

## **MỤC LỤC**

## TASK 2

### 1. CHIẾN THUẬT LÀM CÁC DẠNG BÀI

#### 1.1. Chiến thuật viết dạng bài discuss + opinion

##### "Discuss both views and give your own opinion"

Đây là dạng câu hỏi rất hay gặp trong IELTS Writing. Đề bài dạng này sẽ đưa ra 2 quan điểm (2 views) - yêu cầu bạn thảo luận cả 2 quan điểm đó, đồng thời đưa ra quan điểm của cá nhân bạn là đồng ý với view nào. Cách tiếp cận an toàn nhất cho dạng này là hãy viết thành 4 paragraph, trong đó có introduction, 2 đoạn body và một đoạn conclusion.

**Cấu trúc của bài viết như sau:**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài), đề cập đến cả 2 sides và nói rõ bạn đứng về hướng nào. Phần này không chiếm nhiều điểm số nên chúng ta chỉ nên viết ngắn gọn và súc tích trong 2 câu là đủ.                               |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Dùng để thảo luận về hướng mà bạn không đồng ý. Bạn có thể đưa ra 2 hoặc 3 ideas để support và trình bày theo thứ tự: Idea → explain → example. Trong trường hợp bạn chỉ có 1 idea thì tập trung viết sâu idea + example.  |
| <b>BODY 2</b>       | Dùng để thảo luận hướng mà bạn đồng ý và nêu rõ quan điểm ở câu topic sentence. Đoạn paragraph này không nhất thiết phải dài hơn đoạn body 1 phía trên.  |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b>   | Hãy tóm tắt lại 2 quan điểm và tái khẳng định lập trường của bạn. Một số người sẽ viết thêm về prediction (dự đoán) hoặc suggestion (gợi ý) có liên quan đến topic question, nhưng điều này là không cần thiết. Đối với những bạn viết chưa vững thì viết thêm như thế này vào rất |

**Cấu trúc tham khảo:**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | People have different views about.... While some argue that... (View 1), I believe that It is better to/ it is more beneficial for/ ...should place more importance on/... should assume more responsibility to... (View 2). |
|---------------------|--|

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>BODY 1</b>     | On the one hand, there are various reasons why people believe that... (View 1)  |
| <b>BODY 2</b>     | On the other hand, I believe that... (View 2) for several reasons.  |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b> | In conclusion, although it might seem sensible for somebody to do something (View 1), I personally prefer something (View 2). |

## 1.2. Chiến thuật viết dạng bài opinion

**"Do you agree or disagree?" or "To what extent, do you agree or disagree"**

Dạng bài này hỏi về quan điểm của bạn. Bạn nên viết thành 4 paragraph, trong đó có introduction, 2 đoạn body và một đoạn conclusion.

Với dạng bài này bạn có 2 cách viết, cách 1 là "A strong opinion", cách 2 là "A balanced opinion". Bạn chọn cách 1 hay 2 là tùy thuộc vào số lượng idea bạn có.

### 1. Cấu trúc bài viết theo dạng "A strong opinion" - "HOÀN TOÀN ĐỒNG Ý hoặc KHÔNG ĐỒNG Ý" như sau:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài) và đưa ra quan điểm của bạn là ĐỒNG Ý hay KHÔNG ĐỒNG Ý với statement của đề bài. Chỉ nên viết 2 câu cho mở bài. |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Nêu lý do thứ nhất support cho quan điểm của bạn.   |
| <b>BODY 2</b>       | Nêu lý do thứ hai support cho quan điểm của bạn.  |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b>   | Khẳng định lại quan điểm của bạn.   |

### 2. Cấu trúc bài viết theo dạng "A balanced opinion" - "ĐỒNG Ý hoặc KHÔNG ĐỒNG Ý MỘT PHẦN" như sau:

Balanced Opinion: tức là bạn vẫn đồng ý với 1 hướng của đề bài, nhưng cùng lúc đó cũng công nhận rằng hướng ngược lại cũng có phần đúng.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài) và đưa ra quan điểm của bạn là "trong khi bạn đồng ý rằng View 1 có phần đúng, thì bạn lại tin rằng View 2 ok hơn" (Template thường là: While I accept that..., I believe/ would argue |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Các lý do tại sao bạn cho rằng View 1 có phần đúng   |
| <b>BODY 2</b>       | Các lý do tại sao bạn tin rằng View 2 lại tốt hơn  |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>CONCLUSION</b> | Khẳng định lại lần nữa quan điểm của bạn (Conclusion chỉ viết ngắn gọn 1 câu) |
|-------------------|---|

### 1.3. Chiến thuật viết dạng bài two-part questions

**Đề bài sẽ gồm 2 câu hỏi, có thể là "Why is this the case? Is this a positive or negative development for society?". Một số đề thi gần đây như sau:**

1. In some countries, the number of people choosing to live by themselves is increasing rapidly in recent years. Why is this the case? Is this a positive or negative development for society? (Đề thi IELTS ngày 27/09/2014)
2. Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life. What are the reasons? Do advantages of this outweigh disadvantages? (Đề thi IELTS ngày 07/05/2016)
3. 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? (Đề thi IELTS ngày 05/03/2016)

**Cấu trúc bài viết như sau:**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Câu 1: Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài)<br>Câu 2: Đưa ra câu trả lời chung cho 2 câu hỏi của đề bài.<br>Ví dụ: "There could be several reasons for this, and I consider it to be a positive development" |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Trả lời câu hỏi thứ nhất  |
| <b>BODY 2</b>       | Trả lời câu hỏi thứ hai   |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b>   | Tóm tắt câu trả lời cho cả 2 câu hỏi của đề bài   |

Lưu ý: Chúng ta nên chú ý đến trình tự của câu hỏi ở đề bài. Câu nào trước trả lời trước, câu nào sau trả lời sau, đây cũng là một trong những yêu cầu của giám khảo đấy.

### 1.4. Chiến thuật viết dạng bài causes & solutions

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Câu 1: Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài)<br>Câu 2: Trả lời chung câu hỏi của đề bài.<br>Ví dụ: "Reasons for this vary, and solutions should be taken to address the problem" |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Thảo luận các causes/ reasons<br>(There are several reasons for....)   |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>BODY 2</b>     | Thảo luận các solutions<br>(There are several actions that governments/ societies could take to solve the problems described above) |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b> | Tóm tắt chung câu trả lời   |

### 1.5. Chiến thuật viết dạng bài problems & solutions

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Câu 1: Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài)<br>Câu 2: Trả lời chung câu hỏi của đề bài.<br><i>Ví dụ:</i> "Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, societies can take steps to mitigate these potential problems" |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Thảo luận các problems<br>(Several related problems can be anticipated)  |
| <b>BODY 2</b>       | Thảo luận các solutions<br>(A range of options available can be taken to alleviate the problem)  |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b>   | Tóm tắt chung câu trả lời  |

**Để nói "Có rất nhiều giải pháp cho vấn đề này", chúng ta có thể viết các cách như sau:**

- There are a number of solutions to tackle the problem
- Solutions can be adopted to address the problem
- There are several actions that someone (governments) could take to solve the problems

described above

- There is a course of actions that could be taken to address problems described above.
- Several remedies can be used to combat the issue
- Measures can be taken to improve the situation
- A range of options available can be taken to alleviate the problem
- This problem can be handled by taking several solutions

**Khi liệt kê các solutions trong bài, chúng ta có thể viết theo trình tự sau:**

(Ví dụ: Đưa ra các giải pháp giúp giảm thiểu tác động của ageing population)

**One measure would be for someone to do something**

One measure would be for governments to increase the retirement age for working adults, perhaps from 65 to 70.

**Another solution/remedy would be that....**

Another remedy would be that governments encourage immigration in order to increase the number of working adults who pay taxes.

### Furthermore, S + V+ O

Furthermore, money from national budgets will need to be taken from other areas and spent on vital healthcare, accommodation and transport facilities for the rising numbers of older citizens.

### 1.6. Chiến thuật viết dạng bài causes & effects

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>INTRODUCTION</b> | Câu 1: Nhiệm vụ là giới thiệu topic (thường được viết bằng cách paraphrase lại câu của đề bài)<br>Câu 2: Trả lời chung câu hỏi của đề bài. |
| <b>BODY1</b>        | Thảo luận các causes<br>( <i>There are several reasons why...</i> )  |
| <b>BODY 2</b>       | Thảo luận các effects<br>( <i>The trend towards sth can result in some negative effects</i> )  |
| <b>CONCLUSION</b>   | Tóm tắt chung câu trả lời  |

## 2. TỪ VỰNG HỌC THUẬT CHO 17 CHỦM TOPIC LỚN

### 1.7. Jobs

|   |   |
|---|---|
| To secure a job To seek employment          | Tìm kiếm việc làm                             |
| To walk into a job                          | Tìm được công việc một cách dễ dàng           |
| A defined career path                       | Con đường sự nghiệp đã được xác định          |
| To develop a range of experience and skills | Phát triển một loạt các kinh nghiệm + kỹ năng |
| Working conditions                          | Điều kiện làm việc                            |
| Working environment                         | Môi trường làm việc                           |
| The atmosphere in a workplace               | Không khí tại nơi làm việc                    |
| A sense of job satisfaction                 | Cảm giác hài lòng với công việc               |
| Personal relationships                      | Những mối quan hệ cá nhân                     |
| The salary package                          | Mức lương                                     |
| Job seekers = Job hunters                   | Người tìm việc                                |
| Office work                                 | Công việc văn phòng                           |
| Job opportunities = employment              | Cơ hội việc làm                               |
| Employment prospects                        | Triển vọng công việc                          |
| A choice of profession                      | Sự lựa chọn nghề nghiệp                       |

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| To be jobless = to be unemployed                                    | Thất nghiệp               |
| The unemployed (plural) = Jobless people =<br>Those who have no job | Những người thất nghiệp   |
| To face financial difficulties                                      | Gặp khó khăn về tài chính |
| Self - employment   | Tự làm chủ                |

Các bạn có thể tham khảo đoạn văn Band 9 của thầy Simon sử dụng một số từ mình đã liệt kê ở trên.

Nevertheless, I believe that other considerations are just as important as what we earn in our jobs. Firstly, **personal relationships** and **the atmosphere in a workplace** are extremely important when choosing a job. Having a good manager or friendly colleagues, for example, can make a huge difference to **workers' levels of happiness** and general quality of life. Secondly, many people's **feelings of job satisfaction** come from their **professional achievements**, the skills they learn, and the position they reach, rather than the money they earn. Finally, some people choose a career because they want to help others and contribute something positive to society.

### 1.8. Education

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Prestigious universities   | Các trường ĐH danh tiếng   |
| Standards of education   | Các tiêu chuẩn của giáo dục  |
| The standard of a country's education system   | Tiêu chuẩn của hệ thống giáo dục   |
| The quality of future generations of workers   | Đội ngũ lao động tương lai   |
| A well-educated workforce  | Lực lượng lao động được đào tạo tốt  |
| University graduates   | Sinh viên tốt nghiệp ĐH  |
| To be experts in their fields  | Là chuyên gia trong lĩnh vực của họ  |
| Academic qualifications gained abroad can open the door to better job opportunities.   | Bằng cấp chuyên môn đạt được ở nước ngoài có thể mở cánh cửa đến với các cơ hội việc làm tốt hơn |
| To provide a general education across a range of subjects<br>To provide a comprehensive learning programme with a wide range of subjects | Cung cấp chương trình giáo dục toàn diện thông qua một loạt các môn học                          |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| To focus on a limited number of practical courses<br>To focus on a narrow range of subjects related to a particular career | Chỉ tập trung vào một số các môn học thực tế                  |
| To broaden students' horizons  | Mở rộng sự hiểu biết/ tầm nhìn cho sinh viên                  |
| To achieve their potential   |   |
| To continue their studies/ their education   | Tiếp tục việc học   |
| To pursue vocational training/ education   | Theo học nghề/ giáo dục nghề                                  |
| To learn practical skills related to their chosen profession   | Học các kỹ năng thực tế liên quan đến nghề nghiệp mà đã chọn  |
| To gain an in-depth knowledge of their chosen career   | Có được kiến thức sâu sắc về nghề nghiệp đã chọn              |
| Overseas students  | Du học sinh   |
| To be exposed to different cultures and customs  | Được tiếp xúc với các nền văn hóa và tập tục khác nhau        |
| To expose students to a world of knowledge and information   | Giúp sinh viên tiếp xúc với nhiều kiến thức và thông tin      |
| Skills which are useful for their future jobs  | Những kỹ năng có ích cho công việc tương lai                  |
| To have access to free schooling   | Tiếp cận với giáo dục miễn phí                                |
| Home - schooled children   | Những trẻ em được dạy dỗ được tại nhà                         |
| Schools offer a better overall educational experience  | Trường học cung cấp trải nghiệm toàn diện về giáo dục tốt hơn |
| According to their academic ability  | Tùy theo khả năng học tập của họ                              |
| Mixed ability classes  | Những lớp học nhiều trình độ khác nhau                        |

Các bạn có thể tham khảo đoạn văn Band 9 của thầy Simon sử dụng một số từ mình đã liệt kê ở trên.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial for students to continue their studies. Firstly, **academic qualifications** are required in many professions. For example, it is impossible to become a doctor, teacher or lawyer without having the relevant degree. As a result, **university graduates have access to more and better job opportunities**,



and they tend to earn higher salaries than those with fewer qualifications. Secondly, the job market is becoming increasingly competitive, and sometimes there are hundreds of applicants for one position in a company. Young people who do not have qualifications from a university or college will not be able to compete.

### 1.9. Language

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Minority languages                              | Ngôn ngữ địa phương (ít người sử dụng)   |
| The prevalence of a language                    | Sự phổ biến (thống trị) của một ngôn ngữ |
| The popularity of English                       | Sự phổ biến của tiếng Anh                |
| English is becoming a global second language    | Tiếng Anh trở thành ngôn ngữ thứ hai     |
| Native languages                                | Ngôn ngữ bản địa                         |
| The use of a language                           | Việc sử dụng ngôn ngữ                    |
| The constraint of communication                 | Sự trở ngại trong giao tiếp              |
| (Rich) cultural diversity                       | Sự đa dạng văn hóa                       |
| Cultural identity                               | Bản sắc văn hóa                          |
| An endangered language                          | Một ngôn ngữ đang bị đe dọa              |
| A language is dying out = a language disappears | Một ngôn ngữ đang biến mất               |
| Linguistic ability/skills                       | Khả năng ngôn ngữ, kỹ năng ngôn ngữ      |
| The language barrier                            | Rào cản ngôn ngữ                         |

Các bạn có thể tham khảo đoạn văn Band 9 của thầy Simon sử dụng một số từ mình đã liệt kê ở trên.

Despite the above arguments, I believe that governments should try to preserve languages that are less widely spoken. A language is much more than simply a means of communication; it has a vital connection with **the cultural identity** of the people who speak it. If a language disappears, **a whole way of life** will disappear with it, and we will lose **the rich cultural diversity** that makes societies more interesting. By spending money to protect **minority languages**, governments can also **preserve traditions**, customs and behaviours that are part of a country's history.

### 1.10. Road safety

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Strict punishments = Severe punishments = Heavy punishments/fines | Hình phạt nặng |
|---|----------------|

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|--|---|
| Lenient punishments  | Hình phạt nhẹ                             |
| To impose a heavier course of punishments  | Áp dụng các hình phạt nặng hơn            |
| To institute heavier penalties = To institute heavier fines = To introduce heavier punishments | Đưa ra/ Giới thiệu các hình phạt nặng hơn |
| Prison sentences   | Sự tống tù                                |
| Traffic lawbreakers Driving offenders  | Người vi phạm luật giao thông             |
| Commuters  | Hành khách                                |
| Fear of the death penalty  | Sợ án tử hình                             |
| The fear of being sentenced to prison  | Nỗi sợ bị kết án tù                       |
| A decrease in the rate of road accidents   | Sự giảm tỷ lệ tai nạn giao thông đường bộ |
| To promote better driving habits   | Giúp thúc đẩy thói quen lái xe tốt hơn    |

Các bạn có thể tham khảo đoạn văn Band 9 của thầy Simon sử dụng một số từ mình đã liệt kê ở trên.

On the one hand, **strict punishments** can certainly help to encourage people to drive more safely. Penalties for dangerous drivers can **act as a deterrent**, meaning that people avoid repeating the same offence. There are various types of **driving penalty**, such as small fines, licence suspension, driver awareness courses, and even **prison sentences**. The aim of these punishments is to show dangerous drivers that their actions have negative consequences. As a result, we would hope that drivers become more disciplined and alert, and that they follow the rules more carefully.

### 1.11. Crime

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| To commit a crime       | Phạm tội                                |
| To break the law        | Vi phạm pháp luật                       |
| Unlawful actions        | Những hành động vi phạm pháp luật       |
| Sth acts as a deterrent | Đóng vai trò như 1 sự ngăn chặn, răn đe |
| Prison sentences        | Sự tống tù                              |
| Imprisonment            | Sự tống giam                            |
| Community service       | Lao động công ích                       |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Rehabilitation   | Sự cải tạo   |
| Rehabilitated prisoners  | Tù nhân được cải tạo                                       |
| Criminals = Wrongdoers =<br>Lawbreakers = Offenders =  | Tội phạm   |
| Ex-prisoners = ex-offenders =<br>reformed criminals = ex-convicts =<br>used-to-be wrongdoers = people<br>who have been in prison | Những người đã từng là tội phạm                            |
| Inmates  | Tù nhân  |
| To deter/ discourage people from<br>doing sth For example: To<br>discourage teenagers from breaking<br>the law                   | Ngăn ai đó khỏi làm việc gì                                |
| To re-offend   | Phạm tội lại/ Tái phạm tội                                 |
| To engage in unlawful/ criminal<br>activities  | Tham gia vào các hành vi phạm pháp                         |
| To serve a prison sentence   | Chấp hành án tù  |
| A criminal record  | Hồ sơ phạm tội   |
| Capital punishments<br>Death penalty   | Án tử hình   |
| To send sb to prison   | Tống ai đó vào tù  |
| To sentence criminals to death   | Tuyên án tử hình   |
| A form of revenge  | 1 hình thức trả thù  |
| Productive members of society  | Những thành viên có ích của xã hội                         |
| A course of punishments imposed<br>on lawbreakers  | Một loạt các hình phạt áp đặt cho những người<br>phạm luật |
| The dangers of a criminal lifestyle  | Sự nguy hiểm của lối sống tội phạm                         |

Các bạn có thể tham khảo đoạn văn Band 9 của thầy Simon sử dụng một số từ mình đã liệt kê ở trên.

On the one hand, criminals do need to be punished in some way. A person who **commits a crime** must learn that **unlawful actions** have consequences. **Prison sentences** punish offenders because they lose their freedom, and are separated from family and friends. In this way, **prison acts as a deterrent** to make people think carefully before breaking the law. Last year in the UK, many people were given a prison sentence for rioting, and hopefully this punishment will **deter them from similar behaviour** in future.

