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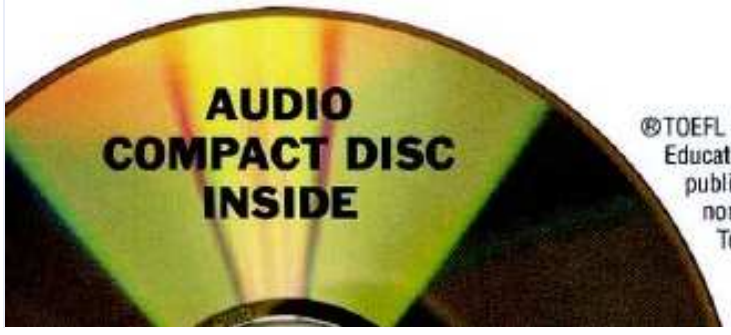
STUDENTS' #1 CHOICE

Writing for the TOEFL® iBT

3RD EDITION

Dr. Lin Lougheed

- Selecting a topic and organizing your ideas
- Writing in clear, grammatical English
- Editing and proofreading your essay
- Includes model essays to guide your progress



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Writing for the TOEFL® iBT

3RD EDITION

Dr. Lin Lougheed

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MELAL LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

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PART 1

INTRODUCTION

How to Use This Book
Questions and Answers
To the Teacher
- Expanding the Activities
  - Integrated Task
  - Independent Task
  - Writing Skills

Overview
- Question Types
- Scoring
  - Integrated Task
  - Independent Task
  - Writing Strategies

Self-Test
- Integrated Task
- Independent Task

INTRODUCTION

The Writing section of the TOEFL® Internet-based Test (iBT) includes two writing tasks: an Integrated Task and an Independent Task.

Integrated Task

This task consists of a 250–300 word passage on an academic subject followed by a two-minute lecture or discussion on the same topic. The test taker is then given a question about the topic. The test taker must write a 150- to 225-word summary of the important points made in the listening passage and explain how these points relate to those in the reading passage. The test taker may write more than 225 words if time permits.

Independent Task

This task asks for an opinion about a topic. The test taker will use personal knowledge and experience to write an essay of at least 300 words to answer the question. The test taker may write more than 300 words if time permits.

The test taker has a total of 50 minutes to complete these two essays: 20 minutes for the Intergrated Task and 30 minutes for the Independent Task. Both essays must be written on the computer; they cannot be written by hand. The essays are then scored by two or more readers on ETS's Online Score Network. Each essay receives a score of 0–5.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

There are three steps in creating an essay: planning, writing, and revising. *Writing for the TOEFL iBT* provides a step-by-step guide for planning, writing, and revising your essays for both the Integrated Task and the Independent Task on the TOEFL iBT. You will learn to follow a simple three-step model and practice applying it to writing both types of essays.

Step 1	PLAN
Step 2	WRITE
Step 3	REVISE

You will have 20 minutes to plan, write, and revise your essay for the Integrated Task, and you will have 30 minutes to plan, write, and revise your essay for the Independent Task. In those limited amounts of time, you must produce writing that is clear, coherent, and correct. This book will help you do that.

Just as you must *plan* your essays, you also need to plan your studying. This book provides you with a plan for studying for the TOEFL iBT essays. By following the chapters in the book in order and doing all the practice exercises, you will learn a three-step method for writing your essays, and you will have many opportunities to practice writing. You will also learn writing skills that you can apply to both tasks and to your writing in general.

The best way to learn to *write* is by writing. You will do a great deal of writing when you do the practice exercises and practice tasks in this book. For additional practice, you can choose topics from the model integrated tasks and model independent essays at the back of the book.

When you are learning to write, you must, at the same time, learn to *revise*. You must make it a habit to revise the essays you write for practice in this book. Revision is as important a part of the writing process as the writing itself.

A good essay takes time—time to *plan*, time to *write*, time to *revise*. When you write your TOEFL iBT essays, you will have a limited amount of time. If you take the time now to learn how to write, you'll easily be able to write your TOEFL iBT essays in the limited time allowed.

WARNING

Study the models carefully. Analyze them completely. **Do NOT memorize them.** Your writing will not be scored if it matches an essay in this book. Your writing on the TOEFL iBT must be your **OWN** original work.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **How much time do I have to work on each writing task?**
   For the Integrated Task, after you read the passage for three minutes and listen to the lecture, you have 20 minutes to plan and write your essay. For the Independent Task, you have 30 minutes to plan and write your essay on the given topic.

2. **Do I have to use the computer?**
   Yes, you do. It is an Internet-based test. Use of the computer is required. You should learn to use the QWERTY keyboard. This keyboard is named for the first six letters on the top row of letters.

3. **Do I have a choice of topic?**
   No, you don't. For the Integrated Task, you will respond to a question using information from the reading passage and lecture provided. For the Independent Task, you will be given only one topic, and you must write about that topic.

4. **Will all test takers have the same topic?**
   No, not every test taker will have the same topic.

5. **What will happen if I don't understand the topic on the Independent Task?**
   If you study this book, that won't be a problem. You will understand all the possible topics. On the day of the test, you will not receive any help with the topic.

6. **What will happen if I don't understand how to work the computer?**
   There will be test administrators in the room who can answer your questions about using the computer. They will not answer any questions about the use of English.

7. What kind of pencils should I bring?
None. Everything you need to write your essays will be given to you at the testing center. If you need extra pencils or paper, ask your test administrator.

8. Can I bring a clock with me?
No. Nothing can be brought into the test room. You can wear your watch or look at the clock on the computer screen.

9. Can I bring a dictionary with me?
No. Nothing can be brought into the test room.

10. Can I bring paper with me?
No. Nothing can be brought into the test room. Scratch paper will be supplied.

11. What happens to the notes I take?
You can write your notes in English or your first language. They will be collected and discarded. They will not be seen by the raters.

12. Is there a spell checker or grammar checker on the computer?
No. You will have to do your own proofreading. Don't worry about a few spelling errors or a few mistakes with punctuation or grammar. A few small errors will not count against your score. Hint: If you are unsure how to spell a word, use a word you do know how to spell.

13. How long should the writing sample be?
On the Integrated Task, you should write 150–225 words. You may write more if you have time. On the Independent Task, you should write around 300 words. You may write more if you have time.

14. What's more important, organization or grammar?
Both are important. A reader judges an essay on its organization, the use of details to support the main points, and your facility with English. See the section, *Scoring the Essay*, for more information on this.

15. What happens if I don't finish?
You do not need to have an elegantly stated conclusion. What you do write should demonstrate your facility with English. Do not end with an apology. Do not apologize to the reader for what you did not do or for what you think you should have done better.

16. Is there an extra fee for the writing section of the test?
No. The test fee covers all parts of the TOEFL.

17. Is the writing section required?
Yes. All test takers who take the TOEFL must take the writing section of the test.

18. How is my writing scored?
Two readers will read each essay and will give a score of 0–5. Neither reader will know the score the other reader gives. If the scores are more than one point apart, a third person will read your essay. Your score will then be converted to a scaled score of 0–30.

19. Will I see my scores immediately?
No. Your scores will be available online and mailed to you approximately two weeks after the test date.

20. What if I don't like my scores?
Sign up to take the test again after you do all the exercises in this book a few more times. You should see an improvement in your scores.

TO THE TEACHER

Writing for the TOEFL iBT presents step-by-step methods for completing the two tasks in the writing section of the TOEFL. By following the steps in order, your students will build new skills on top of previously developed ones. Although the activities in this book are specifically aimed at the two writing tasks in the TOEFL, your students will be learning skills that they can apply to their writing in general. They will learn how to organize their thoughts, develop their essays, and use appropriate sentence structure to express their ideas. The activities in this book are well suited for classroom use. The activities are carefully structured and can easily be completed in class. They can also be done as homework and then corrected in class.

Expanding the Activities

INTEGRATED TASK

- **Step 1 PLAN**
  This book provides many opportunities for students to plan and practice taking notes on reading passages and lectures. You can provide additional practice by having the students take notes on passages that you or they supply. You can use passages from reading texts, newspapers, magazines, and other sources that are available and are of interest to the students. Encourage the students to read often and to make notes on what they read. Students can bring their notes to class to share with their classmates.

- **Step 2 WRITE**
  This book provides many opportunities for practice writing summaries of reading passages and lectures. Again, you can provide additional practice by having the students write summaries of things they have read or news stories they have listened to. Encourage students to share with the class summaries of interesting articles they have read or movies or TV programs they have seen.

- **Step 3 REVISE**
  While working on Step 3, students can practice revising by checking each other's work, looking at the development, organization, grammar, punctuation, and spelling. The Writing Skills section of the book provides practice with using transition words and variety in sentence structure and can be studied in conjunction with Step 3.

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INDEPENDENT TASK

- Step 1 PLAN
  In order to plan their responses to the writing topics, students need to be able to formulate opinions on these topics. They must get used to thinking about and describing reasons and advantages or disadvantages. In small groups, students can brainstorm and discuss their ideas on the writing topics presented throughout the book and in the Appendix. Students can then practice writing thesis statements and developing concept maps on the same subjects.

- Step 2 WRITE
  When the class is working on Steps 2 and 3, have the students check each other's essays to make sure there is a topic sentence in each paragraph and that both the theme and all the supporting points are mentioned in the introduction. Have the students check the conclusion to make sure the theme is summarized there. The model essays in the Appendix can be used for additional practice. Have the students identify in a model essay the theme and supporting points in the introduction, topic sentences in the body of the essay, and the summarized theme in the conclusion.

- Step 3 REVISE
  While working on Step 3, students can practice revising by checking each other's work using the revision checklist. Again, the Writing Skills section of this book can be studied along with these steps.

WRITING SKILLS

While working on this section of the book, you can use the model essays in the Appendix to provide additional practice. You can ask students to look in these essays for examples of transition words, different types of sentences, parallel structure, passive and active voice, or whatever aspect of sentence writing you wish to focus on.

A WORD OF CAUTION

Remind students **NOT** to memorize the essays in this book.
An essay will not be rated if the reader suspects it was copied from the model essays.

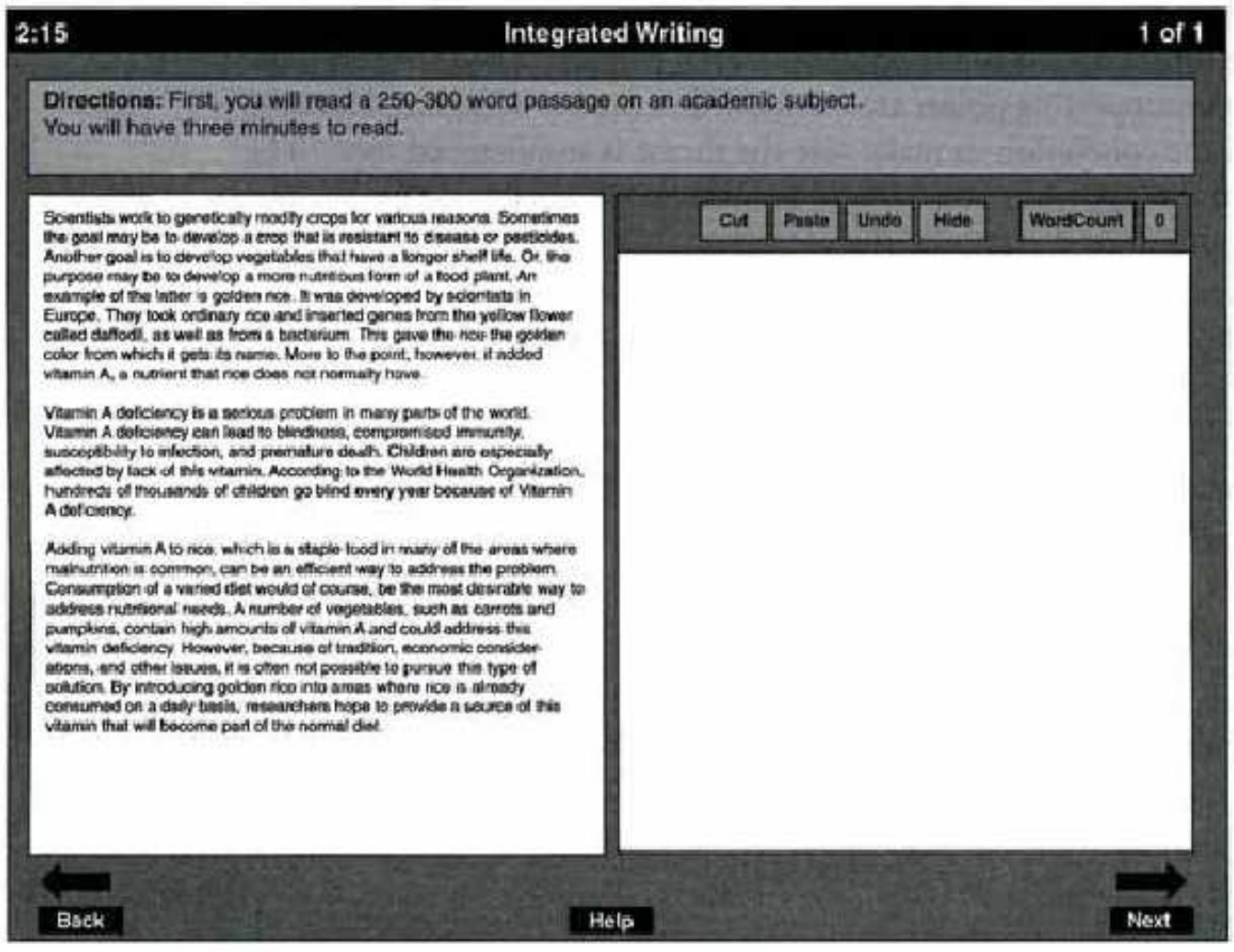
OVERVIEW

Question Types

INTEGRATED TASK

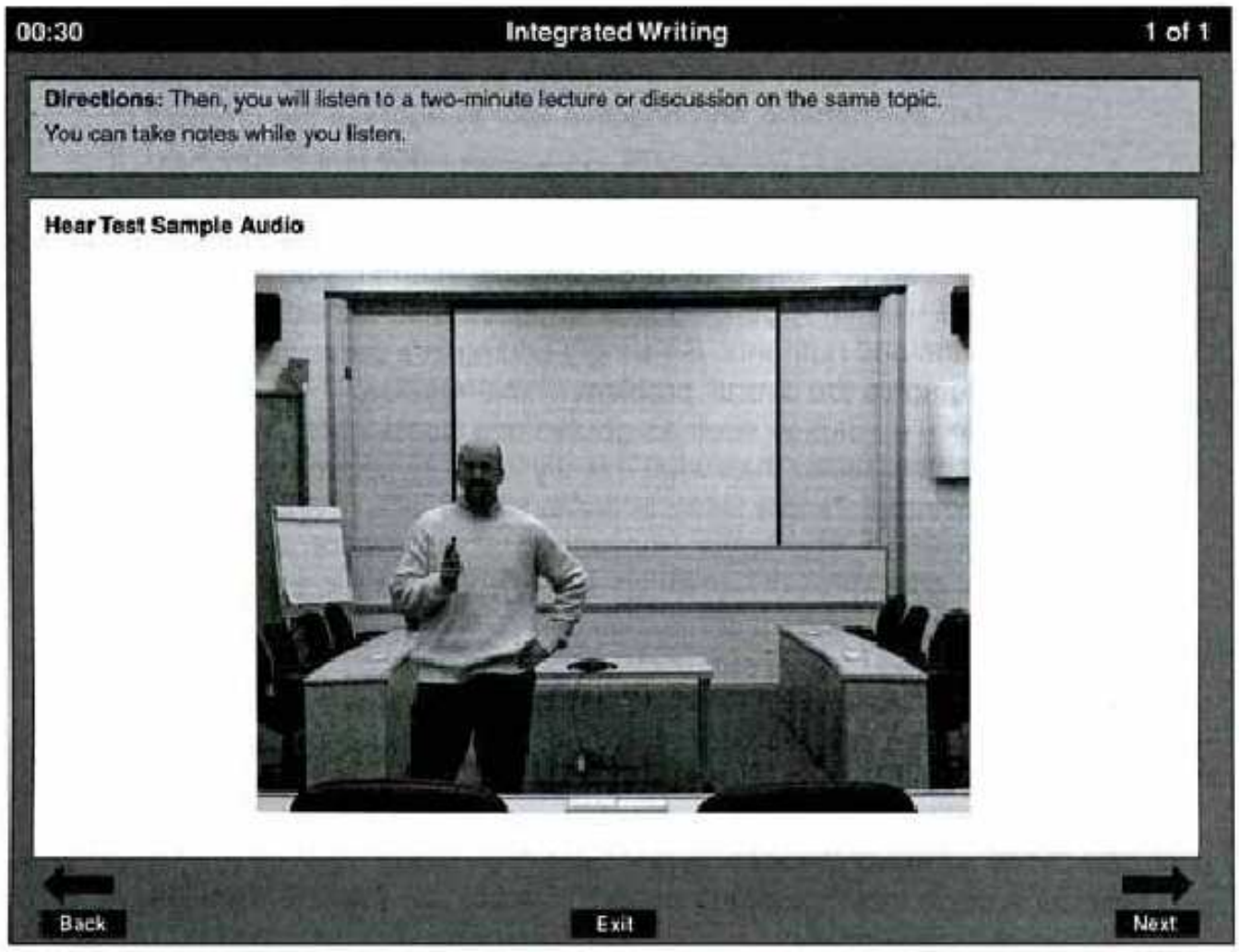
First, you will read a 250–300 word passage on an academic subject. You will have three minutes to read.

SAMPLE READING PASSAGE



Then, you will listen to a two-minute lecture or discussion on the same topic. You can take notes while you listen.

SAMPLE AUDIO



Here is the audio lecture. You will not be able to read this during the test. You will only hear it.

SAMPLE AUDIO SCRIPT

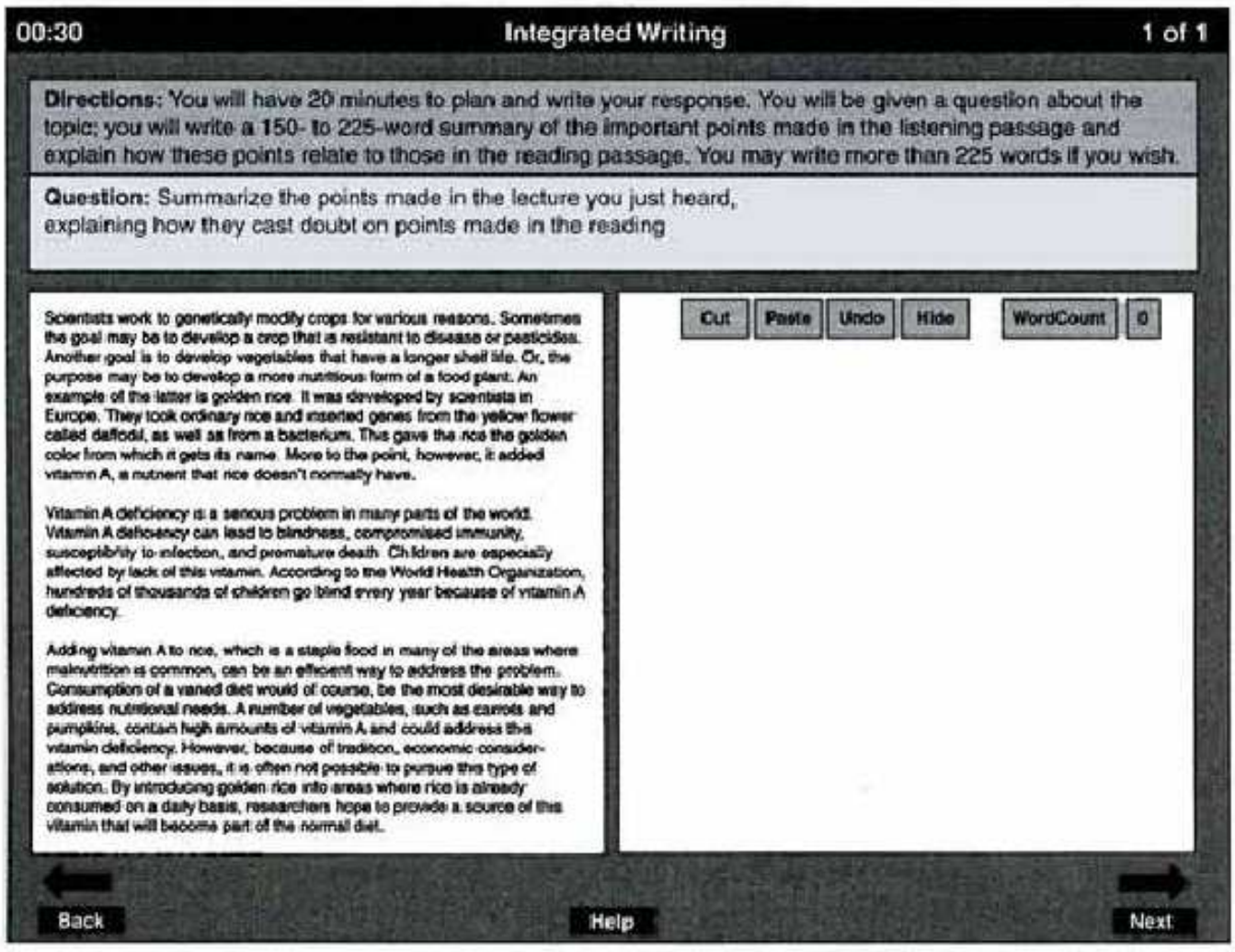
There is a lot of controversy surrounding the issue of genetically modified foods. Golden rice is a famous example. It has been introduced as an inexpensive and effective way to address the problem of vitamin A deficiency in parts of the world where rice is a staple food. It seems simple, but it is not so uncomplicated as it looks.

For one thing, the problem is not so straightforward as a lack of a vitamin that can be solved by providing the vitamin. People living in areas where vitamin A deficiency is an issue also suffer from lack of other vitamins and nutrients. So simply adding in a particular vitamin is not going to solve the overall problem of malnutrition.

In addition, a solution such as golden rice treats malnutrition as an isolated problem rather than what it really is – a symptom of the deeper issues of poverty. People living in areas where lack of sufficient nutrition is a problem also suffer from other lacks: lack of public health systems, of education, of sanitation, of economic power. Eating golden rice will not make these problems go away.

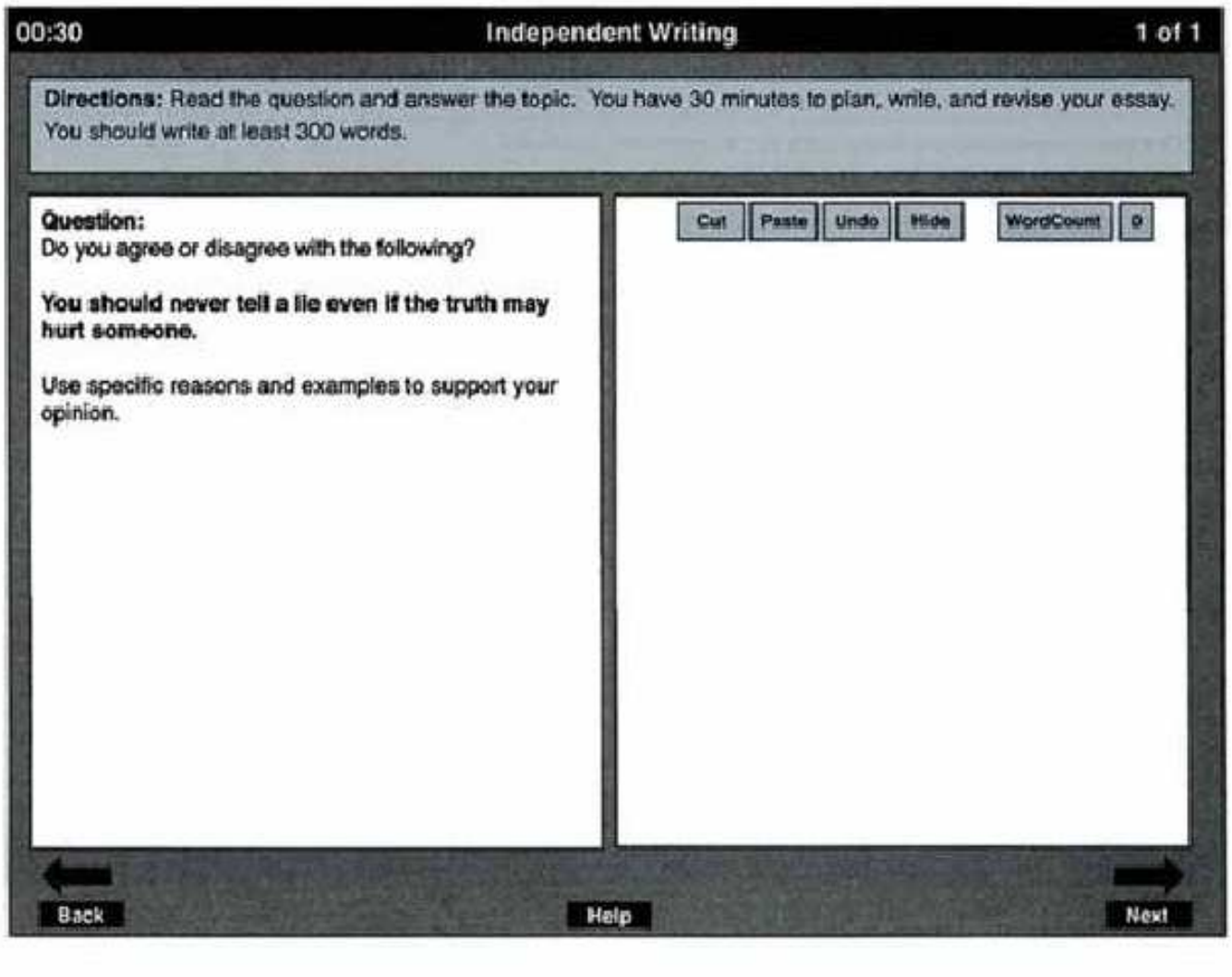
Even looking at purely nutritional issues, golden rice is not the magic solution it has been presented to be. For one thing, if consumed in normal amounts, golden rice would provide only about 10% of a child's daily need of vitamin A. In addition, there are other, better sources of this vitamin. A cup or less of sweet potatoes, leafy green vegetables, or mangoes would provide all of a child's daily need of vitamin A, and would provide other nutrients as well. Clearly, we need to seek other solutions to the problem.

SAMPLE QUESTION



INDEPENDENT TASK

SAMPLE QUESTION



SCORING–INTEGRATED TASK

The Integrated Task essay is scored on a scale of 0 to 5. The scorers will look at how well you addressed the task of summarizing and comparing the reading selection and the listening selection. They will also look at your use of correct grammatical forms and vocabulary.

Rating Scale

4–5 Good

An essay at this level
- clearly and concisely summarizes the main points of the reading and the listening selections
- clearly and concisely explains how they support or contradict each other
- uses correct grammatical forms and appropriate word choice
- may have slight inaccuracies in the summary of ideas or occasional grammatical errors

2.5–3.5 Fair

An essay at this level
- summarizes the main points of the reading and listening selections but may be missing an idea or ideas or may be lacking in clarity
- may not accurately explain the relationship between the reading and listening selections
- may lack clarity because of grammatical errors or inappropriate word choice

1.0–2.0 Limited

An essay at this level
- may demonstrate incomplete understanding of the reading or listening selections
- may not explain a clear relationship between the reading and listening selections
- may be difficult to read because of serious grammatical errors

(An essay that receives a score of **0** may be blank, written in another language, or not relate to the topic.)

SAMPLE SCORED ESSAYS

Score: 5

The author explains that understanding learning styles can improve learning and training. The speaker, however, suggests that understanding learning styles doesn't always provide a solution.

The author states that understanding learning styles helps individuals learn better and professors and trainers instruct better. The author explains different ways to describe learning styles. Some people learn more easily by listening, others by seeing, and still others by doing. Active learners understand new information by doing something with it. Reflective learners understand information by thinking about it. Sequential learners look at information as a series of steps, but global learners prefer to look at the whole rather than the parts. The author believes that understanding learning styles can improve study skills. Sequential learners, auditory learners, and reflective learners, for example, can each choose the study methods that best suit their individual learning styles.

The speaker presents a different point of view. First, some subjects have to be taught in certain ways. Math has to be taught sequentially. In addition, the speaker suggests that students "simply aren't interested" in information about learning styles. Some professors aren't interested in learning styles, either.

Note: The samples in this book include paragraph indents, but you will not be scored down if you do not use them on the test.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay addresses the task by giving concise summaries of both the reading passage and the lecture and explaining clearly how the main ideas of both contrast with each other.

The first paragraph states a clear thesis, explaining that the reading and the lecture present contrasting ideas. The second paragraph supports the reading main idea by summarizing the main points of the reading. The third paragraph supports the listening main idea by summarizing the main points of the listening. The paragraphs have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses appropriate transition words such as *for example*, *first*, and *in addition*. There are no grammar or spelling errors. The essay contains a variety of sentence structures such as simple and compound sentences and adjective clauses.

Score: 4

The author explains that understanding learning styles can make learning and training better. The speaker says the opposite, that knowing about learning styles doesn't always help teachers and students.

In the reading passage, the author says that understanding learning styles helps students learn better and teachers teach better. The author explains the different kinds learning styles. Some students learn by listening, some by seeing, and some by doing. Also, some students are active learners. They need to do things with new information. Sequential learners see information in sequence. The author says that if you understand learning styles, can improve your study skills. Sequential learners and auditory learners, for instance, they can choose the best study methods for their learning styles.

The speaker has a different opinion. First, some things have to be taught in certain ways. Math is an example. It has to be taught sequentially. Also, the speaker says that students "simply aren't interested" in information about learning styles. Some professors don't interested in learning styles, either.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay addresses the task by giving summaries of both the reading passage and the lecture and explaining how the main ideas of each contrast with each other. The writer left out a few supporting details from the summary of the reading. She mentioned active learners but not reflective learners. She mentioned sequential learners but not global learners.

The thesis is clearly stated, explaining that the reading and the lecture present contrasting ideas. The second paragraph and third paragraph support the main ideas of the reading passage and the lecture by summarizing the main points of each. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses appropriate transition words such as *for instance*, *first*, and *in addition*. There are a few grammar errors, but they don't interfere with understanding the essay.

. . . the different kinds learning styles.
. . . the different kinds of learning styles.

. . . if you understand learning styles, can improve your study skills.
. . . if you understand learning styles, you can improve your study skills.

Sequential learners and auditory learners, for instance, they can choose . . .
Sequential learners and auditory learners, for instance, can choose . . .

Some professors don't interested in learning styles, either.
Some professors aren't interested in learning styles, either.

The essay contains a variety of sentence structures such as simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Score: 3

The author explains that understanding learning styles can make learning and teaching better, but the speaker says the opposite opinion. Even if teachers and students know about learning styles, doesn't always help them.

In the reading passage, it says that understanding different learning styles help students and teachers better. They can improve learning. There are different kinds of learning styles such as listening, seeing, and doing. In addition, there are active learners and reflective learners. Finally, we have sequential learners and global learners. The author says that learning styles will improve your study skills. You can to choose the best way to study for your learning style.

The speaker says the opposite. First, some things you have to teach them in certain ways. Math is an example. Also, some people don't like learning styles. Some students and some professors don't like different ways of learning. It's too bad because it can help them.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay addresses the task by giving summaries of both the reading passage and the lecture and explaining how the main ideas of each contrast with each other. The writer left out some supporting details from the summary of the reading. She mentioned the names of the different learning styles but did not explain what they are or how they differ from each other. In the last paragraph, she mentioned math as an example of something that has to be taught in a certain way but did not explain how it was an example.

There are some inaccuracies in explaining the supporting details of the lecture. The essay states "Some students and some professors don't like different ways of learning." In the lecture, the speaker made the point that some people aren't interested in thinking about learning styles. That is somewhat different than saying that they don't like learning styles.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses appropriate transition words such as *in addition*, *first*, and *also*. There are several grammar errors.

. . . doesn't always help them..
. . . it doesn't always help them.

. . . different learning styles help students and teachers better.
. . . different learning styles help students and teachers do their work better.

You can to choose the best way . . .
You can choose the best way . . .

First, some things you have to teach them in certain ways.
First, you have to teach some things in certain ways.

The essay contains a variety of sentence structures such as simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Score: 2

In the reading passage it says that it is important to understand different learning style because it can improbe teaching and learning. In the lecture, it also talks about different learning styles.

In the reading passage, it talks about different learning styles that can help students and teachers. They can learn and teach more better if they know this. Some students learn better when they listen, see, or do. Another learning style it is active and reflactiv. And finally there is sequential and global. The author says that learning styles will going to improbe your study skills. If you are an active learner, you can study one way and another way if you are reflactive. This is an example. You have to have a good style.

The speaker talks about learning styles, too. Math is a subject that you can teach sequentially, so it is good for sequential learners. There are some people they aren't interested in learning styles. But some people they are good at learning and their different learning styles can help them.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay attempts to address the task by giving summaries of both the reading passage and the lecture. It fails in both the thesis statement and the summaries to show the relationship between the ideas in the reading passage and the lecture. Both talk about learning styles, but their main points contrast with each other. This essay does not mention the contrast.

The main idea of the reading passage is explained, although the supporting details are somewhat confused. The details, however, could be more thoroughly explained. All the learning styles are mentioned, but the differences between them are not explained. The summary of the lecture fails to explain the main idea – that understanding learning styles does not always improve learning.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses some transition words such as *another* and *finally*. There are several grammar errors.

They can learn and teach more better.
They can learn and teach better.

Another learning style it is active . . .
Another learning style is active . . .

The author says that learning styles will going to improve your study skills.
The author says that learning styles will improve your study skills.

There are some people they aren't interested in learning styles.
There are some people who aren't interested in learning styles.

There are also a few spelling errors.

~~improbe~~	improve
~~reflactiv~~	reflective

The essay contains a variety of sentence structures such as simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Score: 1

In the reading passage it talks about different learning styles, and the lecture too.

In the reading passage, it tells you how you can learn better for what it is your own style. Then it is improve what the teachers and the students do. The different learning styles they are about listening, seeing, and doing. And so too they are actave and reflect. That means if you do something or if you think about it. They are about sequential and globule. That is mean it is step by step or the whole thing.

The speaker is also about learning styles, too. But they are not so good. Some things you need one style. Like for math. Some people aren't interest. Some students, they don't care if it is style. Their teachers, too. They just teach their own style, like the way they do best. If students can do it, good. But if not they can do it, too bad for the students.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay attempts to address the task by giving summaries of both the reading passage and the lecture. The thesis statement does not mention the contrast between the ideas in the reading passage and the lecture. The summaries of the reading and the lecture both mention the main idea and the supporting details, but the details are not clearly explained, and the ideas are often difficult to follow.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay lacks transition words. There are several grammar errors, for example:

In the reading passage it talks about different learning styles, and the lecture too.
The reading passage talks about different learning styles, and the lecture does, too.

Then it is improve what the teachers and the students do.
This improves what the teachers and the students do.

The different learning styles they are about listening, seeing, and doing.
The different learning styles are about listening, seeing, and doing.

There are also a few spelling errors.

~~actave~~	active
~~globule~~	global

The essay contains a number of awkward sentences which make it difficult to follow the ideas.

SCORING–INDEPENDENT TASK

The Independent Task essay is scored on a scale of 0 to 5. The scorers will look at how well you addressed the topic and developed and supported your ideas. They will also look at your use of correct grammatical forms and vocabulary.

Rating Scale

4–5 Good

An essay at this level
- is well organized and well developed
- uses correct grammatical forms and appropriate word choice
- may have slight weaknesses in the elaboration of ideas or occasional grammatical errors

2.5–3.5 Fair

An essay at this level
- has a thesis that is supported by reasons, examples, and details
- may have weaknesses in the development and support of the main points
- may lack clarity because of problems with organization or poor use of transitions
- may have grammatical errors or inappropriate word choice that interfere with meaning

1.0–2.0 Limited

An essay at this level
- may lack sufficient detail to clarify ideas
- may not address the question asked
- may be difficult to read because of serious grammar or vocabulary errors

(An essay that receives a score of **0** may be blank, written in another language, or not relate to the topic.)

SAMPLE SCORED ESSAYS

Score: 5

Topic 13

Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answers.

Although many people prefer to eat at home, I prefer to eat out. The main reason is that I am not a very good cook. In addition, eating out allows me to spend more time studying and less time in the kitchen. And, believe it or not, eating out can be cheaper than cooking at home.

To begin with, I don't know how to cook. When you don't know how to cook, there is a good chance that what you cook will not be worth eating. This results in a waste of food as well as a waste of money and effort.

Also, cooking takes a lot of time. While the food might not actually be on the stove for very long, you also have to consider the time that is spent shopping for the food, cleaning and chopping it, and cleaning up the kitchen after it is cooked.

Finally, eating out is surprisingly economical. Of course, going to elegant restaurants is expensive, but there are other ways to eat out. Food stands and some small, casual restaurants provides plenty of good food for very little cost. Many places of this type are located near the university and are very convenient for students.

As my life changes, my preferences about where to eat may change, too. For the life of a student, eating out is the only practical choice.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay has a clear thesis in the beginning and is also very well organized. The first two of the three body paragraphs give reasons why the writer does not want to cook at home, while the third gives reasons why eating out is better. There are suf-

ficient details to support the main idea in each paragraph. The conclusion paraphrases the main idea rather than simply repeating it.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses appropriate transition words such as *in addition, to begin with, also,* and *finally.* There is one grammar error, and it doesn't interfere with understanding the essay:

> Food stands and some small, casual restaurants provides plenty of good food . . .
> Food stands and some small, casual restaurants provide plenty of good food . . .

The essay contains a variety of sentence structures such as simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Score: 4

Topic 114
Some people think that the family is the most important influence on young adults. Other people think that friends are the most important influence on young adults. Which view do you agree with? Use examples to support your position.

We are all influence by whomever we meet. We all stand as models to everyone in this world. However, our choice of a model is important especially when choosing a career. I believe that in the case concerning our future and our career, families have more influence on us than friends.

Friends are the ones we spend time having fun, enjoying, playing and so forth. Friends also teach good things and help us. Friends advice good things about life, but not like family. Family always think that their children will become superior ones in the future. They want their children to be smarter than anyone else. However, friends are not such an influential adviser like family. Family feels that time is waste when their adult children have too much fun. However, friends influence us more to play or have fun rather than advising us about our career. Therefore, family puts their substanshil impact on their children in order to shape up their future career.

In the US, most young adults are usually influence by their friends rather than their parents. It depends on what type of influence it is. Usually, people are busier in the US. They don't have time to give important influence to their children. Therefore, the children choose their own way to catch up their careers. Whatever they see around influences them. However, this influence might not be good for their future careers.

Therefore, I'd say family influences their adult children more and better than friends.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

The thesis of this essay is very clear and easy to locate at the end of the introduction. The essay is generally well organized. The writer carefully compares and contrasts the level of influence one receives from one's parents with the influence one receives from one's friends. The thesis is well developed, and there is a conclusion that restates the thesis.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses appropriate transition words such as *however*, *also*, and *therefore*. There are a few grammar errors, but they don't interfere with understanding the essay.

We are all influence by whomever we meet.
We are all influenced by whomever we meet.

Family feels that time is waste . . .
Family feels that time is wasted . . .

Therefore, family puts their substanshil impact on their children . . .
Therefore, families have a substantial impact on their children . . .

In the US, most young adults are usually influence by their friends . . .
In the US, most young adults are usually influenced by their friends . . .

There is one spelling error.
~~subotanchil~~ substantial

The essay contains a variety of sentence structures such as simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Score: 3

Topic 136

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing a game is fun only when you win. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Some would like to play the game such as, basketball, tennis, swimming, and riding bike for exercises and fun. But some, they play for their achievement. I agree that playing game is fun when we win.

As a matter of fact, when I was in High school, I like to play basketball as my hobby. I was very excited when I won the game. All high schools in Cambodia, they required students to choose one kind of game, such as volleyball, soccer, basketball, tennis and swimming. By that time, I took basketball as my favorite hobby. My school gave me the best basketball coach. He had a lot of experience of training basketball players. My teams and I were trained by him everyday for two months. After two monthes of training, My coach wanted us to compete with other schools.

When the competition day came, our emotion was combined with happy and scare of losing the game. But our coach encourage us. He told us that "don't be afraid of your competitors, they are as same as you, so you have to have a confident in yourself." When time of competition of game started, our coach led us to basketball court to get to know our competitors. The result of competition was my team completely won. My coach and our team were very happy to win that game.

I believe that playing game is very difficult if we don't know a weakness of our competitors. We have to have a confident in ourselves. I agree that playing game is very fun when we win.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay is adequately organized and developed. It shows development of ideas and some facility with English. In the first paragraph and in the conclusion, the writer states the opinion that playing a game is fun when one wins. The writer does not directly address the topic, which is more black and white: playing a game is fun

ONLY when one wins. It is likely that the writer did not understand the question clearly. The writer uses a personal story to illustrate the thesis. This story seems to indicate that the writer also had a good time playing basketball even when he/she didn't win.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay does not make use of transition words. There are a number of grammar and vocabulary errors which distract the reader from the meaning.

But some, they play for their achievement.
But some play for their achievement.

When I was . . . I like to play basketball as my hobby.
When I was . . . I liked to play basketball as my hobby.

. . . our emotion was combined with happy and scare of losing the game.
. . . our emotion was a combination of happiness and fear of losing the game.

We have to have a confident in ourselves.
We have to have confidence in ourselves.

There are some spelling and punctuation errors.
~~monthes~~ months

As a matter of fact, when I was in High school . . .
As a matter of fact, when I was in high school . . .

He told us that "don't be afraid of your competitors . . .
He told us, "Don't be afraid of your competitors . . .

Score: 2

Topic 111
Some people prefer to spend time with one or two close friends. Others choose to spend time with a large number of friends. Compare the advantages of each choice. Which of these two ways of spending time do you prefer? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

People need friends they include in a society. Some people try to find good people but some people just take any person around them. Which means first one is very serious to find friends and second people are not to serious to have friends. Some people prefer to spend time with one or two. Others choose to spend time with a large number of friends.

First of all, some people want to spend time with one or two friends. Those people always take care of their friends very well. For example, when they have a party they can invite everyone to their home even thow it is small. Also, they can talk with each friend before the party is over. Because they don't have many friends so they can be able to talk with

everyone. Therefore, all the friends returns home very happy after party.

Secondly, some people want to spend time with a large number of friends. Those people love people also they can get a good advise from friends. For example, when they have a problem they can ask their many friends and then they can collect every answer. Therefore, they are figure it out to fix their problem very easily.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

The organization and development of the topic is not fully adequate. The writer talks about each choice but never accomplishes the task: to express a preference. There is no conclusion to this essay. There is a good attempt at addressing the task, discussing the topic in English, and demonstrating a basic level of competence as a writer in English.

Fluency and Cohesion

The essay uses some transition words, such as *however*, *first of all*, and *secondly*. There are a number of grammar and vocabulary errors which distract the reader from the meaning.

Which means first one is very serious to find friends . . .
This means the first one is very serious about finding friends . . .

Because they don't have many friends so they can be able to talk with everyone.
Because they don't have many friends, they can to talk with everyone.

Therefore, all the friends returns home very happy . . .
Therefore, all the friends return home very happy . . .

There are some punctuation errors.

Those people love people also they can get a good advice from friends.
Those people love people. Also, they can get good advice from friends.

For example, when they have a problem they can ask their many friends . . .
For example, when they have a problem, they can ask their many friends . . .

There are several spelling errors.

~~te~~	too
~~thew~~	though
~~advise~~	advice

Score 1

Topic 128

Some people say that physical exercise should be a required part of every school day. Other people believe that students should spend the whole school day on academic studies. Which opinion do you agree with?

I agree an opinion that students should spend the hole day on academic studies. Because there are have many opportunites for students to be a very good student, like, they have a lot time to spend studies, also, they will be effected by school when they are stay in school. Because of many people staying in library to spend their study, I think that, It will advise me to follow them. More over, staying in school is good for students to enrolling to university. Because they don't have to think something of outside so they really have to think of their lerning, this is a good idea for students to stay. Besides that, if they go home to study, it is ok. But when you are studying in your home, suddenly your father or someone call you at that time, I think, you are confusing about your study. Anyway, I still like to spend the whole school day on academic studies, Because there are have enough books and have many things to use in my knowledge. So I love staying in school day to increase my knowledge.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Content

This essay is flawed on several levels. It is possible that the writer does not fully understand the prompt. The writer seems to think that the choice is between staying at home or staying in school. The writer doesn't say why one should spend the whole school day on academics and does not address why some physical education would be bad. The information is not organized into an essay, but is all one paragraph. There are insufficient details to support the author's opinion.

Fluency and Cohesion

The ideas are unclear and there are no clear transitions between them.

There are quite a number of grammar errors. In fact, there are errors in nearly every sentence.

> I agree an opinion that students should spend the whole day on academic studies.
> I agree with the opinion that students should spend the whole day on academic studies.
>
> Because there are have many opportunities for students to be a very good student . . .
> Because there many opportunities for them to be very good students. . .
>
> . . . they have a lot time to spend studies . . .
> . . . they have a lot of time to spend on their studies . . .

There are a number of punctuation errors, mixed in with other errors.

> I think that, it will advise me to follow them.
> I think that it will be advisable for me to follow them.

There are several spelling errors.

~~hole~~	whole
~~opportunitee~~	opportunities
~~effected~~	affected
~~more-over~~	moreover
~~lorning~~	learning

WRITING STRATEGIES

1. Understand the directions before you begin. Focus on the task not the directions.
2. In the integrated task, take notes as you read. This will help you remember the key words.
3. In the integrated task, as you read, try to guess what the lecture will be about.
4. In the integrated task, take notes as you listen to the lecture. This will help you understand the relation between the reading passage and the lecture.
5. Read the question carefully and understand what you are to do.
6. Make an idea map to help you organize your essay.
7. In the integrated task, write at least one paragraph about the reading passage and at least one paragraph about the lecture.
8. Write in English. You will not have time to translate your essay from your native language into English.
9. Use words and grammar that you are familiar with.
10. Pay attention to the time. Leave a few minutes to go over your writing so you can correct any mistakes.

Organize your time carefully.

Time Strategies

Integrated Task	
Read the passage	3 minutes
Listen to the lecture	2 minutes
Plan	3 minutes
Write	14 minutes
Revise	3 minutes
Independent Task	
Plan	5 minutes
Write	20 minutes
Revise	5 minutes

The time remaining is shown on the title bar of the computer screen. Check the time periodically.

SELF-TEST

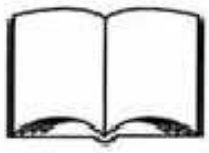
Try the Self-Test for the Integrated and the Independent Tasks now. Pretend you are taking the actual TOEFL. Later, as you study this book, come back to this Self-Test and take it again. When you finish the book, take the test one last time. See how much easier it is. See how much you have learned about planning, writing, and revising.

Integrated Task

Give yourself 3 minutes to read the passage. Then listen to the lecture on the CD. The lecture will take about 2 minutes. Don't forget to take notes as you listen and read. You should begin thinking about your planning as you do this. Then write an essay in response to the question within 20 minutes. Use the space on the following pages.

Divide your writing time like this:

Step 1	PLAN	3 minutes
Step 2	WRITE	14 minutes
Step 3	REVISE	3 minutes



Read this passage within three minutes.

Concern about the phenomenon known as global warming has been growing in recent years. Earth's temperature is rising, largely as a result of human activity. Since the Industrial Revolution, humans have added significantly to the greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere through increases in activities such as cutting down forests and burning fossil fuels like coal and oil. Greenhouse gases hold heat in the atmosphere, and to a certain extent, their presence is natural. An artificial increase in the amount of these gases, however, leads to a rise in temperatures on Earth.

In the middle of the twentieth century, scientists discovered that Earth was getting warmer. Then they discovered that carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere were increasing. They realized that there was a relationship between rising temperatures and rising levels of carbon dioxide. Most of this carbon dioxide comes from emissions from industrial activity and gasoline-powered motor vehicles.

Earth's average temperature increased almost 1.5°F during the twentieth century. Scientists predict that during the twenty-first century, temperatures will continue to increase. What changes could this bring about on our planet? We have already begun to see changes in weather patterns, snow and ice cover, and sea level.

Changes in weather patterns may lead to increased flooding and drought worldwide, as well as more frequent extreme weather conditions such as powerful hurricanes. Rising global temperatures may also result in increasing water scarcity and in extinction of numerous plant and animal species. But not just the weather will be affected. Changes in climate can lead to economic losses, particularly in the agricultural and transportation sectors. One report predicts a possible 1% drop in gross domestic product and a 20% decrease in per capita consumption worldwide.


Track 1

Listen to the lecture.



Summarize the main points in the reading passage and explain how they are strengthened by the information presented in the lecture.

TASK



TASK

Revise

Use the following checklist as a guide in revising your essay. You may not be familiar with some of these items now. You will learn about them all as you study this book.

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

A model essay is on page 244. Your essay does not have to match this model. It is only one of many possible responses.

PART 2

WRITING SKILLS INTEGRATED TASK

Step 1 Plan
- How to Take Notes
  - Reading
  - Listening
- Outlines and Idea Maps
  - Practice 1
  - Practice 2

Step 2 Write
- Write a Thesis Statement
  - Point of View
    - Practice 1
  - Compare and Contrast
    - Practice 2
- Write the Supporting Details
  - Paraphrasing
    - Practice 3
    - Practice 4
  - Citing
    - Practice 5
- Write the Response
  - Summarizing
    - Practice 6

Step 3 Revise
- Use the Revision Checklist
  - Practice 1
  - Practice 2
- Check the Spelling and Punctuation
  - Spelling
  - Punctuation
    - Practice 3
    - Practice 4
    - Extra Practice

Practice Integrated Task

Step 1 Plan

HOW TO TAKE NOTES

Taking good notes is an important part of planning your essay. In this section, you will learn how to take notes on the reading passage and on the lecture and you will learn different ways of organizing your notes.

Reading

When you read, it is important to recognize the topic, the main ideas, and the supporting details. These will help you understand and remember what you read. Identifying these elements will also help you respond on the integrated task.

On the TOEFL iBT, the reading passage is on the computer screen. You cannot mark or highlight it as you could if you were reading a book. You must take notes on a piece of paper. You will need to summarize or paraphrase the main ideas and the supporting details. You will need to compare them to the lecture.

Look at the example below of a reading passage. The first highlighted sentence is the topic or main idea of the whole passage. The other highlighted words or phrases are the main ideas of the paragraphs. Notice that these come at or near the beginning of each paragraph.

Sample Reading Passage

Much research has been done into learning styles. Many educators believe that understanding learning styles can greatly improve what goes on in a classroom or training session. Individuals who are aware of their own learning styles can better focus their learning. Professors and trainers who understand different learning styles are better able to design instruction so as to reach all their students or trainees.

Learning styles have been described in different ways. People may be described as auditory learners, who learn best by listening; visual learners, who learn best by seeing; or kinesthetic learners, who learn best by doing. Another system sees some people as active learners who process new information by doing something with it or using it in some way. Other learners are seen as reflective, preferring to process new information by thinking about it rather than by using it. Similarly, learners might be described as either sequential or global. Sequential learners see new information in logically connected steps, whereas global learners understand things better by looking at the whole picture rather than focusing on the parts.

Understanding learning styles can improve study skills. Sequential learners, for example, can make a habit of outlining new information. Auditory learners can form study groups so that they can talk with others about the topics they are learning. Reflective learn-

NOTE

Every passage has a *main idea*. Every paragraph should also have a main idea. *Topic* is another way of referring to the main idea of the whole passage. A *thesis statement* is what you plan to write about—it is your main idea statement for the whole essay.

ers can find ways to reflect on what they have learned, by asking themselves questions about the material, for example, or by writing summaries.

Professors and trainers who understand the different types of learning styles can take them into account when designing their courses. By incorporating a variety of types of activities into their teaching, professors and trainers have a better chance of reaching all their students and improving the learning experience for everyone.

Listening

When you listen to a lecture or discussion in an academic setting, you listen for the same information that you do when you read for the topic, main ideas, and supporting details. To help you remember what you hear, you can take notes just as you do when you read.

Usually a speaker will give the main idea or his/her opinion in the first few sentences. The supporting details usually follow. You must listen for the main ideas and the supporting details. These will help you understand and remember what you hear. They will also help you when you write your response. You will need to summarize or paraphrase the main ideas and the supporting details.

Look at the example below of part of a lecture. The first highlighted phrase is the topic or main idea of the lecture. The other highlighted phrases are supporting details.

Sample Lecture

There has been a lot of interest in learning styles over the years, but despite all the research that has been done on the topic, it doesn't present a magic solution. For one thing, there are topics that have to be presented in certain ways, no matter what the learning styles of the students may be. Mathematics, for example, needs to be taught in a logical, patterned way. It is also true that many students simply aren't interested in finding out about their learning style. They don't want to spend time reflecting on how they learn and then applying this to their study habits. They don't see a value in it. Instructors, too, aren't necessarily interested. In fact, many instructors tend to teach the way they themselves were taught. Or they present information in the way they understand it, according to their own style, with the assumption that everyone learns the way they do. So, while the research may provide us with some interesting information and food for thought, applying the results to real-life situations can be problematic.

OUTLINES AND IDEA MAPS

You can organize your notes for both the reading passage and the lecture in an outline or on a graphic organizer such as an idea map. Use whatever works best for you to organize what you read and listen to.

Taking notes is a little different from planning what you will say. When you take notes, you write down the topic or main idea for the entire passage or lecture. When you plan your writing, you write a thesis statement. The thesis statement is your main idea for the whole essay.

An outline can look like this.

INTRODUCTION
- TOPIC/MAIN IDEA

BODY
- IDEA 1
  - Detail 1
  - Detail 2
  - Detail 3
- IDEA 2
  - Detail 1
  - Detail 2
  - Detail 3
- IDEA 3
  - Detail 1
  - Detail 2
  - Detail 3

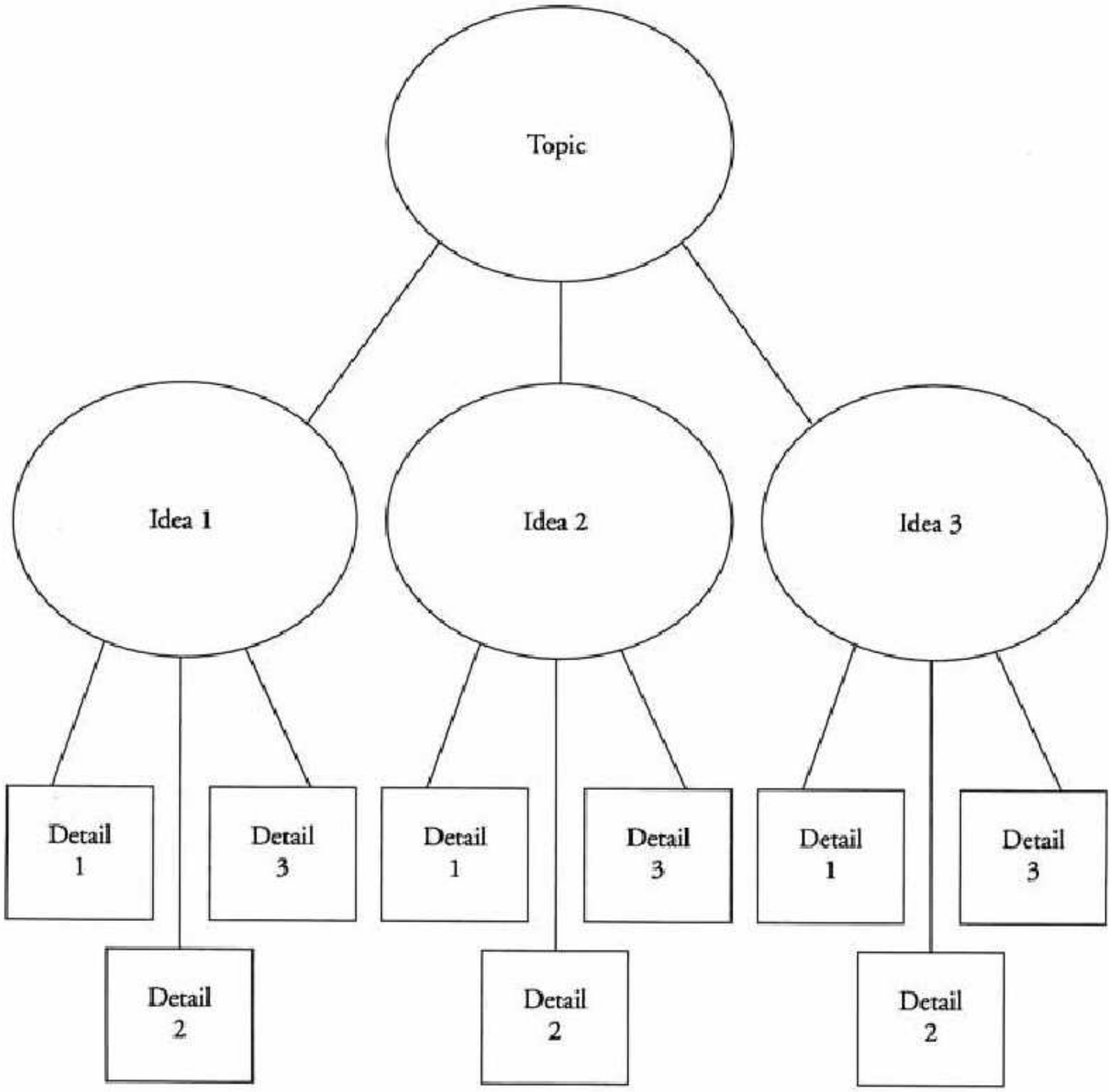
CONCLUSION
- IDEA 1, 2, and 3

An outline can also look like a simple chart. Look at these outlines and notes for the sample reading passage and the sample lecture.

Reading		
Topic/Main idea		Understanding learning styles can improve learning and training.
Paragraph 1	Main idea	Improve classrooms and training sessions
	Supporting details	(1) Individuals can study better. (2) Professors and trainers can instruct better.
Paragraph 2	Main idea	Different ways to describe learning styles
	Supporting details	(1) Auditory, visual, kinesthetic (2) Doing, reflecting (3) Sequential, global
Paragraph 3	Main idea	Improve study skills
	Supporting details	(1) Sequential—make outlines (2) Auditory—talk in study groups (3) Reflective—questions, summaries

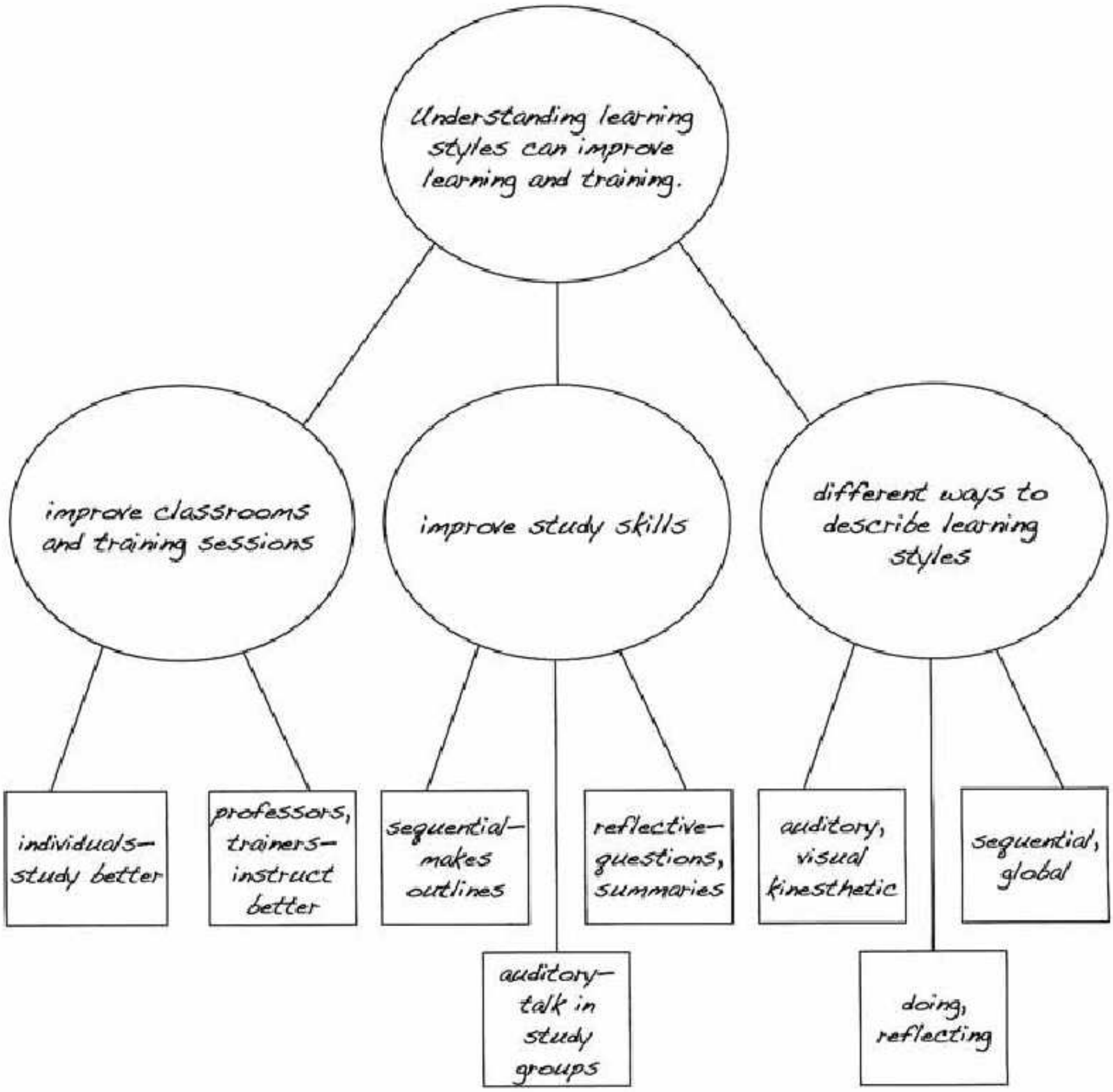
Lecture	
Topic/Main idea	Understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution.
Supporting details	(1) Some things have to be taught in certain ways. (2) Some students are not interested in learning styles. (3) Some instructors are not interested in learning styles.

You can also organize your notes on idea maps. An **idea map** can look like this.

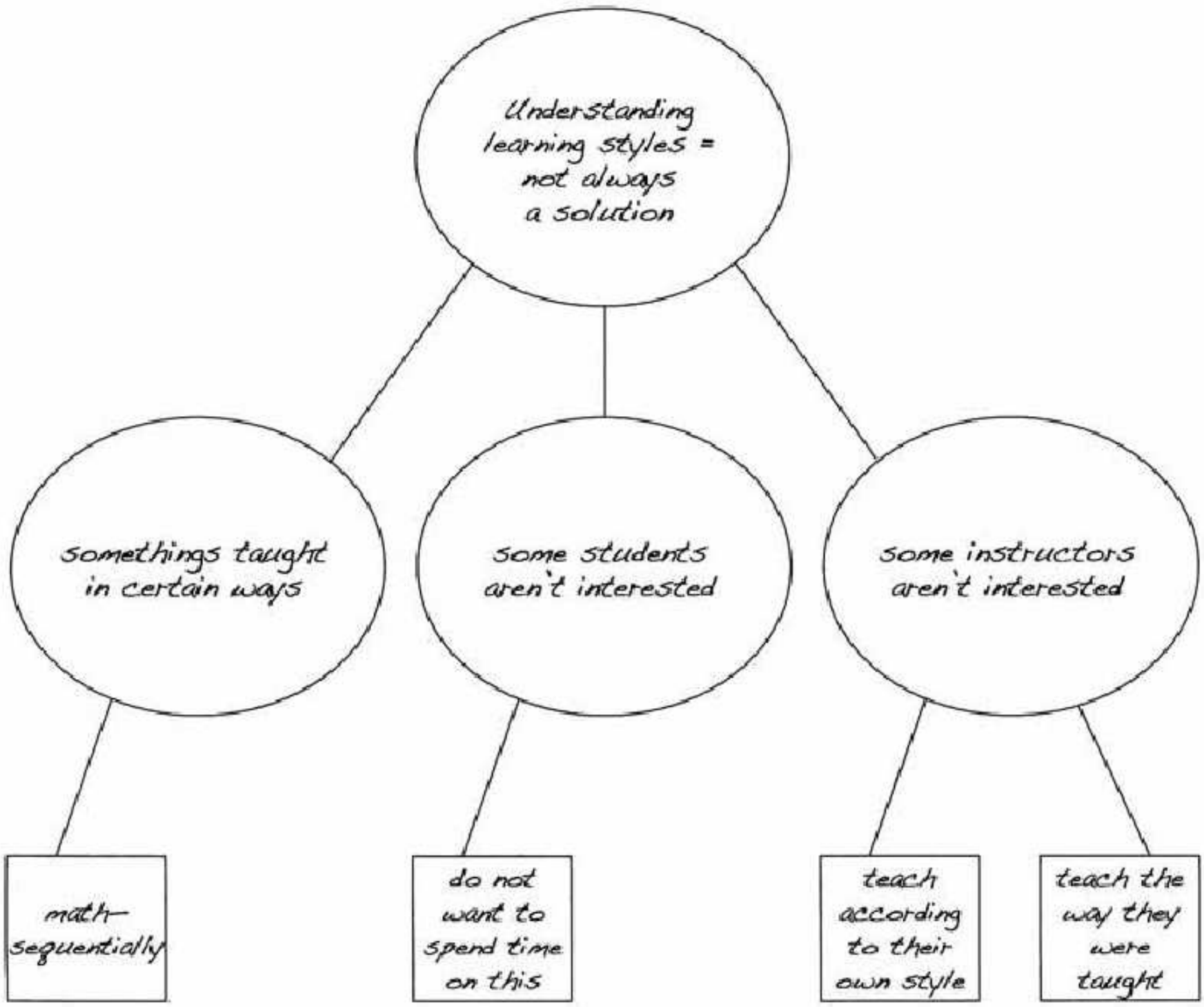


Look at these idea maps for the sample reading passage and sample lecture on pages 41–42.

IDEA MAP FOR READING



IDEA MAP FOR LECTURE



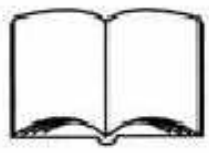
NOTE

For extra practice, do these outlines twice: once using just phrases, the second time using complete sentences.

PRACTICE 1

After you read each paragraph, take notes in the ***Reading Outline****. Then listen to the corresponding lecture and take notes in the* ***Lecture Outline****. In your notes, write the main idea and the supporting details. You may have two or more supporting details.*

Reading 1



Read the paragraph. Write your notes on the Reading Outline.

