents once I scored higher than I did in the previous exam. I still remember that this did make significant contributions to my study and helped me to progress fast in the classroom. Thus, it is suggested that schools take the same action to encourage students to learn. For instance, teachers can simply pay a compliment as the recognition of the efforts that students make during the semester.

In conclusion, it seems to me that schools should reward those who make academic improvements rather than those who score highest in the exam.

Essay #83

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Young people who commit crimes should be treated in the same as as adults who commit crimes.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

There is an opinion that young offenders should be held accountable for their actions just as adults. While I find this viewpoint of some people justifiable to some extent, I also argue that treating both young and mature lawbreakers equally may prove to have adverse effects.

On the one hand, I can understand why young age should be no deterrent to the way of dealing with criminals. If these juvenile delinquents were easily pardoned in place of receiving strict punishments as adults, they would not become fully aware of the serious consequences of their crimes. Therefore imposing appropriate punishments could prevent them from conducting illegal actions in the future. Besides, young perpetrators usually receive lighter sentences that they deserve, which is apparently an injustice to the victims. In Vietnam, there was a well-known case in which a teenager murdered almost every member of a family deliberately, escaping the death sentence due to being a few months under the responsible age.

On the other hand, I am convinced that it is better for juvenile criminals to be tried in a different court from that for adults. Firstly, children are proven not to have sufficient intellectual or moral capacity to understand the outcomes of their misdeeds, so they lack the necessary conditions to be trial defendants as grown-up people. Secondly, when given a second chance, these underage convicts can have an opportunity to successfully rehabilitate and learn a valuable lesson. Thirdly, children can be negatively influenced by some bad role models, which should also be taken into consideration to give them a fair trial.

In conclusion, breakers of laws should not be spared of punishments, but I believe young offenders should be dealt with differently from adults.

Essay #84

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Development in technology has brought various environmental problems. Some believe that people need to live simpler lives to solve environmental problems. Others, however, believe technology is the way to solve these problems.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

The improvements in technology currently bring about harmful effects on the environment. While some people believe having simpler lives is the only solution, I would argue that technological advances can help to tackle these environmental problems.

On the one hand, it is believed that individuals need to live simple lives and rely less on technology. The first suggestion is that people should walk or cycle rather than drive cars. This is because the current number of cars being manufactured and used is increasing, which causes high levels of exhaust fumes and makes air pollution become serious. Additionally, people should try to reduce their consumption of electricity so that the exploitation of natural resources such as fossil fuels or nuclear power can be minimised. An example of this idea is the annual event called Earth Hour where everyone is asked to turn their lights off for sixty minutes.

On the other hand, I believe the developments of technology can greatly contribute to environmental protection. Firstly, because of those improvements, people are able to come up with ways to recycle materials such as paper or glass, which reduces the problem of waste disposal. Secondly, technology can also help to create electricity using renewable resources. For example, many countries in the world have built plants that utilise solar energy to generate power. As a result, it is not necessary to rely on non-renewable resources, and people can create electricity without significantly damaging the environment.

In conclusion, while some people think that they should live simpler lives to prevent environmental issues, I would argue that these problems can be dealt with by technological improvements.

Essay #85

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many people argue that in order to improve educational quality, high school students are encouraged to make comments or even criticism on their teachers. Others think it will lead to loss of respect and discipline in the classroom.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Finding ways to improve educational quality is often one of the top priorities in every education system. In some cultures, high school students are encouraged to give their opinions about teachers, but I believe that this can also give rise to lack of respect and discipline in the classroom.

On the one hand, it is true that feedback from learners may contribute to an improvement in educational quality. In many cases, the level of comprehension of students relies very much not on the content of the lesson but on the way teachers conduct it. If, for example, the class is slow, it will be ineffective for teachers to teach too fast so that most students fail to retain the information. Without the comments of students, it would be difficult to know whether the speed of the lesson is appropriate for the class, which may eventually impair the quality of the lesson.

However, there are several drawbacks of allowing students to make comments and criticism on their teachers. Firstly, teachers can be vulnerable to the negative words of students. Many will feel that their efforts in delivering the lesson deserve praise rather than criticism or any form of feedback. This idea is commonly shared by teachers in the education systems of many Asian countries. Secondly, the classroom may be in chaos due to massive numbers of comments. Opinions vary from students to students, and it would be impractical for teachers to work out a way of teaching that can satisfy all students.

In conclusion, it seems to me that encouraging high school students to comment about their teachers does not necessarily mean an improvement in education quality.

Essay #86

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life.

What are the reasons? What are the effects on society and family life?

Many people currently decide not to have babies when they are young and wait until they get older instead. There are some reasons for this tendency, and it could have some impacts on family life as well as society.

To begin with, there are several reasons why a number of individuals want to have children later in their life. Firstly, this choice allows them to have more time to enjoy life when they are young. For instance, it is easier for a young couple to travel when they do not have a baby to nurture. Secondly, people who are at the early stage of their career usually have lower income compared to when they are older. Therefore, many people decide to start raising a family after having accumulated enough money to ensure a better life for their children.

However, this tendency might bring about some negative effects on both family life and society. The first impact is that having children later will cause a significant age gap between two generations. This makes it harder for parents to understand and communicate with their offspring. Additionally, if people give birth when they are too old, the babies being born might be less physically healthy. This might adversely affect the quality of the future workforce if too many people decide to follow this trend.

In conclusion, there are some reasons why many people prefer to have children later in their life, and this tendency can result in some negative impacts on both family life and society.

Essay #87

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life.

What are the reasons? What are the effects on society and family life?

It is not until middle age that married couples in today's society are delaying having their babies. This trend is attributable to many factors in life, and it certainly will have great impacts on society in general and family life in particular.

Looking more closely into the matter, there are some possible causes of people's avoidance of being parents. A prominent reason could be that married couples, especially young ones are becoming more independent in their decisions in contrast to their predecessors. As a result of their freedom of choice, they tend to spend more time advancing the career or pursuing higher education before finally having any newborn family members. In addition, many prospective parents could avoid pregnancy owing to the fact that they are unable to support their family financially, and raising a baby is sometimes too costly for parents to afford. Therefore couples are likely to wait until they have earned more income in preparation for their babies to appear.

As more people are hesitating to have children, both society and domestic life are subject to many negative impacts. Firstly, the increasing age of pregnancy usually entails higher health risks for the mother as well as the baby, as suggested by some researchers, which will undoubtedly adversely affect family life. Secondly, the older parents are, the more likely that the generation gap will widen. By the time the late babies are grown up, they might encounter difficulty adapting to their parents' ways of life. Thirdly, the reduction in the rates of birth can lead to a shortage of the labour force nationwide, hindering the development of the national economy.

In conclusion, people these days have many reasons to have children at an older age, and the rise of such a trend will produce some certain negative effects on not only society but also family.

Essay #88

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many people believe that international tourism is a bad thing for their country.

What are the reasons? Solutions to change negative attitudes?

There are several reasons why many people have a negative attitude towards international tourism. However, this can be handled by adopting possible solutions, as will now be discussed.

Firstly, the influx of foreign travelers is often associated with an increase in the level of environmental pollution. Many tourists throw rubbish into the surroundings irresponsibly, which contributes to air, water and soil contamination. In addition, there might be a growing demand for transport, decreasing the air quality at the tourist destination.

Secondly, international tourism increases the odds of spreading infectious diseases into the local community. Viruses such as Ebola and H5N1 can become a threat to the locals if an infected traveler visits their country. In Vietnam, for example, many people died after a visitor from Hong Kong carried the H5N1 virus to the country in 2003. This example makes it clear why many people are still against the development of international tourism.

However, there are a range of options that can be taken to improve the situation. One measure would be that the government should continue campaigns to raise the awareness of tourists when they pay a visit to a new land. Travellers should be encouraged to put waste into the right place or to use public transport if possible. Another remedy is that there should be medical checks at airports and borders. This is to guarantee that infected visitors should be quarantined to halt the spread of the disease.

In conclusion, negative feelings about global tourism still are common in society. However, this can be resolved by taking the above suggestions.

Essay #89

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Accommodation and transport problems are increasing in many large cities. Businesses are encouraged to move to rural areas.

Do advantages outweigh disadvantages?

The movement of organizations from urban areas to less-developed provinces is a solution to various municipal problems, but we cannot turn a blind eye to the shortcomings of this trend. The essay will clarify both sides of the coin, and demonstrate my view that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks.

On the one hand, it is absurd to say that an organization can easily move from a major city to the countryside without suffering any losses. A change in terms of position may cost a firm, for example, a reduction in the quality of its workforce. Not every employee is willing to resettle down in a faraway province, and they prefer seeking another career in the metropolis to maintain their current living standards. The enterprise, to handle such risk of brain drain, would have to hire local workers who are normally less competent. The expenses for their prerequisite training courses are significant, but an improvement in their professional performance would still not be guaranteed.

On the other hand, I believe that the advantages of this scenario are more important. Firstly, such relocation of organizations can reduce the population density in the urban areas. As a result, the influx of workers traveling in rush hours which causes traffic congestion would disappear. Secondly, the movement of companies' headquarters makes way for the construction of more residential areas, so the citizens would no longer have to live in narrow houses and apartments anymore. Finally, factories carry along with them modern production lines to the suburban areas, hence the rural population might have access to such cutting-edge technological advancements, which have been by no means close to them ever.

In conclusion, I believe that governments should encourage companies to move to rural areas because of the mentioned considerable benefits.

Essay #90

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

People today do not feel safe either at home or when they are out.

What are the causes? What are the solutions?

People today have a sense that their safety is threatened both outside and inside their house. The reasons for this vary, and the problem should be tackled in particular ways.

There are common risks that every individual has to confront as they walk out the door. One particularly salient example for this should be traffic accidents. High population density puts pressure on the transportation system, and a rise in the number of commuting vehicles means that people now are more likely to get involved in a car crash than they were in the past.

In addition, our individual safety is not guaranteed even when we stay at home. Food poisoning is a general concern today, as manufacturers are willing to trade the well-being of their customers for profits. Toxic substances are injected into many products to maintain the food's freshness for a longer time, and this is why state hospitals are now filled with cancer and heart-disease patients.

To tackle this problem, I would like to propose several measures. Firstly, the food market has to be better managed. The government should examine more carefully which ingredients are contained in pre-prepared meals sold to the public and ban those with high levels of preservatives. Secondly, education campaigns about the benefits of public transport should reach every resident. For example, Hanoi Urban Transport Operation Centre has recently run a programme called "Travel by Bus every Friday" on Facebook. This encourages the local people to put a limit on the use of their personal vehicles, thus the frequency of traffic accidents would also be reduced in the long-term.

In conclusion, I believe that the mentioned remedies can certainly help people lead a safer life.

Essay #91

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

People today do not feel safe either at home or when they are out.

What are the causes? What are the solutions?

People currently feel unsafe either when they stay at home or go out on the streets. This problem is caused by some factors, and it should be dealt with by some effective solutions.

There are some reasons why people now have to face serious risks no matter where they are. Firstly, due to climate change that is happening all around the world, people might face the danger of natural disasters even when they are at home. For example, in Japan, earthquakes and tsunamis occur every year, and many people have been killed during those events. Secondly, when being out on the streets, individuals are usually exposed to different types of pollution such as noise or air pollution. This might negatively affect people's health and can even lead to fatal consequences.

Feasible solutions should be produced to tackle these aforementioned problems so that people would feel safer. The first measure would be to develop new technologies that can help minimise or prevent the damages caused by natural disasters. For instance, scientists have come up with machines that can forecast the occurrence of earthquakes. Additionally, it is necessary to reduce noise and air pollution on the streets. This can be done by encouraging citizens to use public transport in order to limit the levels of noise and exhaust fumes caused by private vehicles.

In conclusion, there are some reasons why people today usually do not have the feeling of safety either at home or when they are out, and some measures could be taken to solve this problem.

Essay #92

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that young people should be required to do unpaid work helping people in the community.

Are disadvantages of this requirement greater than the benefits for the community and individuals?

It is true that volunteer work provides great benefits for both participants and the community. However, forcing the youth to engage in those activities may be counterproductive, as now will be explained.

On the one hand, if young people were required to do social jobs for free, there would be certain advantages for all sides related. A vast majority of the younger population are energetic, dynamic and passionate about improving themselves, and it is the unpaid work that can satisfy that demand. Charitable campaigns such as teaching primary schoolchildren or helping the elderly with their daily activities provide the participants with not only new knowledge and skills, but also a sense of community and a belief that they are a pivotal part of societies. Vice versa, the government, with the assistance from young people, has a productive workforce available for charity work without wasting money on the recruitment process.

On the other hand, I believe that the disadvantages of this are more important. Working on a volunteer basis may distract young people from their priorities. For example, students of state universities and colleges are expected to attend lessons, complete homework and even consult external academic materials. With such a heavy workload, those students should spend their little remaining time relaxing or playing sports rather than joining free social activities. Regarding those who do not go to school, vocational or internship courses are what they should seek for. Professional skills from such classes are tools for these individuals to achieve a stable later life; therefore, the community should allow them to pursue their career.

In conclusion, the youth can choose to support others, and the volunteer work should never be made obligatory.

Essay #93

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Advertising discourages people from being different individuals by making us want to be and to look the same.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

An often debated topic is whether advertising has a major influence on the growing similarity of people's lifestyle in the modern world. Personally, I partly agree with this opinion for a number of reasons.

On the one hand, the power of advertising is undeniable. The growth of the advertising industry has resulted in many people buying products of the same manufacture, which can be seen in the case of consumer goods. Today, the advertising campaigns of multinational companies such as Unilever have been so successful that their products almost dominate the market. Smaller enterprises tend not to be able to compete with these giant market leaders due to their disadvantages of capital poured into advertising programs. Thus, costumers are often swayed to buy products of famous brands rather than those made by less well-known companies.

On the other hand, it is also true that people have the tendency to copy others' lifestyles without being affected by advertising. For example, it is valid to argue that many young people are trying to emulate the fashion styles of their idols. Many Vietnamese youths manage to purchase the same clothes, dye their hair and wear the same perfume as their stars do. People can also turn to their social relations for advice when they need to buy something. For instance, junior citizens usually ask their friends before they come to a final decision on buying a smart phone.

In conclusion, it is true that advertising has bridged the gap between each individual's lifestyle in modern society. However, I believe that it is not the sole factor that contributes to the trend.

Essay #94

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people say taxes should be spent on health care. Other people say that there are more important priorities for tax-payers' money.

Discus both these views and give your own opinion.

People hold different views about how taxes should be spent. Although I agree that medical care is a field that requires huge investments, I believe that the government should also allocate the money for other priorities, such as education and transport.

On the one hand, a certain amount of tax money has to go to healthcare services. Today, a number of particular diseases are on the rise in terms of popularity, and it would be costly to supply vaccines, medicines or treatments. For example, a large proportion of the population is now suffering from respiratory diseases or lung cancer due to exhaust fumes from vehicles and gas emissions from industrial factories. The remedies for those patients and the treatment facilities are often expensive, and the hospitals may find themselves in the struggle with financial problems without the assistance from the tax system.

On the other hand, healthcare is not the only industry that needs money to be kept running. Take education as an example. The quality of the schooling system is proportional to the competence of the future workforce. Therefore, a country can benefit from such skillful human resources in the long-term if they invest the tax budget to build schools, provide lecturers with training courses or hire native speakers to teach foreign language. In addition, the government should also spend money solving transport problems. Traffic congestion is a global issue these days, and the scenario can be handled only if new highways are opened, and narrow public roads are expanded.

In conclusion, I believe that the government should use tax-payers' money to improve not only the healthcare services, but also the education and transportation system.

Essay #95

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

As well as making money, businesses also have social responsibilities.

Do you agree or disagree?

People have different views about what kinds of obligation a company should have. While I accept that the top priority of companies is to generate profits, I believe they should also have social responsibilities.

On the one hand, I believe businesses already contribute to society by simply focusing on making money. The first reason is that when companies earn much profits, they can expand their businesses, which creates more job opportunities for people. Some big multinational corporations such as Apple or Microsoft can be a great illustration. They have been employing hundreds of thousands of individuals around the world, which helps to reduce unemployment rates in many countries. Additionally, when companies make higher profits, they will pay more taxes for the government. This money can be used to invest in important fields such as education or health care, which will benefit society as a whole.

On the other hand, I would argue that apart from making money, companies also need to have social responsibilities. Firstly, since the rising number of factories these days has led to serious environmental damage, companies need to take immediate actions to help protect the natural environment. For example, they could try new technologies to recycle their wastes instead of disposing of them right away. Secondly, corporations should also consider helping those who are less fortunate such as homeless or disabled citizens. This will contribute to better society and also help to enhance the image of the company or the brand.

In conclusion, although companies should prioritise the need to make profits, I believe they should also have social responsibilities.

Essay #96

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The world natural resources are consumed at an ever-increased rate.

What are the dangers of this situation? What should we do?

It is true that there is the growing consumption of natural resources in many parts of the world. This has potential problems, and we need to take actions to combat the issue.

The over exploitation of natural resources results in a number of negative effects. Chief among them is a greater level of environmental contamination. In recent years, emissions from traffic have increased significantly due to the growing demand for fossil fuels in the world. This impairs the quality of life and decreases life expectancy of people. In Vietnam, for example, a growing number of people are suffering from respiratory problems as a result of the deterioration in the air quality. Another consequence is that the natural resources will be dwindling shortly in near future. A possible scenario of this is that countries may fall into a fuel war, which threatens mankind as a whole.

The situation calls for prompt actions. One measure would be that campaigns should be continued to raise public awareness about saving energy. We can, for example, opt for public transport whenever possible rather than relying on our private vehicles. This will contribute to a reduction in the level of exhaust emissions released into the environment, slowing down the progress of global warming. The second remedy is that alternative sources of energy should be developed to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. Solar power, wind power and nuclear energy ought to be invested in to make them viable for public use in the coming years.

In conclusion, an increase in the world's demand for natural resources is posing a number of threats to society. However, this can be handled by adopting abovementioned suggestions.

Essay #97

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The world natural resources are consumed at an ever-increased rate.

What are the dangers of this situation? What should we do?

The overconsumption of natural resources has evolved as a major topic of concern in recent years. This alarming trend poses a number of serious threats to the world, and must be addressed with a number of definite actions.

The increasingly high level of natural resources exploitation can be hazardous in many ways. The most obvious threat is that once the resources come to the verge of depletion, humans would have to face the scarcity of fuels and materials. When oil becomes scarce and more expensive, transport and heating would become less accessible and affordable to most people. The shortage of resources also leads to stagnation in other industries, for example, there would not be enough wood for furniture production and not enough seafood for food processing. This would threaten the business of thousands of companies, as well as the employment of millions of workers in these fields.

Some measures can be taken to mitigate the problem of over-consuming natural resources. The most practical measure is to lower the demand for energy in every household. This can be done by mass-producing energy-efficient household appliances and selling them at a low price. Energy demand may also be cut by making saving energy the focus in propaganda campaigns in various media channels. Another sustainable solution is to promote environmentally-friendly technology. For instance, solar cells are now sold in a small quantity and at a relative high price; they should be made readier and cheaper for the public. Finally, the conservation and recovery of natural resources, including seafood and forests, must be regulated by law.

To conclude, the overexploitation of the world's resources may result in severe consequences, threatening many industries and people's life. Strong measures, such as reducing energy use and resource conservation and recovery laws, must be implemented to tackle this situation.

Essay #98

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people who have been in prison become good citizens later. Some people think that having these people to give a talk to school students is the best way to tell them about dangers of committing a crime.

Do you agree or disagree?

Crime education is of paramount importance in any country, but the way it can be conducted is often a subject of debate in society. While I agree that asking those who are released from prison to have a talk to school students is a good education method, I also believe that there are better alternatives to the problem, as will now be discussed.