### 1.12. Fast food and health

|  |  |
|--|--|
| The availability of fast food  | Sự có sẵn thức ăn nhanh  |
| The prevalence of fast food /processed food/ preprepared meals                             | Sự thịnh hành của đồ ăn nhanh/ đồ ăn đã chế biến/ đồ ăn đã nấu sẵn |
| Unhealthy junk food  | Đồ ăn vặt  |
| A diet of convenience foods  | Chế độ ăn toàn đồ ăn tiện lợi                                      |
| To result in serious health problems   | Dẫn tới những vấn đề sức khỏe nghiêm                               |
| To be responsible for some ailments such as high blood pressure, obesity and heart disease | Chịu trách nhiệm cho các bệnh như...                               |
| To be increasingly overweight = more obese   | Ngày càng béo phì  |
| To cause health deterioration  | Gây ra sự suy giảm về sức khỏe                                     |
| To be detrimental = harmful to...  | Có hại tới ai, cái gì  |
| To consume an excessive amount of fast food  | Tiêu thụ khối lượng lớn thức ăn nhanh                              |
| To shape the future eating habits  | Hình thành thói quen ăn uống trong                                 |
| Ailments = Illness   | Bệnh tật   |
| The pace of life increases   | Nhịp sống tăng   |
| Excessive individual consumption   | Sự tiêu thụ cá nhân vượt mức                                       |
| Health risks associated with this trend  | Những rủi ro về sức khỏe liên quan tới                             |
| The major health problems  | Những vấn đề sức khỏe chính  |
| To cause various health problems   | Gây ra rất nhiều vấn đề về sức khỏe                                |
| To face health problems  | Gặp nhiều vấn đề về sức khỏe                                       |
| To lead a sedentary lifestyle  | Sống 1 lối sống ít vận động  |
| Sedentary office work  | Công việc văn phòng ít vận động                                    |
| Unhealthy eating habits  | Thói quen ăn uống không lành mạnh                                  |
| The lack of physical exercise/ physical activities   | Thiếu các hoạt động thể chất                                       |
| To be involved in less outdoor activities  | Tham gia vào ít các hoạt động ngoài                                |
| To increase the burden on hospitals and taxpayers  | Gia tăng gánh nặng vào bệnh viện và                                |

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| To keep their eyes glued to the screens      | Dán mắt vào màn hình                 |
| To suffer from eye diseases                  | Mắc các bệnh về mắt                  |
| To institute a higher tax rate on beverages. | Đặt một mức thuế cao hơn vào đồ uống |
| In an attempt to do sth                      | Nỗ lực làm gì                        |

### 1.13. Men - women

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Household tasks = Household jobs Household work = Household duties Household chores = Domestic duties = Domestic tasks                 | Việc nhà   |
| To share household responsibilities<br>To share their parenting and domestic responsibilities.<br>To divide roles and responsibilities | Trách nhiệm việc nhà   |
| Fair division / Fair share   | Phân bổ / Chia sẻ việc nhà   |
| To reduce the heavy workload   | Chia sẻ gánh nặng công việc  |
| Traditional gender roles/ Parental roles   | Vai trò của cha mẹ   |
| Men - Breadwinner  | Đàn ông- trụ cột trong gia đình  |
| Women - Household controllers  | Phụ nữ- quán xuyến việc nhà  |
| Parental roles   | Vai trò của cha mẹ   |
| Marriage partners  | Vợ chồng   |
| Single-parent families   | Những gia đình chỉ có bố hoặc mẹ   |
| The rise in divorce rates  | Sự gia tăng trong tỷ lệ ly hôn   |
| To assume childcare responsibilities   | Đảm nhiệm việc chăm sóc con cái  |
| To take on the role of househusband  | Đảm nhiệm vai trò của người chồng nội trợ                                    |
| To provide a healthy home environment for their babies   | Cung cấp 1 môi trường ở nhà lành mạnh cho con cái của họ                     |
| The lack of closeness in families  | Thiếu sự thân mật, gắn bó trong gia đình                                     |
| Men and women should have access to the same educational opportunities   | Đàn ông và phụ nữ nên có sự tiếp cận đến các cơ hội giáo dục ngang bằng nhau |
| A range of occupations is available to both sexes  | Một loạt các nghề nghiệp thích hợp cho cả 2 giới                             |

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Paternity leave | Chế độ chồng nghỉ ở nhà chăm sóc vợ khi vợ sinh con |
| Maternity leave | Chế độ nghỉ thai sản của phụ nữ                     |

#### 1.14. Environment

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas  | Năng lượng hóa thạch như là than đá, dầu mỏ và khí tự nhiên    |
| The use of alternative sources of energy, including wind power, water power and nuclear | Việc sử dụng các nguồn năng lượng thay thế.                    |
| Renewable energy from solar, wind or water  | Năng lượng tái tạo   |
| A greater level of environmental contamination  | Mức độ ô nhiễm môi trường cao hơn                              |
| The growing demand for fossil fuels in the world  | Nhu cầu năng lượng hóa thạch ngày                              |
| The deterioration in the air quality  | Giảm chất lượng không khí                                      |
| To burn fossil fuels to generate energy   | Đốt cháy năng lượng hóa thạch để tạo                           |
| To reduce the dependence on the traditional resources/ on fossil fuels                  | Giảm sự phụ thuộc vào các nguồn lượng truyền thống.            |
| To suffer from adverse effects of environmental problems                                | Chịu đựng những ảnh hưởng tiêu cực của những vấn đề môi trường |
| To curb environmental deterioration   | Kiểm chế suy thoái môi trường                                  |
| To lower the demand for energy in every   | Làm giảm nhu cầu năng lượng của                                |
| To promote environmentally-friendly technology  | Khuyến khích những công nghệ thân                              |
| To raise the public's ecological consciousness  | Nâng cao nhận thức về môi trường                               |
| Pollutants  | Chất gây ô nhiễm   |
| Toxic wastes  | Chất thải độc hại  |
| Gas emissions from factories  | Khí thải từ nhà máy  |
| Exhaust fumes from vehicles   | Khí thải từ xe cộ  |
| Air pollution   | Ô nhiễm không khí  |
| Environmental problems  | Những vấn đề về môi trường                                     |
| To alleviate environmental problems   | Làm dịu bớt những vấn đề về môi                                |
| To contaminate the environment  | Làm ô ứ, làm bẩn   |
| To destroy the environment  | Phá hủy môi trường   |
| To degrade the environment  | Làm suy thoái môi trường                                       |

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| To aggravate                             | Làm trầm trọng thêm                 |
| The protection of wildlife               | Bảo vệ động vật hoang dã            |
| The ecosystem will be seriously affected | Hệ sinh thái sẽ bị ảnh hưởng nghiêm |

### 1.15. Natural resources

|  |  |
|--|--|
| The growing consumption of natural resources                   | Việc tiêu thụ các nguồn tài nguyên thiên nhiên ngày càng gia tăng          |
| The over exploitation of the world's resources                 | Việc khai thác quá mức nguồn tài nguyên                                    |
| The overconsumption of natural resources                       | Việc tiêu thụ quá mức nguồn tài nguyên                                     |
| Over-consuming natural resources                               | Tiêu thụ quá mức nguồn tài nguyên  |
| The increasingly high level of natural resources exploitation  | Sự khai thác nguồn tài nguyên thiên nhiên ngày càng tăng cao               |
| The natural resources will be dwindling shortly in near future | Các nguồn tài nguyên thiên nhiên sẽ suy giảm/ cạn kiệt trong tương lai gần |
| An increase in the world's demand for natural resources        | Sự gia tăng nhu cầu đối với các nguồn tài nguyên thiên nhiên               |
| The shortage of resources                                      | Sự thiếu hụt các nguồn tài nguyên  |
| The resources come to the verge of depletion                   | Các nguồn tài nguyên có nguy cơ cạn kiệt                                   |
| To face the scarcity of fuels and materials                    | Đối mặt với tình trạng khan hiếm nhiên nguyên liệu                         |
| To exploit natural resources                                   | Khai thác tài nguyên thiên nhiên   |
| To utilize new sources of energy                               | Tận dụng các nguồn năng lượng mới  |
| To damage natural habitat                                      | Ảnh hưởng môi trường tự nhiên  |
| To dwindle = To run out  | Cạn kiệt   |
| The conservation and recovery of natural resources             | Việc bảo tồn và phục hồi các nguồn tài nguyên thiên nhiên                  |

### 1.16. Food & diets

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Food poisoning             | Ngộ độc thực phẩm        |
| Food sources               | Nguồn thức ăn            |
| Food safety                | An toàn thực phẩm        |
| The sources of food supply | Nguồn cung ứng thực phẩm |

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| The quality of foods                         | Chất lượng thực phẩm                  |
| To consume foods                             | Tiêu thụ thực phẩm                    |
| To grow a harvest                            | Trồng trọt mùa màng                   |
| To adulterate                                | Thêm phụ gia, hóa chất vào thức ăn    |
| Nutrients                                    | Dưỡng chất                            |
| Nutrition elements                           | Các yếu tố dinh dưỡng                 |
| The mass production of food                  | Sản xuất thức ăn đại trà              |
| The mass slaughter                           | Giết mổ đại trà                       |
| Packaged foods                               | Thức ăn đóng gói                      |
| To follow/ take a vegetarian diet            | Theo chế độ ăn chay                   |
| To follow well-planned vegetarian diets      | Theo những chế độ ăn chay hợp lý      |
| To lead a vegetarian lifestyle               | Theo lối sống ăn chay                 |
| To meet nutritional requirements             | Đáp ứng nhu cầu dinh dưỡng            |
| To be at greater risk of nutrient deficiency | Có nguy cơ thiếu hụt dinh dưỡng       |
| Vegetarianism                                | Thói quen ăn chay                     |
| Vegetarians >< Non-vegetarians Meat eaters   | Những người ăn chay >< Người không ăn |
| People on vegetarian diets                   | Những người theo chế độ ăn chay       |

### 1.17. Animal testing

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Animal experiments  | Những thí nghiệm trên động vật                            |
| A limited amount of animal experimentation                                    | Một lượng hạn chế các thử nghiệm trên động vật            |
| The use of animals in medical research  | Sự sử dụng động vật trong các nghiên cứu về y tế          |
| Through the use of animal experimentation                                     | Qua cách sử dụng thí nghiệm trên động vật                 |
| The banning of animal testing for non-medical products                        | Sự cấm việc thí nghiệm động vật cho các mục đích phi y tế |
| To ban testing on animals   | Cấm sự thí nghiệm trên động vật                           |
| To stop experimenting on animals<br>To stop conducting experiments on animals | Ngừng thử nghiệm trên động vật                            |
| To torture animals in cruel experiments                                       | Tra tấn động vật trong các thí nghiệm ác độc              |
| Animal testing/ Animal research   | Thí nghiệm trên động vật/Nghiên cứu trên động vật         |



|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Human-relevant results       | Những kết quả có liên quan/ tương thích với con người |
| Non-animal methods/ research | Những phương pháp/ nghiên cứu không sử dụng động vật  |
| Vivisection                  | Sự mổ xẻ động vật sống (Để nghiên cứu khoa học)       |

### 1.18. Traditions and customs

|   |   |
|---|---|
| To adopt/ follow the traditions and customs of the host country | Theo các phong tục, tập quán của nước chủ nhà |
| To embrace the culture of the natives                           | Theo văn hóa của người bản xứ                 |
| To accept new traditions and customs                            | Chấp nhận các truyền thống và phong tục mới   |
| To preserve their old customs and traditions                    | Bảo tồn những tập quán, truyền thống cũ       |
| To keep customary and traditional values                        | Giữ gìn những giá trị truyền thống            |
| To sustain cultural traits                                      | Duy trì những bản sắc văn hóa                 |
| To have distinct traditions and customs                         | Có những truyền thống và phong tục riêng biệt |
| The adherence to new customs                                    | Việc tuân theo những phong tục mới            |
| Cultural adaptation   | Sự thích ứng văn hóa                          |
| Cultural differences  | Sự khác biệt về văn hóa                       |
| Cultural identity   | Bản sắc văn hóa                               |
| Cultural norms  | Những chuẩn mực về văn hóa                    |
| Religion  | Tôn giáo, sự tín ngưỡng                       |
| Indigenous practices  | Những tập quán bản địa                        |

### 1.19. Transport

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Traffic problems                            | Những vấn đề giao thông             |
| The problem of traffic congestion = Traffic | Vấn đề tắc nghẽn giao thông Kẹt xe  |
| Traffic accidents                           | Những vụ tai nạn giao thông         |
| Traffic rules To break traffic rules        | Luật giao thông                     |
| To exceed the speed limit                   | Vượt quá tốc độ                     |
| Poor transport infrastructure               | Cơ sở hạ tầng giao thông kém        |
| The demands for using private vehicles      | Nhu cầu sử dụng phương tiện cá nhân |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| During the rush hour - During peak periods                   | Trong suốt giờ cao điểm                     |
| Means of transport = modes of transport = forms of transport | Phương tiện giao thông                      |
| Well-designed transport systems                              | Hệ thống giao thông được thiết kế tốt       |
| A range of different types of transport                      | Một loạt các loại hình giao thông khác nhau |
| A popular method of public transport                         | Một loại hình giao thông công cộng phổ biến |
| To increase/ ensure road safety                              | Nâng cao/ đảm bảo an toàn đường bộ          |
| To provide public transport for free To                      | Cung cấp hệ thống giao thông công cộng      |
| To ease/ reduce/ relieve/ alleviate traffic                  | Giảm tắc nghẽn giao thông                   |
| To impose strict punishments for traffic                     | Đưa ra những hình phạt nặng hơn cho những   |
| To introduce a double-fine penalty to traffic                | Áp dụng hình phạt nhân đôi đối với các      |
| To increase the minimum legal age for                        | Tăng độ tuổi lái xe                         |
| To encourage greater use of public transport                 | Khuyến khích sử dụng phương tiện giao       |
| To finance infrastructure projects                           | Tài trợ các dự án cơ sở hạ tầng             |
| To charge a congestion fee                                   | Thu phí tắc nghẽn                           |
| To introduce road safety measures                            | Giới thiệu/ đưa ra các biện pháp an toàn    |
| Licence suspension   | Đình chỉ giấy phép lái xe                   |
| Speed cameras  | Camera theo dõi tốc độ                      |

### 1.20. Government and society

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Raise money by taxing working people/ taxing people's income   | Thu tiền bằng việc đánh thuế người đi làm/ đánh thuế thu nhập của người dân                   |
| To impose taxes on sth   | Đánh thuế cái gì  |
| Raise people's awareness of issues (climate change healthy eating)                                   | Nâng cao nhận thức của mọi người về các vấn đề (biến đổi khí hậu, ăn uống lành mạnh)          |
| Social and political instability/unrest  | Sự bất ổn về xã hội và chính trị  |
| Foster/ Increase/ Improve a sense of   | Nâng cao ý thức cộng đồng   |
| Enhance community connectedness  | Nâng cao sự kết nối trong cộng đồng   |
| Reduce/ Eliminate gender/ social/ economic inequality<br>= Promote gender/ social/ economic equality | Giảm sự bất bình đẳng về giới/xã hội/kinh tế<br>= Tăng cường sự bình đẳng giới/xã hội/kinh tế |
| Adopt/ enact/ pass a law   | Áp dụng/Ban hành/Thông qua 1 điều luật  |
| Government subsidy/ grant/ funding   | Sự trợ cấp/tài trợ từ chính phủ   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| To be subsidized/ financed/ funded by the government/governments  | Được trợ cấp bởi chính phủ  |
| Government expenditure/ spending on sth   | Sự chi tiêu của chính phủ vào cái gì  |
| Taxpayers   | Người đóng thuế   |
| National security National defence  | An ninh quốc gia  |
| To deter military attack by another country   | Ngăn chặn sự tấn công quân sự từ quốc gia khác  |
| To use censorship to protect children from violent images<br>To censor what public sees or reads in the media | Sử dụng sự kiểm duyệt để bảo vệ trẻ em khỏi các hình ảnh bạo lực<br>Kiểm duyệt những gì người dân nhìn thấy hoặc đọc trên các phương tiện thông tin đại chúng |
| There should be age limit for websites and computer games   | Nên có giới hạn độ tuổi cho các trang web và trò chơi điện tử   |
| Support people who are living in poverty or unable to work  | Giúp đỡ những người nghèo hoặc không có khả năng làm việc   |
| The security and well-being of the citizens   | Sự an toàn và sự hạnh phúc, khỏe mạnh của các công dân  |
| To provide free education and healthcare  | Cung cấp giáo dục và y tế miễn phí  |
| To create jobs  | Tạo công ăn việc làm  |
| To control armed forces and police forces   | Quản lý lực lượng vũ trang và lực lượng cảnh sát  |
| Corruption  | Sự tham nhũng   |
| Social evils  | Những tệ nạn xã hội   |
| Social relationships  | Những mối quan hệ xã hội  |
| Social responsibility   | Trách nhiệm đối với xã hội  |
| Social issues   | Các vấn đề trong xã hội   |

### 1.21. Life in city vs life in countryside

|  |   |
|--|---|
| To enjoy/ like the hectic pace of life/ the hustle and bustle of the city life | Thích nhịp sống nhanh chóng/ Sự ồn ào náo nhiệt của cuộc sống thành phố |
| To get access to more and better job opportunities                             | Tiếp cận với các nhiều cơ hội việc làm tốt hơn                          |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| To cope with the stress/ pressure of urban life   | Đối diện với sức ép của cuộc sống thành thị  |
| To get caught up in the rat race (in the rat race là idiom dùng trong speaking)                     | Bế tắc trong cái vòng luẩn quẩn  |
| To enjoy/ love the vibrant/ lively nightlife  | Yêu thích cuộc sống sôi động về đêm  |
| To be close to all the amenities  | Gần với các tiện nghi cuộc sống  |
| To put up with/ get stuck in/ sit in massive/huge/heavy/ endless/ constant/ continuous traffic jams | Chịu đựng/bế tắc trong tình trạng tắc đường diện rộng/khung khiếp/vô tận/kéo dài/không ngừng |
| To tackle/ ease/ reduce/ relieve/ alleviate the heavy/ severe traffic congestion                    | Giải quyết vấn đề tắc đường nghiêm trọng   |
| To be affected/ choked/ damaged by pollution  | Bị ảnh hưởng/ngột ngạt/bị gây tổn hại bởi sự ô nhiễm   |
| To enjoy/ like the relaxed/ slower pace of life   | Tận hưởng/thích nhịp sống chậm rãi   |
| To enjoy/ love/ explore the great outdoors  | Tận hưởng/yêu thích/khám phá thế giới bên ngoài tuyệt vời                                    |
| To need/ want to get back/ closer to nature   | Cần/muốn quay trở lại/gần hơn với thiên nhiên  |
| To be surrounded by open/ unspoilt/ picturesque countryside   | Được bao quanh bởi vùng nông thôn thoáng đãng/nguyên sơ/đẹp như tranh vẽ                     |
| To escape/ quit/ get out of/ leave the rat race   | Trốn thoát/từ bỏ cái vòng luẩn quẩn ( của cuộc sống đô thị)                                  |
| To seek/ achieve a better/ healthy work-life balance  | Tìm kiếm/đạt được sự cân bằng tốt hơn giữa công việc và cuộc sống                            |
| To downshift to a less stressful life   | Chuyển sang 1 cuộc sống ít áp lực hơn  |
| To create/ build/ foster a strong sense of community  | Xây dựng/nâng cao ý thức cộng đồng   |
| To depend on/ be employed in/ work in agriculture   | Phụ thuộc vào/làm việc nông nghiệp   |
| To tackle/ address the problem of rural unemployment  | Giải quyết vấn đề thất nghiệp ở nông thôn  |
| To live in a comfy and cosy life  | Sống 1 cuộc sống thoải mái và ấm cúng  |

### 1.22. Advertising

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Various forms of advertising                                      | Nhiều hình thức quảng cáo khác nhau  |
| Television commercials  | Quảng cáo truyền hình  |
| Advertisements  | Những mẫu quảng cáo  |
| The advertising campaigns of multinational companies              | Những chiến dịch quảng cáo của các công ty đa quốc gia                     |
| Eye-catching images   | Những hình ảnh bắt mắt   |
| The allure of advertised products<br>The magnetism of advertising | Sự lôi cuốn của các sản phẩm được quảng cáo/<br>Sức hấp dẫn của quảng cáo. |
| The power of advertising  | Sự ảnh hưởng của quảng cáo   |
| The growth of the advertising industry                            | Sự phát triển của ngành công nghiệp quảng cáo                              |
| To reach a wide audience  | Tiếp cận 1 lượng lớn khán giả  |
| To give people moral messages                                     | Đưa mọi người những thông điệp đạo đức.                                    |
| To persuade people to follow the latest trend                     | Thuyết phục mọi người chạy theo...   |

### 1.23. Weapons

|                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Nuclear weapons               | Vũ khí hạt nhân                  |
| Military technology           | Công nghệ quân sự                |
| A risk of accidents with guns | Những mối đe dọa tai nạn từ súng |
| To surrender                  | Đầu hàng/ Sự đầu hàng            |
| To arrest                     | Bắt giữ ai                       |
| To act as a deterrent         | Đóng vai trò như 1 sự răn đe     |
| Terrorist                     | Bọn khủng bố                     |
| Offenders                     | Bọn phạm tội                     |
| Criminal activities           | Hành động phạm tội               |

### **3. TUYỂN TẬP GIẢI ĐỀ THI TỪ 2015 – 2017 TỪ BAND 8+**

**1.24. 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. (Đề thi ngày 14/3/2015)**

#### **Paraphrases:**

- Childcare centres = Childcare organizations = Childcare settings = babysitting environment = caregivers
- Family members = close relatives

#### **Samples:**

People have different views about whether children should be sent to childcare organizations or taken care of by their close relatives when their parents go out to work. While I accept that the help of other family members is crucially important, I believe that it is better to find a childcare setting for children.

On the one hand, the option to rely on other family members for childcare is attractive for several reasons. The first reason is that since family caregivers often show a strong emotional attachment to children, parents can feel much less worried about the safety of their offspring and continue with their work without distractions. Secondly, as family caregivers, grandparents, for example, may provide care at no cost or at a much more reasonable charge. In this way, parents can save money while family members may feel a great sense of fulfilment.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial if parents send their children to childcare centres. Firstly, the staff members of these places, compared to relatives, possess a richer source of experience in keeping children involved in a variety of activities to improve their social skills. Therefore, childcare centres may provide a comprehensive babysitting environment that is both educational and nurturing. Additionally, as those employees are often professionally trained and meet the qualification standards required by childcare organisations, they are more likely to handle any unanticipated issues which could potentially arise more methodologically. For example, staff members can give children instructions properly in emergency situations such as fires and earthquakes.

In conclusion, it seems to me that babysitting could be better done by childcare centres rather than close relatives.

(277 words - Thuy Phuong)

#### **Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To show a strong emotional attachment to sb: Thể hiện sự gắn bó về mặt tình cảm
- A great sense of fulfillment: Cảm giác hoàn thành

- To possess a richer source of experience in + Ving: Có nhiều kinh nghiệm hơn, dày dặn kinh nghiệm hơn trong việc làm gì
- A comprehensive babysitting environment: Môi trường chăm sóc trẻ toàn diện
- Nurturing: Dưỡng dục
- To meet standards: Đáp ứng những tiêu chuẩn
- Childcare centers/ organisations/ settings: Cơ sở, trung tâm chăm sóc trẻ
- Babysitting: Việc giữ trẻ (hộ)
- Methodologically: Một cách có phương pháp
- Emergency situations: Những tình huống khẩn cấp

**1.25. 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?**

**Paraphrase:**

- The average weight of people is increasing = people are becoming increasingly overweight = there is an increasing/growing number of obese people
- The level of health and fitness are decreasing = Time spent on physical activities is on the decrease.