Invasive plants are a growing problem. In the United States, there are over one thousand species of nonnative plants that have been identified as a threat to native plants and animals. One way nonnative plants are introduced into an area is through gardening. In the past, gardeners cultivated nonnative species for food or medicine. Gardeners still bring in plants from other parts of the world, sometimes because they want hardy or drought-resistant plants, in other cases because of the particular beauty of some species. If the conditions are right in their new environment, these nonnative plants can escape the garden and grow wild. Many of them are very aggressive. Then we call them invasive. They take over an area, pushing out the native species. They may shade out the local plants, strangle them with vines, or deplete the soil of nutrients. The effects on the local ecology can be devastating. Native plants are reduced in number, and animals suffer loss of habitat and reduction of food supplies.

READING OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Lecture 1



Track 2

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Outline.

LECTURE OUTLINE

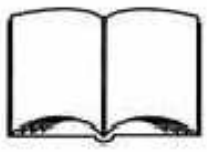
Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Reading 2



Read the paragraph. Write your notes on the Reading Outline.

Does television affect school performance? Many researchers have found that there are strong links between television viewing habits and children's performance in school. Studies have shown that children who spend a lot of time in front of the TV get lower grades than their peers who watch little or no TV. It has also been shown that children who have television sets in their bedrooms earn lower test scores than children with no television sets in their bedrooms. There are those who see TV as a potential educational tool. However, there are actually very few programs on TV that teach children important academic or thinking skills. Most programs aimed at children, such as cartoons, for example, contain little valuable content. Children who spend more time watching TV, spend less time doing homework or interacting with other people. They learn to be passive rather than active. Research supports the view that parents interested in supporting their children's success in school should keep the television turned off.

READING OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Lecture 2



Track 3

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Outline.

LECTURE OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Reading 3

Read the paragraph. Write your notes on the Reading Outline.

Smoking prevention campaigns, particularly those aimed at young people, have met with significant success all around the country. The current campaign to prevent tobacco use among teens in our own state, for example, has had a measurable positive impact. This program includes an advertising campaign, the implementation of no-smoking policies for places frequented by teens, and various community antismoking events. Close to 25% of teens surveyed said that they had participated in one of these events during the past year. More significantly, over 50% reported having seen the antismoking ads. The survey also found that those who had seen the ads were much less likely to start smoking than those who had not seen any of the antismoking ads. The public health department plans to continue and expand the campaign so as to reach more young people throughout the state. Clearly, such campaigns can go a long way toward addressing public health issues.

READING OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Lecture 3

Track 4

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Outline.

LECTURE OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Reading 4

Read the paragraph. Write your notes on the Reading Outline.

Many researchers have looked into the effect of mood on consumer behavior. It has been shown that mood affects the shopper's perception of the store, the amount of time spent shopping, and the number of items purchased. A shopper's mood, of course, may be influenced by many things. Something as uncontrollable as the weather can have a great effect on what and how much a person buys on any particular day. A person's work or personal life also influences the mood that he or she brings into the store, and, of course, retailers have no control over this, either. But retailers do have control over their store environment, and this has been shown to have a great impact on shoppers' moods and therefore on their behavior as consumers. Retailers spend a great deal of effort with such things as lighting, colors, music, and product displays in an effort to create an environment that will have a positive impact on shopper mood and thereby increase sales.

READING OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Lecture 4

Track 5

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Outline.

LECTURE OUTLINE

Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

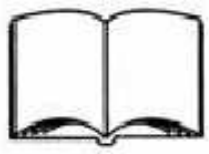
(2) _____

(3) _____

PRACTICE 2

After you read each passage, take notes on the ***Reading Idea Map****. Then listen to the corresponding lecture and take notes on the* ***Lecture Idea Map****. In your notes, write the topic, the main ideas, and the supporting details. You may have two or more supporting details.*

Reading 5



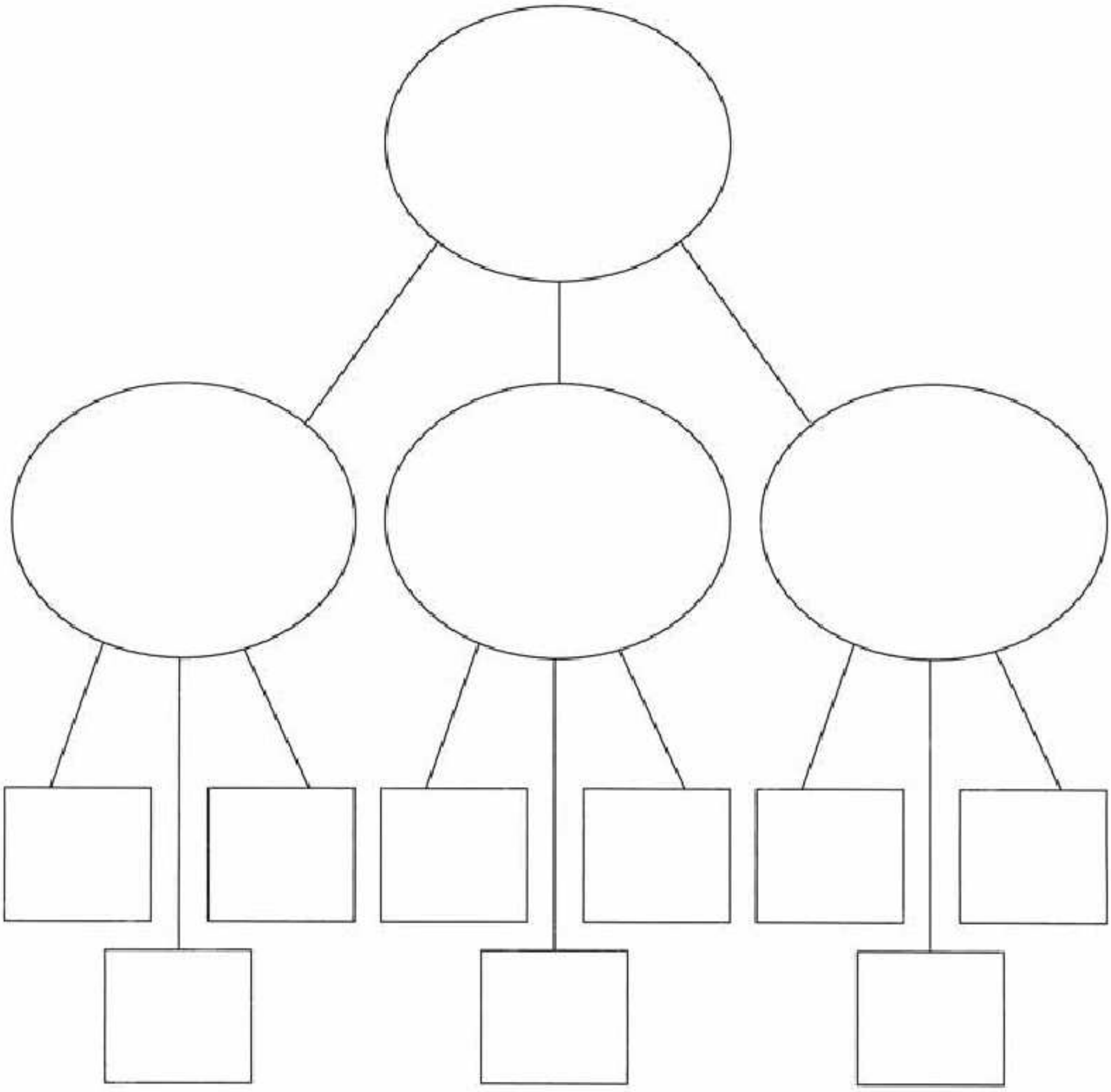
Read the passage. Write your notes on the Reading Idea Map.

Advances in technology are usually assumed to increase worker productivity, but that is not always the case. Technology has made it possible for office workers to never leave their desks, and the physical consequences of this can actually lead to lower productivity.

Remaining seated at a desk all day can lead to back and neck pain. Constant use of a computer often leads to repetitive stress injuries as well as eye strain. A recent survey found that many office workers even remain at their desks while eating lunch so that they can answer their e-mail or continue working on a project. This only exacerbates the situation. Even though workers may spend the entire work day at their desks, the resulting physical discomfort has been shown to lead to decreased, not increased, productivity.

What can be done about this? First, office workers need to be more aware of the need for breaks. Getting up and walking around for five minutes every hour or so will give their bodies a rest. Eating lunch away from the office and arranging face-to-face meetings rather than always relying on e-mail both encourage time away from the desk. Second, arranging the desk space is crucial. Use of ergonomic equipment such as chairs and keyboards can greatly relieve strain on the back and neck, reducing discomfort and increasing productivity.

READING IDEA MAP



Lecture 5

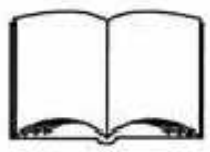


Track 6

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Idea Map.

LECTURE IDEA MAP

Reading 6



Read the passage. Write your notes on the Reading Idea Map.

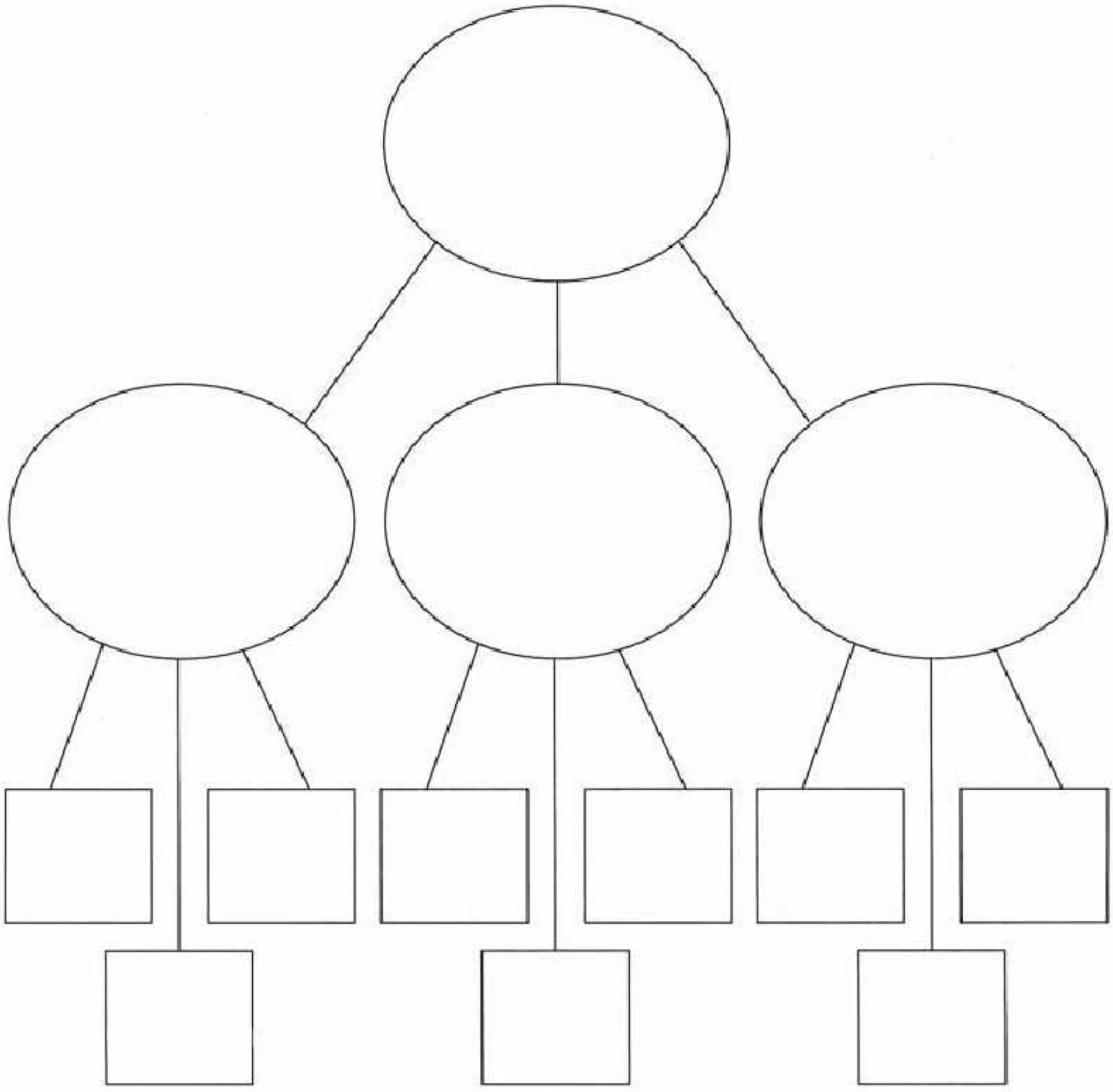
Animal-assisted therapy, or AAT, is the use of companion animals to help people improve their emotional and physical health. It is common for psychiatrists, psychologists, and physicians to recommend pets to patients struggling with emotional difficulties. Caring for pets appears to have benefits for physical health, as well.

Pets are a good source of emotional support. They are wonderful companions for people suffering from loneliness. People who feel isolated from other people may enter more easily into a relationship with a pet because it is a non-judgmental and non-threatening relationship. Caring for pets can also give focus to the lives of pet owners by establishing a need for a daily routine and by providing opportunities for hobbies and club activities. In addition, pets provide comfort and a diversion from worries. Developing a relationship of trust with a pet can help relieve people suffering from anxiety.

There is also documentation that caring for pets can improve physical health. It has been shown that petting and talking to a pet lowers blood pressure and heart rate and improves survival rates from heart disease. Pets provide the opportunity for regular physical activity. Pets also provide the opportunity to play. It is well established that animals (including humans) who play live longer, healthier lives than those who do not. In fact, pet owners make up to 20% fewer visits to doctors' offices than non-pet owners.

Pet therapy is common practice in homes for the elderly. These institutions often keep resident cats and birds as pets. Volunteers often visit the homes with dogs and other types of pets, as well. It is now becoming more widely accepted that pet therapy can provide needed emotional support to people of all ages, and that there are physical benefits, as well.

READING IDEA MAP

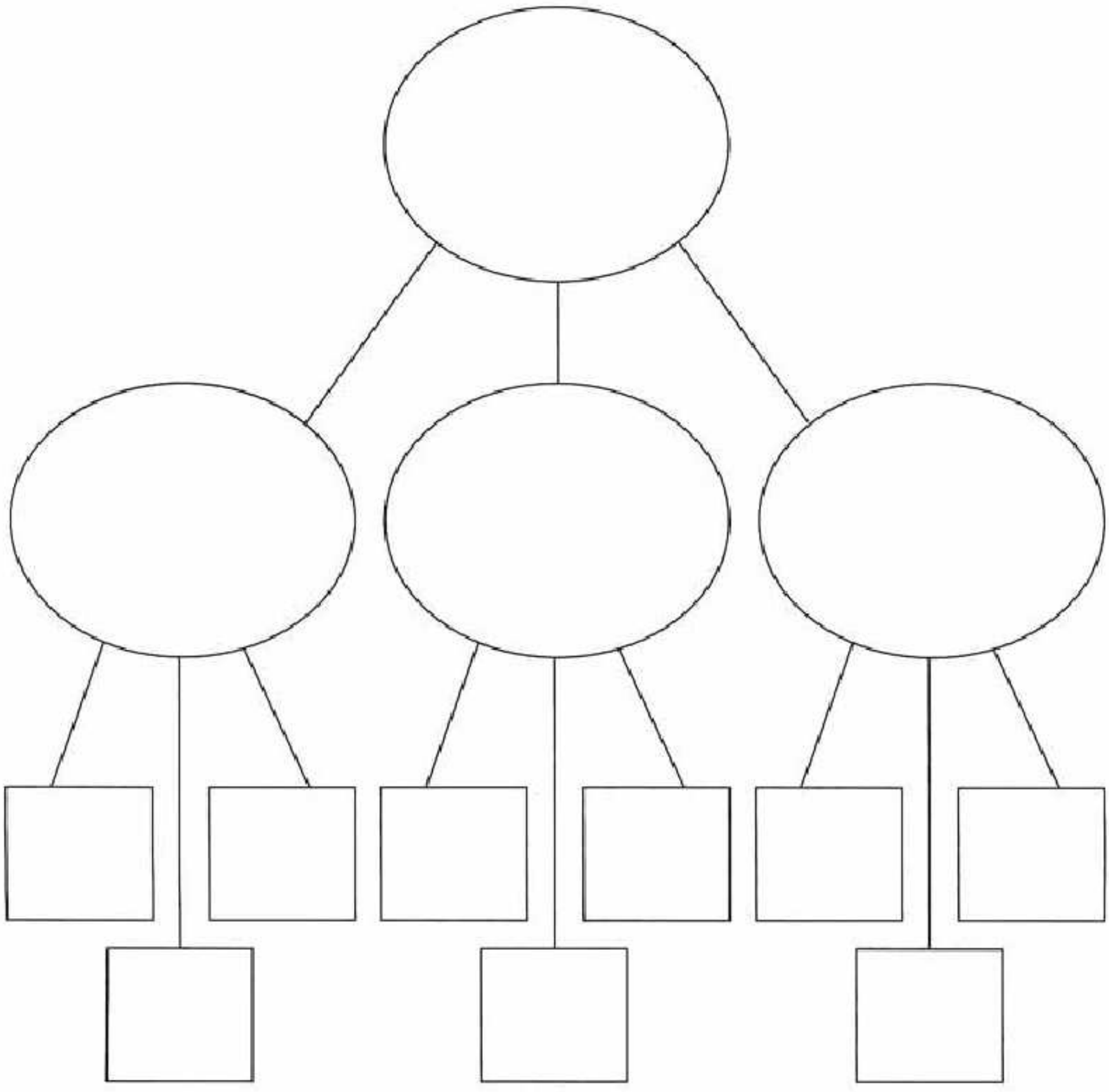


Lecture 6

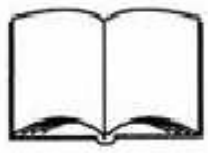

Track 7

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Idea Map.

LECTURE IDEA MAP



Reading 7



Read the passage. Write your notes on the Reading Idea Map.

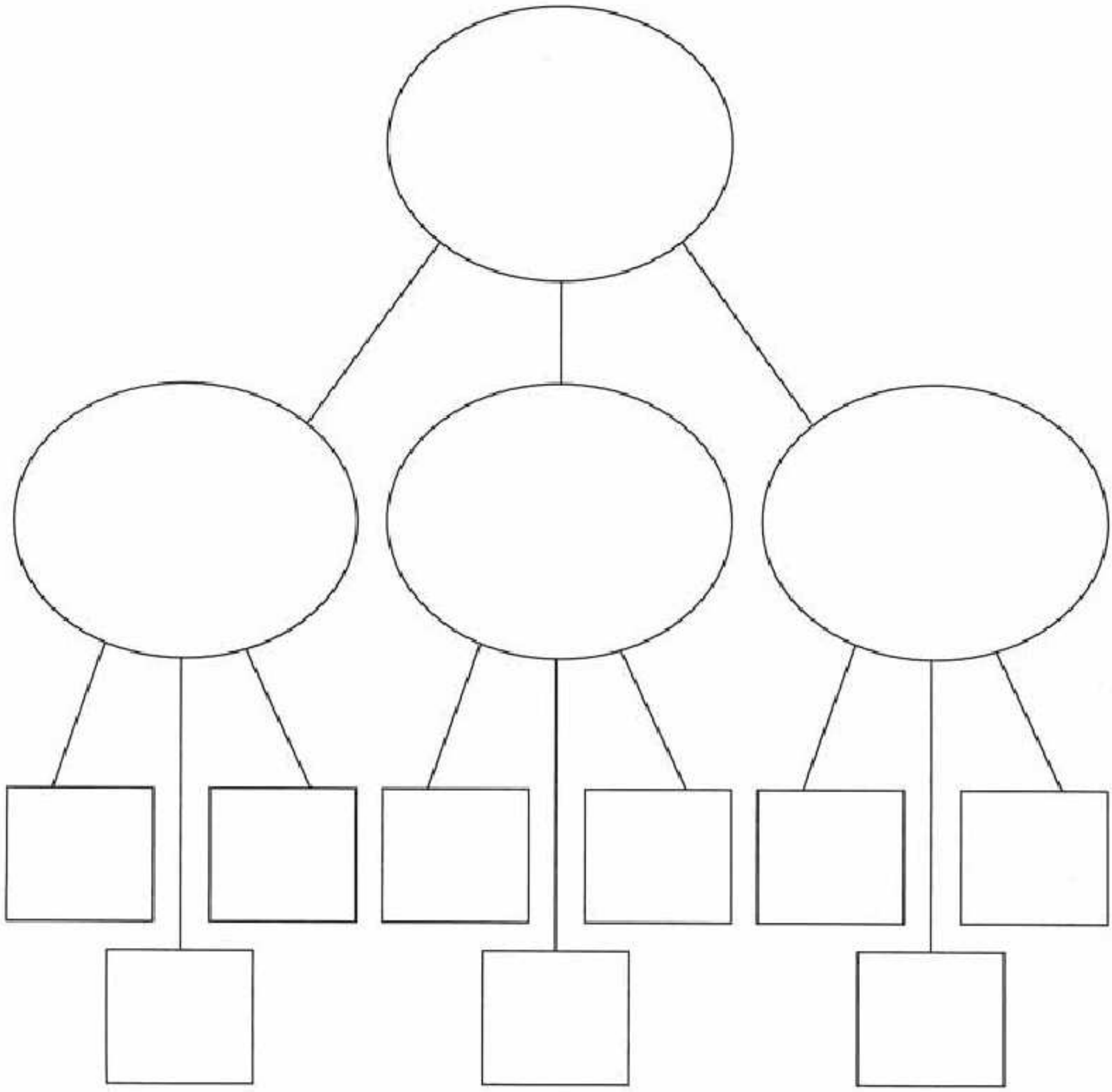
Pollution of our oceans is a serious problem. There are different sources of ocean pollution, and much of it results from activities that take place on land. In fact, 80% of ocean pollution originates on land. For example, oil is one of the major sources of ocean pollution, but only about 12% of this type of pollution results from oil spills at sea. Another 36% of it comes from waste from cities and factories which travels to the ocean through rivers and drains.

Fertilizers are another serious source of ocean pollution. Fertilizers wash off farms and lawns and eventually end up in the ocean. Once in the ocean, they allow algae to grow. The overgrowth of algae depletes the ocean of oxygen and suffocates other marine plants, resulting in dead areas. There are several large dead areas in the world's oceans, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Baltic Sea.

Garbage is another type of pollution in our oceans, and it can seriously harm marine animals. One of the worst culprits is plastic. This material does not break down easily. Animals often mistake it for food and eat it. Plastic bags can block an animal's breathing passage. The plastic rings that hold packs of cans together can choke birds and other small animals.

Toxic chemicals also cause serious pollution problems. Until the 1970s, toxic waste chemicals were freely dumped into the oceans. In the 1970s, laws were passed banning such activity. However, run-off from manufacturing and disposal sites as well as accidental leaks continue to pollute our oceans with toxic chemicals. These chemicals accumulate in the animals that ingest them and move up the food chain. They eventually end up in the seafood that we eat.

READING IDEA MAP

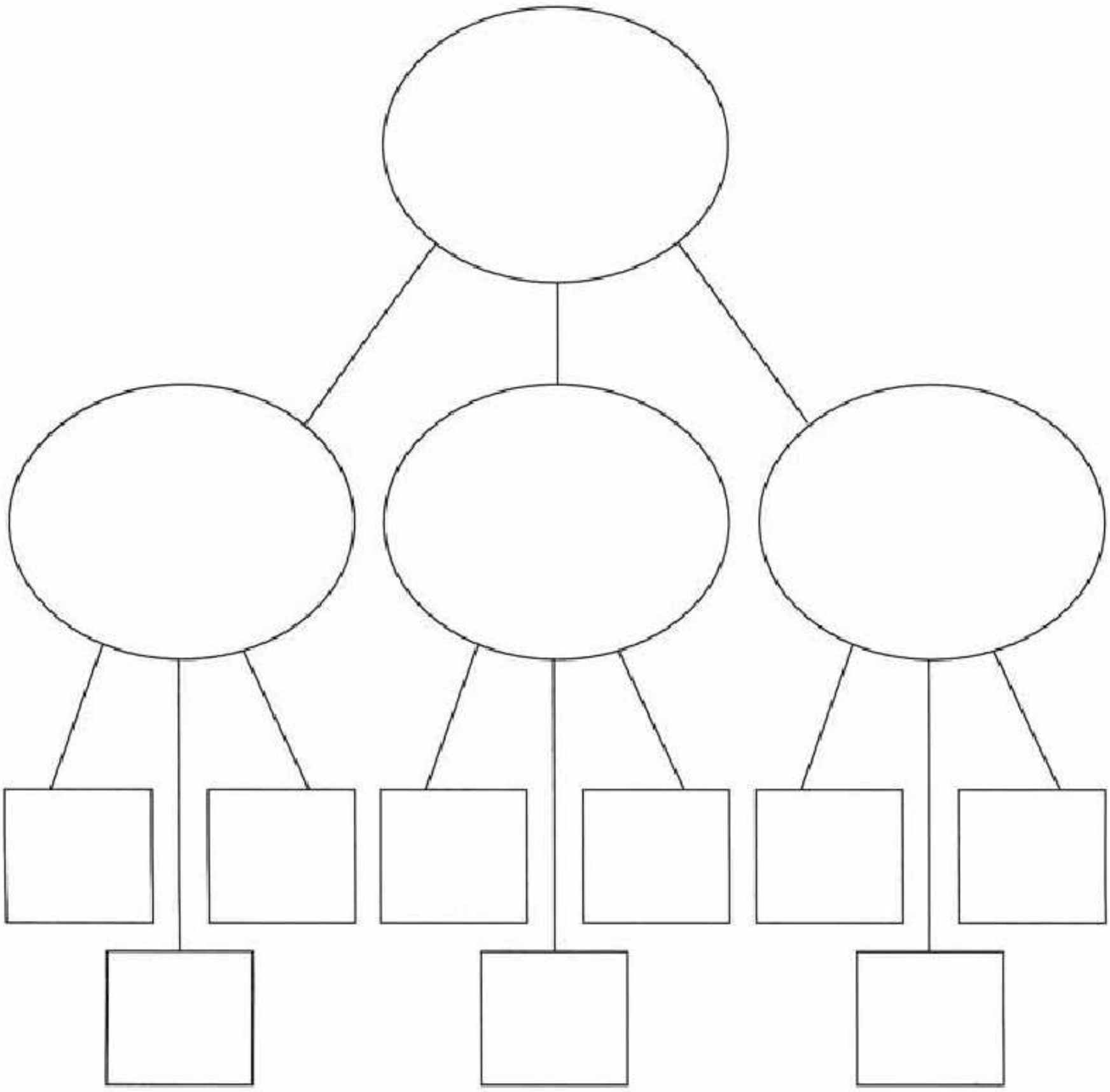


Lecture 7

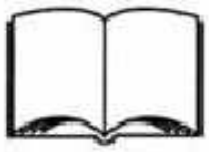


Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Idea Map.

LECTURE IDEA MAP



Reading 8



Read the passage. Write your notes on the Reading Idea Map.

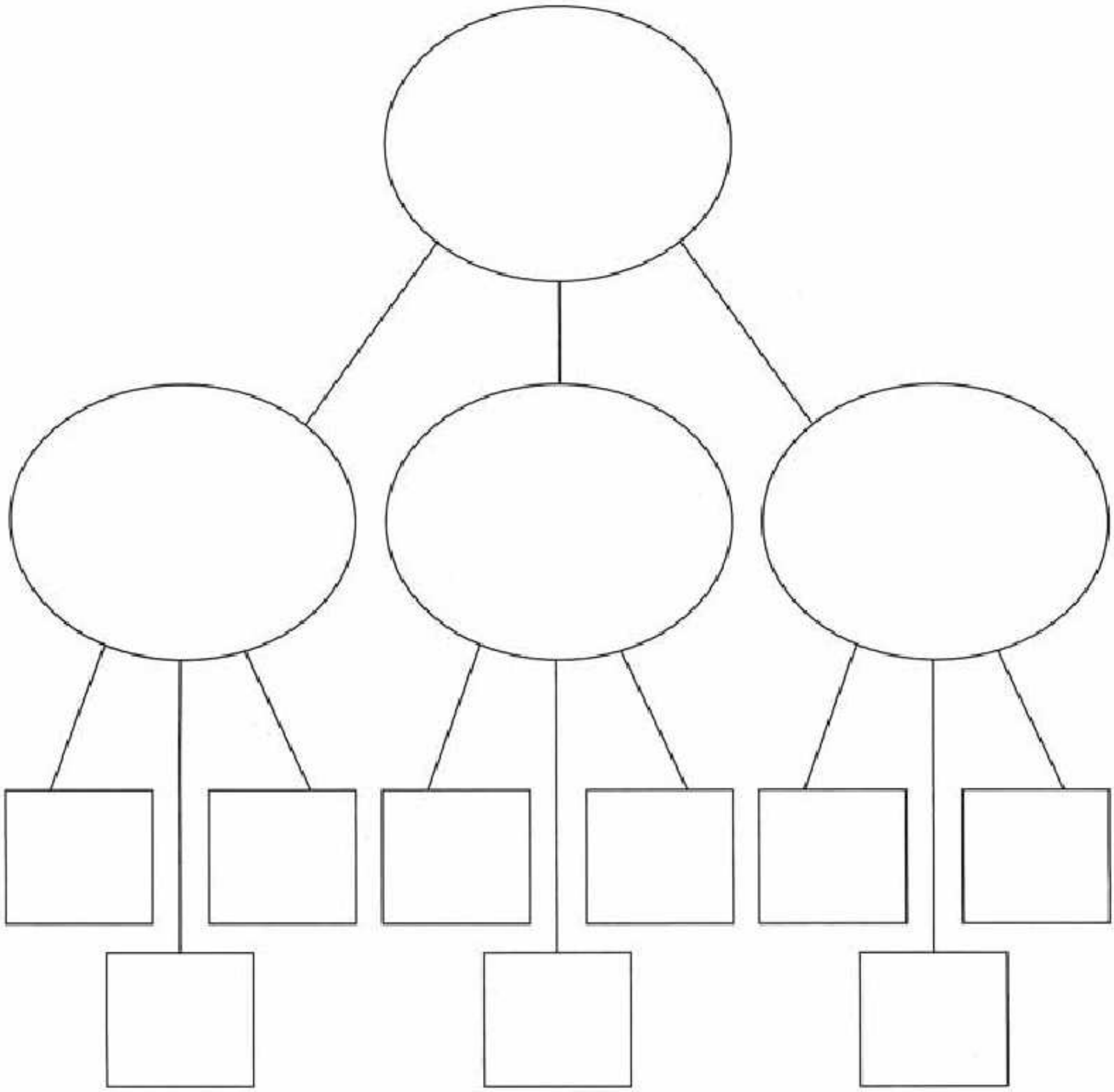
The psychological effects of color have been of interest to people for a long time. The ancient Egyptians, Chinese, and Indians all used color as part of healing therapies. The psychology of color is still of interest in modern times. Interior decorators, graphic designers, and web designers all incorporate an understanding of the relationship between color and mood into their work.

In selecting color for an interior space, the designer considers what type of mood is compatible with the activities that will be carried out in that space. At least one study has found that office workers are able to concentrate better in rooms that are painted with cool blues or dark greens. Yellow might be considered suitable for a sales office because it contributes to a positive mood. Health care centers, on the other hand, are often painted with neutral colors, as these convey a sense of cleanliness and help the healthcare workers stay clear and focused. Restaurants are often painted orange or bright red as it is believed that these colors stimulate the appetite.

There is some research indicating that color may have an effect on the body as well. Some scientists believe that blue slows the heart rate and reduces blood pressure. Red, on the other hand, is believed to increase blood pressure.

While there is a great deal of interest in the psychology of color, many scientists remain skeptical. Although the effect of color on mood has been observed in many cases, research has shown that this effect is often temporary. In addition, observed psychological effects of a particular color may not hold up across cultures.

READING IDEA MAP

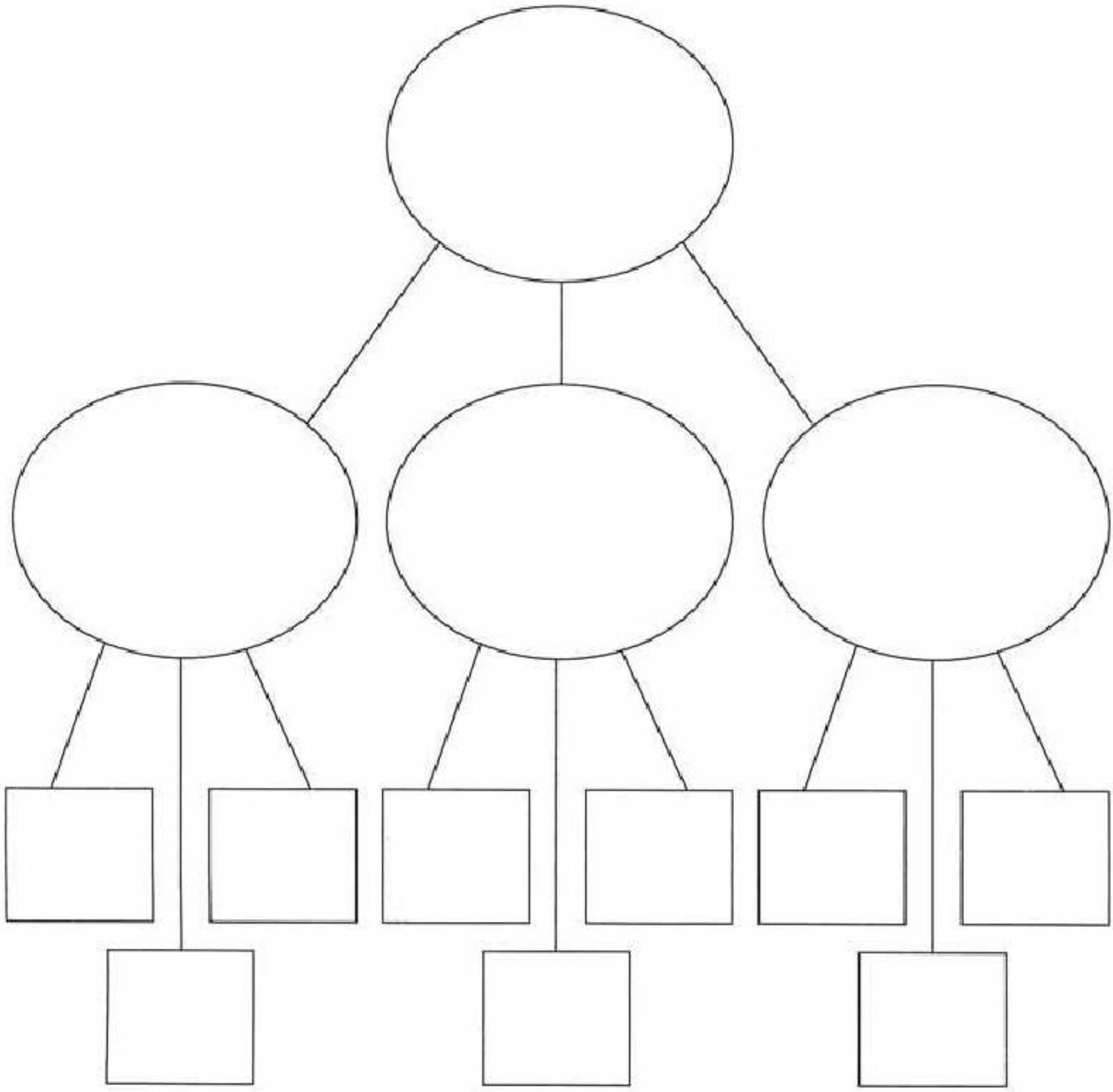


Lecture 8

Track 9

Listen to the lecture. Write your notes on the Lecture Idea Map.

LECTURE IDEA MAP



Step 2 Write

WRITE A THESIS STATEMENT

Your thesis statement is what you plan to write about. It is your main idea statement for the whole essay. For the Integrated Task, your thesis statement must refer to the main ideas of both the reading passage and the lecture and must say whether the ideas are similar or opposite.

Point of View

In both the reading passage and the lecture, a point of view is explained. When you write your response for the Integrated Task you will have to restate these points of view. You can look at the main idea that you wrote in your notes. This should be a restatement or summary of the main point of view explained in the reading passage or the lecture.

When you restate another person's ideas, you use reporting verbs. Here are a few common reporting verbs.

Reporting Verbs

believe	think	suggest	describe
propose	assert	tell	warn
state	say	point out	explain

Look at the following examples of restating a point of view.

EXAMPLES

Reading 1

The author explains that understanding learning styles can improve learning and training.

Lecture 1

The speaker suggests that understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution.

PRACTICE 1

Look at the main ideas in the notes you wrote in Step 1: Plan, Practice 1 and 2 on pages 48–63. Rewrite each idea as a restatement of point of view. Use reporting verbs.

Reading 1 The author states that _____

Lecture 1 The speaker explains that _____

Reading 2 The author believes that _____

Lecture 2 The speaker proposes that _____

Reading 3 The author _____

Lecture 3 The speaker _____

Reading 4 The author _____

Lecture 4 The speaker _____

Reading 5 The author _____

Lecture 5 The speaker _____

Reading 6 The author _____

Lecture 6 The speaker _____

Reading 7 The author _____

Lecture 7 The speaker _____

Reading 8 The author _____

Lecture 8 The speaker _____

Compare and Contrast

When you write your response for the Integrated Task, you will be asked to compare the ideas in the reading passage and the lecture if they are similar in some way. You may be asked how the information in the lecture adds to, supports, or explains the information in the reading passage. Here are some words you can use when you compare ideas.

Compare

like	similar to	also
and	similarly	likewise
in the same way	as	agree

You will be asked to contrast the ideas in the reading passage and the lecture if they are different or opposite to each other. You may be asked how the information in the lecture casts doubt on the information in the reading passage. Here are some words you can use when you contrast ideas.

Contrast

however	on the other hand	but
although	in contrast	disagree

In Practice 1 on page 65, you restated the main point of view of each reading passage and lecture. When you write your thesis statement, you will put these two ideas together and say whether they are similar or opposing points of view.

Look at these examples from Practice 1 on page 65.

EXAMPLES

Reading 1

The author explains that understanding learning styles can improve learning and training.

Lecture 1

The speaker suggests that understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution.

These ideas are opposite to each other. When you write the thesis statement, you will *contrast* them.

EXAMPLE

Thesis statement

The author explains that understanding learning styles can improve learning and training. The speaker, *however*, suggests that understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution.

This example uses the word *however* to show that the two points of view oppose each other.

PRACTICE 2

Look at the restated points of view you wrote in Practice 1 on page 65. Write a thesis statement that combines each pair of viewpoints.

1. Compare Reading 1 and Lecture 1 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

2. Contrast Reading 2 and Lecture 2 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

3. Contrast Reading 3 and Lecture 3 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

4. Compare Reading 4 and Lecture 4 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

5. Contrast Reading 5 and Lecture 5 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

6. Compare Reading 6 and Lecture 6 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

7. Compare Reading 7 and Lecture 7 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

8. Contrast Reading 8 and Lecture 8 points of view.

   Thesis statement: _____

   _____

WRITE THE SUPPORTING DETAILS

When you write your response for the Integrated Task, you must explain the ideas you read and heard. These are not your own, original ideas. They are your explanation or report of other people's ideas.

When you write the supporting details in your response, you should report the most important supporting details the author and speaker used. You can use paraphrasing and citing to do this.

Paraphrasing

When you paraphrase, you use your own words to express what another person wrote or said. When you paraphrase a sentence or group of sentences, look for the most important points. Look at the following examples.

Original
People may be described as auditory learners, who learn best by listening; visual learners, who learn best by seeing; or kinesthetic learners, who learn best by doing.

Paraphrase
Some people learn more easily by listening, others by seeing, and still others by doing.

Original
Another system sees some people as active learners who process new information by doing something with it or using it in some way. Other learners are seen as reflective, preferring to process new information by thinking about it rather than by using it.

Paraphrase
Active learners understand new information by doing something with it. Reflective learners understand information by thinking about it.

Original
Similarly, learners might be described as either sequential or global. Sequential learners see new information in logically connected steps, whereas global learners understand things better by looking at the whole picture rather than focusing on the parts.

Paraphrase
Sequential learners look at information as a series of steps, but global learners prefer to look at the whole rather than the parts.

PRACTICE 3

Read each original text. Then choose the best paraphrase.

Reading 1

1. In the past, gardeners cultivated nonnative species for food or medicine. Gardeners still bring in plants from other parts of the world, sometimes because they want hardy or drought-resistant plants, in other cases because of the particular beauty of some species.

   Paraphrase

   (A) In the past, gardeners grew nonnative plants for food and medicine. Now they do not because these plants are neither hardy, drought resistant, nor beautiful.

   (B) Gardeners from around the world introduce each other to different species of plants. Each gardener tries to find the hardiest, most drought-resistant, or most beautiful plant in the world.

   (C) Gardeners have introduced nonnative plants for food and medicine. They may also plant them because they are hardy, drought resistant, or beautiful.

2. Then we call them invasive. They take over an area, pushing out the native species. They may shade out the local plants, strangle them with vines, or deplete the soil of nutrients.

   Paraphrase

   (A) Invasive plants harm native species by shading them out, strangling them, or using up all the nutrients in the soil.

   (B) Many local plants grow on vines and invade an area with shade.

   (C) In order to grow, invasive plants require plenty of shade and soil rich in nutrients.

3. The effects on the local ecology can be devastating. Native plants are reduced in number, and animals suffer loss of habitat and reduction of food supplies.

   Paraphrase

   (A) The local ecology devastates native plants and reduces food supplies.

   (B) The local ecology suffers because there are fewer native plants and animals lose their homes and food.

   (C) Large numbers of native plants and animals suffer a devastating loss of habitat.

Reading 2

4. It has also been shown that children who have television sets in their bedrooms earn lower test scores than children with no television sets in their bedrooms.

   Paraphrase

   (A) Children who have TV sets in their bedrooms get low grades in school because they do not get enough sleep.
   (B) Children who have TV sets in their bedrooms do not do as well in school as their classmates.
   (C) Children who spend a lot of time watching TV spend less time preparing for their school tests.

5. There are those who see TV as a potential educational tool. However, there are actually very few programs on TV that teach children important academic or thinking skills. Most programs aimed at children, cartoons, for example, contain little valuable content.

   Paraphrase

   (A) Some people think of TV as educational, but most children's programs actually do not have much valuable or educational content.
   (B) TV is not a useful academic tool because educators do not believe that children should watch cartoons.
   (C) Children usually prefer to watch cartoons because the academic content of educational programs makes them think too hard.

6. Children who spend more time watching TV spend less time doing homework or interacting with other people. They learn to be passive rather than active.

   Paraphrase

   (A) TV watching is a passive activity while doing homework is active.
   (B) Children should keep the TV turned off when they are doing their homework or interacting with other people.
   (C) TV takes time away from important activities like doing homework or being with other people.

7. Research supports the view that parents interested in supporting their children's success in school should keep the television turned off.

   Paraphrase

   (A) Parents can help their children by turning off the television.
   (B) Parents should do more research about school success and television.
   (C) Parents are often interested in children's television programs.

Reading 3

8. This program includes an advertising campaign, the implementation of no-smoking policies for places frequented by teens, and various community anti-smoking events.

Paraphrase

(A) The program frequently included teens who implemented a variety of events.
(B) The program included advertising, no-smoking policies, and antismoking events.
(C) The program implemented advertising in a variety of places throughout the community.

9. Close to 25% of teens surveyed said that they had participated in one of these events during the past year. More significantly, over 50% reported having seen the antismoking ads.

Paraphrase

(A) Many teens participated in the events and many more saw the ads.
(B) Almost 25% of teens had surveyed the program and heard about the events.
(C) A significant number of teens participated in an advertising campaign and reported on the events.

10. The public health department plans to continue and expand the campaign so as to reach more young people throughout the state. Clearly, such campaigns can go a long way toward addressing public health issues.

Paraphrase

(A) The public health department will continue to ask young people throughout the state about public health issues that affect them.
(B) The public health department plans to address more public health issues concerning young people.
(C) The public health department will continue with this successful campaign to improve public health among young people in the state.

Reading 4

11. A shopper's mood, of course, may be influenced by many things. Something as uncontrollable as the weather can have a great effect on what and how much a person buys on any particular day. A person's work or personal life also influences the mood that he or she brings into the store, and, of course, retailers have no control over this, either.

Paraphrase

(A) A shopper may feel he or she has no control over his life when the weather is bad or when there are problems at work, and this puts retailers in a bad mood.
(B) A shopper usually does not buy much from retailers when the weather is bad or when there are problems at work or at home.
(C) A shopper's mood may be influenced by things that retailers cannot control, such as the weather or personal or work problems.

12. But retailers do have control over their store environment, and this has been shown to have a great impact on shoppers' moods and therefore on their behavior as consumers.

Paraphrase

(A) Retailers can influence shoppers' moods by controlling the store environment.
(B) Retailers feel the impact of consumers' behavior in the store environment.
(C) The behavior of moody shoppers has a great impact on the store environment.

13. Retailers spend a great deal of effort with such things as lighting, colors, music, and product displays in an effort to create an environment that will have a positive impact on shopper mood and thereby increase sales.

Paraphrase

(A) It takes a lot of effort to create a positive environment and increase sales.
(B) Shoppers buy more when retailers use lighting, color, and music to improve shopper mood.
(C) More effort is needed to determine the impact of the retail environment on shopper mood.

PRACTICE 4

Paraphrase the following original sentences from the lectures.

NOTE

Some sentences include ellipses (. . .). These show where unnecessary words were left out. Some sentences also have words in brackets ([ ]). These words were added for sense.

Lecture 1

1. Garlic mustard is a problem in several areas in the United States. It's a cool season plant, blooming in midspring. It's replacing several other spring-blooming species because it competes with them for light, nutrients, and space.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

2. The West Virginia white butterfly is also threatened by this invasive plant. Garlic mustard pushes out certain native species of mustard which the butterfly relies on for a food source.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

3. Garlic mustard was first introduced to the United States in the nineteenth century as a food source. It was first recorded on Long Island but now thrives throughout the eastern and midwestern United States.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

Lecture 2

4. TV can expose children to new ideas and information that they might otherwise not have access to.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

5. The key here is the amount of time spent in front of the TV.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

6. Children who spend three hours a day or more in front of the TV do poorly in school, scoring lower on both math and reading tests than children who watch some, but less, TV.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

Lecture 3

7. Surveys taken near the end of this campaign, in March of last year, showed that well over half of those surveyed were aware of the campaign . . . and that 40% reported that they were unlikely to try smoking.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

8. Just three months after the campaign ended, this figure changed dramatically.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

9. At the end of June, 58% of survey participants reported that they were "very likely" to smoke in the next year. At the same time, less than 30% reported awareness of the antismoking campaign.

   Paraphrase

   _____

   _____

Lecture 4

10. The researchers found that restaurant patrons who heard music with a slow tempo tended to remain at the restaurant longer than patrons who heard fast music. . . . they [also] purchased more food, which of course is the effect desired by the restaurant owner.

Paraphrase

_____

_____

11. The study subjects were . . . college students. Some of them heard currently popular hit songs while shopping—the "familiar" music—while others heard music normally aimed at an older age group.

Paraphrase

_____

_____

12. [The students] who heard familiar music stayed in the store longer than those listening to unfamiliar music. They also expressed more positive opinions of the products offered for sale.

Paraphrase

_____

_____

CITING

Sometimes when you paraphrase another person's ideas, you may want to include an exact word or phrase that the person said. You need to be careful when you do this. You do not want to copy someone else's words and pretend they are yours. If you plagiarize (copy others' words) on the TOEFL iBT Writing section, your paper will not be scored.

You can avoid this problem. You can acknowledge that you are using someone else's ideas. You can cite this person as the original author of the idea. When you cite another person's words, you do two things:

1. You let the reader know whose words they are.
2. You put quotation marks around the words that the person said or wrote.

EXAMPLE

Original

Sequential learners, for example, can make a habit of outlining new information.

Paraphrase with cited reference

The author proposes that sequential learners "make a habit of outlining new information."

Notice that the example has quotes around a key phrase that is cited, and it tells us who said this, *the author.*

You will need to use a reporting verb to introduce the cited reference. Here are several reporting verbs you can use for citing.

NOTE

Most of the reporting verbs are followed by a *that* clause. (*Describe* is often followed by an object and an *as* clause instead.) *Tell* and *remind* must have an object before *that*.

Reporting Verbs

say	tell	state	remind
suggest	claim	remark	assert
report	explain	point out	contend
note	propose	believe	think
describe	warn	confirm	deny

Look at the following examples.

EXAMPLES

Original

People may be described as auditory learners, who learn best by listening.

Paraphrase with cited reference

The author tells us that auditory learners "learn best by listening."

Original

Global learners understand things better by looking at the whole picture.

Paraphrase with cited reference

The author explains that global learners prefer to look at "the whole picture."

NOTE

The topic itself and terms customarily used to discuss a topic do not need quotes. Common words do not usually need quotes unless they are used in some unusual way.

Original

It is also true that many students simply are not interested in finding out about their learning style.

Paraphrase with cited reference

The speaker suggests that students "simply aren't interested" in information about learning styles.

PRACTICE 5

For each paraphrase below, add an appropriate reporting verb. Then put quotation marks around the cited word or words.

1. *Original* The effects on the local ecology can be devastating.
   Paraphrase The author _____ that invasive plants may have devastating results.

2. *Original* Most programs aimed at children, such as cartoons, for example, contain little valuable content.
   Paraphrase The author _____ that most children's TV programs do not have valuable content.

3. *Original* Smoking prevention campaigns, particularly those aimed at young people, have met with significant success all around the country.
   Paraphrase The author _____ that antismoking campaigns for teens have had significant success.

4. *Original* . . . office assistants can devote themselves to other tasks. Offices can operate with fewer assistants, thus spending a great deal less on salaries and benefits.
   Paraphrase The speaker _____ that offices save money because office workers can now devote themselves to other tasks.

5. *Original* The fact is, research shows that children who watch an hour or so of TV daily . . . actually do better in school than children who do not watch TV at all.
   Paraphrase The speaker _____ that when children watch TV, they actually do better in school.

6. *Original* It is well established that animals (including humans) who play live longer, healthier lives than those who do not.
   Paraphrase The author _____ that play helps people live longer, healthier lives.

7. *Original* Health care centers, on the other hand, are often painted with neutral colors, as these convey a sense of cleanliness . . .
   Paraphrase The author _____ that neutral colors are used in health care centers to convey a sense of cleanliness.

WRITE THE RESPONSE

Summarizing

A summary is a short description of the main idea and supporting information in a passage. When you write the response for the Integrated Task, you will summarize the main points of the reading passage and the lecture and compare or contrast them.

Your notes will give you the foundation to write a concise summary and comparison of the different ideas presented. You can use the notes you wrote in Step 1, and the thesis statement and rephrased sentences you have written in Step 2.

Look at the following notes for the sample reading passage and lecture.

Step 1 Plan

READING NOTES

Topic/Main idea Understanding learning styles can improve learning and training.

Paragraph 1	Main idea	Improve classrooms and training sessions
	Supporting details	(1) Individuals can study better. (2) Professors and trainers can instruct better.
Paragraph 2	Main idea	Different ways to describe learning styles
	Supporting details	(1) Auditory, visual, kinesthetic (2) Doing, reflecting (3) Sequential, global
Paragraph 3	Main idea	Improve study skills
	Supporting details	(1) Sequential—make outlines (2) Auditory—talk in study groups (3) Reflective—questions, summaries

LECTURE NOTES

Topic/Main idea Understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution.

Supporting details	(1) Some things have to be taught in certain ways. (2) Some students are not interested in learning styles. (3) Some instructors are not interested in learning styles.

Now look at the way the notes were used to write a thesis statement and paraphrased sentences.

Step 2 Write

THESIS STATEMENT

The author explains that understanding learning styles can improve learning and training. The speaker, however, suggests that understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution.

PARAPHRASED SENTENCES

Reading

- Understanding learning styles helps individuals learn better and professors and trainers instruct better.
- Some people learn more easily by listening, others by seeing, and still others by doing.
- Active learners understand new information by doing something with it. Reflective learners understand information by thinking about it.
- Sequential learners look at information as a series of steps, but global learners prefer to look at the whole rather than the parts.
- Sequential learners, auditory learners, and reflective learners, for example, can each choose the study methods that best suit their individual learning styles.

Lecture

- Some subjects have to be taught in certain ways. Math has to be taught sequentially.
- The speaker suggests that students "simply aren't interested" in information about learning styles.
- Some professors are not interested in learning styles.

NOTE

Formal writing generally does not use contractions. The sample responses for the Integrated Task use contractions only in material cited from the Lecture. Contractions are, of course, natural in spoken English, even in fairly formal situations.

Finally, read this summary which contrasts the reading passage and the lecture.

SUMMARY

The author explains that understanding learning styles can improve learning and training. The speaker, however, suggests that understanding learning styles does not always provide a solution. — *Thesis statement*

The author states that understanding learning styles helps individuals learn better and professors and trainers instruct better. He explains different ways to describe learning styles. Some people learn more easily by listening, others by seeing, and still others by doing. Active learners understand new information by doing something with it. Reflective learners understand information by thinking about it. Sequential learners look at information as a series of steps, but global learners prefer to look at the whole rather than the parts. The author believes that understanding learning styles can improve study skills. Sequential learners, auditory learners, and reflective learners, for example, can each choose the study methods that best suit their individual learning styles. — *Rephrased sentences from Reading*

The speaker presents a different point of view. First, some subjects have to be taught in certain ways. Math has to be taught sequentially. In addition, the speaker suggests that students "simply aren't interested" in information about learning styles. Some professors are not interested in learning styles, either. — *Rephrased sentences from Lecture*

PRACTICE 6

Look at these notes, thesis statements, and rephrased sentences from the practice exercises. Use them to write summaries comparing or contrasting the main points in the reading passage and lecture. Write on your computer or on the page provided.

Summary 1

READING NOTES

Main idea — Invasive plants harm native plants.

Supporting details
(1) They are introduced to an area through gardening.
(2) They escape from the garden and grow wild.
(3) They push out native species, causing devastating effects on the local ecology.

LECTURE NOTES

Main idea — Garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.

Supporting details
(1) It competes with other spring-blooming species.
(2) The West Virginia white butterfly is threatened by this plant.
(3) Garlic mustard was introduced to the United States as a food source.

THESIS STATEMENT

The author states that invasive plants harm native plants, and the speaker explains that garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.

PARAPHRASED SENTENCES

Reading

- Gardeners have introduced nonnative plants for food and medicine. They may also plant them because they are hardy, drought resistant, or beautiful.
- Invasive plants harm native species by shading them out, strangling them, or using up all the nutrients in the soil.
- The local ecology suffers because there are fewer native plants and animals lose their homes and food.

Lecture

- Garlic mustard threatens other spring-blooming plants by taking up light, nutrients, and space.
- Garlic mustard also threatens the West Virginia white butterfly. It competes with another type of mustard which is the butterfly's food source.
- Garlic mustard was first grown on Long Island for food and has since spread to other areas of the country.

(based on Reading 1 and Lecture 1, page 48)

Summary 2

READING NOTES

Main idea	TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance.
Supporting details	(1) Children who watch a lot of TV get lower grades and test scores.
	(2) Few TV programs teach academic or thinking skills.
	(3) When children spend time watching TV, they spend less time on homework, with other people, and being active.

LECTURE NOTES

Main idea	TV watching can actually improve school performance.
Supporting details	(1) TV exposes children to new ideas and information.
	(2) Children should watch some TV, but not too much.

THESIS STATEMENT

The author believes that TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance. The speaker, on the other hand, proposes that TV watching can actually improve school performance.

PARAPHRASED SENTENCES

Reading

- Children who have TV sets in their bedrooms do not do as well in school as their classmates.
- Some people think of TV as educational, but most children's programs actually do not have much valuable or educational content.
- TV takes time away from important activities like doing homework or being with other people.
- Parents can help their children by turning off the television.

Lecture

- Children can learn new things from TV.
- The amount of time spent watching TV is important.
- More than three hours a day of TV watching results in lower reading and math test scores.

(based on Reading 2 and Lecture 2, page 49)

Summary 3

READING NOTES

Main idea	A particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people has been successful.
Supporting details	(1) Many teens participated in antismoking events, and many saw antismoking ads. (2) Teens who saw the ads are less likely to start smoking. (3) The public health department will continue and expand the campaign.

LECTURE NOTES

Main idea	The initial results of public health campaigns can be misleading.
Supporting details	(1) Surveys taken near the end of an antismoking campaign showed 40% unlikely to try smoking. (2) Surveys taken three months later showed 58% very likely to try smoking

THESIS STATEMENT

The author tells us about a particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people that has been successful. In contrast, the speaker warns us that initial results of public health campaigns can be misleading.

PARAPHRASED SENTENCES

Reading

- The program included advertising, no smoking policies, and antismoking events.
- Many teens participated in the events and many more saw the ads.
- The public health department will continue with this successful campaign to improve public health among young people in the state.

Lecture

- Surveys made at the end of a recent antismoking campaign showed that 50% knew about the campaign and 40% would probably not smoke.
- Three months later, the numbers had changed.
- Many more said they would probably smoke and many fewer said they knew about the campaign.

(based on Reading 3 and Lecture 3, page 50)

Summary 4

READING NOTES

Main idea	A good mood makes shoppers buy more.
Supporting details	(1) Mood can be affected by weather, personal life, and store environment.
	(2) Retailers create a store environment to have a positive impact on mood and therefore on sales.

LECTURE NOTES

Main idea	Studies show that mood can make consumers spend more time shopping.
Supporting details	(1) When listening to slow music, restaurant patrons remained longer and purchased more food.
	(2) When listening to familiar music, shoppers stayed in a store longer and expressed more positive opinions about the products.

THESIS STATEMENT

The author proposes that a good mood makes shoppers buy more. Similarly, the speaker explains that studies show that music can make consumers spend more time shopping.

PARAPHRASED SENTENCES

Reading

- A shopper's mood may be influenced by things that retailers cannot control, such as the weather or personal or work problems.
- Retailers can influence shoppers' moods by controlling the store environment.
- Shoppers buy more when retailers use lighting, color, and music to improve shopper mood.

Lecture

- Research showed that slow music caused customers to stay at the restaurant longer and order more food.
- Some of the study subjects, college students, heard popular music in the store, and others heard older music.
- Those who heard familiar music shopped longer and said better things about the store's products.

(based on Reading 4 and Lecture 4, page 51)

Step 3 Revise

USE THE REVISION CHECKLIST

Revision is an important part of the writing process. After you write your response, you need to check the content and language. You need to make sure that the content is well developed and well organized, and you need to make sure you have used correct language and punctuation. You can use the following revision checklist as a guide.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Read the following model tasks. Notice how each task matches the items on the checklist.

Model Task 1

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how the points made in the lecture oppose them.

The author asserts that advances in technology do not always lead to increased productivity. The speaker, in contrast, suggests that investment in technology is paid back in increased productivity. — *writes on topic*

The author explains that because of technology, workers often stay at their desks all day, but this does not lead to increased productivity. It can cause back, neck, and eye pain. This is very uncomfortable and actually lowers productivity. Workers need to take breaks more often and go out for lunch. They also should have meetings in person instead of using e-mail. In addition, companies can buy special equipment that is more comfortable to use. — *reading summary*

The speaker has the opposite point of view. She believes that technology increases productivity. Photocopy machines, for example, can copy, collate, and staple much faster than a person. Because of this, workers can spend their time doing other things. Also an office can hire fewer people and save money on salaries. When people communicate by e-mail, they do not have to go to so many meetings. They can spend more time working. The speaker does not mention the physical pains that using technology can cause. Clearly, technology solves some problems, but it causes others. — *lecture summary*

(based on Reading 5, page 52 and Lecture 5, page 54)

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The model essay has a thesis statement that shows understanding of the task. The task asks the writer to summarize points and explain how they oppose each other, that is, to contrast them. The first two sentences are the thesis statement. They

summarize the main idea of the reading and of the lecture. The transition words *in contrast* let the reader know that these ideas are in opposition to each other.

Task: Summarize points and explain how they oppose each other
Contrast words: *in contrast*

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TOPICS THAT SUPPORT THE THESIS

The supporting topics are the main idea of the reading and the main idea of the lecture. They are presented in the thesis statement. The model essay summarizes the main points of the reading and of the lecture and explains how the author's ideas contrast with the speaker's ideas.

Main idea of the reading and lecture
Reading Advances in technology do not always lead to increased productivity.
Lecture Investment in technology is paid back in increased productivity.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The second paragraph in the model essay supports the reading main idea by summarizing the main points of the reading. The third paragraph in the model essay supports the lecture main idea by summarizing the main points of the lecture.

Main idea of the reading and lecture	Developed further in . . .	Ideas that are developed
Advances in technology do not always lead to increased productivity.	Paragraph 2	Technology means workers stay at their desks all day. This causes discomfort.
Investment in technology is paid back in increased productivity.	Paragraph 3	Photocopy machines and e-mail make work faster and more convenient.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition-words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs in the model essay have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the response, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*

. . . because of technology, workers often stay at their desks all day, but this does not lead to increased productivity.

Supporting details

- This is very uncomfortable and actually lowers productivity.
- Workers need to take breaks more often and go out for lunch.
- They also should have meetings in person instead of using e-mail.
- In addition, companies can buy special equipment that is more comfortable to use.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*

. . . technology increases productivity.

Supporting details

- Photocopy machines, for example, can copy, collate, and staple much faster than a person.
- When people communicate by e-mail, they do not have to go to so many meetings. They can spend more time working.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS**

Transition words show how the ideas fit together. The model essay includes appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
also	Paragraph 2	Adds information
In addition	Paragraph 2	Adds information
for example	Paragraph 3	Clarifies a point
Also	Paragraph 3	Adds information

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**

There are no grammar or spelling errors in the model essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY

The model essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Series	Paragraph 2	It can cause back, neck, and eye pain.
Adjective clause	Paragraph 2	In addition, companies can buy special equipment that is more comfortable to use.
Complex sentence	Paragraph 3	When people communicate by e-mail, they do not have to go to so many meetings.
Simple sentence	Paragraph 3	They can spend more time working.
Compound sentence	Paragraph 3	Clearly, technology solves some problems, but it causes others.

Model Task 2

Summarize the main points of the reading passage, and explain how they are supported by the information presented in the lecture.

writes on topic

The author explains that animal-assisted therapy is used to improve emotional and physical health, and the speaker tells us about a study that showed positive effects of pet ownership on health.

reading summary

The author explains how pets improve both emotional health and physical health. Pets are good companions for lonely people. They also give their owners things to do, like hobbies or club activities. In addition, pets are a comfort to anxious or worried people. Pets are good for physical health, as well. They help people with high blood pressure and heart problems. They help people stay physically active. They give people a chance to play. Finally, pet therapy is used with elderly people.

lecture summary

The speaker supports pet therapy. He describes a study where pets had a positive effect on the health of heart patients. Half the patients had a dog to take care of. The other half only got traditional treatment. After six months, the patients with pets had lower blood pressure, and they had lost more weight than the other patients. They felt happier, too. These are all things that can affect heart disease. This is a case that shows how pet therapy works to improve physical health.

(based on Reading 6, page 55 and Lecture 6, page 57)

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The model essay has a thesis statement that shows understanding of the task. The task asks the writer to summarize points and explain how one supports the other, that is, to compare them. The first sentence is the thesis statement. It summarizes both the main idea of the reading and of the lecture. The transition word *and* lets the reader know that these ideas are similar to each other.

Task: Summarize points and explain how one supports the other
Compare word: *and*

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TOPICS THAT SUPPORT THE THESIS

The supporting topics are the main idea of the reading and the main idea of the lecture. They are presented in the thesis statement. The model essay summarizes the main points of the reading and of the lecture and explains how the author's ideas are supported by the speaker's ideas.

Main idea of the reading and lecture

Reading Animal-assisted therapy is used to improve emotional and physical health.

Lecture A study showed positive effects of pet ownership on health.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The second paragraph in the model essay supports the reading main idea by summarizing the main points of the reading. The third paragraph in the model essay supports the lecture main idea by summarizing the main points of the lecture.

Main idea of the reading and lecture	Developed further in . . .	Ideas that are developed
Animal-assisted therapy is used to improve emotional and physical health.	Paragraph 2	Pets provide companionship, comfort, hobbies, physical activity.
A study showed positive effects of pet ownership on health.	Paragraph 3	Heart patients with pets improved their health more than heart patients without pets.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs in the model essay have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the response, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*

. . . pets improve both emotional health and physical health.

Supporting details

- Pets are good companions for lonely people.
- They also give their owners things to do, like hobbies or club activities. Pets are also a comfort to anxious or worried people.
- They help people with high blood pressure and heart problems.
- They help people stay physically active.
- They give people a chance to play.
- Finally, pet therapy is used with elderly people.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*
. . . study where pets had a positive effect on the health of heart patients

Supporting details
- Half the patients had a dog to take care of. The other half only got traditional treatment.
- After six months, the patients with pets had lower blood pressure.
- They had also lost more weight than the other patients.
- They felt happier, too.
- These are all things that can affect heart disease.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS

Transition words show how the ideas fit together. The model essay includes appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
also	Paragraph 2	Adds information
In addition	Paragraph 2	Adds information
as well	Paragraph 2	Adds information
Finally	Paragraph 2	Concludes
too	Paragraph 3	Adds information

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**
There are no grammar or spelling errors in the model essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY**
The model essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Simple sentence	Paragraph 2	Pets are good companions for lonely people.
Adjective clause	Paragraph 3	He describes a study where pets had a positive effect on the health of heart patients.
Compound sentence	Paragraph 3	After six months, the patients with pets had lower blood pressure, and they had lost more weight than the other patients.
Noun clause	Paragraph 3	This is a case that shows how pet therapy works to improve physical health.

Model Task 3

Summarize the main points in the reading passage and explain how the information presented in the lecture adds to them.

The author warns that ocean pollution is a serious problem. In the same way, the speaker explains how plastic garbage threatens sea animals. — *writes on topic*

The author explains that different things cause ocean pollution. Oil from factories and cities enters the ocean through rivers and drains. Similarly, fertilizers wash into the ocean, and they cause large growths of algae. Toxic chemicals continue to pollute the ocean, as well. There are laws against dumping these chemicals, but the chemicals still leak into the ocean. Animals eat them, and when we eat seafood, we eat these chemicals, too. There is also a lot of garbage in the ocean. Plastic is the worst kind because it does not break down quickly. Animals think it is food. They eat it and choke on it. — *reading summary*

While the author gives an overview of ocean pollution, the speaker specifically describes the problem of plastic garbage. People produce billions of pounds of plastic a year, and a lot of this ends up in the ocean. The water and wind break large pieces of plastic into smaller pieces. Then animals try to eat these pieces. An animal may choke on plastic. It may starve because it does not feel hungry after eating plastic. Animals are often caught in floating plastic. They are also strangled by it. There are many types of pollution in the ocean. Plastic garbage is one of the worst examples. — *lecture summary*

(based on Reading 7, page 58, and Lecture 7, page 60)

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The model essay has a thesis statement that shows understanding of the task. The task asks the writer to summarize points and explain how one adds to the other, that is, to compare them. The first two sentences are the thesis statement. They summarize the

main idea of the reading and of the lecture. The transition words *In the same way* let the reader know that these ideas are similar to each other.