On the one hand, I agree that students may be aware of the consequences of engaging in criminal activities when attending a talk given by ex-prisoners. Their life stories are often vivid and persuasive, and this can attract the attention of school students easily. These ex-criminals are real examples that people have to pay for their unlawful activities, which can raise awareness about law-abiding citizens among young people. The success of a series of educational programs on Vietnamese Television channels about the price that offenders have to pay proves that the narrative forms of crime education can work. It is hoped that a speech of used-to-be wrongdoers is promoted at all school levels in future.

However, I believe that a combination of different education methods would produce a more desirable result compared to a former prisoner holding a talk. Primarily, parents should act as pioneers to educate children at an early age about social evils and how to avoid them. It has long been acknowledged that the home environment has a profound effect on the development of a child, and a significant percentage of juvenile crime stems from insufficient education criminals receive in their childhood. Teachers at schools also play an important role in raising the awareness of students about crime. Moral lessons ought not to be neglected in the classroom, and a positive education environment should be promoted, contributing to crime prevention.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that a talk given by ex-offenders, albeit effective, is not the best education method for crime education.

Essay #99

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many people are afraid to leave their homes because of the fear of crime. Some believe that more actions should be taken to prevent crime. Others feel that little can be done.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

The popularity of crime today has made people stay indoors for self-protection. While it is a common belief that reducing the crime rate is a nearly impossible mission, I hold the view that there are certain measures which can convert the world into a safer place to live in.

On the one hand, many people argue that in such current era of moral decadence, any attempts to prevent crime would turn out to be a failure. Poverty and unemployment are considered chief precursors to law violation, and only when these two social issues are eliminated will crime disappear. However, it is true that a society can only provide a limited number of jobs for its residents, and those who are not lucky enough to receive good education from childhood would find it difficult to pursue a career to make ends meet. Such individuals are lack of both skills and orientation, and from their perspective, becoming a thief might be a better way to survive compared to unstably living on governmental subsidies or performing menial work. It seems that the root of this problem cannot be solved completely, and this is why how to halt law-breaking may remain as an insurmountable question for the government.

On the other hand, I am of the opinion that there are still solutions to maintain criminal justice. Firstly, stricter sets of laws are required, and the penalties should be corresponding to the severity of the wrongdoings. In a variety of countries, such as the United Kingdom or Italy, the capital punishment has been abandoned; but I believe it should be reintroduced as the fear of death may deter the potential offenders and stop them from committing serious crime. Secondly, the government should encourage companies and organizations to expand and run more projects. These actions create jobs; therefore, those who live under the poverty line not only do not have to become pickpockets or burglars for survival but also stand a chance to earn a living with their own clean money.

In conclusion, I believe that the aforementioned measures can create more peaceful communities and ensure the safety of the residents.

Essay #100

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Fewer and fewer people walk on a daily basis.

What are the reasons and how to encourage them to spend their time walking?

People seem to be increasingly reluctant to have a walk regularly. As there are certain causes of such a trend, some solutions are also available to urge people to walk more.

Amongst the reasons for the lack of people's interest in the walking activity, the convenience of modern technology in travelling and the boredom of walking activity are the two significant ones. Firstly, some technological applications which support travelling such as electric lifts and escalators are very common in public places. These devices help people to move to the higher levels of a building more easily and quickly than using the stairs, so people would feel unnecessary to walk. Secondly, walking for exercise can seem monotonous to many people because they have to repeat a series of actions every day, unlike going to the gym where they can use different exercising machines; additionally, it is less boring to train with and talk to other members at the gym.

In order to raise people's interest in walking, there are some workable solutions to be adopted. To begin with, walking the stairs can be made a more enjoyable experience by adding some attractive decorations to them. For example, some 3D painting artists can be hired to paint their eye-catching works of art on the walls and the stair cases, which may make people excited to use the stairs the next time. In addition, companies can offer some incentives such as free gym membership to the employees who use the stairs instead of the lift. They can also hold a company event in form of a walking competition with prizes to promote the benefits of walking for health.

In conclusion, people dislike walking for several reasons, and this problem of inactivity can be addressed with some measures suggested.

Essay #101

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Everyone should become vegetarian because they do not need to eat meat to have a healthy diet.

Do agree or disagree?

Many people in the world currently choose not to eat meat in their daily meals. While I accept that this tendency can help people to live healthily, I believe not everyone should become vegetarian.

In my opinion, there are several benefits of being vegetarian. Firstly, since there are many types of vegetables that can provide people with enough nutrients, it has become less necessary for people to eat meat. For example, potatoes and beans are two popular dishes for families in England because of the large amount of calories they can provide. Secondly, vegetables and fruits contain vitamins that are highly beneficial for people. For instance, it has been proven that eating an apple every day can help individuals improve their health and avoid illness. Finally, if more people refuse to eat meat, fewer animals will be slaughtered.

However, I believe this tendency is not suitable for everyone. First, it is not advisable for children to become vegetarian. As they are in the process of growing up, they need to eat a wide range of food, including meat which contains essential nutrients, to improve their physical health. If children only eat vegetables, they might become less healthy than they should be. Furthermore, athletes are the people who should not be vegetarian. Since their job involves intense training on a regular basis, they need to consume meat such as beef or pork which provides them with enough calories.

In conclusion, while I agree that becoming vegetarian can help people have a healthy diet, I do not think it is an option that everybody should take.

Essay #102

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Studies show that criminals get low level of education. Some people believe that the best way to reduce the crime is educating people in prison so they can get a job after leaving prison.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Education for offenders during imprisonment as a method to reduce the rate of crime has evolved as a major topic of concern in today's society. While I agree that such a solution is effective to reduce crime, I am convinced that it is far from being the best method and there are many better ways of reducing crime.

I accept that education for prisoners may contribute to the reduction of the crime rate. The primary reason is that such a form of education could provide offenders with the working skills that are essential when they return to the community. With fortified job prospects, prisoners may therefore earn a living after leaving the prison and are less likely to commit a crime again. Another significant reason is that education could show the offenders that they are still appreciated by society. By this way, they may feel an enhanced sense of humanity and community, and become better citizens after their prison years. These people may then inspire many others in the public to live without crime.

However, I am firmly of the opinion that education for offenders is not the best solution to reduce crime. This form of education is offered only to those who have committed a crime, and therefore has far less preventive value, compared to other stronger solutions. For example, severe punishments such as longer imprisonment for criminals could deter criminal acts by many people in the public who have the intention to carry out a crime. There are also other educational methods that may have a stronger and more long-lasting impact on the reduction of crime. An excellent example of this is crime education at school, which helps equip students with the necessary knowledge about crime and crime prevention. This measure is undeniably a more sustainable crime-fighting solution than education for criminals.

To conclude, I firmly believe that although educating prisoners is an effective way to reduce crime, it is not the best solution, as there are more preventive and sustainable measures such as crime education at school and stricter punishments for criminals.

Essay #103

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In some countries, secondary schools aim to provide a general education across a range of subjects. In others, children focus on a narrow range of subjects related to a particular career.

Which of these two systems is more appropriate in today's world?

Secondary school curriculum can be organised in a variety of ways. While several countries adopt the education system which orientates the students in a specific profession, I believe that the teenagers should have access to a comprehensive learning programme with a wide range of subjects.

To begin with, a learning programme providing knowledge of a major subject is beneficial in some ways. Being exposed to expertise and skills required by a certain speciality at the young age, the students would stand a great chance to not only have a well-defined career path, but also become competent workers in their later life. For example, with students having ambition to work as translators or applied language researchers in the future, it is a course of basic grammar and vocabulary at their secondary school that can realise the dream. In addition, current society of specialization tends to favour employees with a good grounding in a single field over those who have general knowledge but are not experts in a particular area. Therefore, it is absurd to say that such career-driven programmes are not appropriate to today's world.

In stark contrast, however, it is better for the teenagers to have access to a curriculum containing basic knowledge of various fields. The final purpose of developing the comprehensive thinking of children should lie at the heart of any secondary school learning programme, as they seem to be too young to decide on a specific occupation to follow at that age. An ideal job is one that provides enjoyment for the workers, and it is a well-rounded course that can help children seek for a major they are interested in and nurture the passion for it. To illustrate, secondary schools in the UK aim to teach children different subjects ranging from Math to Arts, and their educational philosophy is to put job orientation in the high school curriculum.

In final words, my opinions are on par with the idea that secondary schoolchildren should be supplied with knowledge in as many fields as possible.

Essay #104

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that in order to prevent illness and disease, governments should make efforts in reducing environmental pollution and housing problems.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

The prevention of illness and disease is a challenging problem for any community. Although many people may be skeptical about the effectiveness of an investment in improving the environment and providing more housing for the public, I believe that it is a good solution to the issue, as will now be discussed.

On the one hand, ameliorating environmental contamination can hinder the spread of disease and illness. Today, people's health is deteriorating due to the adverse effects of poor air quality, making us more vulnerable to viruses and health problems. A number of urban citizens suffer from lung cancer and throat cancer due to the dangerous level of exhaust emissions from traffic and industrial activities in many big cities such as Beijing and Hanoi. Therefore, improving the environment should be treated as the top priority among other concerns of the government. For example, an outright ban on the use of private vehicles can decrease the amount of harmful fumes released into the atmosphere, contributing to the clean-up of the environment.

On the other hand, the provision of more accommodation for the public is also a highly effective measure to reduce health risks. Many people are still homeless in society while many others have to live in slums under poor living conditions with poor access to medical services when they are sick. This triggers the rise of endemic diseases such as malaria in society, putting the life of other citizens in jeopardy. By providing more social apartments of affordable prices and incentives for the poor, the government would not only mitigate the dearth of housing but also prevent disease and illness effectively at an early stage.

In conclusion, it is my belief that environmental pollution and lack of housing are root causes of the proliferation of illnesses and diseases in society, requiring the government to take actions to tackle the problem.

Essay #105

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Students today can easily access information online, so libraries are no longer necessary.

Do you agree or disagree?

Students are currently able to acquire information on the Internet in a much easier way than in the past. While I accept that online sources of information have advantages over traditional libraries, I would argue that there is still a great need for libraries in today's world.

It is true that accessing information online has several clear benefits. The first one is that online sources can store a huge amount of information that is greater than any physical library. This allows researchers to easily get the information they need without having to travel to a local library. Furthermore, students can look for information on the Internet whenever they want, while most libraries can only be visited during several hours per day. As a result, it might be better for those who are busy to utilise online information sources.

However, I believe that physical libraries still have special features that online sources can never replace. Firstly, libraries usually provide quiet areas, which is a great environment for students to learn and research since they are less likely to be distracted by things around them. For example, some of my university friends claim that they can only concentrate when they are in a quiet study area in my university library. Secondly, since everyone can easily write and post information on the Internet, these online sources are not always reliable for research. Therefore, we need libraries whose staff members have the responsibility to select and provide readers with the most credible materials.

In conclusion, while I agree that there are great benefits of getting information on the Internet, I disagree with the idea that traditional libraries are no longer important.

Essay #106

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Scientists agree that people are damaging their health by eating too much junk food. Some people think that the answer to this problem is to educate people. Others think education will not work.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Scientific findings have clearly indicated that the excessive consumption of fast food is leading to the health of people to deterioration. According to some people, this unhealthy practice can be stopped by means of education; however, some others have little faith in this solution. As the supporters of each view have their own justifications, whether education is effective remains to be seen in this essay.

On the one hand, raising the awareness of people towards the dangers of unhealthy food can certainly yield some promising outcomes. Firstly, many fast food products provide very little or no information on the nutritional content in them, deterring the consumers from knowing the amount of fat, sodium or cholesterol which they take in. By being informed of how much of these harmful substances is contained in their favourite hamburgers or chips, as well as being shown the likely consequences of over-eating these foods, consumers can be more cautious the next time they choose their food. Secondly, education at schools can help to form healthy eating habits for children and parents. For instance, schools can hold some extracurricular activities such as growing and selling vegetables with the attendance of both students and parents, in order to promote the benefits of healthy diets and warn against the potential risks of junk food.

On the other hand, some people doubt the effectiveness of education for certain reasons. To begin with, despite being aware of the negative effects of fast food, many people who are too busy persist to eat it due to its being convenient and time-saving. In this case, education hardly makes a difference as they have made a choice. In addition, compared with the wide range and availability of fast food stores and menus, healthy food is seriously limited. Furthermore, healthy food is commonly inferior to fast food in terms of taste and prices as a matter of fact. As a result, however convincing education is, it is almost impossible for people to change their eating habit without a ready alternative to their unhealthy food choices.

In conclusion, people have different opinions about whether to support education so as to reduce people's consumption of fast food. In my opinion, education can be a viable measure with careful consideration of other impediments.

Essay #107

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Whether or not someone achieve their aims is mostly a question of luck.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

The debate whether luck is the primary determinant of success in achieving targets has been heated constantly. My position is that hard work and determination are far more important than luck, while luck must not be considered as the main precursor of the attainment of one's goals.

I advocate the notion that the role of being industrious and determined is more significant than luck. Thomas Edison, one of the greatest inventors in the 20th century, is an excellent example of such a notion. He conducted numerous experiments with the filament until the finest light bulb was produced; and his hard work, rather than luck, was acknowledged by all the human race. Another clear evidence of this notion is the case of Nguyen Ngoc Ky. This disabled man could not write by hand, but he was determined enough to teach himself to write by foot. The fact that he would then become one of the greatest teachers in the history of education in Vietnam provides a concrete foundation that even with bad luck, determination could result in goal achievement.

By contrast, I believe the saying that fortune has a major part to play is just a fallacy. One clear reason is that although there may have been a number of people reaching their goals with good luck, such good luck in most cases only comes to people who have worked hard. Take Mendeleev as an example. As a research chemist, he worked tirelessly for a few decades, until one day in his dream, the complete arrangement of the elements appeared. The appearance of this arrangement could be ascribed to luck, but no one could deny the extreme effort that Mendeleev had exerted. Another clear reason for my belief is that luck could only lead people to short-term achievements, and there is nothing to ascertain that it would continue to exist in the long run. The over-reliance on good fortune, as a result, would prevent people from achieving their long-term or life-long aims.

In brief, I think the importance of luck in determining goal attainment is overstated, while there are much more significant factors to consider, namely hard work and determination.

Essay #108

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Whether or not someone achieve their aims is mostly a question of luck.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

People have different views about what elements contribute the most to a person's success. While I accept that luck does have an important role in helping people reach their targets, I would argue that hard work and determination are much more crucial factors leading to the achievement of an individual.

On the one hand, I agree that luck can be an important factor. Some people are fortunate enough to be born in a wealthy family, which allows them to have better education or to easily start their own business without having to borrow money from someone else. As a result, these people tend to have better opportunities to succeed than those coming from poor families. Furthermore, some individuals are lucky to be given great talents which others do not have. For example, Mozart was able to play music when he was very young, or Lionel Messi already had great football skills when he was born.

However, I would argue that although luck can be necessary, it is not the most crucial factor leading to success. Firstly, people need to work really hard and put much effort into their jobs if they want to be successful. For instance, before becoming one of the best football players in the world, Cristiano Ronaldo had to go through intense training hours every day for many years. Secondly, a person is less likely to reach his targets if he does not have determination. On the way leading to success, there might be many difficulties, and people need to keep moving forward to overcome those challenges.

In conclusion, while I agree that luck is important in helping people become successful, I believe that hard work and determination are the most important elements.

The consumption of the world's resources (oil, and water etc.) is increasing at a dangerous rate.

What are causes and solutions?

The accelerating rate of natural resources consumption has been a major topic of concern in recent years. As some factors are likely to trigger this alarming trend, a number of drastic measures can be employed to slow down the pace.

Perhaps it is the key role of natural resources in boosting economic growth and the heavy reliance on natural resources that accompany each other to create this dire situation. Today, precious commodities from nature such as gas, oil and coal still remain crucial to the operation of a country as transport and industries would grind to a halt without the energy and fuel generated from these resources. In emerging economies which are striving to rise, the demands for resources are certainly on the increase. The dependence on natural resources is also to blame as it is easier to exploit them from nature than developing and converting to sustainable alternatives such as wind and solar energy, which requires many years and great determination to produce changes on a large scale.

In order to alleviate the existing problem, there are some feasible solutions. One step to be mentioned is that the authority should impose higher taxes on the use of natural resources to deter further consumption. On the other hand, renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power can be developed to substitute fossil fuels in transport and manufacture. Lastly, governmental campaigns need to be launched to make individuals acknowledge the risks of overusing natural resources through the mass media.

In conclusion, the overuse of the world's resources may result in severe consequences, threatening the environment and many people's life, and strong measures must be implemented to tackle this situation.

The consumption of the world's resources (oil, and water etc.) is increasing at a dangerous rate.

What are causes and solutions?

The overconsumption of natural resources has evolved as a major topic of concern in recent years. This alarming trend is caused by a few factors, and it must be addressed by a number of definite actions.

The increasingly high level of exploitation of natural resources could be ascribed to a number of reasons. The most obvious reason is the tremendous demand for resources in developing countries, such as China and Brazil. The citizens of these countries are becoming increasingly wealthy, and they may now afford a living standard that is associated with a higher level of resource consumption. A clear example of this is the widespread use of cars among tens of millions of middle-income Chinese nationals, which may have contributed substantially to the burning of oil on a global scale. Besides, the over-dependence on natural resources, such as fossil fuels, is another significant reason to consider. In Vietnam, for example, the majority of electricity is generated in thermal power stations, in which a vast amount of coal is burnt on a daily basis.

Some measures can be taken to mitigate the problem of over-consuming Earth's resources. The most practical measure at the moment is to reduce the demand for resources in developing countries. This can be done by mass-producing energy-efficient products, such as hybrid cars, and selling these items at a low price to citizens of these nations. If such a measure is implemented, these people may still benefit from the modern living standard without overconsuming natural resources. Besides, the most sustainable solution is to lower the reliance on natural resources by taking advantage of alternative sources. For instance, wind and tidal power in the Netherlands, nuclear power in Japan and solar power in the United States have all proven their efficiency in energy production. These forms of energy should be used in other parts of the world as well, to minimise the global dependence on fossil fuels.

All the existing data provides a concrete foundation that the overexploitation of natural resources derives from the strong demand in developing countries and the over-reliance on these types of resources. Strong measures, such as reducing the aforementioned demand and making use of alternative energy sources, must be implemented to tackle this situation.

Essay #111

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Too much emphasis is placed on going university for academic study. People should be encouraged to do vocational training, because there is a lack of qualified tradespeople such as electricians or plumbers.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It goes without saying that society always needs a skilled workforce to function. Employees of different professions contribute differently to the thriving of the community, and therefore I disagree with the statement that vocational courses should be given any more weight than before.

The fact that many people deem it more important to take tertiary education than a vocational training program has resulted in a shortage of qualified workers. It is universally accepted that knowledge and qualifications gained from university can help one to have a head start over other candidates when it comes to job hunting. In Vietnam, for instance, a majority of high school graduates are content to spend four to five years more studying at

a university with the hope for a bright career ahead. This results in a lack of skilled manual workers such as plumbers and electricians in society.

However, if we encourage more people to become blue-collar workers, then there will be a shortage of white-collar workers who may otherwise create more wealth for society. For example, fewer engineers would mean lower productivity; a dearth of scientists may inhibit scientific discoveries which can provide us with a better life in the future. In contrast, those doing blue-collar jobs may face redundancy when too many applicants compete for the same position. An unbalanced workforce might, therefore, hold society back from development in the long term.

In conclusion, the workforce will adjust itself to cater for the need of the community, so there is no need to direct young people to follow a particular career path.

Essay #112

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The government and individuals are spending too much money on national celebrations like new year or festivals.

Do you agree or disagree?