**Sample:**

It is true that people in some nations are becoming increasingly overweight and their time spent on physical activities is on the decrease. There are several contributors to this trend and measures should be taken to tackle the problems.

There are several factors that affect people's physical health in modern societies. Firstly, many people tend to underestimate the negative consequences of unhealthy eating habits on their health. Many youngsters, for example, often rely on the convenience of fast foods or preprepared meals to save their cooking time. The excessive individual consumption might be responsible for some ailments such as high blood pressure, heart disease and obesity. The prevalence of technological devices can be another determinant of health. For a number of teenagers, their time for outdoor activities is sacrificed for a few more hours on computer screens. This might lead to sedentary lifestyle among the young.

However, there is a course of actions that could be taken to address problems described above.

One measure would be for governments to raise people's awareness of health hazards associated with the consistent consumption of fast foods as well as the importance of healthy diets. This can be partially done by attaching all nutrition-related information on each product or on the menus of fast food restaurants. The second remedy would be that there should be more sports competitions organized at schools and workplaces. In this way, the young feel motivated to enhance fitness.

In conclusion, there are several causes for the rising number of obese people, and effective solutions should be produced soon to mitigate the problem.

(263 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Physical activities: Những hoạt động thể chất
- Contributor: Nhân tố đóng góp
- Unhealthy eating habits: Thói quen ăn uống không lành mạnh/ không đảm bảo sức khỏe
- The individual excessive consumption: Tiêu thụ vượt mức
- The prevalence: Sự phổ biến, sự thịnh hành
- Determinant: Yếu tố quyết định
- Outdoor activities: Những hoạt động ngoài trời
- Sedentary lifestyle: Lối sống lười vận động (ngồi nhiều đi lại ít)
- To raise people's awareness of: Nâng cao nhận thức của ai đó
- Health hazards: Những mối nguy hại tới sức khỏe
- Nutrition related information: Những thông tin liên quan tới dinh dưỡng
- Remedy: Biện pháp
- Fitness: Sự luyện tập (thể chất)
- To mitigate: Giảm thiểu

**1.26. 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. (Đề thi ngày 18/4/2015)**

**Paraphrase:**

- Students who show the best academic results = best students = best learners = high achievers = students with the highest score in the exam = students having the highest level of academic
- Students who show improvement = students making improvement in learning = students showing (producing) improved (academic) results = students making progress in their studies.

**Sample:**

People have different views about whether students should be rewarded based on their academic achievements or their improvements in learning. While I accept that students who make academic improvements are sometimes given gifts in recognition of their efforts, I believe that schools should offer rewards to high achievers.

On the one hand, the idea to offer rewards to students who show improved results is attractive for several reasons. Students making progress in their studies might feel that their efforts at school are officially recognized. In this way, they are highly motivated to be more productive in studies. Additionally, rewards tend to create a range of feelings among learners, from excitement to a



sense of satisfaction. Receiving a small prize from teachers as an encouragement, for example, can make students happy with the improvements that they make, even though they are not the best students in class.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more necessary to praise those who have the highest level of academic attainment. Firstly, students can become the best learners in their classes because they work hard and demonstrate their consistent efforts and determination in their studies. Therefore, they deserve to be granted rewards. Secondly, if prizes were awarded to those who produce improved academic results, classes would encounter the situation in which the majority of students obtain rewards during the semester. As a result, it would be unfair for students with the highest scores in the exam.

In conclusion, it seems to me that schools should hand out awards to learners achieving the best academic results rather than those who make academic improvements.

(269 words - Thuy Phuong)

#### **Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Academic achievements: Những thành tích học tập
- Academic improvements: Sự tiến bộ trong học tập
- In recognition of: Ghi nhận cái gì đó
- High achievers: Những người đạt kết quả cao
- A range of feelings: Một loạt cảm xúc
- An encouragement: Sự động viên
- A sense of satisfaction: Cảm giác hài lòng, thỏa mãn
- The highest level of academic attainment: Kết quả học tập cao nhất
- Consistent efforts: Nỗ lực không ngừng
- Determination: Sự quyết tâm

**1.27. Leaders and directors in an organisation are normally older people. Some people think younger leader would be better. Do u agree or disagree?**  
**(Đề thi ngày 10/1/2015)**

#### **Paraphrase:**

- Old people = old employees/workers = old individuals
- Young people = the young = young employees/workers = young individuals = young generations
- Leader = director = important position/role = leadership position/role
- Organisation = corporation

#### **Sample:**

People have different views about whether important positions in corporations are better undertaken by young leaders or older ones. While I accept that older people have some personality traits to be good leaders, I believe that it is more beneficial for organizations to have younger employees take on the role of leaders or directors.

On the one hand, there are several reasons why old people can be considered for leadership positions. Firstly, compared to the young, older employees often possess richer experience and thus tend to be more careful when making important decisions. Additionally, through years of experience, older workers tend to acquire much wisdom and show a superior understanding of organizational culture. This might greatly contribute to the development of an organization. Another reason is that as older workers often work well with their colleagues for many years, procedures in training employees may become much less difficult when they are leaders. On the other hand, I believe that leadership positions should be given to younger people. The first reason is that younger generations tend to be more proficient when it comes to technology. For example, many young employees may utilize social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter to connect and engage potential customers from different countries, and then bring huge revenue to their corporations. Secondly, young people are often full of ambitions and not burdened by many external factors, such as childcare and family. Therefore, they can devote more time to work, improving their company's efficiency. In conclusion, while I accept that older individuals can become leaders or directors, I believe that younger people can better undertake leadership roles.  
(270 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Personality traits: Đặc điểm tính cách
- To take on the role of: Đảm nhiệm vai trò
- Leadership positions: Vị trí lãnh đạo
- To possess richer experience: Có nhiều kinh nghiệm hơn
- Acquire much wisdom: Tích lũy nhiều hiểu biết
- Show a superior understanding of: Có sự hiểu biết tốt hơn về cái gì
- Be proficient: Thành thạo, giỏi
- When it comes to: Khi nói đến vấn đề gì
- To utilize social networking sites: Sử dụng các trang mạng xã hội
- To be burdened by: Gánh nặng bởi
- To undertake leadership roles: Đảm nhiệm các vai trò lãnh đạo

**1.28. Some students prefer to take a year off between school and university, to work or to travel. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages? (Đề thi ngày 28/2/2015)**

**Paraphrase:**

- Take a year off = take a year out = take a gap year = spend/have a year off
- Student taking a year off to work or travel = high school leaver = a gap year student = student having a year out before entering/attending/commencing universities/colleges/tertiary studies = student spending a year off after high school
- Disadvantage = Drawback

- Advantage = Benefit

**Sample:**

It is true that many high school graduates are interested in taking a gap year before entering universities. While I accept that there are some drawbacks of this trend, I believe that the advantages of taking a gap year are overwhelming.

On the one hand, several disadvantages can be anticipated when students take a year off after high school. Firstly, the deferral of one year can make students a year behind their peers. While their friends continue education, those who have a year off might be responsible for a longer education process. Secondly, a year off to travel can be considered to be a waste of money since teenagers may have to pay for accommodation and transportation fees. These expenses might be better spared to attend university or college.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial for students to take a year out for a variety of reasons. The first reason is that taking a year off to work is a great opportunity for students to gain real work experience and learn new valuable skills before they pursue their tertiary studies. This kind of employment experience can allow gap year students to identify universities that most fit their personalities and career ambitions, making them better prepared for their chosen universities and their post-university professions. Secondly, a year off to travel might allow high school leavers to explore new lands and interact with new people. As a result, they can have a better understanding of various cultures and broaden their social contacts.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the benefits of spending one year off before commencing studies are more significant than the drawbacks.

(278 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- High school graduates = high school leavers: Học sinh tốt nghiệp cấp ba
- To take a gap year = take a year out = take a year off = spend one year off: Nghỉ 1 năm (sau khi học xong cấp ba và trước khi vào đại học)
- Overwhelming: Át hẳn, vượt trội
- The deferral of: Sự trì hoãn
- Behind their peers: Tụt lùi so với đám bạn
- Longer education process: Tiến trình học tập dài học
- Tertiary studies: Học đại học
- Gap year students: Những sinh viên nghỉ 1 năm (trước khi vào ĐH)
- Post-university professions: Công việc sau ĐH
- To have a better understanding of: Có sự hiểu biết tốt hơn về cái gì
- To broaden their social contacts: Mở rộng các mối liên hệ xã hội
- To commence studies: Tiếp tục việc học

**1.29. 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? (Đề thi ngày 7/2/2015)**

**Paraphrase:**

- Museums and historical sites = museums and historical places/attractions = historical sites/attractions/places = monuments and historical sites
- Tourists = visitors
- Local people = local residents = local inhabitants = the locals = local dwellers = local visitors
- Solution = remedy = method = action
- Resolve = address = tackle = alleviate = handle = mitigate (the problem) = improve the situation = combat the issue

**Sample:**

It is true that a number of important sites and monuments primarily attract tourists rather than local inhabitants. There are various reasons for this, and some actions can be taken to improve the situation.

Firstly, the shortage of activities held at historical attractions is partially to blame. For example, the locals might not feel the need to visit museums if they discover nothing interesting out there. Therefore, through the frequent organization of games or events, these sites may arouse an interest among local residents. Secondly, many historical and cultural sites often impose heavy charges, which might deter local people from visiting them. Additionally, since local people are already quite familiar with their own culture and heritage, they naturally have less interest in visiting their own city's museums.

There is a range of solutions that can be taken to address the problems described above. One simple remedy would be for the authorities to organize numerous interactive activities on a regular basis such as arts workshops or traditional dance shows. In this way, museums and historical sites can become visually spectacular, and local residents can feel more encouraged to visit these attractions and learn history, culture and many other aspects of life. Another solution would be that the state should place more emphasis on the maintenance of these places to make them more appealing to all visitors. Finally, there should be more state subsidies for these important sites so that all visitors might become less concerned about the entrance tickets. In conclusion, several reasons can explain why many museums and historical attractions fail to attract local visitors, however a number of actions could be taken to handle the problems.

(277 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Monuments: Di tích, đài tưởng niệm

- Local people = local residents = local inhabitants = the locals = local dwellers: Người dân địa phương
- The shortage of sth: Thiếu cái gì
- Historical attractions/ places/ sites: Những di tích lịch sử
- To be partially to blame: Bị đổ lỗi một phần
- To arouse an interest: Khơi dậy niềm yêu thích, sự quan tâm
- To impose heavy charges: Đặt mức phí cao hơn
- To deter sb from doing sth: Ngăn chặn ai khỏi việc làm gì
- To be familiar with: Thân quen với
- Interactive activities: Những hoạt động có tính tương tác
- To be visually spectacular: Thu hút trực quan
- Other aspects of life: Những khía cạnh khác của cuộc sống
- To place more emphasis on sth: Chú trọng hơn vào việc làm gì
- Appealing: Thu hút, lôi cuốn
- To be concerned about sth: Quan tâm tới
- To fail to do sth: Làm việc gì ko được
- State subsidies: Trợ cấp chính phủ, nhà nước

**1.30. 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? (Đề thi ngày 28/3/2015)**

**Paraphrase:**

- The increasing use of computers and mobile phones = The high/large/growing use of computers and cellphones = the increase in the use of computers and mobile phones = the heavy dependence of technological gadgets/ digital devices such as computers and cellphones
- Has negative effects on the young people's reading and writing skills = negatively/terribly affects the young's writing and reading skills = cause the young's reading and writing skills to fall = determine the young's reading and writing skills = trigger the deterioration of the young's reading and writing skills = lead to a decline in the young's reading and writing skills

**Sample:**

It is sometimes argued that the heavy dependence on modern technological gadgets such as computers and cellphones negatively affects the young's reading and writing skills. I completely agree with this idea.

Firstly, the high use of computers and mobile phones undermines young people's reading skills. As a number of young people today have more and better access to computers and cellphones, they probably spend their spare time using computers rather than reading printed texts. For example, for many male students in Vietnam, their time for reading textbooks is sacrificed for a

few more hours of playing video games. Therefore, a large increase in the use of computers and cellphones causes the young's reading and writing skills to fall. Secondly, the increasing use of computers and mobile phones also triggers the deterioration of young people's writing skills. Many high school students become reliant on word processing software applications which provide electronic tools such as spell checker and grammar when working on assignments on computers. As a result, many students write misspelled words in handwriting assignments and meet trouble in correcting them. Additionally, many digital devices limit the number of characters an individual can use at a time, numerous teenagers take full advantage of their limited space by using cyber-slang terms like LOL as laugh out loud or IDK as I don't know. Even worse, many youngsters bring those text-based abbreviated languages into formal writing, which may terribly affect their spelling and writing skills. In conclusion, I believe that the growing use of computers and mobile phones lead to a decline in young people's writing and reading skills.

(266 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- The heavy dependence on sth: Phụ thuộc nhiều vào cái gì
- Technological gadgets/ devices: Các thiết bị công nghệ
- The high use of/ the increasing use of/ the growing use of sth: Việc sử dụng ngày càng tăng/ nhiều
- To undermine: Làm suy yếu, phá hoại
- To have more and better access to sth: Tiếp cận tốt hơn với cái gì
- To sacrifice: Hi sinh
- To trigger the deterioration of: Gây ra sự suy giảm của cái gì
- To be reliant on sth: Phụ thuộc vào cái gì
- Handwriting assignments: Những bài tập làm viết tay
- To meet trouble in Ving: Gặp khó khăn, phiền toái trong việc làm gì
- To take full advantage of: Tận dụng tối đa
- Text-based abbreviated languages: Ngôn ngữ viết tắt dựa trên văn bản
- A decline in sth: Sự suy giảm

**1.31. An increasing number of people are changing their careers. What are the reasons? Do you think this is a positive or negative change? (Đề thi ngày 21/6/2014)**

**Paraphrase:**

- Careers = works = professions = employment = jobs = occupations
- An increasing number of people are changing their careers = there is an increasing/growing number of people who quit their current jobs and seek/find better employment opportunities = there is an increase in the number of people starting an absolutely new career path/ embarking new jobs = people often make a career in search of better employment opportunities.
- Change = trend = tendency
- Positive = desirable

**Sample:**

It is true that there is an increase in the number of people who switch their professions. There could be several reasons for this, and I personally consider it to be a positive trend.

Firstly, people often make a career change in search of better employment opportunities. For example, many people are not satisfied with the salary packages offered. As a result, they are likely to move to companies which remunerate their level of competency more appropriately, and provide a greater potential for career progression. Secondly, trying out a variety of professions can be a reinvigorating experience for many young people. By embarking on a new job, the young might stand a great chance to gain a range of real experience and learn practical skills, improving the possibility of a sound job prospect in future.

In my view, the career change described above should be seen as a desirable trend. Many people become motivated and stimulated with the broadened occupational outlook, which might lead to a satisfying working life later on. Meanwhile, others might derive a great sense of satisfaction from earning higher salaries or performing new roles at their workplaces. Additionally, many people recognize the career path that is most suitable for them, and feel comfortable to work towards their goals. Finally, the job market is becoming increasingly competitive, and those with better qualifications and more remarkable skills are more likely to take up important positions in organizations.

In conclusion, there is a range of reasons why people decide to start out on an absolutely new career path, and I believe that this tendency is positive.

(267 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To change/ switch/ alter: Thay đổi
- To make a career change: Thay đổi công việc, nghề nghiệp

- In search of better employment opportunities: Tìm kiếm cơ hội việc làm tốt hơn
- To be satisfied with: Thỏa mãn với
- To remunerate their level of competency: Trả thù lao tương xứng với năng lực
- To provide a greater potential for: Có nhiều tiềm năng hơn
- To try out a variety of professions: Thử rất nhiều công việc, nghề nghiệp khác nhau
- A reinvigorating experience: Kinh nghiệm quý giá
- To have/ stand a great chance to: Có cơ hội tốt
- To improve the possibility of: Gia tăng khả năng về cái gì
- A satisfying working life: Cv thỏa mãn
- To derive a great sense of satisfaction from: Có được sự thỏa mãn/ hài lòng từ đâu
- To take up = undertake: Đảm nhiệm = take on the role of: Đảm nhiệm vai trò
- To start out on an absolutely new career path: Bắt đầu một con đường sự nghiệp hoàn toàn mới

**1.32. Some people think that teachers should be responsible for teaching students to judge right and wrong and to behave well. Some say that teachers should only teach students about academic subjects. Discuss both view and give your own opinion.**

**Paraphrase:**

- To judge right and wrong = moral lessons = moral values = ethical lessons = ethical principles = morality standards
- Academic subjects = academic courses
- Place more importance on = assume more responsibility to

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about the role of teachers at schools. While I agree that schools should teach students about moral values, I believe that schools should place more importance on teaching students academic courses.

On the one hand, there are several reasons why teachers should correct young learners' behaviors and teach them ethical principles. The first reason is that when schools teach students about morality standards, students can become aware of the right things to do. This might allow schools to prepare students to be productive members of the society with good moral qualities such as honesty, tolerance and sharing. Secondly, since the lack of moral values and unhealthy attitudes of students can cause various serious problems to both schools and societies, ethical lessons are likely to become crucially important in order to ensure the order of societies. For example, if students failed to obey laws and behaved irresponsibly, societies would have more delinquents and criminals, rather than qualified citizens.

Although I agree that moral lessons are important, I believe that academic subjects should be more valued at schools for a number of reasons. Firstly, as the job market is becoming increasingly competitive, schools should expose students to a wide range of knowledge so that



they can get a job straight after school. For example, it would be impossible for the young to be professional teachers or doctors if they did not master specialized knowledge in those fields. Additionally, countries are often in need of well-educated workforce. Those who are experts in particular industries can make their countries flourish by applying knowledge acquired at university.

In conclusion, it seems to me that teachers should assume more responsibility to teach students about academic subjects rather than moral lessons.

(288 words - Thuy Phuong)

### **Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Moral values = moral lessons = morality standards = ethical principles = ethical lessons:  
Những bài học đạo đức, những chuẩn mực đạo đức
- To allow sb to do sth: Cho phép ai đó làm gì
- Productive members of the society: Những thành viên có ích cho xã hội
- Moral qualities: Những phẩm chất đạo đức
- To ensure the order of societies: Đảm bảo kỉ luật xã hội
- Delinquents: Kẻ phạm tội, kẻ phạm pháp
- A wide range of knowledge: Nhiều kiến thức
- To master: Nắm vững, sử dụng thành thạo cái gì
- To be in need of: Cần cái gì
- A well-educated workforce: Đội ngũ/ lực lượng lao động được đào tạo tốt
- To flourish: Hưng thịnh
- To assume the responsibility to do sth: Chịu trách nhiệm làm gì

**1.33. Developments 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. (Đề thi ngày 9/5/2015)**

### **Paraphrase:**

- Development in technology = improvement in technology = advanced technology = technological advancement = technological advance = technological progress
- Simpler live = simpler life = simplistic life

### **Essay sample:**

It is true that technology advancement has triggered a variety of environmental issues. While I accept that these problems can be partially addressed by a simplistic life, I would argue that technological progress can help curb environmental degradation more substantially.

On the one hand, there are some reasons why people lead a simpler life can solve environmental problems. The first reason is that when individuals choose reusable products with minimal packaging rather than disposable ones, large quantities of household waste can be reduced.

Therefore, people's living areas will become more environmentally friendly. The second reason is that when people take public transportation rather than driving, significant levels of exhaust fumes from private vehicles released into the air can be saved. This then leads to a considerable elimination in carbon dioxide emission that is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect and global warming.

On the other hand, I believe that technological advances can better tackle environmental problems. Firstly, thanks to the improvements in technology, various household products such as refrigerators, washing machines and cooking appliances are designed to meet minimum energy efficiency standards. As a result, while customers can cut down the energy consumption of their products, a country can avoid the pending energy crisis. Secondly, it is technology that enables countries to utilize alternative sources of energy such as solar and wind power so that they can reduce their dependence on traditional energy resources. For example, India has employed its advanced technology to build up photovoltaic solar power which harnesses the sun's energy to produce electricity without causing any damage to the environment.

In conclusion, it seems to me that technological advancements can better address environmental problems.