Task: Summarize points and explain how one adds to the other
Compare words: *In the same way*

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TOPICS THAT SUPPORT THE THESIS

The supporting topics are the main idea of the reading and the main idea of the lecture. They are presented in the thesis statement. The model essay summarizes the main points of the reading and of the lecture and explains how the author's ideas are supported by the speaker's ideas.

Main idea of the reading and lecture
Reading Ocean pollution is a serious problem.
Lecture Plastic garbage threatens sea animals.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The second paragraph in the model essay supports the reading main idea by summarizing the main points of the reading. The third paragraph in the model essay supports the lecture main idea by summarizing the main points of the lecture.

Main idea of the reading and lecture	Developed further in . . .	Ideas that are developed
Ocean pollution is a serious problem.	Paragraph 2	Oil, fertilizers, toxic chemicals, and garbage pollute the ocean.
Plastic garbage threatens sea animals.	Paragraph 3	Plastic does not break down. Animals eat it and get strangled on it.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs in the model essay have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the response, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*

. . . different things cause ocean pollution.

Supporting details

- Oil from factories and cities enters the ocean through rivers and drains. Fertilizers also wash into the ocean and cause large growths of algae. Toxic chemicals continue to pollute the ocean.
- There is also a lot of garbage in the ocean.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*

. . . the problem of plastic garbage.

Supporting details

- People produce billions of pounds of plastic a year, and a lot of this ends up in the ocean.
- Then animals try to eat these pieces. An animal may choke on plastic.
- It may starve because it does not feel hungry after eating plastic.
- Animals are often caught in floating plastic.
- They are also strangled by it.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS

Transition words show how the ideas fit together. The model essay includes appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
Similarly	Paragraph 2	Demonstrates similarity
as well	Paragraph 2	Adds information
too	Paragraph 2	Adds information
also	Paragraph 2	Adds information
Then	Paragraph 3	Shows order of events

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING

There are no grammar or spelling errors in the model essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY

The model essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Compound sentence	Paragraph 2	Similarly, fertilizers wash into the ocean, and they cause large growths of algae.
Complex sentence	Paragraph 2	Plastic is the worst kind because it does not break down quickly.
Simple sentence	Paragraph 3	An animal may choke on plastic.

Model Task 4

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how the points made in the lecture cast doubt on them.

writes on topic

The author explains that color has psychological effects. In contrast, the speaker tells us about a study that showed no effect of color on appetite.

reading summary

The author describes different ways people have used the psychological effects of color. Ancient people used color for healing, and modern designers use color to create mood. Designers might use yellow to create a positive mood in an office. Likewise, they might use neutral colors to create a clean, clear, and focused mood in health care centers. Restaurants often use orange and red to stimulate the appetite. Some scientists say that blue lowers the heart rate and blood pressure. Red, **on the other hand**, raises blood pressure. Other scientists do not believe that color affects mood. They say the effect is temporary and also that it is different in every culture.

lecture summary

The speaker describes a study that showed no relationship between color and appetite. A fast-food restaurant chain had orange walls in half its restaurants and beige walls in the rest of its restaurants. It recorded all the food ordered for two years. There was no difference between the restaurants with orange walls and the restaurants with beige walls. People ordered the same food in both types of places. **In other words**, according to the company president, there is no effect of color on appetite. He said that the study proved it. In this case, at least, there was no psychological effect of color.

(based on Reading 8, page 61, and Lecture 8, page 63)

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The model essay has a thesis statement that shows understanding of the task. The task asks the writer to summarize points and explain how one casts doubt on the other, that is, to contrast them. The first two sentences are the thesis statement. They summarize the main idea of the reading and of the lecture. The transition words *In contrast* let the reader know that these ideas are opposite to each other.

Task: Summarize points and explain how one casts doubt on the other
Contrast words: *In contrast*

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TOPICS THAT SUPPORT THE THESIS

The supporting topics are the main idea of the reading and the main idea of the lecture. They are presented in the thesis statement. The model essay summarizes the main points of the reading and of the lecture and explains how the author's ideas are supported by the speaker's ideas.

Main idea of the reading and lecture
Reading Color has psychological effects.
Lecture A study showed no effect of color on appetite.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The second paragraph in the model essay supports the reading main idea by summarizing the main points of the reading. The third paragraph in the model essay supports the lecture main idea by summarizing the main points of the lecture.

Main idea of the reading and lecture	Developed further in . . .	Ideas that are developed
Color has psychological effects.	Paragraph 2	Ancient and modern people are interested in this. Colors are used to create different moods. Colors can affect blood pressure and heart rate.
A study showed no effect of color on appetite.	Paragraph 3	A fast-food chain compared restaurants with orange walls and beige walls and found no difference.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs in the model essay have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the response, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*

. . . different ways people have used the psychological effects of color.

Supporting details

- Ancient people used color for healing.
- Modern designers use color to create mood.
- Designers might use yellow to create a positive mood in an office.
- They can use neutral colors to create a clean, clear, and focused mood in health care centers.
- Restaurants often use orange and red to stimulate the appetite.
- Some scientists say that blue lowers the heart rate and blood pressure, while red raises blood pressure.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*

. . . study that showed no relationship between color and appetite.

Supporting details

- A fast-food restaurant chain had orange walls in half its restaurants and beige walls in the rest of its restaurants.
- It recorded all the food ordered for two years.
- There was no difference between the restaurants with orange walls and the restaurants with beige walls.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS**

Transition words show how the ideas fit together. The model essay includes appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
Likewise	Paragraph 2	Demonstrates similarity
on the other hand	Paragraph 2	Demonstrates difference
In other words	Paragraph 3	Clarifies a point

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**

There are no grammar or spelling errors in the model essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY

The model essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Compound sentence	Paragraph 2	Ancient people used color for healing, and modern designers use color to create mood.
Noun clause	Paragraph 2	Other scientists do not believe that color affects mood.
Adjective clause	Paragraph 3	The speaker describes a study that showed no relationship between color and appetite.
Simple sentence	Paragraph 3	People ordered the same food in both types of places.

NOTE

Reading ahead in the essay will help you choose the best answer.

PRACTICE 1

Complete each essay by answering the questions that follow.

Essay 1

The author explains why global warming is a serious problem. (1) _____, the speaker explains the impact of global warming in the northeastern United States.

(2) _____. Greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, hold heat in the atmosphere and result in rising temperatures on Earth. As average temperatures rise, there are a number of effects. (3) _____, scientists predict that weather patterns will change. In addition, snow and ice will melt and sea levels will rise. This can lead to flooding, drought, and powerful storms. It can also affect the economy, particularly agriculture and transportation. (4) _____.

The speaker explains the effects of global warming in the northeastern part of the United States. This is a cold and snowy area. (5)_____. There are also fewer days with snow on the ground than there used to be. This has an effect on the economy because many people in this part of the world depend on the ski industry to make a living. The predicted effects of global warming that the author described are already coming true, at least in the northeastern United States.

1. Choose the best way to complete the thesis statement.
   (A) In contrast
   (B) As a result
   (C) Likewise

2. Choose the best main idea for this paragraph.
   (A) The author explains that human activity, such as industry and cutting down forests, has resulted in an artificial increase in greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere, with serious results.
   (B) The author explains that it is difficult for scientists to come to agreement about whether or not global warming is actually occurring in the world today.
   (C) The author explains that some people believe that greenhouse gases are very harmful, while others are sure that global warming is not such a very serious problem.

3. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
   (A) Nevertheless
   (B) First
   (C) However

4. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) People will be better off economically, especially farmers.
   (B) Economists predict that global warming will lead to a drop in gross national product and consumer consumption in countries around the world.
   (C) Warmer temperatures will result in people using transportation more often as they will take more frequent vacations.

5. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) Since 1965, many people have moved to this part of the country.
   (B) Since 1965, there has been a decrease in employment in this area.
   (C) Since 1965, temperatures in this region have risen.

Essay 2

The reading passage talks about camouflage as a key survival strategy used by many animals. (6) _____.

The author explains how camouflage helps animals survive. There are different kinds of camouflage. Some animals are similar in color to their surroundings. Deer, (7) _____, have brown fur. Some arctic animals change color with the seasons. They are brown in the summer and change to white in the winter so they can hide in the snow. (8) _____. Striped zebras and fish with shiny scales are two examples of this. Some animals are mimics, taking on characteristics of another object or animal in their environment. The green anole, a type of lizard, looks like a leaf. The caterpillar of the hawk moth resembles a snake. Camouflage is important to both predators and prey. It helps predators to be invisible to their victims, and it helps prey animals to hide from the animals that hunt them.

The speaker talks about how camouflage helps certain animals hide in the arctic environment. Many of them are brown in the summer to match their summer environment and white in the winter when snow covers the ground. One example is the arctic fox. (9) _____. It is also a prey animal and needs to hide from its predators. When winter approaches, the fox sheds its brown fur and grows white fur. (10) _____ animal that does this is the lemming. It needs to be brown in the summer and white in the winter in order to hide from its main predator – the arctic fox.

6. Choose the best way to complete the thesis statement.
   (A) Additionally, the speaker discusses other survival tactics used by animals.
   (B) Similarly, the speaker talks about the way that several arctic animals use camouflage for survival.
   (C) In contrast, the speaker explains how predators attack their prey.

7. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
   (A) for example
   (B) on the other hand
   (C) in addition

8. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) Some herd animals have patterns on their fur that make it very easy to see them in any season of the year.
   (B) Some herd animals have patterns on their fur that make them very beautiful to look at.
   (C) Some herd animals have patterns on their fur that make it difficult for predators to pick out one animal from the group.

9. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) It looks very nice in the winter when it plays in the snow.
   (B) It is a predator, so it needs to be invisible to its prey while it hunts.
   (C) In the summer it eats berries and other fruits and vegetation.

10. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) Another
    (B) However
    (C) Furthermore

Essay 3

(11) _____. In contrast, the lecture reports evidence that girls and women do better in school than boys and men.

The author describes research done by a psychologist who claims that men have higher intelligence than women. The psychologist studied the results of intelligence tests taken by university students aged 17 and 18. (12) _____. Furthermore, more men than women qualify as geniuses. The psychologist suggests that the reason for men's higher intelligence is their larger brain size.

(13) _____. In the first place, study after study has shown that girls outperform boys in elementary school. (14) _____ in high schools all around the country there are far more girls than boys in advanced-level classes. (15) _____. Each year, 170,000 more women than men earn college degrees. The facts presented by the lecturer completely contradict the results of the study described in the reading passage.

11. Choose the best way to complete the thesis statement.
    (A) The reading passage describes a study which claims that men are more intelligent than women.
    (B) The reading passage describes a study proving that girls are better students than boys.
    (C) The reading passage describes a study of different educational methods used in schools around the country.

12. Choose the missing supporting detail.
    (A) Some researchers believe that IQ tests are not a valid measure of an individual's intelligence.
    (B) Some schools these days use intelligence tests to evaluate their students' academic potential.
    (C) The results showed that the IQs of the men averaged four points higher than the IQs of the women.

13. Choose the missing main idea.
    (A) The lecturer agrees that among school children, girls are generally smarter than boys.
    (B) The lecturer has a contradictory viewpoint, discussing evidence that girls are better students than boys.
    (C) The lecturer contradicts the author, stating that girls take more tests in school than boys do.

14. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) In addition
    (B) In contrast
    (C) In other words

15. Choose the missing supporting detail.
    (A) Finally, the same number of women as men attend college.
    (B) Finally, more than 60% of college students are women.
    (C) Finally, both men and women have found success in college.

Essay 4

The reading passage describes the benefits of genetically modified foods. The lecture, (16) _____, discusses the disadvantages of these foods.

The author explains what genetically modified foods are and describes the advantages they have for food production and health. (17) _____. Some crops are genetically modified to be resistant to disease. As a result, they are easier to cultivate and farmers can grow larger crops. Other crops are genetically modified to contain more vitamins and minerals. Golden rice, (18) _____, has been modified to contain more vitamin A. Additionally, some genetically modified crops are used to develop new products. Scientists are currently working on a banana, for example, that can be used to produce vaccines against serious diseases.

(19) _____. In the first place, some crops have been genetically modified to be resistant to insects, but their genes could actually be transferred to those insects. Then the insects would be resistant to insecticides, and the crops would not be protected. (20) _____, the effects of genetically modified foods on our health are not yet known, but there are serious possibilities. Some examples are the development of allergies and of resistance to antibiotics. Finally, many people are concerned that widespread use of genetically modified foods would allow a few large companies to dominate food production. According to the speaker, genetically modified foods may cause more problems than they solve.

16. Choose the best way to complete the thesis statement.
    (A) on the other hand
    (B) therefore
    (C) similarly

17. Choose the missing supporting detail.
    (A) Genetically modified foods have a number of advantages and disadvantages.
    (B) Genetically modified foods are available for sale in most grocery stores.
    (C) Genetically modified foods come from crops that have had their genes altered by technology.

18. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) for instance
    (B) however
    (C) likewise

19. Choose the missing main idea.
    (A) The speaker discusses some serious problems with genetically modified foods.
    (B) The speaker believes that genetically modified foods have many advantages.
    (C) The speaker mentions that corn and soybeans are crops that are often genetically modified.

20. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) Consequently
    (B) Furthermore
    (C) Although

PRACTICE 2

Read the following essay and use the revision checklist to identify what is missing or incorrect. Then revise the essay, adding the missing parts and correcting the errors. Write the revised essay on your computer or on a piece of paper.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Topics that support the thesis
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

The reading passage explains why farming is difficult in far northern regions in general. The lecture is similar.

In the first place, the growing season is very short. It might last three months or less, which is not enough time for most crops to mature. Additionally, few people live in northern regions because the cold weather is not attractive. Therefore, farmers have to pay to transport their crops long distances to cities where they can sell them to a larger market. Consequently, the harsh climate causes farm machinery to break down frequently. The cost to repair or replace specialized farm equipment can to be very high.

The speaker discusses farmers working in a particular northern province. He explains that many people have stopped farming in that area because they are no longer able to make a living that way. One reason is the disease affecting the rye crop, one of the few crops that can be grown so far north. Another reason is the rising cost of transportation. Fewer and fewer farmers can afford to ship their crops to

cities. Although, because of the losses due to the rye disease, many farmers have difficulty paying the cost of maintaining their buildings and equipment. For reasons similar to those outlined in the reading passage, many people in this northern province is leaving their farms to look for jobs in towns and cities.

Missing items:

Paragraph 1: _____

Paragraph 2: _____

Paragraph 3: _____

Grammar and vocabulary errors:

Paragraph 1: _____

Paragraph 2: _____

Paragraph 3: _____

CHECK THE SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION

Spelling

Remember that there is no spell checker on the computer that you will use during the TOEFL iBT. You must work to improve your spelling before you take the test. Whenever you read in English, pay close attention to words. This will help you understand English spelling patterns. You should be able to spell the most common English words before you take the test.

Here are some hints for dealing with spelling on the Integrated Task.

- Pay special attention to how key words in the Reading passage are spelled.
- Take careful notes on the spelling of these words.
- Listen for these same words as you take notes during the Lecture.
- When you revise your essay, check your spelling against your notes.

NOTE

You will not be penalized if you use a space between paragraphs instead of indents. Also, remember that proper nouns are capitalized.

Punctuation

Also, whenever you read in English, pay attention to punctuation. This will help you when writing your response. There are three important things to remember about punctuation when you write your responses.

- **Indent each paragraph or use a space between paragraphs.**
  This will help the reader determine when you are starting a new topic.
- **Capitalize the first word of each sentence.**
  This will help the reader determine when you are starting a new sentence.
- **Put a period or question mark at the end of each sentence or question.**
  This will help the reader determine when you are ending a sentence or question.

Here are some other forms of punctuation that will help make your response easier to read.

Comma

NOTE

Commas help the reader follow your ideas, but be careful not to use them where they are not needed.

Use a comma in a list of three or more things. It is optional to put a comma before the *and*.

Plants require sunlight, water, and soil.
It was an educational, interesting and entertaining program.

Use a comma between a noun and a following description.

The Baltic Sea, in northern Europe, is polluted with trash.
The study participants, teenagers sixteen to eighteen, were asked about smoking habits.

Use a comma to separate transition words, adjectives, or participles that are not part of the sentence or were added for emphasis.

Unfortunately, the success of the program did not last.
The effects on the local ecology, however, can be devastating, very devastating.

Use a comma between two independent clauses.

Office workers need to take frequent breaks, and they should use ergonomic equipment.
Many teens saw the ads, but only a few quit smoking.

Use a comma to separate a non-restrictive clause.

Elderly people, who are often lonely, can benefit from pet therapy.
The study, which included all of the company's restaurants, looked at color of the walls and how this affected sales.

Use a comma after a subordinate clause at the beginning of a sentence.

If the store environment is pleasant, shoppers may spend more money.
Because we produce so much plastic, it ends up in the oceans.

Semicolon

Use a semicolon to separate two closely related sentences.

Some people thought the program was successful; others disagreed.

Colon or Dash

Use a colon or dash in front of a list or explanation.

There are three things retailers can use to improve the store environment: color, lighting, and music.
Invasive vines are considered a threat for a very good reason—they strangle native plants.

PRACTICE 3

Read the following sentences. Some have misspelled words. Revise the sentences, correcting the spelling. If a sentence has no misspelled words, write "correct."

1. Garlic mustard is a problm in the U.S. because it threatens other spring-bluming plants by taking up lite, nutrients, and espace.

2. Garlic mustard also thretens the West Virginia wite butterfly. It compeats with another type of mustard which is the butterfly's food sourse.

3. Garlic mustard was first grown on Long Island for food and has since spread to other areas of the country.

4. Childrens can learn new thins from TV.

5. The amownt of time spent waching TV is important.

6. More than three hours a day of TV watching results in louer reading and mathes test scors.

7. Surveys made at the end of an antiesmoking campane showed that 50% new about the campane and 40% would probably not smoke.

8. Three months later, the numbers had changed.

9. More than haf said they wood probaly smoke, and fewer than one-therd said they knew about the campaign.

10. Reserch showd that slow music coused customers to stay at the restarant longer and order more food.

11. Some of the study subjecs, college students, herd popular music in the store, and others heared older music.

12. Those who heard familiar music shoped longer and said better things about the store's products.

PRACTICE 4

Read the following essays. Then revise the essays, adding punctuation. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper.

Essay 1

the author states that invasive plants harm native plants and the speaker explains that garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.

gardeners have introduced nonnative plants for food and medicine. they have also planted them because they are hardy drought resistant or beautiful. however these plants escape from the garden and cause problems. invasive plants harm native species by shading them out strangling them or using up all the nutrients in the soil. the local ecology suffers because there are fewer native plants and animals lose their homes and food.

garlic mustard is an example of an invasive plant that harms the local ecology. it threatens other spring-blooming plants by taking up light nutrients and space. it also threatens the West Virginia white butterfly by competing with another type of mustard which is the butterfly's food source. garlic mustard was first grown on long island for food and has since spread to other areas of the country.

(based on Reading 1 and Lecture 1, page 48; see Summary 1 on page 361)

Essay 2

the author believes that TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance. The speaker on the other hand proposes that TV watching can actually improve school performance.

according to the author children who have TV sets in their bedrooms do not do as well in school as their classmates. some people think of TV as educational but the author asserts that most children's TV programs do not have "valuable content." in addition TV takes time away from important activities like doing homework or being with other people. parents can help their children by turning off the television.

the lecturer does not agree with this point of view. it is his opinion that children actually can learn new things from watching TV. he points out however that the amount of time spent watching TV is important. he says that more than three hours a day of TV watching can result in lower reading and math scores.

(based on Reading 2 and Lecture 2, page 49; see Summary 2 on page 362)

Essay 3

the author tells us about particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people that has been successful. in contrast the speaker warns us that initial results of public health campaigns can be misleading.

the antismoking campaign described in the passage included advertising no-smoking policies and antismoking events. many teens participated in the events and many more saw the ads. the public health department plans to continue with this successful campaign to improve public health among young people in the state.

the speaker warns us that we can be deceived by the initial results of public health campaigns He mentioned a recent antismoking campaign as an example. surveys made at the end of the campaign showed that 50% knew about the campaign and 40% would probably not smoke. three months later however the numbers had changed. many more said they would probably smoke and many fewer said they knew about the campaign. so a public health campaign that looks successful at first can look less successful a few months later.

(based on Reading 3 and Lecture 3, page 50; see Summary 3 on page 362)

Essay 4

the author proposes that a good mood makes shoppers buy more. similarly the speaker explains that studies show that music can make consumers spend more time shopping.

the reading passage explains that a shopper's mood may be influenced by things that retailers cannot control such as the weather or personal or work problems. retailers can however influence shoppers' moods by controlling the store environment. shoppers buy more when retailers use lighting color and music to improve shopper mood.

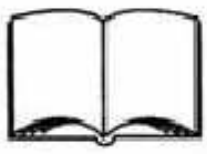
the speaker describes research about the effect of music on consumers. research showed that slow music caused customers to stay at a restaurant longer and order more food. in another study some of the subjects college students heard popular music in a store and others heard older music. those who heard familiar music shopped longer and said better things about the store's products. these two studies show that restaurant and store owners can influence shoppers' moods and encourage them to buy more.

(based on Reading 4 and Lecture 4, page 51; see Summary 4 on page 362)

Extra Practice

Study the model tasks on pages 89, 94, 99, and 104. Circle all the punctuation.

PRACTICE INTEGRATED TASK



Read the passage for three minutes.

Many people agree that the most important invention of the late twentieth century was the cell phone. Cell phones have now become a regular part of daily life. Cell phones have made many things much more convenient, but they have also brought new dangers to our lives.

Cell phone use has risen dramatically everywhere over the past several years. In the United States alone, just fifteen years ago, there were 4.3 million cell phone users. Today more than 224 million people use cell phones in this country. Everywhere we go—restaurants, stores, buses, parks, offices, schools—people are talking on their cell phones.

Cell phones have made many things more convenient for people, but they have also raised some serious safety concerns, most notably for drivers. Talking on the phone distracts the driver's attention from the road, and cell phones have been blamed for many traffic accidents. In several cases, drivers in accidents involving cell phones have been successfully sued by the victims. Employers have also been held liable for accidents involving cell phones and caused by their employees.

In response to such concerns, laws have been passed restricting cell phone use while driving. In some places, talking on the phone while driving is completely prohibited. In other places, use of a headset is required. Some places allow talking on the phone while driving but fine drivers responsible for crashes involving phones. In other places, drivers may lose their automobile insurance if they were talking on the phone when involved in an accident. In as many as 40 countries around the world, there are laws restricting or prohibiting the use of cell phones while driving.



Track 10

Listen to the lecture.

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how the points made in the lecture cast doubt on them. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 20 minutes.

PART 3

WRITING SKILLS INDEPENDENT TASK

Step 1 Plan
- Write a Thesis Statement
  - Practice 1
- Make Notes About General Ideas and Specific Details
- Outlines
  - Practice 2
  - Practice 3
- Idea Maps
  - Practice 4
  - Practice 5

Step 2 Write
- Write the Introduction
  - State Your Opinion
    - Practice 1
    - Practice 2
    - Practice 3
    - Practice 4
    - Practice 5
    - Practice 6
  - Guide the Reader
    - Practice 7
- Write the Paragraphs
  - Practice 8
- Write the Conclusion
  - Practice 9
  - Extra Practice

Step 3 Revise
- Use the Revision Checklist
  - Practice 1
  - Practice 2
- Check the Spelling and Punctuation
  - Practice 3

Practice Independent Task

Step 1 Plan

WRITE A THESIS STATEMENT

The Independent Task is different from the Integrated Task because it is more personal. In the Integrated Task, you write about other people's ideas, but in the Independent Task, you write about your own ideas. In the Independent Task, you are asked to explain your opinion about a subject. Your opinion about a subject is the thesis of your essay.

A good essay has a clearly stated thesis. A thesis statement focuses the direction of the topic and helps the reader understand what you want to say. It tells the reader what your essay is about.

Look at these example topics to see how different thesis statements can come from the same topic.

NOTE

Remember that a *thesis statement* is what you plan to write about—it is your main idea statement for the whole essay.

Essay Topic 99

You have been told that dormitory rooms at your university must be shared by two students. Would you rather have the university assign a student to share a room with you, or would you rather choose your own roommate? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

THESIS STATEMENT A

> Since I do not get along well with many people, I prefer to choose my own roommate.

From this statement, we can presume that the writer will discuss why he or she has difficulty having friendly relationships with people.

THESIS STATEMENT B

> The opportunity to meet new people is an important benefit of a university education, so I believe it is better to let the university choose my roommate for me.

From this statement, we can presume the writer will discuss the benefits of meeting new people at a university.

A thesis statement must be on the topic. Pay close attention to what the topic asks you to do.

Essay Topic 95

Some people think governments should spend as much money as possible exploring outer space (for example, traveling to the moon and to other planets). Other people disagree and think governments should spend this money for our basic needs on Earth. Which of these two opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

THESIS STATEMENT A

> The moon is a better place to explore because it is nearer than the planets.

This thesis statement is NOT a good thesis statement for this topic. It takes two of the words from the topic and writes about exploration possibilities. The topic, though, is how best to spend limited resources: on space exploration or on needs on Earth. This thesis statement is off topic.

THESIS STATEMENT B

> While there is still hunger, poverty, and illiteracy on Earth, our resources should be focused here and not in outer space.

From this statement, we can presume the writer will discuss why hunger, poverty, and illiteracy on earth are more worthy of attention than space exploration.

THESIS STATEMENT C

> Gaining psychological and scientific knowledge through space exploration will benefit us more than trying to solve problems here on Earth.

From this statement, we can presume the writer will discuss in detail the psychological and scientific benefits that we receive from space exploration.

PRACTICE 1

Choose the thesis statements that are appropriate to the topic. There can be more than one possible answer.

1. What is one of the most important decisions you have made? Why was this decision important? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.
   (A) Decisions are important because without them nothing would get done.
   (B) Deciding to leave home to attend school in the US has been so far the most important decision I've made.
   (C) Although my parents wanted me to study medicine, I knew that I should follow my heart and get a degree in nuclear physics.

2. Someone who was considered an educated person in the past (for example, in your parents' or grandparents' generation) would not be considered an educated person today. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
   (A) If you define education as earning degrees, than I would have to agree that today people are more educated then they were in the past.
   (B) It was more difficult to get an education in the past since there weren't as many schools.
   (C) Both my grandfather and my grandmother attended university, which is where they met.

3. Many people visit museums when they travel to new places. Why do you think people visit museums? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
   (A) New museums are opening in almost every city in the world.
   (B) Museums hold the historic and artistic record of a region, so visiting museums is the best way to understand a new place.
   (C) Travelers want to see in person famous works of art that they have only seen in books so they head to museums when in new cities.

4. In the future, students may have the choice of studying at home by using technology such as computers or television or of studying at traditional schools. Which would you prefer? Use reasons and specific details to explain your choice.
   (A) Interaction with my fellow students is important to me so I would prefer to study in a more traditional setting.
   (B) Computers and television are two examples of technology that will change a lot in the future.
   (C) The advantages of studying what you want, when you want, and where you want do not, for me, outweigh the disadvantages of using technology for home education.

5. In general, people are living longer now. How will this change affect society? Use specific details and examples to develop your essay.
   (A) People are living longer now because of improvements in medical care.
   (B) As the majority of our population becomes older, our communities will have to shift their focus from providing services to the young, like schools, to services to aging adults, like medical care.
   (C) Society has been around a long time and it is always changing.

Extra Practice

Do any or all of the following activities on your own or in a group. There are no answers provided.

1. Write your own thesis statement for the five topics above.

2. Write essays on the above topics.

MAKE NOTES ABOUT GENERAL IDEAS AND SPECIFIC DETAILS

In the Integrated Task, you make notes about what you read in the reading passage and what you hear in the lecture. Your notes are about other people's ideas. In the Independent Task, you write your own ideas about your own opinion. You make notes as a way of organizing your ideas before you write. When you wrote your thesis statement, you wrote your opinion about a subject. Now you will write notes about your ideas that explain your opinion.

Just as in the Integrated Task, you can use either an outline or an idea map to organize your ideas for the Independent Task. Both outlines and idea maps help you organize your thoughts into a thesis, topics (general ideas), and details (supporting statements). Use whichever form works best for you.

As a rule, you should try to have three general ideas per essay and at least two supporting details per general idea. This will vary according to your topic and the way you choose to organize it.

Outlines

Look at the following examples of outlines and essays for specific topics.

Essay Topic 159

The twentieth century saw great change. In your opinion, what is one change that should be remembered about the twentieth century? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

Thesis	Medical advances are the most important change.	
Paragraph 1	Main idea	Vaccines and antibiotics have saved lives
	Supporting details	(1) Polio vaccine
		(2) Penicillin
Paragraph 2	Main idea	Increased access to health care
	Supporting details	(1) More clinics and hospitals
		(2) Easier to get treatment
Paragraph 3	Main idea	Improved surgical techniques
	Supporting details	(1) Microscopic and laser surgery easier to perform
		(2) Patients recover faster

Compare the outline with the following essay.

Medical Advances:
An Important Change of the Twentieth Century

There were many important changes, both technological and cultural, during the twentieth century. In my opinion, the most important of these are the advances that were made in medical science. The development of vaccines and antibiotics, increased access to health care, and improvements in surgical techniques are all things that improved, and saved, the lives of people all around the world.

Vaccines and antibiotics have saved the lives of many people. Until the middle of the twentieth century, many people became crippled or died from polio. Now the polio vaccine is available everywhere. In the past, people could die from even simple infections. Now penicillin and other antibiotics make it easy to cure infections.

Increased access to health care has also improved the lives of millions of people. In the past, many people lived far from hospitals and clinics. Now hospitals, clinics, and health centers have been built in many parts of the world. More people have the opportunity to visit a doctor or nurse before they become very sick. They can be treated more easily. They are sick less, and this leads to a better quality of life.

Improved surgical techniques make it easier to treat many medical problems. Microscopic and laser surgery techniques are more efficient than older methods. It is easier for the doctor to perform them, and easier for the patient to recover. Surgery patients can return to their normal lives more quickly now than they could in the past.

Everybody needs good health in order to have a good quality of life. Advances in medical science have improved the lives of people all around the world. They are improvements that are important to everyone.

Sample Essay Topic

Think of the most important class you have ever had. Why did you enjoy this class so much? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

Thesis		I learned a lot in Intro. to Art History, and it was inspiring.
Paragraph 1	Main idea	Art History teaches you about more than art.
	Supporting details	(1) History, religion, literature, mythology
		(2) I didn't learn these things in my engineering classes
Paragraph 2	Main idea	I had a very good teacher.
	Supporting details	(1) Experienced and well known
		(2) Enthusiastic and inspiring
Paragraph 3	Main idea	I learned about the history of engineering.
	Supporting details	(1) Buildings and bridges
		(2) City planning

Compare the outline with the following essay.

Art History

Even though I am an engineer, I have to say that Introduction to Art History is the most important class I have ever taken. In this class I had the opportunity to learn new things, not only about art, but about other areas as well. I had a teacher who inspired me. And, believe it or not, it was important to my career as an engineer.

Art History should be a required course for everyone because it teaches you about so many things. I learned not only about art, but also about history, religion, literature, and mythology. These are subjects I didn't learn about in my engineering classes, so it was a wonderful opportunity for me.

Studying art history taught me some things about the history of engineering. In old paintings, I saw how buildings and bridges were built in the past. I saw how cities were planned. I realized that I could learn about my own field in different ways.

I learned a lot of things in my art history class. I learned about art, about engineering, and about other things I hadn't imagined. Both the subject and the teacher inspired me to expand my mind. I am very glad that I took this class.

NOTE

Because the Independent Tasks are personal in nature, the sample responses include some contractions.

PRACTICE 2

Read each essay. Then complete the missing parts of each outline.

Essay Topic 92

Some people prefer to live in places that have the same weather or climate all year long. Others like to live in areas where the weather changes several times a year. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choices.

I would prefer to live in a place that has warm weather all year. My life would be easier and more comfortable this way. I would be healthier, I would have more fun, and I would save money if I lived in a warm climate.

I would always be healthy if I lived in a warm climate. Where I live now, I get sick every winter. I wouldn't have this problem in a warm climate. Also, I would be outside all year long. I would play sports and get more exercise. That would make me healthier, too.

I would have more fun if I lived in a warm climate. I like outdoor activities. I like going to the beach, playing soccer, and riding my bicycle. I can't do these things in cold weather. In a warm climate, I could do my favorite activities all year long.

I would save money if I lived in a warm climate. It costs money to heat a house in the winter. This can get very expensive. I wouldn't have this expense in a warm climate. It costs money to buy new clothes every time the season changes. In a warm climate, I could wear the same clothes all year.

My life would be better in a warm climate. My health, my free time activities, and my bank account would all improve. In fact, I plan to move to a warm climate as soon as I finish school.

Thesis	I prefer to live in a warm climate.	
Paragraph 1	Main idea	(1) _____
	Supporting details	Now I get sick every winter
		I could be outside all year
Paragraph 2	Main idea	I would have more fun.
	Supporting details	(2) _____
		Favorite activities all year
Paragraph 3	Main idea	I would save money.
	Supporting details	(3) _____
		No need to buy new clothes

Essay Topic 101

Some people like doing work by hand. Others prefer using machines. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I prefer using machines to doing work by hand. Machines can work faster and more neatly than I can, and they never get tired.

Machines are fast. If I want to write a letter, it takes me a certain amount of time. If I write ten letters by hand, it takes ten times as long. If I use a computer, on the other hand, I just write the letter once, then tell the printer to make ten copies. Or I can use a photocopy machine. Either way, it's much faster than doing all the work by hand.

Machines are neat. They don't make mistakes and cut the wrong way. They don't get distracted and spill coffee on the paper. They do a job over and over again, each time as neatly as the time before. I could never be as neat as a machine.

Machines never get tired. You can set a photocopy machine to make 25 copies or 250 copies. It makes no difference to the machine how many copies it has to make. An answering machine answers calls in the middle of the night as well as it does in the morning. If I work a lot, I get tired, and I can't work at all in the middle of the night.

I can depend on machines, but I can't always depend on myself to be fast, neat, and tireless.

Thesis	I prefer machines to working by hand	
Paragraph 1	Main idea	Machines are fast.
	Supporting details	Write letters by hand
		(4) _____
		Use a photocopy machine
Paragraph 2	Main idea	(5) _____
	Supporting details	No mistakes
		Not distracted
		All jobs neat
Paragraph 3	Main idea	Machines don't get tired.
	Supporting details	Photocopy machine
		(6) _____

PRACTICE 3

Create an outline for each of the following topics. Then write an essay from your outline. Write on a separate piece of paper or on computer. Compare your essays with the essays for those topics in the Model Essay section.

Essay Topic 11

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Universities should give the same amount of money to their students' sports activities as they give to their university libraries. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Thesis _____

Paragraph 1 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 2 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 3 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Essay Topic 9

Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Thesis _____

Paragraph 1 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 2 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 3 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Essay Topic 7

How do movies or television influence people's behavior? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your answer.

Thesis _____

Paragraph 1 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 2 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 3 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Essay Topic 149

Imagine that you have received some land to use as you wish. How would you use this land? Use specific details to explain your answer.

Thesis _____

Paragraph 1 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 2 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Paragraph 3 Main idea _____

Supporting details (1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

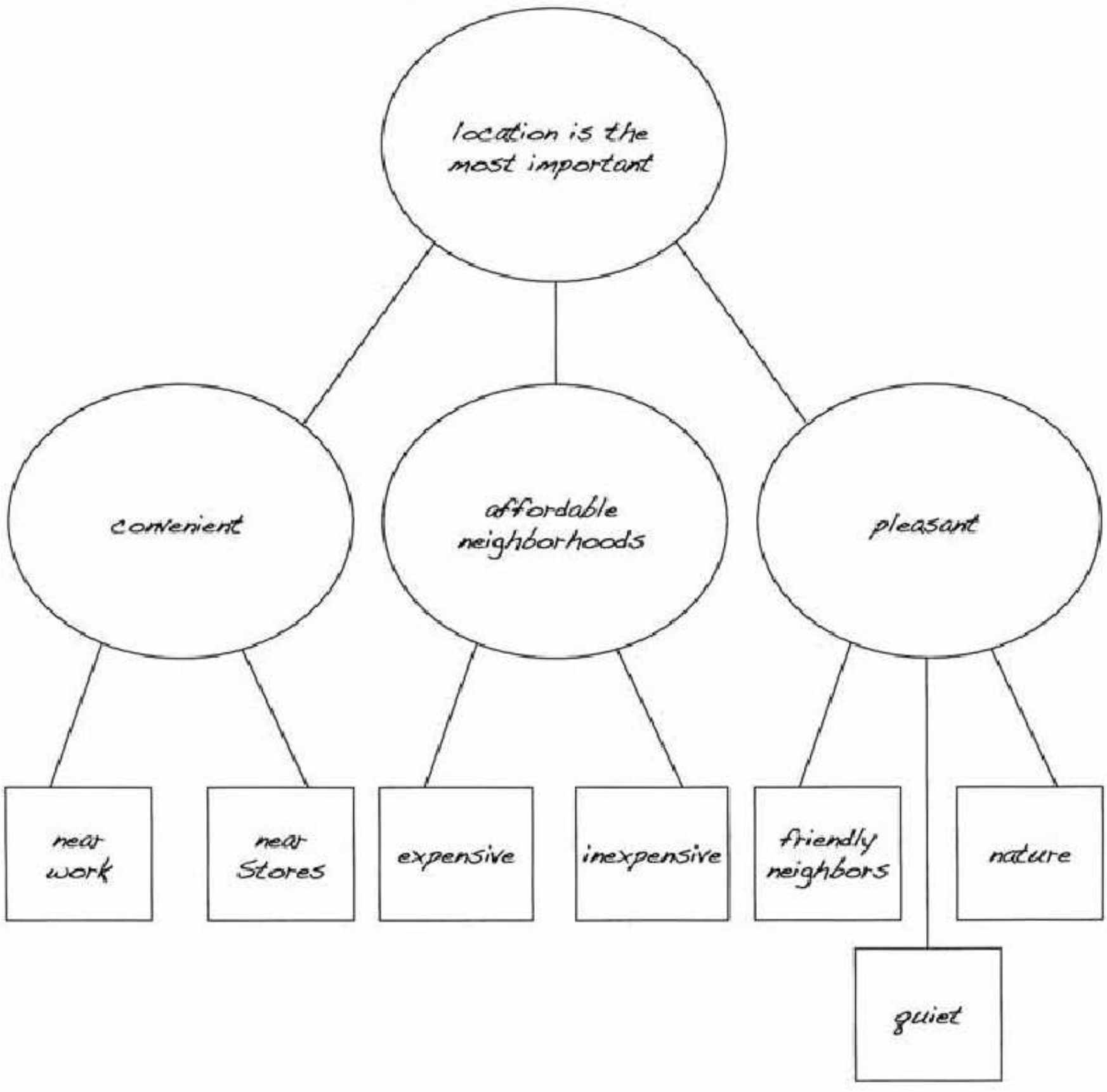
IDEA MAPS

Look at the following examples of idea maps and essays for specific topics.

Sample Essay Topic

When choosing a place to live, what do you consider most important—location, size, style, number or rooms, types of rooms, or other features? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Idea Map



Compare the idea map with this essay.

House Hunting

When choosing a place to live, I look at several things. I need to consider price, size, and type of housing. However, the most important thing of all is location. I look for a house in a convenient and pleasant neighborhood that has rents I can afford to pay.

My apartment must be conveniently located. I don't have a car, so I want to be near my job. I want to be able to walk or take the bus to work. I don't have a lot of time for shopping, so I want to be near stores, too.

I want to live in a pleasant neighborhood. I like quiet areas with little traffic. I like to have nature around me, so I prefer a neighborhood with a lot of trees, gardens, and maybe even a park. Most of all, I want to have friendly neighbors.

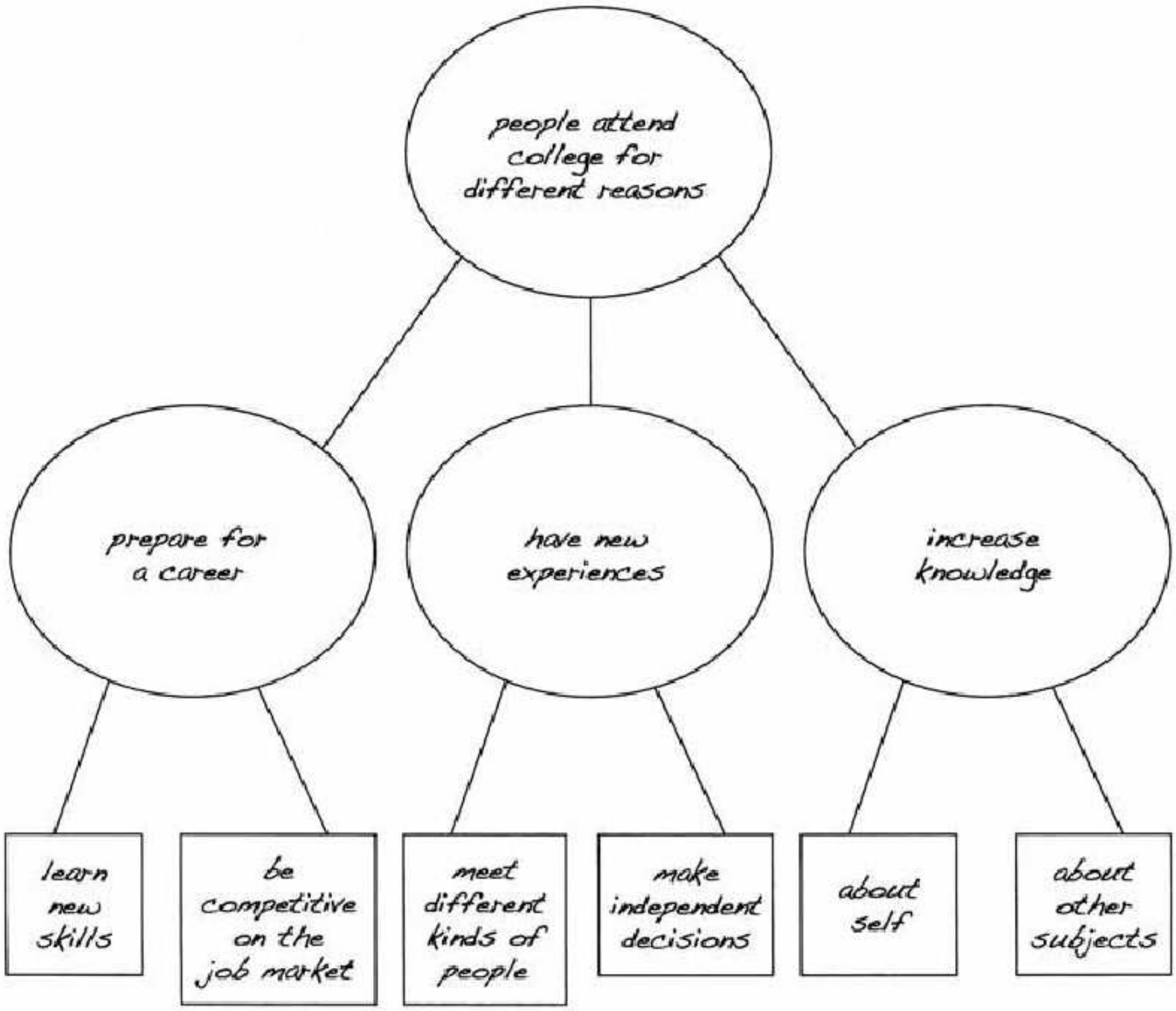
Some neighborhoods are more expensive than others. I have to look for my apartment in neighborhoods that aren't too expensive. Some neighborhoods are very beautiful, but if the rents are too high, I can't afford to live there. If I only look in areas of the city that have affordable rents, I won't be disappointed.

The size of my apartment and the style of the building aren't important to me. I don't care if my apartment is small or if the building is old and in need of repair. If I can find an affordable place to live in a convenient and pleasant location, then I will have everything I need.

Essay Topic 1

People attend college or university for many different reasons (for example, new experiences, career preparation, increased knowledge). Why do you think people attend college or university? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Idea Map



Compare the idea map with this essay.

Three Reasons People Attend College

People attend college for a lot of different reasons. I believe that the three most common reasons are to prepare for a career, to have new experiences, and to increase their knowledge of themselves and of the world around them.

Career preparation is probably the primary reason that people attend college. These days, the job market is very competitive. Careers such as information technology will need many new workers in the near future. At college, students can learn new skills for these careers and increase their opportunities for the future.

Students also go to college to have new experiences. For many, it is their first time away from home. At college, they can meet new people from many different places. They can see what life is like in a different city. They can learn to live on their own and take care of themselves without having their family always nearby.

At college, students have the opportunity to increase their knowledge. As they decide what they want to study, pursue their studies, and interact with their classmates, they learn a lot about themselves. They also, of course, have the opportunity to learn about many subjects in their classes. In addition to the skills and knowledge related to their career, college students also have the chance to take classes in other areas. For many, this will be their last chance to study different subjects.

Colleges offer much more than career preparation. They offer the opportunity to have new experiences and to learn many kinds of things. I think all of these are reasons why people attend college.

PRACTICE 4

Read each essay. Complete the missing parts of each idea map.

Essay Topic 111

Some people prefer to spend time with one or two close friends. Others choose to spend time with a large number of friends. Compare the advantages of each choice. Which of these two ways of spending time do you prefer? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

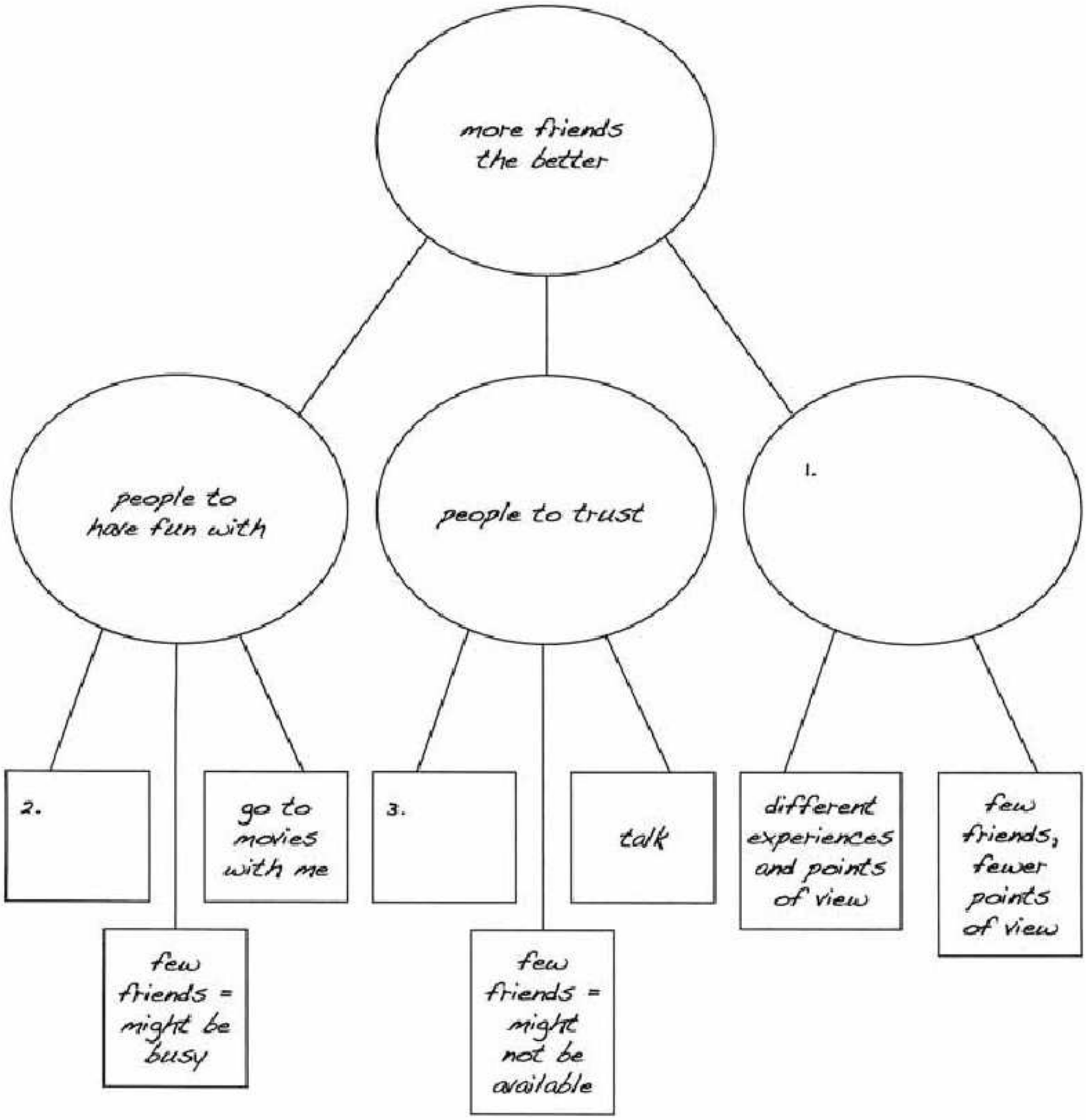
We all need to have friends, and I think the more friends we have, the better. When you have a lot of friends, you are never alone. You always have people who will entertain you, people you can trust, and people who teach you about life.

I want to have a lot of people I can have fun with. If I have a lot of friends, I always have people to laugh and joke with me. I have people to go to the movies or the mall with me. I have people to go to parties with me. If I have only a few friends, they might be busy when I want to do these things, or they might not enjoy some of the things I enjoy.

I need to have a lot of people I can trust. If I have a problem, I want to share it with several friends. If I make a mistake or fail a test or have a fight with my parents, I need my friends to help me. I want to be able to pick up the phone and know I can easily find some friends to talk with. If I have only a few friends, they might not be available when I need them.

I like to have a lot of people who teach me about life. If I have a lot of friends, I have a lot of different people to learn from. Each person has different experiences and a different point of view. I can learn a lot of things from a lot of different people. If I have only a few friends, I will see only a few points of view.

I like to have a lot of friends around me. I like to have fun with them and to learn from them and to know that I can rely on them. My life is better because of all the friends I have.


more friends the better
people to have fun with
people to trust
1.
2.
go to movies with me
3.
talk
different experiences and points of view
few friends, fewer points of view
few friends = might be busy
few friends = might not be available

Essay Topic 85

A foreign visitor has only one day to spend in your country. Where should this visitor go on that day? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

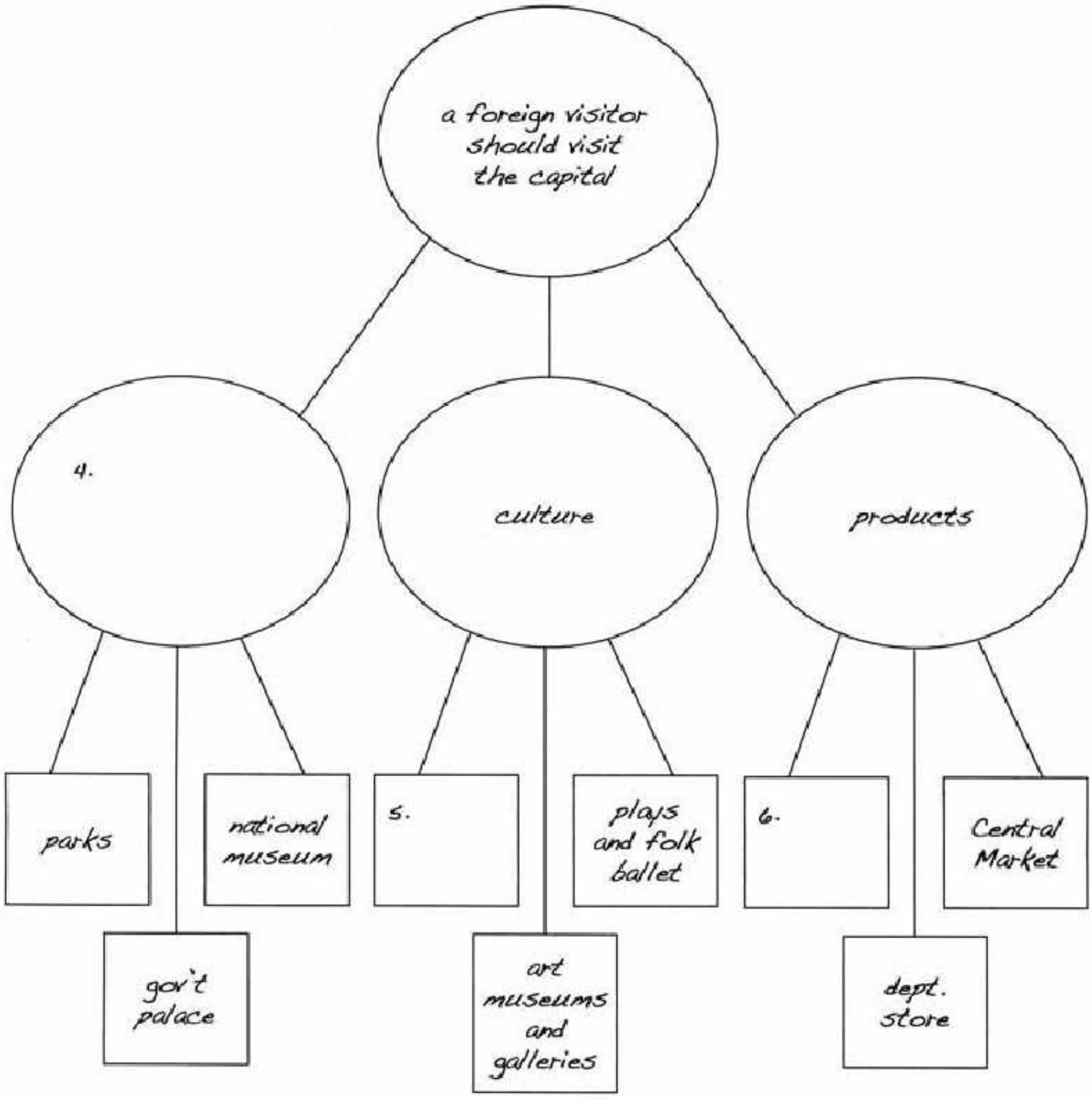
A foreign visitor with only one day to spend in my country should definitely spend that day in the capital. Spending time in the capital is the easiest way to see many aspects of our country in one place. In this city, the visitor can learn about our history, see examples of our culture, and buy our best products.

Our country's history is represented in several ways throughout the city. In the Government Palace, a visitor can learn about the history of our independence. In our National Museum, a visitor can see exhibits that show all the different stages of our history, from ancient times to the present. In parks all around the city, a visitor can see monuments to famous historical people and events.

It is also possible to see different representations of our culture throughout the city. Our art museums and galleries show paintings and sculptures by our artists. Plays written by national playwrights are performed in the theaters. Folk ballet performances show examples of our traditional dances. Many restaurants in the capital serve our native dishes.

The best products of our country are sold in the capital city. The large department stores sell clothes, furniture, and household items manufactured in our country. The Central Market sells fruit and vegetables from the surrounding agricultural region. Tourist and craft shops sell native handicrafts made in the countryside.

The capital city is the best place to learn about our country in one place. Of course, it is difficult to see all of the city's attractions in one day. With some planning, though, it is possible to see at least a few examples of our country's history, culture, and products in one day.

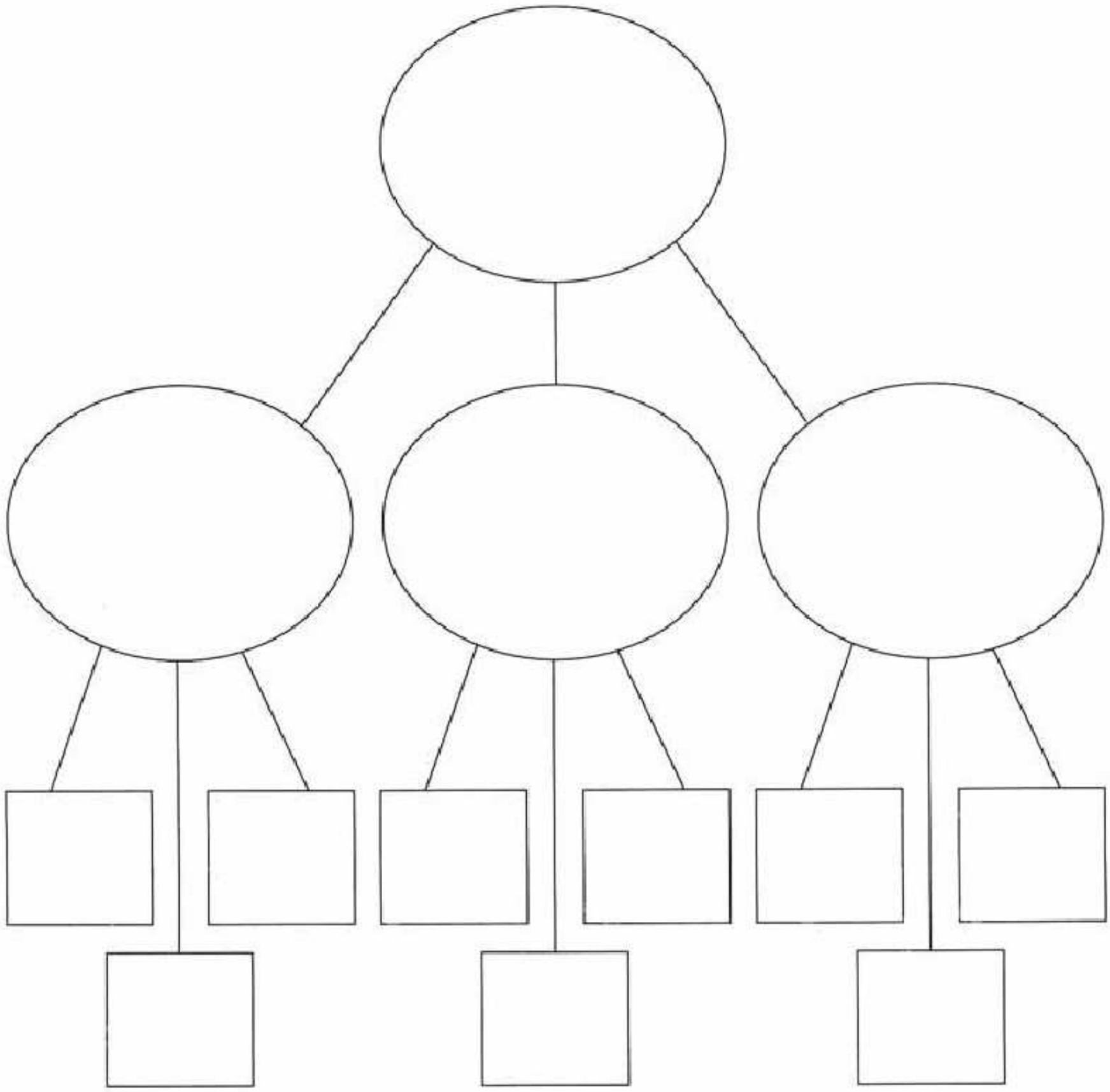

a foreign visitor should visit the capital
4.
culture
products
parks
national museum
5.
plays and folk ballet
6.
Central Market
gov't palace
art museums and galleries
dept. store

PRACTICE 5

Create an idea map for each of the following topics. You may not need all parts of the map. Then write an essay from your idea map. Write on a separate piece of paper or on computer. Compare your essays with the essays for those topics in the Model Essay section, beginning on page 244 of the Appendix.

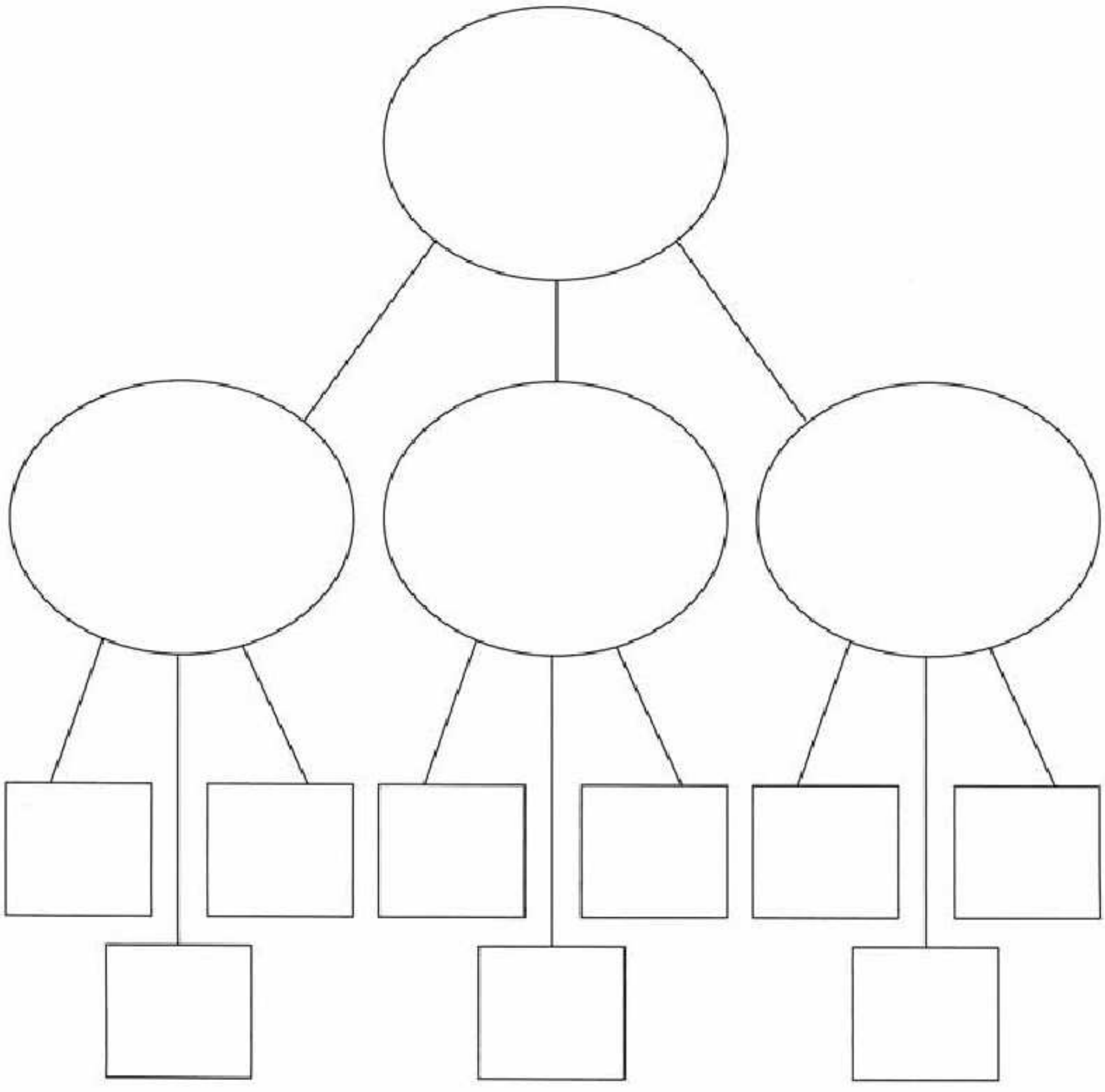
Essay Topic 124

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important for students to study history and literature than it is for them to study science and mathematics. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.



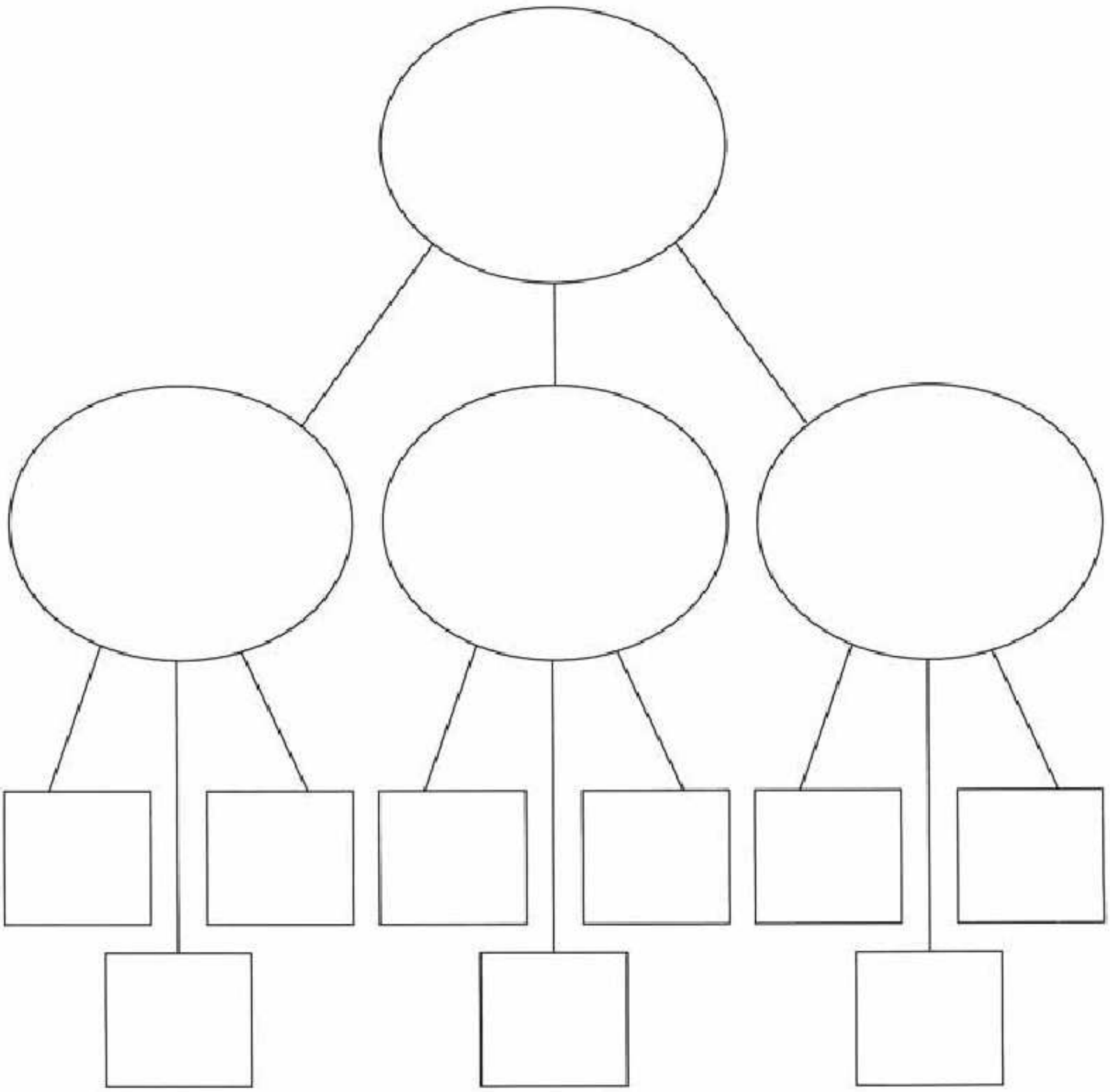
Essay Topic 154

In some countries, people are no longer allowed to smoke in many public places and office buildings. Do you think this is a good rule or a bad rule? Use specific reasons and details to support your position.