People have different views about whether public expenditure on national occasions such as new year or festivals is too much nowadays. While I agree that governments and individuals are spending a significant amount of money on those celebrations, I would argue that this activity is necessary and therefore can be considered acceptable.

It is true that a large amount of money is currently spent on some important celebrations of a country. Firstly, governments are spending a proportion of their budget on holding events to celebrate these occasions. For example, much money is being paid for fireworks on New Year's eve in many countries around the world. Secondly, individuals also spend money to have celebrations and parties with their families, which is a common habit in many areas. For instance, my parents and I often have a special dinner on the final day of every year.

However, I believe there are great benefits of public spending on national celebrations, and therefore it is completely justifiable. The first advantage is that this is a great way to preserve the culture of a nation. To illustrate, Lunar New Year is an important part of the Vietnamese culture, and holding celebrations for this occasion is necessary to remind younger generations of this tradition. Additionally, since these occasions are usually the only times for family members to have time and enjoy together, it is understandable that people would want to spend money on something that makes them happy. Finally, as there are only a few national celebrations in a year, the amount of money spent on those days is unlikely to be too much.

In conclusion, I disagree with the idea that people and governments are spending too much money on national occasions.

Essay #113

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

There is a general increase in anti-social behaviours and lack of respect for others.

What are the causes and solutions?

The widespread problem of anti-social behaviours and disrespectful attitudes towards others has long been a major topic of concern in society. Some of the major culprits of this problem will be discussed before the most important solutions are drawn.

Reasons for this alarming situation vary. In some cases, people may hold an anti-social attitude or disrespect others because they live in an environment where violence and discrimination are the norms. For example, children of sexist parents in rural families in Vietnam, irrespective of their gender, show a worrying tendency of disrespecting women. In some other cases, it is the lack of parental guidance that is to blame. As modern parents are becoming increasingly busy with their jobs, they may have the proclivity to be indifferent to children education. When there is no one to help young children distinguish between the good and the bad, ill-mannered attitudes may emerge and develop among them without being controlled.

A number of definite actions could be taken to mitigate the problem. On the national level, the first obvious solution is to reduce violence and discrimination. As this would be a massive act, the all voters and legislators should be responsible. Together, they could call for stricter enforcement of the laws on violent and discriminatory acts to deter them from happening. In addition, on the nuclear-family level, parents must not underestimate the significance of their guidance for children. If they notice any signs of an anti-social or insolent manner in children, they must provide them with negative evaluations of these signs. At the same time, parents could also educate their children about social manners by instilling a pro-social sense in them. These actions, albeit small, could have a strong influence on children when they mature.

To conclude, it is clear that violence, discrimination and the indifference of parents to children education are the major catalysts for increase in anti-social behaviours and disrespect for others. Strong measures, such as stringent law enforcement on violent and discriminatory acts, must be taken to alleviate this distressing situation.

Essay #114

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

When people live in a foreign country, they should follow local traditions and customs.

Do you agree or not?

As the immigrants in many countries are rising in number, an opinion emerges that it is necessary for these outsiders to embrace the culture of the natives. In my personal view, such assimilation is completely justifiable for certain reasons.

In the first place, non-native residents should consider adopting the cultural changes for the sake of their easy immigration. It can be universally acknowledged that the people of a nation take pride in their own cultural features such as beliefs, lifestyle and cuisine which greatly influence their life. Therefore, any slight sign showing the lack of respect for the native culture is likely to result in the unfriendliness or even isolation from the local community. To facilitate the integration process and prevent any potential trouble, it is highly advisable that the settlers conform to the standards of behaviour expected by the foreign society.

In addition, it is beneficial for emigrants to accept new traditions and customs as such an action boosts mutual understanding between cultures and alleviates the conflicts. If foreign people are willing to change themselves a little to blend in, for example, avoiding the consumption of beef in India or joining the traditional celebration of Tet in Vietnam with the natives, the local people will definitely exhibit a very amiable attitude towards the foreigners. As a result of strengthened understanding and friendship, it is reasonable to say that there will be almost no room for discrimination or conflicts.

In conclusion, I entirely support the view of encouraging immigrants to accept the culture of their new homelands, as there will be significant benefits for them eventually.

Essay #115

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Children are facing more pressures nowadays from academic, social and commercial perspectives.

What are the causes of these pressures and what measures should be taken to reduce these pressures?

There is a current distressing situation that the external life has burdened the youth with a wide range of pressures. In this essay, I would discuss several precursors to this issue, before some viable measures are drawn.

The fact that children are coerced into pressures and responsibilities stems from a number of root reasons. As far as the academic burden is concerned, it is the escalating competitiveness of the job market accompanied with the parental over-expectation that is to blame. The organisations' demand of a qualified workforce pours into the parents' mind a thought that their children have to be successful at school, and many youths today take studying as an obligation. In addition, some children, mostly those who have special talents or are born in famous families, may find their personal life in the public interest. The appearance on the media at such a young age may deprive the junior citizens of an innocent and carefree childhood. Regarding the commercial pressure children have to encounter, fast food chains or sweetshops have made them the target customers; and they are dragged into a chaotic influx of information by both the online and offline advertising campaigns.

In order to reverse such pressures on children, I would like to propose a number of drastic remedies. Firstly, parents should create a mentally and physically healthy domestic environment, involving a balance between learning and relaxing. Cooling-down activities such as sports, drawing or traveling, which are normally affordable, can release the stress of children brought on by both academic and social burdens. In addition, business morality has to be emphasised and penetrated by all firms. They should keep their online advertisements inaccessible to the youth by putting age restrictions on their websites.

In final words, it is unfair for the children to bear any kind of pressure, and every part of society should exert effort to provide them with a happy youth life.

Essay #116

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It is more important for schoolchildren to learn about local history than world history.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Teaching history for schoolchildren has been a heated topic constantly. There is a common belief that local history is more important to children than world history. However, I disagree with this belief.

I believe the notion that local history is more valuable than world history should be rejected. Some people may claim that the insights into the local historical values are completely enough for one to live. Their argument could be true a few decades ago when most interpersonal communications were between people of the same race and origin. However, this view is now outdated, as the world has become globalised and international business and migrant workers have made any community a global village. In this context, an understanding of a foreign country's history would enable future local workers to reinforce the relationship between them and the expatriates from that country.

In addition, I am strongly convinced that children would benefit the most only when the learning of local history is placed parallel to that of world history. To understand a local historical event, children should put the regional and sometimes even world context in that historical era into consideration. For example, children should acknowledge that the event that Vietnam regained its independence after defeating the Japanese troops in Indochina in 1945 only happened after a series of relevant events in the World War II, one of which is the surrender of Japan to the Allies. In this way of learning, children would understand history more deeply and thoroughly.

All the existing data has provided a concrete foundation that the study of local history should always be parallel to that of world history. This practice would guarantee that children learn history more comprehensively and be able to tighten the bond with migrant workers in their country.

Essay #117

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many museums and historical sites are mainly visited by tourists but not local people.

Why is this the case and what can be done to attract more local people to visit these places?

There are a number of factors that explain why many museums and historical sites fail to attract the attention of the locals. However, this issue can be resolved by adopting a number of solutions, as will now be discussed.

Perhaps the primary reason is that local inhabitants often do not have interest in visiting these places as they tend not to be attracted by places and objects that are familiar to their cultural backgrounds. For example, many museums in Ho Chi Minh City welcome thousands of travelers from Hanoi annually, in contrast to the number of local residents who visit the museums and historical sites here in my home city of Hanoi.

Another reason stems from historical attractions themselves. They are often poorly conserved due to a low budget for operation while the authority does not make an attempt to improve the situation. Take the Air Defense museum in Hanoi as an example. For years, there has been no change for the better, at least visually, to attract the locals, and this is the reason why most of its visitors are tourists.

However, a range of available options can be taken to tackle the problem. The simplest one is that the authority should continue campaigns aiming at encouraging local people to visit these attractions. They could also consider rearranging and redecorating historical places to make them more interesting and attractive for all visitors. To achieve this, the government ought to allocate more public money to the conservation of these places.

In conclusion, various measures need to be taken to gain back local residents' interest in museums and historical sites.

Essay #118

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Although more and more people read the news on internet, newspapers will remain the most important source of news for the majority of people.

Do you agree or disagree?

There is a common belief that newspapers will still be the most vital means of reading news despite the innovation that the Internet has brought to the information provision process. Personally, I disagree with this view.

At the outset, I admit that newspapers may remain as the most popular source of information for certain parts of society. Take the senior citizens as a salient example. Journals were present on virtually every corner of the world a few decades ago, and the unremitting availability of this type of publication shaped a long-lasting reading habit among the previous generation. This explains why those individuals are not willing to change their way of accessing information. In addition, to the understanding of some people, the information published by newspapers is better censored. This view is, to some extent, justifiable due to the fact that the majority of websites and social networks are open for all members to post about their opinions, creating a chaotic influx of online information.

However, from my perspective, it is not reasonable to state that most people will consider newspapers their primary means of reading news in the future. At its simplest, the Internet has revolutionised the way we are exposed to information, and how online platforms place the entire world at our fingertips is simply superior to the way gazettes or broadsheets provide us with daily news every morning. To exemplify, an online newspapers can publish

vivid live reports of events or football matches, while traditional newspapers only supply brief summaries of such occasions on the following day. Plus, the audience, with an Internet-connected device, is allowed to access news under the form of video clips, which are by no means available on newspapers.

All the aforementioned points lead me to a firm conclusion that the Internet will replace the newspapers as the most important source of news in the foreseeable future.

Essay #119

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Prison is the common way in most countries to solve the problem of crime. However, a more effective solution is to provide people a better education.

Do you agree or disagree?

People have different views about the most effective way to reduce crime. While I agree that prison can be a good solution, I would argue that it is much better for governments to educate citizens in order to minimise the problem of crime.

On the one hand, I accept that prison is a necessary measure to help governments deal with crime. Firstly, this is an effective method of punishing criminals. For example, those who commit murders in many countries might have to face a life sentence. As a result, people would be afraid of these severe punishments and are therefore less likely to offend. Secondly, when offenders are kept in jail, they cannot get out and interact with others in society. This prevents them from committing more crimes, which helps to guarantee safety for all citizens. If dangerous criminals are not sent to prison, this might be a great threat for other people.

On the other hand, I believe giving education for citizens is a much better solution to minimise the problem of crime. The first reason is that many crimes occur due to a lack of awareness. For instance, many people do not know that it is illegal to have sex with a teenager who is less than 16 years old. Therefore, it is important to educate individuals about law, which can help them to avoid making mistakes. Additionally, when people are properly educated, they can have sufficient knowledge and skills needed to get jobs and support themselves. This is likely to lead to a reduction in several types of crime such as robberies or burglaries.

In conclusion, while it is true that prison is a good way to prevent crime, I believe that education is a more effective method that should be adopted.

Essay #120

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

New technologies have changed the way children spend their free time.

Do advantages of this outweigh disadvantages?

In this modern age, the introduction of new technologies is often accompanied by major impacts on our life. Children, accordingly, have altered their usual habits in their leisure time due to such technological influence. There can be both benefits and drawbacks of this change, but I believe it is still more negative than positive.

In the positive aspect, children certainly have benefited much from technology. Firstly, technology has added more options to the range of entertainment sources when other ways are unavailable. For example, children can play online games at home with other players in case of the bad weather; alternatively, social networks such as Facebook are a nice way to talk to friends who are far away. Secondly, technology has created many affordable activities for enjoyment for even the children whose families are not too wealthy. While some pastimes such as golf and stamp collection can be too expensive for many, video games and portable music players seem to be more popular amongst average people.

Nevertheless, new technologies also have more significant adverse effects. The first one is a sedentary lifestyle which results from spending too much time using the computer or mobile phone and neglecting some outdoor activities. This lifestyle is prone to entail many health problems such as obesity and damaged eye-sight. Another outcome is poor academic performance when children become seriously addicted to the games and social networks and lose their attention in the classroom. Besides, some healthy sports and arts activities can disappear in the future if there are too few people interested in them.

In conclusion, beneficial as new technologies have been for the quality of children's leisure time, they are likely to cause more problems and need to be appropriately controlled.

Essay #121

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe government should spend money on building train and subway lines to reduce traffic congestion. Others think that building more and wider roads is the better way to reduce traffic congestion.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

The methods of mitigating traffic congestion have been a heated topic of controversy. Some people argue that the construction of larger roads is the answer for the problem. However, I contend that such a solution is ineffective in the long term, while the option to construct railways and subways is a far better measure.

There is a common fallacy that governmental spending on building larger roads could sustainably address the problem of traffic congestion. An increase in road size could reduce the traffic intensity in the short term, but larger roads also mean that the citizens are encouraged to purchase more individual vehicles. This leads to the fact that the roads, albeit larger, would soon be filled with intense traffic again. For instance, traffic jams returned to Shanghai's main streets not long after they were expanded in the early 1990s. In brief, if this solution is implemented, traffic jams would still persist in the long run.

Rail and subway systems, however, could ensure that traffic congestion is properly addressed. Unlike cars and buses, trains are capable of transporting hundreds of people simultaneously and thus would meet the transport demand of a vast number of passengers. Moreover, trains do not have to go through intersections and traffic lights, and dedicated lines ensure their travel is hardly interrupted. In other words, trains are always on time regardless of the level of traffic. This level of punctuality would encourage many people to choose railways and subways as their primary means of transport, and the number of individual vehicles would decrease accordingly. As a result, traffic congestion could be tackled successfully.

The existing data provides a concrete foundation to conclude that building more and larger roads in an unsustainable measure, while train and subway lines would be a much more effective solution for the problem of traffic congestion.

Essay #122

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

More and more young people from wealthy countries are spending a short time in communities in poorer countries doing unpaid work such as teaching or building houses.

Why? Who benefit from this, the community or these young people?

It is true that a growing number of young people from affluent countries are doing temporary jobs without payment in less wealthy countries. Reasons for this vary, and I believe that both these young individuals and the community reap the benefits.

There are several reasons why the youth in rich nations tend to do unpaid work in less affluent countries. Chief among them is the growth of the aviation industry. The emergence of low-cost airlines allows young individuals who are on a tight budget to travel to remote corners of the world. For example, having a voluntary foreign English teacher in Sapa, a mountainous area in Vietnam, used to be far-fetched several decades ago, but cheap carriers such as Tiger Airlines and Jetstar Airlines have made it happen. Another reason is the spread of information. The development of technology has brought images and the living condition of poor communities to the richer world, which creates an urge for the young to take action. Many graduates decide to take a year out to help the inhabitants of poverty-stricken countries partly because of the television programs and the news they watch and read.

Doing unpaid jobs pays dividends for both young volunteers and the community. On the one hand, young people can experience the life of indigenous people, gain hands-on experience and enjoy the breathtaking view of the places where they work. They may then come back to their normal life and decide on the career path that they want to pursue. On the other hand, people in poor countries might benefit from the work of young citizens from rich nations. Knowledge received can have lasting effects on the locals' future, while housing built will provide a better living condition than before.

In conclusion, various factors contribute to the influx of young volunteers to poor communities. Personally, I believe that this is beneficial to both these young people and the community as a whole.

Essay #123

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In recent years, the structure of a family and the role of its members are gradually changing.

What kinds of changes can occur? Do you think these changes are positive and negative?

Recently, there has been a gradual transformation in the household structure and the way each member makes contribution to the family. In this essay, I would like to discuss several possible changes and demonstrate that those changes are totally beneficial.

To begin with, the way a family is organised is far different from that in the past. Firstly, men and women are now sharing the role of breadwinners. A few decades ago, fathers were those who earned money to raise the family, while nurturing progenies was the responsibility shouldered by mothers. Today, as a logical effect of gender equality, professional opportunities are available for people of both sexes, leading to the fact that both men and women should exert effort to make ends meet. Secondly, people now have an inclination to form nuclear families. The escalating competitiveness of the job market accompanying with the higher demands of living standards drives people to work overtime and have fewer children.

From my perspective, the aforementioned changes are totally advantageous. The first benefit is that the financial pressure that parents of medium-sized families have to burden is far less significant than that of large families. This allows them to save money for longterm purposes, such as affording a house or sending their children overseas for tertiary education. Another significant advantage is that the children of such busy parents can learn how to live independently and acquire a diverse mixture of qualities at a young age. For example, many youths today have to prepare meals and arrange the study schedules themselves, which helps to sharpen up their self-reliance.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm my position that the household structure and the role of each family member are altering in a positive way.

Essay #124

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that it is good for a country's culture to import foreign movies and TV programmes. Others think that it is better to produce these locally.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

People have different views about whether it is better for a country to purchase foreign movies or to create domestic ones. While importing movies from other countries can have some advantages, I would argue that producing local movies is a much better option.

On the one hand, there are some clear benefits of buying movies from other countries. Firstly, when a country imports movies that are produced overseas, it can help its people learn about other cultures in a much easier and more effective way. This would help its citizens to be more knowledgeable. Secondly, individuals can learn the good things of other more civilised societies and alter the way they behave. For example, the habit of queuing is a nice thing in many Western countries, and people from other countries can learn and copy this action when watching foreign movies.

On the other hand, I believe it is better for countries to produce movies domestically because of some reasons. The first one is that movies made by local people would help to preserve the traditions and customs of their own cultures. For instance, many TV programmes remind young generations of how people celebrate Traditional New Year, which is the most important public holiday in some Asian countries. If young people only watch foreign movies, the traditional values might be gradually forgotten. Another reason is that the film industry often create jobs such as actors, directors or cameramen. Therefore, it is necessary to invest in producing movies in order to provide more employment opportunities for local people.

In conclusion, while purchasing foreign movies is beneficial for a nation's culture to some extent, it seems to me that making local ones is a much better choice.

Many people now live in societies where consumer goods have become cheap.

Do advantages outweigh disadvantages?

The prices of goods have reduced significantly owing to increased productivity, technology and other factors, which allows people to afford various products. Beneficial as this development may seem instantly, there are some drawbacks worth considering.

On the positive side, the life of the population has largely improved in many areas. In terms of daily necessities such as food and clothing, lower costs enable even the impoverished to live on a tiny budget without their serious concern about hunger or the cold. Furthermore, those with average incomes can enjoy products of higher quality more than before. As for higher needs such as entertainment and education, affordable prices provide the majority of the population with access to better and higher education, whereas most common forms of leisure activities have been added to the options of ordinary people for better life quality. For instance, travelling by air for a holiday has become very common because of cheap airline, and more people are now able to attend courses with reasonable fees at centres.

However, price reduction is also accompanied by several disadvantages. One of them is the decline in product quality generally caused by the failure to comply with mass manufacture standards. An obvious example of this is China made goods which are notorious for poor durability as a result of using unqualified materials and unskilled labour in exchange for price competitiveness. Another problem is that people can waste products and resources when the goods are too cheap to mind. For example, households and restaurants throw away a massive amount of leftovers every day worldwide; similarly, water is wasted in many developed countries.

In conclusion, it is obvious to acknowledge the dominant benefits of humans' effort to make products financially available for everyone, but the adverse effects of this development should not be overlooked.

It is impossible to help all people in the world, so governments should only focus on people in their own countries.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

The role of one government to support citizens of other countries has been a major topic of concern in today's society. From my perspective, this practice is feasible and there are compelling reasons why governments should help people in the global community rather than only focusing on the citizens of their own countries.

In this context of globalisation and international integration, the provision of assistance for peoples of all countries in the world is not an impossible task anymore. One explanation for this is that modern means of transport have transformed the way that international assistance could be given, and now assistance could reach even the most remote places on Earth. For example, thousands of victims of a deadly earthquake in a mountainous city in Nepal were rescued by US and German military helicopters in 2014. One further explanation is that thanks to international banking, the international community could offer a helping hand to any country where the financial system is on the verge of collapse. An excellent example of this is that the saving money of millions of taxpayers and pensioners in Greece was saved by a timely act of the European Commission of injecting a huge amount of bailout money into Greek banks in 2009.