(278 words - Thuy Phuong)

#### **Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Technological advancement: Sự tiến bộ công nghệ
- Environmental degradation: Suy thoái môi trường
- To curb: Hạn chế, kiềm chế
- To be environmentally friendly: Thân thiện với môi trường
- Significant levels of exhaust fume: Lượng khí thải nhiều
- A considerable elimination in sth: Sự giảm thiểu đáng kể trong cái gì
- A major contributor to: Nhân tố góp phần chính
- To meet minimum energy efficiency standards: Đáp ứng những tiêu chuẩn hiệu suất năng

lượng tối thiểu

- The pending energy crisis: Cuộc khủng hoảng năng lượng
- To utilize alternative sources of energy: Tận dụng các nguồn năng lượng thay thế
- Traditional energy resources: Những nguồn năng lượng truyền thống
- To cause damage to the environment: Gây ra những ảnh hưởng tới môi trường

**1.34. 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? (Đề thi ngày 11/7/2015)**

#### **Paraphrase:**

- Making us to be and to look the same = turning people into the same individuals = Impacting on the similarity of people's lifestyle = Making people have the same appearance

- Tend to = have a tendency to = be more likely to = might/may/can
- For example = for instance
- In addition = additionally = in addition to that = even worse (negative mean)

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about whether or not advertising can turn people into similar individuals. While I accept that advertising has a profound impact on the similarity of people's lifestyle in today's society, I believe that this is not the sole factor that contributes to this trend. On the one hand, advertising can certainly encourage people to consume identical products. Many multinational companies apply psychological persuasion tactics to their marketing campaigns, leading to the fact that people of different ages are often persuaded to buy products of the same manufacturer. In addition, with a huge budget allocated for advertising strategies, these giant market leaders are more likely to catch the attention of potential customers. For example, by promoting a message that there is a limited stock, Apple has stimulated growing demands for iPhone products and then dominated the smartphone industry. Therefore, the effect of advertising on customers' buying decisions is undeniable. On the other hand, I believe that apart from advertising, there are several other reasons for the similarity in people's lifestyle. Firstly, many young people tend to copy dressing styles of their idols. For instance, a large number of K-pop fans wear the same clothes and the same necklaces as their stars do, making them have similar appearance. Secondly, people often purchase products based on the recommendations of their friends or their family members. As a result, they have a tendency to use products or services of the same suppliers. In conclusion, it seems to me that there are several factors affecting the increasing similarity in people's lifestyle, and advertising is among them.

(264 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To have a profound impact on sth: Có tác động đáng kể tới cái gì
- The sole factor: Nhân tố, yếu tố duy nhất
- To encourage sb to do sth: Khuyến khích ai đó làm gì
- Psychological persuasion tactics: Chiến thuật thuyết phục tâm lý
- People of different ages: Những người có độ tuổi khác nhau
- Giant market leaders: Những nhà lãnh đạo thị trường
- To catch the attention of sb: Thu hút sự chú ý của ai đó
- To stimulate growing demands for: Thúc đẩy nhu cầu ngày càng gia tăng
- To dominate: Thống trị, thống lĩnh
- To be undeniable: Không thể phủ nhận được
- The similarity in sth (the similarity in people's lifestyle): Sự tương đồng, sự giống nhau
- Apart from: Ngoài cái gì ra...
- To have a tendency to do sth: Có xu thế làm gì

**1.35. Some people think that the governments should give financial support to artists, musicians and poets. Others think that it is a waste of money. Discuss both views and give your opinion. (Đề thi ngày 29/8/2015)**

**Paraphrase:**

- Give financial support = provide/offer financial assistance/aid = the help of governments = the government funding of = the governmental/national/ state budget/ funding for = allocate national budget to
- A waste of money = a waste of financial resources = be wasteful
- Be important = be of importance = be of significance
- Earning money = collecting money = sustaining one's livelihood

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about whether or not governments should provide financial assistance to artists, musicians and poets. While there are some reasons why the funding for artists could be seen as a waste of financial resources, I believe that the help of governments is of importance.

On the one hand, there are those who argue that the governmental budget for supporting artists is wasteful. Firstly, there are more priorities for the government to spend its budget. For example, many children in developing countries live below the poverty line, and they have no access to schooling. By allocating the national budget to build up a free education system in remote places, the government can provide better educational opportunities for all members of society. This will result in a well-educated workforce, and in turn a prosperous nation. Secondly, artists can certainly support themselves without the financial aid of the government. They can collect money by selling their artwork in order to sustain their livelihood and then live with their passions.

On the other hand, I believe that government funding of arts can benefit the cultural identity of a country. Artwork such as paintings or sculptures are much more than a work as they represent traditions, customs and behaviors of a specific nation. For example, Dong Ho paintings, a line of Vietnamese folk paintings originating in Dong Ho village, capture elements of everyday life and express thoughts and wishes of people. By offering financial support to the field of arts, the governments can motivate artists to do more research in the art sector, and produce more incredible artwork. This helps them to preserve traditional aesthetic values of their countries. In conclusion, there are good reasons why providing financial aid to artists could be a waste of money, but in my opinion, the government funding is necessary.

(304 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To provide financial assistance to sb = To provide financial aid to sb: Hỗ trợ tài chính cho ai đó
- The funding for sth: Kinh phí cho cái gì
- A waste of financial resources: Phung phí nguồn tài chính
- To be of importance = To be of significance: Quan trọng
- Priorities: Những điều ưu tiên, những cái/thứ được ưu tiên
- To live below the poverty line: Cuộc sống nghèo
- To have no access to sth: Không được tiếp cận tới cái gì
- To provide better educational opportunities for: Cung cấp, mang lại cơ hội giáo dục tốt

hơn cho

- A well-educated workforce: Lực lượng lao động được đào tạo tốt
- To sustain their livelihood: Kiếm kế sinh nhai
- A prosperous nation: Quốc gia giàu mạnh
- The financial aid of: Sự hỗ trợ, trợ giúp về mặt tài chính
- The cultural identity: Bản sắc văn hóa
- To represent: Đại diện
- To capture: Chiếm được, giành được, bắt được
- To preserve traditional aesthetic values: Bảo tồn các giá trị thẩm mỹ truyền thống

**1.36. Children's education is expensive. In some countries, the government pay some of or all of the costs. Do the advantages outweigh its disadvantages? (Đề thi ngày 22/2/2014)**

**Paraphrase:**

- Education fee = education expenditure/expense = tuition fee
- The governmental budget = the governmental/national/ statebudget
- Advantage = benefit
- Disadvantage = drawback

**Essay sample:**

It is true that education fees for children are partially or fully subsidized by the government in some countries. While I accept that this may cause some potential problems, I would argue that the benefits far outweigh its drawbacks.

On the one hand, there are several disadvantages that can be anticipated when the government bears the responsibility for paying children's education expenditures. Firstly, the financial support may place a burden on the national budget. The state budget is often diverted to a wide range of important sectors such as healthcare provision, traffic infrastructure and environmental conservation. If schools provide tuition assistance, it means that the national budget allocated to other urgent issues might be insufficiently invested, affecting the economy as a whole. A higher amount of taxes that families pay can also be linked in part to free schooling that often accompany the allocation of budget to education by the government.

However, I personally believe that these drawbacks are far outweighed by the benefits. The first advantage is that the government's subsidy can build a high quality education system with better

learning opportunities to all children. This will result in a well-educated workforce, and in turn a more prosperous country. Secondly, as the tuition fees are highly expensive, those with insufficient financial resources might not be able to afford these expenses. Therefore, the governmental funding can relieve financial burdens falling on low-income families, and they will have more money for daily necessities and healthcare services.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the benefits of allocating the national budget to children's education are greater than its drawbacks.

(267 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Partially or fully subsidized: Trợ cấp một phần/ hoàn toàn
- To anticipate: Dự đoán, dự báo
- To bear/ take/ shoulder/ assume the responsibility for: Chịu trách nhiệm về việc gì
- To place a burden on sth: Đặt gánh nặng vào ai đó
- To accompany: Đi theo, đi cùng
- Subsidy: Tiền trợ cấp
- Insufficient financial resources: Nguồn tài chính không đủ
- To relieve financial burdens: Giảm bớt gánh nặng tài chính
- Low-income families: Những gia đình có thu nhập thấp
- Daily necessities: Những vật dụng cần thiết

**1.37. Some people think that governments should ban dangerous sports, while others think people should have freedom to do any sports or activity. Discuss and give your opinion. (Đề thi ngày 9/8/2014)**

It is true that many people are interested in playing dangerous sports. While I accept that governments should regulate high-risk sports activities, I believe that people have their own freedom to choose whatever sports they want.

On the one hand, governments should prohibit dangerous sports in order to minimize the potential risks that players can face. Some high-risk adventure sports such as mountain climbing and off-piste skiing probably lead to severe injuries or even death when accidents happen. In some cases, players might suffer from physical disabilities, and they are then responsible for high medical costs for equipment and medicine. This places a heavy burden on their family members. Therefore, the prohibition on dangerous sports, if imposed by the government, can help to save people's lives.

On the other hand, I personally believe that there are several reasons why people should be given freedom to take up any sports activity that they want. Firstly, many people play high-risk sports as a way to challenge themselves and test their levels of endurance, while for others, these games can create a range of feelings, from excitement to a sense of accomplishments. Consequently, government's intervention in people's choice of sports activities might lead to a dissatisfaction among adventurers. Secondly, when players choose to do high-risk activities, they are often

aware of its potential risks that may threaten their lives, and equip themselves with proper safety equipment. This might limit possible injuries if unexpected situations happen. In conclusion, it seems to me that the decision to take up any sports activity should be made by individuals.

(262 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To regulate high-risk sports activities: Điều chỉnh những hoạt động thể thao có rủi ro cao
- High-risk adventure sports: Những môn thể thao mạo hiểm
- To have own freedom to do sth: Có quyền tự do làm gì
- To be responsible for: Chịu trách nhiệm làm gì
- Levels of endurance: Cấp độ bền bỉ
- To create a range of feelings: Tạo ra rất nhiều cảm xúc
- The intervention in sth: Sự can thiệp
- A sense of accomplishments: Cảm giác hoàn thành
- A dissatisfaction: Sự không bằng lòng, bất mãn

**1.38. The best way for governments to solve the problem of traffic congestion is providing free public transport in 24 hours per day, and seven days a week. To what extent do you agree or disagree? (Đề thi ngày 9/1/2014)**

People have different views about the measures that governments should take to reduce traffic jams. While I accept that the provision of a free public transport system all the time is an effective way to ease traffic congestion, I believe that there are other practical alternatives that contribute to this problem.

On the one hand, the idea to provide free public transport all day and night is attractive for several reasons. The first reason is that citizens will have more mobility options since subways, buses and trains are highly accessible. As a result, the demands for using private vehicles will be less severe, and the total volume of traffic will be significantly reduced. The second reason is that there are major improvements in the traffic flow when governments offer free transit for all residents. As public transport modes can accommodate a large number of passengers, the use of private vehicles during peak periods can be limited, therefore relieving the problem of traffic congestion.

On the other hand, I believe that the governments should take other solutions into consideration. Firstly, in many cases, the overwhelming congestion is often blamed for poor transport infrastructure rather than the great number of vehicles on the roads. In Vietnam, for example, the severe traffic congestion is sometimes triggered by heavy rains and floods in municipal areas due to poor flood control infrastructure. Therefore, it is necessary for governments to widen the existing road system and upgrade infrastructure. Secondly, traffic congestion might be caused by



driving offences in city centers. It is thus better for governments to impose strict punishments for traffic violations.

In conclusion, I do not believe that offering zero-fare public transport is the best solution to the problem of traffic congestion because other alternatives are equally realistic.

(294 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Practical alternatives: Những giải pháp thay thế thiết thực/ thực tiễn
- The provision of sth: Việc cung ứng, cung cấp
- Mobility options: Những sự lựa chọn di chuyển
- To be highly accessible: Dễ tiếp cận
- The demands for sth: Nhu cầu cho cái gì
- To be severe: Khắt khe, gay gắt
- To offer free transit: Vận chuyển miễn phí
- To accommodate a large number of passengers: Chứa được nhiều hành khách hơn
- To take sth into consideration: Cân nhắc cái gì
- To be blamed for sth: Bị đổ lỗi cho
- To impose strict punishments for: Đưa ra những hình phạt nặng hơn
- To offer zero-fare public transport = to provide a free public transport system: Cung cấp hệ thống giao thông công cộng
- To be realistic: Thực thi

**1.39. Some people think that the government have the duty to ensure its citizens have a healthy diet, while others argue it is the responsibility of each individual. Discuss both views and give your opinion. (Đề thi ngày 19/7/2014)**

People have different views about whether or not the government should care about the public health. While I accept that we all have the responsibility to maintain healthy eating habits, I believe that the government plays a crucial role in guaranteeing food safety for its people.

On the one hand, it is the responsibility of individuals to take control of what they consume. Due to the availability of fast foods and pre-prepared meals, many young rely on the convenience of these foods to save their cooking time. The consistent consumption might be responsible for some serious ailments such as high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity, causing their physical health to deteriorate. Therefore, by paying careful attention to their daily meals, people's health can be greatly improved, and they can shape their healthy future eating habits.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more necessary for the government to strictly control the sources of food supply. Firstly, there are a number of hazardous foods of unknown origin available in the market such as mushrooms and meats, and without the intervention of the government, people might make no sense of health risks associated with these foods. Therefore, authorities have an obligation to limit strictly these food sources in order to reduce the risk of food poisoning. Secondly, for the sake of profits, a number of food manufacturers inject toxic substances into manufactured foods to maintain the freshness of foods for a longer time. With



governmental control, substantial levels of additives can be reduced, and the quality of foods can be improved as a result.

In conclusion, while individuals should be in charge of their food choices for a healthy life, I believe that the government intervention in food safety is of greater importance.

(293 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To maintain healthy eating habits: Duy trì thói quen ăn uống đảm bảo sức khỏe
- To play a crucial role in Vĩng: Đóng vai trò quan trọng trong...
- To guarantee: Đảm bảo
- To take control of sth: Kiểm soát cái gì
- To deteriorate - Deterioration: Sự suy giảm
- To pay careful attention to sth: Chú ý cẩn thận tới cái gì
- To shape healthy future eating habits: Hình thành thói quen ăn uống đảm bảo sức khỏe

trong tương lai

- Hazardous foods of unknown origin: Thức ăn không rõ nguồn gốc xuất xứ
- The intervention of: Sự can thiệp
- To make no sense of sth: Không hiểu rõ cái gì
- To have an obligation to do sth: Có nghĩa vụ làm gì
- For the sake of sth: Vì lợi ích của cái gì
- Additives: Các chất phụ gia
- To be in charge of sth: Chịu trách nhiệm
- To be of great importance: Rất quan trọng

**1.40. Art classes, such as painting and drawing, are as important for children's development as other subjects, so it should be compulsory in high school. Do you agree or disagree? (Đề thi ngày 20/12/2014)**

People have different views about whether art subjects should be added into the curriculum of high school. While I accept that art courses are as equally important as other subjects, I do not believe that these courses should be made compulsory.

On the one hand, in comparison with other subjects, art classes make an equal contribution to the development of children for several reasons. Firstly, the addition of art subjects into the curriculum of high school paves the way for students to receive general education. It means that high-school students can have access to abundant knowledge in a diverse range of fields, preparing them for better employment prospects. Secondly, by taking art lessons, students can be exposed to the world of artistic expression, and they can enrich their souls and build up their spiritual life. In this way, students can perceive life from different angles.

On the other hand, I believe that art subjects should be made optional rather than compulsory. As the curriculum of high school is highly demanding, the inclusion of art lessons in the list of required courses might become unnecessary. For example, in Vietnam, many high school students place a high emphasis on a variety of core subjects such as math, science and languages in order to prepare for the graduation exam and the national entrance exam simultaneously. Therefore, teaching art courses can result in unnecessary pressure on them and a waste of resources. Another reason is that many high school students aged 16 to 18 discover their abilities in a particularly subject, and forcing those who have no talent for arts to study these courses can lead to a negative attitude towards learning.

In conclusion, it seems to me that art courses should be electives rather than required ones in high school's curriculum.

(298 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To be added into sth: Được thêm vào...
- Equally important: Quan trọng không kém
- Compulsory = Required: Bắt buộc
- Elective = Optional: Tùy chọn
- In comparison with sth: So với
- To make contribution to: Đóng góp cho cái gì
- To pave the way for: Tạo điều kiện cho cái gì
- Better employment prospects: Triển vọng việc làm tốt hơn
- To be exposed to sth: Tiếp xúc với cái gì
- To enrich: Làm giàu
- Spiritual life: Đời sống tinh thần
- To perceive life from different angles: Cảm nhận cuộc sống từ các góc độ khác nhau
- To be highly demanding: Đòi hỏi cao

- Simultaneously: Đồng thời
- To place a high emphasis on sth: Đặt trọng tâm vào cái gì
- A negative attitude towards sth: Có thái độ tiêu cực với cái gì

**1.41. International community must act immediately to ensure all nations to reduce their consumption of fossil fuels e.g gas and oil. To what extent do you agree or disagree? (Đề thi ngày 25/1/2014)**

People have different views about whether or not all countries should take immediate actions to cut down their consumption of fossil fuels. While I accept that countries should enact policies to reduce their dependence on natural resources, I believe that this is a long-term process rather than an immediate one.

On the one hand, there are several reasons why it is the responsibility of all nations to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels. The first reason is that the use of fossil fuels to generate energy triggers a number of environmental problems. For example, the combustion of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas for electricity generation or heat supply produces a substantial level of carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere, which is a major cause of global warming and climate change. A global collaboration between both developing and developed nations is therefore effective to mitigate environmental degradation. The second reason is that as fossil fuels are non-renewable energy sources that take many years to form, the over-exploitation might lead to the resources coming to the verge of depletion, and the world may face the scarcity of fossil energy resources in the future.

On the other hand, I believe that the reduction in the use of fossil fuels should be gradually implemented. Firstly, many main economic sectors are heavily reliant on electricity that is generated using fossil fuels for meeting their energy demands. If the international community cuts down the use of fossil fuels immediately, many nations over the world might experience the stagnation in their economic development process. Secondly, not all countries over the world have built power plants such as nuclear power stations or hydroelectricity stations to generate energy. Therefore, many countries are still highly reliant on fossil fuels as the major source of energy, and the severe restriction on the use of natural resources seems to be infeasible.

In conclusion, I believe that expanding the production of renewable energy supplies is necessary for all countries to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases that harm the environment, but it should be implemented in the long run.

(348 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To take immediate actions to do sth: Hành động ngay lập tức
- To be a major cause of sth: Là nguyên nhân chính của...
- Collaboration: Sự hợp tác
- Environmental degradation: Suy thoái môi trường
- Non-renewable energy sources: Nguồn năng lượng không tái tạo được
- The verge of depletion: Có nguy cơ cạn kiệt, sắp cạn kiệt
- To be heavily reliant on sth: Phụ thuộc nhiều vào cái gì

- To meet energy demands: Đáp ứng yêu cầu năng lượng
- To experience the stagnation in sth: Trải qua sự trì trệ
- The severe restriction on sth: Hạn chế cái gì
- To be infeasible: Không khả thi
- To implement: Triển khai thực hiện cái gì đó

**1.42. Accommodation and transport problems are increasing in many large cities. Businesses are encouraged to move to rural areas. Do advantages outweigh disadvantages? (Đề thi ngày 13/6/2015)**

It is true that a number of organizations are encouraged to move from urban areas to the countryside so that the problems of accommodation and transport can be addressed. While I accept that there are some drawbacks of this trend, I believe that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks.

On the one hand, some disadvantages can be anticipated when businesses relocate to regional areas outside the big cities. Firstly, this movement might result in the greater availability of skilled workers in large cities. Not every staff member who settles down in cities is willing to move to the countryside in order to undertake their current work. As a result, cities are likely to experience the problem of labor redundancy while there might be a shortage of a qualified workforce in the countryside. Secondly, companies based in regional areas are far from their clients, providers and other contacts. This can negatively affect their business activities.

However, I would argue that the advantages of shifting businesses to rural areas are greater. The first reason is that such business relocation can alleviate the population density in urban areas. The locals do not need to migrate to cities in search of employment opportunities as more job vacancies are created in the countryside, which curbs overcrowding in municipal areas and in turn eases considerable strains on traffic. The second reason is that there will be more space for residential areas when organizations move out of cities. Therefore, city dwellers have more and better access to housing as well as urban infrastructure.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential benefits of relocating organizations from cities to suburban areas are more significant than the possible drawbacks.

(280 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To anticipate: Dự đoán
- The greater availability of sth: Sự sẵn có của cái gì
- To settle down: Ổn định
- To be willing to do sth: Sẵn lòng làm việc gì đó
- The shortage of sth = The lack of sth: Sự thiếu hụt cái gì đó
- A qualified workforce: Đội ngũ/ lực lượng lao động có trình độ
- To alleviate the population density: Giảm bớt mật độ dân cư
- To be significant: quan trọng, có ý nghĩa, đáng kể
- Municipal areas = Urban areas: Khu vực thành thị

**1.43. 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? (Đề thi ngày 8/8/2015)**

It is true that a number of prisoners become better citizens when they are released. While I accept that inviting ex-prisoners to deliver speeches on adverse consequences of crime on the society is an effective way to educate the young, I personally believe that there are other possible alternatives that contribute to crime education.

On the one hand, speeches delivered by used-to-be wrongdoers could be a practical measure to raise the awareness of students of the consequences of engaging in criminal activities. By sharing their experience of life in prison and their fear of losing freedom, ex-offenders probably convey a message that people have to take full responsibility for their actions. Their vivid stories can, therefore, act as a deterrent to prevent young learners from similar behaviors in future. In this way, students might avoid activities that cause harm to society and become good citizens.

On the other hand, I believe that providing education about the dangers of committing crimes to students can be promoted in several different ways. Firstly, it is vitally important to include civic education and law courses into the school curriculum at all school levels. In this way, young learners are likely to be aware of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship and the importance of being law-abiding citizens. Secondly, the mass media also plays a crucial role in raising students' awareness of crime. By reporting criminal cases and a course of punishments imposed on lawbreakers, the media can help young people gain a deeper understanding of the severity of exhibiting illegal behaviors to the society.