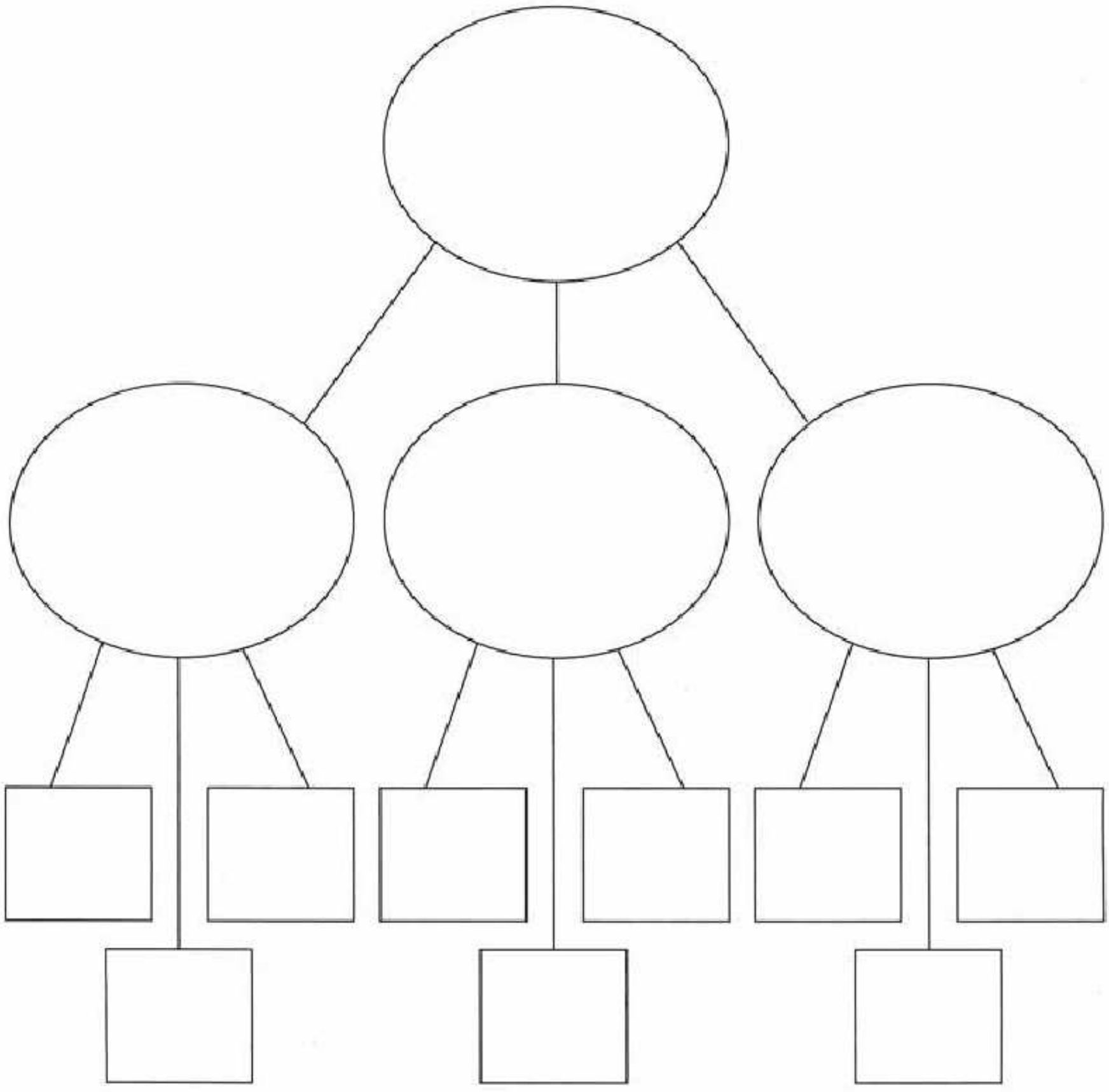
Essay Topic 69

If you could study a subject that you have never had the opportunity to study, what would you choose? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.



Essay Topic 70

Some people think that the automobile has improved modern life. Others think that the automobile has caused serious problems. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.



Step 2 Write

WRITE THE INTRODUCTION

You need two things to write a good introduction. You need to have an opinion on the topic and you need to have topic sentences for each of the paragraphs. Your opinion will tell the reader what you think about the subject; the summary of the topic sentences will guide your reader through your essay.

State Your Opinion

The introduction to your essay should tell the reader what your opinion is on the topic. The Independent Task is a personal essay. Your ideas on a topic are important. The readers are interested in what you have to say. There is, however, no right or wrong opinion. The readers look to see how you express your opinion, whatever it is.

You can express your opinion by using set phrases or by varying the verbs, adjectives, and adverbs you use. On the Independent Task, you must show semantic and syntactic variety in your language to score high. This section will help you give your writing more variety.

Here are some examples of set phrases that you can use to express your opinion.

Set Phrases

In my opinion	It is my opinion that
According to me	I believe
To my way of thinking	I think
In my view	It seems to me that
To me	It appears that
From my point of view	To my mind

EXAMPLES

In my opinion, university students must attend classes.

According to me, one must change with the times.

To me, there is nothing more important than good health.

It is my opinion that one learns by example.

It seems to me that a good neighbor is one who respects your privacy.

It appears that all the information one needs is available on computer.

PRACTICE 1

Give your opinion about these topics. Use the phrases suggested.

1. People's lives (are/are not) easier today.

   In my opinion, people's lives are easier today.

2. Most people (prefer/do not prefer) to spend their leisure time outdoors.

   It seems to me that, _____

3. An apartment building (is/is not) better than a house.

   To my mind, _____

4. It (is/is not) good that English is becoming the world language.

   From my point of view, _____

Verbs

You can use different verbs to show how strongly you feel about something. *Believe* and *think* are the most common verbs used to express a personal opinion.

agree	infer
believe	realize
guess	suppose
hope	think
imagine	understand

EXAMPLES

I agree that studying science is more important than studying literature.

I hope that people remember the special gifts I gave them.

I infer from their actions that most youth feel they have nothing to learn from older people.

I understand why people like to work with their hands.

PRACTICE 2

Give your opinion about these topics. Use the verbs suggested.

1. High schools (should/should not) allow students to study what they want.

   I believe that _____

2. It is better to be a (leader/member) of a group.

   I guess that _____

3. People (should/should not) do things they do not enjoy doing.

   I agree that _____

4. I would rather have the university (assign/not assign) me a roommate.

   I suppose that _____

Adjectives

You can use different adjectives to show how strongly you feel about something.

certain	positive
convinced	sure

EXAMPLES

I am certain that movies influence people's behavior.

I am convinced that having a pet can contribute to a child's development.

PRACTICE 3

Give your opinion about these topics. Use the adjectives suggested.

1. Children (should/should not) spend a great amount of time practicing sports.

   I am sure that _____

2. A shopping center in my neighborhood (will/will not) be a benefit to our community.

   I am positive that _____

Adverb Phrases

You can use different adverb phrases to qualify your opinion. These adverb phrases show how strongly you feel about something.

seemingly	maybe	almost
conceivably	probably	doubtless
possibly	presumably	no doubt
perhaps	certainly	definitely

EXAMPLES

Seemingly, playing games can teach us about life.

Daily exercise definitely should be a part of every school day.

Doubtless, helping a child to learn to read is important.

Individual sports are possibly better than team sports for some students.

PRACTICE 4

Give your opinion about these topics. Use the adverb phrases suggested.

1. A zoo (has/does not have) a useful purpose.

   No doubt _____

2. Growing up in the countryside (is/is not) better than growing up in the city.

   Perhaps _____

3. Our generation (is/is not) different from that of our parents.

   Certainly, _____

4. A sense of humor can sometimes be (helpful/detrimental) in a difficult situation.

   Conceivably, _____

You can use different adverb phrases to make a general statement about how you feel about something.

all in all	basically	generally
all things considered	by and large	in general
altogether	essentially	on the whole
as a rule	for the most part	overall

EXAMPLES

All in all, it is better to learn from a teacher than on your own.

As a rule, it is better for students to wear uniforms to school.

For the most part, countries are more alike than different.

On the whole, higher education should be available to all.

PRACTICE 5

Give your opinion about these topics. Use the adverb phrases suggested to make a general statement.

1. The family (is/is not) the most important influence on young adults.

   All things considered, _____

2. Parents (are/are not) the best teachers.

   In general, _____

3. People (are never/are sometimes) too old to attend college.

   By and large, _____

You can use different adverb phrases to qualify your opinion. These adverb phrases show an idea is not completely true.

almost	so to speak
in a way	for all intents and purposes
more or less	to some extent
practically	up to a point

EXAMPLES

Up to a point, people succeed because of hard work, not because of luck.

For all intents and purposes, television has destroyed communication among family members.

PRACTICE 6

Give your opinion about these topics. Use the adverb phrases suggested to show an idea is not completely true.

1. It is better to make a wrong decision than to make no decision.

   or

   It is better to make no decision than to make a wrong decision.

   In a way, _____

2. Watching movies (is/is not) more enjoyable than reading.

   To some extent, _____

3. You (can/cannot) learn as much by losing as winning.

   More or less, _____

GUIDE THE READER

The introduction to your essay should also tell the reader how you plan to develop your topic. The topic sentences that you develop from your idea map outline can be summarized in the introduction.

Compare these introductions.

Introduction to Topic 1

VERSION A

> I believe that people attend college for many different reasons. These reasons are personal to them.

VERSION B

> People attend colleges or universities for a lot of different reasons. I believe that the three most common reasons are to prepare for a career, to have new experiences, and to increase their knowledge of themselves and the world around them.

COMMENT

Version A starts with the writer's opinion, but it does not tell us much. What are these reasons? We need to know the basic reasons so we can prepare ourselves to find supporting details in the body of the essay.

Version B gives three specific reasons that the writer believes are the most important ones: to prepare for a career, to have new experiences, and to increase their knowledge of themselves and the world around them. From this introduction I will expect to see a paragraph on each of these reasons.

Introduction to Topic 6

VERSION A

I think there are changes necessary in my hometown. It is always the same. There has to be something different.

VERSION B

If I could change one thing about my hometown I think it would be the fact that there's no sense of community here. People don't feel connected, they don't look out for each other, and they don't get to know their neighbors.

COMMENT

Version A starts with the writer's opinion but doesn't say what changes are necessary. We need some guidance.

Version B narrows in on the topic and talks about the sense of community. The writer says that "People don't feel connected, they don't look out for each other, and they don't get to know their neighbors." From this introduction, I will expect to see a paragraph on each of these reasons.

Introduction to Topic 13

VERSION A

I believe that some people like to eat at food stands, and some like to eat in restaurants. There are different reasons for this.

VERSION B

Some people like to eat out at food stands and restaurants, while others like to prepare food at home. Often it depends on the kind of lifestyle people have. Those with very busy jobs outside the house don't always have time to cook. They like the convenience of eating out. Overall, though, I think it is cheaper and healthier to eat at home.

COMMENT

In Version A, the writer does not share what these reasons are. There are no general statements.

In Version B, the writer tells us that the choice depends on a person's lifestyle. The writer will probably give us more details about the reasons of convenience, costs, and health.

PRACTICE 7

Read the following introductions and tell us what the writer believes and the focus of each paragraph. You might not have three paragraphs for all introductions.

1. **Introduction to Topic 111**

   We all need to have friends, and I think the more friends we have, the better. Friendship helps us learn how to trust others, it helps us know what to expect from others, and it helps us profit from experiences. I want to have a lot of friends around me so I can learn more about myself from different people.

   Opinion: I think the more friends we have, the better

   Paragraph focus: learn how to trust others

   Paragraph focus: learn what to expect from others

   Paragraph focus: helps us profit from experiences

2. **Introduction to Topic 148**

   Almost everyone, from little children to adults, loves games. The types of games may change as we grow up, but our enjoyment never changes. I believe that playing games is both fun and useful because it teaches us the skills we need in life. Games teach us there is a cause-effect relationship; teach us about teamwork; and teach us to follow rules.

   Opinion: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

3. **Introduction to Topic 114**

   Although friends make an impression on your life, they do not have the same influence that your family has. Nothing is as important to me as my family. From them, I learned everything that is important. I learned about trust, ambition, and love.

   Opinion: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

4. **Introduction to Topic 110**

   If I had to choose between spending time alone or spending time with my friends, I'd rather be alone. Being with friends can be fun and can help you get through hard times. However, it's the time alone that forms you as a person. I need time alone to pursue solitary activities such as reading and writing. I need time alone to get to know myself better. I need time alone to reenergize my mind and spirit.

   Opinion: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

5. **Introduction to Topic 44**

   Traveling alone is the only way to travel. If you take someone with you, you take your home with you. When you travel alone, you meet new people, have new experiences, and learn more about yourself.

   Opinion: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

   Paragraph focus: _____

WRITE THE PARAGRAPHS

Once you have stated your opinion and shown the reader how you plan to develop your essay, the rest is easy. You simply turn the supporting details in your outline or idea map into sentences. Of course, you must make sure your sentences are written correctly and have semantic and syntactic variety. (See Part 4, Writing Skills—Both Tasks for further practice with sentence writing.)

Look at these examples of how an outline and an idea map become paragraphs.

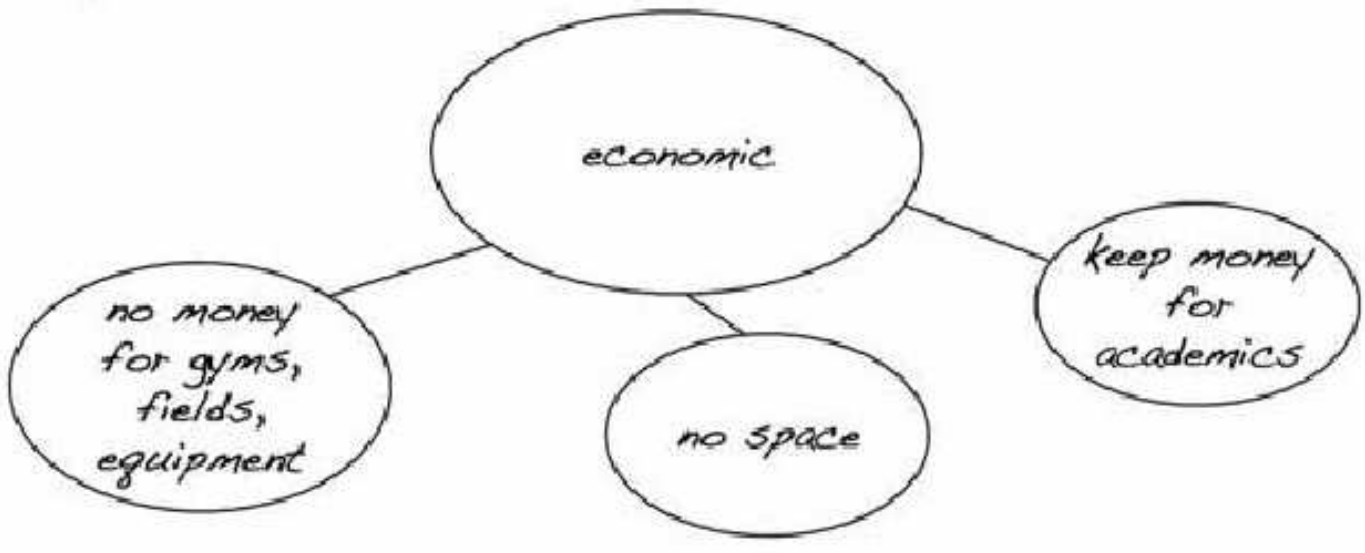
Sample 1

Paragraph 3	Main idea	The foreign language program needs well-trained instructors.
	Supporting details	(1) Current teachers don't speak well (2) Teachers make frequent errors (3) Well-trained teachers are good models

Paragraph 3 from Essay Topic 141

> The foreign language program should be staffed with well-trained instructors. The current teachers in the program don't speak the language well enough. In our classes, teachers frequently make errors that the students repeat. If the teachers were well trained, they would be good models for the students.

Sample 2



Paragraph 2 from Essay Topic 128

> Another issue is economic. Many schools simply do not have the money to provide gym facilities, playing fields, and athletic equipment for their students. Other schools are located in cities where that kind of space just isn't available. A few schools would rather keep money for academic purposes.

PRACTICE 8

Look at the following outlines and idea maps. Use each one to write a paragraph on a separate piece of paper or on your computer. Compare your paragraphs with the cited paragraphs for those topics in the Model Essay section beginning on page 244 of the Appendix.

Paragraph 3 from Essay Topic 13

Main idea	Eating at home is better than eating at restaurants.
Supporting details	(1) Restaurant meals high in fat and calories
	(2) At home you control ingredients
	(3) Restaurants big plates of food
	(4) At home you control portion size

Paragraph 3 from Essay Topic 93

Main idea	A good roommate is fun
Supporting details	(1) invites you to parties and concerts
	(2) introduces you to friends
	(3) plans free time activities with you

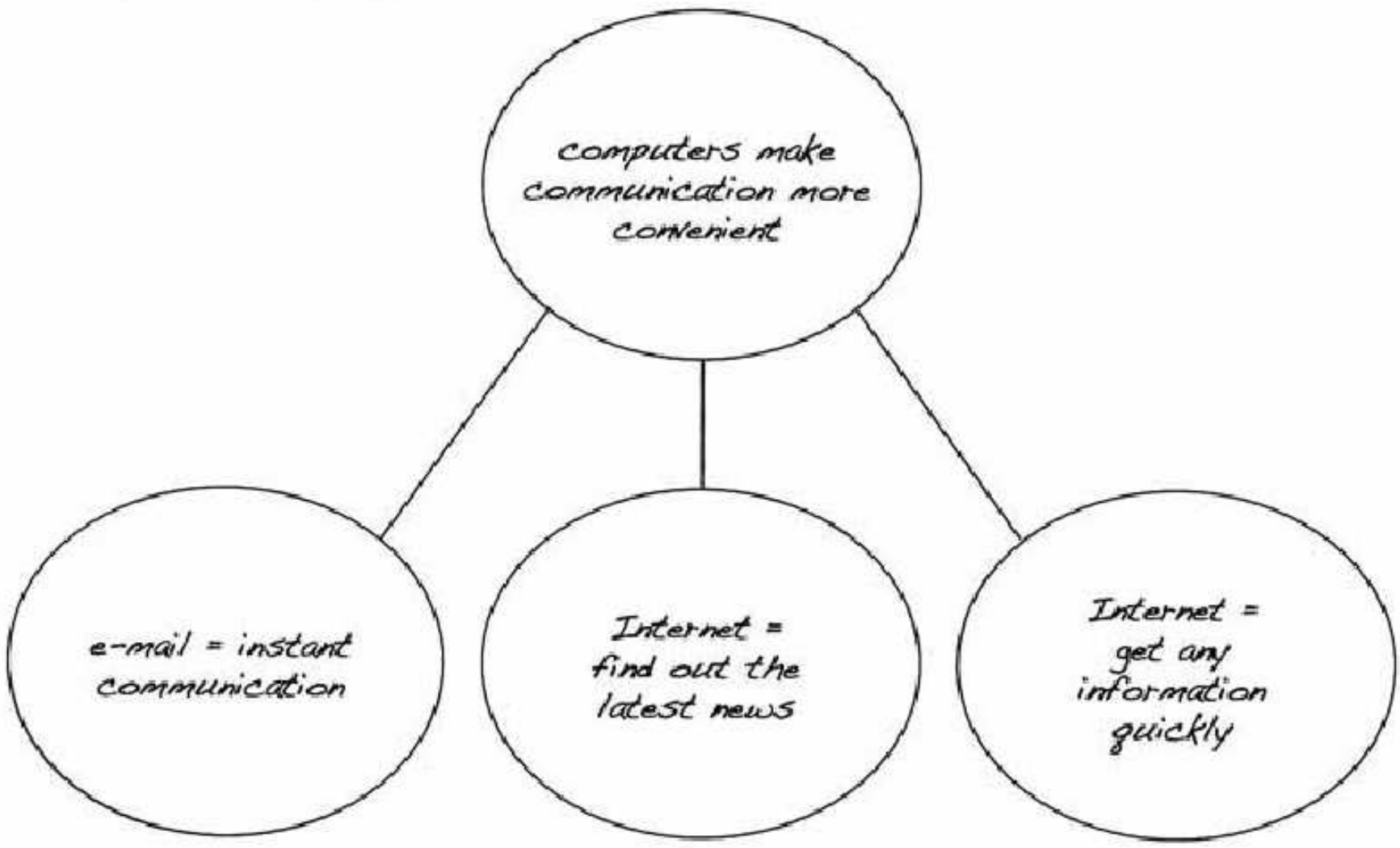
Paragraph 3 from Essay Topic 182

Main idea	Loving a pet can interfere with relationships with people.
Supporting details	(1) neglect spouse and children
	(2) lose interest in making friends
	(3) less complicated than relationships with people

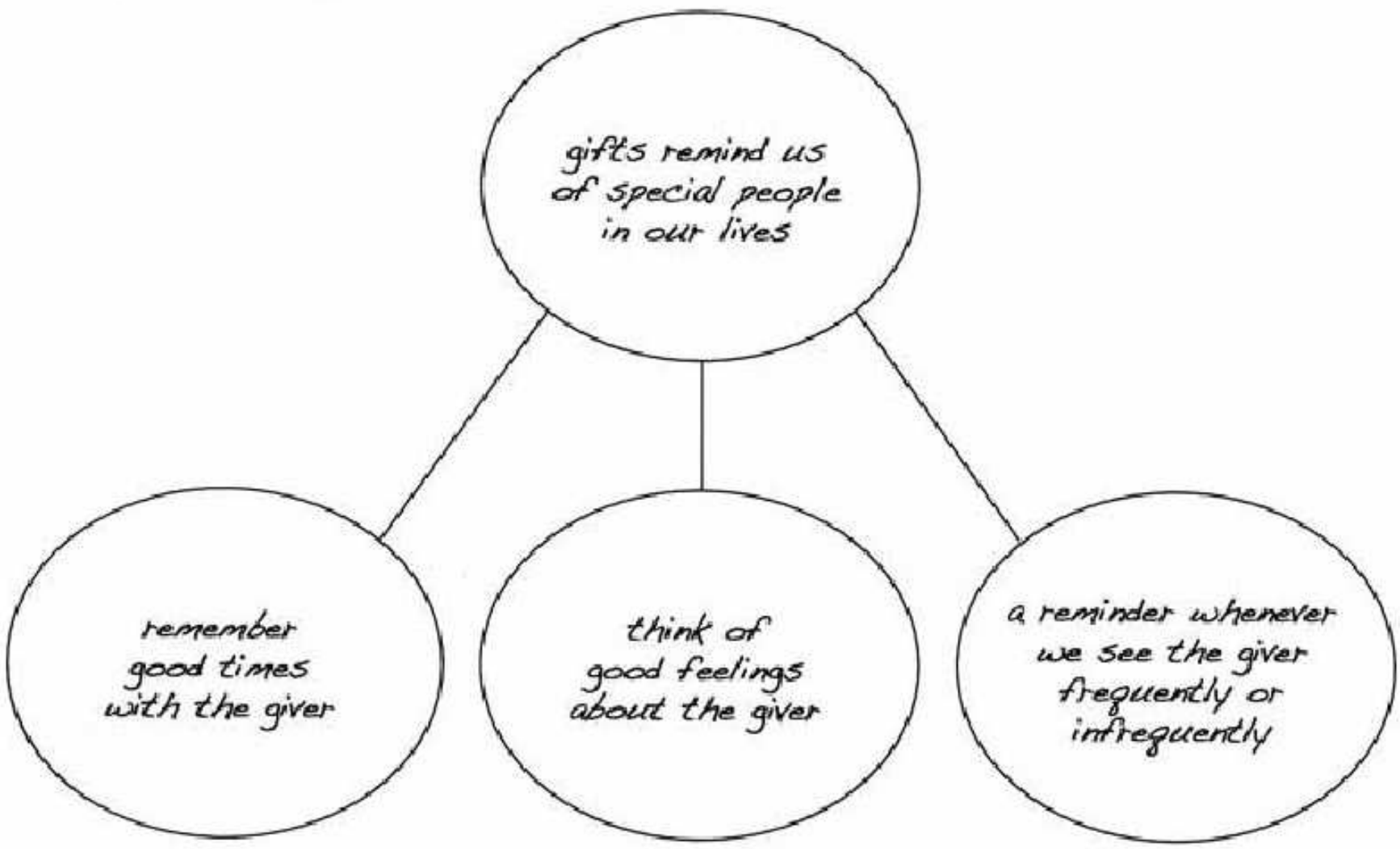
Paragraph 2 from Essay Topic 22



Paragraph 2 from Essay Topic 73



Paragraph 2 from Essay Topic 161



WRITE THE CONCLUSION

A good essay should have a good conclusion. A conclusion has a few sentences that support your thesis and remind the reader of your intentions. There are a few different ways to write a conclusion. Look at these conclusions from the essays in this book. You can review the complete essay in the Model Essay section.

Restatement

You can end your essay by restating your thesis and/or restating your topic sentences.

CONCLUSION FROM TOPIC 134

> Children should not work all the time. A happy life needs balance. If children can successfully handle tasks at home, they will handle life better, too. They will know the satisfaction of doing a good job, be involved in family life, and become more confident and responsible adults.

Generalization

You can use all the information you provided and make a generalization about it.

CONCLUSION FROM TOPIC 117

> All things considered, I think I'd like to have a lot of acquaintances who are different and a few close friends who are similar to me. That seems to be the best of both worlds.

Prediction

You can summarize the information you provided and point the reader toward the next logical step.

CONCLUSION FROM TOPIC 26

> I believe that a new movie theater is a fine idea. I support it because of the changes it will bring to our citizens and our town. I believe that the reduction in crime, the increase in employment, and the improved infrastructure will make our town a nicer place to live.

Question

You can conclude with a question that does not need an answer. This is called a rhetorical question. The answer is contained in the question.

CONCLUSION FROM TOPIC 2

> The most important thing to realize is that we all have many teachers in our lives. Where would we be without our parents, teachers, and our peers to guide us? What would we do without books, newspapers, and television to inform us? All of them are very valuable.

Recommendation

You can urge your readers to do something with the information you provided.

CONCLUSION FROM TOPIC 13

> Both eating at restaurants and cooking at home can be satisfying. Both can taste good and be enjoyed with family and friends. I prefer cooking at home, because of the money and health issues. I encourage my friends to eat out less, but it's up to them to make the choice that fits their lifestyles best.

PRACTICE 9

What kind of a conclusion is each of these sentences or paragraphs? Refer to the whole essay, in the Appendix, beginning on page 244, to help you decide.

1. **Conclusion from Topic 40**
   If you give up, you might as well die. My advice is to always look for another opportunity, another goal, or another option. There is always something else. Don't give up.
   (A) Restatement
   (B) Generalization
   (C) Prediction
   (D) Question
   (E) Recommendation

2. **Conclusion from Topic 119**
   Clothes don't change you into a different person, but they can make you behave differently. If you are dressed inappropriately for a situation, people will react to you in a different way. This reaction can, in turn, change your behavior. If you want good reactions from people, make sure to dress appropriately for every situation.
   (A) Restatement
   (B) Generalization
   (C) Prediction
   (D) Question
   (E) Recommendation

3. **Conclusion from Topic 25**
   On the whole, though, I think my neighborhood should support having a shopping center built here. It would bring more variety to our shopping, give us the opportunity to amuse ourselves at movie theaters and restaurants, and bring more jobs into the area.
   (A) Restatement
   (B) Generalization
   (C) Prediction
   (D) Question
   (E) Recommendation

4. **Conclusion from Topic 121**
   If we all based our final opinion of others on first impressions, it would be hard to get to know anyone. We would probably miss many opportunities to make good friends. Isn't it important to give everyone the chance to show us who they really are? And don't you want other people to do the same for you?
   (A) Restatement
   (B) Generalization
   (C) Prediction
   (D) Question
   (E) Recommendation

5. **Conclusion from Topic 31**
   The more I moved the more I would experience change. I would meet new people in every place I lived; I could move to sample countries with four seasons or even a continent like Antarctica, which only has two. Wherever I lived, I would experience living in housing particular to that area. I would then be a citizen of the world, wouldn't I? Could you call me a foreigner if I called every-place my home?
   (A) Restatement
   (B) Generalization
   (C) Prediction
   (D) Question
   (E) Recommendation

Extra Practice

1. Read the essays in the Model Essay section. Identify the type of conclusion each contains.

2. Change the conclusion in any or all of the essays to another type of conclusion.

Step 3 Revise

USE THE REVISION CHECKLIST

After you write your essay, you need to check the content and language. You need to make sure that the content is well developed and well organized, and that you have used correct language and punctuation. You can use a revision checklist similar to the one for the Integrated Task.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Read the following model essays. Notice how each one follows the items on the checklist.

Essay Topic 2

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are the best teachers. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Parents shape their children from the beginning of their children's lives. They develop close emotional ties with their children. They share their interests with them. They teach them values. Parents can be very important teachers in their children's lives; however, they are not always the best teachers. *main ideas* / *thesis statement*

Parents may be too close to their children emotionally. For example, they may limit a child's freedom in the name of safety. A teacher may organize an educational trip to a big city, but a parent may think this trip is too dangerous. A school may want to take the children camping, but a parent may be afraid of the child getting hurt.

Another problem is that parents sometimes expect their children's interests to be similar to their own. If the parents love science, they may try to force their child to love science too. **But** what if the child prefers art? If the parents enjoy sports, they may expect their child to participate on different teams. **But** what if the child prefers to read?

Finally, although parents want to pass on their values to their children, values can change. The children of today are growing up in a world different from their parents' world. Sometimes parents, especially older ones, can't keep up with rapid social or technological changes. A student who has friends of different races at school may find that his parents have narrower views. A student who loves computers may find that her parents don't understand or value the digital revolution.

Parents are important teachers in our lives, but they aren't always the best teachers. Fortunately, we have many teachers in our lives. Our parents teach us, our teachers teach us, and we learn from our peers. Books and newspapers also teach us. All of them are valuable.

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT**

The task asks the writer to agree or disagree with a statement. In the first paragraph, the writer clearly expresses disagreement with the statement.

Task: Agree or disagree
Thesis: Parents . . . are not always the best teachers.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The first paragraph mentions three topics that support the thesis. These will become the main ideas of the paragraphs in the body of the essay.

Thesis: **Parents . . . are not always the best teachers.**

Location	Main idea
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	. . . develop close emotional ties . . .
Paragraph 1, Sentence 3	. . . share their interests . . .
Paragraph 1, Sentence 4	. . . teach them values

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*
Parents may be too close to their children emotionally.

Supporting details
– For example, they may limit a child's freedom in the name of safety.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*
Another problem is that parents sometimes expect their children's interests to be similar to their own.

Supporting details
– If the parents love science, they may try to force their child to love science too.
– If the parents enjoy sports, they may expect their child to participate on different teams.

Paragraph 4: *Main idea*
Finally, although parents want to pass on their values to their children, values can change.

Supporting details
– A student who has friends of different races at school may find that his parents have narrower views.
– A student who loves computers may find that her parents don't understand or value the digital revolution.

FLUENCY AND COHESION

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS

This essay uses appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
however	Paragraph 1	Shows contrast
Another	Paragraph 3	Adds information
But	Paragraph 3	Shows contrast
Finally	Paragraph 4	Shows order of ideas

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**
There are no grammar or spelling errors in this essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY**
This essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Simple sentence	Paragraph 1	They share their interests with them.
Compound sentence	Paragraph 2	A teacher may organize an educational trip to a big city, but a parent may think this trip is too dangerous.
Complex sentence	Paragraph 3	If the parents love science, they may try to force their child to love science too.
Adjective clause	Paragraph 4	A student who has friends of different races at school may find that his parents have narrower views.
Series	Paragraph 5	Our parents teach us, our teachers teach us, and we learn from our peers.

Essay Topic 13

Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

thesis statement

Although many people prefer to eat at restaurants because it is easier than cooking at home, I prefer to prepare food at home. I believe it is much cheaper and healthier to eat at home, and it can be more convenient, **too**.

While eating in restaurants is fast, the money you spend can add up. When I have dinner at a restaurant, the bill is usually $25 or more. I can buy a lot of groceries with that much money. Even lunch at a food stand can easily cost seven or eight dollars. That's enough to feed a whole family at home.

Eating at home is better for you, too. Meals at restaurants are often high in fat and calories. When you cook at home, **however**, you can control what you eat. You can cook with low-fat and low-calorie ingredients. Restaurants also often serve big plates of food. You may eat a big plate of food at a restaurant because you paid for it, while at home you can control your portion size. You can serve yourself as little as you want.

It may seem more convenient to eat at a restaurant because you don't have to shop, cook, or clean up. All you do is eat. Cooking at home, **however**, can actually be more convenient. There are a lot of simple meals that don't take long to prepare. **In addition**, when you eat

at home, you don't have to drive to the restaurant, look for a parking space, wait for a table, and wait for service.

People often choose to eat at restaurants because it seems more convenient. I find, **however**, that cooking at home is actually easier, and it is cheaper and healthier as well.

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The task asks the writer to state a preference. In the first paragraph, the writer clearly states a preference.

Task: State a preference
Thesis: . . . I prefer to prepare food at home.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The first paragraph mentions three topics that support the thesis. These will become the main ideas of the paragraphs in the body of the essay.

Thesis: . . . I prefer to prepare food at home.

Location	Main idea
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	cheaper
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	healthier
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	more convenient

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*
While eating in restaurants is fast, the money you spend can add up.

Supporting details
- When I have dinner at a restaurant, the bill is usually $25 or more.
- Even lunch at a food stand can easily cost seven or eight dollars..

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*
Eating at home is better for you, too.

Supporting details
- When you cook at home, however, you can control what you eat.
- . . . at home you can control your portion size.

Paragraph 4: *Main idea*
Cooking at home, however, can actually be more convenient.

Supporting details
- There are a lot of simple meals that don't take long to prepare.
- In addition, when you eat at home, you don't have to drive to the restaurant, look for a parking space, wait for a table, and wait for service.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS**
This essay uses appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
Although	Paragraph 1	Shows contrast
too	Paragraph 3	Adds information
however	Paragraphs 3, 4, 5	Shows contrast
In addition	Paragraph 4	Adds information

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**
There are no grammar or spelling errors in this essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY

This essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Simple sentence	Paragraph 3	Eating at home is better for you, too.
Complex sentence	Paragraph 3	When I have dinner at a restaurant, the bill is usually $25 or more.
Adjective clause	Paragraph 4	There are a lot of simple meals that don't take long to prepare
Series	Paragraph 4	In addition, when you eat at home, you don't have to drive to the restaurant, look for a parking space, wait for a table, and wait for service.

Essay Topic 16

It has recently been announced that a new restaurant may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

thesis statement / *main ideas*

I can see both advantages and disadvantages to having a new restaurant built in our neighborhood. I believe, **however**, that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. A new restaurant would bring more traffic problems to the area. **In addition**, it could attract undesirable people. **Most of all**, I think there are other types of businesses that would be more beneficial to the neighborhood.

Traffic congestion is already a problem in our neighborhood, and a new restaurant would just add to the problem. Most restaurant customers would arrive by car and crowd our streets even more. **In addition**, they would occupy parking spaces and make it even harder for residents to find places to park near their homes.

I'm **also** concerned about the type of patrons that a new restaurant would bring into our neighborhood. If the restaurant serves drinks and has dancing, there could be problems. The restaurant would stay open late and people leaving the restaurant might be drunk. They could be noisy, too. That is not the kind of thing I want to see in my neighborhood.

Finally, there are other types of businesses that we need in our neighborhood more. We already have a restaurant and a couple of coffee shops. We don't have a bookstore or pharmacy, **however**, and we have only one small grocery store. I would prefer to see one of these businesses established here rather than another restaurant. Any one of them would be more useful to the residents and would maintain the quiet atmosphere of our streets.

A new restaurant could disrupt the quiet lifestyle of our neighborhood. It might bring jobs, **but** it would also bring traffic and noise. **Moreover**, it would use space that might be better used for another type of business. This is why I would oppose a plan for a new restaurant.

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The task asks the writer to support or oppose a plan. In the first paragraph, the writer clearly states opposition to the plan.

Task: Support or oppose plan
Thesis: I believe, however, that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The first paragraph mentions three topics that support the thesis. These will become the main ideas of the paragraphs in the body of the essay.

Thesis: I believe, however, that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages.

Location	Main idea
Paragraph 1, Sentence 3	. . . bring more traffic problems to the area.
Paragraph 1, Sentence 4	. . . attract undesirable people.
Paragraph 1, Sentence 5	. . . other types of businesses . . . would be more beneficial to the neighborhood

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*
Traffic congestion is already a problem in our neighborhood and a new restaurant would just add to the problem.

Supporting details
- Most restaurant customers would arrive by car and crowd our streets even more.
- In addition, they would occupy parking spaces and make it even harder for residents to find places to park near their homes.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*
I'm also concerned about the type of patrons a new restaurant would bring into our neighborhood.

Supporting details
- The restaurant would stay open late and people leaving the restaurant might be drunk.
- They could be noisy, too.

Paragraph 4: *Main idea*
Finally, there are other types of businesses that we need in our neighborhood more.

Supporting details
- We already have a restaurant and a couple of coffee shops.
- We don't have a bookstore or pharmacy, however, and we have only one small grocery store.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS**
This essay uses appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
however	Paragraph 1, 4	Shows contrast
In addition	Paragraphs 1, 2	Adds information
Most of all	Paragraph 1	Adds information
also	Paragraph 3	Adds information
Finally	Paragraph 4	Shows order of ideas
but	Paragraph 5	Shows contrast
Moreover	Paragraph 5	Adds information

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**
There are no grammar or spelling errors in this essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY**
This essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Adjective clause	Paragraph 1	Most of all, I think there are other types of businesses that would be more beneficial to the neighborhood.
Complex sentence	Paragraph 3	If the restaurant serves drinks and has dancing, there could be problems.
Simple sentence	Paragraph 4	We already have a restaurant and a couple of coffee shops
Compound sentence	Paragraph 5	It might bring jobs, but it would also bring traffic and noise.

Essay Topic 17

Some people think that they can learn better by themselves than with a teacher. Others think that it is always better to have a teacher. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons to develop your essay.

Most people can learn to do something simple on their own with just a set of instructions. **However**, to learn something more complex, it's always best to have a teacher. Teachers help you find the way that you learn best. They help you stay focused on what you're learning. They provide you with a wider range of information than you might find on your own. **In short,** teachers provide you with a lot more support and knowledge than you can usually get by yourself.

main ideas

thesis statement

Teachers can help students learn in the way that is best for each student because teachers understand that different people have different learning styles. **For example,** some students learn better by discussing a topic. Others learn more by writing about it. A teacher can help you follow your learning style, while a book can give you only one way of learning something.

Teachers help you focus on what you are learning. They can help you keep from becoming distracted. They can show you which are the most important points in a lesson to understand. If you have to study on your own, **on the other hand**, it might be difficult to keep your attention on the material or know which points are most important.

Teachers bring their own knowledge and understanding of the topic to the lesson. A book presents you with certain information, and the teacher can add more. The teacher might **also** have a different point of view from the book and can provide other sources of information and ideas, as well.

There is nothing wrong with studying on your own. For the best possible learning, **though**, a teacher is the biggest help you can have.

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT
The task asks the writer to state a preference. In the first paragraph, the writer clearly states a preference.

Task: State a preference
Thesis: . . . teachers provide you with a lot more support and knowledge than you can usually get by yourself.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS
The first paragraph mentions three topics that support the thesis. These will become the main ideas of the paragraphs in the body of the essay.

Thesis . . . teachers provide you with a lot more support and knowledge than you can usually get by yourself.

Location	Main idea
Paragraph 1, Sentence 3	. . . help you find the way that you learn best.
Paragraph 1, Sentence 4	. . . help you stay focused . . .
Paragraph 1, Sentence 5	. . . provide you with a wider range of information . . .

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*
Teachers can help students learn in the way that is best for each student because teachers understand that different people have different learning styles.

Supporting details
- For example, some students learn better by discussing a topic.
- Others learn more by writing about it.
- A teacher can help you follow your learning style, while a book can give you only one way of learning something.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*
Teachers help you focus on what you are learning.

Supporting details
- They can help you keep from becoming distracted.
- They can show you which are the most important points in a lesson to understand.
- If you have to study on your own, on the other hand, it might be difficult to keep your attention on the material or know which points are most important.

Paragraph 4: *Main idea*
Teachers bring their own knowledge and understanding of the topic to the lesson.

Supporting details
- A book presents you with certain information, and the teacher can add more.
- The teacher might also have a different point of view from the book and can provide other sources of information and ideas, as well.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS**
This essay uses appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
However	Paragraph 1	Shows contrast
In short	Paragraph 1	Summarizes
For example	Paragraph 2	Clarifies a point
on the other hand	Paragraph 3	Demonstrates difference
also	Paragraph 4	Adds information
though	Paragraph 5	Shows contrast

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**
There are no grammar or spelling errors in this essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY**
This essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Adjective clause	Paragraph 1	Teachers help you find the way **that you learn best.**
Complex sentence	Paragraph 2	Teachers can help students learn **in the way that is best for each student, because teachers under**stand that different people have different learning styles.
Simple sentence	Paragraph 2	Others learn more by writing about it.
Noun clause	Paragraph 3	Teachers help you focus on **what you are learning.**
Compound sentence	Paragraph 4	A book presents you with certain information, **and** the teacher can add more.

Essay Topic 22

We all work, or will work, in jobs with many different kinds of people. In your opinion, what are some important characteristics of a co-worker (someone you work closely with)? Use reasons and specific examples to explain why these characteristics are important.

thesis statement / *main ideas*

I've worked in several offices, and I've found there are certain characteristics that all good co-workers have in common. They tend to be cooperative people, they adapt well to changes, and they are helpful to others in the office. People who have these characteristics are easy to work with.

A good co-worker is very cooperative. She does her best to get along with others. She tries to do her work well because she knows that if one person doesn't get her work done, it affects everyone else. She also has a positive attitude that creates a pleasant working environment.

A good co-worker is adaptable. She is not stubborn about changes in schedules or routines. She doesn't object to having her job description revised. She has no problem with new procedures. **In fact,** she welcomes changes when they come.

A good co-worker is helpful. **For instance**, she lends a hand when someone falls behind in his or her work. She is willing to change her schedule to accommodate another worker's emergency. She doesn't keep track of how often she has to take on extra work.

We spend more time with our co-workers during the week than we do with our family. **Thus**, it's important for our co-workers to be people we can get along with. When co-workers are cooperative, adaptable, and helpful, everyone gets along better and can get their jobs done well.

Content

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
✔	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR THESIS STATEMENT

The task asks the writer to describe something. In the first paragraph, the writer lets us know what will be described.

Task: Describe something
Thesis: . . . there are certain characteristics that all good co-workers have in common.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
✔	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR MAIN IDEAS

The first paragraph mentions three topics that support the thesis. These will become the main ideas of the paragraphs in the body of the essay.

Thesis: . . . there are certain characteristics that all good co-workers have in common.

Location	Main idea
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	cooperative
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	adapt well to changes
Paragraph 1, Sentence 2	helpful

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
✔	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR SUPPORTING DETAILS

The paragraphs have topic sentences and supporting details. In the body of the essay, the topic sentences of the paragraphs match the topics introduced in the first paragraph.

Paragraph 2: *Main idea*

A good co-worker is very cooperative.

Supporting details

- She does her best to get along with others.
- She tries to do her work well because she knows that if one person doesn't get her work done, it affects everyone else.
- She also has a positive attitude that creates a pleasant working environment.

Paragraph 3: *Main idea*

A good co-worker is adaptable.

Supporting details

- She is not stubborn about changes is schedules or routines.
- She doesn't object to having her job description revised.
- She has no problem with new procedures.
- In fact, she welcomes changes when they come.

Paragraph 4: *Main idea*
A good co-worker is helpful.

Supporting details
– For instance, she lends a hand when someone falls behind in his or her work.
– She is willing to change her schedule to accommodate another worker's emergency.
– She doesn't keep track of how often she has to take on extra work.

Fluency and Cohesion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
✔	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ CHECK FOR TRANSITION WORDS
This essay uses appropriate transition words.

Transition word	Paragraph	Function
also	Paragraph 2	Adds information
In fact	Paragraph 3	Adds emphasis
For instance	Paragraph 4	Clarifies a point
Thus	Paragraph 5	Makes a conclusion

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
✔	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING**
There are no grammar or spelling errors in this essay.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
✔	Sentence variety

✔ **CHECK FOR SENTENCE VARIETY**
This essay uses a variety of sentence structures.

Sentence type	Paragraph	Example
Series	Paragraph 1	They tend to be cooperative people, they adapt well to changes, and they are helpful to others in the office.
Adjective clause	Paragraph 1	People who have these characteristics are easy to work with.
Complex sentence	Paragraph 2	She tries to do her work well because she knows that if one person doesn't get her work done, it affects everyone else.
Simple sentence	Paragraph 3	A good co-worker is adaptable.
Noun clause	Paragraph 4	She doesn't keep track of how often she has to take on extra work.

PRACTICE 1

NOTE

Reading ahead in the essay will help you choose the best answer.

Complete each essay by answering the questions that follow.

Topic 68

Many teachers assign homework to students every day. Do you think that daily homework is necessary for students? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

(1) _____. Students already spend most of the day in school. They need time to spend with their families, to work, and to just relax. They can learn their lessons with homework two or three times a week, but every day isn't necessary.

(2) _____. They are still young, and they need the guidance and support their parents can give them. They need the companionship of their brothers and sisters.

(3) _____, many families rely on their older children to help out at home. They take care of the younger children and help with the cooking and cleaning. If students have too much homework, the won't have time for their families.

Many high school students have jobs. They go to their jobs after school and on weekends. Some work in order to help their families.

(4) _____. Students' jobs are important to them. If they have too much homework, they won't have time and energy to go to work.

Students need time to relax. They study hard in school all day, and many work at jobs after school. But they are still young. They need to spend time with their friends and have fun. When students relax with friends, they then have more energy for school and work.

(5) _____. Having free time is important for a child's development. If students have too much homework, they won't have time for relaxation.

Homework is important for students, but other things are important, too. Some homework is good, but daily homework can take time away from a student's family, job, and relaxation. There needs to be a balance.

1. Choose the best thesis statement.
   (A) Teachers often assign homework.
   (B) I believe that daily homework is not necessary.
   (C) Homework may involve solving math problems or writing essays.

2. Choose the best main idea for this paragraph.
   (A) All students need to spend time with their families.
   (B) Many students have to work.
   (C) Some families believe that homework is important.

3. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
   (A) For example
   (B) Although
   (C) In addition

4. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) Others work to save money for college
   (B) Others spend time relaxing with friends.
   (C) Others do homework all evening.

5. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) They should spend their energy getting a job.
   (B) They never have time for their families.
   (C) They have a chance to develop social skills or to pursue their own interests.

Topic 58

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Businesses should do anything they can to make a profit. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

After I get my degree, I plan to start a business. My goal is to make money, a lot of money. (6) _____. I must consider (7) _____, the customers I serve, and the community I live in.

My colleagues are a very important part of my business. Without them, I would not have a business. I depend on them to carry out the day-to-day operations. I depend on them for their advice on what to sell and how to sell it. I must compensate them for their work. I can't take a large profit without sharing with the people who made it possible.

(8) _____, I would not have a business without my customers. I can never forget that they could take their business elsewhere. I must give them good value for their money. I can't overcharge them. (9) _____.

My employees and I are part of the social life of our community. We must play an active part in it. (10) _____. We need to support community programs like summer jobs for high school students, campaigns to clean up parks, and efforts to make the shopping area more attractive.

A business must make profits, but we all—workers, customers, community—must profit from a successful business.

6. Choose the best thesis statement.
   (A) To clarify, making a profit means earning money rather than losing it.
   (B) In fact, earning a profit is the most important aspect of a business.
   (C) However, I can't forget that there are more important things in life than earning a profit.

7. Choose the missing topic that supports the thesis.
   (A) the money I earn
   (B) the people I work with
   (C) the product or service I provide

8. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
   (A) Therefore
   (B) Similarly
   (C) Otherwise

9. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) I want my customers to trust me and keep coming back.
   (B) If some customers leave, I can always find others.
   (C) I should earn as much profit from my customers as possible.

10. Choose the missing supporting detail.
   (A) Taking part in community activities is an enjoyable way to spend free time.
   (B) If I am active in the community, I will get more customers and earn higher profits.
   (C) I feel it is important that some of the profits my business earns from the community be returned to the community.

Topic 9

Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

I grew up in a small town and then moved to a big city. I didn't think I would like living here, but I was wrong. (11) _____. Transportation is much more convenient, everything is more exciting, and there is a greater variety of people. I can't imagine ever living in a small town again.

Transportation is easier in a city. In a small town, you have to have a car to get around because there isn't any kind of public transportation. In a city, (12) _____, there are usually buses and taxis, and some cities have subways. Cities often have heavy traffic and expensive parking, but it doesn't matter because you can always take the bus. Using public transportation is usually cheaper and more convenient than driving a car, (13) _____ you don't have this choice in a small town.

City life is more exciting than small town life. In small towns usually nothing changes. You see the same people every day, you go to the same two or three restaurants, everything is the same. (14) _____. You see new people every day. There are many restaurants, with new ones to choose from all the time. New plays come to the theaters, and new musicians come to the concert halls.

(15)_____. There are many fewer people in a small town, and usually they are all alike. In a city you can find people from different countries, of different religions, of different races—you can find all kinds of people. This variety of people is what makes city life interesting.

Life in a city is convenient, exciting, and interesting. After experiencing city life, I could never live in a small town again.

11. Choose the best thesis statement.
    (A) I think life is much better in a big city.
    (B) However, I still prefer living in a small town.
    (C) Big cities are busy and noisy, while small towns are quiet and peaceful.

12. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) consequently
    (B) for example
    (C) on the other hand

13. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) but
    (B) also
    (C) so

14. Choose the missing supporting detail.
    (A) In a city, life can be very confusing.
    (B) In a city, things change all the time.
    (C) In a city, most people follow a routine.

15. Choose the best main idea for this paragraph.
    (A) Cities have many of the same types of people that you can find in a small town.
    (B) Cities have a larger population than small towns do.
    (C) Cities have a diversity of people that you don't find in a small town.

Topic 77

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Boys and girls should attend separate schools. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

(16) _____. They will not be separated when they finish school and start their careers, so why should they be separated in school? When boys and girls study together, they are assured of getting equal quality of education, (17) _____, and they learn how to become friends. It is a much better preparation for life than studying in separate schools.

When boys and girls attend the same school, they get equal education. They are in the same classrooms with the same teachers studying from the same books. (18) _____. One school might be better than the other. By studying together, girls get the same education as boys. This helps them work toward having equality in society.

By attending the same schools, boys and girls learn how to work together. Some people say that they should study separately because they have different learning styles. I think it's better to study together, (19) _____. It gives them the chance to learn to work together despite their differences. This will help them in the future when they have to work together professionally.

When boys and girls see each other in school every day, they have the chance to become friends. (20) _____. If they attend separate schools, they don't know each other. It's easy to misunderstand, or even fear, each other. When boys and girls have the chance to become friends, their lives are much richer. They will have better relationships in the future.

By studying together, boys and girls get equal education, they learn to work together, and they become friends. This prepares them for adult life where men and women live and work together every day.

16. Choose the best thesis statement.
    (A) I agree that education is as important for girls as it is for boys.
    (B) I don't think it's a good idea for boys and girls to attend separate schools.
    (C) In many countries, boys and girls attend separate schools.

17. Choose the missing topic that supports the thesis.
    (A) they learn how to work together
    (B) they attend the same school
    (C) they do the same kind of homework

18. Choose the missing supporting detail.
    (A) If they attend separate schools, they could still study the same subjects.
    (B) If they attend separate schools, they will learn more.
    (C) If they attend separate schools, the schools might be different.

19. Choose the best transition word for this sentence.
    (A) however
    (B) for instance
    (C) moreover

20. Choose the missing supporting detail.
    (A) Children should have a lot of friends.
    (B) They see each other as normal people, not as strangers.
    (C) Friends can help each other with their schoolwork.

PRACTICE 2

Read the following essay and use the revision checklist to identify what is missing or incorrect. Revise the essay, adding the missing parts and correcting the errors.

Revision Checklist

	CONTENT
	Thesis Statement
	Main ideas
	Supporting details
	FLUENCY AND COHESION
	Transition words
	Grammar and Spelling
	Sentence variety

Topic 20

It is better for children to grow up in the countryside than in a big city. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to develop your essay.

Yes, I think so. When children grow up in the countryside, they have a healthier life. They also have a safer life. Children also learn to appreciate nature when they grow up in the countryside.

Life in the countryside is healthier for children than life in the city. Drinking water in the city is usually dirty. In the countryside, on the other hand, the drinking water are clean and pure.

They don't have to worry about crime because there are fewer criminals in the countryside than in the city. They don't have to worry about traffic accidents, either, because there are fewer cars in the countryside. Furthermore, they don't have to worry about strangers who might hurt them because in the countryside almost everybody knows everybody else.

Life in the countryside help children appreciate nature. There are few plants in the city. In the countryside, for instance, children see trees and flowers around them all the time. They also have opportunities to see wild animals, while in the city they can only see animals in zoos. In addition, they know where there food comes from. In the countryside children are surrounded by farms, but in the city they only see fruits and vegetables in the grocery stores.

Life in the countryside is definitely much better for children than life in the city. It is cleaner, safer, and closer to nature. When I have children, I plan to let they grow up far away from any city.

Missing items:

Paragraph 1: _____

Paragraph 2: _____

Paragraph 3: _____

Paragraph 4: _____

Paragraph 5: _____

Grammar and vocabulary errors:

Paragraph 1: _____

Paragraph 2: _____

Paragraph 3: _____

Paragraph 4: _____

Paragraph 5: _____

Revised essay

CHECK THE SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION

Just as you did in the Integrated Task, you will have to check the punctuation and spelling on the essay you write for the Independent Task.

Spelling

Remember that there is no spell checker on the computer that you will use during the TOEFL iBT. You should be able to spell the most common English words before you take the test. On the test, try to use words that you are sure how to spell.

Punctuation

There are three important things to remember about punctuation when you write your responses.

- **Indent each paragraph or use a space between paragraphs.**
  This will help the reader determine when you are starting a new topic.
- **Capitalize the first word of each sentence.**
  This will help the reader determine when you are starting a new sentence.
- **Put a period or question mark at the end of each sentence or question.**
  This will help the reader determine when you are ending a sentence or question.

NOTE

You will not be penalized if you use a space between paragraphs instead of indents. Also, remember that proper nouns are capitalized.

Here are some other forms of punctuation that will help make your response easier to read.

Comma

Use a comma in a list of three or more things. It is optional to put a comma before the *and*.

I want to have a kitchen, living room and bedroom.
I want a large, airy, inexpensive house.

Use a comma between a noun and a following description.

My favorite area, Orchard Hill, was developed by John Bartle, an entrepreneur.

Use a comma to separate transition words, adjectives, or participles that are not part of the sentence or were added for emphasis.

On the other hand, I think eating at home saves money.
The apartment was very, very expensive.
Excited, I signed the lease without reading the fine print.

Use a comma between two independent clauses.

It is important to get along with co-workers, and it is important to get along with bosses as well.

NOTE

Commas help the reader follow your ideas, but be careful not to use them where they are not needed.

Use a comma to separate a non-restrictive clause.

All the neighbors, who are very friendly, get together for parties and picnics.

Use a comma after a subordinate clause at the beginning of a sentence.

After I've chosen an area, I decide whether I want to live in a house or an apartment.

Semicolon

Use a semicolon to separate two closely related sentences.

I wanted a renovated townhouse; none was available.

Colon or Dash

Use a colon or dash in front of a list or explanation.

I looked at three kinds of apartments: studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom.
My needs are simple—a nice neighborhood and a park nearby.

PRACTICE 3

Read the following essay. Then revise the essay, adding punctuation. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper.

Essay Topic 21

Why People Are Living Longer

people are living to be much older these days than ever before. the main reasons for this are greater access to health care improved health care and better nutrition.

basic health care is available to more people now. when someone is seriously ill he or she can go to a public hospital. there are also more clinics and doctors than there used to be Years ago, health care wasn't available to everyone. some people didn't live near a doctor or hospital and others couldn't pay for the care they needed.

people also live longer because the quality of health care has improved. doctors now know more about diseases and cures Years ago, people died young because of simple things like an infection or a virus. now we have antibiotics and other medicines to help cure infections

The quality of nutrition has improved also We eat more healthfully than we used to. we know that eating low-fat food can prevent heart disease and we know that eating fruits and vegetables can prevent cancer.

Improved health care and healthy eating habits allow us to live longer Now we need to make sure that everyone in the world has these benefits

ESSAY ORGANIZATION

Thesis:	People are living longer these days for several reasons.
Main idea 1:	Health care is available to more people now.
Supporting details:	Public hospitals
	More clinics and doctors
Main idea 2:	The quality of health care has improved.
Supporting details:	More knowledge about diseases and cures
	Antibiotics and other medicines
Main idea 3:	The quality of nutrition has improved.
Supporting details:	Low-fat food prevents heart disease.
	Fruits and vegetables prevent cancer.

Extra Practice

Study the model essays on pages 165, 170, 174, 179, and 184. Circle all the punctuation.

PRACTICE INDEPENDENT TASK

On your computer or on a piece of paper, write an essay on the following topic. Take no more than 30 minutes to plan, write, and revise your essay.

Essay Topic 162

Some famous athletes and entertainers earn millions of dollars every year. Do you think these people deserve such high salaries? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

PART 4

WRITING SKILLS— BOTH TASKS

Transition: Connecting and Linking
Time
Degree
Comparison and Contrast
Cause and Effect
Explanation
Adding More Information
Practice 1
Variety: Words and Sentences
Synonyms
Practice 2
Practice 3
Pronoun Antecedents
Parallel Structures
Practice 4
Repeating
Rephrasing
Practice 5
Practice 6
Sentence Types
Practice 7
Subject
Practice 8
Voice
Practice 9
Practice 10

WRITING SKILLS—BOTH TASKS

A well-written essay has good organization of ideas. It also has well-written sentences. In a well-written essay, transition words and phrases are used to make connections between ideas. There is variety of sentence structure and vocabulary. The reader can easily follow the writer's ideas and stays interested in them.

TRANSITION: CONNECTING AND LINKING

Transition Words

Transition words and phrases will help your reader follow your ideas from sentence to sentence and from paragraph to paragraph. Without transition words and phrases, your ideas will stand alone, unrelated to the thesis of your essay.

In this section, you will learn to use transition words that show time, degree, comparison and contrast, and cause and effect. You will also learn transition words that let you add more information and transition words like pronouns that let you make connections to previously mentioned subjects.

Time

When you are explaining the sequence of events, you may want to use these expressions.

before	next	then	often
after	during	always	sometime
since	at the same time	while	meanwhile

EXAMPLE

The school counselors should help students who are new to a school. *Before the first day* of school, they should give an orientation to the building. *On the opening day*, they should introduce the students to the teachers. *After* the students have gotten used to their classes, the counselors should find out about the student's hobbies and recommend some extracurricular clubs. *Sometime during* the first month, the counselor should invite the parents to visit the school so they can meet the teachers and administrators.

Degree

When you are explaining why one thing is more or less important than another thing, you may want to use these expressions.

most important	first	primarily	essentially
less important	second	secondary	principally
basically	subordinate	lesser	chiefly

EXAMPLE

A pet is one the *most important* things psychologists can recommend to patients suffering from loneliness. Pets can do many things for lonely people, but *above all* they provide companionship. To a *lesser* degree, they provide a distraction from anxieties. But *primarily*, they help isolated people stay emotionally connected with the world.

Comparison and Contrast

When you are explaining how two or more things are similar or how they are different, you may want to use these expressions.

TO COMPARE

similar to	similarly	like, alike	either/or
correspondingly	resemble	almost the same as	at the same time as
as	just as	in a like manner	in the same way
common in	than	also	neither/nor

TO CONTRAST

differ from	however	otherwise	still
nevertheless	even though	different from	less than
more than	unlike	in contrast to	on the other hand
although	while yet	but	instead

EXAMPLE

Although my friend chose to buy a car with his gift, I would have gone on vacation. He said he needed the car to go to work, *but* I think he should take the bus. He also wanted the car for convenience. *However*, a taxi is *just* as convenient and doesn't have to be serviced. We are both alike in that neither of us knows how to drive. *Otherwise*, I might have bought a car, too.

Cause and Effect

When you are explaining how something caused a change in something else, you may want to use these expressions.

so	thus	consequently	therefore
for this reason	as a result	because, because of	owing to
since	due to	although	so that

EXAMPLE

Effective advertising wants to change people's behaviors. Some public service ads show coffins of people who died of lung cancer; *as a result* many people have quit smoking. Other ads show glamorous people smoking; *consequently* young people start to smoke. *Owing to* the influence of advertising on youth, many cigarette ads are not allowed near schools or on TV. *Although* these rules have been in effect a long time, the number of young smokers has increased. If this is not *due to* advertising, what is the reason?

Explanation

If you are explaining what something is by giving an example or if you are restating something for emphasis, you may want to use these expressions.

in other words	to clarify	to explain	to paraphrase
as	like	that is	for example
such as	for instance	to illustrate	namely

EXAMPLE

People are never too old to attend college. *For example,* there are many women who stayed at home to raise their families and now have time to return to school. There are other examples *such as* retired people who move to a college town just so they can take occasional classes or even working people in their sixties, *for instance,* who want to take some night classes. *In other words,* you are never too old to learn.

Adding More Information

If you are adding more information to make your point stronger, you may want to use these expressions.

in addition	besides	furthermore	as well as
moreover	similarly	also	what's more

EXAMPLE

In addition to music, retailers can use lighting to improve the store environment. *Besides* helping customers see the products better, certain types of lighting can create different moods. Soft music creates a relaxed atmosphere. *Similarly,* soft lighting helps customers feel at ease. Relaxed customers stay in the store longer. *What's more,* they make a greater number of purchases.

PRACTICE 1

Read the following paragraphs. Choose the appropriate transition words or phrases to complete each sentence.

1.

If I chose my own roommate, I'd (1)_____ pick some candidates from the list supplied by the university. (2)_____ I'd write to them and they'd write back. Through our letters, we'd find out if (3)_____ shared common interests, (4)_____ sports or movies. (5)_____ we'd find out if we had similar habits. (6)_____ my investigation, I'd probably find someone compatible with me.

we	next	first
as a result of	in addition to	such as

2.

Billions of tons of plastic are produced every year, and it take hundreds of years for plastic to break down. (1)_____, the ocean is filled with plastic trash. Many birds, (2)_____ seagulls, commonly eat fish eggs. These birds eat small pieces of plastic that look like fish eggs. (3)_____ eating a big meal of plastic, a bird might starve to death. This is because the plastic has no nutritional value. (4)_____ many birds choke when they try to swallow plastic pieces. (5)_____ we throw plastic away, we are contributing to the problem of trash in the ocean.

moreover	such as	consequently
whenever	after	

3.

(1)_____ of adapting to life in a new country is learning that country's language. Children learn the language in school and use it all day (2)_____ going to class and playing with other children. Adults, (3)_____, don't have time for formal language classes. Their (4)_____ priority is getting a job. (5)_____, they have contacts in the new country—family or friends—who help them find employment. (6)_____ all their co-workers come from the same country and speak the same language, then they don't have the opportunity to use the new language at work.

if	first	while
on the other hand	usually	a major part of

4.

Decorators may choose certain colors for a room (1)_____ create a certain mood. (2)_____, they may use blue in a bedroom to create a relaxing atmosphere or red in a kitchen to stimulate the appetite. Yellow is another color that is often chosen for kitchens (3)_____ it creates a cheeerful feeling. Decorators frequently use beige in doctors' offices. This neutral color gives a feeling of cleanliness. (4)_____, it helps the doctors and nurses stay clear and focused. (5)_____ many people believe that color has a strong influence on mood, scientists are skeptical.

because	although	for example
in addition	in order to	

5.

(1)_____, an agricultural research center would help all people. No country can survive without adequate food production. (2)_____ the United States is able to produce enough food now, this may not remain true in the future. The erosion of natural resources (3)_____ and the closing of many American farms may reduce its food supply. The farmers' situation could improve (4)_____ they start to build stronger networks across the country, (5)_____ businessmen already have.

on the contrary	if	much as
as well as	even though	

VARIETY: WORDS AND SENTENCES

In order to be a good essay, your essay must interest the reader. One way to do this is to vary your vocabulary. Learning different ways to express similar ideas by using synonyms will help you develop semantic variety.

A good essay also has a variety of sentence structures that keep the ideas clear and interesting to the reader. You can develop variety in your prose by using parallel structures, making your paragraphs cohesive, and writing sentences that vary in type, length, subject, and voice.

Synonyms

When you are writing on one topic, you don't want to repeat the same verb or adverb, noun or adjective in every sentence. You should try to use words that are similar in meaning, and that will carry the meaning of the sentence. Synonyms are important because they help you link closely related words or ideas. Synonyms provide coherence in your essay.

Read the paragraph below. Look for these synonyms of *discuss* and *discussion*.

Verb: **discuss**	Synonyms
discuss	argue, confer, debate, dispute, elaborate, examine, explain, hash over, reason

Noun: **discussion**	Synonyms
discussion	argument, conversation, discourse, explanation

EXAMPLE

Last month, I had a *dispute* with my parents. It started as a simple *conversation* that turned into an *argument*. I wanted to take a year off from school. Of course, my parents *argued* that I should stay in school. I tried to *reason* with them; I tried to *persuade* them that taking a year off from school and working would be valuable experience. My *explanation* fell on deaf ears, and they refused to let me continue the *discussion*. They felt I had not thoroughly *examined* the issue and saw no reason to *debate* the subject any longer. I *conferred* with my sister who felt we could *hash* it *over* later when my parents were in a better mood.

PRACTICE 2

Read the following topic and essay. Then choose synonyms for the highlighted words.

Topic 106

You need to travel from your home to a place 40 miles (64 kilometers) away. Compare the different kinds of transportation you could use. Tell which method you would choose. Give specific reasons for your choice.

ESSAY (TOPIC 106)

When I choose a method of transportation to go 40 miles, I have three common choices: my bike, my parent's car, or public transportation. When I choose among them, I think about how much it will cost, how long it will take, and why I need to go from point A to point B.

My bike is a less expensive alternative. The only cost is my manual labor to pedal from my home to a place 40 miles away. This method, however, is extremely time consuming. I imagine it would take me all day. Biking is excellent exercise so if my only goal was to burn calories and strengthen my muscles, I should go by bike.

Public transportation is another alternative that is inexpensive. The cost is minimal and is shared by everyone on the bus or train. Where I live, you cannot depend on public transportation. It might take me all day to go by public transportation when I include the waiting time. However, using public transportation is good for the earth. By sharing the resources, we waste less.