I strongly believe any government must assume the responsibility of helping citizens in other countries. This is mainly because assisting inhabitants in other countries, to some extent, is synonymous to assisting people in the home country. In 2014, hundreds of US and UK doctors and nurses were sent to African countries to cope with the outbreak of Ebola, a dreadful plague, which had killed many thousands by that time. This action prevented the plague from further spreading to other nations, including the US and the UK themselves, considering that there was a free movement of people between countries and there were millions of African migrant workers in the US and the UK at that time. In addition, the act of supporting people all around the world may promote a sense of humanity, which is essential to the sustainable development of the world, because humanity is the foundation of peace and stability.

To conclude, governments must provide assistance for citizens of other countries for a clear reason that this feasible act could simultaneously enhance a global sense of humanity and assure their own nationals of a proper living environment.

Essay #127

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In the future, it seems more difficult to live on the Earth. Some people think more money should be spent on researching other planet to live, such as Mars.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Advances in technology make the prospect to find the second Earth potentially viable. While I agree that terrestrial life has become increasingly difficult, I do not believe that we should invest money in finding a new planet to live on.

On the one hand, there is no doubt that life is not as easy as it was in the past. The main problem is the growing level of environmental pollution that adversely affects humankind in all parts of the world. The rising consumption of natural resources such as gas, oil and coal has resulted in an enormous amount of carbon emissions being released into the atmosphere, which impairs the air quality and accelerates climate change. The consequences of this are grave. People in many big cities are suffering respiratory diseases; more lands are being shrunk due to the rise of sea levels; and there are frequent heat waves in tropical countries. Apparently, human life is now put in danger.

On the other hand, I would contend that spending money finding another home for all creatures on the Earth is not an effective measure. There is little hope of seeking a planet that has favorable conditions for life while the expenditure can be extremely huge. In contrast, a much better solution would be that we should invest in environmental projects and encourage people to lead a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. For example, green energy should be harnessed and made more available to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, and individuals ought to opt for public transport rather than driving their vehicles. Such actions can cut exhaust emissions and slow down the effects of global warming, making the earth a more desirable place for us all.

In conclusion, although global warming is a global malady, it seems ludicrous to suggest that people should find another planet to settle down.

Essay #128

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, more and more older people who need employment compete with younger people for the same jobs.

What are the problems this causes? What are solutions?

Today, the labour market is becoming more competitive than ever before, with increasing competition between candidates of different age groups. This has led to a number of problems that need to be tackled, as will now be explained.

Firstly, there might be an increase in the rate of unemployment among young job seekers. Compared to the young, older candidates often possess a rich source of experience and thus have an obvious advantage when it comes to the recruitment process. The younger they are, the fewer chances people have in job hunting, and this is the case of many Indian youths who are struggling to secure a job after graduating from university.

Secondly, the workforce will be less productive. Experience of older workers cannot be used to justify their low levels of productivity due to the constraint of health. Companies that employ senior workers are often at risk of having their business delayed because of the frequent sick leave of these employees. In contrast, junior workers tend to be more dynamic and more content with working overtime, which contributes to the success of their firms.

However, there are a range of available options to combat the issue. One remedy is that the government should offer incentives for older people and encourage them to retire. This will pave the way for young people to fill the vacancies created. Another measure is that companies ought to hire both junior and senior employees because a mix of experienced and energetic staff members can be extremely beneficial for them to grow.

In conclusion, various solutions can be taken to handle the problems caused by growing competition between young job seekers and their older counterparts.

Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life.

What are the reasons? Do advantages of this outweigh disadvantages?

In contemporary society, adults are inclined to delay having children until they reach their middle age. In this essay, I would like to demonstrate several reasons for this tendency and discuss that its drawbacks outweigh its benefits.

To begin with, there are some explanations for people's avoidance of becoming parents too soon in their life. A prominent justification is that they want to be better-prepared for the family life financially. Individuals at their early stage of career may find it daunting difficult to afford a youth's basic demands, so it is reasonable for them to wait until they have accumulated a sufficient amount of money to guarantee a fulfilled material life for their children. Another reason would be that the adults may want to enjoy their life before having a new family member. In illustration, it is easier for married couples to travel without a child to nurture.

It is true that this proclivity of procrastination is advantageous to some extent. To be more specific, families living on a stable income is capable of providing their offspring with high quality education and nutritious diets. However, I hold the view that the disadvantages of this trend are more convincing. It has been scientifically proven that older parents are more likely to give birth to less healthy progenies. Those children may suffer from a number of serious diseases, ranging from rickets to autism. In the long run, this may have an adverse effect on the overall competence of the future workforce.

In conclusion, it is understandable why people want to have children in their middle age, but they have to stay alert to the aforementioned significant threats.

It is observed that in many countries not enough students are choosing to study science subject.

What are causes? And what will be effects on society?

In several parts of the world, there is currently a lack of students choosing to study science in universities and colleges. This problem happens due to some reasons, and it can have some adverse impacts on society.

There are several reasons why fewer university students are choosing science as their major. Firstly, these subjects are usually more difficult and demanding, which requires students to put much effort into their study. For example, my friend who is doing a course in Biology said that he had to conduct too many experiments and complete numerous projects, which prevented him from having any free time. As a result, science subjects seem to be less attractive to students compared to economics or business-related subjects. Secondly, as there are currently fewer employment opportunities available for graduates in science fields, learners are less likely to decide to select these majors. Instead, they tend to choose other subjects which allow them to find jobs more easily.

A shortage of learners in science fields can result in some negative effects. The first impact is that when fewer students decide to learn about science, there would be a serious shortage of employees working in these fields. This would lead to fewer technological developments, which would also prevent improvements in people's life quality. For instance, it would be difficult for humans to produce newer smart phones with better functions. Additionally, while a significantly increasing number of students are choosing economics and business to study, the number of job vacancies in these areas is limited. Therefore, many university graduates would have to face unemployment, which increases burden on society.

In conclusion, the shortage of students choosing science subjects is caused by several factors, and this problem might bring about serious impacts.

In developing countries, children in rural communities have less access to education. Some people believe that the problem can be solved by providing more schools and teachers, while others think that the problem can be solved by providing computers and Internet access.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

It is true that a proper education is still out of reach for the children born in rural parts of developing countries. While some people suggest building more schools and sending more teachers to these areas, others would propose the provision of computers and Internet access. In my personal view, the latter seems more feasible.

On the one hand, schools and teachers are still fundamental to the objective of making education accessible to countryside students. Firstly, schools serve a number of purposes other than providing places for classes. More importantly, schools also function as meeting places for students to learn the importance of collaborating and socialising with other people, provide an ideal learning environment for further study and maintain the discipline of students through regular attendance. Secondly, owing to poor access to a systematic and constant education in the first place, students in remote areas are unlikely to study by themselves effectively. In other words, teachers are required in the learning process because they can acknowledge these students' deficiencies and help them to solve their problems by repeating the same explanation, giving suitable exercises or even tutoring them privately.

On the other hand, I believe there are good reasons to supply these rural students with computers and Internet connection. The first reason is that these devices enable the students to pursue study programmes despite the fact that these students live in distant areas. For example, students can use the computer and the Internet to participate in webinars from universities or work with the teachers through emails. This idea would seem more feasible than sending teachers to remote regions to teach. Another reason is that the computer can be a useful learning tool with educational softwares. There are many computer programmes which contain a comprehensive course of self-study these days, so that the students can use these software applications without travelling out of their hometowns.

In conclusion, as people have their own views in how to provide education for rural students, I think that technology would offer a more plausible solution for the reasons mentioned.

Nowadays, young people admire sports stars though they often do not set a good example.

Do you think this is a positive or negative development?

Although top sports athletes are often poor role models, they gain the admiration of millions of youngsters. This is overall a negative trend for the young generation and society despite one single benefit it may bring about.

I think this trend could be profitable only if the young disregard the negative and focus on the positive aspects of sports stars' lives. Ronaldo, a world-class central forward, for example, is infamous for his extreme individualism, but is still a role model of diligence and determination for all the efforts he has exerted in football training. Many adolescents who are Ronaldo's fans have overlooked his undesirable personal traits and trained themselves hard to achieve extraordinary results in their lives. In this way, the young may still benefit from sports stars' valuable life lessons.

However, I contend that this is generally an adverse trend because with the majority of youngsters, it may lead to unpleasant consequences. This is because the young could be immature and they may imitate all the actions of the stars, irrespective of whether these actions are beneficial or not. What these young people may copy may range from a materialistic lifestyle, an individualistic way of living to more problematic behaviours such as sexism, racism and discrimination. These outcomes are negative not only for the juveniles themselves but for society as a whole in the future.

All the existing data provides a concrete foundation that even though youngsters may learn some useful life experiences from top athletes who do not set good examples, the proclivity of admiring and imitating these stars may result in a wide range of adverse effects and thus is a negative issue in today's society.

It is suggested that everyone wants to have a car, a television and a fridge.

Do disadvantages of this development for society outweigh advantages?

It is true that almost everyone wants a car, a TV and a fridge as some of the basic essentials of a good lifestyle. Despite the benefits, I believe that on a long-term view these are outweighed by the disadvantages.

On the one hand, the growing consumption of cars, televisions and fridges has several benefits. At its simplest, the rise of the consumer society stimulates economic growth. The increasing sales figures of cars and household equipment are often associated with more jobs and wealth being created for society. Another advantage is that people can have a higher standard of living than before. Travelling on the road is no longer tedious because individuals can sit in a car, listening to music and enjoying the comfort of air conditioning. In the same way, people may watch television to relax or to gain knowledge, and fridges help them preserve food longer without being stale.

On the other hand, I believe that the above benefits are outweighed by potential problems. Primarily, the use of cars is often held responsible for environmental pollution. Exhaust emissions from automobiles impair the air quality and consequently affect people's health. For example, in many big cities in the world, urban citizens are suffering from chronic respiratory problems due to the poor air quality. Using fridges and televisions also places a pressure on electricity supply in the world. The growing use of these devices in the home merely compounds the problem of insufficient electricity that has become intractable in many parts of the world.

In conclusion, taking a long-term perspective, I would argue that the drawbacks of this trend outweigh the advantages.

Nowadays, most large companies operate multi-nationally.

To what extent those companies should have responsibility towards local communities in which they operate?

In the globalisation process, a variety of organisations run on an international scale. However, I believe that these firms should not forget to place more of an emphasis on contributing to the development of the local societies where they are located in several aspects.

The first responsibility that the multinational companies should take is to preserve the local environment. Companies of any size would exert negative influence on the region's air and water quality by running factories, disposing of waste to the waterworks or simply using airconditioners. Therefore, it is encouraged that they are active in placing restrictions on the level of the contaminants released and endeavouring to operate on an environmentally friendly basis.

Second of all, paying tax on schedule is also an obligation. The tax money is used to upgrade the public constructions and regulate the socio-economic activities, thus facilitate people's life. Accordingly, not paying tax properly, the companies not only violate the national laws, but also indirectly deprive the inhabitants of a wide range of benefits they are well-deserved to reap.

Finally, the major global companies can support the regional communities by creating jobs. Provided with career opportunities at a firm near their homes, the workers can not only save time and money for traveling but also find it easier to take care of their family. In a broader view, this action helps reduce the unemployment rate at the area, which boosts the local economic development in the long run.

In conclusion, I believe that helping the local communities thrive should be considered a must for the international organisations, and there are many ways to implement the task.

Cycling is more environmentally friendly than other forms of transport.

Why is it not popular in many places? And how to increase its popularity?

Although riding a bicycle is clearly a better way to protect the environment than using other types of vehicles, not many people around the world prefer this means of transport. There are several causes of this unpopularity, and some solutions could be proposed to promote the usage of bicycles.

To begin with, there are several reasons why few people use bicycles to travel on a regular basis. Firstly, since modern life is getting much busier than in the past, individuals nowadays want to spend as little time on transport as possible. Therefore, they prefer to use other types of vehicles such as motorbikes or cars which would take less time. Secondly, cycling is more physically demanding than riding a motorbike or driving a car. This tends to discourage people from choosing this method, especially on a hot and sunny day or when they have to travel a long distance.

Several actions can be taken to increase the popularity of bicycles. The first solution would be to make it more costly to own a motorbike or a car. This can be done by increasing the price of petrol or raising tax on these vehicles. As a result, more people would choose bicycles as their primary means of transport. Additionally, more lanes should be built to serve only cyclists, which would make it much faster to travel with bicycles. The final solution is to launch campaigns to raise citizens' awareness of the harmful effects of motorbikes and cars on the environment, and this could encourage people to cycle more often.

In conclusion, there are some reasons why bicycles are becoming less common in today's world, and solutions should be produced early to promote this environmentally friendly means of transport.

Studies have suggested that nowadays children watch much more television than they did in the past and spend less time on active or creative things.

What are the reasons and what measures should be taken to encourage children to spend more time on active or creative things?

There has been a worrying trend that children watch an excessive amount of television and do not engage much in active or creative activities. This trend can be ascribed to a number of reasons and it must be addressed by definite actions.

Reasons for the trend vary. The primary reason is that children's television programmes are being broadcast all day with addictive contents, such as vivid and colourful animations. Cartoon Network and Disney Channel with their all-day-long series of animation shows are an evident example of this. Another clear reason is that parents nowadays are busy with their work, so they want children to focus on an activity that does not require much of their attention such as watching television. These two reasons make children spend more time in front of the television screen; this sedentary lifestyle prevents them from participating in active or creative activities.

A number of strong measures must be implemented to tackle the issue. The first solution is limiting the amount of time that a child can watch television. This could be done by activating the parental control mode and setting a fixed operating time limit on their television set. Another feasible solution is that parents must spend more time with their children and together they could engage in outdoor or creative activities. For example, parents could form a family sport team that practices on a regular basis, which may appeal to children more than television.

To conclude, there are obvious reasons why children watch too much television and spend little time on active and creative activities. This negative trend could be tackled by a number of remedies, such as activating the parental control mode on television sets.

Every day, millions of tons of food are wasted all over the world.

Why do you think this is happening? And how can we solve this problem?

Food wastage has now become a big problem in many parts of the world. There are several factors that are attributable to this situation, and solutions need to be adopted to combat the issue.

Primarily, people have become wealthier than before. Increased personal wealth means that individuals no longer appreciate food, and they tend to throw food away after eating rather than storing it in the fridge for the next meal. Fresh vegetables, meat and fish at the supermarket are now sold at an affordable price for middle-class people, so many of them are willing to discard the food as soon as they satiate their hungry stomach.

Another reason is that the food industry has been developing fast, with a variety of choices and marketing techniques that encourage food spending. Television programs are often interrupted by food advertisements that are digitally altered to trigger the craving for a wide range of delicious food. It is, therefore, not surprising why consumers do not feel the need to preserve the food that they have not eaten for later use.

However, food wastage is not an intractable problem. The simplest measure the government can do is to step up campaigns to raise public awareness with the aim of changing public attitudes to food consumption. The deleterious effects of food waste on the environment should be highlighted via posters and television programs to draw the attention of the public to the problem. Also, a heavy tax ought to be imposed on the food industry, which may cause the price of everyday food to rise and consequently deter people from taking food for granted.

In conclusion, people throw food away after meals because of several reasons, which requires the government to take action to mitigate the problem.

In many countries, governments are spending a large amount of money on improving internet access.

Why is it happening and do you think it is the most appropriate use of government money?

Recently, an ample amount of governmental investment money is being poured into the amelioration of the Internet supply. This phenomenon has its root from a host of factors, and I would discuss that there are various available ways to allocate this money more effectively.

To begin with, it is understandable why enhancing the quality of the Internet provision has become a key national investment portfolio. Firstly, with the availability of a better Internet connection, an extensive avenue of information is opened up for the inhabitants. Most residents would have omnipresent access to both international and local social news, and it has never been easier for those who live in remote areas to reach a wide range of information at a click of a button. Secondly, an improved Internet supply can facilitate the operation process of governmental companies. With stably-functioning online platforms, corporations today would no longer find it difficult to approach their customers, manage their employees or organise video conferences, which boosts the overall productivity. In the long run, the development of such firms makes great contribution to the thriving of the national economy.

However, I believe that upgrading the Internet access is not the best way to allocate the government money. The primary reason is that the broadband connection in most countries today is fast enough to satisfy the basic demands of the public. For example, in Vietnam, hardly do individuals have to wait a long time for a web page to load, while online business meetings have even become popular years ago. Therefore, an improvement in the quality of the Internet supply can be deemed not obligatory and urgent. Another justification is that there are several other fields which are being placed under strain and require the capital disbursement to function. To illustrate, a number of state hospitals in the UK have been conducting research on a complete cure for cancer, and it seems that this should be the investment priority.

In final words, all aforementioned standpoints lead me to a concrete inference that it is reasonable of the authorities to spend money bettering the Internet provision, but there are ways to allocate the capital more appropriately.

Essay #139

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Fossil fuel is the main source of energy. In some countries, the use of alternative sources of energy is encouraged.

To what extent do you think is it a positive or negative development?

In several parts of the world, fossil fuel plays a primary role in producing energy. However, governmental leaders also promote the utilization of nontraditional sources of power. I believe that this policy could generate both advantages and shortcomings.

There are various benefits of putting renewable power sources into practice. Firstly, when the exploitation of the non-conventional energy sources gains more popularity, followed by a decrease in the utilization of fossil fuel, natural renewable resources, which are being overexploited at an alarming rate and in danger of being exhausted, can be saved with a view to being preserved for later generations. Secondly, non-traditional sources of power like solar energy or wind power are considered to be environmentally friendly. In other words, they may discharge almost no toxic chemical emissions or pollutants. Consequently, the environment can be protected. Finally, factories or corporations generating renewable power can make contributions to supplying more job opportunities for the community and satisfying the increasing requirements for energy for daily social life and industrial production.

Nevertheless, in my view, countries can be confronted with several problems when making use of these kinds of energy. In various cases, when nuclear power plants could leak radioactive substances, the community health will be endangered and the living environment may be poisoned. Additionally, national authorities are obliged to allocate a huge amount of state budget for constructing nuclear power factories, installing windmills or purchasing solar panels, followed by a shortage of national fund for other key sectors like educational systems or health services.

Another trouble is that on days with little wind or sunlight, wind power or solar energy can hardly be produced. Moreover, in dry seasons, there is nearly no rain, leading to a lack of water for turbines to produce power. All the above mentioned matters may give rise to a deficiency in electricity for community life and manufacturing.

In conclusion, I am of the opinion that it is beneficial and problematic for nations to exploit renewable sources of energy.

Essay #140

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think studying from the past offers no benefits to today's life, while others believe that history is a valuable source of information for us.

Discuss both views and give our own opinion.

There has been considerable debate about the values of studying history. While it is argued that there are no advantages of learning history, I believe that history can bring more benefits.

It is claimed that it is not beneficial to learn from the past. At various schools, students may put exam-based learning methods into practice to satisfy the requirements of exams and tests. Consequently, they are obliged to make every effort to memorize historical developments and events. In several cases, they get stressful and overloaded with history-related knowledge which does not provide foundations for their doing research into scientific fields like engineering or medicine. For example, in my hometown, most school students apply test-oriented approaches in historical lessons, causing students to be bombarded with historical knowledge, which is not beneficial in supplying background knowledge for them to realize their dream to major in computer engineering or medical sciences at university.

Nonetheless, from my viewpoint, history should become a more precious informative source. Thanks to history classes or museum artifacts related to past wars, there is every likelihood of young generations accumulating a profound knowledge of the sacrifice and contributions of their ancestors in the resistance war against foreign invaders, followed by cultivating their national pride and patriotism. As a result, they may have a tendency to be supplied with motivation and inspiration to put almost every effort into perfecting themselves and making contributions to national development. Another explanation may be that no sooner are students exposed to history lectures than they could enhance their understanding of valuable lessons about successes and failures in the process of predecessors' national construction and defense. Hence, they might reach higher maturity and greater confidence in avoiding the same mistakes and making wise decisions for their future careers and life.

