

Task 2 Essay Questions

The practice essay questions are divided into the different question types.

- Agree/Disagree Questions
- Advantage/Disadvantage Questions
- Discussion Questions
- Double Questions
- Direct Questions

Agree/Disagree Questions

It is beneficial for both employers and employees if employees are given longer holidays away from work.

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

Some people believe that alcohol should be considered as a drug and made illegal.

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

Keeping livestock, such as cows, has a significant impact on the environment. This has led some people to argue that eating meat should be illegal.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that eating meat should be illegal?

Some people believe that individuals should be allowed to own a gun as a means to protect themselves and their families.

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

Some people believe that government grants should be offered to people to encourage them to buy electric vehicles.

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

In the future, fewer people will start bands or produce music because they will worry about their music being downloaded from the internet for free.

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



Advantage/Disadvantage Questions

In many countries, parents are deciding to have children later in their lives.

Do you think the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?

Nowadays, many physical retail shops (such as clothing stores) are being replaced by online shops.

Is this a positive or negative development?

In many counties, young people are choosing to go to universities abroad rather than studying locally.

Is this a positive or negative development?

These days, more and more people are going to other countries for significant periods of time, either to find a job or to study.

Do the advantages of living in a foreign country outweigh the disadvantages?

Nowadays, many people are able to work from home.

Do the advantages of working from home outweigh the disadvantages?

It is a common aspiration among many young people to run their own business, rather than work for an employer.

Do you think the advantages of working for yourself outweigh the drawbacks?

In some areas, money earned from tourism has become an integral part of the local economy.

Do the advantages of relying on tourism as a major source of revenue and job creation outweigh the possible disadvantages?

Schools in some countries require their students to wear a uniform.

Do you think the advantages of having a school uniform outweigh the disadvantages?

As countries develop, more people are able to purchase a car.

Do you think that the advantages for the individual outweigh the disadvantages for the environment?



Discussion Questions

Some people believe that history should be taught to children at school. Others however, believe that there are other subjects that are more relevant to children's lives.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Some parents allow their children to play on electronic devices such as computers and smartphones as they think it is important for the learning of technological skills. Other parents prohibit their children from using these electronic devices.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Some people say that the best way to reduce the time that people spend travelling to work is to have large roads that go through the city centre. Others however, think that there are more effective ways to reduce the time people spend travelling to work.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Some people think that young children should learn how to play a musical instrument at school. Others believe that other subjects, such as mathematics and science, should be prioritised because they will be more useful for children when they grow older.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Some parents encourage their children to be competitive, for example in sports and classes at school. Other parents think that encouraging competition can be harmful to their children.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Some people believe that there should be no borders between countries and that people should be free to choose which country to live in. Others however, believe that it is important for countries to control their borders and restrict movement in and out of their country.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Some people believe that athletes, such as football players, are paid too much money.

Others argue that they have extraordinary skills and deserve to earn large amounts of money.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.



Double Questions

Many species of animals have become extinct in recent times.

What are the causes of this?

What are some possible solutions?

Nowadays, it is becoming increasingly common for people to do their work from home rather than going into their place of work.

What reasons are there for this?

Is this a positive or negative development?

Nowadays, in many countries, fewer people aspire to become teachers, particularly in secondary schools.

What are the reasons for this, and how could this problem be solved?

Electric vehicles are considered to be less harmful to the environment than petrol and diesel vehicles.

What prevents individuals from choosing electric vehicles?

Discuss some ways to encourage people to buy electric vehicles.

Direct Questions

Research into new types of medicine is essential to improve health and deal with disease. Who do you think should fund this research- private companies, individuals, or governments?

Who has a larger influence on children- parents, teachers, or their peers?



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