Taking a private car is the most expensive. For me, especially, since I don't own a car and I must borrow one from my parents. They want me to pay for my own gas, which is a lot and I must also pay for parking the car when I get to my destination. A car is the most dependable way to go if I need to get there fast. When convenience is your goal, you should pick a car.

When I consider these points, I must confess that I am spoiled. I prefer the convenience of the car over the exercise of a bike and the virtues of public transportation. I like to go and come when I want without waiting even if it costs me more.

The highlighted words in the essay could be replaced with a word from this synonym list. Write the synonym that matches the highlighted word.

admit	driving	purpose
choice	favor	quickly
count on	options	transit

Highlighted Words in Essay (Topic 106)

1. choices Options
2. alternative _____
3. depend on _____
4. transportation _____
5. taking _____
6. fast _____
7. goal _____
8. confess _____
9. prefer _____

PRACTICE 3

Read the following topic and essay. Then choose synonyms for the highlighted words.

Topic 117

Some people choose friends who are different from themselves. Others choose friends who are similar to themselves. Compare the advantages of having friends who are different from you with the advantages of having friends who are similar to you. Which kind of friend do you prefer for yourself? Why?

ESSAY TOPIC 117

My Friends

There are a lot of advantages to having friends who are different from you. They can introduce you to new food, books, and music. They can present you with a different way of looking at the world. However, there are times when you need a friend who really understands you. That is why I enjoy having all kinds of friends—both those who are different from me and those who are similar.

Someone who is different from you can show different ways of looking at things. If you tend to be a spontaneous person, a scheduled person can help you be more organized. And you can help that person loosen up a bit at times, too. If you are impatient, a patient friend can help you calm down. If you are a little bit timid, an assertive friend can help you develop more self-confidence.

Someone who has different tastes from you can introduce you to new things. A friend might persuade you to read a book that you thought you wouldn't like. A friend might get you to try new kinds of food. You can share your different tastes and interests with your friend, too. Together you can dare to try new things.

There are times, however, when you really need a friend who is similar to you. Sometimes you get tired of compromising on what you want to do. You want to be with someone who has the same tastes as you. A friend who is similar to you probably has the same reactions to situations as you do. Therefore, if you feel unhappy, a friend who is similar to you can understand just why you feel that way.

Friends who are different from you have a lot to offer. Friends who are similar offer something else. That is why it is important to know all kinds of people.

The highlighted words in the essay could be replaced with a word from this synonym list. Write the synonym that matches the highlighted word.

are apt	a number of	relax	trade-off
benefits	shy	restless	confident
introduce to	impulsive	response	

Highlighted Words in Essay (Topic 117)

1. a lot of _____
2. advantages _____
3. present with _____
4. tend _____
5. spontaneous _____
6. loosen up _____
7. impatient _____
8. timid _____
9. assertive _____
10. compromising _____
11. reactions _____

Pronouns

If you are describing someone or something, you may use some of these pronouns to refer to the person or thing you are describing.

Pronouns that replace a subject

he	she	it	they
this	that	those	

Pronouns that replace an object

his	her	them
this	that	those

Pronouns that replace a possessive

his	her	its	their

NOTE

This in the last sentence refers to the whole paragraph. *This* equals *hiring a health worker.*

EXAMPLE

My community should hire a health worker. I worked in a rural area one summer with a community health worker and saw the wonderful ways she helped the people in the area. She worked with mothers teaching *them* how to keep *their* children healthy. She worked with school teachers helping *them* recognize early signs of illness. She worked with restaurant personnel showing *them* proper food handling techniques. A community needs help in many ways. *This* is one way its citizens can make it healthier.

Parallel Structures

Parallelism gives your essay rhythm. It makes it easier to read and understand. Your structures must be parallel. That is, the subjects, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and gerunds must be parallel. Look at these examples of parallelism.

Parallel Subjects

Work and play should be more evenly divided in my day.

Both *work* and *play* are the same kind of nouns. The subjects are parallel.

Working and play should be more evenly divided in my day.

Here *working* is a gerund. It is not incorrect to use it here, but it sounds awkward. The subjects are not parallel.

Working and playing should be more evenly divided in my day.

Here both *working* and *playing* are gerunds. The subjects are parallel.

Parallel Verbs

We press a button, wait a short time, and remove the food from the microwave.

All three verbs are in the present tense. The verbs are parallel.

We press a button, wait a short time, and can remove the food from the microwave.

The third verb uses the auxiliary *can*. It is not incorrect, but it sounds awkward. The verbs are not parallel.

We can press a button, wait a short time, and remove the food from the microwave.

Here *can* precedes the first verb. This makes all three verbs parallel.

Parallel Adjectives

I found the movie long and boring.

The adjectives are both parallel.

I found the movie long and it bored me.

The sentence is not wrong, but it is not parallel.

Parallel Adverbs

Athletes often move gracefully, easily, and powerfully.

The three adverbs all end in *-ly*. They are all parallel.

Athletes often move with grace, easily and powerfully.

The first description is a prepositional phrase. The adverbs are not parallel.

Athletes often move gracefully, carefully, and powerfully.

The second adverb *easily* was replaced with another adverb carefully. The meanings of *easily* and *carefully* are not the same, but *carefully* could be used to describe how an athlete moves. In this sentence, *carefully* adds to the rhythm of the sentence since the suffix *-fully* is used three times.

Athletes move with grace, ease, and power.

This sentence can also be made parallel by using three prepositional phrases. The objects of the preposition *with* are all parallel nouns: *grace*, *ease*, and *power*.

Parallel Gerunds

I enjoy shopping and keeping up with the latest styles, but not paying the bills.

Shopping, *keeping up*, and *paying* are gerunds. The gerunds are parallel.

I enjoy shopping and to keep up with the latest styles, but not to pay the bills.

To keep up and *to pay* not only are not parallel with *shopping*, they are incorrect. The verb *enjoy* must be followed by a gerund, not an infinitive.

Parallel Sentences

While there are advantages and disadvantages to both machine-made, and hand-made products, I prefer machine-made products. While hand-made products are generally high quality, I find them expensive. While I appreciate high-quality products, I can't afford them.

These three sentences are parallel. They all begin with an adverb clause introduced by *While*. The subject of the independent clause in all three sentences is *I*. Each sentence after the first one takes an idea from the previous sentence and carries it forward using the same construction. There is a nice rhythm to these sentences. Be careful though. There is a narrow line between rhythmic parallels and boring repetitions.

While there are advantages and disadvantages to both, given my type of personality, I prefer machine-made products. While hand-made products are generally high quality, they are also very expensive. While I do appreciate high quality, my status as a student makes me appreciate low cost as well.

In this version, the basic parallel construction remains. The last two sentences have been changed. In these two sentences, the parallelism is within the sentences as well as between the sentences.

Hand-made products are high quality.
Hand-made products are very expensive.

I appreciate high quality.
I appreciate low cost.

The writer draws a similarity between adjectives *high quality* and *very expensive*, and contrasts the products with the adjectives *high quality* and *low cost*.

PRACTICE 4

Read the sentences and decide if the underlined word or phrase should be changed. Some underlined words are incorrect; others are grammatically correct, but not well written. If the word should be changed, rewrite it.

1. Dogs provide older people an important chance to learn or maintaining social skills. (maintain)

2. My parents didn't have time to analyze their feelings or thinking about themselves.

3. I believe zoos are useful both in terms of educating the general public as well as they can advance scientific research.

4. I prefer a combination of living at a small, suburban town and working in a big city.

5. Agricultural research improves individual citizens' lives, whereas successful businesses to improve a country's economy.

6. Heated debate is interesting, and interest things are easier to learn about.

7. One might think that it is a waste of time to go out to see a movie when you can watch DVDs at home.

8. Teachers can instruct tomorrow's leaders; doctors can make those leaders healthier; and engineering can guarantee that future generations have good housing.

9. I could see the house where my grandmother grew up and where my cousins still live in that house.

10. Many people want to travel abroad to see new places and things; people also want to travel abroad so that they can improve their educational opportunities.

Coherence

Transition words help the reader see the relationship between sentences and ideas. They are one way to provide coherence in an essay. There are two other ways to provide coherence: repeating words and rephrasing ideas.

Repeating

Repeating words can provide a rhythm to a paragraph. In the example below, notice how the phrase *She worked with* is repeated three times to show ways a community health worker helped people.

EXAMPLE

She *worked with* mothers teaching them how to keep their children healthy. She *worked with* school teachers helping them recognize early signs of illness. She *worked with* restaurant personnel showing them proper food handling techniques. A community needs help in many ways.

Repeating words can also link ideas that may be several sentences apart. Look at the Pronoun example on page 212. The second sentence in the example ends with *she helped the people in the area.* The next to the last sentence, *A community needs help in many ways,* emphasizes the need of the community for help.

Rephrasing

We learned the words to use to introduce a statement that has been restated or rephrased for emphasis. We can also rephrase words to provide coherence in the essay. Rephrasing gives the reader a second chance to understand your thesis. Synonyms are one way to rephrase.

EXAMPLE

The countryside where I grew up is very *isolated.* You can drive for miles without seeing another car. It seems in all directions you look at a *breathtaking vista.* The scenery near the ocean is especially *dramatic, with giant dark* cliffs rising out of the water.

Rephrased Version

Such a *secluded, remote* environment is a perfect place to relax. The *spectacular views* bring out the artist in me. I often take my paints and a canvas and try to capture the exciting *feel of the shoreline.*

NOTICE THE IDEAS THAT ARE REPHRASED

The countryside where I grew up is very *isolated.* You can drive for miles without seeing another car.
Such a *secluded, remote* environment is a perfect place to relax.

It seems in all directions you look at a *breathtaking vista.*
The *spectacular views* bring out the artist in me.

The *scenery near the ocean* is especially *dramatic, with giant dark* cliffs rising out of the water.
I often take my paints and a canvas and try to capture the exciting *feel of the shoreline.*

PRACTICE 5

Choose which phrase or sentence best completes the paragraph and makes the paragraph cohesive.

Paragraph 1. An effective advertisement matches images and music to its product and (1)_____. For instance, if it's selling cars to young men, it uses the image of speed and rock music. If it's selling cars to families, it uses the image of practicality and pleasant melodies. (2)_____.

1. (A) its market
   (B) the market it wants to reach
   (C) to those who will buy the product

2. (A) If it's trying to sell a more expensive car, it uses classical music to suggest elegance and comfort.
   (B) If the car is for the rich, advertisers will want to emphasize elegance and wealth.
   (C) If it's selling cars to wealthy executives, it uses the image of wealth and classical music.

Paragraph 2. Our parents studied grammar, a subject that a lot of schools don't teach today. They studied penmanship, a skill that today few people have mastered. (3)_____. They didn't have to learn advanced mathematics, but (4)_____ how to do basic math without the help of a calculator.

3. (A) A foreign language, which is optional today, was a required subject.
   (B) They were taught to communicate in a foreign language.
   (C) They studied a foreign language, something that is not a requirement in many schools today.

4. (A) they had to learn
   (B) it was important to learn
   (C) they felt they should know

Paragraph 3. The contributions scientists make to society are more obvious. The cars we drive, the computers we use at home and at work, (5)_____—all of these come from the ideas and hard work of scientists. Because of scientific contributions, we're living longer and healthier lives. Scientists also (6)_____ the arts. Movies are the result of science, as are television, radio, and compact discs.

5. (A) and the stove and cleaning machine
   (B) the appliances we have to help us cook our meals and clean our houses
   (C) the cooking and cleaning inventions

6. (A) contribute to
   (B) help fund
   (C) support

PRACTICE 6

Which option rephrases the word, phrase, or sentence taken from the paragraph? There may be more than one correct answer.

Paragraph 1. Zoos are also important for the research opportunities they provide. Because zoos are controlled environments, research is safer and easier to conduct. Scientists can feel safe in the confined area of the zoo. They may not be as safe in the wild. For example, while conducting a medical experiment in an open field, scientists have to worry about both the animal they are working with, and also other animals nearby in the bush. In zoos, however, they need only worry about the research subject.

1. **zoos are controlled environments**
   (A) Zoos are also important for the research opportunities they provide.
   (B) Scientists can feel safe in the confined area of the zoo.
   (C) . . . while conducting a medical experiment in an open field

2. **in the wild**
   (A) in an open field
   (B) in the bush
   (C) in zoos

Paragraph 2. Teachers have been trained to teach their students in whatever way helps students learn the most about the subject. For instance, some students learn better by discussing a topic; others by writing about it. Teachers can help students learn in the way that's best for each student. A textbook can only give you one way of learning something. But a teacher can adapt his or her teaching to your needs as a student.

3. **whatever way helps students learn**
   (A) some students learn better by discussing a topic
   (B) others by writing about it
   (C) in the way that's best for each student

Paragraph 3. Both art and music help students express themselves. Students who have never drawn a picture or thought about making a sculpture will be pleasantly surprised when they get their hands in the clay or start using the pencils. It is always satisfying to try something new, even if you find you don't like it.

4. **express themselves**
   (A) get their hands in the clay
   (B) handling a pencil
   (C) find themselves surprised

Sentences

Both the Integrated Task and Independent Task want you to demonstrate syntactic variety. You can vary the types of sentences you use, the length of the sentences, the subject of the sentences, and the voice of the sentences.

Sentence Types

There are four types of sentences: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex.

- **Simple sentence**

  A simple sentence has one subject and one verb.

  Television commercials are the most effective form of advertising.
  subject verb

- **Compound sentence**

  A compound sentence has two or more simple sentences linked by the conjunctions *and*, *or*, and *but*.

  Newspaper ads are often ignored, and radio ads are quickly forgotten.
  simple sentence 1 conjunction simple sentence 2

- **Complex sentence**

  A complex sentence is made up of a simple sentence (independent clause) and one or more subordinate clauses.

  Most people listen to radio when they're driving to work.
  simple sentence subordinate clause

- **Compound-complex sentences**

  A compound-complex sentence has two or more simple sentences (independent clauses) and one or more subordinate clauses.

  Although families may listen to a radio during the day, the parents listen only for news reports, and the children use it for background noise.

Sentence Length

Some students think they have to use compound-complex sentences to show they are very proficient in English. This makes the essay very heavy and very difficult to read. It is better to mix up the type of sentences you use. For example, a complex sentence followed by several simple sentences can be very effective.

EXAMPLE

As the number of pets increase, the amount of money being spent on pets is also increasing. Pet owners buy special toys for their pets. They order them special clothes. They put them in day care centers. They treat them like children.

PRACTICE 7

Label the sentences by their type in the following essay.

Simple = S Complex = Cx
Compound = C Compound-Complex = C-Cx

Topic 12

1. S
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____

Why People Visit Museums

People visit museums for a number of reasons. They visit museums when traveling to new places because a museum tells them a lot about the culture of those places. They also go to museums to have fun. People also are usually interested in museums that feature unusual subjects. It's impossible to get bored in a museum.

When visiting someplace new, you can find out about the culture of that place by going to a movie or a place of worship or a nightclub. Another option is to sit in the park and listen to the people around you. The easiest way to learn about a place, though, is by visiting its museums. Museums will show you the history of the place you're visiting. They will show you what art the locals think is important. If there aren't any museums, that tells you something, too.

Museums are fun. Even if you're not interested in art or history, there is always something to get your attention. Many museums now have "hands-on" exhibits. These exhibits usually involve activities like pushing a button and hearing more about what you're looking at, or using similar materials to create your own work of art, or trying on clothes like those on the models in the museum.

People also enjoy museums about unusual subjects. For instance, in my hometown there's a museum devoted to the potato. This museum has art made out of potatoes, it tells all about the history of the potato, and it sells potato mementos, like key chains and potato dolls. People enjoy this museum because it's so unusual.

People everywhere like museums. They like learning about interesting and unusual things. No matter who you are or what you like, there is a museum that will amaze and interest you.

Subject

Not all sentences should have the same subject. You will want to vary the subjects that you use. Notice in the example in the section Sentence Length on page 219, the subject of the last four sentences is the same: *Pet owners* and the pronoun *they*. In this case, there is a rhythm to the paragraph, and the sentences do not seem monotonous. These last four sentences are essentially a list; they tell you on what four things pet owners are spending money.

Compare these two versions of the same paragraph.

Topic 174

Every generation of people is different in important ways. How is your generation different from your parents' generation? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

VERSION A

> My parents' generation has strict standards about acceptable behavior. My parents' generation has a difficult time accepting other standards of behavior. My parents' generation is still very concerned about what other people think of them. My parents' generation grew up in small communities where everyone knew everybody.

VERSION B

> My parents' generation has strict standards about acceptable behavior. Consequently, they have a difficult time accepting other standards of behavior. Since my parents' generation grew up in small communities where everyone knew everybody, they are still very concerned about what other people think of them.

By combining sentences and rearranging the order, you can provide variety to the paragraph and not repeat the same subject in every sentence.

PRACTICE 8

Choose the subject that best completes the sentence.

Paragraph 1. High school students can't decide alone what they need to study. (1)_____ need the guidance of experts in the field of education. However, they also need the freedom to follow their curiosity and interests. (2)_____ should have the freedom to choose some courses and should be required to take others.

1. (A) They
   (B) We
   (C) Secondary school attendees

2. (A) One
   (B) You
   (C) They

Paragraph 2. English is a difficult language to learn. Its pronunciation is erratic, and so is its spelling. Why are *though*, *through*, and *thought* pronounced differently? Why do many English words have two different spellings? (3)_____ is very idiomatic, too. Everywhere you travel in an English-speaking country, (4)_____ find different expressions for the same thing, and different pronunciations for the same word.

3. (A) Spelling
   (B) Pronunciation
   (C) English

4. (A) you'll
   (B) travelers
   (C) there'll

Paragraph 3. A good neighbor respects your property and asks your permission before doing something that might affect it. This means (5)_____ doesn't put in a driveway that takes up part of your lawn. Or build a fence that cuts off part of your backyard. A good (6)_____ works with you to decide where to put the fence, and maybe the two of you could share the cost.

5. (A) he or she
   (B) they
   (C) it

6. (A) fence builder
   (B) friend
   (C) neighbor

Voice

There are two voices in English: active and passive. The active emphasizes the doer of the action; the passive emphasizes the action itself.

- Active voice

  Parents must teach their children computer skills.
  doer

- Passive voice

  Children must be taught computer skills by their parents.
  action

Some students think they should write only in the passive voice because it sounds more impressive. The active voice is a very direct way of writing and is often clearer and easier to read than the passive voice. Again, you should vary the use of voice in your essay.

PRACTICE 9

Underline the verbs in the following essay and tell whether they are active or passive.

Topic 5

1. active
2. _____
3. _____
3. _____
4. _____
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15. _____
16. _____
17. _____

No Factory!

People like factories because they bring new jobs to a community. In my opinion, however, the benefits of a factory are outweighed by the risks. Factories cause pollution, and they bring too much growth. In addition, they destroy the quiet lifestyle of a small town. That is why I oppose a plan to build a factory near my community.

Factories cause smog. If we build a new factory, the air we breathe will become dirty. Everything will be covered with dust. Factories also pollute rivers and streams. Our water will be too dirty to drink. The environment will be hurt and people's health will be affected.

Some people will say that more jobs will be created by a factory. However, this can have a negative result. Our population will grow quickly. Many new homes and stores will be built. There will be a lot of traffic on the roads. Fast growth can cause more harm than good.

Our city will change a lot. It is a pleasant place now. It is safe and quiet. Everybody knows everybody else. If a factory brings growth to the city, all of this will change. The small-town feel will be lost.

18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
22. _____
23. _____

A factory would be helpful in some ways, but the dangers outweigh the benefits. Our city would be changed too much by a factory. I cannot support a plan to build a new factory here.

24. _____
24. _____
25. _____
26. _____

PRACTICE 10

Choose the active sentence that has the same meaning as the passive sentence.

1. Our lives have been dramatically improved by changes in food preparation.
   (A) Changes in food preparation have dramatically improved our lives.
   (B) Our lives are changing dramatically and so have changes in food preparation.
   (C) Our food preparation improvements have been dramatic changes.

2. Young people will be helped to overcome the fear of aging by associating with older people.
   (A) Our fear of associating with older people can overcome young people.
   (B) Young people can associate with older people who fear aging.
   (C) Association with older people will help young people overcome the fear of aging.

3. I do not like the fact that these products are made by machines.
   (A) I do not like the fact that these are machine-made products.
   (B) Products made by machine are not liked; it's a fact.
   (C) It's not a fact that these products were made by machines.

4. Large sums of money are earned by entertainers who do little to contribute to society.
   (A) Society earns a little from entertainers' contributions.
   (B) Entertainers earn large sums of money yet contribute little to society.
   (C) Money is contributed to society by entertainers who earn a lot.

PART 5

MODEL TESTS

Model Test 1—Integrated Task
Model Test 1—Independent Task

Model Test 2—Integrated Task
Model Test 2—Independent Task

Model Test 3—Integrated Task
Model Test 3—Independent Task

Model Test 4—Integrated Task
Model Test 4—Independent Task

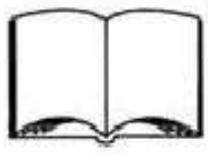
WARNING

Study the models carefully. Analyze them completely. **Do NOT memorize them.** Your writing will not be scored if it matches an essay in this book. Your writing on the TOEFL iBT must be your **OWN** original work.

NOTE

Models for these practice tasks can be found in the Appendix. Remember, there is no one correct response. If you follow the steps outlined in the previous chapters, you will be able to write an appropriate response that is your own, original work.

MODEL TEST 1—INTEGRATED TASK



Read the passage for three minutes.

The presence of technology in schools has greatly increased over the past two decades. More and more classrooms are equipped with computers and wireless technology, with the aim of boosting academic achievement. How far has technology gone toward reaching this goal?

The perceived benefits of classroom technology are several. According to many educators, one of the greatest advantages is that it provides a variety of learning tools, making it easy to address different learning styles. It allows students to experience a topic in verbal, written, spatial, quantitative, and graphical ways. Students can take in and use information in the ways that make most sense to them. Technology also helps teachers expand the boundaries of the classroom. Through use of the Internet, students can connect with people and ideas anywhere in the world.

In order to receive these benefits, however, technology must actually be used. Surveys have found that only a low percentage of teachers use technology on a regular basis, and that as many as half of all teachers never use it at all. Many teachers who do use technology do not use it to its fullest advantage. Rather, the tendency is to use computers to do the same things that can be done with pencil and paper.

Studies have shown that, properly used, technology does boost academic achievement. It has also been shown that teacher training can make the difference. In one study, teachers who received training in classroom use of technology used it regularly and used it in ways that developed higher-order thinking skills in their students. This study also showed that students in these classrooms scored higher on math tests than their peers in other classrooms. School systems, therefore, need to focus on training teachers in addition to equipping classrooms with computers.



Track 11

Listen to the lecture.

Summarize the main points in the reading passage and explain how they are strengthened by the information presented in the lecture. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 20 minutes.

MODEL TEST 1—INDEPENDENT TASK

Write an essay on the following topic. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 30 minutes.

Essay Topic 78

Is it more important to be able to work with a group of people on a team or to work independently? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

MODEL TEST 2—INTEGRATED TASK



Read the passage for three minutes.

The study of animal intelligence has long been of interest to humans. In studying the question of whether or not animals can be said to have intelligence, researchers look at such areas as emotions and self-recognition, among other things. The topic of animal intelligence has generated a great deal of controversy.

In one study designed to look at emotions, chimpanzees watched videos of other chimpanzees in different situations which might cause feelings of fear or happiness. The behavioral reactions of the chimpanzees watching the video were observed to be appropriate for each situation. Their brain activity was also shown to change according to the different emotions demonstrated on the videos.

Mirrors have been used in experiments to determine whether or not animals recognize themselves. In one study, dolphins were marked on different parts of their bodies. The fact that they raced to the mirror to look at their image as soon as they felt the markers demonstrated to researchers that the dolphins did indeed recognize themselves in their mirror images. Similar studies have been done with elephants and chimpanzees. Researchers have also looked at language, tool use, memory, and problem-solving ability in attempts to define intelligence in animals.

Research on animal intelligence raises a number of difficulties. For one, there is disagreement about what we actually mean by the word "intelligence." There is also disagreement about the correct way to interpret animal behavior observed in experiments. And, it is difficult to separate actual feelings and cognitive reasoning from instinctual behavior.



Track 12

Listen to the lecture.

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how they are supported by the information presented in the lecture. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 20 minutes.

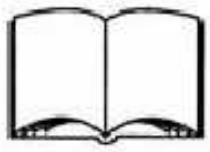
MODEL TEST 2—INDEPENDENT TASK

Write an essay on the following topic. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 30 minutes.

Essay Topic 27

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should sometimes do things they do not enjoy doing. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

MODEL TEST 3—INTEGRATED TASK



Read the passage for three minutes.

Did William Shakespeare really write *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, and the other plays attributed to him? Scholars have long questioned the authenticity of the claim that these works were written by William Shakespeare of Stratford-on-Avon, England. There are a number of reasons why.

In the first place, William Shakespeare was a man of humble origins. He was not a wealthy aristocrat or nobleman. Rather, he was the son of a tradesman, and there is no record that he ever went to school. Yet many of his plays deal with the lives of nobility and show an understanding of politics, science, literature, and foreign languages that only an aristocrat or an educated person would have had.

In addition, very few concrete facts about Shakespeare's life are known. There are very few written records containing information about him. This seems unusual for someone who became as well known as Shakespeare did. Some scholars take this as evidence that records were destroyed to hide the true identity of the author of the plays attributed to Shakespeare.

Several contemporary writers have been suggested as the possible true author of Shakespeare's works. One of the more popular theories is that they were written by Sir Francis Bacon, a prominent scholar, diplomat, and writer. This claim is based in part on perceived similarities between some of Bacon's writing and certain phrases found in the plays attributed to Shakespeare. Other well-known writers, including playwright Christopher Marlowe and Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford, have also been put forth as possible authors of the plays.



Track 13

Listen to the lecture.

Summarize the points in the reading passage and explain how they are challenged by points raised in the lecture. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 20 minutes.

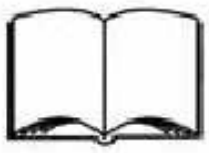
MODEL TEST 3—INDEPENDENT TASK

Write an essay on the following topic. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 30 minutes.

Essay Topic 132

If you could invent something new, what product would you develop? Use specific details to explain why this invention is needed.

MODEL TEST 4—INTEGRATED TASK



Read the passage for three minutes.

The bubonic plague, also known as the Black Plague or the Black Death, swept through the world during the Middle Ages. Originating in China, it left behind a lasting legacy.

The worst outbreak of the plague occurred in the mid-1300s. The deadly disease appeared in China in the early 1330s. Since China was a busy trading nation, the plague was soon carried from its ports to the rest of the world. The disease was transmitted to people by fleas. Rats, which infested trading ships, were the means of transporting the disease-ridden fleas throughout the world.

In 1347, several Italian trading ships returned from the Black Sea and docked in Sicily. Unbeknownst to the crew, the cargo they carried included plague-carrying rats, and a number of the sailors were dying, or already dead, from the disease. The plague spread quickly from the port to the surrounding countryside, and then throughout Italy. By the following year it had reached northern Europe. During the cold season, the plague seemed to recede, but it returned each spring with renewed vigor when fleas awakened from their winter dormancy.

It is estimated that 75 million people worldwide fell victim to the disease within the next five years. In Europe, 25 million people—one third of the continent's population—died. The widespread death led to breakdowns in the existing social order. Among other effects, the authority of the church weakened and there were peasant uprisings. There continued to be recurrences of the plague every generation or so for the next several centuries, though none as terrible as the outbreak of the 1300s. The plague finally disappeared in the 17th century.



Track 14

Listen to the lecture.

Summarize the points in the reading passage and explain how they are challenged by points raised in the lecture. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 20 minutes.

MODEL TEST 4—INDEPENDENT TASK

Write an essay on the following topic. Write on your computer or on a piece of paper. Write for no more than 30 minutes.

Essay Topic 9

Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

APPENDIX

Model Essays: Integrated Tasks

Model Essays: Independent Tasks

Answer Key

Audioscript

MODEL ESSAYS: INTEGRATED TASKS

These model Integrated Tasks are based on reading passages and lectures used in the Self-Tests and exercises in this book. Each task is identified so that you can easily find the reading passages and lectures that correspond to each model. These are examples only so that you can see ways to respond to the Integrated Task.

MODEL 1 (SELF-TEST, pages 31–32)

The author explains why global warming is a serious problem. Likewise, the speaker explains the impact of global warming in the northeastern United States.

The author explains that human activity, such as industry and cutting down forests, has resulted in an artificial increase in greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere, with serious results. Greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, hold heat in the atmosphere and result in rising temperatures on Earth. As average temperatures rise, there are a number of effects. First, scientists predict that weather patterns will change. In addition, snow and ice will melt and sea levels will rise. This can lead to flooding, drought, and powerful storms. It can also affect the economy, particularly agriculture and transportation. Economists predict that global warming will lead to a drop in gross national product and consumer consumption in countries around the world.

The speaker explains the effects of global warming in the northeastern part of the United States. This is a cold and snowy area. Since 1965, temperatures in this region have risen. There are also fewer days with snow on the ground than there used to be. This has had an effect on the economy for people who depend on the ski industry to make a living. The predicted effects of global warming that the author described are already coming true, at least in the northeastern United States.

MODEL 2 (TASK 1, page 52)

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how the points made in the lecture oppose them.

The author asserts that advances in technology do not always lead to increased productivity. The speaker, in contrast, suggests that investment in technology is paid back in increased productivity.

The author explains that because of technology, workers often stay at their desks all day, but this does not lead to increased productivity. It can cause back, neck, and eye pain. This is very uncomfortable and actually lowers productivity. Workers need to take breaks more often and go out for lunch. They also should have meetings in person instead of using e-mail. In addition, companies can buy special equipment that is more comfortable to use.

The speaker has the opposite point of view. She believes that technology increases productivity. Photocopy machines, for example, can copy, collate, and staple much faster than a person. Because of this, workers can spend their time doing other things. Also an office can hire fewer people and save money on salaries. When people communicate by e-mail, they don't have to go to so many meetings. They can spend more time working. The speaker does not mention the physical pains that using technology can cause. Clearly, technology solves some problems, but it causes others.

MODEL 3 (TASK 2, page 55)

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how they are supported by the information presented in the lecture.

The author explains that animal-assisted therapy is used to improve emotional and physical health, and the speaker tells us about a study that showed positive effects of pet ownership on health.

The author explains how pets improve both emotional health and physical health. Pets are good companions for lonely people. They also give their owners things to do, like hobbies or club activities. In addition, pets are a comfort to anxious or worried people. Pets are good for physical health, as well. They help people with high blood pressure and heart problems. They help people stay physically active. They give people a chance to play. Finally, pet therapy is used with elderly people.

The speaker supports pet therapy. He describes a study where pets had a positive effect on the health of heart patients. Half the patients had a dog to take care of. The other half only got traditional treatment. After six months, the patients with pets had lower blood pressure, and they had lost more weight than the other patients. They felt happier, too. These are all things that can affect heart disease. This is a case that shows how pet therapy works to improve physical health.

MODEL 4 (TASK 3, page 58)

Summarize the main points in the reading passage and explain how the information presented in the lecture adds to them.

The author warns that ocean pollution is a serious problem. In the same way, the speaker explains how plastic garbage threatens sea animals.

The author explains that different things cause ocean pollution. Oil from factories and cities enters the ocean through rivers and drains. Similarly, fertilizers wash into the ocean, and they cause large growths of algae. Toxic chemicals continue to pollute the ocean, as well. There are laws against dumping these chemicals, but the chemicals still leak into the ocean. Animals eat them, and when we eat seafood, we eat these chemicals, too. There is also a lot of garbage in the ocean. Plastic is the worst kind because it does not break down quickly. Animals think it is food. They eat it and choke on it.

While the author gives an overview of ocean pollution, the speaker specifically describes the problem of plastic garbage. People produce billions of pounds of plastic a year, and a lot of this ends up in the ocean. The water and wind break large pieces of plastic into smaller pieces. Then animals try to eat these pieces. An animal may choke on plastic. It may starve because it does not feel hungry after eating plastic. Animals are often caught in floating plastic. They are also strangled by it. There are many types of pollution in the ocean. Plastic garbage is one of the worst examples.

MODEL 5 (TASK 4, page 61)

Summarize the main points of the reading passage and explain how the points made in the lecture cast doubt on them.

The author explains that color has psychological effects. In contrast, the speaker tells us about a study that showed no effect of color on appetite.

The author describes different ways people have used the psychological effects of color. Ancient people used color for healing, and modern designers use color to create mood. Designers might use yellow to create a positive mood in an office. Likewise, they might use neutral colors to create a clean, clear, and focused mood in health care centers. Restaurants often use orange and red to stimulate the appetite. Some scientists say that blue lowers the heart rate and blood pressure. Red, on the other hand, raises blood pressure. Other scientists do not believe that color affects mood. They say the effect is temporary and also that it is different in every culture.

The speaker describes a study that showed no relationship between color and appetite. A fast-food restaurant chain had orange walls in half its restaurants and beige walls in the rest of its restaurants. It recorded all the food ordered for two years. There was no difference between the restaurants with orange walls and the restaurants with beige walls. People ordered the same food in both types of places. In other words, according to the company president, there is no effect of color on appetite. He said that the study proved it. In this case, at least, there was no psychological effect of color.

MODEL 6 (PRACTICE INTEGRATED TASK, page 123)

The author discusses the dangers of cell phone use while driving. The speaker, however, believes that cell phones are not any more dangerous to drivers than other distractions.

The author explains that talking on the phone while driving is dangerous because it distracts the driver. Because of this, drivers in accidents involving cell phones have been held responsible for the accidents. The author also discusses laws that prohibit the use of cell phones while driving.

The speaker disagrees with these laws. He points out that drivers can be distracted by things other than talking on the phone, such as eating, talking to passengers, taking care of children, putting on make up, and other things. He cites a study that found that cell phone use actually causes fewer accidents than other distractions. He mentions another study that used video tapes. The tapes showed that drivers were less distracted by their phones than by other activities. Finally, the speaker emphasizes that cell phones contribute to our safety. People use cell phones to report accidents and dangerous drivers on the road.

MODEL TASK 7 (MODEL TESTS, INTEGRATED TASK 1, page 229)

The author asks whether technology in the classroom has improved academic achievement. The speaker agrees that it can when there is adequate teacher training.

The author talks about the ways that technology can improve learning, by addressing different learning styles and by connecting to the rest of the world through the Internet. Unfortunately, teachers do not always use technology in the best way possible, so their students do not benefit from it. Academic achievement can be improved through technology if teachers are trained to use it.

The speaker completely supports this point of view by discussing two studies. A survey of teachers found that they often do not receive enough training to use technology, so they feel very uncomfortable with it. The majority do not use computers in their classrooms. The speaker then mentioned a special program in one school district. The teachers received 200 hours of training. They used technology in their classrooms to help their students develop thinking skills. These students scored much higher on achievement tests than other students in the school district.

MODEL TASK 8 (MODEL TESTS, INTEGRATED TASK 2, page 231)

The author gives an overview of the study of animal intelligence and points out that there is a lot of controversy around such research. Likewise, the speaker discusses research on animal intelligence, specifically on self-recognition, and also mentions that not all scientists agree with interpretations of the results.

The author especially mentions emotions and self-recognition as two things researchers look at when studying animal intelligence. She describes a particular study with dolphins. After scientists placed marks on the dolphins' bodies, the dolphins rushed to the mirror to look at the marks. So, scientists say, the animals recognized themselves in the mirror. The author adds that there is a lot of disagreement among scientists researching animal intelligence, including disagreement about how results should be interpreted.

The speaker describes specific research on animal intelligence. She talks in more detail about how studies are done with mirrors. Certain animals react to their reflection in a mirror. For example, they try to touch it. The only animals that do this are apes, dolphins, and elephants. In a self-recognition test, a mark is painted on the animal's face. When the animal looks in the mirror, it might try to wipe the mark off its face. This means that it recognizes itself in the mirror, scientists say. But not all scientists agree. The animal might be interested in the mark but that doesn't mean it connects the mirror image with itself.

MODEL TASK 9 (MODEL TESTS, INTEGRATED TASK 3, page 233)

The author describes reasons why scholars believe that William Shakespeare was not the true author of his plays. In contrast, the speaker says there is not evidence to support this idea.

The author explains several reasons for doubting that Shakespeare wrote the plays. First, William Shakespeare was not wealthy and was probably not educated. The plays contain a lot of information that only a wealthy or educated person would know. Second, there are not many written records about Shakespeare's life. It is possible that records about him were destroyed to hide the fact that another person actually wrote the plays. Who was that other person? There have been several suggestions. Some people think it was Francis Bacon because there are some similarities between his writing and Shakespeare's plays.

The speaker disagrees with the theory that Shakespeare did not write the plays. He explains that Shakespeare could have had the knowledge to write the plays. He may have attended a school in his town, and he actually did have contact with wealthy people because of his theater work. The lack of records is also not evidence because records may have been lost over time. He also states that Bacon could not have written the plays because his writing style is very different from Shakespeare's.

MODEL TASK 10 (MODEL TESTS, INTEGRATED TASK 4, page 235)

The author asserts that the bubonic plague originated in China during the Middle Ages and disappeared in the seventeenth century. The speaker, on the other hand, explains that the plague may actually have originated in ancient Egypt and that outbreaks still occur today.

According to the author, the worst outbreak of the bubonic plague occurred in the 1300s. The disease started in China and was transported to other parts of the world by rats. The rats carried disease-ridden fleas onto ships. The plague arrived in Europe through Italy in 1347. Over the next five years, it killed 25 million people in Europe and 75 million people worldwide. This led to a breakdown of the social order. The plague continued to recur every generation until the seventeenth century, when it disappeared.

The speaker presents a different theory of the origins of the bubonic plague. She describes the work of an archeologist who found evidence of the plague in ancient Egypt. The archeologist found the remains of fleas at the site of an ancient village. The archeologist then turned up evidence that ancient Egyptians had experienced epidemics which may have been the bubonic plague. The speaker says that rats may have carried the disease from Africa to Europe on ships. She also points out that the bubonic plague has not disappeared. There are still several thousand new cases reported around the world every year.

MODEL ESSAYS: INDEPENDENT TASKS

The 185 topics on the following pages may appear on your actual TOEFL. You should become familiar with the list before you take the TOEFL. Remember that when you take the test you will NOT have a choice of topics. You must write only on the topic that is assigned to you.

The 185 topics are classified according to their type. Remember this classification is not always precise. *Giving an Explanation* can also be called *Making an Argument* in some cases. Both tasks are very similar. These classifications are to guide you only.

TOEFL Topics

MA	Making an Argument	63	34%
AD	Agreeing or Disagreeing	54	29%
PR	Stating a Preference	39	21%
EX	Giving an Explanation	29	16%

As you study these topics and the essays, look for the organizational patterns. Can you find the three main points and the supporting details in each essay?

---

1 EX **People attend college or university for many different reasons (for example, new experiences, career preparation, increased knowledge). Why do you think people attend college or university? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

People attend college for a lot of different reasons. I believe that the three most common reasons are to prepare for a career, to have new experiences, and to increase their knowledge of themselves and of the world around them.

Career preparation is probably the primary reason that people attend college. These days, the job market is very competitive. Careers such as information technology will need many new workers in the near future. At college, students can learn new skills for these careers and increase their opportunities for the future.

Students also go to college to have new experiences. For many, it is their first time away from home. At college, they can meet new people from many different places. They can see what life is like in a different city. They can learn to live on their own and take care of themselves without having their family always nearby.

At college, students have the opportunity to increase their knowledge. As they decide what they want to study, pursue their studies, and interact with their classmates, they learn a lot about themselves. They also, of course, have the opportunity to learn about many subjects in their classes. In addition to the skills and knowledge related to their career, college students also have the chance to take classes in other areas. For many, this will be their last chance to study different subjects.

Colleges offer much more than career preparation. They offer the opportunity to have new experiences and to learn many kinds of things. I think all of these are reasons why people attend college.

---

2 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are the best teachers. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Parents shape their children from the beginning of their children's lives. They develop close emotional ties with their children. They share their interests with them. They teach them values. Parents can be very important teachers in their children's lives; however, they are not always the best teachers.

Parents may be too close to their children emotionally. For example, they may limit a child's freedom in the name of safety. A teacher may organize an educational trip to a big city, but a parent may think this trip is too dangerous. A school may want to take the children camping, but a parent may be afraid of the child getting hurt.

Another problem is that parents sometimes expect their children's interests to be similar to their own. If the parents love science, they may try to force their child to love science too. But what if the child prefers art? If the parents enjoy sports, they may expect their child to participate on different teams. But what if the child prefers to read?

Finally, although parents want to pass on their values to their children, values can change. The children of today are growing up in a world different from their parents' world. Sometimes parents, especially older ones, can't keep up with rapid social or technological changes. A student who has friends of different races at school may find that his parents have narrower views. A student who loves computers may find that her parents don't understand or value the digital revolution.

Parents are important teachers in our lives, but they aren't always the best teachers. Fortunately, we have many teachers in our lives. Our parents teach us, our teachers teach us, and we learn from our peers. Books and newspapers also teach us. All of them are valuable.

---

3 EX **Nowadays food has become easier to prepare. Has this change improved the way people live? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Food is a basic part of life, so it follows that improved methods of food preparation have made our lives better. Nowadays we can prepare meals much faster than we could in the past. We can also enjoy a greater variety of food and eat more healthfully, all because of modern methods of food preparation.

Microwave ovens have made it possible to prepare delicious food quickly. People these days rarely have time to shop and prepare meals the old-fashioned way. We live very fast lives. We are busy working, caring for our families, traveling, playing sports, and many other things. Because of microwave ovens, we have time to enjoy

a good meal with our family and then play soccer, go to a movie, study, or do anything else we want to afterwards.

Modern methods of preserving food have made it possible to enjoy a wide variety of food. Because of refrigerators, freezers, canning, and freeze-drying, we can eat fruits and vegetables that come from far away places. We can prepare a meal one day and save the leftovers in the refrigerator or freezer to eat at another time. We can keep different kinds of food in the refrigerator or on the shelf. It's easy to always have food available and to be able to eat completely different meals every day.

Healthful eating is easier now than it ever was. Because of modern transportation methods, fresh fruits and vegetables are available all year round. Modern kitchen appliances make it easy to prepare fruits and vegetables for cooking. Bread machines make it possible to enjoy healthful, home-baked bread whenever we like. We can eat fresh and healthful food everyday because modern methods have made preparation easy.

Our lifestyle is fast, but people still like good food. New food preparation methods have given us more choices. Today we can prepare food that is more convenient, healthier, and of greater variety than ever before in history.

---

4 **PR** **It has been said, "Not everything that is learned is contained in books." Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. In your opinion, which source is more important? Why?**

"Experience is the best teacher" is an old cliché, but I agree with it. We can learn a lot of important things from books, but the most important lessons in life come from our own experiences. Throughout the different stages of life, from primary school to university to adulthood, experience teaches us many skills we need for life.

As children in primary school, we learn facts and information from books, but that is not all we learn in school. On the playground we learn how to make friends. In our class work, we learn how it feels to succeed and what we do when we fail. We start to learn about the things we like to do and the things we don't. We don't learn these things from books, but from our experiences with our friends and classmates.

In our university classes, we learn a lot of information and skills we will need for our future careers, but we also learn a lot that is not in our textbooks. In our daily lives both in class and out of class, we learn to make decisions for ourselves. We learn to take on responsibilities. We learn to get along with our classmates, our roommates, and our workmates. Our successes and failures help us develop skills we will need in our adult lives. They are skills that no book can teach us.

Throughout our adulthood, experience remains a constant teacher. We may continue to read or take classes for professional development. However, our experiences at work, at home, and with our friends teach us more. The triumphs and disasters of our lives teach us how to improve our careers and also how to improve our relationships and how to be the person each one of us wants to be.

Books teach us a lot, but there is a limit to what they teach. They can give us information or show us another person's experiences. These are valuable things, but the lessons we learn from our own experiences, from childhood through adulthood, are the most important ones we learn.

5 PR **A company has announced that it wishes to build a large factory near your community. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this new influence on your community. Do you support or oppose the factory? Explain your position.**

People like factories because they bring new jobs to a community. In my opinion, however, the benefits of a factory are outweighed by the risks. Factories cause pollution and they bring too much growth. In addition, they destroy the quiet lifestyle of a small town. That is why I oppose a plan to build a factory near my community.

Factories cause smog. If we build a new factory, the air we breathe will become dirty. Everything will be covered with dust. Factories also pollute rivers and streams. Our water will be too dirty to drink. The environment will be hurt and people's health will be affected by a factory.

Some people will say that more jobs will be created by a factory. However, this can have a negative result. Our population will grow quickly. Many new homes and stores will be built. There will be a lot of traffic on the roads. Fast growth can cause more harm than good.

Our city will change a lot. It is a pleasant place now. It is safe and quiet. Everybody knows everybody else. If a factory brings growth to the city, all of this will change. The small-town feel will be lost.

A factory would be helpful in some ways, but the dangers outweigh the benefits. Our city would be changed too much by a factory. I cannot support a plan to build a new factory here.

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6 MA **If you could change one important thing about your hometown, what would you change? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.**

If I could change one thing about my hometown, I think it would be the fact that there is no sense of community here. People don't feel connected, they don't look out for each other, and they don't get to know their neighbors.

People here don't feel connected to the community. They come and go a lot. They change jobs frequently and move on. This means that they don't put down roots in the community. They don't join community organizations and they don't get involved in community issues. They don't participate in the schools or try to beautify the neighborhoods. They don't feel like community members.

People don't try to support others around them. They don't watch out for each others' children or check in on elderly neighbors. They may not know if a neighbor loses a loved one. There's not a lot of community support for individuals.

Neighbors don't get to know each other. When neighbors go on vacation, no one watches their house for them. When neighbors' children ride their bikes through someone's garden, there's no casual, friendly way of mentioning the problem. A simple problem becomes a major disagreement.

My hometown is a nice place to live in many ways, but it would be much nicer if we had that sense of community.

7 **EX** **How do movies or television influence people's behavior? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.**

Television is a big influence in the lives of most of us. We spend hours every week watching television programs, so of course this will affect our behavior. Unfortunately, the effect of television is usually negative. Television makes people more violent, more inactive, and less imaginative.

Many programs and movies on television are violent. The more we see violence on television, the less sensitive we become to it. Eventually violence doesn't seem wrong. This is especially true because violence on television doesn't seem to have consequences. Actors can be killed and come back for another movie. Sometimes we confuse that with reality and we forget that killing someone is permanent.

Watching television makes us less active. The act of watching television requires almost no activity on the part of the watcher. We just turn it on and change the channels. In addition, all the time that we spend in front of the television is time that we are not spending moving around, playing a sport, or taking a walk.

When we watch television, we don't exercise our imagination. All the stories are told for us. We don't even have to imagine what a character or a place looks like because everything is shown to us. When we have television, we don't have to invent a way to spend a few free moments. We just turn on the television and watch.

Television is a big influence in modern life and it can be a valuable educational tool. The other side of television, however, is that it has a strong negative effect on our behavior, encouraging us to accept violence and to be inactive and unimaginative.

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8 **AD** **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television has destroyed communication among friends and family. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinions.**

Some people believe that television has destroyed communication among friends and family. In my opinion, however, the opposite is true. Television can increase communication. News and other information we see on TV gives us things to discuss with our friends and family. TV also helps us understand each other better because we all have access to the same TV programs. Finally, TV can help us share our interests with other people.

Television programs give us things to think and talk about. These days it is always possible to hear up-to-the minute news every time we turn on the television. We hear about things happening all around the world that directly affect our lives. Everybody has opinions about these things and everybody wants to discuss their opinions with other people. So, TV news and information programs encourage us to discuss our ideas with our friends and family.

No matter what city you live in, you have access to the same TV programs as people in other parts of the country. When you go to a new city to work, study, or take a vacation, you will already have something in common with the people there. When you meet new people, you will probably be familiar with at least some of the

same TV programs. This gives you something to talk about and a way to begin new friendships.

Most people use TV as a way to pursue their interests. People who play sports usually like to watch sports on TV. People who like to cook watch cooking shows. If your friends and family watch some of the same programs as you do, they can learn more about the things that interest you. This is an excellent form of communication that helps people understand each other better.

TV is a tool that gives us access to information, entertainment, and education. When we watch programs that interest us, we want to share this interest with other people. That is why I believe TV encourages communication among people.

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9 PR **Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

I grew up in a small town and then moved to a big city. I didn't think I would like living here, but I was wrong. I think life is much better in a big city. Transportation is much more convenient, everything is more exciting, and there is a greater variety of people. I can't imagine ever living in a small town again.

Transportation is easier in a city. In a small town, you have to have a car to get around because there isn't any kind of public transportation. In a city, on the other hand, there are usually buses and taxis, and some cities have subways. Cities often have heavy traffic and expensive parking, but it doesn't matter because you can always take the bus. Using public transportation is usually cheaper and more convenient than driving a car, but you don't have this choice in a small town.

City life is more exciting than small town life. In small towns usually nothing changes. You see the same people every day, you go to the same two or three restaurants, everything is the same. In a city things change all the time. You see new people everyday. There are many restaurants, with new ones to choose from all the time. New plays come to the theaters and new musicians come to the concert halls.

Cities have a diversity of people that you don't find in a small town. There are much fewer people in a small town and usually they are all alike. In a city you can find people from different countries, of different religions, of different races—you can find all kinds of people. This variety of people is what makes city life interesting.

Life in a city is convenient, exciting, and interesting. After experiencing city life, I could never live in a small town again.

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10 AD **"When people succeed, it is because of hard work. Luck has nothing to do with success." Do you agree or disagree with the quotation above? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.**

When people succeed, it is because of hard work, but luck has a lot to do with it, too. Luck is often the final factor that turns years of working hard into success. Luck has helped people invent and discover things, it has helped people become famous, and it has helped people get jobs.

Many people have discovered or invented things with the help of luck. Columbus worked hard for years to prepare for his trip around the world. Many thought he was crazy, but still he was able to get support for his endeavor. He worked hard to be able to make his trip to India, but it was because of luck that he actually found the Americas.

Luck can help people become famous. Consider movie stars. Many work hard to learn how to act. They take acting classes. They work at small, low-paying jobs in order to gain experience. Then one day a lucky actor may be given a certain part in a movie, and he gets noticed for it. Or he meets a movie director at the right time and place. Years of hard work bring him close to success, but that one lucky chance finally helps him succeed.

Because of luck, many people find jobs. A person may spend weeks writing and sending off résumés, looking at help wanted ads, and going on job interviews. But often it is because of luck that a job hunter meets the person who will give him or her a job, or hears of an opportunity that isn't advertised in the newspaper. Being in the right place at the right time is often what gets a person a job, and that is all about luck.

It is certainly difficult to be successful without hard work, but hard work also needs to be helped by a little luck. Luck has helped many people, both famous and ordinary, become successful. I think that luck and hard work go hand in hand.

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11 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Universities should give the same amount of money to their students' sports activities as they give to their university libraries. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

I disagree strongly with the idea that the same amount of money should go to university sports activities as to university libraries. Although playing sports is an important part of education, libraries are fundamental. Students cannot study without them and they require a lot of financial support to maintain up-to-date technology, to keep new books and magazines on the shelves, and to keep them operating.

Students need up-to-date library facilities to get a good education. They need computerized programs and access to Internet research databases. It costs money to have these things available, but they are fundamental to education. If a university offers its students only resources of a decade ago, it deprives those students of a tremendous amount of information.

Although we get a lot of information from computers and the Internet, university libraries still need to maintain a complete book and magazine collection. Every day new information is published on every subject, and every university wants to have this information available to its students. Again, this requires money.

It also costs money for universities to operate their libraries. University libraries are usually open for long hours and during this time they use heat and electricity. Most important, a university library needs a well-educated, knowledgeable staff. In order to be able to hire the best people, they have to be able to pay good salaries.

University students are only going to benefit from their education if they can get all the tools they need to learn. Sports are secondary to the resources that students need from university libraries. For this reason, libraries should always be better funded than sports activities.

12 EX **Many people visit museums when they travel to new places. Why do you think people visit museums? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

People visit museums for a number of reasons. They visit museums when traveling to new places because a museum tells them a lot about the culture of those places. They also go to museums to have fun. People also are usually interested in museums that feature unusual subjects. It's impossible to get bored in a museum.

When visiting someplace new, you can find out about the culture of that place in many ways. The easiest way to learn about a culture, though, is by visiting its museums. Museums will show you the history of the place you're visiting. They'll show you what art the locals think is important. If there aren't any museums, that tells you something, too.

Museums are fun. Even if you're not interested in art or history, there is always something to get your attention. Many museums now have what they call "hands-on" exhibits. These exhibits have activities such as pushing a button to hear more about what you're looking at, or creating your own work of art. Everyone, from child to adult, enjoys these hands-on activities in museums.

People also enjoy visiting museums about unusual subjects. For instance, in my hometown there's a museum devoted to the potato. This museum has art made out of potatoes. It also tells the history of the potato, and sells unusual items such as potato dolls. People enjoy visiting this museum because it is so unusual. There is no other place like it.

People everywhere like museums. They like learning about interesting and unusual things. No matter who you are or what you like, there is a museum that will amaze and interest you.

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13 PR **Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Although many people prefer to eat at restaurants because it is easier than cooking at home, I prefer to prepare food at home. I believe it is much cheaper and healthier to eat at home, and it can be more convenient, too.

While eating in restaurants is fast, the money you spend can add up. When I have dinner at a restaurant, the bill is usually $25 or more. I can buy a lot of groceries with that much money. Even lunch at a food stand can easily cost seven or eight dollars. That's enough to feed a whole family at home.

Eating at home is better for you, too. Meals at restaurants are often high in fat and calories. When you cook at home, however, you can control what you eat. You can cook with low-fat and low-calorie ingredients. Restaurants also often serve big plates of food. You may eat a big plate of food at a restaurant because you paid for it, while at home you can control your portion size. You can serve yourself as little as you want.

It may seem more convenient to eat at a restaurant because you don't have to shop, cook, or clean up. All you do is eat. Cooking at home, however, can actually

be more convenient. There are lots of simple meals that don't take long to prepare. In addition, when you eat at home, you don't have to drive to the restaurant, look for a parking space, wait for a table, and wait for service.

People often choose to eat at restaurants because it seems more convenient. I find, however, that cooking at home is actually easier, and it is cheaper and healthier as well.

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14 **MA** **Some people believe that university students should be required to attend classes. Others believe that going to classes should be optional for students. Which point of view do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

Some people believe that going to classes should be optional for university students, but I disagree. Students learn a lot more in classes than they can learn from books. In class they have the advantage of learning from the teacher, of interacting with their classmates, and of developing the responsibility it takes to be a good student.

When students attend class, they receive the benefit of the teacher's knowledge. The best teachers do more than just go over the material in the class textbook. They draw their students into discussion of the material. They present opposing points of view. They provide additional information by inviting guest speakers or showing documentary films.

Going to class also teaches students how to work with other people. In class, students have to present their ideas to their classmates. They have to defend their ideas if their classmates disagree with them, but still remain friendly when the discussion is over. They have to learn to work in groups to complete class projects.

Attending classes teaches students responsibility. Having to be at a particular place at a particular time prepares them for getting a job. Having to complete assignments on time also helps develop responsibility.

Anyone can get information from books, but students get a great many more advantages when they attend class. They get the benefit of the teacher's knowledge and experience, and even more than that, they learn how to work with others and to develop a sense of responsibility. These are not optional skills in life, so attending classes should not be optional at a university.

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15 **MA** **Neighbors are the people who live near us. In your opinion, what are the qualities of a good neighbor? Use specific details and examples in your answer.**

There are several qualities that a good neighbor has. If you have a good neighbor, you are a lucky person. You have someone who is respectful of your property, who is helpful with the little day-to-day problems that arise, and who is supportive in times of crisis.

A good neighbor respects your property. This means she asks for your permission before doing something that may affect you. She doesn't plant a huge tree between your houses without asking you how you feel about it. If she wants to put up a fence, she tells you about her plans first.

A good neighbor is willing to lend a hand when you need a little help. He lends you some milk if you run out, or gives you a ride if your car breaks down. He lets your children stay at his house if you get stuck working overtime. You do the same for him. Both of you help make each other's lives easier.

When you go through a crisis, like a death in the family, a good neighbor volunteers to help in any way she can. She might do something small, like prepare a few meals for you. Or, she might do something big, like help you get through the sadness of a funeral.

A neighbor can be as close as a good friend, or more like a distant acquaintance. Either way, a good neighbor is someone who respects you and supports you as he can. We should all be lucky enough to have good neighbors.

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16 PR **It has recently been announced that a new restaurant may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

I can see both advantages and disadvantages to having a new restaurant built in our neighborhood. I believe, however, that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. A new restaurant would bring more traffic problems to the area. In addition, it could attract undesirable people. Most of all, I think there are other types of business that would be more beneficial to the neighborhood.

Traffic congestion is already a problem in our neighborhood, and a new restaurant would just add to the problem. Most restaurant customers would arrive by car and crowd our streets even more. In addition, they would occupy parking spaces and make it even harder for residents to find places to park near their homes.

I'm also concerned about the type of patrons the new restaurant would bring into our neighborhood. If the restaurant serves drinks and has dancing, there could be problems. The restaurant would stay open late and people leaving the restaurant might be drunk. They could be noisy too. This is not the kind of thing I want to see in my neighborhood.

Finally, there are other types of businesses that we need in our neighborhood more. We already have a restaurant and a couple of coffee shops. We don't have a bookstore or a pharmacy, however, and we have only one small grocery store. I would prefer to see one of these businesses established here rather than another restaurant. Any one of them would be more useful to the residents and would maintain the quiet atmosphere of our streets.

A new restaurant could disrupt the quiet lifestyle of our neighborhood. It might bring jobs, but it would also bring traffic and noise. Moreover, it would use space that might be better used for another type of business. This is why I would oppose a plan for a new restaurant.

17 PR **Some people think that they can learn better by themselves than with a teacher. Others think that it is always better to have a teacher. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons to develop your essay.**

Most people can learn to do something simple on their own with just a set of instructions. However, to learn something more complex, it's always best to have a teacher. Teachers help you find the way that you learn best. They help you stay focused on what you're learning. They provide you with a wider range of information than you might find on your own. In short, teachers provide you with a lot more support and knowledge than you can usually get by yourself.

Teachers can help students learn in the way that is best for each student because teachers understand that different people have different learning styles. For example, some students learn better by discussing a topic. Others learn more by writing about it. A teacher can help you follow your learning style, while a book can give you only one way of learning something.

Teachers help you focus on what you are learning. They can help you keep from becoming distracted. They can show you which are the most important points in a lesson to understand. If you have to study on your own, on the other hand, it might be difficult to keep your attention on the material or know which points are most important.

Teachers bring their own knowledge and understanding of the topic to the lesson. A book presents you with certain information, and the teacher can add more. The teacher might also have a different point of view from the book and can provide other sources of information and ideas, as well.

There is nothing wrong with studying on your own. For the best possible learning, though, a teacher is the biggest help you can have.

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18 MA **What are some important qualities of a good supervisor (boss)? Use specific details and examples to explain why these qualities are important.**

Even though job situations can be very different, there are several qualities that all good supervisors have in common. A good supervisor treats her employees fairly. She gives clear directions. Most important of all, she acts as a good example for her employees.

A good supervisor is fair. She treats all her employees with equal respect and doesn't have favorites. She uses the same set of criteria to evaluate each employee's performance. She doesn't let her personal feelings about an individual influence her treatment of him.

A good supervisor gives clear and understandable directions. She doesn't constantly change her mind about what she wants employees to do. She also doesn't get angry when an employee is confused and needs more explanation.

Finally, a good supervisor sets the standards for her employees by her own behavior. She works hard and acts responsibly and gets her work done on time. She can only expect her employees to act professionally if she acts professionally, too.

Employees are more likely to do the best job they can when they are treated fairly, given good directions, and have a good example in front of them. This is why good supervisors are so important to the success of any type of business.

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19 MA **Should governments spend more money on improving roads and highways, or should governments spend more money on improving public transportation (buses, trains, subways)? Why? Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.**

Governments should definitely spend more money on improving all forms of public transportation. The widespread use of private cars has contributed to some serious problems in society, including depletion of natural resources, increased pollution, and the loss of a sense of community. By encouraging the use of public transportation, governments can do a lot to counteract these problems.

Cars depend on oil and gasoline, which are nonrenewable resources. Once we have used them up, they are gone forever. Every time a person gets into a private car to go to work, to the store, or anywhere, gasoline is used up just to take one person to one place. The more people drive their cars, the more resources are used up. When people use public transportation, on the other hand, less oil and gasoline are used up per person.

Cars cause pollution. Every time a person drives his car somewhere, more pollution is put into the air. In many big cities, the high amount of air pollution causes health problems for the residents. Public transportation means fewer cars on the road, and that means less pollution.

Cars tend to isolate people from each other. When a person uses a private car, he is alone or only with people that he already knows. He doesn't have the opportunity to see other people or talk to them or feel that he is part of a larger community. When he uses public transportation, however, he is surrounded by neighbors and other fellow city residents. He has a chance to be with people he might not otherwise see, and maybe even to get to know them a little.

Environmental problems and increased isolation are some of the most serious problems of modern society. Encouraging the use of public transportation is one way governments can work against these problems and start creating a better world.

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20 AD **It is better for children to grow up in the countryside than in a big city. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to develop your essay.**

I have to disagree that it is better for children to grow up in the countryside. In the countryside, children have limited opportunities to see and learn about things. In the city, on the other hand, they are exposed to many different things. They see

all kinds of different people every day. They have opportunities to attend many cultural events. They see people working in different kinds of jobs and therefore can make better choices for their own future. Growing up in the city is definitely better.

All different kinds of people live in the city, while in a small town in the countryside people are often all the same. City people come from other parts of the country or even from other countries. They are of different races and religions. When children grow up in this situation, they have the opportunity to learn about and understand different kinds of people. This is an important part of their education.

In the city, there are many opportunities to attend cultural events, whereas such opportunities are usually limited in the countryside. In the city there are movies and theaters, museums, zoos, and concerts. In the city children can attend cultural events every weekend, or even more often. This is also an important part of their education.

People in the city work in different kinds of jobs, while in the countryside there often isn't a variety of job opportunities. People in the city work at all different types and levels of professions, as well as in factories, in service jobs, and more. Children growing up in the city learn that there is a wide variety of jobs they can choose from when they grow up. They have a greater possibility of choosing a career that they will enjoy and do well in. This is perhaps the most important part of their education.

People usually move to the city because there are more opportunities there. Children who grow up in the city have these opportunities from the time they are small. The city is definitely a better place for children to grow up.

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21 MA **In general, people are living longer now. Discuss the causes of this phenomenon. Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.**

People are living to be much older these days for a number of reasons. The main reasons are greater access to health care, improved health care, and better nutrition.

Basic health care is available to more people now. When someone is seriously ill, he or she can go to a public hospital. There are also more clinics and doctors than there used to be. Years ago, health care wasn't available to everyone. Some people didn't live near a doctor or hospital and others couldn't pay for the care they needed.

People also live longer because the quality of health care has improved. Doctors now know more about diseases and cures. Years ago, people died young because of simple things such as an infection or a virus. Now we have antibiotics and other medicines to help cure infections.

The quality of nutrition has improved also. We eat more healthfully than we used to. We know that eating low-fat food can prevent heart disease, and we know that eating fruits and vegetables can prevent cancer.

Improved health care and healthy eating habits allow us to live longer. Now we need to make sure that everyone in the world has these benefits.

22 MA **We all work or will work in jobs with many different kinds of people. In your opinion, what are some important characteristics of a co-worker (someone you work closely with)? Use reasons and specific examples to explain why these characteristics are important.**

I've worked in several offices, and I've found there are certain characteristics that all good co-workers have in common. They tend to be cooperative people, they adapt well to changes, and they are helpful to others in the office. People who have these characteristics are easy to work with.

A good co-worker is very cooperative. She does her best to get along with others. She tries to do her work well because she knows that if one person doesn't get her work done, it affects everyone else. She also has a positive attitude that creates a pleasant working environment.

A good co-worker is adaptable. She is not stubborn about changes in schedules or routines. She doesn't object to having her job description revised. She has no problem with new procedures. In fact, she welcomes changes when they come.

A good co-worker is helpful. For instance, she lends a hand when someone falls behind in his or her work. She is willing to change her schedule to accommodate another worker's emergency. She doesn't keep track of how often she has to take on extra work.

We spend more time with our co-workers during the week than we do with our family. Thus, it's important for our co-workers to be people we can get along with. When co-workers are cooperative, adaptable, and helpful, everyone gets along better and can get their jobs done well.

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23 MA **In some countries, teenagers have jobs while they are still students. Do you think this is a good idea? Support your opinion by using specific reasons and details.**

I don't think it is a good idea for teenagers to have jobs while they are still students. It can interfere with their studies, it can disrupt their home life, and it takes away part of their childhood that they can never replace.

A job can interfere with a teenager's schoolwork. Education today is very complex and difficult. In order to learn and get good grades, a student must work very hard and concentrate. This means attending classes for most of the day, then doing research for projects, then going home and doing homework. It is very difficult to do all this and have a job, too.

Having a job can also disrupt a teenager's home life. If a teenager has a job to go to after school, he won't be home for dinner. He won't be home after dinner either, and may not get home until late at night. This means he doesn't have much time to spend with his family. Teenagers may be almost grown up, but they still need the companionship and support they get from their families.

The main drawback of a teenager having a job is that he misses out on the fun of being young. He has a whole lifetime ahead of him in which he'll have to earn a living. This is the last free time he'll have. It's the last chance he'll have to hang out

with friends and just enjoy himself. Soon enough he'll have to start worrying about paying the rent and buying food.

Jobs bring money, but money isn't everything. For a teenager it is important to concentrate on his studies, spend time with his family, and enjoy being young. A teenager with a job gives up too much.

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24 EX **A person you know is planning to move to your town or city. What do you think that person would like and dislike about living in your town or city? Why? Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.**

A friend of mine from college is moving to my city. I think there are things she will like about living here, but there are also things she might dislike. I like living here because there are a lot of things to do, there are a lot of nice neighborhoods to live in, and we have beautiful parks. On the other hand, my friend might not like it because it's very crowded and expensive and we're far from beautiful places like the mountains and the beach.

Living in this city is very exciting because there are so many interesting things to do, although you pay a price for it. We have museums, art galleries, and lots of movie theaters. We have restaurants with food from all over the world. However, when you go to these places they are always very crowded. Also, there is almost always heavy traffic on the way and it is difficult to find parking once you arrive. I know my friend likes peace and quiet, so she may not enjoy the crowds in my city.

In this city we have many beautiful neighborhoods, although some of them are very expensive. We have neighborhoods of old houses with interesting architecture. We have more modern neighborhoods with new apartment buildings. We have lots of nice places to live, but it isn't always easy to find a place that you can afford. I know my friend doesn't earn a big salary, so she might not like this aspect of living here.