In conclusion, although people think history lessons can be of no importance, I am of the opinion that there are more benefits of studying history as a huge reservoir of knowledge.

Some people think that everyone has the right to have access to university education, and that government should make it free for all students no matter what financial background they have.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

It is unquestionable that every citizen has equal opportunities to follow higher education. I believe that the government should allow students to attend university free of charge. However, I disagree with the policy of providing free higher education for all students regardless of their financial background.

Supplying free tertiary education for students is a sensible national investment. Numerous students, if not obliged to pay tuition fees can afford to cover their living costs; thereby concentrating on academic performance or cultivate their professional skills. Therefore, they may be well qualified for future employment. Additionally, university graduates who have received governmental grants for all university tuition fees can become productive citizens contributing to social betterment. More specifically, after graduation from university, some graduates may become loyal and strong-willed soldiers who could ensure national security and sovereignty or teachers serving to raising people's intellectual levels and shaping young generations' behavioral patterns.

However, I oppose the idea of providing tuition fees subsidies for all students irrespective of whether they are rich or poor. Several learners who live in poverty are entitled to free tertiary education although they have no desire to enrich academic knowledge or professional skills. In this case, this policy proves to be a waste of money. Another explanation is that no sooner do national leaders pay all tuition fees for university education than there is high likelihood of a deficiency in state budget for community health services or public transport services which also require a huge amount of fund investment from the government for the benefits of the whole society.

In conclusion, in my view, there are several benefits of free education at university level. However, I disapprove that all students have free higher education opportunities no matter how rich or poor they are.

Some people think that men and women have different qualities. Therefore, some certain jobs are suitable for men and some jobs are suitable for women.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is natural that both genders possess distinct features. While it is believed that several occupations are appropriate for men or women on the basis of their own qualities, I partly approve of this viewpoint because each sex can expose equal performance at work to the opposite gender in various cases.

On the one hand, several respective characteristics of each gender may enable them to be compatible with certain jobs. As regards males, they are blessed with good physical stamina, decisiveness or strong will, allowing them to be well qualified for armed forces. For example, men can perform military service or enter the security force because they are able to be confronted with aggressive robbers or combative foreign invaders. Similarly, women, considered to be the weaker sex, tend to be emotional, considerate or meticulous, which makes it possible for them to become prominent at doing household chores or taking responsibility for childcare.

Regardless of the above-mentioned explanations, I accept that males and females can work equally effectively and hold the same social status. At home, there is likelihood of men becoming outstanding at doing the work which is usually given to women. More especially, various males are skilled chefs and a large number of husbands in modern families are excellent at childcare skills compared with their wives. By contrast, various modern women can become breadwinners instead of men. Additionally, in the modern society, women may undertake the same important social positions as their male counterparts. For example, like other male elite members, Angela Merkel was elected as the prime minister of Germany, permitting her to reveal her leadership talents and powerful influence on national development policies.

In conclusion, although it is argued both genders have their own separate qualities making them become suited for several jobs, I believe that they are capable of having the same type of jobs irrespective of whether they are male or female.

Advertisements are becoming more and more common in everyday life.

Is it positive or negative development?

Advertising is gaining more popularity in the marketing of products or services. While advertisements are considered to be advantageous, they can have numerous negative influences.

It is unquestionable that there are several benefits of advertising. By dint of the large-scale expansion of advertising in almost every kind of mass media and nearly all hoardings, this sector is likely to generate a diversity of employment opportunities. In other words, it provides occupations for artists, painters or copywriters in designing and preparing logos, contents or ideas for advertisements. Another advantage is that advertising may enable the messages involved in products and services to reach potential customers, followed by an increase in sales for businesses. Additionally, only thanks to advertisements, can customers be kept informed about newly-launched products. Therefore, they have more choices to make about their beloved products, contributing to the enhancement of their comforts and standard of living.

However, advertising could cause several disadvantages for customers. No sooner might companies or business exaggerate or even distort the facts related to their products for commercial purposes than the customers can experience feelings of confusion about these items, making them have troubles in selecting the products to their taste. Furthermore, the facts show that the more advertising expenses increase, the higher the product price is. The reason can be that the high cost of advertisements is covered by the selling price of advertised items. As a result, the advertised products can cost more than they should. Finally, when customers cannot resist the temptation of products which are advertised beyond customers' expectations, there is every likelihood of them purchasing products which may be unnecessary. This trend could be seen as a waste of money.

In conclusion, based on the above mentioned explanations, individuals may gain both considerable benefits and drawbacks through the growing prevalence of advertisements.

International travel has many advantages to both the travellers and the country visited.

Do advantages outweigh disadvantages?

It is true that citizens around the world tend to show fancy for travelling overseas. From my perspective, journeys to foreign nations bring more benefits than drawbacks.

Admittedly, several problems could arise along with international tours. Firstly, visitors from overseas may be required to pay considerably higher prices for their accommodation or other holiday services because numerous native citizens take the chance to make a huge profit from foreign individuals. Secondly, in fact, several international tourists bring infectious diseases, especially Ebola or MERS to tourist attractions, posing a threat to the local community health. Finally, there is every likelihood of holiday destinations being put under environmental threats as a consequence of a massive influx of foreign tourists to these venues with low awareness of the importance of environmental protection.

However, international visits have more positive impacts on tourists as well as host countries. With regard to travelers, thanks to setting foot in a strange nation, they would have an opportunity to become more broad-minded when getting to know about different customs, lifestyles and rituals. Additionally, enjoying the breath-taking views of destination countries and their diverse delicacies may assist visitors to escape from the hustle and bustle of their busy life to have unforgettable memories and recharge their own batteries. In terms of local countries, an increase in the number of travelers from abroad to their localities could generate a variety of job opportunities related to tour guide or accommodation services for local residents and help reduce unemployment rate, followed by an improvement in economic prosperity. Equally importantly, international tourism is attributed to the enhancement of cultural communication and mutual understanding between nations.

To summarize, despite several mentioned-above shortcomings, I personally believe that international tourism denotes a positive trend for both individuals and society.

Some universities offer online courses as an alternative to classes delivered on campus.

Do you think this a positive or negative development?

The idea of providing distance education of numerous universities has become quite fashionable. Whilst I believe online courses to have great benefits in several cases, I presume that this trend may give rise to some downsides.

On the one hand, it is my belief that this tendency is likely to be profitable. One noticeable advantage is an increase in academic chance for social members. The adoption of videoconferencing technology and free-to-use group chats in Internet-based courses may serve to facilitate the study of busy workers without leaving their current jobs. Furthermore, students could get access to academic lectures by prominent professors from World-famous universities via e-learning classes. Another point in favor is convenience. Online distance education enables students not only take the initiative to plan their study schedule but also review lectures, discussion, comments or share notes with each other on demand.

On the other hand, there appear to be potential shortcomings stemming from this trend. One disadvantage is the lack of interaction with the instructors and fellow classmates in the light of the internet disconnect. This procrastination may discourage learners from meeting their deadlines and completing their assignments. Students' plagiarism and dishonesty are areas of concern as well. Some critics feel that it is easier to plagiarize or share answers owing to reduced surveillance and increase connectivity. Consequently, this copyright infringement could drive them to the verge of being expelled from the course of study.

Overall, based on what have been discussed above, it seems to me that learning activities through the medium of the internet has both the desired and adverse effects.

In schools and universities, girls tend to choose arts while boys like science.

What are the reasons for this trend and do you think this tendency should be changed?

It is undeniable that scientific domains of study seem to be preferred by schoolboys whilst schoolgirls are inclined to show fancy for ones related to arts. From my perspective, several reasons could explain this tendency and it should undergo a change.

There are two main causes responsible for the difference in subject selections between boys and girls. First and foremost, it derives from natural strengths of each gender. It is an inescapable fact various male students are better at rational and logical thinking in science; hence, they reveal preference for mathematical and physical realms while the other sex may be more emotional and sensitive to have advantages in perceiving arts or languages. Equally importantly, the traditional belief is another contributing factor deciding that divergence. In fact, a number of parents orientate their girls towards the choice of artistic fields to become elegant and their sons to pursue science subjects for their future career.

I believe that there is a necessity to change the aforementioned trend. Both male and female children should be encouraged to find the right balance between arts and science subjects. Several scientific studies prove that learning arts could boost children's creativity and imagination power, enabling them to get insight into scientific subjects with greater efficiency; meanwhile, majors namely maths or physics also generate opportunities for female learners to develop their left brain and enhance problemsolving competences. Furthermore, as regards numerous female students who have a flair for maths and engineering, forcing them to specialize in artistic scopes may produce counterproductive outcomes. This compulsion is likely to cause resentment and negative attitudes towards their study, followed by low levels of academic performance.

To conclude, that girls prefer arts but boys tend to choose science subjects for education could be justified for several above-mentioned reasons. Nonetheless, I argue for a change of this situation.

Essay #147

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It is better for college students to live far away from home than live at home with their parents.

Do you agree or disagree?

Student accommodation wields direct influences in their life and academic performance. I uphold the conviction that it is more necessary for student life to be spent a long distance from their parents.

Life on campus may be more advantageous for university students. It is undeniable that with the absence of parental care, students seem to have a chance to shoulder almost all the blame for their private life, ranging from doing household chores to managing personal finance, meticulously preparing certain life skills for their later life. Additionally, thanks to their shared accommodation, students might learn how to live and work in harmony with others, giving rise to improvements in social skills. Finally, students can accomplish higher academic outcomes by dint of mutual aid and support from friends by sharing learning materials or developing proper study strategies for each other, facilitating their study when sharing the room.

However, although living with parents during student life may bring several benefits ranging from parental care to feeling of safety, this lifestyle can be more detrimental. In fact, commuting to universities from home daily may deprive various students of a remarkable time which should have been allocated for participating in recreational and extracurricular activities or sports events with a view to enhancing their physical health and develop their teamwork skills or communication competences. This physical stamina and these soft skills are prerequisites for paving the way for academic as well as professional success. In other words, were it not for these soft skills which appear easier to be developed in a self-reliant life, students would be at a disadvantage in the process of accumulating academic knowledge and professional qualifications for future employment.

In conclusion, based on the aforementioned explanations, it seems to me that, enjoying campus life far from their parents is a more sensible decision than living under the same roof with their parents.

Essay #148

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think international car-free days are an effective way of reducing air pollution, others think there are some other ways.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion

A wide range of feasible measures have been proposed in an attempt to enhance the quality of air across the globe. Although it is universally accepted that global car-free days can be an effective solution. It is my conviction that numerous other policies seem to become more possible.

On the one hand, it is undeniable that when almost all citizens on a global scale are willing to resort to other means of transport in order to celebrate a so-called international car-free day, this practice seems to be fruitful. On a day-to-day basis, cars, which are widely regarded as the most prevalent transportation means running on petrol or diesel, discharge a huge quantity of exhaust fumes ranging from carbon dioxides to unburnt hydrocarbons. Therefore, there is, in all likelihood, a considerable decline in the amount of pollution-causing gas, meaning that the air quality may become cleaner and healthier. This situation might encourage individuals to reduce car usage in the next days to diminish air contamination.

However, I advocate the viewpoint that several more attainable policies could be introduced with a view to minimizing the number of air quality pollutants. The most immediate solution would be that all factories need to apply cutting-edge pollution-free technologies in production so that exhaust fumes from these factories would become more environmentally friendly. Another remedy may be to construct and put into operation more nuclear power plants as opposed to thermal power stations which release thousands of tons of carbon dioxides into the atmosphere. Other alternative sources of energy namely solar energy and wind power should be exploited. The two latter policies may contribute to fulfilling the increasing requirements for energy for industrial production and daily household consumption without causing serious damage to the air quality.

To conclude, despite the productive global car-free day celebration as aforementioned,

Essay #149

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

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To conclude, despite the productive global car-free day celebration as aforementioned, I uphold the standpoint that various other methods seem to be more achievable.

Essay #150

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The society would benefit from a ban on all forms of advertising because it serves no useful purpose, and can even be damaging.

Do you agree or disagree?

It is regularly argued that prohibition of all categories of advertisement, which are thought to be pointless and even detrimental, could generate numerous benefits for the community. Notwithstanding, from my standpoint, social members tend to not only reap advantages but also tolerate demerits from this trend.

On the one hand, it seems undeniable that the ban on multiple kinds of advertisement can be beneficial for consumers. Forbidding advertising is synonymous with the fact that purchasers may not have to pay a remarkable measure of money for advertising services included in product prices. This can serve to reduce consumers' expenditures for shopping. Moreover, no sooner are numerous advertisements exaggerating the functions, values and qualities of commodities with a view to pressing citizens to purchase their products prohibited than individuals may select their items to fulfill their requirements without being adversely affected by the messages in which the truths related to these goods can have been exaggerated or even distorted.

On the other hand, it would appear that the bar to advertisement services likewise pose untold drawbacks to the community. The first shortcoming could be the joblessness which employees involved in advertising could be confronted with, in all likelihood, giving rise to an increase in the unemployment rate. Another disadvantage might be that this prohibition can keep consumers in ignorance of the latest goods available on the market. Hence, they may be faced with obstacles in searching for and comparing the quality and price concerning the products of the same category before deciding to purchase them.

In conclusion, it is my conviction that banning advertisements can wield both desired and adverse effects on community members.

Essay #151

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that people who choose a job early and keep doing it are more likely to get a satisfying in their career life than those who frequently change jobs.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is often said that individuals settling down with a permanent career soon seem to experience further satisfaction in their work than social members regularly altering their employment. However, from my standpoint, both these options could bestow comparable feelings of fulfillment.

On the one hand, it is undeniable that numerous people who can opt for a job early and maintain it may reap pleasure in their work. When realizing the job they have a craving for earlier in their life and might land this kind of job, individuals are likely to grasp privileges to expose the majority of their aptitudes, skills and their expertise on their work. As a result, it is easy for them to achieve progress in their career and receive a high salary which may satisfy their requirements for entertainment or education. It is unquestionable that these appear to help create satisfactory with their job.

Notwithstanding, it is my conviction that individuals, who frequently hopping their position, can be likewise content with their employment. The first explanation is that when regularly changing their jobs, they may have multiple opportunities to accumulate diverse majors, skills and knowledge. Thus, they may step out of their comfort zones in order to experience feelings of satisfaction. Another cause could be that by virtue of regularly shifting their employment, social workers are likely to find the most appropriate position with their personal competences and aspiration. Hence, it would seem that job hoppers can also achieve exaltation in working.

Overall, it is sensible to conclude that not only people making an early choice of work and pursue it for their whole life but also individuals often changing their position can equally get satisfactory in their career.

Essay #152

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The growing number of overweight people is putting a strain on the health care system in an effort to deal with the health issues involved. Some people think that the best way to deal with this problem is to introduce more physical education lessons in the school curriculum.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Owing to the problems which a growing population of overweight people cause for the health care system, some people think that the key to solving these issues is to have more sport and exercise in schools. In my opinion, I completely agree that this is the best way to tackle the issue of deteriorating public health in relation to weight.

Firstly, dealing with the issues surrounding obesity and weight problems is best solved by taking a long term approach and introducing more sport and exercise in schools. This method will ensure that the next generation will be healthier and will not have such health problems. At the moment, the average child in the West does sport possibly twice a week, which is not enough to counteract their otherwise sedentary lifestyle. However, by incorporating more sports classes into the curriculum as well as encouraging extracurricular sports activities, they will undoubtedly become fitter and more active.

Another point to consider is that having more sports lessons for children in schools will probably result in children developing an interest in exercise which might filter through to other members of their family and have a longer lasting effect. In other words, parents with sporty children are more likely to get involved in sport as a way of encouraging their children. By both parents and children being involved, it will ensure that children grow up to incorporate sport into their daily lives. This is certainly a natural and lasting way to improve public health.

In conclusion, to deal with an increasing population of unfit, overweight people, changing the lifestyle of the coming generation by introducing sport in schools is the easiest and most effective method to use.

Essay #153

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The development of tourism contributed to English becoming the most prominent language in the world. Some people think this will lead to English becoming the only language to be spoken globally.

What are the advantages and disadvantages to having one language in the world?

It is thought by some people that English, which is now the most widely spoken language in the world, may one day predominate over all other languages and result in their eventual disappearance. Having one language would certainly aid understanding and economic growth but there will also be some drawbacks.

One evident benefit to having one global language is that it would enable greater understanding between countries. In other words, if everyone spoke one language, there would be complete understanding between not only countries but all people throughout the world which would promote learning, the flow of information and ideas. Another reason that one language would be advantageous is that it would help economic growth. With all people speaking the same language, there will be less barriers and therefore trade would flourish between countries, resulting in a healthier world economy.

On the other hand, there are obvious disadvantages to having only one global language. Firstly, it would mean that all other languages would eventually disappear and, along with them, their cultures. The diversity of cultures is one of the joys this world has to offer. Each culture is unique with its own way of life and own perspectives of the world which would all be lost if there were only one language. Secondly, it would result in the collapse of tourism because there would be no reason to travel for pleasure and interest if all countries had the same language and similar cultures. This would devastate many countries economically that rely on tourism as a source of income.

In conclusion, while there are plus points to having one global language, too much would be lost as a result. Maintaining local languages and cultures should be prioritised to ensure a rich world heritage for future generations.

Essay #154

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many offenders commit more crimes after serving the first punishment.

Why is this happening, and what measures can be taken to tackle this problem?

A large number of criminals who serve their first prison sentence, leave prison only to reoffend. This is mainly because of the lack of rehabilitation and difficulty finding regular employment once released. There are a number of solutions which should be implemented to deal with criminals who reoffend.

Firstly, the reason for most first-time offenders committing crimes again, once they have been released from prison, is due to the lack of rehabilitation whilst in prison. In other words, offenders are not given a chance to retrain and learn new skills for their future or develop a deeper understanding of correct moral behaviour and instead mix with other criminals, which only strengthens their criminal intentions. Secondly, repeat offending is also owing to the difficulty in finding employment after being released. As a result, many of them struggle financially which leads them back to crime, regardless of the consequences.

There are two effective solutions to the problem of repeat offenders. One way to tackle this is to ensure that all criminals entering prison are given the chance to retrain with useful skills which will hopefully ensure them a job after they have served their sentence. By doing this, it will help them reintegrate back into society and give them some means of supporting themselves financially. Another method of dealing with criminals who reoffend is to have more supervision and checks in place when they are back in society. This solution would hopefully prevent them from taking any chances and deter them from reoffending because they are being so closely watched.

In conclusion, having training in prison and also close observation when first time offenders are released are effective in dealing with the issue. If governments implemented these solutions, crime figures would soon drop.

Some people think that money is one of the most essential factors in promoting happiness.

**Do you think people can be happy without much money?
What other factors contribute towards happiness?**

Money is considered by many people to be one of the most important contributing factors towards happiness. In my opinion, it is possible for people to be happy even if they have little money and other aspects of life can play a more vital role in creating happiness.

Although having money brings happiness to a lot of people, it does not necessarily follow that people without money are, therefore, unhappy. Take for example the comparison between developing and developed countries, most Westerners would agree that people in developing countries are happier, enjoy stronger family connections and take more pleasure in the simplicities of life to a greater extent than those in developed countries.

One way that people can gain happiness is through their work. For instance, a doctor doing volunteer work in underdeveloped countries may have very little money but the reward of helping people and doing the job they are good at, brings happiness in itself. In other words, happiness can be found by using skills that people are trained for and through job satisfaction.

Finally, another factor influencing happiness is having supportive and loving people in one's life. While money may bring the opportunities to enjoy pleasures, few people would enjoy them on their own. Being surrounded by a loving and caring family is considered by most people to be more valuable than any amount of money.