In conclusion, while talks given by ex-convicts can educate school students on how dangerous unlawful activities are, I believe that other education methods could also be introduced for a more desirable result.

(292 words - Thuy Phuong)

#### **Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

• Ex-prisoners = ex-offenders = ex-criminals = used-to-be criminals = ex-wrongdoers = exconvicts: Những người đã từng ở trong tù, đã từng là tù nhân

- Possible alternatives: Giải pháp thay thế
- To contribute to: Đóng góp, góp phần vào cái gì
- To raise the awareness of sb of sth: Nâng cao nhận thức của ai về cái gì
- To engage in criminal activities = to exhibit illegal behaviors: Có những hành vi phạm pháp

pháp

- To convey a message: Truyền tải thông điệp
- To take full responsibility for sth: Chịu trách nhiệm hoàn toàn
- To prevent sb from doing sth: Ngăn chặn ai đó khỏi làm gì

- A deterrent: Cái ngăn chặn, điều ngăn cản
- Law-abiding citizens: Những công dân tuân thủ pháp luật
- To gain a deeper understanding of sth: Có sự hiểu biết sâu sắc hơn về cái gì
- The severity of sth: Tính nghiêm trọng của cái gì
- To play a crucial role in doing sth: Đóng vai trò quan trọng trong...
- A course of punishments: Một loạt các hình phạt
- A desirable result: Kết quả như mong muốn



**1.44. Everyone should become vegetarian because they do not need to eat meat to have a healthy diet. Do agree or disagree? (Đề thi ngày 19/9/2015)**

People have different views about whether they should be vegetarians or non-vegetarians. While I agree that the idea to follow a vegetarian diet can help people to live healthily, I believe that not everyone should cut down on their meat consumption.

On the one hand, there are several health benefits of vegetarianism. Firstly, people on vegetarian diets can generally receive a sufficient amount of nutrients. By eating a wide variety of foods including fruits, vegetables and whole grains which are great sources of essential and beneficial nutrients, vegetarians can meet nutritional requirements for their physical development. Secondly, compared to meat eaters, vegetarians tend to consume less fat and more dietary fiber. This reduces the risk for many chronic diseases and some forms of cancer and lengthens their longevity.

On the other hand, I believe that the option to take a vegetarian diet is not always attractive for some reasons. The first reason is that pregnant and breastfeeding women can be at greater risk of nutrient deficiency if they choose not to eat meat in their daily meals. Since these are times of increased nutritional demand, the shortage of calories found in plant products might have an adverse impact on both mental and physical health of their babies. The second reason is that those who do not follow well-planned vegetarian diets might be deficient in certain types of nutrients like protein. Therefore, vegetarians should pay special attention to non-meat sources to fulfill their protein needs if they refuse to eat meat.

In conclusion, while I agree that plant-based eating can be considered as healthy, I believe that not everyone should lead a vegetarian lifestyle.

(273 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To follow a vegetarian diet = To take a vegetarian diet: Có chế độ ăn chay
- Vegetarianism: Việc ăn chay, thói quen ăn chay
- People on vegetarian diets: Những người ăn chay
- To meet nutritional requirements: Đáp ứng nhu cầu dinh dưỡng
- Meat eaters: Những người ăn thịt
- To reduce the risk for sth: Giảm nguy cơ, rủi ro
- To lengthen their longevity: Kéo dài tuổi thọ
- To be at greater risk of: Có nguy cơ cao bị cái gì
- Nutrient deficiency: Sự thiếu hụt dinh dưỡng
- To follow well-planned vegetarian diets: Có chế độ ăn chay tốt
- To pay special attention to sth: Đặc biệt chú ý tới cái gì
- To refuse to do sth: Từ chối làm gì
- Plant-based eating: Ăn thực vật

To lead a vegetarian lifestyle: Theo chế độ ăn chay

**1.45. 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? (Đề thi ngày 21/5/2015)**

Today, there is an increase in the number of married couples deciding to delay their childbirth. There are several reasons for this tendency, and it could have some impacts on both family life and society.

Married couples delay having babies at a young age for a number of reasons. Firstly, career progression is considered as the top priority for many young people. There are those who want to build a solid foundation for their career before embarking on parenthood, and this choice allows them to ensure a financial stability for their growing family and in turn a better life for their children. Secondly, concerns about the loss of freedom is another key factor involved in the decision to delay pregnancy. For example, many young couples decide to enjoy life without worrying about nurturing their children when they are still young.

However, this trend towards late maternity might have some unintended consequences on individual families as well as society at large. Firstly, the postponement of motherhood can widen the gap between generations in families. As a result, parents might have difficulty understanding their offspring in terms of their personal needs. Secondly, postponing childbearing may carry a number of potential health risks. Science has proven that women who delay pregnancy until after the age of 35 have higher risks of developing high blood pressure, diabetes and related disorders. This negatively affects both physical and mental health of their fetuses and in turn the quality of the future generations of workers in society.

In conclusion, there are several key factors affecting people's decision to have children later in their life, and this trend exerts significant effects on both family life and society at large.

(281 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To delay childbirth = delay having baby: Trì hoãn việc sinh con
- Career progression: Sự tiến triển trong sự nghiệp
- The top priority: Sự ưu tiên hàng đầu
- To build a solid foundation for sth: Xây dựng nền tảng vững chắc cho cái gì
- To embark on parenthood: Bắt tay vào làm cha mẹ
- To ensure a financial stability: Đảm bảo sự ổn định về mặt tài chính
- The loss of freedom: Mất tự do
- The trend towards sth (the trend towards late maternity): Xu hướng (sinh con muộn)
- The postponement of motherhood: Trì hoãn việc làm mẹ
- To have difficulty in doing sth: Gặp khó khăn trong việc làm gì
- The quality of the future generations of workers: Chất lượng của đội ngũ lao động trong tương lai
- To exert/ have significant effects on sth: Có tác động đáng kể vào cái gì

**1.46. Some people claim that what many people eat in western countries is unhealthy food and that their diet is getting worse. Critics say that these countries should change their diet. Do you agree or disagree?**

It is sometimes argued that a number of people in western nations consume unhealthy foods on a regular basis, and they should switch to balanced diets. I completely agree with this idea. There are several reasons why food that people in developed countries eat in their daily meals is regarded as unhealthy. Firstly, a number of food manufacturers are willing to trade the wellbeing of their customers for profits. For example, toxic substances are often injected into manufactured foods to maintain the freshness of foods for a longer time, while industrial dyes and synthetic colors adulterate fruits and vegetables to make them tasty, destroying the nutritional elements present in foods. Secondly, many people underestimate negative impacts of unhealthy eating habits on their health, and they often rely on fast foods and pre-prepared meals to save their cooking time. These foods which are often incredibly high in fat, salt and sugar might be responsible for some ailments such as high blood pressure, obesity and heart disease. Due to the adverse consequences of current eating habits on their physical health, people in western countries should follow a healthy diet. First, it is advisable for them to choose organic foods rather than processed foods. It has been proven that organic foods have a wide range of essential nutrients as they do not contain preservatives that make them last longer. Furthermore, to lead a healthier life, people should reduce their consumption of fast foods and prepare home-cooked foods instead. Therefore, they can take a complete control of the amount of salt and oil as well as the quality of ingredients in recipes, reducing the possibility of food poisoning and obesity-related diseases. In conclusion, I believe that people in western nations should break their unhealthy eating habits and eat a nutritious diet.

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To switch to balanced diets: Thay đổi chế độ ăn/ chuyển sang chế độ ăn cân bằng
- To trade the well-being of their customers for profits:
- Toxic substances: Các chất độc hại
- To underestimate: Coi thường, xem nhẹ
- The adverse consequences of: Tác động tiêu cực của cái gì
- To follow a healthy diet: Có/ theo chế độ ăn đảm bảo sức khỏe
- To have a wide range of essential nutrients: Có nhiều chất dinh dưỡng cần thiết
- Preservatives: Chất bảo quản
- To take a complete control of sth: Kiểm soát hoàn toàn cái gì
- To reduce the possibility of sth: Giảm khả năng bị làm sao đó
- To eat a nutritious diet: Ăn chế độ đầy đủ dinh dưỡng

**1.47. Scientists and tourists travel to remote natural environments, such as the South Pole. Do you think the advantages outweigh the disadvantages? (Đề thi ngày 29/01/2015)**

Today, a number of visitors and researchers are interested in travelling to isolated natural places. While I accept that this trend has some benefits, I believe that there are more potential drawbacks.

On the one hand, there are obviously some advantages of visiting distant unpopulated regions. The first one is that travelling to isolated natural places such as South Pole can be an extremely valuable experience especially for risk takers as they can set foot in one of the coldest and most barren places in the world. In addition, undertaking expeditions to remote regions could be a golden opportunity for scientists or researchers to conduct their studies. For example, by analyzing the thickness of ice layers, researchers can predict the variations of global surface temperatures in the future, which helps countries take prompt actions to alleviate global warming.

On the other hand, I would argue that the benefits are far outweighed by the drawbacks. Firstly, because the South Pole is not easily accessible to medical teams, tourists can be at risk if they experience an emergency. Therefore, not every traveler is advised to make a journey to such a remarkable environment, and people should assess their physical capabilities before planning their trips. Secondly, the expenses of travelling are usually huge as visiting isolated places often requires a large amount of investment in researching and ensuring the safety of travelers. Finally, the beauty and the natural ecosystem of remote places can be adversely affected due to the lack of environmental awareness of visitors.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential dangers of visiting remote natural areas are more significant than the possible benefits.

(274 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Isolated natural places/ areas/ sites/ regions = distant unpopulated regions = remote natural environments: Khu vực xa xôi hẻo lánh
- An extremely valuable experience: Trải nghiệm cực kì có giá trị
- To visit = pay a visit = travel to somewhere: Tới thăm đâu đó
- Risk takers: Những người ưa thích mạo hiểm
- To undertake expeditions to somewhere: Thăm hiểm tới nơi nào đó
- To make a journey to somewhere: Cuộc hành trình tới nơi nào đó
- The variations of sth: Những thay đổi, dao động
- To take prompt actions to do sth: Đưa ra những hành động kịp thời để làm gì đó
- To be easily accessible: Có thể tới được, có thể tiếp cận được
- Physical capabilities: Khả năng về mặt thể chất

**1.48. Nowadays, as women and men have to work full time, household duties should be equally divided. Do you agree or disagree? (Đề thi ngày 05/10/2014)**

People have different views about whether or not men and women should have equal responsibilities for domestic tasks. While I agree that household work should be allocated for both husbands and wives, I would argue that it is not necessary for a fair division.

On the one hand, the division of household chores between men and women is rational in today's world. In the past, there used to be traditional roles for each gender. While husbands used to be the breadwinners of the family who earned the most money and fed the mouths of family members, women were often seen as household controllers. However, women in modern societies increasingly have access to the same employment opportunities as their male partners, and they can greatly contribute to the wealth of family with income earned. Therefore, the share of their parenting and domestic responsibilities such as children upbringing, cooking and cleaning is understandable in order to ease household burdens which fall on women's shoulders. On the other hand, there are a number of reasons why there should not be an equal proportion of household duties for men and women. Firstly, women have a mothering instinct, therefore they tend to be superior to men when it comes to childcare. Therefore, each gender should be account for different domestic duties. Secondly, men often have better career prospects than women do, and many of them play a very important position in workplaces such as directors or managers. In this case, wives could do greater numbers of household duties to ensure that their husbands can work without distractions.

In conclusion, I do believe that families should divide roles and responsibilities in the most convenient way.

(278 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Domestic tasks = Household chores/ duties = household work: Việc nhà
- To have equal responsibilities: Có trách nhiệm ngang bằng
- To be rational: Hợp lý, có lý
- Traditional roles: Vai trò truyền thống
- The breadwinners: Trụ cột trong gia đình
- Household controllers: Người quán xuyến các việc trong gia đình
- The same employment opportunities: Có cơ hội nghề nghiệp như nhau
- To ease household burdens on sb: Giảm bớt gánh nặng gia đình
- An equal proportion of household duties: Phần việc nhà ngang nhau
- A mothering instinct: Bản năng làm mẹ
- To be superior to sb: Tốt hơn/ giỏi hơn ai đó
- When it comes to sth: Khi nói đến vấn đề gì
- Career prospects: Triển vọng nghề nghiệp
- Distractions: Sự sao nhãng

**1.49. Many people believe that international tourism is a bad thing for their country. What are the reasons? Solutions to change negative attitudes? (Đề thi ngày 30/5/2015)**

Today, some people hold the belief that international tourism brings a bad reputation to their country. There are some reasons for this attitude and several necessary actions can be taken to alter the trend.

There are several reasons why some people believe international tourism is not good for their country. Firstly, global tourism might bring about environmental pollution for local country through tourism activities. In order for tourists to go to desired places, a number of petrol vehicles are widely used, producing exhaust fumes which directly lead to air contamination. For example, when coming to Saigon city, international visitors often hire motorbikes for travel to explore the beauty of this big city. After visiting places, some tourists also leave a large amount of household waste such as plastic bags and small water bottles which are very difficult to be decomposed in a normal condition. Secondly, an increasing number of tourists take inappropriate actions which can ruin the natural beauty of tourism sites. For instance, when visiting a temple, many tourists write down their name on the wall, which makes this site become less attractive. However, the negative attitude towards international tourism can shift by taking some measures.

The first one is that the authorities should encourage the travelers to use green vehicles instead of gasoline ones. For example, when coming to Hoi An, an ancient town, tourists are recommended to borrow bicycles to travel around the town, which makes the quality of air here better. Another one is that the tour guides at tourism sites should present and clearly explain to tourists what activities they need to avoid during their trips. Once tourists have basic understanding of tourism sites, they will behave responsibly. As a result, tourism areas would avoid destructive impact and remain the original.

In conclusion, worries about global tourism still are popular among people, however, this can be resolved by taking the above measures.

(317 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Reputation: Danh tiếng
- Air contamination/ pollution: Ô nhiễm không khí
- The negative attitude towards sth: Có thái độ tiêu cực đối với cái gì
- To avoid destructive impact: Tránh những tác động có hại
- To remain the original: Giữ được sự nguyên bản
- To behave responsibly: Cư xử có trách nhiệm

**1.50. Some people say taxes should be spent on health care. Other people say that there are more important priorities for tax-payers' money. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion. (Đề thi ngày 23/07/2015)**

People have different views about the allocation of taxes for crucial fields in a country. While I agree that taxes should be spent to improve healthcare services, I would argue that many essential fields also deserve investing money.

On the one hand, it is understandable why taxes should be invested in health care. The first reason is that since people in today's society live longer and the populations grow older, the demand for healthcare related services and therapy sessions for chronic diseases among the elderly tends to increase. Therefore, the provision of medical care is of great significance to accommodate the growing health care needs of diverse populations and avoid patient overload in hospitals. The second reason is that a number of urban inhabitants suffer from respiratory diseases or some forms of cancer due to the dangerous level of exhaust emissions from traffic and industrial activities in many big cities. If taxes can be used to cover partial treatment costs, more people, especially those living below the poverty line, will have access to treatment methods, which helps to increase the average life expectancy of the population.

On the other hand, I believe that the government should also allocate the tax budget for other priorities including education and transport. A good education system plays a significant role in the development process of any nation, with schools, colleges and universities bearing the responsibility for the quality of future generations of workers. Therefore, offering marvelous learning opportunities for every young person should be prioritized so that a country will have a well-educated workforce and in turn become more prosperous. In addition, transportation is also a crucial sector that the government should pay special attention to. When tax-payers' money is spent to construct a good public transport system and upgrade the capacities of road networks, for example, the problem of traffic congestion can be effectively addressed.

In conclusion, I believe that apart from healthcare services, the state should allocate money from tax-payers for education and transportation as well.

(334 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To be understandable: Có thể hiểu được
- The demand for sth: Nhu cầu cho cái gì
- Chronic diseases: Những căn bệnh mãn tính
- To accommodate the growing health care needs of diverse populations: Đáp ứng nhu cầu chăm sóc sức khỏe ngày càng gia tăng
- Respiratory diseases: Những căn bệnh về đường hô hấp
- Those living below the poverty line: Những người nghèo
- The average life expectancy: Tuổi thọ trung bình

- Other priorities: Những sự ưu tiên khác/ những thứ được ưu tiên khác
- To play a significant role in sth: Đóng vai trò quan trọng
- To bear the responsibility for sth: Chịu trách nhiệm về cái gì
- To prioritize: Ưu tiên
- To upgrade the capacities of road networks: Nâng cấp/ cải thiện sức chứa của hệ thống/ mạng lưới đường bộ



**1.51. 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? (Đề thi ngày 26/09/2015)**

People have different views about whether education is the most effective way to reduce crime. While I accept that education for prisoners during the term of imprisonment can contribute to the reduction in the crime rate, I believe that it is not the best solution because there are far better methods of reducing crime.

On the one hand, there are some reasons why the provision of prison education programs for offenders is effective in reducing crime. The first reason is that prisoners can learn practical working skills that greatly enhance their chances of seeking employment when they complete their sentence, so they can sustain their livelihood and are less likely to commit a crime again. The second reason is that when being taught moral lessons, criminals would be able to distinguish between right and wrong, and they would realize that their unlawful actions have adverse consequences on society. This helps to deter them from recidivism in future.

On the other hand, I believe that apart from a prison education, there are many other ways that may have a more profound impact on the reduction of crime. Firstly, governments can impose a heavy course of punishments on lawbreakers. For example, a murder should be sentenced to life imprisonment, no matter what reason he/she might have and how aged he/she is, as this kind of punishment can act as a deterrent to make people think carefully before conducting similar behaviors. Secondly, allowing used-to-be wrongdoers to speak to school students about their experiences in prison can be a practical measure. In this way, students might be aware of the dangers of a criminal lifestyle and avoid activities causing harm to society.

In conclusion, while a prison education can produce desirable results in reducing crime, I believe that there are many other alternatives contributing to the problem.

(303 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To get low level of education = Low educational attainments = Enter prison with education deficits: Nền tảng học vấn thấp
- During the term of imprisonment: Trong suốt thời hạn ở tù
- The provision of prison education programs: Việc cung cấp các chương trình giáo dục trong tù
- Far better methods: Những giải pháp tốt hơn rất nhiều
- To learn practical working skills: Học những kỹ năng công việc thực tế
- To seek employment: Tìm kiếm việc làm
- To complete sentence: Hoàn thành án tù
- To sustain their livelihood: Kiếm kế sinh nhai

- To distinguish between right and wrong: Phân biệt phải trái
- Recidivism: Sự tái phạm, tái diễn
- To introduce/ impose a heavy course of punishments on sb: Đưa ra những hình phạt nặng
- Life imprisonment: Án tù chung thân
- The dangers of a criminal lifestyle: Mối nguy hiểm của việc phạm tội

**1.52. 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. (Đề thi ngày 31/10/2015)**

It is true that the excessive consumption of junk food might trigger a number of chronic health conditions. While I accept that raising the awareness of people of the detrimental effects of junk food on their health could be a feasible solution, I believe that health education does not always work.

On the one hand, it is necessary to educate people on how dangerous junk food is. When young people are equipped with knowledge about the potential health risks associated with the consistent consumption of junk food, they are likely to reduce their intake of these foods. In addition, through educational activities, people become better aware of the importance of well-balanced diets which provide a sufficient amount of nutrients for their mental and physical development. As a result, they will pay more attention to their dietary choices so that they can lead a healthy lifestyle.

On the other hand, I believe that providing educational programs about the possible health effects of consuming junk food on a regular basis is not always workable. Firstly, many people still opt for junk food sources due to their convenience although knowing the negative consequences on the health. Busy schedules often diminish the investment of time of people in preparing home-cooked foods, so they rely on junk foods such as hamburgers and fried chicken which are usually served within minutes of ordering. Secondly, many children are addicted to junk food, and they are willing to compromise their health for its taste. Therefore, they are often reluctant to change their current eating habits without the strict supervision of their parents.

In conclusion, it seems to me that education is not the most practical measure to control the consumption of junk food among people.

(287 words - Thuy Phuong)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- The excessive consumption of junk food: Việc tiêu thụ nhiều đồ ăn vặt
- To trigger: Gây ra, làm rầy lên
- The potential health risks: Những nguy cơ sức khỏe tiềm tàng
- Well-balanced diets: Chế độ ăn cân bằng/ đầy đủ dinh dưỡng
- Dietary choices: Lựa chọn chế độ ăn uống
- To lead/ have a healthy lifestyle: Có lối sống lành mạnh
- To be addicted to sth: Nghiện cái gì đó
- To be reluctant to do sth: Do dự làm việc gì đó
- The strict supervision of sb: Sự giám sát chặt chẽ của ai

**1.53. Whether or not someone achieve their aims is mostly by a question of luck. To what extent do you agree or disagree? (Đề thi ngày 07/11/2015)**

People have different views about the relation between luck and individual achievements. While I accept that luck does help people reach their targets more quickly, I believe that several other factors are of greater importance.