Even though we are far from the countryside, we have many beautiful, natural areas right here in the city. We have a big park where people go hiking and biking, and in the winter they go ice skating. We also have many small parks throughout the city and lots of trees and gardens. It is a pretty city and I know my friend will like that. However, we are far from the mountains and far from the beach. I know my friend likes to spend time in the countryside, so she might not like living far away from those places.

All in all, there are both advantages and disadvantages to living here. My friend will have to decide if she prefers excitement and crowds or quiet and nature before she makes her final decision about moving here.

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25 PR **It has recently been announced that a large shopping center may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

There would be both advantages and disadvantages to having a shopping center built in my neighborhood. Overall, however, I think the advantages are greater. One

important advantage would be convenience. In addition, a shopping center would give neighborhood residents more choices for shopping and entertainment and it would bring jobs to the area, too.

It would be very convenient to have a shopping center in the neighborhood. Shopping would be easier and faster because I wouldn't have to drive great distances to get to the stores. Also, all the stores would be together, so I would only have to go to one place.

A shopping center would mean more choices. There would be more stores selling different products. There would probably also be restaurants and food courts, so we would have a greater variety of places to eat. The shopping center might have a movie theater, too.

Having a shopping center built in the neighborhood would also mean more jobs for the community. Initially, these jobs would be in the building of the center. Later, the jobs would be in the stores, theaters, and food establishments.

On the whole, though, I think my neighborhood should support having a shopping center built here. It would bring more variety to our shopping, give us the opportunity to amuse ourselves at movie theaters and restaurants, and bring more jobs into the area.

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26 PR **It has recently been announced that a new movie theater may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

Some people will say that a new movie theater in our neighborhood would be a bad thing. However, I fully support the plan to build one. I feel that a movie theater would provide more opportunities for entertainment, reduce teenage delinquency, and bring more business to our town.

A movie theater would provide a much needed source of entertainment to our area. Right now, there is little to do in my town. There is almost nowhere to go in the evenings, and the nearest place that has movie theaters and restaurants is thirty minutes away. If we build a movie theater here, we can enjoy evenings right in our own neighborhood.

A movie theater would reduce juvenile delinquency. Like everywhere else, teenagers here are bored. They need activities to keep them busy and out of trouble. A movie theatre would not only provide them with entertainment, it would also be a source of jobs for them. We need more businesses that want to employ young people, and a movie theater is the perfect sort of business for that.

A movie theater would attract more business to our town. People who come from other towns to use our movie theater would also shop in our stores. New stores and restaurants might open because there would be more customers for them. Our town could become more prosperous, and more interesting, too.

I believe our town would benefit greatly from a new movie theater. It would make life here more interesting and could make us more prosperous. I fully support the plan and hope that others in the neighborhood will join me to convince residents and local governments.

27 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should sometimes do things that they do not enjoy doing. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I agree that people should sometimes do things that they don't enjoy doing. This is a basic part of life. There are many small things we have to do in both our personal and professional lives that we may not enjoy, but that are part of our responsibilities. In addition, sometimes by doing things we don't enjoy, we actually learn to like them.

Most people's personal lives are filled with tasks that they don't enjoy doing, but they do them anyway. Who likes going to the doctor or dentist, for example? But we do this because we know that it is important to take care of our health. I don't know many people who like changing the oil in their cars or mowing the lawn. We do these things, however, because we understand that we need to maintain our personal property.

Similarly, our professional lives are filled with tasks that are not fun, but that are necessary parts of our jobs. No one likes to do boring assignments or to work with someone who no one else likes. If we're in management, we may sometimes have to fire someone. No one likes to do things like these, but if they are part of our professional responsibilities, we have to do them.

On the other hand, sometimes doing something we don't enjoy can lead to enjoyment. Simply by trying it again, we may decide we like doing it. For instance, we may think we hate to dance. We agree to go to a club only to please someone else. Yet, for some reason, this time we enjoy dancing. The same can be true of trying new foods or going to a new type of museum.

Not everything in life is fun. Unpleasant or boring tasks are a necessary part of life. We don't like them, but we do them anyway. And sometimes they surprise us and turn into something enjoyable.

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28 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television, newspapers, magazines, and other media pay too much attention to the personal lives of famous people such as public figures and celebrities. Use specific reasons and details to explain your opinion.**

I think the media pay too much attention to the private lives of famous people. They discover things that happened years ago and report them as if they still mattered. They publicize things about famous people's lives that are really private, personal matters. They put out information that could end up having a bad effect on a person's family and personal life. They do this just to entertain the public, but I don't find it entertaining at all.

The media like to dig up bad information about the past actions of famous people. They find out that a person took drugs when he was young, or that someone

was a reckless driver and caused a bad accident. Then a person in her forties has to explain something that she did when she was fifteen. I don't understand how something that happened so long ago could have any interest or importance now.

The media says that the public has the right to know about the private actions of famous people. They say it is our right to know if someone had an extramarital affair or didn't pay back some money that he owed. I say these are personal matters. We respect the privacy of ordinary people and we should do the same for famous people.

The media seem to report these things without considering what might happen as a result. Reporting on a celebrity's personal affairs could have an effect on that person's family, especially the children. A celebrity's good name and credibility could be ruined before he or she can prove that the rumors are false. A person's entire career could be ruined by something that is reported in the media.

Having details of one's personal life reported in public can have all sorts of negative consequences on a person's life. Ordinary people don't have to suffer this sort of attention, and I see no reason why celebrities should either.

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29 MA **Some people believe that the Earth is being harmed (damaged) by human activity. Others feel that human activity makes the Earth a better place to live. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

The quality of human life has improved greatly over the past few centuries, but Earth is being harmed more and more by human activity. As we develop our technology, we use more and more natural resources and cause more and more pollution. As our population grows, we destroy more and more natural areas in order to expand towns and cities. The Earth is being harmed, and this harms people as well.

We often act as if we have unlimited natural resources, but this isn't true. If we cut down too many trees to build houses and make paper, not all the trees will grow back. If we catch too many fish, the fish population will get smaller and smaller. If we aren't careful about how we use our natural resources, we will lose many of them. We are already losing some.

We don't seem to pay attention to the amount of pollution human activity can cause. Our cars pollute the air. Our factories pollute both the air and the water. We throw our waste into rivers and streams. We act as if the air and water can clean themselves up, but they can't.

As urban populations grow, the cities grow too, taking over more and more land. New houses, stores, and office buildings are built all the time. Land that was once forest or farms is now parking lots and apartment buildings. We seem to act as if we have unlimited land, but we don't. We need to plan more carefully so that we use our limited land in the best way possible.

People need to respect the Earth and try to preserve it. If we don't, we will lose all the natural resources that we depend on for life. Then what will happen?

30 PR **It has recently been announced that a new high school may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details in your answer.**

I oppose having a new high school built in my neighborhood. I don't think there is a real need for one. I think it would cause traffic problems in our area, and it would mean that we would lose the use of our beautiful neighborhood park. I don't think a high school would be of any benefit to us at all.

First of all, there are very few teenagers in our neighborhood. Most of the residents here are either retired or are young couples with babies and small children. This means that most of the high school students would come from other parts of town, but that the majority of the people who live here would not benefit.

Second, a high school would cause a lot of traffic. Most of the students would live too far away to walk to school, so they would come by car or school bus. In addition to the traffic on regular school days, there would be even more traffic after school and on weekends for sports events, school drama productions, and other school activities. This would disrupt the quiet life style of our neighborhood.

Finally, everyone in the neighborhood would be upset by the loss of the park, which is the site that has been selected for the high school. Parents take their small children to the park every day to play. Older people like to walk there in the evenings after dinner. On weekends, people enjoy having picnics and playing games in the park. We would be sorry to lose our neighborhood park.

Our town may need a new high school, but our neighborhood is not the right place for it. We don't want our quiet lifestyle disrupted, and most people in this area have no need for a high school, anyway.

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31 PR **Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.**

Even though I have lived in the same house, in the same neighborhood, in the same city my entire life, I know I would be happy living in a variety of places. Moving would expose me to new people, new weather, and new housing.

Even if I moved to another part of my own city, I would encounter new people. Each neighborhood has a distinct personality. If I moved to a new neighborhood, I would meet the shopkeepers and residents that shape that neighborhood's personality. It would be a new experience for me and I could become part of a new community.

If I want to experience a different kind of climate, I would have to move far from my city. Where I live now, it is the same temperature all year. I would like to go to a place where there are four seasons so I can experience really cold weather. I would like to walk in the snow and learn winter sports such as skiing.

Now I live with my parents in their house. It is a one-story house built around a courtyard where we spend a lot of time. If I could move to a different kind of house, I would like to live in an apartment on a very high floor so I could see all around

me. I could also meet my neighbors on the elevator and we could get together for coffee in my apartment.

The more I moved the more I would experience change. I would meet new people in every place I lived; I could move to sample countries with four seasons or even a continent like Antarctica, which only has two. Wherever I lived, I would experience living in housing particular to that area. I would then be a citizen of the world, wouldn't I? Could you call me a foreigner if I called everyplace my home?

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32 MA **Is it better to enjoy your money when you earn it, or is it better to save your money for some time in the future? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

When I have a choice between spending money or putting it in my savings account at the bank, I always put it in the bank. I will have a lot of expenses in the future, like my education, travel, and unforeseen emergencies. I need to set money aside for these expenses.

Education is expensive. I can't depend on my parents to pay all my bills. I have tuition, room and board, books, and incidental expenses to pay for. My parents help me, but I have to pay part of it. If I spend my money now, I won't be able to pay for my education.

Travel is also very expensive. I don't mean vacation travel. I mean travel to and from school, because my school is far from home. First I have to get to school, then, of course, I want to return to my family for important festivals and family occasions. I need to save money for these trips.

Emergencies could arrive at any moment. I might have an unexpected illness while I am at school. One of my family members may need help and I will have to send them money. You can't predict emergencies like these, but you can be prepared. I need to save money for these emergencies.

When you are not rich, you cannot spend your money carelessly. You must plan ahead. I know I will have expenses for my schooling and for traveling to and from home. I know that I will also have unexpected expenses from time to time. I must be prepared. I need to save money for these events.

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33 PR **You have received a gift of money. The money is enough to buy either a piece of jewelry you like or tickets to a concert you want to attend. Which would you buy? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

The choice between spending money on tickets to a concert or spending money on jewelry is an easy one. Given this choice, I would buy jewelry. The reasons are obvious. Jewelry is an investment, it is permanent, and it is fashionable.

Jewelry is a very good investment. It is a good idea for everyone to own some gold jewelry because its value increases every year. In addition, if you have a financial problem, you can always sell your jewelry to get the money you need. You could not sell your used concert ticket.

Jewelry, unless you sell it, is permanent. You always have it to wear. Each time you put it on, you will remember the day you bought it. It will give you pleasure for years and years. You could not wear the ticket stub from the concert.

Jewelry is very fashionable. I would feel very smart wearing a beautiful gold bracelet or diamond pin. People would comment and tell me how much they love my jewelry. They would compliment me on my good taste.

I would feel very rich with my jewelry. I would have a good investment that is permanent and fashionable. Then, when someone invites me to a concert (and pays for my ticket), I will have something beautiful to wear.

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34 AD **Businesses should hire employees for their entire lives. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

In some business cultures, it is the practice to hire workers when they are young and employ them until they retire. In other business cultures, companies hire people to do a job and then fire them when they are not needed. I agree with the latter position. In today's economy it is not important to hire employees for their entire lives. The important considerations for companies are an employee's performance, speed, and ability to change. Loyalty is not a consideration.

Today there is a lot of competition so we need to hire workers who can perform their jobs well. We need to find skilled workers who can do a job without a lot of extra training. We need to match the job to the worker, and if the job changes, we change the worker.

Because of competition, we also need to be able to produce our goods and services quickly. We need young people who are aggressive and will push themselves to do their job faster. We need young people who are willing to work long hours.

In order to compete, we have to be able to change to meet the changing demands of the market. By changing our workforce frequently, we can bring in new ideas. By hiring young workers, we get fresh points of view.

Although a feeling of loyalty between a company and its workers is a noble idea, it is not practical today. A company needs to keep up with the changing forces of the economy. In order to be able to do this, it needs to be able to change its workforce as necessary.

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35 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Attending a live performance (for example, a play, concert, or sporting event) is more enjoyable than watching the same event on television. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

Some people think that attending a live performance is preferable to watching it on television. I say, however, that if you have a good TV, it is much better to watch a performance that way. It is much more convenient and comfortable, and it is cheaper, too. I almost never attend a live performance of anything.

It is much more convenient to stay home and watch a performance on TV. I don't have to go anywhere. I don't have to worry about leaving the house on time. I don't have to worry about traffic or parking. I don't have to stand on line for a ticket. I just turn on the television at the time the event begins, sit back, and enjoy myself.

It is much more comfortable to watch a performance at home. I can wear any clothes that I want to. I know I will have a good seat with a good view. I can get up and get a snack at any time. I can relax and enjoy myself in the comfort of my own home.

It is much cheaper to watch a performance on TV. I don't have to buy a ticket. I don't have to pay for parking or for dinner at a restaurant before the performance. I already own a TV, so watching a performance on it doesn't cost me anything. If it turns out I don't like the performance, I can just turn off the TV and go do something else. I haven't lost any money, or much time either.

Watching a performance on TV is so comfortable and convenient, I don't know why people attend live performances. It's much better to enjoy them at home.

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36 EX **Choose one of the following transportation vehicles and explain why you think it has changed people's lives.**

- **automobiles**
- **bicycles**
- **airplanes**

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

An airplane is a form of transportation that has changed people's lives. Thanks to the plane, our lives are now faster, more exciting, and more convenient than before.

You cannot deny that a plane is fast. The Concorde flew at supersonic speed. A businessperson could have left Paris at 11:00 A.M. and arrived in New York at 8:00 the same morning in time for the day's work. Many businesspeople in Europe fly to London for a noon meeting and then return home to Rome or Madrid for dinner.

It is always exciting to take a plane trip. When you travel by plane, you might cross time zones, oceans, and many countries. When you get off the plane, you could be in a place where the people speak a different language. You are in a completely different place from where you started.

Nothing can beat the convenience of a plane. You can go anywhere at any time you want. Other forms of transportation are not so convenient. Boats, for example, leave only on certain days of the week and they can't go everywhere. Planes give you the option to leave several times a day and they take you very close to your final destination.

Although other forms of transportation may be more comfortable, none has changed the way we do business and live our lives more than the plane. Thanks to the speed, excitement, and convenience of the plane, our lives are richer.

37 AD **Do you agree or disagree that progress is always good? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Who would disagree with the statement "progress is good?" Without progress, there would be no change. Without progress there would be no improvements in our economy, our standard of living, or our health.

Progress is required to keep the economy moving forward. Without progress, new products wouldn't be developed and new services wouldn't be created. We would be living in the same way our grandparents and great grandparents lived and working at the same kind of jobs.

Progress is required to raise our standard of living. Our homes today are more efficient and use fewer resources thanks to improvement in home construction techniques. Our clothes are warmer and safer thanks to developments in textile manufacturing. Our educational system is better thanks to the use of modern computer technology.

Progress is required to improve the health of the world's population. Without progress, there would be no vaccines against terrible diseases like smallpox. Without progress, we would have high infant mortality rates. Without progress, we wouldn't have treatments for heart disease and cancer. Thanks to progress, our lives are longer and healthier.

Progress is a natural state. Without it, we would not evolve. Without it, our economy, our standard of living, and our health would deteriorate. Who could deny the necessity of progress?

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38 AD **Learning about the past has no value for those of us living in the present. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

People often say, "Those who don't understand history will repeat the mistakes of the past." I totally disagree. I don't see any evidence that people have made smart decisions based on their knowledge of the past. To me, the present is what is important. I think that people, weather, and politics determine what happens, not the past.

People can change. People may have hated each other for years, but that doesn't mean they will continue to hate each other. Look at Turkey and Greece. When Turkey had an earthquake, Greece sent aid. When Greece had an earthquake, Turkey sent aid. These two countries are cooperating now. No doubt, if we had looked at the past, we would have believed this to be impossible. But people change.

The weather can change. Farmers plant certain crops because these crops have always grown well in their fields. But there can be a long drought. The crops that grew well in the past will die. The farmers need to try a drought-resistant crop. If we had looked at the past, we wouldn't have changed our crop. Weather changes.

Politics can change. If politicians looked only at the past, they would always do the same thing. If we looked at the past in the United States, we would see a lot of discrimination against races, women, and sexual orientation. On the whole, people now are interested in human rights, and the government protects these rights. Politics change.

As a rule, it is important to follow the mood of today. It doesn't help us to think about the past. People, the weather, and politics can change in any direction. The direction of this change, in my opinion, cannot be predicted by studying the past.

39 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? With the help of technology, students nowadays can learn more information and learn it more quickly. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Technology has greatly improved the way we get information. Students can now get more information, get it more quickly, and get it more conveniently.

An amazing amount of information is available through the Internet. It has made every major library and database available to students around the world. You can get information about events in the past as well as about events that unfold as you watch your computer monitor.

Information comes through the Internet instantly. You can type a few words in your search engine, and in a matter of seconds the engine will search the entire World Wide Web to find information on that topic. You don't have to spend hours going through card catalogues in the library and looking at the shelves.

It is certainly convenient to sit at home and do research on the Internet with your computer. Your computer is open 24 hours a day, unlike a library or office. You can do research in your pajamas while you eat breakfast. What could be more convenient?

Technology, especially the Internet, has changed the quantity and quality of the information we get. The speed and convenience of a computer helps students learn more and learn it more quickly.

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40 AD **The expression "Never, never give up" means keep trying and never stop working for your goals. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." These are wise words. One should never give up. There is always another opportunity, another goal, or another option.

Once I ran for president of my class. Unfortunately, I lost because I didn't promote myself enough. I looked at my mistakes and decided how to correct them. The following year, I ran for president again. This time I gave speeches, called voters on the phone, and handed out brochures. This time I won. Never give up. There is always another opportunity.

Once I wanted to study medicine. Unfortunately, I didn't like science. I failed all my science courses at school. Then I realized that what I liked about medicine was helping people. I changed my goal from healing people to helping people. Now I'm studying psychology. There is always another goal.

Once I wanted to talk with my friend. Unfortunately, his computer was down and I couldn't e-mail him. His phone line was busy so I couldn't call him. Since I really wanted to talk to him, I got on the bus and went across town to visit him. There is always another option.

If you give up, you might as well die. My advice is always look for another opportunity, another goal, or another option. There is always something else. Don't give up.

41 AD **Some people think that human needs for farmland, housing, and industry are more important than saving land for endangered animals. Do you agree or disagree with this point of view? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Many animals are now extinct and many more are in danger of extinction. This is because their habitat is destroyed when people use land to build houses, factories, and farms. Does it matter? It certainly does. Our basic human needs, our quality of life, and the way we live are all affected when animals' habitats are destroyed.

Many animals affect our basic human needs even though we may not realize it. There is a delicate balance of nature. If one small part is removed, it will affect all the other parts. For example, if certain trees are cut down, bats will have no place to live. If there are no bats, there will be no animal to eat certain insects that destroy our crops. This will affect our basic need for food.

The loss of certain animals affects the quality of our lives. Certain flowers are pollinated by butterflies that migrate from Canada to Mexico. Some of the breeding grounds of these butterflies was destroyed. Now, these flowers are disappearing. We will no longer be able to enjoy their beauty, and we will no longer be able to enjoy the beauty of the butterflies. This is just one small example.

When animals' habitats are destroyed we may think that it only affects the animals, but it affects our way of life, too. Large parts of the Amazon rain forest have been cut down to make room for farms. This rain forest is an important part of the weather system all around the world. Weather patterns have been changing because of this. This will have a huge effect on how we live.

When animals' lives are endangered, our way of life is endangered, too. I would encourage humans to look for other alternatives for our farmlands, housing, and industries. We have alternatives; the animals do not.

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42 MA **What is a very important skill a person should learn in order to be successful in the world today? Choose one skill and use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

I do not define success economically; I define success socially. Therefore, the one skill I would choose for success is tolerance. To succeed in society, we need to be tolerant of one another's background, opinions, and lifestyle.

People come from all different backgrounds. The world is becoming increasingly mobile. We are no longer able to work only with people who grew up in the same place we did, or who went to the same schools we went to. Now, we work with people whose backgrounds are completely different from ours. We all must be tolerant of these differences so we can work together amiably.

Different people have different opinions, but we cannot stop speaking to them just because of differences in opinion. We shouldn't start a war just because someone has a different idea. We have to find common ground, an idea we can agree on. We have to learn to respect the people we live and work around. We need to be tolerant of differences of opinion.

Different people live different lifestyles. Woman can live on their own, hold important jobs, and raise children alone. Men can stay home and take care of the family. Social roles can change and we must be tolerant of the different lifestyles that people choose.

To succeed socially, you must be able to adapt to differences. You must be tolerant of all people regardless of their background, their opinion, or their lifestyle.

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43 MA Why do you think some people are attracted to dangerous sports or other dangerous activities? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Dangerous sports are interesting for most people to watch or read about. Only certain kinds of people, however, are attracted to participating in these sports. Often they are people who love risks, who seek a feeling of power, or who need a way to deal with some personal problems.

Dangerous sports attract risk takers. People often take risks in their lives. They take risks with their money, with their jobs, and in love. But these are ordinary risks. Nothing compares with the risk of putting your own life in danger. Risking one's life in a dangerous sport has a special thrill that is very attractive to some people.

Dangerous sports attract people who want a feeling of power. It is a great accomplishment to climb a difficult mountain or to learn how to skydive. When people do these things and still end up alive, they feel like they have conquered the forces of nature. What a feeling of power that must give them!

Finally, I think dangerous sports attract some unhappy people. People who don't like their jobs or who have problems with their family may turn to dangerous sports as a way of dealing with their problems. Learning how to do something difficult and dangerous can make them feel worthwhile. It can give them something interesting to focus their attention on.

Dangerous sports can be attractive for several reasons. They can attract people who like thrill, power, or who need a way to forget their problems. In my opinion, however, dangerous sports are never worth the risk.

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44 PR Some people like to travel with a companion. Other people prefer to travel alone. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Traveling alone is the only way to travel. If you take someone with you, you take your home with you. When you travel alone, you meet new people, have new experiences, and learn more about yourself.

When I travel with a friend, I spend all my time with that friend. We do everything together. When I travel alone, I spend my time looking for new friends. I meet other tourists or local people. We have coffee together or share a meal and we become friends. It's easier to meet new people when I travel alone.

When I travel with a friend, my routine is predictable. We follow the same schedule that we do at home. When I travel alone, I adapt myself to the customs of the

place. I might take a nap in the afternoon and eat dinner late at night. I might go to a club and dance all night. I am more open to new experiences when I travel alone.

When I travel with a friend, we take care of each other. When I am alone, I have to take care of myself. If I encounter a difficult situation, I have to find my own solution. Maybe I don't speak the language and I have to figure out how to make myself understood. Maybe the food looks strange and I have to decide what to eat. When I travel alone, I learn about how I react in new or strange situations.

I think it is always important to do things on your own. You can find new friends, have new experiences, and learn a lot about yourself, too. Isn't that the point of travel?

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45 **PR** **Some people prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work. Others prefer to get up later in the day and work until late at night. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

I prefer getting up later in the day and staying up late at night. This routine fits my body's rhythm, my work schedule, and my social life.

I believe in following my body's natural rhythm. My body tells me to sleep until I am ready to get up and to go to bed when I am sleepy. This means I never get up early in the morning. My body tells me it likes to sleep until 10:00 or 11:00 in the morning.

Sleeping late also fits my work schedule. I prefer working in the afternoon. Since I don't have that much work to do, I can easily get it done between lunch and dinner. That's enough for me, because I need time to enjoy myself, too.

My active social life is another reason I prefer to sleep late. Who gets up early in the morning to have fun? No one. Anything amusing, such as concerts, dances, parties, or dinners, all happen at night. If I got up early in the morning, I would be too tired to enjoy myself in the evening.

I will maintain this pattern forever, I hope. I think it is always important to listen to your body. If your body tells you to stay in bed, that is what you should do. By listening to your body, you will never let work interfere with your social life.

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46 **EX** **What are the important qualities of a good son or daughter? Have these qualities changed or remained the same over time in your culture? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

The qualities that parents wish their sons and daughters to have—obedience, loyalty, respect—have not changed. Any parent will tell you that, like their ancestors, they expect these qualities from their children. However, they do not always get what they expect.

Parents expect their children to obey them. Even when their sons and daughters grow up and get married, parents still expect obedience from them. At least, that's the

way it was. Children these days still obey their parents when they are young. When they reach age 18 or 20, however, they want to make their own decisions. They want to follow their own ideas even if these ideas are against their parents' wishes.

Parents also expect loyalty from their children. If there is a dispute between families, parents expect their children to side with their own family. This is probably still very common. Most children today will support their family against others.

Parents, of course, demand respect. As children become introduced to nontraditional ways of doing things, however, this quality may not endure. Children sometimes see their parents as old-fashioned. They think their parents are too old to understand them. They lose respect for their parents.

Obedience, loyalty, and respect are virtues that are being challenged today. These days we tend to show these qualities to our parents less and less. I hope, though, that my children obey me, are loyal to me, and respect me.

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47 PR **Some people prefer to work for a large company. Others prefer to work for a small company. Which would you prefer? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

I would prefer to work in a large company rather than a small one. A large company has more to offer in terms of advancement, training, and prestige.

In a large company, I can start at an entry-level position and work my way up to the top. I can start in the mailroom and, once I know the company, I can apply for a managerial position. In a small company, there would not be as much room to grow.

In a large company there is the opportunity to learn a variety of jobs. I could work in sales, in shipping, or in any department I applied for. I could be trained in a variety of positions and would have valuable experience. In a small company, there would not be the same opportunity.

In a large company, there would be more prestige. I could brag to my friends that I worked for one of the biggest companies in the world. I would always have something to talk about when I met strangers. If I worked for a small company, I would always have to explain what the company did.

Working for a small company would not give me the same opportunities for advancement or training as working for a larger company would. Nor would I be as proud to work for a small company—unless the small company was my own.

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48 EX **People work because they need money to live. What are some other reasons that people work? Discuss one or more of these reasons. Use specific examples and details to support your answer.**

Although people work to earn money, money is not the main reason people stay in their jobs. They also work because they like to be with other people, they want to contribute something to society, and they feel a sense of accomplishment.

Many people enjoy going to work because they like being with other people. They like to interact with their coworkers and clients. They like to help people solve problems or get a product, and they like to make friends.

People also enjoy their jobs because it gives them a chance to contribute to society. Teachers educate our future generations. Doctors and nurses heal people. Manufacturers produce things that people need to use. Through work, each individual is able to do his or her part in this world.

A lot of people like to work because it gives them a sense of accomplishment. For example, people who work in factories take pride in the car they produce or the television they assemble. When they see a car on the street, they can feel a sense of accomplishment. They helped make that car.

Money is nice, but it is not the only reason people get up and go to work each day. I believe that people work because it gives them the opportunity to be with other people, to contribute to society, and to feel that they have accomplished something.

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49 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Face-to-face communication is better than other types of communication, such as letters, e-mail, or telephone calls. Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

I would have to agree that face-to-face communication is the best type of communication. It can eliminate misunderstandings immediately, cement relationships, and encourage continued interaction.

When you talk to someone directly, you can see right away if they don't understand you. A person's body language will tell you if they disagree or if they don't follow your line of thought. Then you can repeat yourself or paraphrase your argument. When you send an e-mail, the receiver may misinterpret what you want to say. He or she could even be insulted. Then you have to waste time explaining yourself in another e-mail.

When you talk face to face, you communicate with more than words. You communicate with your eyes and your hands. You communicate with your whole body. People can sense that you really want to communicate with them. This energy bonds people together. Your relationship with a person can grow much stronger when you communicate in person.

When you meet someone face to face, the interaction tends to last longer than other forms of communication. An e-mail lasts a second; a telephone call, a few minutes. When you meet someone face to face, however, you've both made an effort to be there. You will probably spend longer talking. The longer you talk, the more you say. The more you say, the stronger your relationship will be.

In summary, if you want to establish a relationship with another human being, the best way is talking face to face. When you communicate directly, you can avoid misunderstandings that may occur in writing. You can communicate on levels other than just words and you can spend more time doing it.

50 PR **Some people like to do only what they already do well. Other people prefer to try new things and take risks. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

I am not a risk taker. I like to do just those things that I am proficient at. I don't want to waste my time doing things that I don't do well. I always feel better when I do something well, and other people have a better impression of me. I don't see a good reason to try something new that I don't know how to do at all.

I don't have time to waste doing things that I don't really know how to do. For example, I don't know how to sew. I could spend a whole day trying to make a dress, and at the end of the day I still wouldn't have a dress to wear. It would be better to spend an hour buying a dress at the store. Then I could spend the rest of the day doing other things that I know I can do.

I feel good when I do a good job, but I feel terrible when I do something poorly. Once, I decided to figure my income taxes myself. But I am not an accountant and I made many mistakes. I felt very bad about it. Finally, I realized I could pay a professional accountant to do it for me. Then I could spend my time feeling good about other things that I know how to do.

When I do something well, I make a better impression on other people. If I tried to cook a meal for you, you would not have a good impression of me at all. I am a terrible cook. But I can change the oil in your car for you and I can tune up the engine. When you see me do a good job at that, you see me as a competent, accomplished mechanic instead of as a sorry cook.

Some people like to take risks and try doing new things, but I am not one of those people. When I do something that I really don't know how to do, I just end up feeling bad and I give other people a bad impression. I don't see the point of wasting my time this way.

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51 EX **Some people believe that success in life comes from taking risks or chances. Others believe that success results from careful planning. In your opinion, what does success come from? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I think that we must all take risks in our lives, but they must be calculated risks. If we look at the great explorers and scientists of history, we see that their successes were usually a combination of both risk taking and planning. Like the great thinkers, we must plan carefully, seize all opportunities, and reevaluate our plans when necessary.

It is hard to be successful without careful planning. In his search for a new route to India, Columbus drew maps, planned his route carefully, and gathered the necessary support and supplies. Madame Curie worked long hours in her laboratory and recorded every aspect of her experiments. Neither of them could have made their achievements without this planning.

Even with a careful plan, changes occur. Columbus was looking for India, but he ended up in the Caribbean instead. Lewis and Clark were looking for a river passage

west, but they discovered much more. You have to be ready to take advantage of new things as they occur.

When things go against plan, you must be ready to change direction. Columbus didn't bring back spices from the East Indies, but he did bring back gold from the Americas. It is important to make your mistakes work for you and change your plans when necessary.

You will never succeed in life if you don't take chances. But before you start, you must plan carefully so that you are ready to take advantage of every opportunity and change your plans as required.

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52 MA **What change would make your hometown more appealing to people your age? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

I think that people my age would like to have a place to go after school. They could go there to socialize, have meetings, and just relax.

In my town, there are a few teahouses, but these are reserved for our fathers and their friends. Teenagers do not go there unless it's to carry messages to their fathers. We need a place where we can get together after school to talk about school and other subjects that interest us.

At our own teahouse, we could also have meetings. These would be like club meetings. We could have a debating society, a poetry reading group, or a political club. We could have our meetings once or twice a week after school.

We need a place where we could just relax away from our families. Our home life is very hectic. There are a lot of younger children making a lot of noise in the evenings. We need a quiet place to study, read, or just sit.

If our town had a teahouse reserved for teenagers, it would be good for our parents. They would always know where we were. They would know that we were at the teahouse socializing, having a meeting, or just relaxing with our friends.

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53 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The most important aspect of a job is the money a person earns. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I certainly agree that the most important aspect of a job is the money a person earns. When I get a job, I want to earn a lot of money. If I earn a lot of money, people will know I am successful, smart, and a good candidate for marriage.

Money equals success. If I earn a lot of money, I can wear nice clothes, get a big car, buy my parents a nice apartment, and spend a lot of money on my friends. Everyone will know I am rich and very successful.

Earning a lot of money will show people how smart I am. Everyone knows you can't be stupid and earn a lot of money. Who will trust someone stupid to do a job?

When I earn a lot of money, my mother will be able to find me a good wife. She will be able to tell everyone what an important job I have. It will make it easy for her to find someone for me since all girls want to marry a rich man.

I don't care what kind of work I do as long as I earn a lot of money. That is the most important thing for me. Having a well-paying job will show everyone that I am successful, smart, and a good catch.

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54 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? One should never judge a person by external appearances. Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

In most cases, you shouldn't judge a person by external appearances. It is better to reserve judgment until you have had a chance to get to know the person. Judgments based on external appearances prevent you from really getting to know a person, reinforce stereotypes, and can lead you to conclusions that aren't true.

When you judge people by their external appearance, you lose the chance to get to know them. In high school I stayed away from students who were called "bad students" because they dressed a certain way. I wanted nothing to do with them. Later, I had a chance to meet a "bad student" because his mother was a friend of my mother. Then I realized that we actually had a lot in common. My impression of him was very different once I got to know him.

Judging people based on external appearances just reinforces stereotypes. You might think that a person with a tattoo, for example, is not a nice person. It's easy to start thinking that all people with tattoos are not nice people. Then you will never make friends with people who have tattoos or want to work with them or like to live near them. You will feel uncomfortable around them because all you will see about them is their tattoos.

Judgments based on external appearances can often lead you to conclusions that aren't true. Maybe you know someone who dresses in old, unfashionable clothes. If all you see are the clothes, it is easy to think that the person has bad taste or bad habits. But maybe the truth is different. Maybe that person comes from a less fortunate family than you and doesn't have money. Maybe the person is working hard to save money for school. You will never know if all you do is look at external appearance.

You should always take time to get to know new people before making judgments about them. External appearance often does not tell us anything about a person. Judging someone by their appearance is misleading, reinforces stereotypes, and doesn't lead to the truth. It can prevent you from making a true friend.

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55 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A person should never make an important decision alone. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

You should never make an important decision alone. You should think out your important decisions carefully, and you need other people to help you do this. People close to you can give you good advice, give you a different perspective, and share their own experiences. It is hard to make big decisions without this kind of help.

It is very important to have advice when making decisions. When I had to decide which courses to take in high school, I talked to the school counselor. He had the knowledge and expertise to help me determine which classes were best for my goals. Without his advice, I might have chosen unsuitable courses.

Getting a friend's perspective on a situation is also usually helpful. I have always loved drama, but I thought I wasn't good enough to act in the school play. When a friend of mine found this out, she was shocked. She was able to provide me with another perspective on myself and my talents. I changed my mind and decided to audition for the school play. Imagine my surprise when I got an important part.

When other people share their experiences with you, that can help you in making your decisions. When I was trying to decide if I should study overseas, I talked with a friend. She had studied overseas the year before. She really helped me because I was very unsure about my decision. After hearing about her experiences, I decided it would be a good experience for me too. I went and it was amazing.

Whenever I am faced with an important decision, I seek advice from others so that I am well-informed and have the benefit of their experience and perspective.

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56 MA **A company is going to give some money either to support the arts or to protect the environment. Which do you think the company should choose? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Deciding between supporting the arts and protecting the environment is a difficult choice to make, but I think I would choose protecting the environment. We need a healthy environment in order to survive, so we must protect it. We need to protect the environment now to help prevent health problems, to maintain the ecosystem, and to preserve the Earth for our children.

Pollution from factories and cars can cause damage to the environment. It makes the air dirty. Breathing this dirty air causes health problems, particularly for children and the elderly. We need to control the amount of pollution we produce in order to prevent health problems.

We also need to pay attention to the ecosystem. Plant life, animal life, and people all depend on each other. An unhealthy environment disturbs this ecosystem. For example, changes in the environment might cause a certain kind of plant to die. If that plant is food for a certain kind of animal, the animal will die too. If people use that animal as a food source, there could be big problems.

If we do not protect our environment now, it will continue to get worse and our children will suffer the consequences. The air and water will get dirtier, and more plants and animals will die. Our children won't have as much natural beauty to admire. Even worse, their well-being will be threatened.

Without clean air to breathe, a healthy ecosystem, and a future for our children, the human race will not survive. That's why protecting our environment is important. If we have a healthy environment, we have healthy children who can participate in and appreciate the arts.

57 PR **Some movies are serious, designed to make the audience think. Other movies are designed primarily to amuse and entertain. Which type of movie do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Movies have the power to make you laugh, cry, or think about an issue that you might not otherwise think about. Although I sometimes watch movies that are serious, I prefer movies that amuse and entertain. When I see an amusing movie, it makes me relax, laugh, and keeps me in good spirits.

After a long day at school and work, I need a break and something to take my mind off the troubles of the day. I can do that with an entertaining movie. When I watch an amusing movie, I don't have to think. I just sit back and relax. After a movie, I feel ready to get back to work and study.

Amusing movies make me laugh. Laughing is important for the soul. Laughing not only makes me feel good, it connects me with other people. When I laugh with other people, we become friends.

When I watch an entertaining movie, I feel good. When I feel good, I can focus more on important things like my studies and work. Being in good spirits makes me feel better about myself and gives me a positive outlook on life.

While I can appreciate serious movies that make you think, I prefer to be amused and entertained after a long day of work. Such movies allow me to take a break from the rigors of daily life by helping me relax, making me laugh, and putting me in a good mood.

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58 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Businesses should do anything they can to make a profit. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.**

After I get my degree, I plan to start a business. My goal is to make money, a lot of money. However, I can't forget that there are more important things in life than earning a profit. I must consider the people I work with, the customers I serve, and the community I live in.

My colleagues are a very important part of my business. Without them, I would not have a business. I depend on them to carry out the day-to-day operations. I depend on them for their advice on what to sell and how to sell it. I must compensate them for their work. I can't take a large profit without sharing with the people who made it possible.

Similarly, I would not have a business without my customers. I can never forget that they could take their business elsewhere. I must give them good value for their money. I can't overcharge them. I want my customers to trust me and keep coming back.

My employees and I are a part of the social life of our community. We must play an active part in it. I feel it is important that some of the profits my business earns from the community be returned to the community. We need to support community programs like summer jobs for high school students, campaigns to clean up parks, and efforts to make the shopping area more attractive.

A business must make profits, but we all—workers, customers, community—must profit from a successful business.

59 PR **Some people are always in a hurry to go places and get things done. Other people prefer to take their time and live life at a slower pace. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Life is short. Haste makes waste. What's your hurry? These three sayings characterize the way I manage my day-to-day chores. I don't want to rush through things; I prefer to take my time.

Life is short. You never know what may happen tomorrow, so it is important to enjoy today. By doing just a few things slowly and doing them well, you can savor the experience. You can truly enjoy what you are doing.

Haste makes waste. We are not machines. We can't just rush through our chores. If we do, we might forget something. We might take shortcuts and do a poor job. Then we'll have to do the job all over again. That certainly doesn't save us any time. By going more slowly, we can do a chore carefully, completely, and correctly.

What's your hurry? Where's the fire? I don't see any need to rush to the next experience. There's still a lot to see and learn from the chores around you. Taking care of your baby brother, for instance, can be very rewarding. If you are in a hurry to get many things done, you can just keep the baby near you while you work on other chores. Or, you could devote your whole attention to him and observe his reactions to the environment. You can't observe carefully if you are rushing to do other things at the same time.

To twist a common saying, "Don't just do something, sit there!" Take life easy and savor each minute. Life is shorter than you think.

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60 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Games are as important for children as they are for adults. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answers.**

Everyone likes to play games. Games are important at any age to keep your mind sharp, learn new things, and maintain social skills.

When you play games, you exercise your mind. This becomes more important as you grow older. By concentrating on the tactics of a game, memorizing moves, and following your opponent's strategies, you can keep your brain functioning and growing.

Playing games can teach you a lot. Games that ask questions, for example, show you what you don't know. You can learn about things like geography and history when you play certain games. It's a fun way to learn, and adults enjoy this as much as children do.

Games require the use of social skills. When you play games, you interact with other people. You have to be considerate of them and you have to play fairly. Playing games allows you to maintain personal contacts. This is important for people of all ages.

Regardless of your age, playing games can help you keep your mind alert, learn new things, and build friendships.

61 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents or other adult relatives should make important decisions for their older (15–18 year old) teenaged children. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

No one knows me as well as my parents, and no one cares about me like they do. It is natural that I should allow my parents to make important decisions for me. I think all older teenagers should take their parents advice on decisions that concern their education, their social life, and their future careers.

My parents are the ones who can make the best decisions about my education. They have always chosen the best schools for me to attend. They have hired tutors to make sure I understood my classes well. They have sent me to special prep classes to help me prepare for exams. When it is time to choose a college, I know they will choose the right college for me.

My parents make good decisions about my social life. When I was young, they invited children over to play with me. I became very close to these children and we are still friends. Even though I am older now, my parents still guide me in my social life. I know they don't want me to hang out with the wrong crowd. I know they want me to marry a good person who is right for me. They have more experience than I have and they can help me make decisions about my social life.

I need my parents to help me make decisions about my future career. Both my parents have successful careers of their own. My father runs a business and my mother is a well-known politician. I want to be as successful as they are, so of course I will listen to their advice about my career.

If all children follow their parents' wishes, they will be happier. They will be more successful in school, in work, and in their social life. After all, parents want only the best for their children.

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62 MA **What do you want most in a friend—someone who is intelligent, or someone who has a sense of humor, or someone who is reliable? Which one of these characteristics is most important to you? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your choice.**

I like people who are intelligent and I always enjoy someone with a good sense of humor. What I look for first, however, is a friend who is reliable. I need to be able to rely on my friends to provide me with companionship, to support me, and to encourage me.

I depend on my friends for companionship. If I want to see a movie or go to a concert, of course I ask some friends to accompany me. If I feel sad or lonely, I can count on my friends to spend some time with me. If I feel happy, I can invite all my friends to a party. I know they will come over to have a good time with me.

When I am having troubles, I turn to my friends for support. If I fail an exam, or have a fight with someone, I call up a friend. I rely on my friends to be willing to talk to me and help me solve my problems. I expect my friends to be there when I need them, and I do the same for them.

I need my friends to encourage me. If I am afraid to do something such as enroll in a difficult course or apply for a job to earn some extra money, my friends help

me. They talk to me and give me the confidence I need to try new and difficult things. I know I can count on them to give me encouragement when I need it.

We all like to spend time with smart and entertaining people. I think the people who make the best friends, though, are people who are reliable. If someone is reliable, you know he or she will always be ready to give you companionship, support, and encouragement when you need it. That's what friends are for, isn't it?

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63 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Most experiences in our lives that seemed difficult at the time become valuable lessons for the future. Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.**

People say that experience is the best teacher, and I believe this is true. Difficult experiences, especially, can teach us valuable lessons. They can help us overcome fears, they can teach us better ways to do things, and they can show us that we have friends who are ready to help us.

Difficult experiences can help us overcome fears. I remember the first time I had to give a presentation to my classmates. I was very shy and afraid to speak in front of the whole class. I spent a long time preparing for my presentation. I was nervous and didn't sleep well the night before. I was surprised when I gave my presentation and everyone listened. No one laughed at me. They asked questions and I could answer them. Now I know I can talk in front of the class and do a good job.

Difficult experiences can teach us better ways to do things. I had a very embarrassing experience when I took the test to get my driver's license. I didn't practice for the test because I thought I was such a good driver. But I failed. I didn't really know what to expect so I got nervous and made mistakes. I was embarrassed about my failure and my parents were disappointed. Now I know that it is always better to prepare myself for something, no matter how ready I think I am.

Difficult experiences can show us that we have friends. Once I was very sick and I missed several months of school. I thought I would have to repeat the year. I didn't have to because there were a lot of people who helped me. My teachers gave me extra time to do my work. My classmates explained the homework to me. People who I didn't even know well helped me make up the work I lost. I learned that I had friends where I hadn't expected any.

Nobody looks for difficult experiences, but we all have to go through them from time to time. They help us overcome fears, learn better ways of doing things, and show us who our friends are. These are all valuable lessons for our future.

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64 PR **Some people prefer to work for themselves or own a business. Others prefer to work for an employer. Would you rather be self-employed, work for someone else, or own a business? Use specific reasons to explain your choice.**

Many people have dreams of becoming self-employed or starting their own business, but I don't understand this. I think it is much better to work for someone else. When I work for someone else, I don't have to take risks or make difficult decisions

alone. I have someone to tell me what to do, someone to evaluate my work, and most important of all, someone to give me a regular paycheck.

As an employee, I don't have to decide what to do every day. My employer gives me work to do and she gives me deadlines for it. I don't have to worry about what needs to be done next on a project. That's my employer's job. Without this worry, I can just focus on getting the job done right.

When I have an employer, I never have to wonder if my work is good or bad. My employer tells me if I did a good job, or if I need to do something over again. I don't have to worry if a client will like my work or if a product is good enough to sell. That is my employer's concern. My employer lets me know how my work is and if necessary, I will do it again or do it better the next time.

I know I will get a paycheck every two weeks when I work for someone else. I don't have to worry if the clients have paid or if we have sold enough merchandise. If I go to work every day, I get my paycheck on a regular basis. I work so I can get paid and I want to be able to be sure of receiving my money.

Many people want to feel independent and that is why they want their own business. For me, however, it is more important to feel secure. I feel secure knowing that I have an employer to give me directions, evaluate my work, and pay me regularly. That is why I prefer to work for someone else.

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65 MA Should a city try to preserve its old, historic buildings or destroy them and replace them with modern buildings? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Of course a city should preserve its old, historic buildings. New buildings can always be built, but old ones can never be replaced. They are usually more beautiful than modern buildings, they represent the city's history, and they can even help the city by attracting tourists. Historic buildings should always be preserved.

Old buildings are usually very beautiful. Depending on when they were built, they show different periods of architecture. They have a lot of character. They were made by hand, the old-fashioned way. You can feel the personalities of the people who built them and of the people who have lived and worked in them. Modern buildings, on the other hand, are usually not so beautiful. They seem like impersonal giants that have no character.

Old buildings represent a city's history. Important things may have taken place in an old building. Maybe a peace treaty was signed there or an important meeting took place. A famous person may have lived there. Maybe it was a former president or a famous writer. When we have historic buildings around us, we learn more about our history and we appreciate it.

Old buildings attract tourists to a city. People want to see old buildings because they are beautiful or because important things happened in them. If a city has a lot of old, interesting buildings, many tourists will visit the city. That is good for the city's economy. People usually don't visit a city in order to see its modern buildings.

A city's old, historic buildings are among its greatest treasures. They are a source of beauty and a representation of history. It would be a crime to try to replace them.

66 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Classmates are a more important influence than parents on a child's success in school. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I believe that parents have more influence on a child's school success than classmates do. Classmates have an important social influence on each other, especially as they get older, but the influence of parents is stronger than this. Parents are the most important model a child has, parents love their children, and they have expectations of them. All of these things are important influences on a child's success in school.

Parents are important role models for their children. Young children like to copy other children, but they like to copy adults more. When children see their parents read, they read too. When children hear their parents talk about books or news or politics, they will think these are interesting subjects, too. Children may learn other things from their classmates, but the examples they get from their parents are stronger.

Parents are the most important people who love and care for a child. Children know how important this is, and they love their parents, too. They may have close friends in school, but their feelings for their parents are more important. If they feel loved and cared for at home, they will have the necessary confidence to do well in school.

Parents have expectations for their children. They expect them to behave well and be good people and be successful in school. Children want to please their parents so they try to fulfill their parents' expectations. They want to be nice to their classmates and get along with them, but this is not the same as fulfilling their parents' expectations.

Many people have influence on children while they are growing up, but parents are the ones who have the strongest influence. They are the most important role models their children have, they love them the most, and they have the greatest expectations of them. Nobody can influence a child more than a parent can.

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67 PR **If you were an employer, which kind of worker would you prefer to hire: an inexperienced worker at a lower salary or an experienced worker at a higher salary? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

If I were an employer, I would prefer to hire an inexperienced worker at a lower salary. Of course it would save me money, at least at first. I could also train an inexperienced person exactly as I want, and he or she might be willing to work longer hours, as well.

As an employer, my first concern is money. I have to make sure the business brings in more money than it spends. When I save on salaries, I save a lot of money. I don't want to pay my employees less than the salary they expect, but I want to save on salaries when I can. Hiring inexperienced workers is one way to do this.

I like to train my employees to work according to my company's methods. Experienced people are used to doing things a certain way. If they get their experience at

another company first, it is hard to change their methods when they come to my company. It is much easier to train inexperienced workers to follow my company's methods.

I don't like to ask my employees to work overtime, but sometimes I have to. Sometimes we have a lot of work to do in a short period of time. Inexperienced workers want to gain experience, so they more often volunteer to work extra hours.

People may think it is not good for a company to hire inexperienced workers, but I disagree. I think everyone benefits this way. The workers get training and experience and the company saves money. I think it is the best plan.

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68 MA **Many teachers assign homework to students every day. Do you think that daily homework is necessary for students? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

I believe that daily homework is not necessary. Students already spend most of the day in school. They need their time outside of school to do other things. They need time to spend with their families, to work, and to just relax. They can learn their lessons with homework two or three times a week, but every day isn't necessary.

All students need to spend time with their families. They are still young and they need the guidance and support their parents can give them. They need the companionship of their brothers and sisters. In addition, many families rely on their older children to help out at home. They take care of the younger children and help with the cooking and cleaning. If students have too much homework, they won't have time for their families.

Many high school students have jobs. They go to their jobs after school and on weekends. Some work in order to help their families. Others work to save money for college. Students' jobs are important to them. If they have too much homework, they won't have time and energy to go to work.

Students need time to relax. They study hard in school all day and many work at jobs after school. But they are still young. They need to spend time with their friends and have fun. When students relax with friends, they then have more energy for school and work. They have a chance to develop social skills or to pursue their own interests. Having free time is important for a child's development. If students have too much homework, they won't have time for relaxation.

Homework is important for students, but other things are important, too. Some homework is good, but daily homework can take time away from a student's family, job, and relaxation. There needs to be a balance.

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69 MA **If you could study a subject that you have never had the opportunity to study, what would you choose? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.**

I have always been interested in art and literature, so people will think my choice is strange. If I could study something I have never had the opportunity to study, I would choose calculus. If I could actually learn something as difficult as that, it

would give me a lot of confidence. Besides that, I think I would like it and it could help me learn some useful skills.

The only mathematics I have studied are the required courses in high school. I finished those requirements early and since then I have chosen to study other subjects. I never liked my math classes and I didn't do well in them. I have always thought that I couldn't learn math. But now I would like to try it. I think if I made the effort, I could learn calculus. If I learned calculus, I would feel very smart.

I like art and literature because I like beauty and creativity. I never liked math because I didn't think it was beautiful and creative. I like solving problems, however. And I might actually discover something beautiful and creative about math. I think if I tried studying calculus, I would actually like it.

There are some new skills I would like to develop. There are some electrical problems in my house and I would like to learn how to fix them myself. I would like to learn how to do repair work on my CD player or even on my computer. If I learned calculus, it would help me develop the skills I need to do these things.

I think it would be really interesting to try learning something completely new. For me, calculus would be a big challenge. If I learned it, I would feel smart, I would enjoy myself, and I could develop new skills. It would be a big accomplishment for me.

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70 MA **Some people think that the automobile has improved modern life. Others think that the automobile has caused serious problems. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

There is no question that the automobile has improved modern life. It has opened up job opportunities to people, it has allowed families to stay connected, and it has given people the chance to travel to new places. The automobile is one of the best modern inventions.

With an automobile, a person has more choices of places to work. He can work near his home or farther away. He can even take a job in another city without having to go there to live. Without an automobile, a person can work only near his home or near a bus stop. His choices are much more limited.

With an automobile, it is much easier for a person to visit his family. Families these days often become separated. When children grow up, they find jobs in other cities. If they have cars, it is easy for them to visit their parents and other relatives whenever they want to. Without an automobile, they have to spend time and money taking a bus or train. It is not easy to visit their relatives as often.

With an automobile, a person can explore new places. He can just get in the car and drive wherever he wants to go, whenever he wants to. He has the opportunity to see new places and new people. He learns more about the world. Without an automobile, a person can go only where the bus, train, or plane takes him. It is not very convenient.

The automobile has greatly improved modern life. It has opened up new worlds and new opportunities to people. It has made many things possible. Where would we be without it?

71 MA **Which would you choose—a high-paying job with long hours that would give you little time with family and friends or a lower-paying job with shorter hours that would give you more time with family and friends? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.**

At this time in my life I would definitely choose a higher-paying job even if I had to work long hours. If I want a good future, first I have to gain experience, move up in my company, and save a lot of money. I will have plenty of time for friends and family later, after I get a good start on my career.

When I finish school, I will have a lot of knowledge. I won't have any experience, however. I can get experience only by working. I want a lot of experience so that I can be among the best in my career. The only way to get experience is to work a lot of hours.

I want to have a high position in my company. I don't want to be just an employee, I want to be a supervisor, and someday, director or president. I can't do this if I work only forty hours a week. The only way to move up is to work long hours.

Living a comfortable life is important to me. I want to have a nice house, fashionable clothes, and a couple of cars. When I get married, I want my family to have nice things too. This takes money. The best time to save money is now, before I have a family. The only way to save a lot of money is to work hard and earn a high salary.

A high-paying job with long hours will give me the experience, opportunities, and money that I want. After I reach a high position in my company and have a big bank account, I can take all the free time I want to relax with friends and family.

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72 AD **Do you agree or diagree with the following statement? Grades (marks) encourage students to learn. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

Grades are very important for students. Without grades, students don't know how well they are doing in class. They don't have a goal to study for. They don't have anything to show their parents. Students need grades to help them be motivated to learn.

Grades show students their progress in class. A student might work very hard to write a report. Without a grade, how does the student know if the report is good or bad? Without a grade, how can a student know if she is improving?

Grades give students a goal. A good grade is like a reward. If a student receives 100% on a test, he feels like all his hard work was worthwhile. If a student gets a bad grade, he will study harder next time so he can improve his grade.

Grades give students something to show their parents. Students want to please their parents. They want to work hard so they can show them good grades. When parents see good grades, they know their children are studying and learning. If the grades aren't good, the parents know they have to give their children extra help and support.

Grades are an important part of education. All students want to get good grades, so they will study hard to get them. Grades show students their progress, present them with a goal, and give them something to show their parents. Grades motivate students to learn.

73 MA **Some people say that computers have made life easier and more convenient. Other people say that computers have made life more complex and stressful. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Almost everything these days is done with the help of a computer. Computers make communication much more convenient. They make many tasks of daily life easier. They help many people do their jobs better. Overall, computers have made life easier and more convenient for everybody.

Through the Internet, computers make communication much more convenient. E-mail makes it possible to communicate with people instantly at any time of day. This is important for both our work and our personal lives. The Internet makes it possible to find out the latest news right away—even if it is news that happens someplace far away. The Internet makes it possible to get almost any kind of information from anyplace quickly, right in your own home or office.

Although we may not realize it, computers make many daily tasks easier. Checkout lines at stores move faster because a computer scans the prices. The bank manages your account more easily because of computers. The weatherman reports the weather more accurately with the help of computers. A computer is involved in almost everything we do, or that is done for us.

Most people these days do their jobs with the help of a computer. Architects use computer programs to help them design buildings. Teachers use computers to write their lessons and get information for their classes. Pilots use computers to help them fly planes. With the help of computers, people can do complicated jobs more easily.

We are living in the computer age. We can now do more things and do them more easily than we could before. Our personal and professional lives have improved because of computers.

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74 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

When I travel, I always prefer to go with a group led by a tour guide. The tour guide makes all the necessary arrangements for the trip. The tour guide knows the best places to visit. The tour guide is familiar with the local language and customs. When I travel with a tour guide, the only thing I have to do is relax and enjoy myself.

If I travel in a group with a tour guide, I don't have to worry about arranging the trip. I just look for a group that is going to a place I like, and I let the tour guide take care of the rest. The tour guide makes the hotel reservations and chooses the restaurants and plans the activities for each day. I don't have to worry about anything because the guide does everything for me.

If I travel in a group with a tour guide, I don't have to figure out which places to visit. The tour guide knows which are the best museums. The tour guide knows where the good beaches are and which stores have the best prices. If I had to figure

this out myself, I might make the wrong choices. With a tour guide, I am sure of having the best possible experience on my trip.

If I travel in a group with a tour guide, I don't have to know the local language and customs. The tour guide knows the language and can speak for the group when necessary. The tour guide knows when the local holidays are, or how to dress appropriately for each situation. I don't have to worry about confusions with the language or customs because the tour guide can help me.

When I go on vacation, I want to relax. I don't want to worry about making hotel reservations, or learning the museum schedules, or speaking the local language. A tour guide can take care of all these things for me, and I can have a good time.

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75 MA **Some universities require students to take classes in many subjects. Other universities require students to specialize in one subject. Which is better? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Universities offer opportunities to study many different subjects and university students should take advantage of this. Studying many subjects can help students better prepare for their careers. It can also help them become responsible members of society and can add to their personal enjoyment, as well.

Studying many subjects can help students be better prepared for their careers. A doctor doesn't need to know only about medicine, for example. She also needs to know how to respond to patients' emotional needs. She might need to know about accounting and legal contracts so she can run her own office. Each profession requires certain specialized skills, but all professionals also need other, more general skills in order to do their jobs well.

Studying many subjects can help students become more responsible members of society. They need to understand the economic and social issues of their communities so that they can vote responsibly. They might want to do volunteer work at a community organization. They will need to be able to educate their children, no matter what their children's abilities and interests are. They will need to know about more than just their profession in order to do these things.

Studying many subjects can add a great deal of enjoyment to a student's life. If students understand art and music, they will get a lot of enjoyment from museums and concerts. If they study literature, they will continue to read good books. Life is about more than just career. If students know about a lot of subjects, they will get a lot out of life.

Some university students think only about their careers. If the choice is left to them, they might only study courses for their future profession. They will have a much better future, however, if they study subjects in addition to their career. Therefore, universities should require students to take classes in many subjects.

76 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Children should begin studying a foreign language as soon as they start school.**

Children should begin studying a foreign language as soon as they start school. Childhood is the best time to learn a foreign language. It is easier at that time, it contributes to a child's development, and it helps children expand their knowledge.

Everybody knows that it is much easier to learn foreign languages when you are young. Children's minds are ready to learn many new things. When children learn foreign languages, they learn them as well as their native language. If they wait until they are older to study a language, it is much harder to become fluent.

Many studies have shown that learning a language helps the child's mind develop. Children who learn foreign languages also do better in their other subjects. It helps their intellect develop more. This isn't so true for older students.

Learning foreign languages can help children expand their knowledge of the world. If they learn a foreign language, they will be interested in the people who speak that language. They will want to know about their country and customs. They will want to understand them instead of becoming afraid of them because they are different.

Learning a foreign language has many advantages for everybody. It contributes to our intellectual development and our understanding of the world. The younger a language student is, the more advantages he or she gets from learning the language. So, the best time for a child to start studying a foreign language is when he or she starts school.

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77 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Boys and girls should attend separate schools. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I don't think it is a good idea for boys and girls to attend separate schools. They will not be separated when they finish school and start their careers, so why should they be separated in school? When boys and girls study together, they are assured of getting equal quality of education, they learn how to work together, and they learn how to become friends. It is a much better preparation for life than studying in separate schools.

When boys and girls attend the same school, they get equal education. They are in the same classrooms with the same teachers studying from the same books. If they attend separate schools, the schools might be different. One school might be better than the other. By studying together, girls get the same education as boys. This helps them work toward having equality in society.

By attending the same schools, boys and girls learn how to work together. Some people say they should study separately because they have different learning styles. I think it's better to study together, however. It gives them the chance to learn to work together despite their differences. This will help them in the future when they have to work together professionally.

When boys and girls see each other in school every day, they have the chance to become friends. They see each other as normal people, not as strangers. If they attend separate schools, they don't know each other. It's easy to misunderstand, or even fear, each other. When boys and girls have the chance to become friends, their lives are much richer. They will have better relationships in the future.

By studying together, boys and girls get equal education, they learn to work together, and they become friends. This prepares them for adult life where men and women live and work together everyday.

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78 MA **Is it more important to be able to work with a group of people on a team or to work independently? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.**

The ability to work on a team is one of the most important job skills to have. It is usually necessary because most jobs involve teamwork. It is usually the best way to work because a team can get more work done than an individual. In addition, a worker on a team has a lot of support from his coworkers.

Most work is done in groups or teams. Professionals work with their professional colleagues, and they also usually have assistants and support staff. Construction workers work with other construction workers, auto mechanics work with other auto mechanics; they all have assistants, and almost nobody works alone. It is necessary for all coworkers to get along and work well together.

More work can be done by a team than by individuals working alone. On a team, each member is responsible for one part of the job. Each member has to concentrate only on her part and do it as well as possible. Then all the parts are put together and the job is done. An individual working alone has to worry about every aspect of the job. He might not do such a good job because he has to think about everything at once.

A worker on a team has the advantage of support from his coworkers. If a worker can't finish a job on time or doesn't understand a task or needs help planning, he has a group of people to help him. The team supports him and he can get the job done. An individual working alone has to solve all her problems herself. She has to stop work while she finds a solution, or do a poor job.

Most jobs involve teamwork. Teams can usually do a better job than an individual working alone. A person who cannot work well on a team will have a hard time in today's workplace.

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79 EX **Your city has decided to build a statue or monument to honor a famous person in your country. Who would you choose? Use reasons and specific examples to support your choice.**

The person I would choose to honor is not one specific famous person, but a famous type of person. I come from a small rural town. Most people here are farmers, so I would choose a farmer as the subject for a statue. The farmers of my town

deserve the honor. They work hard so the rest of the country can eat, but they are not rich. They deserve to be appreciated.

The farmers in my town make an important contribution to our country. They grow the food that the rest of the country eats. Our major products are corn and milk. These things are a basic part of everyone's diet. Without our farmers, it would be harder and more expensive for people to have these things to eat.

The farmers in my town are not rich even though they work hard. A farmer's job begins at sunrise and doesn't stop until dark. A farmer rarely has a chance to take a vacation because there are always things to do on a farm. Farming is not a profitable business. If the weather is bad one year, there might be no profits at all. Still, farmers do their work because people need to eat.

The farmers in my town work hard, but they are not appreciated. People in other parts of the country don't pay much attention to my town. Nobody comes to visit because there are no tourist attractions. Nobody wants to work here because there aren't many professional jobs. Nobody thinks about the contributions our farmers make. They just buy our products in the stores without thinking about the work it takes to put them there.

Nobody thinks about the farmers in my town, but they deserve to be honored. They work hard to grow food for everyone in the country. I think we should put a big, shiny statue of a farmer in the middle of our town park. It would make everyone in town feel proud.

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80 EX **Describe a custom from your country that you would like people in other countries to adopt. Explain your choice using specific reasons and examples.**

In my country, many people in the towns still follow an old custom that people in the cities no longer practice. This is the custom of taking a big break at noon. In the towns, all stores and businesses close from noon until 2:00 P.M. This not only gives people a needed rest in the middle of the day, it also allows them time with their families and contributes to a slower pace of life.

In the towns, all workers get a good rest in the middle of the day. They go home, enjoy a nice meal, take a nap, and then they return to work for the rest of the afternoon. They have energy and enthusiasm for the rest of the day's work. Their afternoons can be as productive as their mornings. Without this rest, they might be tired all afternoon and not get much work done.

In the towns, most families eat their noon meal together. They have time to enjoy their food, talk about their morning activities with each other, and just be together. It is good for families to have this time together. Parents hear about their children's activities. Husbands and wives learn about each other's daily concerns. Without this opportunity, families might not be together until evening. They are usually tired then and just want to rest.

In the towns, there is a slower pace of life. Nobody can do any business at lunchtime. They have to wait until the afternoon. Because of this, people don't expect things to be done in a hurry. They have more patience. If something doesn't get done today, it doesn't matter. This is a much healthier way to live.

A big rest at noon contributes to a better quality of life. In the towns, people don't worry about getting a lot of work done fast. They are more interested in spending time with their families and enjoying their lives. I think that in the long run this actually improves work. In any case, it is a better way to live. I think everyone everywhere should follow the custom of taking a big break at noon.

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81 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Technology has made the world a better place to live. Use specific reasons and examples to support your statement.**

Technology has made our lives better in many ways, but it has also made them more complicated. Technology is often expensive to buy and run, it can be difficult to use, and it often isn't easy to repair.

Technology isn't cheap. The more technology we depend on in our daily lives, the more money we have to spend. Everybody wants a modern TV, a digital camera, a DVD player, etc. Even though these things might be considered luxuries, people want them. In addition, some technology is more than a luxury. For example, teachers nowadays expect their students to have computers at home for their schoolwork. Parents have to buy the latest computers so their children can keep up with their classmates. This can be a real hardship for some families.

Technology isn't always easy to use. In fact, it is getting more and more complicated. The computers of today do many more things than the computers of even just five or ten years ago. That means a lot more things that computer users have to learn how to do. Even a simple thing like using a VCR to record a movie takes some practice and learning.

Technology isn't easy to repair. If the average person has a problem with his computer or DVD player, he probably doesn't know how to fix it himself. He'll have to spend time and money taking it to a place to get fixed. In the past, a lot of people enjoyed doing routine maintenance work on their cars. Modern technology has made today's cars more complicated. It is harder to learn how to repair and maintain them.

People think modern technology has made our lives easier. In a way this is true, but in other ways it has made our lives much less convenient. Modern technology costs us money and time and can add complications to our lives.

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82 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Advertising can tell you a lot about a country. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Advertising is like a window onto the life of a country. It tells a lot about the people there. Advertisements show what kinds of things the people in a country like to buy. It shows what kinds of situations are attractive to them. It even shows whether or not the people tend to be affluent. You can learn a lot by looking at advertisements.

By looking at advertisements, you can see what kinds of things people like to buy. Are there more advertisements for soda or for juice? For movies or for music? For

vacations or for furniture? You can see what kinds of food people prefer, how they like to spend their free time, or what they save their money for. You can learn just about anything about the average lifestyle in a country.

By looking at advertisements, you can see what kinds of situations are attractive to people. If an ad shows someone driving a car freely down an open highway in beautiful scenery, you can see that people value feeling free. If an ad shows a professional-looking person in an expensive car in front of an elegant house or office building, you will know that people value success.

By looking at advertisements, you can know whether or not a country is affluent. If ads are usually about food, clothes, and other necessities of life, the people in the country may not have a lot of money. If more ads are for luxury items and expensive, high-quality products, then you know that more people in that country have money.

Advertisements can tell you a lot about a country. They show how the people there live. They show what the people want to buy and can buy. Ads give a picture of a country's daily life.

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83 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?**
Modern technology is creating a single world culture.
Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Modern technology is creating a single world culture. This is because it is now much easier to communicate with people who are far away. Satellite TV, modern transportation, and the Internet have all brought people closer together. People the world over share the same sources of information and this leads to the creation of a single world culture.

Because TV is broadcast by satellite, TV programs can be received anywhere in the world. Now people in every part of the world can have access to all the same TV programs. Everybody knows that TV is one of the biggest cultural influences there is. When people everywhere see the same news, educational, and entertainment programs, they move toward the development of a single world culture.

Because modern methods of transportation are fast, a trip to a faraway place becomes easy. People from all different places are together more now than they ever were before. They can see how people in other countries dress, eat, and spend their time. People have more exposure to customs from other countries and might start to adopt some of those customs. This also contributes to the development of a single world culture.