In conclusion, money is not essential for happiness, which can be found through job satisfaction as well as family. If more people strived in life towards true happiness rather than money, the world would be a better place.

Completing university education is thought by some to be the best way to get a good job. On the other hand, other people think that getting experience and developing soft skills is more important.

Discuss both sides and give your opinion.

It is considered by some that being a university graduate is the key to securing a good job while there are others who think that it is better to have experience and soft skills. In my opinion, I believe that having university education is essential for academic jobs while soft skills and experience are more useful in business.

On the one hand, many think it is easier for most people to find a good job if they are university graduates with a good degree. In other words, having tertiary education puts people one step ahead of others who do not and this can be the deciding factor in getting a good job. The competition to get in to universities and the increasing number of graduates show just how significant this level of education is for people's future work opportunities.

On the other hand, having work experience and soft skills, such as leadership skills and other interpersonal skills, can also throw the balance in favour of the applicant, according to some. For many positions there are an overwhelming number of applicants and, therefore, it is often thought that having relevant experience in that line of work or having acquired useful soft skills that can be valuable to a company, can put one ahead of the game when applying for a position.

Finally, in my opinion, whether needing high level education or skills and experience, depends on the position being applied for. Take for example law, medicine or teaching, it is impossible to be considered for a position without the required educational background. In contrast, in business, it would be more important for a candidate to have soft skills and experience in that line of business so they can step into a position without further training and be of immediate benefit to the company.

In conclusion, getting a good job requires a relevant background either in experience or education depending on the type of work and field. People should make sure they attain the necessary skills or degrees before applying for a job in order to be sure of success.

Essay #157

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In some parts of the world it is becoming popular to research the history of one's own family.

Why might people want to do this? Is it a positive or negative development?

Exploring one's family background and history is becoming increasingly popular in numerous countries around the world. In my opinion, through research and knowing more about one's family, people can see common trends passed through generations which can only be seen as beneficial for people's future.

Firstly, some people look into their family history in order to discover any common trends with family members of a previous generation. This can be especially so with people who have particular skills, gifts or interests in uncommon fields. In other words, as some gifts and skills are hereditary, it can be interesting for people to learn how many others in their family shared these talents from previous generations.

Another reason for the popularity of finding out about one's family history is often due to general curiosity of one's geographical origins. That is to say, some families moved abroad, away from their own country, generations ago which resulted in them losing their original culture and adopting the culture of the country they moved to. Therefore, through research, people can learn more about their country of origin and understand more about the culture that their family originally came from.

Finally, the trend of researching family history is certainly beneficial and can help people find their place in the world. Some people feel a lack of direction in life or are dislocated from others but by learning more about their past family history, it can help them relate to the world and feel more comfortable about who they are. Take, for example, a person who feels nervous about making a certain choice in life, they may feel comforted by knowing that others in their family made the same choice many generations ago.

In conclusion, it can be advantageous for people to learn more about the family's background and origins. It would be useful for children to learn about their own family history, if this was incorporated into the school curriculum.

Essay #158

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Art is considered an important part of a society as well as an expression of its culture.

Do you think it is important for children to be taught art? Do you think children should be encouraged to focus on art rather than other subjects?

It is commonly believed that art plays a fundamental role in society as artists are able to express their thoughts and their culture in their work. In my opinion, children should definitely learn art because they can develop creativity and learn to express themselves in their art work but it should not be taught to the detriment of other subjects.

Firstly, art is an essential subject which children, especially young children, should learn in order to help promote their creativity and imagination. Without the development of imagination and creative thinking, children will struggle to grow into dynamic, individual thinkers when they reach adulthood. Furthermore, some children are particularly gifted in their creative abilities and studying art can help them nurture their talents.

Another important advantage for children when practicing art is that it provides a medium through which they can express their emotions and feelings. In other words, young children do not have the linguistic capabilities to put their ideas into language and thus communicate directly. Therefore, by using art, they are able to convey meaning through pictures and symbols. For this reason, many child psychologists often study the art work of children to gain an insight into what they think and feel.

Finally, however, regardless of how useful the study of art is for children, this should not result in more focus being placed on art rather than other subjects. Children need to have a balance of all subjects so as to facilitate a healthy development both mentally and physically. Thus, ensuring that there is a healthy balance of art, sciences, languages and physical education in the school syllabus is essential.

In conclusion, while art certainly helps a child develop creativity as well as express their thoughts, it should be taught equally alongside all other subjects. A school curriculum should offer a balance of subjects.

Essay #159

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Nowadays, more people are choosing to socialise online rather than face to face.

Is this a positive or negative development?

An increasing number of people meet and talk to their friends online instead of in person. In my opinion, this is a negative development which can lead to isolation, potentially harmful situations and also problems later on in life.

One serious problem that can arise from people socialising online is that it can lead to isolation. Before the internet, people would frequently go out to meet friends, for example in cafes, bars or restaurants, whereas now people prefer to stay at home alone, chatting online. As a result, people are starting to spend the majority of their time alone at home in their room without meeting others. Isolation of this kind is not healthy and can sometimes lead to depression and other issues.

Another issue is that meeting people online can be risky. In other words, people can assume fake identities online as well as hide their true characteristics. This is particularly concerning for teenagers who are impressionable and can easily be led into dangerous situations. Furthermore, as this interaction is online, parents have no way of monitoring it and protecting their children.

Finally, socialising online can end in difficulties years later as conversations and shared photos that had been forgotten reappear. This situation is currently critical for many people, again especially for teenagers who do not think carefully before posting online. That is to say, information which is put online can remain there forever and while people may share intimate communications with close friends, these words can then resurface later on leading to much embarrassment.

In conclusion, although it has become more popular for people to socialise through the internet, it has brought about too many problems for this to be considered a positive trend.

Essay #160

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people consider price as most important thing to think about when buying product (such as cell phone) or service (e.g. medical treatment).

Do you agree or disagree?

It is thought by some people that the price of a product or service is essential to consider before deciding to purchase something. While I agree that people need to consider carefully before spending large amounts of money in order to avoid debt, the necessity of the purchase must play a role in the decision to buy.

It is essential that people take time to reflect on how much money they should spend on an item or service, and whether or not they can actually afford it within their available budget. Over the last few decades, the rise in personal debt has escalated as people are tempted to buy goods and services due to pressure from advertising and the increasingly easy access of credit cards. For this reason, any purchase that is costly and is bought using credit ought to be well thought through, particularly when the item is a luxury item that is not actually essential.

On the other hand, there are circumstances when the cost of a service or item becomes an irrelevant consideration. A typical example of this would be when someone's life depends on a product or service, such as a new treatment for a disease not offered through normal channels. In such a case, a person's budget becomes redundant and the expense should not deter someone from proceeding with the purchase. However, these situations are rare and in most circumstances price ought to be considered so that excessive spending is planned and budgeted to avoid serious debt problems.

In conclusion, people should deliberate carefully before spending large sums of money on goods and services, except in cases of dire necessity.

Essay #161

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that the teenagers should concentrate on all subjects at school. Others believe that teenagers should focus on the subject they are best at or they are most interested in.

To what extent do you agree?

While it is thought that adolescents ought to focus on a broad range of school subjects, others feel it would be better for them to concentrate only on chosen subjects. I believe the number of subjects they study should depend on their age.

One reason adolescents from around the age of 13 to 18 ought to focus on learning as many different subjects as possible is that they are too immature to make serious decisions that will affect their future. By studying various subjects, they will develop a clearer understanding of their skills and interests, which often change as a child ages. Secondly, teenagers need to vary what they learn to help them develop into well rounded adults. For example, they need sport to encourage health, they need maths to be able to perform simple arithmetic in life, and they need languages to help them learn communication. At a young age they are not mature enough to be responsible for their own development.

However, by the age of 18, adolescents know not only what subjects they most enjoy or excel at, but also which subjects are most useful for their future prospects in life. For this reason, the majority of university applicants are 18 years old, and they are eager to engage more deeply in specific subject matter. Furthermore, their ability to concentrate on one specific subject and study in depth is fully established at that age, unlike when they were younger. Lastly, older adolescents have the ability to manage their own schedule and can take responsibility for continuing art or sport as hobbies.

To conclude, younger teenagers are not ready to specialise and require a broad framework of subjects to help them develop, but at the age of 18, this is no longer the case.

Essay #162

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Using animals to test the safety of cosmetics or drugs used for medical reasons is never acceptable.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Before any new product is put on the market whether it is a cosmetic product, or potentially life saving medicine, the producers will want to make sure that it is safe for humans to use. A common way of doing this is to test the product on animals.

Many people feel that this is unacceptable because it assumes that an animal life is somehow less valuable than a human life. Opponents of animal testing point out that the animals involved often suffer great pain and fear, and argue that we have no right to do this to them for our own benefit.

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that animal testing has helped scientists to make great discoveries in the field of medicine, providing effective drugs against cancer, heart disease and other potentially fatal illnesses. Supporters of animal testing argue that many lives have been saved this way. I would agree that there may be some benefits to using animals to test new medicines, although I would prefer such testing to be kept to a minimum. Increasingly, there are new ways of testing products, using cell cultures, which need not involve animals at all.

However, even when this is not possible, I cannot agree that it is necessary to test cosmetic products on animals. There are already thousands of cosmetic products on the market, with no need for further development and testing. Exploiting animals in this way is, in my opinion completely unacceptable.

In conclusion, I would not agree that testing products on animals is never acceptable, but it should be reserved for essential scientific work.

Essay #163

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Many people say that the only way to guarantee getting a good job is to complete a course of university education. Others claim that it is better to start work after school and gain experience in the world of work.

How far do you agree or disagree with the above views?

It is probably true to say that most people believe that a university degree is the only way to get a good job. I think this is true in certain areas, while in other areas, a degree is not as useful.

To begin with, many people have ambitions to become a qualified professional and there is no doubt that becoming a doctor or a lawyer, for example, is only possible with a degree. Another advantage of graduating from university is that it gives you more choices when it comes to choosing a job. Most employers will be more impressed by a candidate who has a degree than they would be by one who only has high school qualifications because it shows a certain level of intelligence and education, as well as the commitment and self-discipline that is needed in order to study a degree course for three or four years.

On the other hand, there might be some benefits to starting your career early, especially if your chosen field is one which does not typically require a university education. This would apply to somebody who wants to be a car mechanic, or a fashion designer, for instance, who would not necessarily gain anything from going to university. The hands-on experience you gain in your job while others are studying for a degree can give you a distinct advantage.

So, to conclude, it is possible to get a good job without going to university. Having said that, some professions, such as the law, require you to have a degree and as stated above a university degree could potentially open more doors when looking for a job.

Essay #164

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Every year thousands of students go overseas to study. Although many benefit from the experience, others go home disappointed.

What are the benefits and drawbacks of studying in another country?

In recent times studying abroad has become very popular. Although there are many advantages to overseas study there are some disadvantages.

One of the major problems with overseas study is that it is expensive. Tuition fees for overseas students are very high and often the cost of living is higher than in the student's own country. On the other hand, an overseas qualification may be a good long-term investment and help the person get a better job when they return home. Furthermore, study at a foreign university may give students a different perspective on their subject.

Of course studying in one's own country is easier. There are no language problems and students know what to expect from the lecturers. In contrast, overseas students may be unable to understand lectures and find it difficult to adapt to different styles of teaching. However, overcoming these problems may provide useful skills later in life. Studying in a different environment helps students become more adaptable and gives them the confidence to deal with difficult problems.

Perhaps the main problem encountered by overseas students is culture shock. For many people it is their first time away from home and they get homesick. They miss their friends and family and find problems adapting to the language and culture. However, there is a sense of satisfaction in overcoming these problems. Overseas experience increases self-confidence and opens up people's minds to new ideas and cultures.

Overall, in spite of the difficulties of studying abroad, it is usually a positive experience.

Some people believe that schoolchildren should be made to wear a uniform. Others feel that children should be free to choose their own clothes. Discuss both sides of the argument.

Do you agree or disagree with pupils wearing uniforms?

There are many arguments both for and against children having to wear a school uniform.

Some people favour uniforms simply because they look smart. However, uniforms do more than this because they identify you with a particular school which can help to maintain discipline and reduce truancy. Uniforms also promote safety and security by making it easier to identify intruders in the school. On a practical note, a uniform makes choosing clothes straightforward and problem-free for parents. Contrast this with the difficulties faced by parents with limited means (for example, living off state benefits) when a child wants to wear expensive designer clothes, mainly to impress friends. In this circumstance, children from poorer backgrounds can find themselves disadvantaged.

On the other hand, some people would argue that wearing a school uniform is an unnecessary restriction on personal freedom and expression. Instead, pupils should be allowed to choose their own clothes as suits them as individuals, rather than having to conform to a fixed dress code. Many pupils do not like a school uniform that means wearing the same clothes every day.

Personally I see nothing wrong with wearing a uniform to school because there is plenty of opportunity to wear your own clothes outside the school gates. Also, some restrictions are always necessary to stop people from dressing inappropriately whilst at school. There are strict dress codes and uniforms for adults in certain occupations so children might as well get used to the idea of having to wear a uniform of some type. I do not think it is a good idea to let young people have everything their own way too soon otherwise they will have problems with authority later on.

A university degree is essential for people who want to have a successful career.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is certainly true that more and more emphasis is placed on the acquisition of academic qualifications, and growing number of people preparing for higher education. A matter of debate is the subject of whether or not a university qualification ensures a successful career. This essay deals with some of the opinions for and against this matter.

One convincing point against this attitude is the 'missed opportunities' of university educated people. This is to say, having a university degree can be very demanding. It may take four years or even more to obtain a degree while this time could be used more effectively with more practical skills. Another reason against this attitude is that higher education does not necessarily lead to promotions and successful careers. In other words, education is not always the best route for climbing the career ladder or having a successful business. Therefore, it could be argued that higher education does not automatically qualify an individual for a bright career life, and practically a large number of factors contribute to career success.

The most important argument in favour of this subject is that having academic qualifications enable people to have more career-growth opportunities. It is notable that an important criterion in most promotion standards is having an academic qualification. This means university graduates are more likely to have high-ranking positions resulting in higher salaries and more financial benefits. Another reason to be taken into consideration is that most university courses are primarily designed to enhance students' practical and theoretical skills. Such courses are intended to boost the learners' practical abilities such as organisational and teamwork skills which in turn lead to more job opportunities for having a decent job.

While it may be true to say that university education does not always ensure a prosperous career, in my opinion, it is almost always considered a very important factor. I think the best way to achieve a successful career is increasing theoretical knowledge and job-related skills which certainly require a comprehensive plan.

Essay #167

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Modern societies need specialists in certain fields, but not others. Some people therefore think that governments should pay university fees for students who study subjects that are needed by society. Those who choose to study less relevant subjects should not receive the government funding.

Would the advantages of such an educational policy outweigh the disadvantages?

In every country there are fashions among students about which subjects are the best to study at university. Sometimes the popularity of a subject is determined by how much money a graduate could subsequently earn in that field. Or subjects that are perceived as relatively 'easy' may also become popular, in spite of later difficulties of finding appropriate employment. It is up to governments to give incentives to students to choose subjects that match the needs of their society.

Obviously one way to do this would be for the government to pay the fees of those choosing such subjects.

The advantage would certainly be that higher number of students would enroll and would later fill the employment gaps.

However, the disadvantages of such a policy would be considerable. For example, the students attracted by the funding may not have any real interest in or aptitude for that subject. Such students may drop out before graduation or after working only a short time in a related job. Furthermore, funding one group of students but not other would penalise those with a genuine interest and ability for another field. Such discrimination would certainly affect the whole of higher education of the country and students would develop very negative attitudes towards going to university altogether. This would be very counter-productive for any country.

In conclusion, I think there are many other incentives for students that could be considered, such as making courses more interesting to take, or the job rewards greater after graduation. The education policy proposed above, however, would certainly have more long-term disadvantages than benefits for society.

Essay #168

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

School children are becoming far too dependent on computers. This is having an alarming effect on reading and writing skills. Teachers need to avoid using computers in the classroom at all costs and go back to teaching basic study skills.

Do you agree or disagree?

Nowadays modern technology has totally changed our approach to study. In many countries students no longer have to copy notes by hand from the blackboard; instead the teacher gives them a photocopy. Rather than messy ink and pen, students present a typed-up copy of their assignments. Their computer even checks their spelling as they go. In fact, some people believe that modern technology does a lot of our thinking for us and, as a result, we are going to lose our ability to think for ourselves.

In my opinion, spelling skills have definitely deteriorated in recent years. So many young people use mobile phones to send text messages where speed and conciseness are more important than spelling or grammar. Some teachers complain that these students take the same attitude toward their assignments.

On the other hand, typed assignments are much easier to read and are much neater. Frankly, I find some notes or texts which are handwritten almost impossible to read. Doctors, for example, have a reputation for illegible handwriting, which could lead to disastrous medical mistakes. Perhaps it is time we focused not on handwriting but on presenting information as accurately as possible.

One advantage of computers is that access to the Internet has opened up a new world of learning for us. We no longer have to wait for a book that has already been borrowed from the library before we do our research. In fact, the Internet can clearly be used to research information in the same way as a library but more conveniently.

On the whole, rather than holding students back, I believe modern technology has actually improved standards of education considerably.

Essay #169

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

The Internet has as many disadvantages as it does advantages.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Since its development in the 1970s, the Internet has become a key tool for obtaining information and for communication all over the world. The Internet has both advantages and disadvantages but, overall, I believe the advantages are stronger than the disadvantages.

Firstly, the Internet has made work and social life much easier. Sending emails and using video conferencing in the workplace have made business quicker and more efficient. For example, in the past, people often had to travel long distances for meetings and now they can video call instead. Also the Internet makes it easier to keep in contact with family and friends through email and social networking websites. People can give friends and relatives their news quickly and easily. In addition, meetings, parties and social events for large groups of people are easier to organise in this way. Finally, finding out information online is much quicker than visiting libraries or making expensive phone calls.

On the other hand, people claim the Internet has disadvantages. Some people say that the Internet makes people lazy. For example, people now do lots of things online, like shopping and socialising, when it might be better for them to do these things in the 'real' world. Furthermore, the Internet contains a lot of information which is not correct. This is because anyone can put anything they want on the Internet and it is not always checked for accuracy or truth. Users need to be sure that the websites they look at are reliable sources of information.

In conclusion, although it has advantages and disadvantages, the Internet has made life so much easier in so many ways, that, as long as people know how to use it effectively, it can be an excellent tool. (289 words)

Essay #170

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In today's job market it is far more important to have practical skills than theoretical knowledge. In the future job applicants may not need any formal qualifications.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Practical skills are very important and it could be argued that they are as important as academic qualifications when it comes to getting a job. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that academic qualifications will ever become unnecessary.

There are certain manual jobs such as cleaning and labouring where formal qualifications are less important. Employers in these industries are more likely to employ people with a good working knowledge of the job and what it entails. However, even in these jobs it is important for people to have a minimum level of education, especially, if they want to rise above the lowest working level. How can a person without good writing and mathematical skills balance a budget or manage staff? How can such a person make informed decisions about which product to use or safety issues in the workplace?

Having said this, a student graduating from university with the highest level of qualifications, but limited practical skills, still has a great deal to learn. None of us would expect or want a doctor without many years of practical experience and training to perform an essential operation. Students from all disciplines need to understand that entering the job market with a degree in management, for example, does not automatically qualify them from a managerial role.

Clearly, education is important in teaching the theoretical side of any profession. This theoretical knowledge forms an important basis for practical skills which are also essential. In truth neither one nor the other is dispensable when it comes to getting a job,

Essay #171

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Job satisfaction is far less important than job security in the modern workplace.

How far do you agree or disagree with this statement?