On the one hand, it is evident that luck can contribute to personal achievements. Some individuals are lucky enough to be born into affluent families, allowing them to have better education opportunities and solid financial backgrounds to build up their career. Therefore, these people are more likely to succeed compared to those from poorer families. Another example is that winning the lottery, some people could become millionaires after only one night and begin a new chapter of their life. In this way, they can be able to afford houses or luxurious items which otherwise may take them years of working to own.

On the other hand, I would argue that hard work and determination, rather than luck, can better guarantee life-long achievements. Firstly, people can be successful if they do their utmost to achieve their aims. For instance, Gordon Ramsay, a world renowned genius chef, had never been a fortunate person due to his rough and unhappy childhood. However, he spent many years under the direction of other top chefs to learn cooking techniques from them so that he could become a great cook. Secondly, a person is less likely to reach his goals if he does not show his consistency. There may be full of ups and downs on the way to success, so an important thing is that people keep moving forward to overcome these obstacles.

In conclusion, even though good fortune could be an advantage initially, I believe that hard work and determination are the most crucial elements leading to individual attainments.

(290 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Personal achievements/ attainments: Những thành tích cá nhân
- Better education opportunities: Cơ hội giáo dục tốt hơn Solid financial backgrounds: Nền tảng tài chính vững chắc
- To begin a new chapter of their life: Bắt đầu một trang/ chương mới của cuộc đời
- To guarantee life-long achievements: Đảm bảo những thành tích/ thành tựu
- Cooking techniques: Những phương pháp/ thủ thuật nấu ăn
- Consistency: Tính kiên định
- To keep moving forward: Tiếp tục tiến lên phía trước, không bỏ cuộc

**1.54. 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. (Đề thi ngày 27/02/2016)**

It is true that a growing number of young people from affluent nations are travelling to poverty-stricken countries to do unsalaried work for a short period of time. There could be several reasons for this, and I believe that both these young volunteers and the community as a whole benefit from this trend.

There are various reasons why many young individuals in developed countries are willing to engage in unpaid activities in poor ones. One explanation may be that many young people want to do something positive for local dwellers. This helps them demonstrate their sense of responsibility and gain their inner satisfaction when helping others. Another reason is that paying a visit to less wealthy countries and doing jobs without payment there can be a valuable experience for young people since they can experience the life of indigenous people and learn new cultures and customs.

In my view, the tendency is beneficial to both young people and the community. Today, many organizations appreciate candidates with unpaid work experience in a particular role, so those with social participation can polish their resumes to catch the attention of interviewers. In addition, by doing voluntary work, young people can gain an inside perspective on their career field, helping them in their decision-making process for the career of their choice. Meanwhile, local inhabitants of poor countries can acquire knowledge and broaden their horizons through lessons delivered, and they can also enjoy a better living condition with houses built.

In conclusion, reasons for the rise in the number of young people doing temporary work in less affluent countries vary, and I personally believe that this tendency benefits considerably both the youth and the community.

(282 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Unpaid activities: Những hoạt động không được trả lương
- Sense of responsibility: Ý thức về trách nhiệm
- Inner satisfaction: Sự hài lòng/ sự thỏa mãn bên trong
- A valuable experience: 1 trải nghiệm đáng giá
- The life of indigenous people: Cuộc sống của những người bản địa
- Unpaid work experience: Trải nghiệm những công việc tình nguyện
- To polish: Đánh bóng, làm đẹp
- To catch the attention of sb: Thu hút sự chú ý của ai đó
- To gain an inside perspective on: Có cái nhìn sâu hơn về cái gì
- The career of their choice: Công việc đã lựa chọn
- To broaden their horizons: Mở rộng tầm nhìn/ phạm vi hiểu biết

- Better living condition: Điều kiện sống tốt hơn

**1.55. In recent years, the family structure and the role of its members are gradually changing. What kinds of changes can occur? Do you think these changes are positive and negative? (Đề thi ngày 05/03/2016)**

It is true that these days the family structure has considerably shifted, and the changing roles of men and women in the family has become increasingly similar. There are several new forms of family composition, and in my opinion, these developments are not always desirable.

In the past, nuclear families where parents and their offspring living together under one roof used to be prevalent. However, there is now a huge trend towards single-parent families due to more marriages ending in divorce, while the increase in cohabiting couple families and stepfamilies is probably a result of cohabitation and remarriage becoming much more acceptable. In addition, the number of single-mother families has increased as many mothers want to have children without getting married. In terms of changing parental roles in a family, there has been a rise in the number of stay-at-home dads in recent years when it has become normal for women to gain qualifications and pursue their own career path. This is in sharp contrast to about half a decade ago when men were breadwinners and women were in charge of household chores in their families.

In my view, the changes described above could have both positive and negative consequences. On the one hand, due to the lack of emotional attachment and legal binding, non-traditional households such as stepfamilies and cohabiting parents are more prone to breaking down. Consequently, children of these families are more likely to be involved in antisocial behaviors while their parent may experience feelings of loneliness and worry. On the other hand, the changes in the roles of members in the family could be seen as progress because women are not put under pressure to sacrifice their own careers to assume childcare and domestic responsibilities.

In conclusion, I believe that the changes in the roles of family members and the family structure are both positive and negative.

(311 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Family composition: Cấu trúc/ thành phần gia đình
- Prevalent: Phổ biến
- Nuclear families: Gia đình hạt nhân (chỉ có bố mẹ và con cái)
- Single-parent families: Gia đình chỉ có bố hoặc mẹ
- Cohabiting couple families: Gia đình của các cặp sống thử
- Stepfamilies: Gia đình có bố hoặc mẹ đi bước nữa
- Single-mother families: Gia đình chỉ có mẹ đơn thân
- A huge trend towards: Xu hướng
- Parental roles: Vai trò của bố mẹ
- Stay-at-home dads: Những ông bố ở nhà nội trợ

- Career path: Con đường sự nghiệp
- To be in sharp contrast to: Điều này trái ngược với cái gì
- To be in charge of sth: Phụ trách/ chịu trách nhiệm
- The lack of emotional attachment: Thiếu sự gắn bó về mặt tình cảm
- Non-traditional households: Những gia đình không theo truyền thống
- To be prone to: Dễ bị tác động xấu bởi cái gì
- To experience feelings of loneliness and worry: Trải qua cảm giác cô đơn và lo lắng
- Under pressure: Chịu áp lực
- To assume childcare and domestic responsibilities: Đảm nhiệm vai trò chăm sóc con và làm việc nhà



**1.56. 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. (Đề thi ngày 12/03/2016)**

People have different views about whether a country should import overseas-produced movies and TV telecasts or produce them itself. In my opinion, promoting both types of films and programs is beneficial to the culture of a country.

On the one hand, the production of domestic movies and TV shows brings a number of cultural benefits. Firstly, through locally made films, people can gain a deeper insight into cultural traits of their own country. For example, by watching domestic documentaries about Lim festival, Vietnamese people will know more about folk games held during the festival and traditional costumes that male and female singers often wear when they sing “quan ho” folk songs. Additionally, many cultural programs broadcasted on TV call for the preservation of cultural heritage and the promotion of cultural diversity of the host country. This not only raises public awareness of safeguarding the traditional cultures and customs but also partially spurs the growth of tourism of the country.

On the other hand, I believe that the idea to import international movies and TV shows is equally important. By watching abroad-made films, local inhabitants can have better understanding of several different cultures including indigenous practices and codes of conduct. Therefore, cultural barriers among countries can be considerably reduced, and people can avoid culture shock and misinterpretation when paying a visit to other nations. When watching the American movie named “Little Miss Sunshine”, for instance, audiences can discover the strangest features of American rituals and take a glimpse of many cultural aspects of the United States.

In conclusion, I believe that both international films and local films are of the same importance to a country's culture.

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Gain a deeper insight into sth: Có được hiểu biết sâu sắc hơn về cái gì
- To broadcast: Phát thanh, trình chiếu
- To raise public awareness of sth/ doing sth: Nâng cao nhận thức của người dân về cái gì/ về việc gì
- To safeguard: Bảo vệ
- To have better understanding of sth: Có được hiểu biết tốt hơn về cái gì
- Indigenous practices: Những tập quán bản địa
- Codes of conduct: Những quy tắc ứng xử
- To pay a visit: Đến thăm
- To take a glimpse of sth: Có cái nhìn thoáng qua về cái gì

To be of the same importance: Quan trọng ngang nhau

**1.57. People in the community can buy cheaper products nowadays. Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages? (Đề thi ngày 19/03/2016)**

These days, people can purchase products at lower prices. While there are some benefits of this trend, I believe that the drawbacks are greater in number.

On the one hand, there are some advantages of purchasing cheaper consumer products. Firstly, people can buy a wider range of products, which allows them to enjoy a better living standard. For example, rather than washing clothes by hand, households with low income can buy labor-saving devices such as washing machines or fridges at an affordable price, and therefore they can live a much more convenient life. Secondly, the high consumption of cheaply priced items may give rise to a significant increase in the production of these items. As a result, more employment opportunities are offered for manufacturing workers and in turn the economic growth of the country can be stimulated.

However, I would argue that these benefits are outweighed by the drawbacks. The first reason is that cheaper consumer products are often parallel with lower quality because many manufacturers make an attempt to cut down on production costs by using inferior materials. The second reason is that the availability of products at reduced prices can be an incentive for people to purchase unnecessary goods while their objects are still perfectly functional, turning them into victims of consumer culture as well as throw-away culture. The final reason is that the mass production of inexpensive goods can place a heavy burden on the environment when a huge amount of exhaust emissions from factories are frequently released into the atmosphere, accelerating global climate change.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential dangers of buying cheaper items are more significant than the possible benefits.

(279 words)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Cheaper consumer products: Những sản phẩm tiêu dùng rẻ hơn
- A wider range of products: Một loạt các sản phẩm
- To enjoy a better living standard: Có 1 mức sống tốt hơn
- Rather than = instead of: Thay vì
- Labor-saving devices: Những thiết bị tiết kiệm sức lao động
- At an affordable price: 1 mức giá rẻ hơn, có thể chi trả được
- The high consumption of sth: Sự tiêu thụ mạnh của cái gì
- Give rise to: Dẫn tới/ gây ra
- Employment opportunities: Những cơ hội việc làm
- Outweigh: Có nhiều ảnh hưởng hơn/ nặng hơn
- To be parallel with: Đồng nghĩa với/ song song với
- Make an attempt to do sth: Cố gắng làm gì
- Incentive: Động lực
- To be functional: Vẫn hoạt động tốt

- Victims of consumer culture: Nạn nhân của văn hóa tiêu dùng (mua nhiều mà không cần dùng đến)
- Throw-away culture: Văn hóa vứt bỏ (vứt bỏ những thứ vẫn còn hoạt động tốt)
- To place a heavy burden on sth: Đặt gánh nặng lên cái gì
- Exhaust emissions: Khí thải
- To accelerate: Làm gia tăng mạnh mẽ

**1.58. 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? (Đề thi ngày 02/04/2016)**

People have different views about whether governments should care about people who live beyond their national borders. While I agree that we should prioritise local charity, I believe that we should also help people of other countries.

On the one hand, I accept that it is the responsibility of governments to help people in their own nations. There are a number of disadvantaged people who really need help in their own communities. For example, in Vietnam, a number of children in mountainous areas have no access to schooling and have insufficient clothing to wear in winter while many people are homeless in society. By launching charitable campaigns such as teaching primary schoolchildren, donating clothing or providing shelter for people living below the poverty line, the Vietnamese government and its residents can make significant changes to the life of the needy. The country would be better off as a result.

On the other hand, I believe that governments should also be concerned about the problems that people of other countries are confronted with. The provision of assistance to nations where serious situations occur are sometimes of great significance, which can reduce the extent of the tragic loss of life and damage. For instance, a huge number of countries offered medical assistance and other humanitarian care to Japanese people who were devastated by an earthquake and a tsunami in 2011. This international support not only saved thousands of lives but also helped the Japanese government in recovery efforts after the terrible catastrophe. Therefore, an immediate aid from international community can exert a greater impact than helping in our local area.

In conclusion, I believe that apart from focusing on helping citizens of their own countries, governments should also pay attention to those who are in need in other parts of the world.

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To live beyond their national borders: Sống ở nước khác/ quốc gia khác
- To prioritise sth: Ưu tiên cái gì
- Disadvantaged people: Những người bất hạnh/ chịu thiệt thòi
- Have no access to sth: Không có tiếp cận với cái gì
- Shelter: Chỗ ở
- People living below the poverty line: Những người nghèo
- To make significant changes to sb: Tạo ra sự thay đổi đáng kể cho ai
- Better off: Giàu có, phát triển hơn
- To be concerned about: Quan tâm tới cái gì
- To be confronted with: Đối mặt với
- To be of great significance/ importance: Có vai trò quan trọng

- Humanitarian care: Sự quan tâm mang tính nhân đạo
- The terrible catastrophe: Thảm họa khủng khiếp
- An immediate aid: Sự trợ giúp kịp thời
- To exert a greater impact on: Có ảnh hưởng lớn đến cái gì

To pay attention to sth: Chú ý/ quan tâm đến cái gì

**1.59. Nowadays, young people admire sports stars even though they often do not set a good example. Do you think this is a positive or negative development? (Đề thi ngày 28/05/2016)**

It is true that a number of young people show their admiration for sports celebrities even though they are not usually excellent role models. In my opinion, the trend has both positive and negative consequences in equal measure.

On the one hand, the development can be seen as positive for some reasons. The first reason is that in order to be spectacularly successful, sports stars have demonstrated their considerable effort and determination to complete great achievements and reach the pinnacle of their sports. This inspires the young to develop their talents through hard work and perseverance. The second reason is that many sports celebrities show their sense of community by being involved in several charities, which can motivate their fans to live more responsibly towards the society. For example, Cristiano Ronaldo, who is portrayed as an arrogant person, is ranked as one of the most giving athletes in the world as he has raised thousands of dollars for charity. Therefore, his huge fans will still look up to him as a sport hero despite his faults.

On the other hand, this trend is also negative to some extent. Firstly, apart from their significant accomplishments, many sports stars are also known for anti-social behaviors ranging from alcoholism, sexual abuse to substance assaults. If adolescents copy unhealthy lifestyles of their idols, standards of morality will be reduced, and society would have more delinquents rather than productive citizens. Secondly, talented sports professionals often earn incredibly high salaries, and many of them catch the eyes of the public by showing off their wealth and their luxurious style. These behaviors, in this case, can promote the idea of having the hedonistic lifestyle at any cost among young people.

In conclusion, I believe that the trend towards admiring sports stars even though they fail to set a good example for the young is both positive and negative.

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- Sports stars = sports celebrities = talented sports professionals: Siêu sao thể thao
- To show admiration for sb: Thể hiện sự ngưỡng mộ ai đó
- Excellent role models: Là tấm gương xuất sắc
- To reach the pinnacle of their sports: Đạt được đỉnh cao của môn thể thao nào đó
- Perseverance: Tính kiên trì, bền bỉ
- Sense of community: Ý thức cộng đồng, tinh thần cộng đồng
- To be portrayed as: Được miêu tả như là
- Anti-social behaviors: Những hành vi phản xã hội
- Alcoholism: Chứng nghiện rượu
- Sexual abuse: Lạm dụng tình dục
- To copy unhealthy lifestyles: Học theo/ bắt chước/ sao chép lối sống không lành mạnh
- Standards of morality: Các tiêu chuẩn đạo đức

- Hedonistic lifestyle: Lối sống tận hưởng
- To set a good example for sb: Là tấm gương cho ai đó noi theo

#### **4. PHÂN TÍCH CÁC BÀI MẪU CỦA TÁC GIẢ SIMON\_BAND 9.0**

**1.60. These days more fathers stay at home and take care of their children while mothers go out to work. What could be the reasons for this? Do you think it is a positive or a negative development? (Simon Sample)**

**Paraphrase:**

- More fathers stay at home and take care of their children = men are likely to take on the role of househusband = stay at home and look after their children
- Mother go out to work = more women than ever are the breadwinners in their families

**Essay sample:**

It is true that men are increasingly likely to take on the role of househusband, while more women than ever are the breadwinners in their families. There could be several reasons for this, and I consider it to be a very positive trend.

In recent years, parents have had to adapt to various changes in our societies. Equal rights movements have made great progress, and it has become normal for women to gain qualifications and pursue a career. It has also become socially acceptable for men to stay at home and look after their children. At the same time, the rising cost of living has meant that both marriage partners usually need to work and save money before starting a family. Therefore, when couples have children, they may decide who works and who stays at home depending on the personal preference of each partner, or based on which partner earns the most money.

In my view, the changes described above should be seen as progress. We should be happy to live in a society in which men and women have equal opportunities, and in which women are not put under pressure to sacrifice their careers. Equally, it seems only fair that men should be free to leave their jobs in order to assume childcare responsibilities if this is what they wish to do. Couples should be left to make their own decisions about which parental role each partner takes, according to their particular circumstances and needs.

In conclusion, the changing roles of men and women in the family are a result of wider changes in society, and I believe that these developments are desirable.

(274 words, band 9 – Simon)

**1.61. Happiness is considered very important in life. Why is it difficult to define? What factors are important in achieving happiness? (Simon Sample)**

**Paraphrase:**

**Essay sample:**

It is no doubt true that the majority of people would like to be happy in their lives. While the personal nature of happiness makes it difficult to describe, there do seem to be some common needs that we all share with regard to experiencing or achieving happiness.

Happiness is difficult to define because it means something different to each individual person.

Nobody can fully understand or experience another person's feelings, and we all have our own



particular passions from which we take pleasure. Some people, for example, derive a sense of satisfaction from earning money or achieving success, whereas for others, health and family are much more important. At the same time, a range of other feelings, from excitement to peacefulness, may be associated with the idea of happiness, and the same person may therefore feel happy in a variety of different ways.

Although it seems almost impossible to give a precise definition of happiness, most people would agree that there are some basic preconditions to achieving it. Firstly, it is hard for a person to be happy if he or she does not have a safe place to live and enough food to eat. Our basic survival needs must surely be met before we can lead a pleasant life. Secondly, the greatest joy in life is usually found in shared experiences with family and friends, and it is rare to find a person who is content to live in complete isolation. Other key factors could be individual freedom and a sense of purpose in life.

In conclusion, happiness is difficult to define because it is particular to each individual, but I believe that our basic needs for shelter, food and company need to be fulfilled before we can experience it.

(292 words, band 9 - Simon)

**1.62. In the developed world, average life expectancy is increasing. What problems will this cause for individuals and society? Suggest some measures that could be taken to reduce the impact of ageing populations. (Simon sample)**

**Paraphrase:**

**Essay sample:**

It is true that people in industrialised nations can expect to live longer than ever before. Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, societies can take steps to mitigate these potential problems.

As people live longer and the populations of developed countries grow older, several related problems can be anticipated. The main issue is that there will obviously be more people of retirement age who will be eligible to receive a pension. The proportion of younger, working adults will be smaller, and governments will therefore receive less money in taxes in relation to the size of the population. In other words, an ageing population will mean a greater tax burden for working adults. Further pressures will include a rise in the demand for healthcare, and the fact young adults will increasingly have to look after their elderly relatives.

There are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems described above.

Firstly, a simple solution would be to increase the retirement age for working adults, perhaps from 65 to 70. Nowadays, people of this age tend to be healthy enough to continue a productive working life. A second measure would be for governments to encourage immigration in order to increase the number of working adults who pay taxes. Finally, money from national budgets will

need to be taken from other areas and spent on vital healthcare, accommodation and transport facilities for the rising numbers of older citizens.

In conclusion, various measures can be taken to tackle the problems that are certain to arise as the populations of countries grow older.

(265 words, band 9 - Simon)

**1.63. In some countries, many more people are choosing to live alone nowadays than in the past. Do you think this is a positive or negative development?**

**Paraphrases:**

- More people are choosing to live alone = An increase in the number of people who live alone

= There are an increasingly number of one-person households

= It has become far more normal for people to live alone

- Positive and negative development = Beneficial and detrimental effect

It is true that in recent years it has become far more normal for people to live alone, particularly in large cities in the developed world. In my opinion, this trend could have both positive and negative consequences in equal measure.

On the one hand, the rise of one-person household can be seen as positive for both personal and broader economic reasons. On an individual level, people who choose to live alone might become more independent and self-reliant than those who live with family members. A young adult who live alone have to learn to cook, clean, pay bills on her or his budget; all of which are valuable life skills. An increase in the number of these individuals can certainly be seen as a positive development. From an economic perspective, the trend toward living alone will result in greater demand for housing. This is likely to benefit the construction industry, estate agents and a whole host of other companies who rely on homeowners to buy their products or services.

However, the personal and economic arguments given above can be considered from the opposite angle. Firstly, rather than a positive feeling of increased independence, people who live alone may experience a feeling of loneliness, isolation and worry. They will miss out on the emotional support or daily conversation that family members or flatmates can provide, and they must bear the weight of all household bills and responsibilities; in this sense, perhaps the trend toward living alone is a negative one. Secondly, from the financial point of view, a rise in demand for housing is likely to push up property prices and rents. This may benefit some businesses, the general population, those who live alone, may be faced with rising living costs.

In conclusion, the increase in one-person households will have both beneficial and detrimental effects on individuals and on the economy.