Because of the Internet, people have access to information and news from all over the world. They can communicate easily with people far away and share sources of information. This can do a lot toward international understanding but it can also have another result. When people share sources of information on the Internet, they come more and more under the same cultural influence. They move toward the creation of a single world culture.

Modern communications technology has brought people from all around the world closer together. People these days have more and more opportunities to share ideas and information. In this way they are coming more and more under the same cultural influence. A single world culture is being created.

84 MA **Some people think the Internet provides people with a lot of valuable information. Others think access to so much information creates problems. Which view do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

The Internet provides us with a lot of valuable information. This is important because it keeps us informed about the world today, contributes to children's education, and even helps us shop better. It helps improve our lives in many ways.

When we want to know the latest news, we can just go to the Internet and get it right away. We don't have to wait for a news program on TV or the radio. We also don't have to listen to just one source of news. On the Internet we can get news from different newspapers and different countries. We can get information from different points of view. This greatly contributes to our understanding of current events.

When children need information for their schoolwork, they can find it on the Internet. Most schoolchildren these days do their research on-line. They have access to more information than they could probably find in their school libraries, and they can get the information more easily. In addition, any time a child wants to know something or needs the answer to a question, he can probably find it on-line.

When we want to buy something, we can usually get the information we need for our purchase on-line. Of course you can order almost anything you want on the Internet, but this isn't the most important part. On the Internet it is easy to find information about the quality of different products and to compare prices. This really matters if you plan to buy something expensive.

The ability to get information from the Internet has improved our lives in many ways. We can learn more about the news, improve our children's education, and become more informed shoppers. The Internet is one of the most important tools we have in modern society.

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85 MA **A foreign visitor has only one day to spend in your country. Where should this visitor go on that day? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

A foreign visitor with only one day to spend in my country should definitely spend that day in the capital. Spending time in the capital is the easiest way to see many aspects of our country in one place. In this city, the visitor can learn about our history, see examples of our culture, and buy our best products.

Our country's history is represented in several ways throughout the city. In the Government Palace, a visitor can learn about the history of our independence. In our National Museum, a visitor can see exhibits that show all the different stages of our history, from ancient times to the present. In parks all around the city, a visitor can see monuments to famous historical people and events.

It is also possible to see different representations of our culture throughout the city. Our art museums and galleries show paintings and sculptures by our artists. Plays written by national playwrights are performed in the theaters. Folk ballet performances show examples of our traditional dances. Many restaurants in the capital serve our native dishes.

The best products of our country are sold in the capital city. The large department stores sell clothes, furniture, and household items manufactured in our country. The Central Market sells fruit and vegetables from the surrounding agricultural region. Tourist and craft shops sell native handicrafts made in the countryside.

The capital city is the best place to learn a lot about our country in one place. Of course, it is difficult to see all of the city's attractions in one day. With some planning, though, it is possible to see at least a few examples of our country's history, culture, and products in one day.

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86 MA **If you could go back to some time and place in the past, when and where would you go? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

If I could go back to a time and place in the past, I would go back to ancient Egypt. I would like to find out how they built the pyramids. People today cannot understand how the ancient Egyptians cut the stones so precisely, how they moved them to the building site, and how they lifted such heavy stones to build the pyramid walls. I would like to solve this mystery.

The stones that were used to build the pyramids were cut very precisely. All the stones fit together exactly without any space between them. How were the ancient Egyptians able to cut the stone blocks so well? Nobody knows.

The stones that were used to build the pyramids are very heavy. They weigh several tons each. The ancient Egyptians didn't have any kind of motorized machinery to move them around. Yet, they got the stones from one place and moved them to another place to build the pyramids. How were they able to do this? Nobody today can figure it out.

The pyramids are very tall. They were built by placing stone blocks on top of each other. The ancient Egyptians didn't have any cranes or other type of modern lifting equipment. Yet they built huge pyramids out of heavy stone blocks. How did they do this? We still aren't able to understand.

One of the great mysteries of the ancient world is the Egyptian pyramids. Nobody knows how the Egyptians cut, transported, and lifted heavy stones to build the pyramids. If I could go back to ancient Egypt, I could find this out. Then I would return to the modern world and tell everyone the answer.

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87 MA **What discovery in the last 100 years has been most beneficial for people in your country? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

A discovery that has been beneficial to people in my country and everywhere is the use of electricity. Electricity has made the development of modern technology possible. Without electricity we wouldn't have modern communications technology, we wouldn't have computers, we wouldn't even have electric light. Almost everything about modern life depends on electricity.

Electricity has made modern communications technology possible. Telephones, television, and radio all depend on electricity. Because we have these things, we can communicate with friends and business associates instantly. We can hear the latest news almost as soon as it happens. We can follow the newest developments in music. Both our personal and professional lives are completely different now from what they were 100 years ago.

If we didn't have electricity, we wouldn't have computers. We use computers in almost every aspect of our lives. We use them to get information in school. We use them to make our jobs easier. Computers help people fly airplanes and design buildings. We couldn't do many of the things we do today without computers. And we couldn't use computers without electricity.

Because of electricity, it is easier to light up buildings and streets at night. This seems so simple that sometimes we forget it. Before electricity, people used candles. It was hard to read at night, to go anywhere, or to do any work. Now we can live our lives as fully at night as we do during the day. We can work or play at any hour we choose. It really is an amazing thing.

Electricity has made many things possible in modern life. We wouldn't have any modern technology without it. It is the most important discovery of the modern world.

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88 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Telephone and e-mail have made communications between people less personal. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

Some people think that telephone and e-mail have made communication between people less personal, but I disagree. If anything, they have made communication more personal. This is because these types of communication are easy, informal, and inexpensive.

It is easy to communicate with someone by phone or e-mail. You just pick up the phone or turn on the computer, and that's it. E-mail is especially easy because you can send your message at any time. If the receiver isn't available when you send the message, it doesn't matter. The message will be there when she's ready to answer. Because this sort of communication is so easy, people communicate more frequently. This brings them closer together, so it becomes a more personal form of communication.

Communication by phone or by e-mail is informal. On the phone you converse with someone as informally as you do in person. When you write e-mail messages, you usually use less formal styles of writing. Traditional letters, on the other hand, have formal conventions that the writer must follow. Even friendly letters have certain rules to follow. Communication that is informal is more personal than formal communication.

Telephones and e-mail are inexpensive to use. Nowadays even long distance phone calls are cheap, and local ones are free. E-mail costs nothing if you already own a computer. Letters are cheap, but seeing someone in person isn't always. Even

if the person lives nearby, it still costs something for the bus or gasoline to go meet them somewhere, and it takes time, too. Since e-mail and telephone are cheap, people communicate more frequently and, therefore, more personally.

Some people think you have to meet face to face in order to have personal communication, but this isn't so. Telephones and e-mail make frequent communication convenient. They help maintain personal relationships.

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89 MA **If you could travel back in time to meet a famous person from history, what person would you like to meet? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

If I could meet a famous person from history, I would like to meet Leonardo da Vinci. There has probably been no other person like him in all of history. He was a talented artist and an imaginative inventor. He was a unique person and I would like to know what that felt like.

Da Vinci's artistic talents are well known. The Mona Lisa is, of course, his most famous painting. It is beautiful, and he painted and drew many other beautiful works of art as well. I like to draw and paint, too. Of course my talent will never approach da Vinci's, but it would be inspiring to meet him.

Da Vinci invented many things. For example, he made drawings of a flying machine. This was centuries before the first airplane was ever built. Perhaps his inventions never became reality in his life, but he still was able to imagine them. He created things in his mind that were well ahead of his time. I think this is amazing and inspiring.

Da Vinci was a smart and talented person. His ideas were well ahead of his time. There was no one else like him around. I wonder what that felt like. It must have been difficult at least some of the time. If I could meet him, I could ask him about this.

To tell the truth, I haven't read much about da Vinci. I would like to learn more about him, however, because of his unique talents and ideas. It would be an inspiring experience to meet him.

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90 MA **If you could meet a famous entertainer or athlete, who would that be, and why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

If I could meet a famous entertainer, I would like to meet Madonna. She used to be an ordinary person, and now she has achieved fame, power, and money. I think that is amazing. I have never met anybody like her.

Madonna was a normal college student and now she is famous all over the world. She worked hard to make her name known. There are better actors and singers than she is, but few people are as famous. Her goal was to become famous, and she made it happen. I think that is admirable.

Madonna is one of the most powerful people in the entertainment industry. People pay attention to what she says. Everybody listens to her music. She can set fashions. Teenagers everywhere like to dress like her. She can do whatever she wants in both her business and personal life. I have never met such a person.

Madonna has a lot of money. She owns several houses. She can travel anywhere she wants to go. She pays a lot of people to work for her. It would be interesting to meet a person with so much money.

Madonna was an ordinary person who became famous, powerful, and rich. I am an ordinary person too. I would like to meet Madonna to learn how she made these achievements.

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91 EX **If you could ask a famous person one question, what would you ask? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

If I could ask a famous person one question, I would ask Neil Armstrong what it felt like to walk on the moon. Sometimes I think it would be scary; sometimes I think it would be fun. On the other hand, maybe Neil Armstrong was too busy to feel scared or have fun while he was walking on the moon.

I think it could be very scary to go to walk on the moon. Neil Armstrong was the first person to do it. He was well prepared for the event, but he still couldn't be sure what he would find. Also, maybe he worried that something might happen. What if he had a problem with his oxygen or couldn't get back to the spaceship on time? I wonder if he thought about these things, or if he just did his job.

On the other hand, maybe Neil Armstrong had fun walking on the moon. The gravity is different so just taking steps would feel different. I think that would be fun. If I went to the moon, I would want to run and jump and shout, "Hurray! I am on the moon!" I wonder if Armstrong felt that way.

Maybe Armstrong didn't have time to feel scared or happy or anything else. He had a very important job to do. The whole world was watching him. He had to be serious and focus on his work. His time was short. He probably didn't have time for anything except to get his job done.

It can be a scary thing or a fun adventure to do something for the first time. Being the first person to walk on the moon is one of the most incredible adventures of all time. I would like to meet Neil Armstrong so I could ask him how it felt.

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92 PR **Some people prefer to live in places that have the same weather or climate all year long. Others like to live in areas where the weather changes several times a year. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

I would prefer to live in a place that has warm weather all year. My life would be easier and more comfortable this way. I would be healthier, I would have more fun, and I would save money if I lived in a warm climate.

I would always be healthy if I lived in a warm climate. Where I live now, I get sick every winter. I wouldn't have this problem in a warm climate. Also, I could be outside all year long. I would play sports and get more exercise. That would make me healthier, too.

I would have more fun if I lived in a warm climate. I like outdoor activities. I like going to the beach, playing soccer, and riding my bicycle. I can't do these things in cold weather. In a warm climate, I could do my favorite activities all year long.

I would save money if I lived in a warm climate. It costs money to heat a house in the winter. This can get very expensive. I wouldn't have this expense in a warm climate. It costs money to buy new clothes every time the season changes. In a warm climate, I could wear the same clothes all year.

My life would be better in a warm climate. My health, my free time activities, and my bank account would all improve. In fact, I plan to move to a warm climate as soon as I finish school.

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93 MA **Many students have to live with a roommate while going to school or university. What are some of the important qualities of a good roommate? Use specific reasons and examples to explain why these qualities are important.**

It is important to have a good roommate. A good roommate can become your best friend, but a bad roommate can be your worst enemy. A good roommate is considerate, flexible, and fun.

A good roommate is considerate of your needs. He doesn't make noise when you want to sleep or study. He doesn't plan a party or use your things without asking. A good roommate doesn't think only about himself; he thinks about you, too.

A good roommate is flexible. He can adjust to your habits. If you are neat and your roommate is messy, for example, you each try to change a little bit. Your roommate tries to be a little neater and you try to live with a little mess.

Finally, a good roommate is fun. If he knows about a party or a concert, he invites you to go with him. He introduces you to his friends. You plan some free time activities together. A good roommate may be serious about his studies, but he knows that it is important to have fun, too.

It is great to have a roommate who can be your friend, too. If your roommate is considerate, flexible, and fun, you are sure to get along well together.

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94 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Dancing plays an important role in a culture. Use specific reaons and examples to support your answer.**

I agree that dancing plays an important role in a culture. It keeps us connected with our traditions, it brings people together, and it helps people release energy.

Folk dances keep us connected with our traditions. Folk dances were developed hundreds of years ago. People used to dance together to celebrate important events, such as harvests or weddings. When we dance folk dances now, we are connected to our ancestors. We do the same dances they did and remember the things that were important to them.

Dancing brings people together. When we dance at an event such as a birthday or graduation party, we celebrate a happy occasion together. We might go out dancing with our friends on weekends. Then we celebrate being together and enjoying life. Dancing is a way of enjoying good times together.

When we dance, we release energy. We work hard all week at school or at our jobs. At the end of the week, we feel stress. We need a change of activity and a

way to relax. Dancing is a good way to do this. When we dance, we can release all our extra energy, and any frustrations or anger we might feel. We relax and have fun. Then we can feel ready start a new week of work and school

Dancing keeps us connected to our traditions and to each other. It helps us release energy so we can perform our responsibilities at work and school. These are important roles that dancing plays in our culture.

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95 AD **Some people think governments should spend as much money as possible exploring outer space (for example, traveling to the moon and other planets). Other people disagree and think governments should spend this money for our basic needs on Earth. Which of these two opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

I believe that we should spend whatever money is required to explore outer space. It is true that we have many needs here on Earth, and many problems to solve. Exploring outer space, however, has invaluable benefits for people on Earth. It helps medical research, it leads to useful inventions, and it can help solve our overpopulation problem. I think space exploration is worth the cost.

Research carried out in space contributes a great deal to medical science. There is some research that can be conducted only in space. The research on the effects of gravity on bone marrow is one example. Research such as this will continue to contribute to advances in medicine. It benefits everybody on Earth.

Many useful inventions have happened because of space exploration. Different kinds of plastics that were developed for space travel are also now used on Earth. Things we use in our daily lives are made from "space age" materials. This is another aspect of space exploration that benefits everyone.

The search for other planets can help solve our overpopulation problem. People are living longer and healthier lives these days. That's a good thing, but it means more people on Earth. The Earth will not get bigger. Through space exploration, we may be able to find other planets where people can live. This is one more thing that will have a benefit for all people.

Space exploration results in benefits for people everywhere on Earth. It contributes to medical science, to inventions, and to a solution to overpopulation. It is expensive, but the benefits are worth the price. Space exploration is one of the best ways governments can spend our money.

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96 MA **People have different ways of escaping the stress of modern life. Some read, some exercise, others work in their gardens. What do you think are the best ways of reducing stress? Use specific details and examples in your answer.**

Stress is one of our biggest enemies. It affects all aspects of our lives. In order to get rid of stress, I first have to identify the cause. My solutions to stress depend on the cause. The most common causes of stress in my life are work, friends, and myself.

Work-related stress is the easiest to combat. I simply stop working for a while. Sometimes I get up from my desk and go down the hall to talk to my colleagues. Of course, I don't talk about work-related topics. Other times, I take a short walk around the block. Work-related stress can be cured just by getting away from work.

Stress caused by my friends is more difficult to cure. A friend might be angry with me or vice versa. A friend might be anxious about something, and that makes me anxious, too. The best cure for this kind of stress is talking about the problem and spending time with my friends. Unlike work, you can't walk away from your friends.

Stress I cause myself is not very easy to get rid of. If I feel bothered by an exam or anxious about the future, there is very little for me to do. I just have to tell myself that I can only do my best and leave the rest up to fate.

It is important to try to lead a stress-free life. If you can avoid stress by walking away from it (as at work), talking about it (as with friends), or facing it head on (as with yourself), you will benefit in all aspects of your life.

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97 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Teachers should be paid according to how much their students learn. Give specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

It is a bad idea to pay teachers according to how much their students learn. It just encourages teachers to teach only the material on a test. It discourages them from paying attention to slow students. It is unfair because teachers can't decide which students will be in their class. Instead of improving teaching, it keeps teachers from doing the best job they can.

If a teacher is paid according to how well his students do on a test, then he will teach only what is on the test. He will spend time teaching his students to memorize facts. He won't be able to teach them other things. The students will miss the opportunity to gain a wider variety of knowledge. They won't have the chance to develop skills besides memorization. They will learn less, not more, in this way.

Another problem is that teachers may ignore the slower students. Some students learn more quickly and easily than others. The teacher won't want to spend time with the few slowest students. She will prefer to focus on the average and fast students to make sure they get high scores on tests. She can't waste time with the students who can get only mediocre scores. These students, who need the most help in school, will get very little help at all.

Finally, a teacher has no control over which students are placed in his class. One teacher may get all the best students in a school. Another may get several of the worst. If the teacher has some average students, a few below average, and no students who are above average, then of course the class will get lower test scores on their tests. People will think those students didn't learn much. It is not fair to base a teacher's salary on something over which he has no control.

Most teachers, like other professionals, want to do the best job possible. They want to teach their students useful skills and knowledge and they want to help the students who need help. Teachers need encouragement and support, but basing their salary on their students' performance is not a good way to provide this.

98 MA **If you were asked to send one thing representing your country to an international exhibition, what would you choose? Why? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.**

If I were asked to send one thing representing my country to an international exhibition, I'd send something unexpected: one week's worth of television programming. These programs best represent my country. They show how we live, what we value, and what we teach our children.

Television programs show how people in my country live. They show how different people earn a living. They show the different kinds of houses people live in. They show routines of day-to-day living. They show the different kinds of relationships people have. They give a broad representation of daily life in my country.

Television programs show what the people in my country value. Comedies indicate what we think is funny. Documentaries show what issues we're concerned about and how we want to resolve them. Sports programs show what we think about winning and losing. In general, the range of programs shown on television demonstrates what we think is important and interesting.

Children's programs show what we teach our children. Some programs teach school skills such as reading and math. Others tell stories from literature or folk traditions. Many focus on teaching children right from wrong. And some, like cartoons, are just meant to entertain.

You can learn a lot about a country by watching its television programs. You can learn about daily life, values, and education. That is why I would send a week's worth of television programs to an international exhibition.

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99 PR **You have been told that dormitory rooms at your university must be shared by two students. Would you rather have the university assign a student to share a room with you, or would you rather choose your own roommate? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.**

I'd rather have the university assign a roommate to share a room with me. I don't know many people at the university I plan to attend. I'm sure the university will choose a roommate who is compatible with me and this will give me the chance to make new friends.

None of my close friends will attend the university with me. We all plan to attend different schools. I have a few acquaintances at my university, but I don't know them well. I don't think they are people I would choose to live with. At this time, I really can't choose my own roommate. I am glad the university can do it for me.

The university has a very good system for assigning roommates. All the students have to fill out information sheets. We write about our majors, our interests, our study habits, and our goals. The university uses this information to match roommates. They can match people who have similar habits and interests. I think it is a good system.

When the university assigns me a roommate, I have a chance to make new friends. For one, my roommate will be a new friend. We already know that we will have similar habits and interests, so we will probably enjoy spending time together.

In addition, my roommate's friends could become my friends, too. My roommate can introduce me to new people, and I can do the same for him.

I think it's a good idea for a university to choose roommates for the students. They can match people who are compatible and give everyone a chance to make new friends. Meeting new people is an important part of a university education, and this is one way to make that happen.

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100 PR **Some people think that governments should spend as much money as possible on developing or buying computer technology. Other people disagree and think that this money should be spent on more basic needs. Which one of these opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

Developing computer technology is important for the development of the country as a whole. However, we have some basic needs and issues in our country that are even more important than technology. Our children need to get a good education. Our transportation system needs to be improved. We need to develop new sources of energy. We need to work on these issues before we put a lot of money into computers.

Our children need to get a good education. We need to make sure that every child in the country has the opportunity to learn to read and write. In addition, they all need to learn skills for the modern world. They need to learn how to use computers. It costs money to buy computers for schools and train teachers to use them. If children don't learn basic computer skills in school, who will be able to use modern computer technology?

We need to improve our transportation system. In big cities, the roads are very crowded and it is hard to get around. It takes a long time for people just to get to work every day. We need to spend money developing a good public transportation system. We need to get cars off the road and have more buses and trains. Computer technology helps people at work. If it is difficult for people just to get to work, computer technology won't help them much.

We need to develop new sources of energy. Our current methods of generating energy cause a lot of pollution. We need to develop the use of solar energy and other nonpolluting energy technology. Energy research and development costs a lot of money, but it is necessary. If we don't have clean, cheap sources of energy, what will we use to run our computers?

Computer technology is important. However, we can't take advantage of it if we don't solve some problems first. We need well-educated children, good public transportation, and clean sources of energy before we can spend money on computers.

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101 PR **Some people like doing work by hand. Others prefer using machines. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I prefer using machines to doing work by hand. Machines can work faster and more neatly than I can, and they never get tired.

Machines are fast. If I want to write a letter, it takes me a certain amount of time. If I write ten letters by hand, it takes ten times as long. If I use a computer, on the other hand, I just write the letter once, then tell the printer to make ten copies. Or I can use a photocopy machine. Either way, it's much faster than doing all the work by hand.

Machines are neat. They don't make mistakes and cut the wrong way. They don't get distracted and spill coffee on the paper. They do a job over and over again, each time as neatly as the time before. I could never be as neat as a machine.

Machines never get tired. You can set a photocopy machine to make 25 copies or 250 copies. It makes no difference to the machine how many copies it has to make. An answering machine answers calls in the middle of the night as well as it does in the morning. If I work a lot, I get tired, and I can't work at all in the middle of the night.

I can depend on machines, but I can't always depend on myself to be fast, neat, and tireless.

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102 AD **Schools should ask students to evaluate their teachers. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I think it is a good idea for schools to ask students to evaluate their teachers. It is good for the teachers, good for the school administrators, and good for the students themselves.

Teachers can get a lot of useful information from student evaluations. They can find out what the students like about the class and what they don't like. They can learn what the students think is easy or difficult. They can discover which kinds of activities the students prefer. Generally, they can find out the ways they reach the students and the ways they don't. All of these things can help teachers improve their classes.

Student evaluations are also helpful for school administrators. Student evaluations help administrators learn which teachers are most effective. They give an idea of how students are satisfied or dissatisfied with their school program. With this kind of information, administrators can work better with the teachers. They can work together to improve the school program where necessary.

Evaluating teachers is a good exercise for students. They have to organize their thoughts about their teacher. They have to think about how they themselves learn best and what kind of help they need. This can help them do better in class. Evaluations also give students a chance to develop honesty and responsibility. Evaluations with real and useful information are valuable to the school. Evaluations that are used as a way of being mean or getting favors aren't worthwhile.

Student evaluations can provide a lot of useful information to a school. They help the teachers, the school administrators, and the students. I think they are a very good idea.

103 MA **In your opinion, what is the most important characteristic (for example, honesty, intelligence, a sense of humor) that a person can have to be successful in life? Use specific reasons and examples from your experience to explain your answer. When you write your answer, you are not limited to the examples listed in the question.**

Although honesty, intelligence, and a sense of humor are all worthwhile characteristics, I feel the most important one to have is sensitivity. A sensitive person is aware of the way his or her actions affect others. A sensitive person knows the place of honesty, intelligence, and a sense of humor.

Honesty is not always the best policy. There is such a thing as a white lie. You don't want to tell someone that her expensive new dress doesn't look good on her. You wouldn't tell your friends that you don't like their house. Sensitive people know when it is necessary to tell the truth and when it is better to tell a white lie.

Intelligence is a wonderful thing to have, but not all intelligent people use their intelligence sensitively. It isn't good to show off your intelligence and make other people feel dumb. Sometimes you might have to say, "My answer might be wrong. We should check it." Sensitive people know when to use their intelligence and when to step back and let others answer.

A sense of humor is always valued. Different people, however, laugh at different things. A joke that is funny to you might be offensive to someone else. Some people can laugh at their mistakes but others are uncomfortable about them. A sensitive person knows when it's O.K. to laugh or tease, and when it's better to be sympathetic or just quiet.

A sensitive person can make everyone feel comfortable. A sensitive person knows that people are different and that honesty, intelligence, and humor need to be applied to each situation differently.

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104 EX **It is generally agreed that society benefits from the work of its members. Compare the contributions of artists to society with the contributions of scientists to society. Which type of contribution do you think is more valued by your society? Give specific reasons to support your answer.**

Artists and scientists make very different types of contributions to our society, and the contributions of both are valuable. Although the contributions of both are important, however, our society seems to value the contributions of scientists more.

Artists lift our spirits and show us who we are. A painter or writer shows us in pictures and words what we're like as a people. Performing artists entertain us. Artists take our minds off our troubles and remind us of the beauty of life. Artists also help keep society mentally and emotionally healthy, because they provide us with a means of expression. Art of all types is necessary to the human spirit.

Scientists make contributions to our material lives. The cars we drive, the computers we use at school and work, the appliances we use to clean our houses, are all

results of the hard work of scientists. We can grow more food, and cure more diseases, and live healthier lives thanks to scientific research. Scientists have helped improve our material lives in many ways.

Artists make valuable contributions to society, but society seems to value scientists more. Scientists are more often rewarded with money than artists are. They generally earn higher salaries, and it is easier for them to get government funding for their work. They have more social prestige and are generally considered to be smarter people than artists. There are always exceptions, of course. Some scientists struggle to earn money. Some artists are very rich and have a great deal of prestige, but they are few. Overall, scientists have a better position in society.

The contributions of both artists and scientists are valuable to our society. They each contribute to different aspects of our lives. Unfortunately, artists don't always get the recognition they deserve.

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105 PR **Students at universities often have a choice of places to live. They may choose to live in university dormitories, or they may choose to live in apartments in the community. Compare the advantages of living in university housing with the advantages of living in an apartment in the community. Where would you prefer to live? Give reasons for your preference.**

I think it is better for university students to live in a dormitory. It makes their lives much easier, it gives them more opportunities to make friends, and it helps them become more involved in the university community.

Dormitory life is much easier than apartment life for a university student. If a student rents an apartment, that means she has to buy furniture and kitchen utensils. She has to shop and cook for herself every day. She has to spend time keeping the apartment clean. A dormitory room, on the other hand, already has furniture, and meals are served in the dormitory dining room. The student doesn't have to spend time taking care of household things and can just concentrate on her studies.

A student living in a dormitory has potential friends living all around her. First she'll make friends with her roommate, then with the other students living on her floor. She can make friends in the dormitory dining room and the lounge. If she feels lonely, if she needs help with her classwork, if she misses her family, there is always someone to turn to. If she lives in an apartment, she won't have all this support. She might have a roommate, but otherwise she will be alone. She'll have to put more effort into making friends in her classes.

By living in a dormitory a student is right in the middle of the university community. She is close to all the university activities and it is easy to participate in them. She can become involved in clubs, sports, or the student government. If she lives in an apartment, she is farther from all these activities. It takes more time to get to club meetings. It is harder to find out what activities are going on. It's more difficult to be part of the community.

Living in an apartment has advantages for some people, but for me dormitory life is much better. It makes daily tasks, meeting new friends, and being involved in university activities much easier. It is a convenient and fun way to live.

106 EX **You need to travel from your home to a place 40 miles (64 kilometers) away. Compare the different kinds of transportation you could use. Tell which method of travel you would choose. Give specific reasons for your choice.**

When I choose a method of transportation to go 40 miles, I have three common choices: my bike, my parents' car, or public transportation. When I choose among them, I think about how much it will cost, how long it will take, and why I need to go from point A to point B.

My bike is a less expensive alternative. The only cost is my manual labor to pedal from my home to a place 40 miles away. This method, however, is extremely time-consuming. I imagine it would take me all day. Biking is excellent exercise. If my only goal is to burn calories and strengthen my muscles, I should go by bike.

Public transportation is another alternative that is inexpensive. The cost is minimal and shared by everyone on the bus or train. Where I live, you cannot depend on public transportation. It might take me all day to go 40 miles by public transportation if I include waiting time. However, using public transportation is good for the Earth. By sharing resources, we waste less.

Taking a private car is the most expensive, especially since I don't own a car and I must borrow one from my parents. They want me to pay for my own gas, which is a lot, and I must also pay for parking the car when I get to my destination. A car is the most dependable way to go if I need to get there fast. When convenience is your goal, you should pick a car.

When I consider these points, I must confess that I am spoiled. I prefer the convenience of the car over the exercise of a bike and the virtues of public transportation. I like to go and come when I want to without waiting, even if it costs me more.

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107 MA **Some people believe that a college or university education should be available to all students. Others believe that higher education should be available to only good students. Discuss these views. Which view do you agree with? Explain why.**

Some people believe that only the best students should go to a college or university, but I don't. Academics are not the only purpose of a university education. Another important goal is to learn about yourself. When you are separated from your parents, you have to learn to be independent and make decisions about your future. I believe every student should have the opportunity to have this kind of experience.

I can understand why some people think that a college or university education should be available to only good students. Higher education is very expensive. It might seem like a waste of money to send a mediocre student to college. If a better student will learn more, why not send only the better student to college? Higher education is also a big investment of time. Maybe a mediocre student could spend his or her time in a better way, by getting a job or going to trade school.

I don't agree with this position. I think higher education should be available to all students. It is true that it is expensive and takes a lot of time, but I think every student deserves the opportunity to try it. People change. A student who didn't like school as a teenager may start to like it as a young adult. Also, having the opportu-

nity to make independent decisions is part of a good education. A student may try college for a while and then decide that trade school is a better place for him or her. Or a student may decide, "I will work hard now because I want a good future." At a college or university students have the opportunity to make changes and decisions for themselves.

All students who want to should be given the chance to go to a college or university. In college they will have the opportunity to learn independence and to make adult decisions about their future. This is a basic part of education and an experience every student should have.

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108 PR **Some people believe that the best way of learning about life is by listening to the advice of family and friends. Other people believe that the best way of learning about life is through personal experience. Compare the advantages of these two different ways of learning about life. Which do you think is preferable? Use specific examples to support your preference.**

Both learning through personal experience and learning through the advice of others can help you a lot in life. I think learning through personal experience comes first, however. No one can teach you how to get along with other people, how to judge your own abilities, or how to understand who you are. You can learn this only through experience.

When we are small children, adults tell us, "Play nicely with the other children. Don't fight. Don't hit." In this way, we learn that it is important to get along with others. Only through our own experience, however, can we learn how to do this. If another child hits us, we learn that hitting isn't a nice thing. If we fight with other children, we learn that fighting doesn't always get us what we want and maybe there are other solutions. Through our own experiences, we begin to learn about ourselves and we carry this learning into our adult lives.

Friends and relatives might say to us, "You are good at science. You should become a doctor." Or, "You are a talented artist. You should study painting." Our friends and relatives can observe our abilities and point them out to us. But they can't know everything about us. Maybe you get good grades in science but you think its boring. Maybe you are a talented artist, but you like sports better. Through our daily experiences we have the chance to learn about our abilities and our tastes. If we value these experiences, we pay attention to them and use them to make decisions for our future.

The people who know us might say, "You are so hardworking." Or, "You are too shy and quiet." They can point out our good qualities to us and that is good. We need our own experience, however, to tell us who we really are. Maybe you really are shy, or maybe it just looks that way to another person. Your own experience will tell you if this is true and if it is important to you or not. When we pay attention to our own experiences, we learn a lot about who we are and who we want to be.

The advice of other people can be very helpful. It isn't much good, however, if we don't have our own experiences to compare it to. I like to ask other people for advice, but I always pay attention to my own experience first.

109 PR **When people move to another country, some of them decide to follow the customs of the new country. Others prefer to keep their own customs. Compare these two choices. Which one do you prefer? Support your answer with specific details.**

When you move to another country, you have to change some of your customs of daily living. For example, you will have to make some changes in your language, your food, and your work habits. It is also important, however, to maintain some of your old customs because they are part of your identity.

The most important thing to do in a new country is learn the language. Daily life will be very difficult without it. You will need the language to find things in stores, to understand TV programs, to go to school, and for many other things. You don't have to stop speaking your own language, though. You can continue to speak it with family and friends. You need your language to maintain your connection with your own country and origins.

It is a good idea to learn to eat the food in a new country. It will make your life easier. You can't always find stores and restaurants that sell your country's food. Eating the new country's food also helps you get to know something about the country and the people. If you shop and eat only in places that sell your country's food, you will get to know only people from your country. You should also eat your country's food sometimes. You will probably prefer it on holidays, for example. It is also a good thing to share with new friends from your new country.

When you get a job, it is important to learn your new country's work habits. If the custom in the country is to arrive at work on time, you must do it. If the custom is to be friendly with clients, invite them to restaurants, and so on, then you must do that. You will not be successful in your job if you don't adapt to the work habits. You might also have some useful customs from your own culture. Maybe you have more efficient methods of organizing work. Share your ideas with your coworkers. They might appreciate it.

If you want to be successful in a new country, you have to adapt to its customs. You also need to maintain some of your own customs because they are part of who you are. The important thing is to find a good balance between the two.

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110 PR **Some people prefer to spend most of their time alone. Others like to be with friends most of the time. Do you prefer to spend your time alone or with friends? Use specific reasons to support your answer.**

I cannot understand people who like to be alone. I always choose to be with friends whenever possible. My friends keep me company, they are enjoyable to talk with, and they teach me new things. I always feel good when I spend time with friends.

My friends keep me from feeling lonely. If I want to do something, I invite a friend or friends and we do it together. It is fun to go to the movies, shopping, or even to the library to study with friends. It isn't fun to do anything alone.

I like talking with my friends. If I have a problem, I talk it over with my friends and they help me solve it. If something interesting happens to me, I share it with my friends. They share their problems and experiences with me, too.

I learn a lot from my friends. A friend might invite me to a movie that I haven't ever heard of. A friend might tell me about a trip she took or a book she read. A friend might have a different point of view about a political issue. I learn a lot of new and interesting things by sharing with my friends.

Friends make our lives richer. They keep us company, share their problems and experiences with us, and teach us many things. Life would be sad and lonely without friends.

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111 PR **Some people prefer to spend time with one or two close friends. Others choose to spend time with a large number of friends. Compare the advantages of each choice. Which of these two ways of spending time do you prefer? Use specific reasons to support your answer.**

We all need to have friends, and I think the more friends we have the better. When you have a lot of friends, you are never alone. You always have people who will entertain you, people you can trust, and people who teach you about life.

I want to have a lot of people I can have fun with. If I have a lot of friends, I always have people to laugh and joke with me. I have people to go to the movies or the mall with me. I have people to go to parties with me. If I have only a few friends, they might be busy when I want to do these things, or they might not enjoy some of the things I enjoy.

I need to have a lot people I can trust. If I have a problem, I want to share it with several friends. If I make a mistake or fail a test or have a fight with my parents, I need my friends to help me. I want to be able to pick up the phone and know I can easily find some friends to talk with. If I have only a few friends, they might not be available when I need them.

I like to have a lot of people who teach me about life. If I have a lot of friends, I have a lot of different people to learn from. Each person has different experiences and a different point of view. I can learn a lot of things from a lot of different people. If I have only a few friends, I will see only a few points of view.

I like to have a lot of friends around me. I like to have fun with them and to learn from them and to know that I can rely on them. My life is better because of all the friends I have.

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112 AD **Some people think that children should begin their formal education at a very early age and should spend most of their time on their school studies. Others believe that young children should spend most of their time playing. Compare these two views. Which view do you agree with? Why?**

Should a child spend more time on school studies or more time on play? The answer to this question depends on the quality of the school and the quality of the play. Wherever children spend their time, they should be active participants, not passive observers.

Not all schools are the same. In some schools, children must sit quietly all day and memorize dates and facts. In other schools, children are encouraged to participate in different kinds of activities. They are encouraged to ask questions, to interact with other children, and to experience things.

Not all children play the same way. Some children prefer to watch TV or video games. Other children enjoy games that involve physical activity, using the imagination, or playing with other children.

Not all children are the same, but all children have the same requirements for learning. They learn when their minds and their bodies are active. They learn when they socialize with other children. They can do these things during school time or during play time. It doesn't matter when or where they do these things; it only matters that they do them.

Children can learn a lot from formal education and they can learn a lot from play. Parents need to make sure that the time their children spend in school is quality time. They need to make sure that the time their children spend at play is also quality time. Then they can feel assured that their children are getting the experiences they need to learn and grow.

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113 MA **The government has announced that it plans to build a new university. Some people think that your community would be a good place to locate the university. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a new university in your community. Use specific details in your discussion.**

A university can contribute a lot of good things to a city, but it also brings some disadvantages. If we built a university here, it would bring jobs, culture, and interesting new people to our town. On the other hand, it would also destroy land, cause traffic problems, and be a burden on city services. There are two sides to every story.

A university would bring jobs, but it would also destroy land. During construction, the university would have to hire carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc. After the building is finished, they would hire people to help run and maintain the campus. We need jobs in our community, so this is a big advantage. On the other hand, the university needs land to build on. Would they take over one of our city parks, or tear down some of our houses? Either way, they would destroy things that we use and enjoy now.

The university would bring culture to our community, but it would also bring crowds. The community could take advantage of events at the university such as concerts, lectures, and art exhibits. But a lot of people from all over would also attend these events. They would fill our streets with traffic and cause parking problems. Our community would no longer be a quiet place.

The university would bring interesting people, but it would also cause a burden on our city services. People such as professors, researchers, and visiting lecturers would work at the university. They are sure to contribute a lot to our community life. However, they are also sure to have families. They will need houses, schools, and transportation. How can our city suddenly provide services for a lot of new residents?

A university would bring many advantages to our city, but it would also have some big disadvantages. The fact is, we already have two universities here and I don't think we need any more.

114 PR **Some people think that family is the most important influence on young adults. Other people think that friends are the most important influence on young adults. Which view do you agree with? Use examples to support your opinion.**

Although friends make an impression on your life, they do not have the same influence that your family has. Nothing is as important to me as my family. From them, I learned everything that is important. I learned about trust, ambition, and love.

Your family is with you forever. They are not going to leave you because they find another daughter or son they like better. They are not going to leave you because they think you are too much trouble. Friends come and go, but a family is permanent. You can always trust your family.

Your parents are your role models. They will encourage you to do your best, to push yourself, and to improve yourself. Friends want you to stay the same; they don't want you to be different. Your family is ambitious for you. Friends are not.

A family's love is not judgmental. They love you for everything you are. Friends may love you because you have a new car or because you go out with them on Saturday evenings. Friends may only like you, but your family loves you.

Without my family, I wouldn't know what to do. I wouldn't feel as secure. I might not have the ambition to go to school. I probably would be afraid to love. My family is my greatest influence.

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115 PR **Some people prefer to plan activities for their free time very carefully. Others choose not to make any plans at all for their free time. Compare the benefits of planning free-time activities with the benefits of not making plans. Which do you prefer—planning or not planning for your leisure time? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your choice.**

My free time is very valuable. I don't have a lot of free time, so I want to be sure to spend every minute of it well. Therefore, I always try to make plans ahead of time. In this way I don't waste any of my free time, I have a chance to make any necessary preparations, and I can invite my friends to join me.

If I make a plan for the weekend ahead of time, I don't waste any of my free time trying to decide what to do. If I don't have a plan, I might spend all morning thinking about the different things I could do. Before I knew it, half the day would be gone. I would lose half my free time making decisions and it would be too late to start a lot of activities.

If I make a plan for the weekend ahead of time, I can also make my preparations ahead of time. Then I can spend the whole weekend just enjoying myself. For example, if I want to go on a picnic, I can have my food all prepared beforehand. If I want to go to a concert, I can get my tickets ahead of time. By making plans ahead of time, I am sure I will be ready to do just what I want to do.

If I make a plan for the weekend ahead of time, it's easier to invite friends to join me. If I wait until the last minute, my friends might already have plans to do some-

thing else. If I make plans ahead of time, I can invite any friends I want to. And even if those particular friends are already busy, I still have time to invite somebody else.

It's always best to plan anything ahead of time. I think it is especially important to plan free time, because my free time is my best time. I want to enjoy every minute of it.

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116 PR **People learn in different ways. Some people learn by doing things; other people learn by reading about things; others learn by listening to people talk about things. Which of these methods of learning is best for you? Use specific examples to support your choice.**

I have never been able to learn well from reading or from listening to someone talk. My mind wanders and I can't grasp the situation. The best way for me to learn is by doing things. It helps me understand and remember information better, and it is much more interesting for me than reading and listening.

Doing things helps me understand. Someone may explain to me how a musical instrument works, for example. I don't really understand this, however, until I try to play the instrument myself. Then I can hear and see and feel how the sound is made. I can feel how hard I have to push a key or pluck a string to make the sound I want. Or I could read a recipe in a cookbook. But I don't really understand how to prepare the food until I try to make it myself.

Doing things helps me remember. A teacher could explain some grammar rules to me, but it's hard for me to remember them. However, when I practice using the grammar rules by speaking the language, then I will remember them better. The more I speak the language, the better I remember the rules. I could also read about math formulas in a book. But I can't remember them unless I use them to try to solve some math problems.

Doing things holds my attention. When I listen to a lecture, my thoughts wander to other things and I don't hear the information at all. When I read something, it is hard for me to follow the ideas unless I concentrate really hard. When I do something, on the other hand, I am always interested in it. I have to pay attention because I am the one who is doing it.

We all have our own learning styles. For me, it is clear that I learn best by doing things. It is the only way I can really focus my attention on information, understand it, and remember it.

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117 PR **Some people choose friends who are different from themselves. Others choose friends who are similar to themselves. Compare the advantages of having friends who are different from you with the advantages of having friends who are similar to you. Which kind of friend do you prefer for yourself? Why?**

There are a lot of advantages to having friends who are different from you. They can introduce you to new food, books, and music. They can present you with a dif-

ferent way of looking at the world. However, there are times when you need a friend who really understands you. That is why I enjoy having all kinds of friends—both those who are different from me and those who are similar.

Someone who is different from you can show different ways of looking at things. If you tend to be a spontaneous person, a scheduled person can help you be more organized. And you can help that person loosen up a bit at times, too. If you are impatient, a patient friend can help you calm down. If you are a little bit timid, an assertive friend can help you develop more self-confidence.

Someone who has different tastes from you can introduce you to new things. A friend might persuade you to read a book that you thought you wouldn't like. A friend might get you to try new kinds of food. You can share your different tastes and interests with your friend, too. Together you can dare to try new things.

There are times, however, when you really need a friend who is similar to you. Sometimes you get tired of compromising on what you want to do. You want to be with someone who has the same tastes as you. A friend who is similar to you probably has the same reactions to situations as you do. Therefore, if you feel unhappy, a friend who is similar to you can understand just why you feel that way.

Friends who are different from you have a lot to offer. Friends who are similar offer something else. That is why it is important to know all kinds of people.

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118 PR **Some people enjoy change and they look forward to new experiences. Others like their lives to stay the same, and they do not change their usual habits. Compare these two approaches to life. Which approach do you prefer? Why?**

It is true that some people prefer things to stay the same while others prefer change. My preference is to establish a routine and follow it, although this has not always been true of me. My circumstances have changed since I was young.

When I was younger, I enjoyed change. During school vacations I was free from responsibility. I would travel, go away with friends at a moment's notice, and make decisions from day to day. In this way, I could have lots of new experiences, meet new and interesting people, and learn a lot about life.

These days, I enjoy following a routine. It makes my life easier because I am the mother of two small children. Their lives are happier if I don't upset their schedules too much. For example, we give the children a bath every night at 8:00, put them in their pajamas, read them stories, and put them to bed by 9:00. It is not always convenient to do this, but everyone in the family is happier when we follow our routine. In addition, our friends know when we are free, which makes visiting easier.

In conclusion, my preferences have changed with the circumstances of my life. Now, my family's needs force me to have a routine. The stability of a household routine is better for me now, even though I preferred the excitement and adventure of change when I was young. I think the people you spend your time with often dictate your lifestyle.

119 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People behave differently when they wear different clothes. Do you agree that different clothes influence the way people behave? Use specific examples to support your answer.**

People behave differently depending on what they are wearing. The reason is not because they have changed, but because people's reactions to them have changed. Strangers react to your appearance because it is all they know about you. A friend may be influenced by your dress also, if it is inappropriate for a situation. In addition, appearance is almost always important at work.

Strangers can judge you only by the clothes you wear. Once I was wearing an old army coat. I went into a fancy candy shop to buy some chocolates. The woman saw my coat and was very suspicious of me. Because of the woman's negative reaction to me, I acted more politely than usual. The woman reacted to my clothes and that made me behave differently.

With friends clothes are less important because friends know more about you. However, friends can also react to you because of your clothes. Imagine you arrive at a friend's party. Everyone is wearing formal clothes and you are wearing casual clothes. You might have a good reason for this mistake, but your friend will still be disappointed. You will probably feel uncomfortable all evening because you disappointed your friend and because you are dressed differently from everyone else.

Certain clothes are appropriate for certain jobs. For example, business clothes are appropriate for some jobs; uniforms are appropriate for others. If you are not dressed appropriately for your job, clients and coworkers take you less seriously. You might begin to take yourself less seriously also, and your work could suffer. On the other hand, if you are wearing the right clothes, people will have confidence that you are the right person for the job, and you will feel this way, too.

Clothes don't change you into a different person, but they can make you behave differently. If you are dressed inappropriately for a situation, people will react to you in a different way. This reaction can, in turn, change your behavior. If you want good reactions from people, make sure to dress appropriately for every situation.

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120 AD **Decisions can be made quickly, or they can be made after careful thought. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The decisions that people make quickly are always wrong. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

I don't agree that quick decisions are always wrong. Sometimes they can be the best decisions we make. A quick decision made about a familiar situation is usually correct. Quick decisions based on a gut feeling, or instinct, can usually be relied on. It's the decisions made out of fear or desperation that we need to watch.

In familiar circumstances you can usually trust yourself to make a good decision quickly. For example, your boss might offer you the opportunity to do a certain job. She doesn't have time to explain the details right away but needs an immediate decision from you. It is probably safe for you to accept the assignment. You know your

boss and your boss knows you. You can trust that if your boss thinks this is a good assignment for you, she is probably right.

We can also usually rely on our instinct. You might be looking for a new apartment, for example. You look and look, but none of the apartments you see are right. Then you walk into one and right away you know it is the place for you. You don't know anything about the neighborhood or the landlord and you aren't sure about the rent, but you immediately sign the lease. Some people might think this is crazy. I think you will probably be very happy in that apartment because you listened to your instinct. Your instinct doesn't need a lot of information to make good decisions.

On the other hand, we can get into trouble when we make decisions out of desperation. Let's say you are on a lonely road late at night and your car breaks down. Another driver arrives and offers you a ride. There is something strange about this person. You accept the ride, however, because you are tired and cold. This is not a good decision; in fact, it is a very dangerous decision. It would be better to wait in your own car, all night if necessary, for the police to arrive. You would realize this if you made the decision more carefully.

Not all decisions need to be made carefully. We can usually rely on familiar situations and instinct to guide us in making quick decisions. We need to stop and think more carefully, however, when we make decisions in more difficult circumstances.

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121 MA **Some people trust their first impressions about a person's character because they believe these judgments are generally correct. Other people do not judge a person's character quickly because they believe first impressions are often wrong. Compare these two attitudes. Which attitude do you agree with? Support your choice with specific examples.**

Some people think it is unfair to judge others based on first impressions, but I disagree. People can show us who they really are in just a few minutes. Even if someone is having an unusually bad day, it is still easy to see their true character. If I don't like someone at first, I don't want to waste time being friendly just because he or she might change later. First impressions give us valuable information.

It doesn't take long for people to show their true character. Some people think you have to see how people act in different situations and talk to them a lot to get to know them. I don't believe this is true. When you meet someone, pay attention to how the person greets you. You can see right away if the person is friendly or shy, polite or rude. See how the person tries to make conversation and you will know what topics are interesting to him or her. All of this gives us a lot of information about a person.

Even on a bad day, you can see what a person is really like. Some people think that it isn't fair to judge people quickly because they might be having a bad day. I disagree. A bad day tells you a lot about people. You can see how they react to bad situations. Do they get very angry or take it all in stride? Do they get depressed and cry or just try to forget the problem? These are important parts of a person's character.

I feel I can learn a lot about a person in a few minutes, so I don't want to waste my time if the first impression isn't good. If I don't like the way a person greets me, or if I am uncomfortable with the way a person responds to a bad situation, will my

impression change later on? Probably not. If I spend more time with the person, I'll probably just see more of the same. I would prefer to spend that time looking for people who I like.

If we all based our final opinion of others on first impressions, it would be hard to get to know anyone. We would probably miss many opportunities to make good friends. Isn't it important to give everyone the chance to show us who they really are? And don't you want other people to do the same for you?

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122 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People are never satisfied with what they have; they always want something more or something different. Use specific reasons to support your answer.**

I believe that it is part of human nature to never be completely satisfied with what we have. This is true throughout our entire lives, from the time we are small children, through adolescence, and on into adulthood. We are always trying to have something more or better or different than what we already have.

The desire for something different begins in early childhood. Give a small child a toy to play with, and she's happy—until she sees another toy. Then she wants to play with the other toy. Give her a cookie and give another cookie to her brother. She'll probably think that her brother's cookie is bigger than hers, or somehow different, and cry for it.

The dissatisfaction with what we already have continues into adolescence. A teenager may buy some new clothes. Then he sees his friend has shoes in a different style or pants of a different color. All of a sudden his new clothes are no good; he wants what his friend has. Being like their friends is very important to teens and they constantly change their desires in order to match their friends.

Even in adulthood, we are not free from dissatisfaction. A young adult may be excited to get her first job, but right away she starts thinking about moving up and getting a better job. A young couple is finally able to buy a new house after saving for several years. But soon they start thinking about buying another, bigger house. A man may finally reach a high position in his company after years of hard work. Not long after that, he starts thinking about retirement. We are never satisfied.

It is part of the cycle of life to never be entirely satisfied with what we have. This is actually a good human quality because it pushes us on to each new stage of life. Without dissatisfactions, we would probably always stay in the same place.

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123 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should read only those books that are about real events, real people, and established facts. Use specific reasons and details to support your opinion.**

It is just as important to read fiction as nonfiction. Fiction can actually teach us about real things. It also helps develops our creativity and express our emotions. These things are just as important as learning about facts.

Fiction can teach us about real things and give us a deeper understanding of them. Nonfiction tells us only facts. Novels, on the other hand, can tell us some facts and also about what those facts mean, or meant, to real people. Reading novels by Charles Dickens, for example, helps us really understand the consequences of poverty in Victorian England.

Fiction helps us develop our creativity. When we read stories, we try to imagine what the places and characters look like. We try to imagine what it feels like to live a character's life. Developing creativity is just as important as knowing a lot of facts.

Fiction helps us understand and express our emotions. When we read romances or tragedies or comedies, we read about feelings that we ourselves have. Reading helps us explore these feelings more. It gives us a mirror for our emotional lives.

It is important to learn facts, but it is also important to develop creativity and explore feelings. Reading fiction as well as nonfiction helps us do this. We should all read a wide range of things to deepen our understanding of ourselves and of the world around us.

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124 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important for students to study history and literature than it is for them to study science and mathematics. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

In my opinion, it is much more important for students to study science and mathematics than it is for them to study history and literature. Science and mathematics are much more practical. It is easier to get a job with science and math skills. Scientists and mathematicians have more social prestige, and they can earn higher salaries.

People who study science and mathematics get jobs more easily than people who study history and literature. There are always jobs in fields such as medicine, computer science, engineering, and other professions that require a science or math background. People who study history or literature can only become writers or college professors. It is difficult to get well-paying jobs in those fields.

Scientists and mathematicians have a lot of social prestige. Let's face it—our society values science and math. If you go to a party and say, "I am a rocket scientist," people will be interested in you. They will want to talk to you and be your friend. If you say, "I am an historian," no one will pay any attention to you.

Scientists and mathematicians also earn more money than people in other fields because society values them more. A doctor, a chemist, a medical researcher,—a person in any one of these professions usually earns a far higher salary than a literature professor, for example, or a history expert.

Our society values science and math, so it is important to develop skills in these areas. If you have a science or math background, you are sure to get a good job, have lots of social prestige, and earn a good salary. Faced with this fact, who would want to study anything else?

125 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? All students should be required to study art and music in secondary school. Use specific reasons to support your answer.**

I agree that all students should be required to study art and music in high school. Art and music can teach us many things. They can teach us about ourselves, about our society, and about the world we live in.

By studying art and music, students can learn a great deal about themselves. Both are natural forms of self-expression. Just as our ancestors drew on the walls in caves and made music with drums, people today use art and music to explore their emotions. Students also explore their likes and dislikes when they choose the music they want to learn, or when they decide which subjects they want to draw. The process of making music or making art is a process of self-exploration.

Studying art and music means more than drawing or playing an instrument. Students go to museums and concerts, too. By studying pictures in museums or listening to the selections in a musical program, students learn about their own culture. They learn about what their society values. They also learn about the history of their society and how lifestyles and values have changed over time.

By studying art and music from other cultures, students learn about other people around the world. They learn about what is important in other societies. They learn about similarities and differences between cultures. They learn about the history and lifestyles of other places. New worlds are opened up to them.

By studying art and music in high school, students begin to understand themselves as well as their own culture and other cultures. What could have more value than that?

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126 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? There is nothing young people can teach older people. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.**

Many of us believe that young people have nothing valuable to teach older people. However, that is not always the case. Young people can teach older people about technology, popular culture, and current social issues.

Young people are usually better than older people at using new forms of technology. For example, children these days become familiar with computers at an early age. Older people can learn to use computers from young people. Many older people have difficulty learning to use a videocassette recorder, while for young people this is usually easy. I taught my grandparents how to use a VCR when I was thirteen, and now they use it regularly.

Older people are usually not familiar with popular culture, and younger people can help here too. For example, most older people don't know much about popular music. When young people teach them about it, however, they may come to enjoy it. I introduced my grandmother to some of my favorite music, and now she and I listen to it together often. I plan to teach her about a popular sport—rollerblading—very soon!

There are also more serious things that younger people can teach older people about. Today's children have grown up knowing about AIDS and school violence. These are serious social issues, but older people don't always understand them. Talking about them with younger people can help the older people learn more.

I know there are people who say, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." However, it is plain to me that the young have plenty to teach the old if they take the time to try. When they do, I think both gain a new appreciation for each other.

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127 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Reading fiction (such as novels and short stories) is more enjoyable than watching movies. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.**

Reading fiction is definitely more enjoyable than watching movies. Written stories have more depth than movies. Readers are more actively involved in the stories, and they can read their stories at any time and place they choose.

Most novels and stories have more depth than movies. Of course there are bad books and excellent movies, but usually books contain more than movies. They explain more about the characters and show more details about the action. Part of the reason for this is that most movies have to be close to two hours long. Books, on the other hand, can be as long as the author wants.

Readers are more actively involved in a story than movie watchers are. A movie watcher just has to sit and watch. A reader, on the other hand, has to think and imagine. The reader can't see the scenes like a movie watcher can. He has to picture them in his mind and understand what they are about.

The most enjoyable thing about books is that you can read them at any time and place. You don't have to go to the movie theater or rent a video or wait for a movie to appear on TV. If you want to enjoy a story for a few minutes before dinner or while riding the bus, you can. If you want to relax for a while before going to sleep, there is always a book ready for your enjoyment. Books are the most convenient form of entertainment there is.

Movies are fun, but books are better. Books keep the reader involved and entertained. Books can be read at any time or place. I never go anywhere without a book.

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128 MA **Some people say that physical exercise should be a required part of every school day. Other people believe that students should spend the whole school day on academic studies. Which opinion do you agree with? Give specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

While physical exercise is important, I do not believe that it is a school's responsibility to provide physical training for its students. If physical exercise is part of the school program, that means that students have to receive grades for it and that the school has to pay for the necessary space and equipment. This seems a waste of effort and resources when students can usually get enough physical exercise on their own.

If a school offers physical education classes, then students will have to be graded in them. It is not always easy to do this fairly. Some schools, especially smaller ones, may not be able to offer activities that interest everyone. Then some students might get poor grades simply because the school couldn't offer an activity they enjoy or do well in. In addition, research suggests that participation, not excellence, in physical activities is what benefits the body.

Another issue is economic. Physical education costs money and many schools do not have the money to provide gym facilities, playing fields, and athletic equipment for their students. Other schools are located in cities where that kind of space just isn't available. A few schools would rather keep money for academic purposes.

Many students get plenty of physical exercise as part of their daily life or recreation. Some students walk or ride their bicycles to schools. Some participate in soccer teams or tennis leagues outside of schools. Young people are usually active and have plenty of chances to get exercise outside of school, whether in organized activities or not.

It is important to get plenty of physical exercise, and young people usually do this. They don't need the school to focus effort and money on their physical education. It is much better to direct the school's resources toward academic achievement.

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129 MA **A university plans to develop a new research center in your country. Some people want a center for business research. Other people want a center for research in agriculture (farming). Which of these two kinds of research centers do you recommend for your country? Use specific reasons in your recommendation.**

Business research and education is already well developed in my country, so I recommend an agricultural research center. Farmers in my country still follow old-fashioned methods. We need to do research to learn how to grow more crops, grow disease-resistant crops, and educate farmers in modern methods so they can raise their standard of living.

We need to increase agricultural production for several reasons. One is that the population of my country is growing so we need to produce more food. In addition, if we could export more crops, it would be good for our economy. An agricultural research center could develop methods for growing more crops.

We also need to develop disease-resistant crops. Farmers spend a lot of time trying to protect their crops from disease. Often, they lose their crops anyway, so a lot of money and effort are lost. Some farmers end up losing their entire farms because disease kills their crops. An agricultural research center could develop methods to save crops from disease.

Farmers need to learn modern farming methods. They need to learn how to grow more and better crops and they need to learn more efficient work methods. This would benefit the country as a whole and it would also make things better for farmers. Their work would be easier and they would earn more money. An agricultural research center could develop better farming methods and teach them to farmers.

An agricultural research center would benefit everybody. We would all have more food to eat, agricultural exports would help our economy, and the farmers' standard of living would improve.

130 MA **Some young children spend a great amount of their time practicing sports. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Participating in sports is good for children. It helps them stay in good physical shape, it helps them learn teamwork, and helps them learn to develop excellence. However, too much of a good thing is never good, and children need to balance sports with other types of activities.

It is important to stay in shape, and participating in sports is a good way to do this. In sports, children get a chance to run and jump, to develop their muscles and lungs. This is especially important after spending most of the day sitting at a desk doing schoolwork. However, if children focus too much on sports, they might neglect their homework. They might also be too tired to pay attention in school.

Participating in sports helps children learn to work on a team. They have to pay attention and cooperate and do what is best for the team. This is an important skill that will help them throughout their lives. If children always play on a team, however, they don't have the chance to learn to do things alone. They don't learn to enjoy solitary activities such as reading or drawing, and they don't learn how to play with just one or two other children and no adult supervision. These activities also help develop important skills.

Learning to play sports helps children learn to develop excellence. They want to be really good in the sports they choose. Each one wants to be the best ball player or gymnast possible. While it is good to learn to work toward goals, it is also good to participate in other types of activities. Children need activities that are just for relaxation and enjoyment. They need activities that don't involve competition. If they focus too much on sports, they might not get a chance to do these other activities.

Playing sports is an important part of a child's development. Other activities, however, are equally important. Adults should encourage children to find a balance between different types of activities in their lives.

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131 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?**
***Only* people who earn a lot of money are successful.**
Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Many people believe that a large income equals success. I believe, however, that success is more than how much money you make. Some of those measures of success include fame, respect, and knowledge.

Most people assume that famous people are rich people, but that isn't always true. For example, some day I would like to be a famous researcher. Few scientists are rich by today's standards. Still, I will feel myself successful if I am well known. Additionally, there are many famous humanitarians who are not rich. Mother Theresa was one. Certainly no one would say she was not successful.

I also believe that being respected by coworkers indicates success. Without that respect, money means very little. For example, I once did some work for a top attorney in a law firm. He made a very good salary, but he wasn't a nice man. No one

ever did work for him willingly. He ordered everyone around, and we didn't respect him. In contrast, however, I had a wonderful band director in high school. He had to take extra jobs just to make enough money to support his family. However, his students had great respect for him and always listened to what he said. As a result, we were a very good band. In my opinion, my band director was more successful than the attorney was.

Finally, I think one of the most important indicators of success is knowledge. Wealthy people don't know all the answers. For example, in the movie Good Will Hunting, the only person who could solve complex problems was the janitor. He knew a lot and decided what he wanted to do with that knowledge rather than just think about money. In my opinion, he was extremely successful.

When we think of history, there are few people we remember simply because they were rich. Overall, we remember people who did something with their lives—they were influential in politics, or contributed to science or art or religion. If history is the ultimate judge of success, then money surely isn't everything.

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132 EX **If you could invent something *new*, what product would you develop? Use specific details to explain why this invention is needed.**

If I could invent something new, I'd invent a device or pill that could put people to sleep immediately and would have no side effects. The proper amount of sleep is important for our concentration, mental health, and physical health.

When we don't get enough sleep, our concentration is strongly affected. We're easily distracted, we can't remember things, and we don't notice what's happening around us. For example, a lot of car accidents are caused by tired drivers. When we get enough sleep, our powers of concentration are sharper. We're more focused on what we're doing. We perform better.

Mental health is also affected by lack of sleep. When we don't get enough sleep we're irritable. We lose our tempers easily and overreact to situations. In fact, experiments have shown that lack of sleep over a long period of time can cause a complete mental breakdown. When we get our proper rest, we're more alert and responsive. Our outlook is positive, and we're much easier to get along with.

Sleeplessness also affects our physical health. We have less energy, and everything seems like a major effort. Over a long period of time, we become slow and unresponsive. The wear and tear on the body from lack of sleep can be a very serious health problem. Every doctor will tell you that getting enough sleep is important for your health.

Wouldn't it be great to go to bed every night knowing you'd have no problem getting to sleep? Getting enough sleep is always going to be an important part of how you respond to your situation. I think this device would be very helpful to all of us.

133 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A person's childhood years (the time from birth to twelve years of age) are the most important years of a person's life. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I think I'd have to agree that a person's childhood years are the most important. These are the years that form us. During these years we learn about relationships, begin our formal education, and develop our moral sense of right and wrong.

No doubt, the early years are the time when we learn about relationships, first with our family, then with the rest of the world. We learn how to respond to others based on the way others treat us. If we're loved, then we learn how to love. If we're treated harshly, then we learn to treat others in the same way. We also form our ideas about self-worth based on the way others treat us during these years. They can teach us that we're worthless, or they can show us that we deserve love and respect.

These are the years when we begin our formal education. In school we learn the basic skills of reading, writing, and working with numbers. These are skills that we will use throughout our lives. We also learn how to analyze and use information. This is perhaps the most important thing we learn during these years. Presumably, these are skills that will always be useful.

Most important, from my point of view, we develop our moral sense of right and wrong during these years. At first others teach us about good and bad. As we grow, we begin to decide for ourselves. During this time we also begin to develop self-discipline to live according to our morals.

I believe a person grows and changes throughout the many stages of life. However, the foundation is laid, by and large, in those first few years of life.

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134 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Children should be required to help with household tasks as soon as they are able to do so. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I believe that children should be required to help with household tasks. It helps them learn skills and responsibility, and it helps the family. Sharing in household tasks benefits children of all ages.

First of all, household tasks build skills. Very young children learn motor skills and classification skills when they pick up their toys and put them away. Older children learn skills they'll need as adults. They learn cooking and cleaning, which may seem dull, but that are undoubtedly useful skills they'll need when they leave home.

Children learn responsibility when they help with household tasks. They learn to organize their time so they can fulfill their responsibilities. They learn that chores have to be completed before they can play. Children who understand that effort pays off will be more successful later in life.

When children help with household tasks, everyone in the family is happier. When parents come home from their jobs, they're faced with all the housework. If children share in the housework, everything is easier. The work gets done more quickly, and then the family can relax together. The children are helpers and the parents don't have to feel like servants to them.

Kids should not work all the time. A happy life needs balance. But if they can successfully handle tasks at home, they will handle life better, too. They will know the satisfaction of doing a good job, be involved in family life, and become more confident and responsible adults.

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135 MA **Some high schools require all students to wear school uniforms. Other high schools permit students to decide what to wear to school. Which of these two school policies do you think is better? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

Many high schools require students to wear uniforms. I think this is an excellent policy because uniforms can make things more equal for all students. When all the students dress alike, no one will be treated differently because of economic level, personal looks, or who his or her friends are.

Uniforms make students equal on an economic level. With uniforms, students from poor families dress the same as students from rich families. This can prevent envy and jealousy about stylish clothes. It can also encourage students to form friendships based on personality, not clothes.

Uniforms can reduce unequal treatment by teachers. Research suggests that teachers often have higher expectations for more attractive students, and this includes students with nicer clothes. Uniforms help teachers make judgments based on ability, not appearance.

Uniforms encourage the individual students of a school to feel like part of a bigger group. Their feelings of being together, working together, and having something in common are all helped by uniforms. Students are less likely to be left out because they belong to the "wrong crowd."

It is my opinion that all schools should have a policy requiring uniforms. Uniforms give every student an equal chance.

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136 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing a game is fun only when you win. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I agree with the old saying, "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game." I have fun playing all games because they give me time to be with my friends, learn new things, and work as a team.

Tennis is one game that I enjoy. It's a great opportunity to socialize. First, I have to talk to my partner in order to arrange a time to play a game. We also talk about other things at the same time. We have another opportunity to talk while we are waiting for the tennis court to be free. After the game, we almost always go out for coffee and talk some more. We often don't even talk about tennis. The game is just an excuse for us to get together.

The board game Scrabble provides a good opportunity to build my language skills. It's a challenge to try to form words from the letters that are in front of me. I always learn new words from my opponents, too. Often we don't even keep score when we play the game. We just enjoy being together and improving our English.

The game of soccer gives me the chance to be on a team. I like traveling with the group when we go to other schools to play games. I like learning how to play as a team. Our coach tells us that the most important thing is to play well together. It's also important to have fun. Winning is secondary.

I play games because they are fun. Playing games gives me the opportunity to do things that I enjoy and be with people that I like. You can't win every time, but you can always have fun.

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137 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? High schools should allow students to study the courses that students want to study. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

I think the basic subjects, such as mathematics, literature, and science, should be required for all students. However, I also believe it is important to allow high school students to choose some of the subjects they study. In this way, they get to explore subjects they might want to study in college. They also get a chance to learn responsibility and to take some subjects just because they like them.

Students can start exploring possible career interests when they are allowed to choose some of their own subjects. If they have the chance to take a journalism class, for example, they may discover that field as a possible career. Or, students who like science may have the chance to learn about different branches of science. Then they can make better choices about a course of study when they go to college.

When students choose some of their own subjects, they have the chance to learn responsibility. They have to decide which courses are most compatible with their goals and interests. They have to think about what is the best way to spend their time in school. They will have to make decisions and choices for themselves throughout life. They should begin to get some experience with this in high school.

Students should also have a chance to enjoy themselves in school. If they can choose some of their own subjects, they can choose subjects they are interested in. A class such as international cooking may not be the start of a brilliant professional career, but it can be an enjoyable learning experience. Students should be able to spend some of their time exploring their interests and doing things they enjoy.

When students are allowed to choose some of their subjects, they get a chance to explore their interests and goals and take responsibility for themselves. This is an important part of education.