It appears the statement is a little flawed, because even in today's uncertain times, it is still possible to find both satisfaction and security in many areas of current employment. Moreover, it is slightly irrational to suggest that one aspect is more important than the other, given that they are so different. It is a rather meaningless generalisation to make, in any case.

It goes without saying that, for some individuals, long-term job prospects are crucial, perhaps because they are having to spend considerable sums of money each month and need to be confident in their ongoing ability to find the funds. On the other hand, for those people who have fewer personal commitments or are generally more flexible, security will be less of an issue,

What is more, job satisfaction is something that is rather difficult to measure. It cannot be denied that the majority of people would prefer to do a job that is rewarding, rather than have to labour at a job that is very tedious. However, there are many ways to measure job satisfaction. It may be a personal reaction to success or impact in the job, that is to say, achievement rates. Or it may stem from the working atmosphere; working for an inspirational line manager, for example, or with colleagues who are worthy of respect.

In the final analysis, individual circumstances will influence a person's ability to find the job that is right for them, and will also dictate whether they try to keep it in the long term.

Essay #172

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some say that it would be better if the majority of employees worked from home instead of travelling to a workplace every day.

Do you think the advantages of working from home outweigh the disadvantages?

In many parts of the world, and in many different sectors, more and more people are staying at home rather than commuting to work.

Opponents of home-working say that being together in a workplace with colleagues is an important part of keeping people healthy and happy. Staying at home, never meeting people can lead to depression. They also say that, from a professional point of view, it is important to spend time in formal and less formal situations with co-workers. Although it is argued that interaction can happen via computers, especially with a visual element such as video conferencing, they do not believe this can ever replace face to face contact.

For me, the advantages of working from home outweigh the disadvantages. Firstly, many workers prefer home working, saying they function more effectively because they can relax, without the pressure and waste of the long commute. With new technologies placing people in the same room metaphorically, it is becoming much easier to do this. With less travel there is a smaller carbon footprint, although this is a claim which has yet to be proved because many people choose to live in remoter areas and car use is not significantly reduced when working at home.

Finally, what clinches the argument for me is the fact that working at home enables many people to join the workforce who would not otherwise be able to do so. This option is particularly liberating for women because they often have more caring responsibilities. To sum up, I believe strongly that working from home is the fairest and most efficient option for most people.

Essay #173

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that recent innovations in technology have made life more comfortable and helped us to be more efficient by saving us time, while others argue that technology has made us less efficient.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Technology has existed as long as mankind has, but the pace of technological innovation has never been as fast as it is nowadays. New gadgets which promise to make life easier and more comfortable are launched on a daily basis. We are coaxed into buying electronic devices by high-tech companies which promise that their technological can help us become more efficient.

On the one hand, it is true that technology makes life more comfortable. It is hard to imagine life without such appliances as the vacuum cleaner or the washing machine. The invention of the microchip has enabled engineers to shrink electronic devices to the sizes which make them practical to use. Huge computers which used to take up an entire room in 1950s have evolved into tiny pocket-size infinitely more complex than their early prototypes. Communication technologies such as the Internet enable us to be connected 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

On the other hand, technology is a major cause of stress for those who rely heavily on it. The more complex technological inventions become, the more prone they are to malfunctioning. For example, a broken hard drive can cause a disruption to a project or can bring it to a complete halt for days or even weeks.

As technologies become more sophisticated, people need to spend more time learning how to use them.

Quite often by the time technology users have figured out how to use an invention, a new technology comes along to replace the old one, and the cycle begins again.

In conclusion, technological inventions do make life more comfortable. However, I do not believe they make us more effective or efficient unless we learn how to use them properly, which is rarely the case.

Essay #174

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

An effective health care system should encourage people to take preventative measures against illness and disease, rather than encourage them to rely on treatment.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Over the last few centuries, great advances have been made in the field of medicine. More treatments have become available, so that a range of illnesses can be cured and the life expectancy of people in developed countries has extended. It is still a matter of debate, however, whether governments should focus on prevention or cure.

Nowadays the media is used to promote a holistic approach to preserving health. In other words, people are encouraged to look after not only their bodies, but also their mental and emotional well-being. We have had anti-smoking campaigns and advice on nutrition for decades, and many people have quit their nicotine habit or reduced their fat intake. Thus, there has been some decline in lung and heart disease. The government also supports childhood immunisation programmes. Thus few children suffer from previously fatal illness such as rubella or hepatitis B. Now we also have leaflets available in doctor's waiting rooms on relaxation techniques to reduce stress. Alongside these are posters recommending how much exercise should be taken.

There is no doubt that the measures above help people keep their health to some extent. However, when it comes to most forms of cancer and inherited genetic disorders, the only option available is treatment and so it is vital that governments continue to fund research into medication. More effective pain relief and drugs with fewer side effects should be available to all citizens, not just to the minority who can afford the prices that pharmaceutical companies charge.

In general, I think prevention only works when a person has active control over the way their body functions.

Essay #175

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Currently there is a trend towards the use of alternative forms of medicine. However, at best these methods are ineffective, and at worst they may be dangerous.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Alternative medicine is not new. It is accepted that it pre-dates conventional medicine and it is still used by many people all over the world. I am unconvinced that it is dangerous, and feel that both alternative and conventional medicine can be useful.

The conventional medical community is often dismissive of alternatives, as there is little scientific evidence to support the claims of their supporters. However, it is widely accepted that they can be effective. Furthermore, people often try such treatment because of recommendations from friends, and therefore come to the therapists with a very positive attitude, which may be part of the reason for the cure. Moreover, these therapies are usually only useful for long-term, chronic conditions. Acute medical problems, such as accidental injury, often require more conventional methods.

On the other hand, despite the lack of scientific proof, there is a lot of anecdotal evidence to suggest that these therapies work. In addition, far from being dangerous, they often have few or no side effects, so the worst outcome would be no change. One of the strongest arguments for the effectiveness of alternative therapies in the West is that, whilst conventional medicine is available without change, many people are prepared to pay considerable sums for alternatives. If they were totally unhelpful, it would be surprising this continued. Finally, looking at a problem from a different perspective must be beneficial.

I strongly believe that conventional medicine and alternative therapies can and should coexist. They have different strengths, and can both be used effectively to target particular medical problems. The best situation would be for alternative therapies to be used to support and complement conventional medicine.

Essay #176

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Languages such as English, Spanish and Mandarin become more widely spoken, there is a fear that many minority languages may die out. Some countries have taken steps to protect minority languages.

What is your view of this practice ?

As the world becomes more integrated, the need for common means of communication is becoming more pressing. Inevitably, speakers of minority languages have been under pressure to speak the languages of more dominant groups, both locally and globally. Some people argue that there is nothing that can or should be done to stop this process. I would suggest that the issue merits more careful consideration.

It is true that as the balance of power among groups of people throughout history has shifted, languages have arisen, changed and died out. Even once widely spoken languages, such as Latin, have disappeared. To some extent, therefore, this process may be inevitable. However, there are examples of communities that have managed to preserve and even revive languages under threat. Irish and Scots Gaelic, for example, have been preserved by government policy on education and broadcast media.

There are, indeed, several benefits to preserving minority languages. Retaining the language of a community often means that other forms of culture are maintained; songs, literature and local traditions. These all contribute to the richness and variety of human culture. Moreover, language helps communities to remain cohesive and to have a strong sense of identity. This can help people to be strong in adversity. Where this sense of identity and cohesion has been lost, for example among many Indigenous communities in North America, problems can follow; low self-esteem, lack of confidence and loss of initiative.

In short, it is possible and in many cases, desirable, to make the effort to preserve minority languages. This can have benefits both for the minority speech community and for society as a whole in terms of cultural richness.

Convenience foods will become increasingly prevalent and eventually replace traditional foods and traditional methods of food preparation.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

The increasing availability of convenience foods has been a significant feature of modern life in many developed countries. Some people have predicted that with advances in food technology, traditional foods and traditional methods of food preparation will disappear. In this essay, I will argue that this is unlikely to happen.

It is true that nowadays many people do not have enough time to cook and convenience foods present an attractive option. These foods have improved significantly in terms of quality and availability and the range for sale in the average supermarket is quite impressive. It is possible to find even very sophisticated ready-prepared microwavable meals.

However, the growing popularity of television cookery programmes, 'celebrity chefs', and cook books suggest that people continue to value traditional ways of preparing foods. Farmers markets selling fresh, locally-produced food continue to be the norm in many parts of the world. In fact, they are growing in popularity in countries such as the UK, where they had virtually disappeared from many cities. This may be partly because cooking with basic, natural ingredients is cheaper than buying processed foods,

Moreover, traditional foods are an important aspect of culture and social life. In many countries, traditional meals continue to be shared in regular family gatherings. Important celebrations are often marked by traditionally prepared feasts.

In spite of the utility of convenience foods, people are unlikely to abandon practices that are economically sound and give them great pleasure. It is hard to imagine a world in which people do not continue to enjoy traditional, home-cooked meals at least some of the time.

Many people judge success solely by money and material possessions. However, success can be achieved or measured in other ways.

What are your opinions on this topic?

The increasing availability of convenience foods has been a significant feature of modern life in many developed countries. Some people have predicted that with advances in food technology, traditional foods and traditional methods of food preparation will disappear. In this essay, I will argue that this is unlikely to happen.

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Essay #179

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe that children should be allowed to stay at home and play until they are six or seven years old. Others believe that it is important for young children to go to school as soon as possible.

What do you think are the advantages of attending school from a young age?

In many places today, children start primary school at around the age of six or seven. However, because it is more likely now that both parents work, there is little opportunity for children to stay in their own home up to that age. Instead, they will probably go to a nursery school when they are much younger.

While some people think this may be damaging to a child's development or to a child's relationship with his or her parents, in fact there are many advantages to having school experience at a young age.

Firstly, a child will learn to interact with a lot of different people and some children learn to communicate very early because of this. They are generally more confident and independent than children who stay at home with their parents and who are not used to strangers or new situations. Such children find their first day at school at the age of six very frightening and this may have a negative effect on how they learn.

Another advantage of going to school at an early age is that children develop faster socially. They make friends and learn how to get on with other children of a similar age. This is often not possible at home because they are the only child, or because their brothers or sisters are older or younger.

So overall, I believe that, attending school from a young age is good for most children. They still spend plenty of time at home with their parents, so they can benefit from both environments.

Essay #180

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe that advances in technology designed to reduce crime, such as closed circuit television systems, invade the personal privacy of innocent people.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

In recent years great strides have been made in the application of technology to the prevention of crime and the capture of criminals. For example, CCTV systems and face-recognition software allow computer-based records to be kept of the faces of millions of people. DNA testing means that a single flake of skin left at the scene of a crime can be matched against records held of suspects. Soon it may be even possible to tell a criminal's appearance from a DNA sample.

As always with any type of scientific progress, concerns have been raised about the use of this technology. Some people would like to see much stricter controls put on the use of such developments, or even to see them banned completely. I understand the reason for their concern, but feel that they are misguided for several reasons.

Firstly, these developments mean that genuine criminals can be apprehended more quickly and reliably. For example, instead of having to search manually through thousands of photographs, with all the possibility of human error that this involves, a computer-based search can be carried out in seconds. In addition, the increased reliability of such techniques as DNA testing reduces the likelihood of innocent people being convicted and punished for crimes they did not commit. A further point is that the existence of such techniques acts as a deterrent to potential criminals.

I appreciate these techniques do to some extent affect the personal privacy of every member of society. However, I feel that the positive uses to which they can be put, as outlined above, outweigh these dangers.

Essay #181

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people believe that entertainers (e.g. film stars, pop musicians or sports stars) are paid too much money,,

Do you agree or disagree? Which other types of jobs should be highly paid?

I agree with the view that stars in the entertainment business are usually overpaid. This is true whether we are considering stars of film, sport or popular music, and it often seems that the amount of money they are able to earn in a short time cannot possibly be justified by the amount of work they do.

However, it is also true that it is only those who reach the very top of their profession who can get these huge salaries. So the size of salary that stars expect is closely linked to the competition they have to overcome in order to reach success. They are, in effect, rare talents.

Furthermore, the majority of stars do not hold their top positions long. Sport stars and pop stars, for example, are soon replaced by the next younger, more energetic, generation, while the good looks of most film stars quickly fade. So this relatively short working life may be some justification for the very high pay.

Unfortunately, professionals from other fields, who make a much greater contribution to human society, are paid so much less that it is hard to disagree with the statement. Teachers, nurses, laboratory researchers etc. are never listed among the best-paid professionals, yet they are more important to our well-being and our future than the stars who earn their fortunes so quickly.

In conclusion, I think there may be some reasons why entertainment stars earn high salaries but overall I agree that they are overpaid. The gaps between their earnings and those of people who work less selfishly for the good of society cannot be justified. Such professionals should be much better appreciated and better paid.

Essay #182

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In general, people do not have such a close relationship with their neighbours as they did in the past.

Why is this so, and what can be done to improve contact between neighbours?

In the past, neighbours formed an important part of people's social lives and they helped them when they had problems. Nowadays people often do not even know their neighbours and in consequence they live much more isolated lives. There are a number of reasons why we have less contact with our neighbours.

Firstly, our lifestyles are mobile. This means people may change the area where they live quite frequently and this causes their relationships with their neighbours to be more superficial. Secondly, nowadays people often live and work in different places. This leads to people forming closer relationships with work colleagues than the ones they have with their neighbours. Finally, modern lifestyles make us spend more time inside our houses watching television, and when we go out, we travel by car. Consequently, we do not speak to the people in our neighbourhood so much.

There are a number of ways in which I think contact between neighbours can be improved. First of all, local authorities can provide communal areas such as playgrounds for children community halls so that there are places where neighbours can meet and make friends. Next, I think that when new neighbours come to a street, the people living there ought to introduce themselves and welcome them. Lastly, people living in a street or small district should form neighbourhood associations and meet regularly to discuss the things which affect them.

In conclusion, these suggestions will probably not make neighbours as important in our lives as they were in the past. However, they will help our relationships with our neighbours to become more useful and valuable.

A large number of deaths are caused by road accidents.

Why do so many road accidents occur? Make recommendations that would help to reduce the number of road accidents.

Road accidents are responsible for the deaths of an ever-increasing number of people. Before solutions to this problem can be found it is necessary to examine the main causes of accidents: vehicle roadworthiness, road conditions and human error.

Many accidents are caused by inadequate vehicle maintenance, for example driving with defective brakes or bald tyres which increase the stopping time. Regular mechanical inspections would help reduce the number of unworthy vehicles on the road.

Road conditions also contribute to accidents. Heavy rain, fog or snow, can make roads slippery and accidents can occur. In addition, narrow, winding roads and road surfaces which are in state of disrepair contribute to the number of road fatalities. A greater proportion of money needs to be designated to improving roads and providing clear road signs.

The third cause of accidents is driver error. Drunken driving and excessive speed are frequently the cause of driver misjudging distance and losing control of their vehicles. Other examples are drivers failing to signal a turn and overtaking other cars without due care. Although these problems of human error are the most difficult to resolve, advertising campaigns have proved effective in educating drivers about road hazards.

In conclusion, although it is inevitable that some accidents will occur, there are ways to reduce their frequency. Governments need to put in place stricter tests and penalise careless drivers more severely. It is also necessary to allocate more money to maintaining and upgrading roads and educating drivers. By implementing these measures, the roads will be safer for everyone.

Many people believe that the high levels of violence in films today are causing serious social problems.

What are these problems and how could they be reduced?

The increasing amount of violence that is shown regularly in films has been a cause of concern for some time. Such films make violence appear entertaining, exciting and even something to be copied. However, it seems to involve the fact that this development is causing problems in our society.

First of all, those who enjoy such films eventually stop associating the violence with any real consequences. They therefore lose their sense of reality and no longer take violence seriously or have any sympathy with the victims. This is bad for both individuals and for our whole society. Another worrying trend is that in these films the heroes are shown as people to be admired, even though they are very violent characters. This leads to impressionable people to believe that they can gain respect and admiration by copying this aggressive behaviour, and so the levels of violence increase, especially in major cities throughout the world.

What is needed to combat these problems is definite action. The government should regulate the film industry on the one hand, and provide better education on the other. Producers must be prevented from showing meaningless violence as 'fun' in their films, instead, films could emphasise the tragic consequences of violent acts and this would educate people, especially young people, to realise that violence is real.

To conclude, I think that viewing violence as entertainment may indeed cause serious social problems and that the only way to improve this situation is by regulating the industry and educating the public about the real human suffering that such violence brings.

Essay #185

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In recent years some countries have experienced very rapid economic development. This has resulted in much higher standards of living in urban areas but not in the countryside.

This situation may bring some problems for the country as a whole. What are these problems? How might they be reduced?

From the evidence of developing countries all over the world it seems inevitable that economic growth is generated in the business and industrial centres of the major cities. As a result, urban citizens have access to jobs and facilities that improve their living standards considerably. However, it is usually the case that these are not equally enjoyed by people in the countryside and this generates several problems for the countries concerned.

First of all, people from the countryside will try to move to the cities to get more employment opportunities and better access to the facilities available there. But this increase in the urban population puts greater pressure on housing and services, and leads to the creation of massive slum areas where conditions may be lower than in the rural villages. These are often left under-populated and this can impact on food production and can have severe effects for people in both urban and rural areas. Finally, as a country's economy develops, there may be an increasing sense of inequality as the towns get richer and villages get poorer, and this may lead to more crime and even civil unrest.

The key to reducing these problems seem to lie in improving the standards of living and the facilities available in the countryside. Perhaps incentives can be offered to factories and companies to relocate; roads and rail networks can be built to make such relocation possible; doctors and teachers could be required to spend part of their professional lives in rural areas, etc.

In conclusion, however, improving rural living standards requires investment and political will that is sometimes not easy to generate.

Essay #186

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Whether or not someone achieves their aims is mostly by a question of luck.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is argued that some people's success is mostly attributable to luck instead of their own hard work. However, I completely disagree with this opinion.

I believe that only determined and industrious people will be successful in whatever they do. Hard-working people usually attain their goals. For instance, Steve Jobs spent thousands of hours coding and experimenting to bring out the great Macintosh operating system that we use nowadays. Another clear case of success through determination is Nick Vujicic, an Australian motivational speaker, who suffered from a rare disorder which resulted in the absence of four limbs. Despite not having any hands or legs, Vujicic earned a bachelor degree with a double major in accountancy and financial planning; he had his own family, and now he travels around the world to inspire people as a motivational speaker.

On the other hand, by contrast, luck is only a small factor in determining one's achievement. Firstly, people cannot solely be dependent on luck to become successful. If a student does not study for an exam, chances are he or she will fail, no matter how lucky he or she may be. Secondly, luck only contributes to short-term fortune. For instance, a person who wins a lottery is definitely lucky because winning a lottery does not require you to do anything to earn it. It purely depends on luck; yet, he or she cannot win the lottery for the rest of his or her life.

In conclusion, for the reasons I have mentioned above, I strongly believe that in order to achieve objectives in life, one must be extremely determined and hard-working to follow his or her passion till the end.

Essay #187

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It is more important for schoolchildren to learn about local history than world history.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It is true that some commentators argue that it is more important for children to study the history of their own country or region, rather than the history of the world. I disagree with this view, because I believe that schools should teach local, national and world history.

On the one hand, it is significant that schoolchildren should learn about their local history. [1] Firstly, knowing about the past of their region or country will foster a sense of belonging and pride in each child. For example, by studying how earlier generations fought and made sacrifices for the freedom of the country. Vietnamese youngsters will appreciate more the value of the way of life and liberty that they enjoy today. [2] Secondly, young children also learn about the origins and core values of their motherland through history lessons. As a result, they will gain a deeper understanding of each traditional event, and be motivated to carry on the best customs for generations to come.