(306 words – band 9)

**1.64. Some people have been in prison become good citizens, and it is often argued that these are best people to talk to teenagers about the dangers of committing a crime. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrases:**

- People have been in prison = ex-prisoners = ex-offender = ex-convicts = reformed criminals = used-to-be wrongdoers = people who have turned their lives around after serving a prison sentence
- Teenager = Adolescent = Young people
- Good citizens = productive members of society
- Committing a crime = Breaking the law = Engage in unlawful activities
- The dangers of committing a crime = the dangers of criminal lifestyle

**Essay sample:**

It is true that ex-prisoners can become normal, productive members of society. I completely agree with the idea that allowing such people to speak to teenagers about their experiences is the most effective solution to discourage them from breaking the law.

In my opinion, teenagers are more likely to accept advice from someone who speak from experience. Reformed criminal can tell young people about how they involved in crime, the dangers of criminal lifestyle and what in prison is really like. They can also dispel any idea that teenagers have about criminals leading glamorous lives. While Adolescents are often indifferent to the guidance given by older people, I imagine that most of them would be extremely keen to hear the stories of an ex-offender. The vivid and perhaps shocking nature of these stories is likely to have a powerful impact.

The alternatives to using used-to-be wrongdoers to educate teenagers about crime would be less effective. One option would be for police officers to visit schools and talk to young people. This would be useful in term of informing what happens to lawbreakers when they are caught, but students are often reluctant to take advice from figures of authority. A second option, teachers can speak to their students about crime but I doubt that they would see teachers as credible sources of information about this topic. Finally, Educational films might be informative, but there would be no opportunity for young people to interact and ask questions.

In conclusion, I fully support the view that people who have turned their lives around after serving a prison sentence could help to deter teenagers from engaging in unlawful activities.

(287 words, band 9)

**1.65. The older generation tend to have very traditional ideas about how people should live, think and behave. However, some people believe that these ideas are not helpful in preparing younger generations for modern life. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view?**

**Paraphrases:**

- Older generation = elderly people = older people

- Younger generation = young adults = younger people
- Have very traditional ideas = traditional values
- Modern life = today's society = today's world
- Not helpful = unhelpful = outdated

**Essay sample:**

It is true that many older people believe in traditional values that often seem incompatible with the needs of younger people. While I agree that some traditional ideas are outdated, I also believe that others are still useful and should be not forgotten.

On the one hand, many of the ideas that elderly people have about life are becoming less relevant for younger people. In the past, for example, people were advised to learn a profession and find a secure job, but today's workers expect much more variety and diversity from their careers. At the same time, the 'rules' around relationships are being eroded as young people make their own choices about who and when to marry. But perhaps the greatest disparity between the generations can be seen in their attitude towards gender roles. The traditional roles of men and women, as breadwinners and housewives, are no longer accepted as necessary and appropriate by most younger people.

On the other hand, some traditional views and values are certainly applicable to the modern world. For example, older people attach great importance to working hard, doing one's best, taking pride in one's work and behaviours can surely benefit young people as they enter today's competitive job market. Other characteristics that are perhaps seen as traditional are politeness and good manners. In our globalised world, young adults are expected to come into contact with people from a huge variety of backgrounds, and it is more important than ever to treat others with respect. Finally, I believe that young people would lead happier lives if they had a more "old-fashioned" sense of community and neighbourliness.

In conclusion, although the views of elderly people are sometimes unhelpful in today's world, we should not dismiss all traditional ideas as irrelevant.

(299 words, band 9)

**1.66. Wild animals have no place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, so protecting them is a waste of resources. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

Paraphrases:

**Essay sample:**

Some people argue that it is pointless to spend money on the protection of wild animals because we humans have no need for them. I completely disagree with this point of view.

In my opinion, it is absurd to argue that wild animals have no place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I do not believe that the planet Earth exists only for the benefit of humans, and there is nothing special about this particular century that means that we suddenly have the right to allow or encourage the extinction of any species. Furthermore, there is no compelling reason why we should let animals die out. We donot need to exploit or destroy every last square metre of land in order to feed or accommodate the world's population. There is plenty of room for us to exist side by side with wild animals, and this should be our aim.

I also disagree with the idea that protecting animals is a waste of resources. It is usually the protection of natural habitats that ensures the survival of wild animals, and most scientists agree that these habitats are also crucial for human survival. For example, rainforests produce oxygen, absorb dioxide and stabilise the Earth's climate. If we destroyed the areas, the costs of managing the resulting changes to our planet would far outweigh the costs of conservation. By protecting wild animals and their habitats, we maintain the natural balance of all life on Earth.

In conclusion, we have no right to decide whether or not wild animals should exist, and I believe that we should do everything we can to protect them.

(269 words, band 9)

**1.67. Families who send their children to private schools should not be required to pay taxes that support the state education system. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Families who send their children to private schools = parents of children who attend private schools = families who pay for private education = parents of children in private schools = people who choose private education.
- State education system = State schools = public schools
- Should not be required to pay taxes that support the state education system = should not need to contribute to state school through taxes = reduce taxes for families who pay for private education = any financial concessions should be made for people who choose private education.

**Essay sample:**

Some people believe that parents of children who attend private schools should not need to contribute to state schools through taxes. Personally, I completely disagree with this view.

For a variety of reasons, it would be wrong to reduce taxes for families who pay for private education. Firstly, it would be difficult to calculate the correct amount of tax reduction for these

families, and staff would be required to manage this complex process. Secondly, we all pay a certain amount of tax for public services that we may not use. For example, many people are fortunate enough not to have to call the police or fire brigade at any time in their lives, but they would not expect a tax reduction for this. Finally, if wealthy families were given a tax discount for sending their children to private schools, we might have a situation where poorer people pay higher taxes than the rich.

In my opinion, we should all be happy to pay our share of money that supports public schools. It is beneficial for all members of society to have a high quality education system with equal opportunities for all young people. This will result in a well-educated workforce, and turn in a productive and prosperous nation. Parents of children in private schools may also see the advantages of this in their own lives. For example, a company owner will need well qualified and competent staff, and a well-funded education system can provide such employees.

In conclusion, I do not believe that any financial concessions should be made for people who choose private education.

(269 words, ban 9)

**1.68. Nowadays celebrities are more famous for their glamour and wealth than for their achievements, and this sets a bad example to young people. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Famous = Known for = do achieve fame
- Celebrities = famous people = positive/ negative role models
- Celebrities who set a bad example = famous people who act as negative role models.
- Glamour = glamorous lifestyle
- Achievement = the work they do

**Essay sample:**

It is true that some celebrities are known for their glamorous lifestyle than the work they do. While I accept that these celebrities set a bad example for children, I also believe that other famous people act as positive role models.

On the one hand, many people do achieve fame without really working for it. They may have inherited money from parents, married a famous or wealthy person, or they may have appeared in gossip magazines or on a reality TV programme. A good example would be Paris Hilton, who is rich and famous for the wrong reasons. She spent her time attending parties and nightclubs, and her behaviour promotes the idea that appearance, glamour and media profile are more

important than hard work and good character. The message to young people is that success can be achieved easily, and that school work is not necessary.

On the other hand, there are at least as many celebrities whose accomplishments make them excellent role models for young people. Actors, musicians and sports stars become famous idols because they have worked hard and applied themselves to develop real skills and abilities. They demonstrate great effort, determination and ambition, which is required for someone who wants to be truly successful in their chosen field. An example is the actor and martial artist Jackie Chan, who has become world famous through years of practice and hard work. This kind of self-made celebrity can inspire children to develop their talents through application and perseverance.

In conclusion, It seems to me that there are a more number of celebrities who greatly succeed for their consistent effort rather than negative role models.

**1.69. When choosing a job, the salary is the most important consideration. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Job = work = career = employment = profession = career path
- Choose a job = find / look for/seek employment opportunity= decide on a career = choose a career path = choose a career = the choice of profession.
- The salary = the size of salary offered = money
- The most important consideration = the key consideration = most important factor
- Other considerations = other factors = other motivators = other non-financial factors

**Essay sample:**

**Intro 1**

People have different views about whether or not the key consideration when deciding on a employment opportunity is the size of salary offered. While I accept that money plays a vital role to help jobseekers choose their jobs, I also believe that other factors are equally important.

**Intro 2:**

A number of people choose their jobs based on the size of salary offered. Personally, I completely disagree with the idea that money is the key consideration when deciding on a career, because I believe that other factors are equally important.

On the one hand, I agree that money is necessary in order for people to meet their basic needs. We all have to pay for housing, health care, bills, food, and education. Most people consider it a priority to at least earn money that allow them to cover these needs and have a reasonable quality of life. If they choose their jobs based on enjoyment or other non-financial factors, they may find

it difficult to support themselves. Artists and musicians, for instance, are known for choosing their career paths that they love, but does not always provide them with enough money to live comfortably and raise family.

Nevertheless, I believe that other considerations are just as important as what we earn. Firstly, personal relationships and the atmosphere in a workplace are extremely important when choosing a job. Having a good manager or friendly colleagues, for example, can make a huge difference to worker's level of happiness and a general quality of life. Secondly, many people's feeling of job satisfaction come from their professional achievements, the skills they learn, and the position they reach rather than the money they earn. Finally, some people choose a career because they want to help others and contribute something positive to society.

In conclusion, while I salaries certainly affect people's choice of profession, I do not believe that money outweighs all other motivators.

(275 words, band 9)

**1.70. Foreign visitors should pay more than local visitors for cultural and historical attractions. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Foreign visitor = foreign tourist = tourist from overseas = traveler = overseas tourists
- Local visitor = local tourist = local people = the locals = local dweller = local resident = local inhabitant
- Cultural and historical attractions = cultural and historical places/ sites = monument and important attractions/ places/ sites.
- Pay = charge

**Essay sample:**

It is sometimes argued that tourists from overseas should be charged more than local residents to visit monuments and important sites. Personally, I completely disagree with this point of view.

The argument in favor of higher price for foreign tourists would be that cultural or historical attractions often depend on state subsidies to keep them going, which means that resident population already pay money for these sites through tax system. However, I believe this to be a very shortsighted view. Foreign tourists contribute to the economy of the host country with the money they spend on wide range of goods and services, including foods, accommodation, souvenirs and travel. The governments and inhabitants of every country should be happy to subsidize important tourist sites and encourage people from the rest of the world to visit them.



If travelers realized that they would have to pay more to visit historical and cultural places in a particular nation, they would perhaps decide not to go to that country on holiday. To take the UK as an example, the tourism industry and many related jobs rely on visitors coming to the country to see these places like Windsor Castle and Saint Paul's Cathedral. These two sites charge the same price regardless of nationality, and this helps to promote the nation's cultural heritage. If overseas tourists stopped coming due to higher prices, there would be a risk of insufficient funding for the maintenance of these important buildings.

In conclusion, I believe that every effort should be made to attract tourists from overseas, and it would be counterproductive to make them pay more than the locals.

(269 words, band 9).

**1.71. Some people think that all teenagers should be required to do unpaid work in their free time to help the community. They believe that it would benefit for both individual teenagers and society as a whole. Do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Teenager = Adolescent = young people
- Require to = force to = make compulsory
- Do unpaid work = work on a volunteer basis = work for free
- In their free time = In their spare time
- Benefit for = be beneficial for

**Essay sample:**

Many young people work on a volunteer basis, and this can only be beneficial for both the individual and society as a whole. However, I do not believe that we should therefore force all teenagers to do unpaid work.

Most young people are already under enough pressure with their studies, without being given the added responsibility of working in their spare time. A school is just as demanding as a full-time job, and teachers expect their students to do homework and exam revision on top of attending lessons everyday. When young people do have some free time, teachers should encourage them to enjoy it with their friends or spend it doing sports or other leisure activities. They have many years of work ahead of them when they finish their studies.

At the same time, I do not believe that society has anything to gain from obliging young people to do unpaid work. In fact, I would argue that it goes against the values of free and fair society to force a group of people to do something against their will. Doing this can only lead to resentment among young people, who would feel that they were being used, and parents, who would not

want to be told how to raise their children. Currently, nobody is forced to volunteer, and this is surely the best system.

In conclusion, children may choose to work for free and help others, but in my opinion we should not make this compulsory.

(247 words, band 9)

**1.72. Some people believe that hobbies need to be difficult to be enjoyable. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Hobby
- To be difficult = present more of a challenge >< simple = easy
- Be enjoyable = be fun = be exciting = give someone more pleasure = be pleasurable

**Essay sample:**

Some hobbies are relatively easy, while others present more of a challenge. Personally, I believe that both types of hobby can be fun, and I therefore disagree with the statement that hobbies need to be difficult in order to be enjoyable.

On the one hand, many people enjoy easy hobbies. One example of an activity that is interesting for most people is swimming. This hobby requires very little equipment, it is simple to learn, and it is inexpensive. I remember learning to swim in my local swimming pool when I was a child, and I never felt like a demanding or challenging experience. Another hobby that can be fun and easy is photography. Anyone can take interesting pictures without knowing too much about the technicalities of operating a camera. Despite being straightforward, taking photos is a satisfying activity.

On the other hand, difficult hobbies can sometimes be more exciting. If a hobby is more challenging, we might feel a greater sense of satisfaction when we manage to do it successfully. Video editing, for instance, is a hobby that requires a high level of knowledge and expertise. In my case, it took me around two years before I became competent at this activity, but now I feel enjoy it much more than I did when I started. I believe that many hobbies give us more pleasure when we reach a higher level of performance because the results are better, the feeling of achievement is greater.

In conclusion, it seems to me that simple hobbies can be fun and relaxing, but difficult hobbies can be equally pleasurable for different reasons.

(266 words, band 9)

**1.73. Many people decide on a career path early in their lives and keep to it. This, they argue, leads to more satisfying working life. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view? what other things can people do to have a satisfying working life?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Many people = a number of people = young people
- Decide on a career path early = know from an early age what career they want to pursue  
= have a defined career path
- Satisfying working life = job satisfaction = find happiness in their working lives in different ways = make working life much more satisfying

**Essay sample:**

It is true that many people know from an early age what career they want to pursue, and they are happy to spend the rest of their lives in the same position. While I accept that this may suit many people, I also believe that others enjoy changing careers or seeking job satisfaction in different ways.

On the one hand, having a defined career path can certainly lead to a satisfying working life. Many young people decide as young children what they want to do as adults, and it gives them a great sense of satisfaction to work towards their goals and gradually achieve them. For example, many children dream of becoming doctors, but to realize this ambition they need to gain the relevant qualification and undertake years of training. In my experience, very few people who have qualified as doctors choose to change career because they find their work so rewarding, and because they have invested so much time and effort to reach their goals.

On the other hand, many people find happiness in their working lives in different ways. Firstly, not everyone dreams of doing a particular job, and it can be equally rewarding to try a variety of professions; starting out on a completely new career path can be a reinvigorating experience. Secondly, many people see their work as simply a means of earning money, and they are happy if the salary is high enough to allow them to enjoy life outside work. Finally, job satisfaction is often the result of working conditions, rather than the career itself. For example, a positive working atmosphere, enthusiastic colleagues, and an inspirational boss can make working life much more satisfying, regardless of the profession.

In conclusion, it can certainly be satisfying to pursue a particular career for the whole of one's life, but this is by no means the only route to fulfillment.

(313 words, band 9)

**1.74. We cannot help everyone in the world that needs help, and we should only be concerned with our own communities and countries. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Help everyone in the world = help those who live beyond national borders = help people who are in need
- Community = country = nation = society = doorstep = local area
- Concerned with our own communities and countries = prioritize local charity = help people in our neighbours and fellow citizens

**Essay sample:**

Some people believe that we should not help people in other countries as long as there are problems in our own society. I completely disagree with this view because I believe that we should try to help as many people as possible.

On the one hand, I believe that it is important to help people in our neighbors and fellow citizens. In most communities there are people who are impoverished and disadvantaged in some way. It is possible to find homeless people, for example, in even the wealthiest in cities, and for those who are concerned about this problem, there are usually opportunities to volunteer time or give money to support these people. In the UK, people can help in a variety of ways, from donating clothing to serving free food in a soup kitchen. Since these problems are on our doorstep, there are many obvious ways to help, I can understand why some people feel that we should prioritize local charity.

At the same time, I believe that we have an obligation to help people who live beyond our national borders. In some countries the problems that they face are much more serious than those in our own communities, and it is sometimes easier to help. For example, children are dying from curable diseases in African countries, governments and individuals in richer countries can save lives simply by paying for vaccines that already exist. A small donation to an international charity might have a much greater impact than helping in our local area.

In conclusion, it is true that we can not help everyone, but in my opinion national boundaries should not stop us from helping people who are in need.

(282 words, band 9)

**1.75. 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?** (Đề thi ngày 02/04/2016)

**Paraphrase:**

- It is impossible to help people in the world = we can not help everyone
- People in their own countries = people/ citizens in our own society/ nations/ countries = people in our neighbours and fellow citizens
- Help people in our own countries = prioritize local charity = ...
- People in others countries = people who live beyond our national borders = people in the rest/ other parts of the world
- Focus on = pay attention to

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about whether governments should care about people who live beyond their national borders. While I agree that we should prioritise local charity, I believe that we should also help people of other countries.

On the one hand, I accept that it is the responsibility of governments to help people in their own nations. There are a number of disadvantaged people who really need help in their own communities. For example, in Vietnam, a number of children in mountainous areas have no access to schooling and have insufficient clothing to wear in winter while many people are homeless in society. By launching charitable campaigns such as teaching primary schoolchildren, donating clothing or providing shelter for people living below the poverty line, the Vietnamese government and its residents can make significant changes to the life of the needy. The country would be better off as a result.

On the other hand, I believe that governments should also be concerned about the problems that people of other countries are confronted with. The provision of assistance to nations where serious situations occur are sometimes of great significance, which can reduce the extent of the tragic loss of life and damage. For instance, a huge number of countries offered medical assistance and other humanitarian care to Japanese people who were devastated by an earthquake and a tsunami in 2011. This international support not only saved thousands of lives but also helped the Japanese government in recovery efforts after the terrible catastrophe. Therefore, an immediate aid from international community can exert a greater impact than helping in our local area.

In conclusion, I believe that apart from focusing on helping citizens of their own countries, governments should also pay attention to those who are in need in other parts of the world. (300 words, Phuong Thuy)

**Các từ vựng tốt được dùng trong bài viết:**

- To live beyond their national borders: Sống ở nước khác/ quốc gia khác
- To prioritise sth: Ưu tiên cái gì

- Disadvantaged people: Những người bất hạnh/ chịu thiệt thòi
- Have no access to sth: Không có tiếp cận với cái gì
- Shelter: Chỗ ở
- People living below the poverty line: Những người nghèo
- To make significant changes to sb: Tạo ra sự thay đổi đáng kể cho ai
- Better off: Giàu có, phát triển hơn
- To be concerned about: Quan tâm tới cái gì
- To be confronted with: Đối mặt với
- To be of great significance/ importance: Có vai trò quan trọng
- Humanitarian care: Sự quan tâm mang tính nhân đạo
- The terrible catastrophe: Thảm họa khủng khiếp
- An immediate aid: Sự trợ giúp kịp thời
- To exert a greater impact on: Có ảnh hưởng lớn đến cái gì
- To pay attention to sth: Chú ý/ quan tâm đến cái gì

**1.76. In recent years, there has been growing interest in the relationship between equality and personal achievement. Some people believe that individuals can achieve more in egalitarian societies. Others believe that high levels of personal achievement are possible only if individuals are free to succeed or fail according to their individual merits. What is your view of the relationship between equality and personal success?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Equality = egalitarian society = equal society = fair society
- Personal achievement = personal success

**Essay sample:**

In my opinion, an egalitarian society is one in which everyone has the same rights and the same opportunities. I completely agree that people can achieve more in this kind of society. Education is an important factor with regard to personal success in life. I believe that all children should have access to free schooling, and higher education should be either free or affordable for all those who chose to pursue a university degree. In a society without free schooling or affordable higher education, only children and young adults in wealthier families would have access to the best learning opportunities, and they would therefore be better prepared for the job market. This kind of inequality would ensure the success of some but harm the prospects of others.

I would argue that equal rights and opportunities are not in conflict with people's freedom to succeed or fail. In other words, equality does not mean that people lose their motivation to succeed or are not allowed to fail. On the contrary, I believe that people would feel motivated to work hard and reach their potential if they thought that they lived in a fair society. Those who did not make the same effort would know that they had wasted their opportunity. Inequality, on the other hand, would be more likely to demotivate people because they would know that the odds of success were stacked in favour of those from privileged backgrounds.

In conclusion, it seems to me that there is a positive relationship between equality and personal success.

(260 words, band 9)

**1.77. Universities should accept the equal number of male and female students in every subjects. To what extent do you agree or disagree?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Male and female students = men and women = males and females
- Subject = course = class = lesson
- Accept the equal number of male and female students in every subject = having the same number of men and women on all degree courses = accept the same proportions of each gender in every university subject = fill all course with equal numbers of males and females

**Essay sample:**

In my opinion, men and women should have the same educational opportunities. However, I completely disagree with the idea of accepting the same proportions of each gender in every university subject.

Having the same number of men and women on all courses is simply unrealistic. Student numbers of any course depend on the applications that the situation receives. If a university decided to fill courses with equal numbers of males and females, it would need enough applicants of each gender. In reality, many courses would be more popular with one gender than the other, and it would be not practical to aim for equal proportions. For example, nursing courses tend to attract more female applicants, it would be difficult to fill theses courses if fifty per cent of the places needed to go to males.