On the other hand, the value of studying world history must not be underestimated. [1] The modern trend towards globalization makes it all the more necessary for schoolchildren to have some knowledge of people from other ethnic groups and different traditions. Armed with this broader perspective, it will be easier for them to form a mutual understanding if they know about the origins and past development of other people across the world. [2] Another important factor is that a study of world history provides youngsters with an overview of the interrelationship of nations and how international historical events, such as the end of colonialism, have shaped contemporary society.

In conclusion, I would argue that it is equally important for schoolboys and schoolgirls to study local history as well as world history.

Essay #188

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Prison is the common way in most countries to solve the problem of crime. However, a more effective solution is to provide people with a better education.

Agree or disagree.

Many people believe that the reduction of the crime rate will be achieved more effectively through better education rather than prison sentences. I disagree with this view, because I consider that both approaches have their own distinctive merits and should each play an integral role in tackling crime.

On the one hand, I would argue that prison is effective in dealing with offenders. One reason is that a person who commits a crime must learn that unlawful actions have consequences. Murderers, for instance, must be imprisoned for many years and such a punishment may act as a deterrent. They know that they will face loss of freedom, social isolation and separation from their loved ones if they carry out such a criminal act. Another reason is that when serious offenders are behind bars, they are no longer a danger to society and people can walk in the streets or relax in their homes more safely.

On the other hand, I consider that education has a complementary role to play. Firstly, in schools, students should study some aspects of the law which affect their lives. Having some knowledge of the law, students are better prepared to avoid situations which may involve them in crime or becoming a victim. For example, youngsters must study the important laws about driving and road safety. Secondly, in prisons themselves, educational programmes must aim to provide prisoners with skills and qualifications to find work when they are released.

I believe that prison sentences are one essential weapon in the fight against crime, and I disagree that providing better education alone is a more effective solution to reduce the crime rate.

New technologies have changed the way children spend their free time.

Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?

It is true that many children now spend much of their spare time playing with the latest technological devices. Despite some obvious disadvantages of this trend, I believe that these are outweighed by the advantages.

On the one hand, there are two major drawbacks when children devote much of their free time to playing electronic games or using the Internet. Firstly, exercise is necessary for the physical development of children, so playing games in the street or in the park with their friends is an integral part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Secondly, spending too much time on their computers or mobile phones may lead to health problems for some youngsters. If they keep their eyes glued to screens for hours on end, they may suffer from eye-strain. Waves from hi-fi devices also tend to cause headaches if used for too long.

On the other hand, I believe that the benefits are more significant than such disadvantages. One reason for this view is that new technologies encourage children to use their free time to broaden their knowledge, which is possible in fun ways through interactive software. My young nephew, for example, spends hours on the Internet learning about dinosaurs. Another reason is that the Internet gives youngsters countless opportunities to discover friends with the same interests in any part of the world, using chat rooms and social networks such as Facebook. Consequently, new technologies both promote the habit of self-study and encourage young people to develop a wide circle of virtual friends.

In conclusion, I would argue that the advantages of this modern trend are more significant than the disadvantages.

It is impossible to help all people in the world, so governments should only focus on people in their own countries.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Some people consider that helping all needy people all around the world would be an impossible ideal, and therefore governments should only be concerned about those who live in their own countries. I completely disagree with this view.

One reason is that it is now possible to provide international aid quickly and efficiently. Modern means of transport enable government agencies to provide aid within hours to even relatively remote corners of the world. There have been numerous recent examples of how such government assistance has alleviated suffering and saved lives. The recent tsunami in Japan left tens of thousands of people homeless and in desperate need of food and shelter, but the response of governments around the world was immediate. Very quickly, supplies of food and tents arrived by air, along with medical staff and vaccines.

Another reason is that I consider that we share a moral responsibility to help all those who lack the basic necessities of life. These needs have no geographical boundaries and national governments should recognise their international obligations. It is not enough to place responsibility only on charities and international relief organisations like UNICEF or the Red Cross. Such organisations accept that we share a common humanity, and the sufferings of no individual should be ignored anywhere in the world. Governments must not only provide international assistance as part of their budget, but must also provide money for international aid bodies.

In conclusion, although of course governments must tackle urgent problems at home, they have the means and the moral responsibility to fulfil their international obligations to everyone in need.

Essay #191

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that there should be some strict controls about noise. Others think that they could just make as much noise as they want.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

It is argued that some essential measures should be applied to control noise. While some individuals say that they have the freedom to make noise as they like. I would argue that it would be better to reduce noise.

On the one hand, some people like to make as much noise as they want for various reasons. Firstly, many of them feel more comfortable and free when creating noise from different activities while working or entertaining. For example, turning the volume louder to enjoy favourite songs makes them feel relaxed after a long busy day. Although it may disturb their next-door neighbours. Secondly, people often consider noise as a part of the industrialization and modernization process, therefore it is unavoidable. Traffic noise or engine noise seems to have become more familiar to urban citizens. As a result, they feel that there are no particular reasons to control noise.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial to impose some laws to strictly control noise. The first reason is that noise has harmful impacts on people's health. For instance, some of my friends cannot sleep at night because of intrusive sounds from a nearby industrial zone. If this situation lasts for a long time, it will definitely lead to a deterioration in their mental and physical health. Furthermore, the productivity of work may be reduced as a consequence of noise. A lot of white-collar workers report that they cannot fully concentrate on their tasks because of the constant noise from vehicles in the street.

In conclusion, it seems to me that noise should be limited in order to have a better life, although some people insist on making a lot of noise without any consideration for others.

Essay #192

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Some people think that schools should reward students who show the best academic results, while others believe that it is more important to reward students who show improvements.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

It is true that the question of whether to reward students with excellent academic results or those showing great improvements remains a source of controversy in the education field. While a number of people believe that only students achieving the highest grades deserve rewards. I would argue that praising students who achieve improvements is much more reasonable.

On the one hand, there are a variety of reasons why awards should be given to students having excellent academic performances. [1] Firstly, this could create a highly competitive studying environment at school, seeing that students often desire to win prizes. As a consequence, school children could be encouraged to put their effort into studying for the highest scores. [2] Secondly, by adopting this approach, gifted students who are outstanding could be given opportunities to nurture their abilities. My secondary school, for instance, selects students with the best results for extra classes to develop their capabilities in order to take them to national competitions.

On the other hand, I believe that giving encouragement to those who make strides in their studies results in more favourable outcomes. [1] The first benefit is that this could give equal chances for every student to receive awards, rather than only focus on the highest achievers. Instead of feeling disappointed when competing with their top classmates, students who are recognized for their effort during semesters will feel motivated if they are rewarded for making significant progress. [2] Another benefit is that this form of recognition follows the holistic principle of learning, which is to access the world of knowledge, not just to gain high scores. Consequently, several common phenomena which occur when examinations approach, including pressure, anxiety and cheating, would be reduced.

In conclusion, although rewarding students with the highest scores is advantageous to some extent, it seems to me that it is better to give encouragement to those who have improved their level of academic performance.

Some people think that it is best to live in a horizontal city while others think of a vertical city.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Some people believe that living in a horizontal city is the best, while the opponents of this idea prefer to settle in a vertical city. While there are benefits to residents who dwell in a city which consists of low-rise construction. I would argue that cities with skyscrapers and high-rise buildings offer more advantages.

On the one hand, it is beneficial for residents to live in a horizontal city based on a few financial and security reasons. Firstly, people have to pay less for building sendees. If residents settle in a private house, they may save a great deal of money since they won't have to pay for building sendees. Secondly, living lower to the ground is safer for inhabitants when emergencies occur. For example, if a fire starts in the home, they can quickly escape from the dangerous areas because the building is not too high off the ground and it won't take much time to leave.

On the other hand, it seems to me that living in a vertical city is the best choice. A city with skyscrapers will have more space for public usage because there will be less land used for residential areas due to the amount of people who can live in high buildings. As a result, the government would be able to use this land to build hospitals, schools or places for entertainment. Furthermore, it is much more convenient for residents to live in an apartment in a tall building which offers a wide range of goods and sendees, thanks to shopping malls and sendee centers on lower floors.

In conclusion, while living in a horizontal city does have some benefits, it seems to me that the advantages of life in a city with skyscrapers makes living in a vertical city the better choice.

Some people believe that crime is a result of social problems and poverty, others think that crime is a result of bad person's nature.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Many people consider that innate characteristics are responsible for the fact that some people choose to turn to a career of crime. While I accept that crime may result from individual characteristics of violence or greed. I would argue that it is largely a consequence of social issues and poverty.

There is a belief that a person's nature determines whether or not they become a criminal. [1] Firstly, some argue that an individual who is cruel turns to crime more easily than a kind person. For instance, a child bullring other boys or girls at school may turn into a violent criminal in the future. [2] Secondly, bad characteristics such as laziness or selfishness could also breed future offenders, who seek to acquire easy money without working for it. A number of youngsters choose to steal from others, instead of working hard to make an honest bring. These are strong reasons for thinking that those who have an inborn bad nature are more likely to break the law.

Nevertheless, it seems to me that social issues and poverty are the main causes behind crime. There are many problems in society which might lead to an increase in the crime rate. [1] For example, unemployment pushes people into resorting to crime because they simply cannot find a job. As a consequence, the number of offenders has climbed in many countries over recent decades. [2] Another reason is that, more broadly, poverty in general leads to a rise in crime. If people do not have enough money to make ends meet, they will be tempted to pursue illegal activities just to support themselves and their families.

In conclusion, although both views certainly have some validity, it seems to me that the principal causes of crime are a result of social conditions and problems.

People in the community can buy cheaper products nowadays.

Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?

It is true that these days people are able to buy many low-priced products. While I accept that this has both benefits and drawbacks, I would argue that there are more disadvantages than advantages.

On the one hand, there are important benefits for the consumer when products are available at a lower price. Firstly, people have the chance to buy more goods when prices are lower on the shelves. Thus, for example, more people can afford to own a smart TV, a laptop or to install air-conditioning in their homes, and therefore enjoy a better standard of living. Secondly, the national economy will be boosted, as production must increase in order to meet the rising demand for such commodities. More jobs will be created as companies expand their sales of consumer goods, reducing the unemployment figures and enabling more people to share in the increasing prosperity.

On the other hand, I believe that there are serious drawbacks, which outweigh these benefits. The principal reason for this view is that cheaper products are almost invariably associated with poor quality. For example, when cheap imports from China first entered the American and European markets, consumers quickly realised that items such as electronic goods either did not work or quickly broke down and the materials themselves were not durable. Another factor is the adverse impact on the environment when there is unregulated expansion of production to provide cheap goods. This is obvious in all sectors of the economy, but most notably in agriculture, where cheap food has been produced at the cost of destroying forests, polluting rivers and damaging the quality of the soil.

In conclusion, as cheaper products are often of low quality and are produced in unsustainable ways, the disadvantages of low-priced goods outweigh the advantages.

Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life.

What are the reasons? What are the effects on society and family life?

In recent years, the decision of parents to start a family later in life has become an increasingly popular trend. There are a number of reasons for this trend, which is having a significant impact on both family life and on the community as a whole."

There are two important reasons why more people nowadays are deciding against having children when they are young. Firstly, rather than embarking on parenthood, many individuals consider that building their own successful careers is top-priority. If they had to split their time between working and bringing up their offspring when they were in the early stages of their careers, their performance at work and promotion prospects could be negatively affected. Secondly, delaying childbirth could give young people countless opportunities to enjoy their lives. For example, this choice may let young couples have a richer social life, pursue their interests and hobbies or even to travel the world.

However, this tendency could have negative consequences in terms of both family life and society. An important concern for a family is that raising children could be a huge challenge for older parents. Even though they might have a high socioeconomic status, as well as great experience and knowledge, it may not be easy for them to communicate with and relate to their children, due to the generation gap. Another negative factor is that getting pregnant after 35 years of age oftentimes carries more potential health risks. Specifically, this could increase the danger of having a miscarriage or stillbirth for older mothers, and babies might be at greater risk of having Down's syndrome. Consequently, this could negatively affect the quality of the future workforce.

In conclusion, there are a number of reasons why more and more people prefer giving birth later in life. As a result, there could be negative influences on individual families and the society at large.

Essay #197

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In recent years, the family structure has changed, as well as family roles.

What are the changes which have occurred? Do you think these changes are positive or negative?

It is true that modern life has brought about a number of significant changes in terms of the family structure and the roles of family members. There are some important changes that have taken place, and in my opinion these have been largely positive

Some traditional family roles and structures have now become a thing of the past. Perhaps the most important revolution has been the increasing trend for women to pursue careers, even when they are married. As a result, in many households, husbands now help their wives to do the chores which were once considered 'women's work'. The tendency to pursue a career has also had another effect, as couples put their studies and work first before marriage and before having children. Previous generations in Vietnam, for example, would have considered such arrangements as unusual, especially in the case of women.

I consider such developments as positive, despite the objections raised by traditionalists. Firstly, in the modern nuclear family, children learn to become independent at an earlier age. Kindergartens and nursery schools offer places for children to play and learn to socialise, enabling working parents to earn enough money for the family to enjoy a high standard of living. Secondly, parents of small families with a double income can invest more in the education and well-being of their children. Consequently, the life chances and choices of those children will be improved if there is enough money to finance later university studies, and gain essential qualifications to make their way in the modern world of work.

In conclusion, while it may be fashionable to mourn the loss of the traditional family, it is more realistic to welcome the changes that have taken place as positive, to meet the challenges of the modern world.

Essay #198

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

It is sometimes said that a high salary is the most important factor in choosing a job.

Do you agree?

It is, of course, important for people to earn a sufficiently high salary to support their lifestyle. This does not mean, however, that the salary is the only point to be taken into consideration when choosing a job. Indeed, I would argue that there are a number of other factors that are equally significant.

The first point to consider is why it may be a mistake to place too much emphasis on the salary. One reason why this is so is that you may select a job that is well-paid but ultimately unsatisfying. In this case, you may spend 8 hours a day being unhappy. Something else to be taken into account is that highly-paid jobs tend to be stressful and involve long working hours. For instance, many doctors have a 60 hour working week and they often suffer from burn-out early in their careers and wish they had chosen a less stressful profession.

The other point to be taken into account is how other factors may matter more than the salary when deciding on a job. Indeed, most people would accept that the work environment is key to job satisfaction. If you are working alongside people you like and the atmosphere in the office is positive, you are much more likely to be satisfied in your work. Likewise, it is also critical that you actually enjoy what you do. For example, someone who is artistic is much more likely to be happy working for a low salary teaching art than earning a fortune as a merchant banker.

In conclusion, I would say that the salary should be only one consideration in choosing a job and that other factors such as job satisfaction and work environment are just as important.

Essay #199

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In cities and towns all over the world the high volume of traffic is a problem.

What are the causes of this and what actions can be taken to solve this problem?

It is undoubtedly the case that urban areas around the world increasingly suffer from congestion. In this essay, I examine the reasons for this trend and suggest some practical policies the authorities could implement to reduce the level of traffic in our cities.

The first step is to understand why traffic has increased in towns and cities. Broadly speaking, there are three main reasons for this. One is that cars have become more affordable for the average consumer and they are no longer a luxury item, but something that most families expect to own. A second reason is that public transport has become increasingly unreliable in recent years, not least because many bus and train services have been reduced because of the difficulty in funding them. The third reason is that society has in general become more mobile and this means more people are prepared to commute to work by car than they were before.

There is almost certainly no one solution to this problem given the complexity of its causes. However, one option has to be to improve the reliability of public transport to encourage people to take the bus or the train rather than get in the car. It would also be possible to discourage people from driving to work by introducing special tariffs for using the roads, especially during peak periods. A successful example of this is the congestion charge scheme in London which has certainly reduced the level of traffic in inner-city areas.

In conclusion, there are a variety of different factors that have led to rising levels of traffic in urban areas. While it may not be possible to find a complete solution, any action should probably involve encouraging greater use of public transport and making it more expensive for the motorist to drive in urban areas.

Essay #200

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

Unemployment is one of the most serious problems facing developed nations today.

What are the advantages and/or disadvantages of reducing the working week to thirty five hours?

It is unquestionable that rising unemployment is one of the most pressing issues in the industrial world. One solution that has been put forward is to cut the working week to a maximum of 35 hours. However, in my view this solution is rather controversial and other solutions need to be found.

It is fairly easy to understand the reasons why this proposal has been made. The reasoning is that if workers are not allowed to work for more than 35 hours weekly, then employers will be forced to engage more staff. There would be at least two advantages to this. Not only would unemployment be reduced, but the working conditions of employees on very long shifts would also be significantly improved. For example, a factory employing 300 manual workers doing 10 hours a day might employ 450 workers.

There is also, however, a strong argument not to implement this proposal. This argument is based on economic competitiveness. If a company was forced to employ more workers to produce the same amount of goods, then its wage bill would rise and its products might become more expensive and less competitive compared to companies with longer working weeks. In this case, it is possible that the company either might become insolvent or it would have to make some employees redundant. As a result, the intended benefit to the personnel would not happen.

In summary, we can see that this is clearly a complex issue as there are significant advantages and disadvantages to the proposal. My own personal view is that it would be better not to introduce the shortened working week because it works only in theory and not in practice.

Essay #201

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

In many countries people working in sport and entertainment earn much more money than professionals like doctors, nurses and teachers.

Why do you think this happens in some societies and do you consider it is good or bad?

It is undoubtedly true that there is often a major imbalance between the salaries of the professional classes and celebrities from the worlds of sport and entertainment. At first sight, this seems unjust, but on closer analysis it is easy to understand why it happens and see that it is almost inevitable.

It does often seem wrong that certain people should earn so much money when their only talent is to entertain. While giving pleasure is important, people in the medical and educational professions have far more important roles in society. For example, a surgeon can save your life in the operating theatre and a teacher can prepare you for your career. Indeed, because both doctors and teachers are so vital to any society, it would seem only right that they receive the largest financial rewards.

When, however, we look to see who earns the most, we discover that it is typically sports and entertainment personalities. There are a variety of reasons why this should be. Firstly, we live in the age of mass media: these people earn so much because they are national or even global stars and get rewarded through endorsements and other sources of income. Secondly, these stars are unique in a way doctors and teachers are not, often they can do what no one else can. Finally, sometimes these stars may have short careers in comparison with other professions. For instance, while doctors can work until they are 65, footballers normally retire in their early 30s.

I personally believe that in the ideal world someone's income would relate to their value to society. However, in the modern world, it is almost unavoidable the famous will have the highest incomes because of their media exposure.

Essay #202

Hardev Sir's IELTS Institute, Bathinda

One of the major problems facing the world today is the growing number of refugees. The developed nations in the world should tackle this problem by taking in more refugees.

To what extent do you agree with this opinion?

There is little doubt that the issue of refugees is a global problem. While it most immediately affects developing nations, there is a strong argument that industrialised countries should help by allowing higher levels of immigration. This is certainly not an easy issue though, because historically immigration has caused as many problems as it solves.

The principal reason why developed nations should help is that we now live in a global village and it is no longer possible to ignore what happens on the other side of the world. This is partly a moral issue and partly because it is in the economic self-interest of industrialised nations to ensure that developing nations continue to progress. A practical way of achieving this would be to accept more immigration, particularly when it is caused by natural disasters or civil war.

I would argue, however, that this is not an open and shut case, as there is a negative side to mass immigration. The multi-cultural experiments in Europe have not always succeeded and immigrants have often suffered badly from racism and other prejudices. On a practical level, refugees are sometimes better off receiving aid in their native land than begging on the streets in a country where they cannot speak the language. Many so-called economic migrants end up returning to the country of their birth.

My personal conclusion is that developed nations should agree to take in more refugees, but only in restricted numbers and in extreme cases. I also believe that there needs to be a global effort to provide aid to solve the problems that cause emigration. Prevention is as they say better than cure.