Apart from the practical concerns expressed above, I also believe that it would be unfair to base admission to university courses on gender. Universities should continue to select the best candidate according to their qualifications. In this way, both men and women have the same opportunities, and applicants know that they will be successful if they work hard to achieve good grades at school. If a female student is the best candidate in a place on a course, it is surely wrong to reject her in favour of a male student with lower grades and fewer qualifications.

In conclusion, the selection of university students should be based on merit, and it would be both impractical and unfair to change to a selection procedure based on gender.

(259 words, band 9)

**1.78. Some people think that all university students should study whatever they like. Others believe they should only be allowed to study subjects that will be successful in the future, such as those related to science and technology. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

**Paraphrase:**

- All students should study whatever they want = everyone should be able to study the course of their choice = students should be free to choose their preferred areas of study = people have the right to study whatever they like
- They should only be allowed to study subjects that will be successful in the future = it would be better for students to be forced into certain key subject areas = universities should only offer subjects that will be useful in the future

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about how much choice students should have with regard to what they can study at university. While some argue that it would be better for students to be forced into certain key subject areas, I believe that everyone should be able to study the course of their choice.

There are various reasons why people believe that universities should only offer subjects that will be useful in the future. They may assert that universities courses like medicine, engineering and information technology are more likely to be beneficial than certain art degrees. From a personal perspective, it can be argued that these courses provide more job opportunities, career progression, better salaries, and therefore an improved quality of life for students who take them. On the social level, by forcing people to choose particular university subjects, governments can ensure that any knowledge and skills gaps in the economy are covered. Finally, a focus on technology in higher education could lead to new inventions, economic growth, and greater future prosperity.

In spite of these arguments, I believe that university students should be free to choose their preferred areas of study. In my opinion, society will benefit more if our students are passionate about what they are learning. Besides, nobody can really predict which areas of knowledge will be most useful to society in the future, and it may be that employers begin to value creative thinking skills above practical or technical skills. If this were the case, perhaps we would need more students of art, history and philosophy than of science or technology.



In conclusion, although it might seem sensible for universities to focus only on the most useful subjects, I personally prefer the current system in which people have the right to study whatever they like.

(297 words, band 9)

**1.79. Some people think that strict punishment for driving offences are key to reducing traffic accidents. Others, however, believe that other measures would be more effective in improving traffic safety. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion?**

**Paraphrase:**

- Strict punishment = penalty = fine
- Driving offence = dangerous driver
- Reducing traffic accidents = deter people from driving so quickly = prevent bad driving
- Improving traffic safety = safe driving = road safety measures = making roads safer = promoting better driving habits = help to drive more safely

**Essay sample:**

People have differing views with regard to the question of how to make our roads safer. I believe that both punishments and a range of other measures can be used together to promote better driving habits.

On the one hand, strict punishments can certainly help to encourage people to drive more safely. Penalties can act as a deterrent, meaning that people avoid repeating the same offence. There are various types of driving penalty, such as small fines, licence suspensions, driver awareness courses, and even prison sentences. The aim of these punishments is to show dangerous drivers their actions have negative consequences. As a result, we would hope that drivers can become more disciplined and alert, and that they follow the rules more carefully.

On the other hand, I believe that safe driving can be promoted in some different way that do not punish drivers. Firstly, it is vitally important to educate people properly before they start to drive, and this could be done in schools or even as part of an extended or more difficult driving test. Secondly, more attention should be paid to safe road design. For example, signs can be used to warn traffic, speed bumps and road bends can be added to calm traffic, and speed cameras can help to deter people from driving too quickly. Finally, governments and local councils could reduce road accidents by investing in better public transport, which would mean that fewer people could need to travel by car.

In conclusion, while punishment can help to prevent bad driving, I believe that other road safety measures should also be introduced.

(267 words, band 9)

**1.80. Some people think that in the modern world we are more dependent on each other, while others think that we have become more independent. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

**Paraphrase:**

- Modern world = modern life = now = nowadays = these days = today = today's society
- More dependent on each other = people depend on each other more = are more dependent on others
- Have become more independent = are more independent than ever

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about whether we are more or less dependent on others nowadays. In my view, modern life forces us to be more independent than people were in the past.

There are two main reasons why it could be argued that we are more dependent on each other now. Firstly, life is more complex and difficult, especially because the cost of living has increased so dramatically. For example, young adults tend to rely on their parents for help when buying a house. Property price is higher than ever, and without help it would be impossible for many people to pay a deposit or a mortgage. Secondly, people seem to be more ambitious nowadays, and they want a better quality of life. This means that both parents usually need to work full-time, and they depend on support from grandparents and babysitters for child care.

However, I agree with those who believe that we are more independent these days. In most countries, families are becoming smaller and more dispersed, which means we cannot count on relatives as much as they used to. We also have freedom to live alone or far away from our hometowns. For example, many students choose to study abroad instead of going to their local university, and this experience makes them more independent than as they learn to live alone. Another factor in this growing independence is technology, which allows us to work alone or from any part of the world.

In conclusion, although there are some reasons to believe that people now depend on each other more, my own view is that we are more independent than ever.

(279 words, band 9)

**1.81. Some people think that governments should give financial support for creative artists such as painters or musicians, while others believe that creative artists should be funded by alternative sources. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

**Paraphrase:**

- Government = state
- Give financial support for creative artists = the funding of creative artists = the idea of government support for artists.
- Creative artists should be funded by alternative sources

**Essay sample:**

People have different views about the funding of creative artists, while some people disagree with the idea of government support for artists, I believe that art projects should come from both governments and other sources.

Some art projects definitely require help from the state. In the UK, there are many works of art in public spaces, such as streets or squares in city centres. In Liverpool, for example, there are several new statues and sculptures in the docks area of the city, which has been redeveloped recently. These artworks represent culture, heritage and history. They serve to educate people about the city, and act as landmarks or talking points for visitors and tourists. Governments and local councils should pay creative artists to produce this kind of art, because without their funding our cities would be much less interesting and attractive.

On the other hand, I can understand the arguments against government funding for art. The main reason for this view is that governments have more important concerns. For example, state budgets need to be spent on education, healthcare, infrastructure and security, among other areas. These public services are vital for a country to function properly, whereas the work of creative artists, even in public places, is a luxury. Another reason for this opinion is that artists do a job like any other professional, and they should therefore earn their own money by selling their work.

In conclusion, there are good reasons why artists should rely on alternative sources of financial support, but in my opinion government help is sometimes necessary.

(263 words)

**1.82. Nowadays animal experiments are widely used to develop new medicines and to test the safety of other products. Some people argue that these experiments should be banned because it is morally wrong to cause animals to suffer, while others are in favour of them because of their benefits to humanity. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

It is true that medicines and other products are routinely tested on animals before they are cleared for human use. While I tend towards the viewpoint that animal testing is morally wrong, I would have to support a limited amount of animal experimentation for the development of medicines.

On the one hand, there are clear ethical arguments against animal experimentation. To use a common example of this practice, laboratory mice may be given an illness so that the effectiveness of a new drug can be measured. Opponents of such research argue that humans have no right to subject animals to this kind of trauma, and that the lives of all creatures should be respected. They believe that the benefits to humans do not justify the suffering caused, and that scientists should use alternative methods of research.

On the other hand, reliable alternatives to animal experimentation may not always be available. Supporters of the use of animals in medical research believe that a certain amount of suffering on the part of mice or rats can be justified if human lives are saved. They argue that opponents of such research might feel differently if a member of their own families needed a medical treatment that had been developed through the use of animal experimentation. Personally, I agree with the banning of animal testing for non-medical products, but I feel that it may be a necessary evil where new drugs and medical procedures are concerned.

**1.83. In conclusion, it seems to me that it would be wrong to ban testing on animals for vital medical research until equally effective alternatives have been developed.**

Some people regard video games as harmless fun, or even as a useful educational tool. Others, however, believe that video games are having an adverse effect on the people who play them. In your opinion, do the drawbacks of video games outweigh the benefits?

Many people, and children in particular, enjoy playing computer games. While I accept that these games can sometimes have a positive effect on the user, I believe that they are more likely to have a harmful impact.

On the one hand, video games can be both entertaining and educational. Users, or gamers, are transported into virtual worlds which are often more exciting and engaging than real-life

pastimes. From an educational perspective, these games encourage imagination and creativity, as well as concentration, logical thinking and problem solving, all of which are useful skills outside the gaming context. Furthermore, it has been shown that computer simulation games can improve users' motor skills and help to prepare them for real-world tasks, such as flying a plane.

However, I would argue that these benefits are outweighed by the drawbacks. Gaming can be highly addictive because users are constantly given scores, new targets and frequent rewards to keep them playing. Many children now spend hours each day trying to progress through the levels of a game or to get a higher score than their friends. This type of addiction can have effects ranging from lack of sleep to problems at school, when homework is sacrificed for a few more hours on the computer or console. The rise in obesity in recent years has also been linked in part to the sedentary lifestyle and lack of exercise that often accompany gaming addiction.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential dangers of video games are more significant than the possible benefits.

**1.84. Some people think that museums should be enjoyable places to entertain people, while others believe that the purpose of museums is to educate. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

People have different views about the role and function of museums. In my opinion, museums can and should be both entertaining and educational.

On the one hand, it can be argued that the main role of a museum is to entertain. Museums are tourist attractions, and their aim is to exhibit a collection of interesting objects that many people will want to see. The average visitor may become bored if he or she has to read or listen to too much educational content, so museums often put more of an emphasis on enjoyment rather than learning. This type of museum is designed to be visually spectacular, and may have interactive activities or even games as part of its exhibitions.

On the other hand, some people argue that museums should focus on education. The aim of any exhibition should be to teach visitors something that they did not previously know. Usually this means that the history behind the museum's exhibits needs to be explained, and this can be done in various ways. Some museums employ professional guides to talk to their visitors, while other museums offer headsets so that visitors can listen to detailed commentary about the exhibition. In this way, museums can play an important role in teaching people about history, culture, science and many other aspects of life.

In conclusion, it seems to me that a good museum should be able to offer an interesting, enjoyable and educational experience so that people can have fun and learn something at the same time.

**1.85. Some people believe that studying at university or college is the best route to a successful career, while others believe that it is better to get a job straight after school. Discuss both views and give your opinion.**

When they finish school, teenagers face the dilemma of whether to get a job or continue their education. While there are some benefits to getting a job straight after school, I would argue that it is better to go to college or university.

The option to start work straight after school is attractive for several reasons. Many young people want to start earning money as soon as possible. In this way, they can become independent, and they will be able to afford their own house or start a family. In terms of their career, young people who decide to find work, rather than continue their studies, may progress more quickly. They will have the chance to gain real experience and learn practical skills related to their chosen profession. This may lead to promotions and a successful career.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial for students to continue their studies. Firstly, academic qualifications are required in many professions. For example, it is impossible to become a doctor, teacher or lawyer without having the relevant degree. As a result, university graduates have access to more and better job opportunities, and they tend to earn higher salaries than those with fewer qualifications. Secondly, the job market is becoming increasingly competitive, and sometimes there are hundreds of applicants for one position in a company. Young people who do not have qualifications from a university or college will not be able to compete.

For the reasons mentioned above, it seems to me that students are more likely to be successful in their careers if they continue their studies beyond school level.

**1.86. Several languages are in danger of extinction because they are spoken by very small numbers of people. Some people say that governments should spend public money on saving these languages, while others believe that would be a waste of money. Discuss both these views and give your opinion.**

It is true that some minority languages may disappear in the near future. Although it can be argued that governments could save money by allowing this to happen, I believe that these languages should be protected and preserved.

There are several reasons why saving minority languages could be seen as a waste of money. Firstly, if a language is only spoken by a small number of people, expensive education programmes will be needed to make sure that more people learn it, and the state will have to pay for facilities, teachers and marketing. This money might be better spent on other public services. Secondly, it would be much cheaper and more efficient for countries to have just one language. Governments could cut all kinds of costs related to communicating with each minority group.

Despite the above arguments, I believe that governments should try to preserve languages that are less widely spoken. A language is much more than simply a means of communication; it has a vital connection with the cultural identity of the people who speak it. If a language disappears, a whole way of life will disappear with it, and we will lose the rich cultural diversity that makes societies more interesting. By spending money to protect minority languages, governments can also preserve traditions, customs and behaviours that are part of a country's history.

In conclusion, it may save money in the short term if we allow minority languages to disappear, but in the long term this would have an extremely negative impact on our cultural heritage.

### **Causes and Effects/Solutions**

#### **1.87. Many people prefer to watch foreign films rather than locally produced films. Why could this be? Should governments give more financial support to local film industries?**

It is true that foreign films are more popular in many countries than domestically produced films. There could be several reasons why this is the case, and I believe that governments should promote local film-making by subsidising the industry.

There are various reasons why many people find foreign films more enjoyable than the films produced in their own countries. Firstly, the established film industries in certain countries have huge budgets for action, special effects and to shoot scenes in spectacular locations. Hollywood blockbusters like 'Avatar' or the James Bond films are examples of such productions, and their global appeal is undeniable. Another reason why these big-budget films are so successful is that they often star the most famous actors and actresses, and they are made by the most accomplished producers and directors. The poor quality, low-budget filmmaking in many countries suffers in comparison.

In my view, governments should support local film industries financially. In every country, there may be talented amateur film-makers who just need to be given the opportunity to prove themselves. To compete with big-budget productions from overseas, these people need money to pay for film crews, actors and a host of other costs related to producing high-quality films. If governments did help with these costs, they would see an increase in employment in the film industry, income from film sales, and perhaps even a rise in tourist numbers. New Zealand, for example, has seen an increase in tourism related to the 'Lord of the Rings' films, which were partly funded by government subsidies.

In conclusion, I believe that increased financial support could help to raise the quality of locally made films and allow them to compete with the foreign productions that currently dominate the market.

(294 words, band 9)

**1.88. These days more fathers stay at home and take care of their children while mothers go out to work. What could be the reasons for this? Do you think it is a positive or a negative development?**

It is true that men are increasingly likely to take on the role of househusband, while more women than ever are the breadwinners in their families. There could be several reasons for this, and I consider it to be a very positive trend.

In recent years, parents have had to adapt to various changes in our societies. Equal rights movements have made great progress, and it has become normal for women to gain qualifications and pursue a career. It has also become socially acceptable for men to stay at home and look after their children. At the same time, the rising cost of living has meant that both marriage partners usually need to work and save money before starting a family. Therefore, when couples have children, they may decide who works and who stays at home depending on the personal preference of each partner, or based on which partner earns the most money.

In my view, the changes described above should be seen as progress. We should be happy to live in a society in which men and women have equal opportunities, and in which women are not put under pressure to sacrifice their careers. Equally, it seems only fair that men should be free to leave their jobs in order to assume childcare responsibilities if this is what they wish to do. Couples should be left to make their own decisions about which parental role each partner takes, according to their particular circumstances and needs.

In conclusion, the changing roles of men and women in the family are a result of wider changes in society, and I believe that these developments are desirable.



**1.89. In the developed world, average life expectancy is increasing. What problems will this cause for individuals and society? Suggest some measures that could be taken to reduce the impact of ageing populations.**

It is true that people in industrialised nations can expect to live longer than ever before. Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, societies can take steps to mitigate these potential problems.

As people live longer and the populations of developed countries grow older, several related problems can be anticipated. The main issue is that there will obviously be more people of retirement age who will be eligible to receive a pension. The proportion of younger, working adults will be smaller, and governments will therefore receive less money in taxes in relation to the size of the population. In other words, an ageing population will mean a greater tax burden for working adults. Further pressures will include a rise in the demand for healthcare, and the fact young adults will increasingly have to look after their elderly relatives.

There are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems described above. Firstly, a simple solution would be to increase the retirement age for working adults, perhaps from 65 to 70. Nowadays, people of this age tend to be healthy enough to continue a productive working life. A second measure would be for governments to encourage immigration in order to increase the number of working adults who pay taxes. Finally, money from national budgets will need to be taken from other areas and spent on vital healthcare, accommodation and transport facilities for the rising numbers of older citizens.

In conclusion, various measures can be taken to tackle the problems that are certain to arise as the populations of countries grow older.

**Direct-question**

**1.90. Happiness is considered very important in life. Why is it difficult to define? What factors are important in achieving happiness?**

It is no doubt true that the majority of people would like to be happy in their lives. While the personal nature of happiness makes it difficult to describe, there do seem to be some common needs that we all share with regard to experiencing or achieving happiness.

Happiness is difficult to define because it means something different to each individual person. Nobody can fully understand or experience another person's feelings, and we all have our own particular passions from which we take pleasure. Some people, for example, derive a sense of satisfaction from earning money or achieving success, whereas for others, health and family are much more important. At the same time, a range of other feelings, from excitement to

peacefulness, may be associated with the idea of happiness, and the same person may therefore feel happy in a variety of different ways.

Although it seems almost impossible to give a precise definition of happiness, most people would agree that there are some basic preconditions to achieving it. Firstly, it is hard for a person to be happy if he or she does not have a safe place to live and enough food to eat. Our basic survival needs must surely be met before we can lead a pleasant life. Secondly, the greatest joy in life is usually found in shared experiences with family and friends, and it is rare to find a person who is content to live in complete isolation. Other key factors could be individual freedom and a sense of purpose in life.

In conclusion, happiness is difficult to define because it is particular to each individual, but I believe that our basic needs for shelter, food and company need to be fulfilled before we can experience it.

(292 words, band 9)

**1.91. There are many different types of music in the world today. Why do we need music? Is the traditional music of a country more important than the international music that is heard everywhere nowadays?**

It is true that a rich variety of musical styles can be found around the world. Music is a vital part of all human cultures for a range of reasons, and I would argue that traditional music is more important than modern, international music.

Music is something that accompanies all of us throughout our lives. As children, we are taught songs by our parents and teachers as a means of learning language, or simply as a form of enjoyment. Children delight in singing with others, and it would appear that the act of singing in a group creates a connection between participants, regardless of their age. Later in life, people's musical preferences develop, and we come to see our favourite songs as part of our life stories. Music both expresses and arouses emotions in a way that words alone cannot. In short, it is difficult to imagine life without it.

In my opinion, traditional music should be valued over the international music that has become so popular. International pop music is often catchy and fun, but it is essentially a commercial product that is marketed and sold by business people. Traditional music, by contrast, expresses the culture, customs and history of a country. Traditional styles, such as... (example)...., connect us to the past and form part of our cultural identity. It would be a real pity if pop music became so predominant that these national styles disappeared.

In conclusion, music is a necessary part of human existence, and I believe that traditional music should be given more importance than international music.

(261 words, band 9)

**1.92. Nowadays the way many people interact with each other has changed because of technology. In what ways has technology affected the types of relationships that people make? Has this been a positive or negative development?**

It is true that new technologies have had an influence on communication between people. Technology has affected relationships in various ways, and in my opinion there are both positive and negative effects.

Technology has had an impact on relationships in business, education and social life. Firstly, telephones and the Internet allow business people in different countries to interact without ever meeting each other. Secondly, services like Skype create new possibilities for relationships between students and teachers. For example, a student can now take video lessons with a teacher in a different city or country. Finally, many people use social networks, like Facebook, to make new friends and find people who share common interests, and they interact through their computers rather than face to face.

On the one hand, these developments can be extremely positive. Cooperation between people in different countries was much more difficult when communication was limited to written letters or telegrams. Nowadays, interactions by email, phone or video are almost as good as face-to-face meetings, and many of us benefit from these interactions, either in work or social contexts. On the other hand, the availability of new communication technologies can also have the result of isolating people and discouraging real interaction. For example, many young people choose to make friends online rather than mixing with their peers in the real world, and these 'virtual' relationships are a poor substitute for real friendships.

In conclusion, technology has certainly revolutionised communication between people, but not all of the outcomes of this revolution have been positive.

**1.93. Explain some of the ways in which humans are damaging the environment. What can governments do to address these problems? What can individual people do?**

Humans are responsible for a variety of environmental problems, but we can also take steps to reduce the damage that we are causing to the planet. This essay will discuss environmental problems and the measures that governments and individuals can take to address these problems.

Two of the biggest threats to the environment are air pollution and waste. Gas emissions from factories and exhaust fumes from vehicles lead to global warming, which may have a devastating effect on the planet in the future. As the human population increases, we are also producing ever greater quantities of waste, which contaminates the earth and pollutes rivers and oceans.

Governments could certainly make more effort to reduce air pollution. They could introduce laws to limit emissions from factories or to force companies to use renewable energy from solar, wind or water power. They could also impose 'green taxes' on drivers and airline companies. In this way, people would be encouraged to use public transport and to take fewer flights abroad, therefore reducing emissions.

Individuals should also take responsibility for the impact they have on the environment. They can take public transport rather than driving, choose products with less packaging, and recycle as much as possible. Most supermarkets now provide reusable bags for shoppers as well as 'banks' for recycling glass, plastic and paper in their car parks. By reusing and recycling, we can help to reduce waste.

In conclusion, both national governments and individuals must play their part in looking after the environment.

## **5. PHÂN TÍCH CÁC BÀI MẪU CỦA TÁC GIẢ MAT CLARK**