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138 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is better to be a member of a group than the leader of a group. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

It is always better to be a leader than a follower. It is a much more interesting role to have. Leaders have skills and a chance to use them, they are constantly challenged to do the best job possible, and they are responsible for their actions. Followers, on the other hand, only have to follow and do what they are told.

It takes skills to be a good leader. Not everyone can do it. Leaders have to assess situations and decide how to approach them. A job supervisor, for example, has to decide the best way to get a project done, organize the work, and assign tasks to each worker. The workers only have to do their assignments. In fact any one worker may have to do the same job over and over again on each new project, while the leader's job is different every time.

Being a leader is a challenging position to be in. Any time there is a problem, the leader has to decide how to solve it. If a job supervisor assigns tasks to the workers, then one or two workers get sick, the supervisor has to reorganize the work. If some workers aren't getting along with each other or need support or if supplies start to run out, it is the supervisor's job to figure out how to get the job done and keep everyone happy. The leader must do his or her job as well as possible so that everyone's work gets done well.

Leaders have responsibility. Each follower is responsible for his or her part, but the leader is responsible for the whole. If a project succeeds or fails, the leader is the one who gets the credit or the blame. This motivates the leader to do the best job possible. A follower with less responsibility is not as motivated.

It is better to be a leader because a leader has a more interesting and challenging role than a follower. A leader will always strive to do his or her best, while a follower may not be motivated to do this. I like to be challenged and I want to do my best, so I prefer being a leader.

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139 EX **What do you consider to be the most important room in a house? Why is this room more important to you than any other room? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

My favorite room in a house is the kitchen. I love kitchens because they are the place where the family gathers and where food is prepared, and I have many happy memories of kitchens.

In my family, we have always had the custom of gathering in the kitchen. When my brother and I come home from school, we go straight to the kitchen for a snack. We usually do our homework at the kitchen table. Often, we are still there when my parents come home from work. Then we might help them prepare dinner. A lot of our time together is spent in the kitchen. When relatives come to visit, they also spend time in the kitchen. We usually all end up there, drinking tea while we talk.

I like eating, and I enjoy cooking too, so of course I like the kitchen. I especially love holidays when I spend all day in the kitchen with my cousins preparing special holiday food. The cooking is fun and sharing the work is even more fun. Sometimes our meals turn out well and other times not so well, but the fun of preparation is the most important part.

I have many happy memories of kitchens. I remember visiting my grandmother when I was small. Following family custom, those visits usually took place in the kitchen. I watched my grandmother cook and listened to her and my mother talk. I learned a lot about cooking and a lot about life. Now my grandmother is dead, but I always feel her near me when I am in the kitchen.

For me, many happy things happen and have happened in kitchens. When I have my own house, I will be sure that the kitchen is the biggest and most beautiful room in it.

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140 PR **Some items (such as clothes or furniture) can be made by hand or by machine. Which do you prefer—items made by hand or items made by machine? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your choice.**

Some people prefer to buy handmade items because of their beauty. I don't think this is important, however. I prefer machine-made items. Machine-made items are cheaper, more available, and easier to dispose of.

It is much cheaper to buy machine-made items than handmade items. A lot of time and effort goes into making things by hand, while a machine can turn out hundreds of copies of an item in just minutes. They're easier to make, so cheaper to buy. I can afford to have twenty or thirty machine-made dresses. If I bought only handmade clothes, on the other hand, I could buy only very few.

It is much easier to find machine-made items than handmade items. Go to any store in your neighborhood. How many sell handmade items? Very few, if any. Usually only specialty shops sell handmade items. If I wanted to buy a handmade chair, for example, I might spend days or weeks looking for a store that sold one I liked. If I buy machine-made chairs, I have lots of choices right in my own neighborhood.

It is much easier to dispose of machine-made items than handmade items. If I break a handmade plate, I feel I must make the effort to repair it, and repair it nicely. This is not only because of the cost of buying a new one, but also because of its beauty. People don't like to throw away handmade things because they feel that they are throwing away beauty. However, if I break a machine-made plate, I can just throw it in the trash without a second thought. Then I can go to the store and buy a dozen new ones if I wish.

Handmade items look nice, but they aren't at all practical. Machine-made items are easier to buy and to dispose of when you are finished with them. I always choose machine-made items.

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141 MA **If you could make one important change in a school that you attended, what change would you make? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.**

A big problem at my high school is the foreign language program. This program is neglected in favor of the math and science program, but I think it is just as important. The school can improve it by offering more classes, hiring well-trained instructors, and introducing the use of modern technology.

The first thing we need is third- and fourth-year language classes. Right now we don't have any classes above the second year level. It's hard to learn much about a language in only two years. This is especially frustrating for those of us who want to continue language study in college because we won't be well prepared.

Next, we need well-trained instructors. The current teachers in the program don't speak the languages well enough. They frequently make errors that the students repeat. If the teachers were well trained, they would be good models for the students. We would learn languages better.

Finally, we need to use modern technology in our language classes. Even though our school has a computer laboratory, we never use it in our language classes. We need to have and use computer software that is made for learning languages. We also need to be able to use the Internet to search for current, real-life materials in the languages we study.

Understanding people from other countries depends on being able to communicate with them. Poor language instruction makes this impossible. Improving the foreign language program would really make a difference to the students of the school.

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142 MA **A gift (such as a camera, soccer ball, or an animal) can contribute to a child's development. What gift would you give to help a child develop? Why? Use reasons and specific examples to support your choice.**

I remember the bicycle my sister gave me when I was ten years old. That bike meant a lot to me. It meant physical activity, transportation, and independence. If I wanted to give a gift to a child now, I would give a bicycle.

Bikes are a wonderful form of physical activity. They encourage outdoor play and exercise. Television and video games, which are the most popular children's activities nowadays, involve mostly sitting and watching. Riding a bike makes exercise fun.

Bikes are also a convenient form of transportation. A child with a bicycle can easily ride to school or to visit friends. She doesn't have to wait for an adult to take her somewhere. She can go whenever she wants.

Bikes give children independence. Not only can they go where they want, they can also do what they want on the way. A child on a bike can stop at the store or choose a more interesting road or explore new neighborhoods. He can stop to look at or do whatever seems interesting. The bicycle gives him plenty of opportunities to explore the world on his own.

My bicycle gave me fun exercise, easy transportation, and freedom. For all these reasons, I think that a bicycle is a good gift that can help a child develop.

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143 MA **Some people believe that students should be given one long vacation each year. Others believe that students should have several short vacations throughout the year. Which viewpoint do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

I think several short vacations throughout the year are better than one long vacation. Students can concentrate on their studies better if they have more frequent breaks. Frequent breaks also make it easier to get a fresh start when necessary. Finally, I think students can make better use of their vacation time if it is shorter.

More frequent vacations make it easier for students to concentrate on their work. Students often get tired near the end of a long school year. Time seems to drag on during the last two months of school and nobody gets much work done. If the school sessions were shorter, they would be over before students had a chance to get tired. Then students could have a break, get rested, and return for the next school session with plenty of energy to start studying again.

With more frequent vacations, students can more easily get a fresh start when they need one. Sometimes a school year just starts out badly for some students, and no matter what they do, it's hard to change. They have to wait for a new school year to begin so they can start again. If the school year is long, a lot of time is wasted. With more frequent breaks, a student who is having a bad time doesn't need to wait a whole year to be able to start anew. That opportunity will come more quickly.

If students have more frequent, shorter vacations, they can actually make better use of that vacation time. A student may start a long vacation with plans, but those plans are soon used up. He becomes bored and just sits around doing nothing. With shorter vacations, a student can plan an interesting trip or project or take a job. Before he has time to get bored with those activities, it's time for school to start again. Then he has time to make fresh, new plans before the next break comes up.

I think shorter, more frequent vacations help students make better use of both their school time and their vacation time. It is a plan that every school should adopt.

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144 PR **Would you prefer to live in a traditional house or in a more modern apartment building? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

A modern apartment building is the best kind of place to live. Everything in it is new, everything works, and it is much easier to maintain than a traditional house.

In a modern apartment building everything is new and in good condition. There aren't holes in the walls or in the roof. The floors are clean and the paint is fresh. The kitchen appliances are modern and convenient. The lighting fixtures are modern so they give good light, and the electrical outlets are all in the right place. It is a comfortable way to live.

Since everything in a modern apartment is new, you can be sure it all works. You can rely on the heating system to keep you warm in the winter. You know the air conditioning will work all summer, even on the hottest days. You don't have to frantically call a repair company because your dishwasher breaks down on the day you plan a big party. You can count on all the modern systems and appliances to work whenever you need them.

A modern apartment is much easier to maintain than a traditional house. A house has grass that needs to be cut and a basement that needs to be cleaned and a furnace that needs to be maintained. In an apartment, you have none of these worries. You just have to do your housecleaning. Even that is easier, because an apartment is usually smaller than a house.

It is much easier and more comfortable to live in a modern apartment. I don't know why anybody would want to live in a traditional house.

145 MA **Some people say that advertising encourages us to buy things that we really do not need. Others say that advertisements tell us about new products that may improve our lives. Which viewpoint do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

The purpose of advertising is to let people know what products are on the market. We need it so that we can make good decisions when we go shopping. Advertising tells us when new and improved products become available and lets us know which ones have the best price.

Through advertising we learn about new products. For example, many grocery stores now sell prepackaged lunches. These are very convenient for busy parents. They can give these lunches to their children to take to school. Busy parents don't have time to look at every item on the store shelf, so without advertising they might not know about such a convenient new product.

Even products we are familiar with may be improved, and advertising lets us know about this. Most people use cell phones, but new types of cell phone service become available all the time. There are different plans that give you more hours to talk on the phone, you can send text messages and photos, and next week probably some even- newer type of service will be available. By watching advertisements on TV it is easy to find out about new improvements to all kinds of products.

Advertisements keep us informed about prices. Prices change all the time, but anyone can look at the ads in the newspaper and see what the latest prices are. Advertisements also inform us about sales. In fact, some people buy the newspaper only in order to check the prices and plan their weekly shopping.

Advertisements improve our lives by keeping us informed about the latest product developments and the best prices. Advertisements serve a useful purpose.

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146 PR **Some people prefer to spend their free time outdoors. Other people prefer to spend their leisure time indoors. Would you prefer to be outside or would you prefer to be inside for your leisure activities? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

I prefer to spend my leisure time outdoors whenever possible. It is more interesting and relaxing than staying indoors. Being outdoors gives me the opportunity to see new sights, try new things, and meet new people.

When I am outdoors, I have the opportunity to see new sights. I might go to a new park. I could go swimming at a beach I have never visited before or take a hike in a new place. The scenery is always different, too. Indoors I always look at the same four walls. Outdoors the scene is constantly changing. The flowers change with the seasons, the birds come and go, plants grow, trees fall down, nothing ever stays the same. It is fascinating to watch nature change.

When I am outdoors, I have the opportunity to try new things. I can learn how to sail a boat or climb rocks or swim farther and faster than before. I can also study

nature and learn about the different kinds of plants and animals. There is always something new to learn, and some of these things are very challenging.

When I am outdoors, I have the opportunity to meet new people. I might meet someone casually while I am taking a walk or sitting on the beach. I can also meet people in a sailing class or a hiking club. Most of the people I meet during outdoor activities are interesting people. They enjoy the same activities that I enjoy. I think becoming involved in outdoor activities is actually one of the best ways to make new friends.

I am usually bored indoors, but I always enjoy the things I do and the people I meet when I am outdoors. Doing things outdoors is the most interesting way for me to spend my time.

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147 MA **Your school has received a gift of money. What do you think is the best way for your school to spend this money? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

Our school has many needs, but I think the best way to spend a gift of money is on new classroom equipment. Our school is old. We don't have enough desks and chairs for all the students and our classroom furniture is out of repair. If we buy new equipment, the students will feel better and want to work hard. The community will take pride in our school. New equipment will last a long time, so we will feel the benefit of the gift for many years.

It is hard for students to study when there aren't enough chairs in the classroom. It is hard for them to use old, broken blackboards. It is hard when there aren't good bookshelves and cabinets to organize the classroom supplies. With new equipment, students will feel like school is a nice place to be. They will feel like the teachers care about them. They will be motivated to study harder and do the best job they can.

It is hard for the community to feel proud of a school that looks old and broken. If members of the community visit the school and see new classroom equipment, they might feel better about the school. They might say, "This school has improved, and we can improve it more." They might be motivated to contribute money and volunteer time to further improve the school. Every school is better when community members become involved. New equipment can help motivate them.

We could spend the gift money on educational trips for the students. We could spend it on supplies such as paper and pencils or on books. All these things are important for education, but they don't last. Students this year will benefit, but students five years from now won't. Classroom equipment, on the other hand, lasts many years. If we spend the money on equipment, students will benefit for many years to come.

New classroom equipment will motivate both students and community members to improve their participation in school. Everyone will benefit from new equipment now and in the future as well. Therefore, I think this is one of the best ways we can spend a gift of money to our school.

148 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing games teaches us about life. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Almost everyone loves games. Playing games is both fun and useful because they teach us the skills we need in life. They teach us about cause-and-effect, about how to deal with people, and about following rules.

First of all, games teach us about cause-and-effect relationships. If we hit a ball, it will land somewhere or someone will catch it. If we make certain combinations with cards, we win points. We learn to pay attention to the results of our actions.

Playing games teaches us how to deal with other people. We learn about teamwork, if the game has teams. We learn how to assign tasks according to each person's skills. We learn how to cooperate with team members. If the game doesn't have teams, we still learn about interacting with other people. We learn how to negotiate rules and get along with others.

Game playing teaches us how to follow rules to achieve something. We find out that if we want to reach a goal, we need to know the rules. We learn how to go step by step toward a desired end. We learn how to make a plan for reaching our goal. We learn strategy.

Most people understand that "all work and no play" is bad for you. Learning all these things would be much slower if we didn't play games. Life would be much duller, too.

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149 MA **Imagine that you have received some land to use as you wish. How would you use this land? Use specific details to explain your answer.**

I would like to use my land for something that everyone can enjoy. Therefore, I would build a campground on it. Right now we don't have any good places for outdoor recreation in my town. A campground would be an inexpensive place for outdoor recreation and would provide activities that everybody would enjoy.

There aren't many opportunities for outdoor recreation in my town. We have only one small park and a playing field behind the high school. That really isn't enough space for our needs. In addition, the park is not well maintained so people don't like to use it. A well maintained campground would give our town a nice place to enjoy outdoor activities.

We have many opportunities for indoor recreation, but they are all expensive. We have a brand new movie theater, but the ticket prices go up every day. It is especially hard to pay for tickets if you have several children. We have a museum of local history, but that, too, is expensive. Young people like to go to the mall, but of course that just encourages more spending. A campground, on the other hand, is an inexpensive place to spend time, even for large families.

At a campground, everybody can find activities that they enjoy. People can play different kinds of games outdoors, they can go hiking or study nature, or just sit and relax. At night they can enjoy talking around a campfire. It is a nice place for families to enjoy some free time together.

A campground would provide an inexpensive and enjoyable place for families and friends to spend time together. It would be a great asset to our town. I think it would be a very good way to use land.

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150 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Watching television is bad for children. Use specific details and examples to support your answer.**

I think television is very bad for children. It is bad for their health, it is bad for their minds, and it is bad for their values. They should rarely be allowed to watch it.

When children watch a lot of television, they don't get a lot of physical exercise. They just sit and watch all day. Often, they eat snacks while they watch TV. The snacks are probably cookies and potato chips and other food that is bad for their health. Children need to get a lot of exercise. They need to play active games. They also need to eat healthful food. Television watching does not encourage any of this.

When children watch a lot of television, they are exposed to a lot of information and ideas. Some of this is educational, but a lot of it is not. Children don't always know the difference. There is a lot of violence, sex, and other things on TV that children shouldn't see. If children learn about adult topics from TV, they will have a distorted view of the world.

When children watch a lot of television, they are encouraged to be materialistic. Advertising teaches children that having a lot of things is important. It teaches children that they must always have the newest, biggest, or most expensive thing. In addition, the characters on TV shows drive new cars, have fashionable clothes, and live in big houses. This also encourages children to want things.

Television can educate and entertain, but it also gives a distorted view of the world. It generally does not encourage healthful, intelligent, or moral living. It should not be a big part of any child's life.

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151 MA **What is the most important animal in your country? Why is this animal important? Use reasons and specific details to explain your answer.**

The most important animal in my country is the dog. Almost everybody in my country has, or has had, a dog in his or her life. Dogs provide us with companionship, assistance, and protection. Most people like having dogs around.

The biggest reason people have dogs is for companionship. Dogs are companions for people who live alone. They are also good company for people who like to walk or go hunting. They are playmates for children. Dogs make good companions because they like being with people.

Dogs also provide some very important assistance. Seeing-eye dogs help blind people live independent lives. Sheep dogs and other types of herding dogs help farmers guard their animals. Police dogs are trained to find illegal drugs. Dogs' intelligence and desire to please people make them ideal for all kinds of work.

Dogs protect people from danger. Dogs have been able to find lost children. Dogs have alerted people to fires and other dangers. And we cannot forget guard dogs, which protect people and their property from burglars.

Dogs provide companionship to many people. They also assist and protect people. Most people in my country love dogs and appreciate the ways in which they can help us. This is why I think the dog is the most important animal in my country.

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152 MA **Many parts of the world are losing important natural resources, such as forests, animals, or clean water. Choose one resource that is disappearing and explain why it needs to be saved. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

An important resource that is disappearing is our trees. Thousands of acres of trees are lost every year all around the world. They are cut down for fuel or to make room for new houses and shopping centers. We need to save trees because they help us breathe, they provide us with medicine, and they protect our soil.

Trees are essential to our survival because they help us breathe. They are a major part of the process of photosynthesis. They take carbon dioxide from the air to produce oxygen. Oxygen is something we all need. The fewer trees there are, the more this affects our ability to breathe.

Trees are also important in the development of many medicines. Medical researchers are learning more and more about natural medicines from plants. Many drugs are made from plants, including trees. So, trees are important for our health.

Trees are important to soil conservation. This is why farmers usually have trees lining their fields. They know that tree roots help keep the soil in place and are also a factor in underground water distribution. Without trees, soil would be washed away and it would be difficult to grow things.

Trees are important to our lives in many ways. Without trees, we wouldn't be able to breathe, we wouldn't have certain medicines, and we wouldn't be able to grow food. You could say that our survival depends on them.

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153 AD **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A zoo has no useful purpose. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.**

Many people believe that zoos are unnecessary, harmful, and even cruel. If properly managed, however, I feel that zoos have a lot of value. They are educational, contribute to scientific research, and generate interest in environmental concerns.

Zoos can be wonderfully educational places. They provide opportunities to see animals up close. Zoo visitors can learn how animals eat, how they bathe, how they play and fight. They can learn about the different kinds of environments animals live in. They can discover new kinds of animals that they hadn't heard of before. A zoo is the best place to learn about animal life.

Zoos provide scientists with many opportunities for research. Research is safer and easier to conduct at a zoo than in the wild. Researchers have better access to animals and can set up controlled experiments. They are also in a safer situation.

Zoos can get people interested in environmental concerns. When people have the opportunity to see animals up close at a zoo, they become more interested in them. When they learn about how animals live, they can understand how animals become endangered. They are more likely to be concerned about protecting animals and their environments.

Zoos should provide animals with safe, clean, and comfortable homes. It is expensive to run a zoo properly, but it is worth it for the educational and research opportunities they provide.

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154 MA **In some countries people are no longer allowed to smoke in many public places and office buildings. Do you think this is a good rule or a bad rule? Use specific reasons and details to support your opinion.**

It is not fair to ban smoking in public places. It is not fair to take away smokers' rights or ability to relax. Since it is possible to have special smoking (or nonsmoking) areas to protect nonsmokers, there is no reason to ban smoking in public.

Smokers have rights just like everybody else. Some people don't like smoke, but that doesn't mean that smoking should be banned. Some people don't like motorcycles, some people don't like dogs, some people don't like funny hats, but there is no law against having these things in public. People who don't like smoking have to learn to tolerate it, just as they tolerate anything else.

People smoke to relax. They don't smoke to harm other people. If they have to leave a restaurant or a park to go home and smoke, then it isn't relaxing. Other relaxing activities are allowed in public, so smoking should be allowed, too.

It is possible to have smoking areas in public places. Smokers can sit in a special section of a restaurant, airport, or any other public place. Nonsmokers can sit in another section. Then they won't be bothered by the smoke. In this way both smokers and nonsmokers can enjoy their use of public space equally.

It is true that smoking is bothersome to many people, and some people are even allergic to it. It isn't fair, however, to take away smokers' rights just because some people don't like it. It is possible for smokers and nonsmokers to share public space. It is the only fair thing to do.

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155 MA **Plants can provide food, shelter, clothing, or medicine. What is one kind of plant that is important to you or the people in your country? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

The coconut tree is a very important plant in my country. Coconut tree plantations are important sources of revenue, food, and shelter.

Our country earns a lot of money from the export of coconut tree products such as copra, coconuts, coconut oil, and coconut milk. This has been the main source of our foreign exchange for over a century. In fact, many of the coconut plantations were planted by various colonial powers and now, since independence, are run by our own citizens.

We not only export the food products of the coconut tree; we eat them ourselves too. The coconut is the basis of much of our national cuisine. We are famous for our curries made rich by coconut milk. We also use the oil to fry our food as well as to add shine to our skin and hair.

We use the fronds of the coconut tree to provide ourselves with shelter. The walls and roofs of many houses are covered with coconut fronds. The breezes pass through the fronds and cool the interior, but the heavy rains, which fall daily, do not enter.

The coconut tree is a very versatile and useful plant. It is a tree that has served our country well.

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156 EX **You have the opportunity to visit a foreign country for two weeks. Which country would you like to visit? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.**

If I could visit any foreign country, I would go to Iceland. I imagine it is unlike any place I have seen before. In the middle of the summer the sun never sets. I would like to see that and the interesting scenery and learn more about Iceland's history.

I would like to experience some days when the sun doesn't set. Of course, I would have to go to Iceland in June in order to have this experience. It's hard to imagine going to bed while the sun is still in the sky. It would feel strange, but I would like to try it.

I would like to see some of Iceland's beautiful scenery. I have seen it in photos, and I am sure it is much better in real life. I would like to look at volcanoes and walk on glaciers. I want to see the places where steam rises from the ground and go swimming in the natural hot springs.

I would like to learn more about the history of Iceland. I know that Vikings went there from Norway over 1,000 years ago. Why did they want to live in that strange, cold place? How did they begin their lives there? How were they able to grow food and survive? I am sure Iceland has museums that explain these things. I would like to visit them and learn everything I can.

Iceland is a unique place. It would be wonderful to have the opportunity to visit there, to see the wonderful sights, and learn about the history. Maybe some day I really will be able to go.

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157 PR **In the future, students may have the choice of studying at home by using technology such as computers or television or of studying at traditional schools. Which would you prefer? Use reasons and specific details to explain your choice.**

I believe that it is better to study at school than at home. I can learn a lot if I study alone at home, but I can learn more if I study at school with other people. I can gain a lot of information from other people. I also learn a lot by interacting with them. I am motivated to study more if I don't work alone. Therefore, I believe I can learn a lot more at school.

Information comes from technology, but it also comes from people. If I study at home, I can get a lot of information from my computer, DVD player, and televi-

sion. If I study at school, I can get all this information, and I can also get information from my teachers and classmates. So, I learn more.

Interaction with other people increases my knowledge. At home I have nobody to talk to. Nobody can hear my ideas. At school I have the opportunity to interact with other people. We can explain our ideas to each other. We can agree and disagree. Together we can develop our ideas and learn to understand new things.

Competition motivates me. When I am at home, nobody can see my work. Nobody can tell me that I did a good job or a bad job. When I am at school, my teacher and my classmates see my work, and I can see my classmates' work. I want to do a good job like my classmates, or even a better job. So, I want to study harder.

Some people can study very well when they are alone at home, but I can't. I need to have other people near me. When I am with other people, I have the possibility to learn more information. I have the opportunity to develop my ideas more completely. I have the motivation to do a better job. Therefore, school is the best place for me.

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158 MA **When famous people such as actors, athletes, and rock stars give their opinions, many people listen. Do you think we should pay attention to these opinions? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Many people pay attention to the opinions of actors, athletes, and rock stars just because they are famous. Clearly this isn't a good idea. The opinions of famous people are not any better than those of ordinary people, and are certainly not as important as an expert's opinion. In addition, if we pay too much attention to fame, we might not hear what someone is really saying.

For some reason, people tend to think that famous people's opinions are better, but this isn't true. A rock star may know a lot about music, but why should she understand politics better than you do? An athlete may understand a lot or a little about a social issue, but you might, too, and so might your neighbors. It is better to discuss issues with people you really know than to listen to the opinions of someone you will never meet.

If we are going to listen to other people's opinions, we should listen to the experts. A political scientist will have an opinion on politics that is worth listening to. You might not agree with this opinion, but at least you know it is based on knowledge and experience. You don't know where a celebrity's opinion comes from.

Sometimes all we see is a person's fame, but we don't really hear what they say. You might admire a certain actor, for example. When that actor supports a certain political candidate, you might vote for that person just because you like the actor. You don't bother to learn something about the candidate and form your own opinion. You don't take the time to make sure that this candidate represents your beliefs. This is a dangerous thing to do.

We admire famous people for their achievements in their fields. This doesn't mean, however, that we should listen to their opinions about everything. We have the opinions of experts, of our friends and relatives, and of ourselves to examine, also. Often, these are the more important opinions to pay attention to.

159 MA **The twentieth century saw great change. In your opinion, what is one change that should be remembered about the twentieth century? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.**

There were many important changes, both technological and cultural, during the twentieth century. In my opinion, the most important of these is the advances that were made in medical science. The development of vaccines and antibiotics, increased access to health care, and improvements in surgical techniques are all things that improved, and saved, the lives of people all around the world.

Vaccines and antibiotics have saved the lives of many people. Fifty years ago, many people became crippled or died from polio. Now the polio vaccine is available everywhere. In the past, people could die from even simple infections. Now penicillin and other antibiotics make it easy to cure infections.

Increased access to health care has also improved the lives of millions of people. In the past, many people lived far from hospitals or clinics. Now hospitals, clinics, and health centers have been built in many parts of the world. More people have the opportunity to visit a doctor or nurse before they become very sick. They can be treated more easily. They are sick less and this leads to a better quality of life.

Improved surgical techniques make it easier to treat many medical problems. Microscopic and laser surgery techniques are more efficient than older methods. It is easier for the doctor to perform them, and easier for the patient to recover. Surgery patients can return to their normal life more quickly now than they could in the past.

Everybody needs good health in order to have a good quality of life. Advances in medical science have improved the lives of people all around the world. They are improvements that are important to everyone.

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160 PR **When people need to complain about a product or poor service, some prefer to complain in writing and others prefer to complain in person. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

When I make a complaint about a defective product or poor service, I prefer to make my complaint in writing. It is easier to organize my thoughts this way and it is easier to control my emotions. Most important, it gives me written proof, just in case I need it.

When I write, I have a chance to organize my thoughts. I can take all the time I need, and I can write two or three or more versions, if necessary. In this way, I am sure of expressing my thoughts clearly. If I speak to someone in person, on the other hand, I might become confused and nervous. I can't take time to organize my thoughts. I can't erase my words and express my idea again in a different way.

When I write, I also have the chance to control my emotions. If I am making a complaint, I am probably angry. I can express this anger in writing in any way I want. Then I can throw out the letter and rewrite it in a more courteous way. I can express my anger without offending anyone because no one will see the first letter.

When I write a letter, I have written proof of my complaint. This might be important if we can't come to a friendly agreement. If we have to go to a lawyer, I will need to show documentation. A letter of complaint is one document the lawyer will need to prove my case.

Writing a letter gives me a chance to organize my thoughts and control my emotions. It also provides me with documentation. This is why I prefer to make complaints in writing.

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161 EX **People remember special gifts or presents they have received. Why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I think we remember special gifts we've received because these gifts often hold special memories for us. They may be memories of special people, of special events, or even of ourselves as we once were in the past.

Gifts can remind us of special people in our lives. When we look at gifts, we remember the good times we have enjoyed with the giver. We think of the good feelings we have about that person. The giver may be someone we see frequently or infrequently. Either way, the gift is a special reminder of him or her.

Gifts may also bring back memories of special events in our lives. Some gifts mark special turning points in our lives such as school graduations. Some gifts may hold memories of special birthdays or anniversaries. They help us remember the special times in our lives.

Gifts can also be a symbol of our past. A gift received in childhood may remind us of games we enjoyed then. A gift received in high school makes us think of the music or clothes we loved when we were young.

Gifts are important to us because they remind us of the special people, events, and interests of our lives. They are a way of surrounding ourselves with our past.

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162 MA **Some famous athletes and entertainers earn millions of dollars every year. Do you think these people deserve such high salaries? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.**

Famous athletes and entertainers earn a lot of money and they deserve it. They work hard to achieve fame, they provide us with good entertainment, and they give up their privacy in order to do this. I think they deserve every cent they get.

Fame doesn't just appear overnight; people have to work hard to achieve it. If someone has a lot of fame now, it means he has spent years working hard to develop his talent. He has spent a lot of time at low-paying jobs in order to get experience and recognition. He continues to work hard now in order to maintain his talent and fame. Just like anybody else, famous people deserve to be rewarded for their hard work.

Athletes, actors, and musicians provide us with entertainment. On weekends, most of us attend at least one sporting event or movie or concert. After watching a famous person perform, we might even be inspired to learn to play a sport or a musical instrument ourselves. Famous athletes and entertainers help us make good use of our free time. They deserve to be paid for this.

Famous people suffer a loss of privacy. Since we admire them, we want to feel as if we know them. We want to know how they live and what happens in their daily lives. Therefore, journalists follow them all the time in order to find out the details of their private lives. These details, true or not, are published in magazines all around the world. This is a big disadvantage to being famous. Earning a lot of money can, in part, compensate for this.

Famous people work hard to entertain us, and then they lose their privacy. They contribute a lot to our lives. They deserve to earn a lot of money.

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163 MA **Is the ability to read and write more important today than in the past? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Today more than at any time in the history of the world it is important to be able to read and write. This change has been brought about by the Internet, which we use to communicate with one another, to get our news, and to buy products.

Millions of people today communicate through e-mail using the Internet. In the past, people had face-to-face meetings or called one another on the phone. Today they use e-mail and chat rooms. Of course it is necessary to be able to read and write in order to use the Internet for communication.

Today, one can subscribe to news and information on the Internet. When you turn on your computer in the morning, you see the headlines, financial news, sports scores, or social events that you requested. In the past, people got news and information from television or radio, and many still do. More and more people, however, get news from the Internet because they can subscribe to just the type of news that interests them. Again, reading skills are required to do this.

These days it is becoming more and more common to buy products on the Internet. People like this because it is more convenient than going to the store, and because it is easier to find certain products. In the past, people bought everything in stores. At a store one can just pick items off the shelf and ask the store employees any questions about the products. On the Internet, however, reading and writing skills are required to select products and order them. Buying things on the Internet will become even more common in the future.

The Internet will force us all to be literate not only in reading and writing, but also with computers. Today, we must be skilled readers and writers to be successful in the high-tech world.

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164 EX **People do many different things to stay healthy. What do you do for good health? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Our health is the only thing we really have in the world. You can take away our money, our house, or our clothes, and we can survive. Take away our health and we will die. That is why I eat healthfully, exercise regularly, and keep up my social life.

Eating healthfully is important to maintain health. I try to avoid foods high in fat such as french fries or cookies. I also rarely eat meat. I eat a lot of fruits and veg-

etables because they are full of vitamins. I try to cook foods properly so that they don't lose their nutrients.

Exercise is another part of staying healthy. I either walk or ride my bike everyday. A few days a week I work out at the gym, and on weekends I usually play tennis with my friends. I enjoy exercise so it is fun and easy for me to do it. It helps keep me strong and it is good for my heart, too.

Friends are an important part of one's health. Friends help keep you happy and help you deal with stress. Studies have shown that emotional health is related to physical health. Spending time with my friends helps keep me emotionally healthy.

By eating healthfully, exercising regularly, and spending time with my friends, I can keep both my mind and body healthy. Fortunately, I like to do all these things so I am a very healthy person.

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165 EX **You have decided to give several hours of your time each month to improve the community where you live. What is one thing you will do to improve your community? Why? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.**

Volunteering a few hours each week is an important way of investing in the future of our society. I choose to spend my time helping children learn to read. Developing good reading skills will help poor readers keep up with their classmates, open new worlds to them, and help them succeed in life.

Students who are not good readers fall behind their classmates. They don't understand the lessons and they come to school unprepared. By learning to read, these students can keep up with their classmates. They can learn their lessons and be active participants in class.

When students improve their reading skills, they can read books on all different subjects. New worlds are opened up to them. They can travel to different places and experience new ideas without ever leaving their classrooms. Students who can't read well will know only what they see around them.

Students who are poor readers are severely handicapped. Someone without good reading skills will have to work at the most menial jobs. Good readers, on the other hand, have the whole universe open to them. They will have the possibility to learn any job that interests them.

By volunteering to help children learn to read, I help them not only today, but for the rest of their lives. I help them keep up with their peers and explore the world and themselves through books.

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166 MA **People recognize a difference between children and adults. What events (experiences or ceremonies) make a person an adult? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.**

It is not only age but also experience that makes people adults. The world looks at people as adults when they have had certain experiences. These experiences include graduation from school, having a job, and getting married.

Graduating from college is like graduating into adulthood. When a person finishes school, she is no longer dependent on her parents economically. She is prepared to earn her own living. She is experienced enough to make decisions about what kind of job she wants. She is ready to be on her own.

Getting a job definitely makes a person into an adult. A person with a job supports himself. He has responsibilities at work that he must fulfill. Unlike a child, he can't cry or complain to his parents if he doesn't like something about his job. He has to work it out with his boss and coworkers, or learn to tolerate it. The world looks on a job holder as a responsible person.

When a person gets married, she has made the final step into adulthood. She is no longer responsible only to herself; she is also responsible to her spouse and children. She has to be mature enough to make sacrifices for them and to love them unconditionally. She is also now considered old enough to take care of her parents when they need it.

The world looks on people as adults when they have had certain experiences. These are experiences that give people the chance to be independent and responsible.

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167 MA **Your school has enough money to purchase either computers for students or books for the library. Which should your school choose to buy—computers or books? Use specific reasons and examples to support your recommendation.**

Our school already has books in its library and it already has computers. However, I think buying more computers is more important than buying more books. Computers provide access to more information than books, and they provide it more quickly. Also, in this modern world, every student needs to learn how to use computers skillfully. We need computers more than we need books.

Computers, unlike books, provide access to up-to-date information. Right now, the reference books in our library are very outdated. If we buy new books today, they will become old very quickly. Computers, on the other hand, provide the ability to access the latest information on the Internet. They are the best tool available.

Computers also provide information more quickly. Just type in a keyword and many sources of information appear instantly on the screen. It takes much longer to look up information in a book, and often the book you want is not immediately available. You have to wait for somebody to return it or order it from another library.

Computers are an important tool in the modern world, so students have to learn how to use them. If students do all their schoolwork on computers, they will develop the computer skills that they will need in the future. Therefore, we need to have a computer for every student in the school.

If we buy more computers for our school, all the students will have access to the latest information. They will be able to do their work more quickly and they will learn important skills, too. For these reasons, I feel that purchasing computers will benefit us more than buying books.

168 EX **Many students choose to attend schools or universities outside their home countries. Why do some students study abroad? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.**

Although students can get a good education in most subjects in their home countries, it is important to study abroad for at least part of one's college education. By studying abroad, students have the chance to learn a new language, to become familiar with another culture, and to grow in different ways.

It is important to be bilingual or even multilingual in today's world. International communication is important for our global economy. In addition, the Internet and satellite TV give us the opportunity to receive information from all over the world. We need to be familiar with different languages in order to take advantage of this.

Familiarity with other cultures is also important today. It teaches us respect for other ways of life. It can encourage peaceful solutions to conflicts. This will make the world a safer place for ourselves and our children.

Finally, living in a new environment opens us up to experimenting with different ways of doing things. We can have new experiences and try out different things. We can make changes in our habits if we want to. This gives us a chance to explore ourselves and the world more than we could at home.

Study abroad can be enriching. Not only can we learn a new language and understand more about a different culture, but we can learn more about ourselves, too. At the same time, of course, we get an education in the formal sense. Study abroad is a complete educational experience.

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169 EX **People listen to music for different reasons and at different times. Why is music important to many people? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.**

Music has been a part of people's lives since the time civilization began. I think music is important because it helps us express our emotions, it helps us feel connected to others, and also simply because it is a beautiful thing.

Music is an expression of emotion. Music can be sad or happy, calming or agitating, angry or contented. Music can represent any human emotion. When people play or listen to music, they feel their emotions. Often people listen to certain music because they want to feel a certain way. Music has a lot of emotional power.

Music helps people feel connected to each other. When people go to a concert, they are with other people who share their musical tastes. Together they feel the emotions that the music evokes. Also, music has always played an important part in ceremonies, from ancient times to the present. This is because of its ability to make people feel connected.

Finally, people enjoy music because of its beauty. Music is art, an expression of beauty. Whatever emotion it expresses, positive or negative, it is beautiful. Listening to good music can be like looking at a beautiful flower or a spectacular sunset. It can be as beautiful as anything nature gives us.

Music brings a lot to our lives in terms of emotions, connections, and beauty. No culture has ever been without it.

170 EX **Groups or organizations are an important part of some people's lives. Why are groups or organizations important to people? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.**

Groups or organizations are an important part of our lives because we are social people. We like to be with people who are similar to us. The most important groups for us are families, religious organizations, and political organizations.

Our families are obviously our most important group. They give us physical and emotional support. They are part of us; we are tied to them by blood. They are always there for us.

Religious organizations connect us to a larger sort of family. This is a family of people who share our beliefs. Our beliefs are based on tradition. These beliefs have been tested over time. They comfort us in times of stress. They tell us how to respond and act.

Political organizations connect us to people who share our ideas. We may be liberal or conservative or something in between. Whatever our political philosophy, we can find a group that matches it. Political organizations help us to be part of the larger community.

Family groups, religious groups, and political groups all serve a similar function in our lives. They help us feel as if we belong.

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171 MA **Imagine you are preparing for a trip. You plan to be away from your home for a year. In addition to clothing and personal care items, you can take one additional thing. What would you take and why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

If I leave my home for a year, there is one thing I will definitely take with me: my cell phone. With my cell phone, I can call my friends or family whenever I feel lonely, need advice, or just want to talk.

If I am away from home for a year, I will feel very lonely. If I can call my parents, I will hear familiar voices and I will not feel so lonely. Calling my friends will also help me feel better.

I have never been away from home by myself, so there are many things I don't know how to do. I don't know how to open a bank account, cook, or drive a car. With my cell phone, I can call my parents to ask for help with cooking dinner, for example. I can ask them for any advice I might need.

Sometimes, I may just want to speak my own language. I can call my friends on my cell phone and tell them about my new life. This will make them jealous of me. I can call them a lot and tell them about all the wonderful things I am doing.

For me a cell phone is a necessity. On my trip I will need it when I feel lonely, when I need advice, and when I want to talk with friends. Of course, the phone bill will be sent to my parents.

172 EX **When students move to a new school, they sometimes face problems. How can schools help these students with their problems? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.**

When students go to a new school, they often have a problem fitting in. They don't know how the school operates and they don't have any friends. The school administrators, the school counselors, and the teachers can do a lot to help new students become part of the community.

School administrators can help orient new students to their school. They can take the new students on a tour of the school, showing them classrooms, the gym, the cafeteria, the computer labs, and other school facilities. They can explain the school program and tell the students about what is expected of them.

The school counselors can talk to new students about their goals and interests. They should explain the school schedule and help the students choose the appropriate classes. They should also talk about extracurricular activities such as the school newspaper, sports teams, band, and language clubs. They should encourage new students to participate in such activities because it is a good way to make friends.

Teachers can help new students the most. They explain their coursework to them, of course. They can also encourage old students to be friendly with the new students and help them learn the school system. They are with the students all day, so they are aware if a student is having difficulties. Then they can try to help the student themselves, or ask for assistance from the counselors or administrators.

School administrators, counselors, and teachers can do a lot to help students adjust to their new school. It isn't easy, but it pays off with happier, more successful students in the end.

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173 AD **It is sometimes said that borrowing money from a friend can harm or damage the friendship. Do you agree? Why or why not? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your answer.**

It is not a good idea to borrow money from a friend. It is not fair to the friend. It is hard for a friend to say no, to admit that she doesn't have enough money, or to ask for her money back when she needs it.

If you ask a friend for money, it is hard for her to say no. She may do many favors for you easily, but she still might feel uncomfortable about lending money. However, she doesn't want to be rude to you. If you ask her for money, she feels like she has to lend it. This puts her in an unfair position.

Your friend may not be able to admit that she doesn't have enough money. She may be embarrassed to tell you this. Or maybe she just doesn't want to disappoint you. She lends you the money, then she doesn't have enough for herself.

Your friend may feel awkward about asking for her money back. If some time passes before you repay the loan, the friend may feel embarrassed to ask you for it. Maybe she needs it, or maybe she just wants to know what is going on. But she also doesn't want to put pressure on you or make you angry. It is a difficult position to be in.

People all have different ideas about money and it can cause a lot of problems. It is better to borrow money from people you don't know well, such as bankers. Then, if necessary, you can have problems with them, and maintain good relationships with your friends.

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174 EX **Every generation of people is different in important ways. How is your generation different from your parents' generation? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.**

The one thing that makes the difference between my parents' generation and my own is modern technology. When my parents were growing up, they had TV, radio, and cars, but they didn't have the amount of technology we have now. They didn't have personal computers, they didn't have satellite TV, and they didn't have cell phones.

My parents didn't grow up with computers, but I did. They have a computer now, but they don't use it as I do. I write all my schoolwork and keep all my files on the computer. My parents still like to use paper. I do all my research and get all my news off the Internet. My parents still use newspapers and TV. Because of computers, I am accustomed to having more access to information than my parents are. I am used to doing more work more efficiently. It is a completely different way of living.

My parents had only local TV when they were young, but I have satellite TV. I grew up seeing programs from all over the world. I am used to seeing foreign movies and cartoons. I have some ideas about things in foreign countries and a lot of interest in them. Satellite TV exposes me to things that have opened up my mind. My parents didn't have the same opportunity when they were young.

Cell phones are common now, but they didn't exist when my parents were young. They didn't even have answering machines or voice mail. They couldn't talk to people at any time or leave messages easily. I can do this. Right now it is a fun part of my social life. When I have a job it will be more important. I will be able to contact people easily and that will make my work more efficient. Cell phones have made a big difference in the way we work.

Modern technology has made a big difference in the way we work, in our understanding of the world, and in the expectations we have of friends and colleagues. It has completely changed the way we live. The world of my generation is a different place than it was for my parents' generation.

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175 PR **Some students like classes where teachers lecture (do all of the talking) in class. Other students prefer classes where the students do some of the talking. Which type of class do you prefer? Give specific reasons and details to support your choice.**

In my country, the lecture system is the most common system. It is the one I prefer for three reasons: I am used to it, it is an efficient system, and I am too shy to talk in class.

My classes have always been lecture classes. I am used to listening to the teacher talk. We students sit quietly at our desks and take notes. We never ask questions because we don't want to seem stupid. At the end of the course, we take a test. If we can repeat on the test what the teacher said in class, we get a good grade.

The lecture system is an efficient one. The teacher is the one who knows the subject, not the students. It is a waste of time listening to a student's ideas. What good will that do me? Time is short. I want the teacher to give me as much information as possible during the class period.

Even if we could talk in class, I would never open my mouth. I am much too shy. I don't want other students to laugh at me and make fun of my ideas. I prefer to listen to the lecture and memorize the teacher's ideas.

I hope I can always study at a school where they use the lecture system. I like it because I am used to it. I also want to learn information in the most efficient manner possible, and I don't want to interrupt a teacher with my foolish questions.

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176 EX **Holidays honor people or events. If you could create a new holiday, what person or event would it honor and how would you want people to celebrate it? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.**

October 24 is United Nations Day. This day is noted on calendars, but it is not generally observed as a holiday around the world. I want the entire world to celebrate the birth of the United Nations because of its attempts to promote peace and provide basic needs to people everywhere. United Nations Day should be a day to learn about the UN and about our neighbors around the world.

The most important mission of the UN is to promote peace. The sooner we can stop war, the sooner we can all have better lives. We need to appreciate and support the UN's efforts to create a more peaceful world.

The UN has done a lot of work to provide basic needs to people around the world. It has health programs and education programs. It provides assistance to refugees. The UN has done a lot to improve the lives of people everywhere. This work should be honored.

On United Nations Day, people should spend time learning about the work of the UN. Schools, universities, and community organizations can have workshops and fairs that provide information about the UN. The celebration should also include celebrating different cultures around the world. There could be food, games, and music from different countries. Learning about other countries is a first step toward world peace.

The United Nations has done a lot of work to promote world peace and provide basic human needs. This work is important to all of us. It needs to be recognized, supported, and celebrated.

177 MA **A friend of yours has received some money and plans to use all of it either**

- **to go on vacation**
- **to buy a car**

Your friend has asked you for advice. Compare your friend's two choices and explain which one you think your friend should choose. Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

I advise my friend to spend his money on a car. A car is a much better investment. It is useful, it lasts a long time, and, most of all, my friend can use it to take me places.

A car is a very useful thing. If my friend buys one, it will be easier for him to get to school and work. He could even get a different job farther from home. He can help his parents with his car by going shopping for them. A vacation, on the other hand, is nice but not practical. It is not something my friend can use in his daily life. It is just a luxury.

A car lasts a long time. If my friend gets a good model and takes care of it, he can drive it for years. A vacation, on the other hand, is short. It lasts only a few days or weeks. Then my friend will be left with nothing but memories.

If my friend gets a car, then I will benefit. My friend can take me places with him. We can go to movies or for drives in the countryside. My friend might even be nice enough to drive me around while I do my errands. He wouldn't be able to share his vacation with me, however. I don't think he has received enough money to invite me along.

My friend shouldn't waste his money on a vacation. It isn't practical, it doesn't last, and he can't share it with me. Buying a car is the best use for his money.

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178 EX **The 21st century has begun. What changes do you think this new century will bring? Use examples and details in your answers.**

The 21st century will bring many changes. Some of these changes have already begun. Some of the biggest changes of the new century will be in the areas of access to information, international relations, and family structure.

We have already entered the Information Age. The Internet has made information available to everyone. As time goes on, more and more people will use the Internet regularly. It will become a common part of everyday life. We will not have to go to libraries to do research, travel to hear an expert speak, or go to a store to buy a book. All the information we want will be available to us at home on our computers.

The face of international relations is changing. Countries will have to change the way they relate to one another because of the global economy. They will have to cooperate more. Already we have the European Economic Union. In the new century, countries will continue to form new alliances because of the global economy.

Family structure will also change. The traditional mother/father/children family will no longer be the only type. There will be more single-parent families and more families with adopted children. There will also be more couples who have few children or none at all.

Whatever the changes may be, whether in the way we receive information, the way nations cooperate with one another, or the way families are defined, you can be sure that there will be more change. Change is a constant.

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179 EX **What are some of the qualities of a good parent? Use specific details and examples to explain your answer.**

I am fortunate to have good parents, so it is easy for me to identify the qualities that make them good. These qualities are unconditional love, trust, and respect for me and my brothers and sisters.

All parents love their children, but not all love is unconditional. Some parents would not love their children if they married someone of a different religion or ethnic group. Some parents would not love their children if they had a different sexual orientation. My parents would. My parents love us no matter what choices we make for ourselves.

Part of unconditional love is trust. My parents trust us to do what is right. They know we would never do anything to harm them. They trust us so we trust them. We know they won't hurt or mistreat us.

Because our parents love us, they also respect us. They treat us as individuals. They accept our differences. They do not expect us to be like them. They want us to make our own way in the world, not follow in their footsteps.

Without my parents' love, I would not feel confident. Without their trust, I would not feel free to do what I want. Without their respect, I would not feel comfortable on my own. All children should have such wonderful parents.

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180 EX **Movies are popular all over the world. Explain why movies are so popular. Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.**

Movies are popular because people are great watchers. We like to watch other people's lives. By going to the movies we can bring excitement into our lives, express our emotions, and imagine ourselves as someone else.

Our lives are not adventurous or glamorous like the movies. We don't fight the bad guys all day and then go home to a luxury apartment. We just go to school, do our homework, eat, talk to our friends, and sleep. We need a little excitement in our lives and we find excitement at the movies.

Humans are very emotional. We all like to cry and laugh. Sad movies give us a chance to cry about our sadness. Funny ones give us a chance to laugh about our joy. Sometimes it is easier to express our emotions in a dark movie theater.

Now I am a student, but I know some day I want to be a scientist or a politician or a famous model. When I go to the movies, I can see my role models. I can see what they wear and how they talk. I can imagine myself as they are, and maybe some day I will really be like them.

Even though my life is quiet, I can go to the movies and watch someone else's life. I can share their emotions and their everyday life. I wonder if they would like to share mine.

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181 MA **In your country, is there more need for land to be left in its natural condition or is there more need for land to be developed for housing and industry? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

In my country we need to use land for building. Our country is developing and our industrial sector is growing. People are moving to the cities. We need to build more factories, houses, and stores.

Our industrial sector has grown a lot over the past decade. We have built many factories and we will continue to build more. The growth of industry has helped our economy. There are more jobs now. If we build more factories, there will be even more jobs.

Building more factories means that we need more houses. Many people are moving to the cities to get jobs in the new factories. They need places to live. Right now, we don't have enough houses in the cities. It is a big problem. We need to build more houses near the new factories.

We also need to build more stores. When people move to live in a city, they need to go shopping somewhere. They need to buy food and clothes. Right now, our cities have a lot of stores in their downtowns. We need to build more stores, however, in the neighborhoods around the factories. Then it will be easier for people to do their shopping. They won't have to travel to a crowded downtown.

Our economy is growing so we need to build many things. We need to build new factories, houses, and stores. This is the most important use for land in my country today.

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182 MA **Many people have a close relationship with their pets. These people treat their birds, cats, or other animals as members of their family. In your opinion, are such relationships good? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

Pets are important because they provide us with companionship and even with love. It is not good, however, to have too close a relationship with a pet, or to treat it like a human being. Devoting too much attention to pets can prevent you from focusing on other activities and on relationships with people. It can also be a waste of money.

Sometimes people who love their pets don't want to become involved in other activities. If you invite such a friend out for coffee, for example, the friend might say, "I don't have time. I have to walk the dog." Sometimes people don't want to take a weekend trip because they don't want to leave their pets alone. They put their pets' interests before their own. Then they live life for their pets and not for themselves.

Loving a pet too much can interfere with good relationships with people. Sometimes people neglect their spouses and children in favor of their pets. A person who lives alone might devote all his attention to his pet. He might lose interest in making friends and being with people. A relationship with a pet is less complicated than a relationship with a person. Sometimes it seems easier to choose pets over people.

People spend thousands of dollars on their pets, but this money could have other uses. It seems strange to buy special food for a pet or take it to the doctor, when some people don't have these things. Children all around the world grow up without enough food, or never get medical care. It would be better to give a pet simple things and send the extra money to charity.

Pets give us a lot and they deserve our care and attention. It is never a good idea to go to extremes, however. It is important to balance your pet's needs with your own.

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183 EX **Films can tell us a lot about the country where they were made. What have you learned about a country from watching its movies? Use specific examples and details to support your response.**

When I watch movies from other countries, I realize that people everywhere really are similar. We may have different languages and cultures, but we all want to get an education, need to make a living, and like to have fun.

Once I saw a movie made in China. It showed parents helping their children with their homework. My parents helped me the same way. Another time I saw a movie from Argentina. It showed schoolchildren playing a game during recess. My friends and I used to play the same game at school. Seeing these films showed me that education is a common goal in every country. Children go to school and their parents help them with their work and want them to do the best they can. Education is something we all have in common.

By watching foreign movies, I see the different ways people earn a living. In some countries, people choose their careers according to their interests and talents. In other countries, their parents choose their careers for them. But in every country, finding a way to earn a living is a major concern, and working hard is respected. Earning a living is another common goal.

Movies often show how people have fun. People everywhere want to be entertained and want to spend time with family and friends. Different cultures may enjoy different types of activities, but all cultures enjoy some form of sports, music, and dancing. Everybody likes to have fun.

The movies I've seen make it clear to me that no matter what the cultural differences are between countries, people everywhere have the same basic needs and goals.

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184 PR **Some students prefer to study alone. Others prefer to study with a group of students. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.**

I don't like to study alone. I almost always prefer to study with a group of students. This helps me learn the material better, it keeps me focused, and it's fun, too.

I learn more when I study with a group. In a group, we can help each other out. If I missed something in class, another student in the group can give me the missing information. If I don't understand something, the other students can explain it to me. When we discuss topics together, we develop our ideas and understand the topic better.

Studying in a group helps keep me focused. I am with friends who are studying, so I study, too. If I study alone at home, I might get distracted. I might put my books down and go watch TV or call a friend. In a group, we decide a time and a place to study, and then we do it. We keep each other focused on the task.

It's more fun to study in a group than alone. I feel happy when I am with my friends, even when we are working hard. After we finish studying, we usually go out for coffee or to the movies. This is something to look forward to. It is always nice to spend time with my friends.

I look forward to being with my friends, so I look forward to studying when I study with them. The group helps me study better and learn more. Studying with a group is the best way for me.

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185 MA **You have enough money to purchase either a house or a business. Which would you choose to buy? Give specific reasons to explain your choice.**

If I had enough money, I would purchase a business, not a house. A house is only a place to live, but a business is much more. With a business, I could earn enough money to buy a house and do other things as well. I could travel, for example, and I could help my family, too.

I have always wanted to buy a house, and a business would make this possible. With a business I would earn enough money to buy a house. It might not happen right away, but after a few years in the business, I am sure I would have enough money. Then I would have both a business and a house.

After I buy my house, I could use my money to travel. I would like to visit other countries. With a business, I could earn enough money to do this. I might also travel for business. I might have to go to other countries to attend conferences or meet clients. One way or another, a business would give me the chance to travel.

One of my goals is to help my family. My parents don't own a house. With a business, I could help them buy one. I could also take care of them when they get older. I would also like to be able to send them on a trip. If I had a good business, I could help my parents in all these ways.

A house is just one thing, but a business is so much more. A good business would give me the opportunity to buy a house, travel, and help my parents. Buying a business is an investment for the future.

ANSWER KEY

Integrated Task

Step 1: Plan

PRACTICE 1 (Page 48)

Possible answers:

READING 1

Main idea — Invasive plants harm native plants.

Supporting details
(1) They are introduced to an area through gardening.
(2) They escape from the garden and grow wild.
(3) They push out native species, causing devastating effects on the local ecology.

LECTURE 1

Main idea — Garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.

Supporting details
(1) It competes with other spring-blooming species.
(2) The West Virginia white butterfly is threatened by this plant.
(3) Garlic mustard was introduced to the United States as a food source

READING 2

Main idea — TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance.

Supporting details
(1) Children who watch a lot of TV get lower grades and test scores.
(2) Few TV programs teach academic or thinking skills.
(3) When children spend time watching TV, they spend less time on homework, with other people, and being active.

LECTURE 2

Main idea — TV watching can actually improve school performance.

Supporting details
(1) TV exposes children to new ideas and information.
(2) Children should watch some TV, but not too much.

READING 3

Main idea — A particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people has been successful.

Supporting details
(1) Many teens participated in antismoking events, and many saw antismoking ads.
(2) Teens who saw the ads were less likely to start smoking.
(3) The public health department will continue and expand the campaign.

LECTURE 3

Main idea: The initial results of public health campaigns can be misleading.

Supporting details:
(1) Surveys taken near the end of an antismoking campaign showed 40% unlikely to try smoking.
(2) Surveys taken three months later showed 58% very likely to try smoking.

READING 4

Main idea: A good mood makes shoppers buy more.

Supporting details:
(1) Mood can be affected by weather, personal life, and store environment.
(2) Retailers create a store environment to have a positive impact on mood and therefore on sales.

LECTURE 4

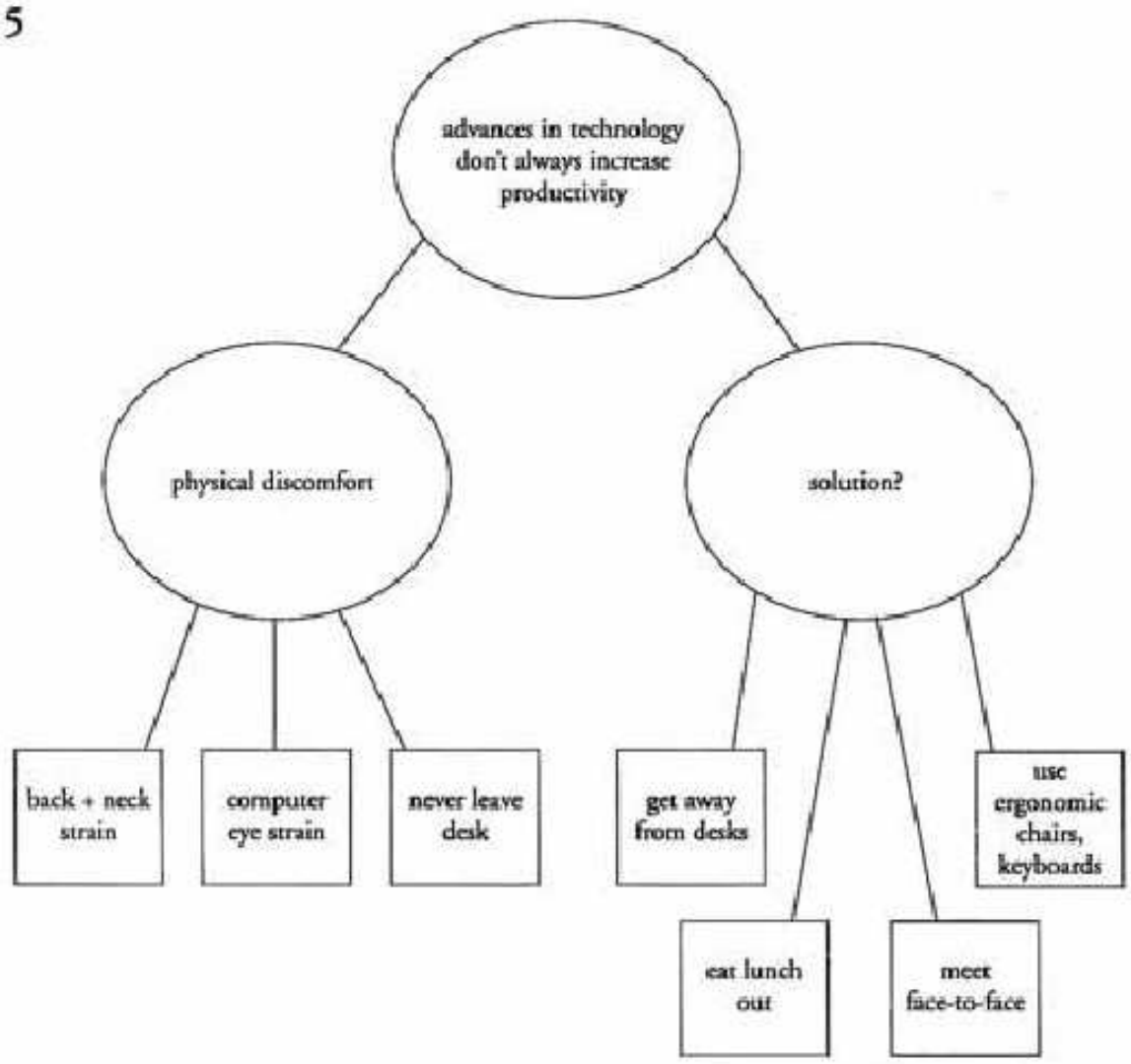
Main idea: Studies show that mood can make consumers spend more time shopping.

Supporting details:
(1) When listening to slow music, restaurant patrons remained longer and purchased more food.
(2) When listening to familiar music, shoppers stayed in a store longer and expressed more positive opinions about the products.

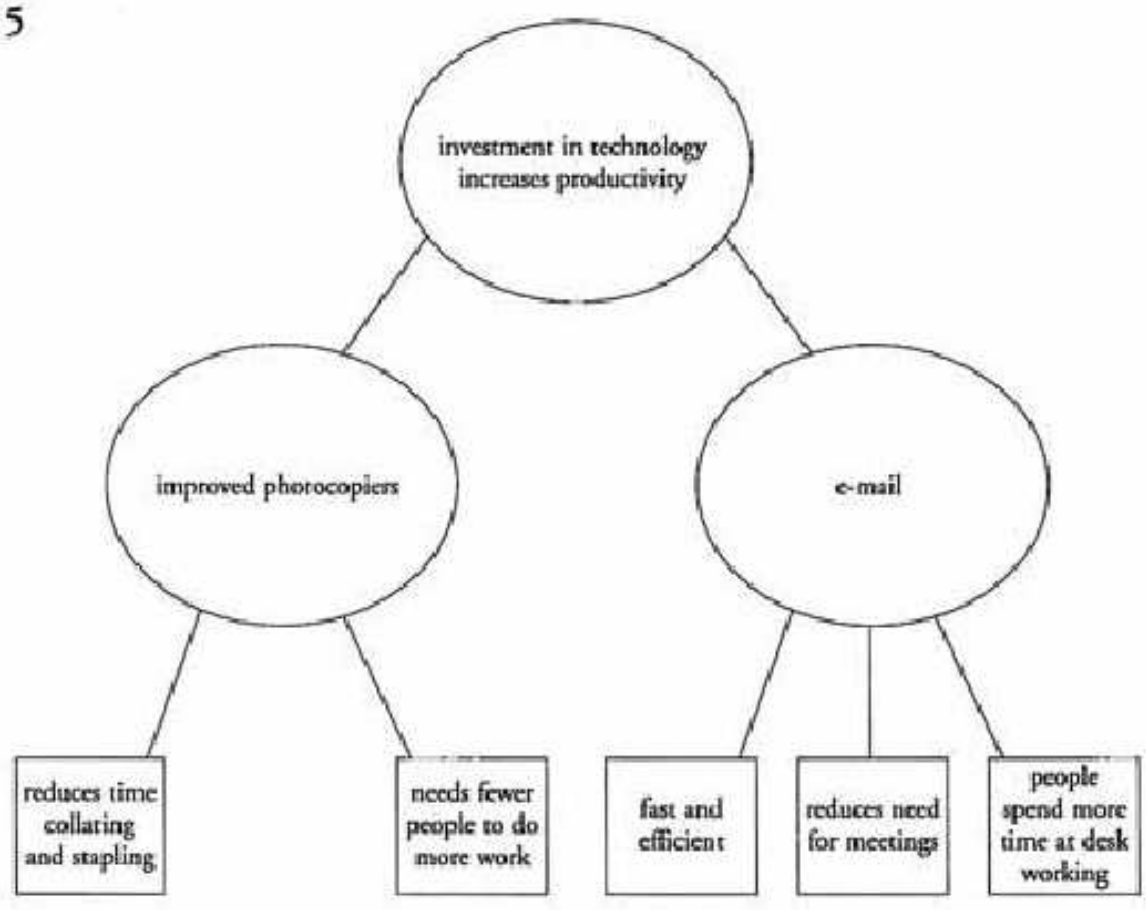
PRACTICE 2 (Page 52)

Possible answers:

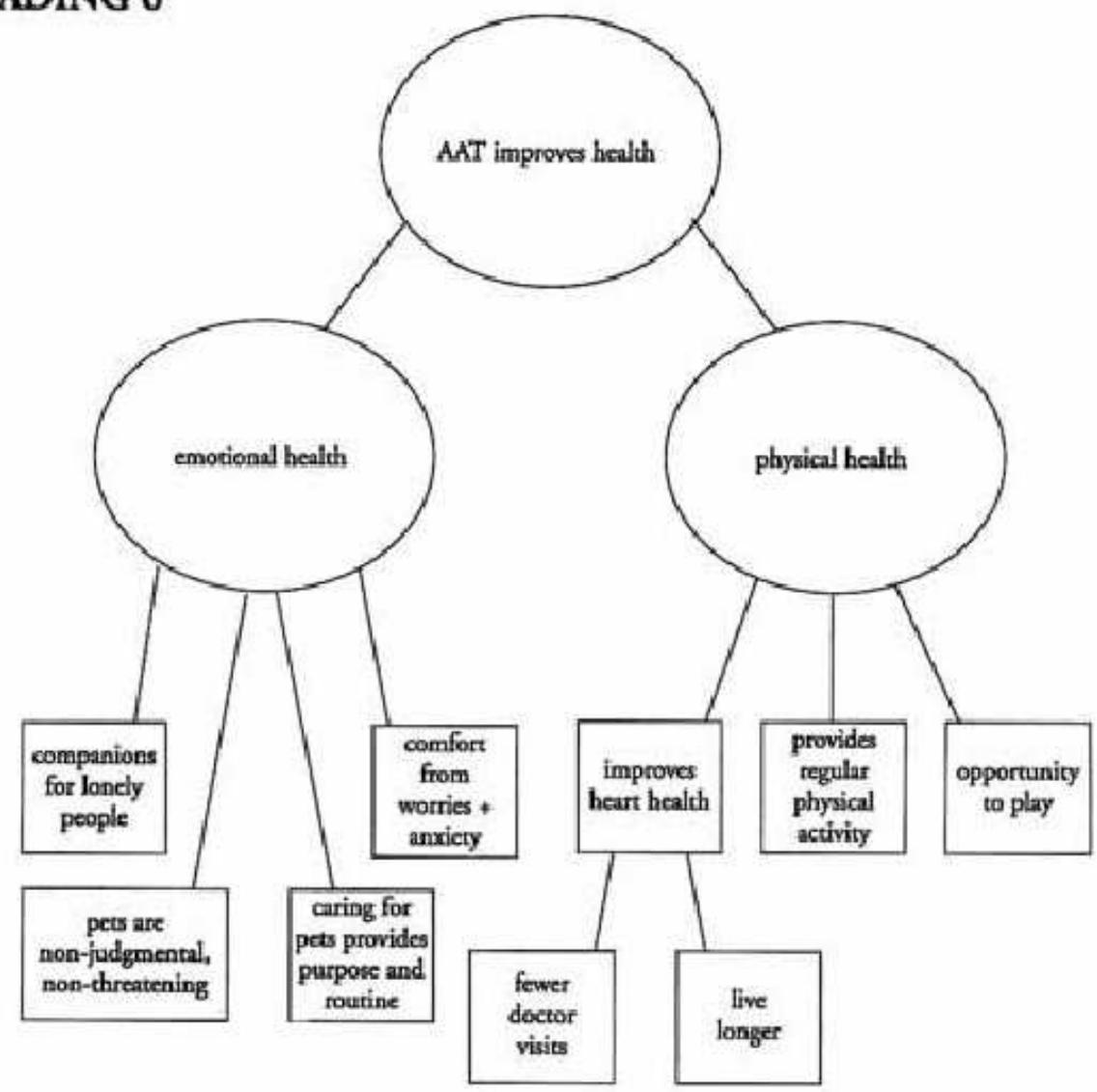
READING 5



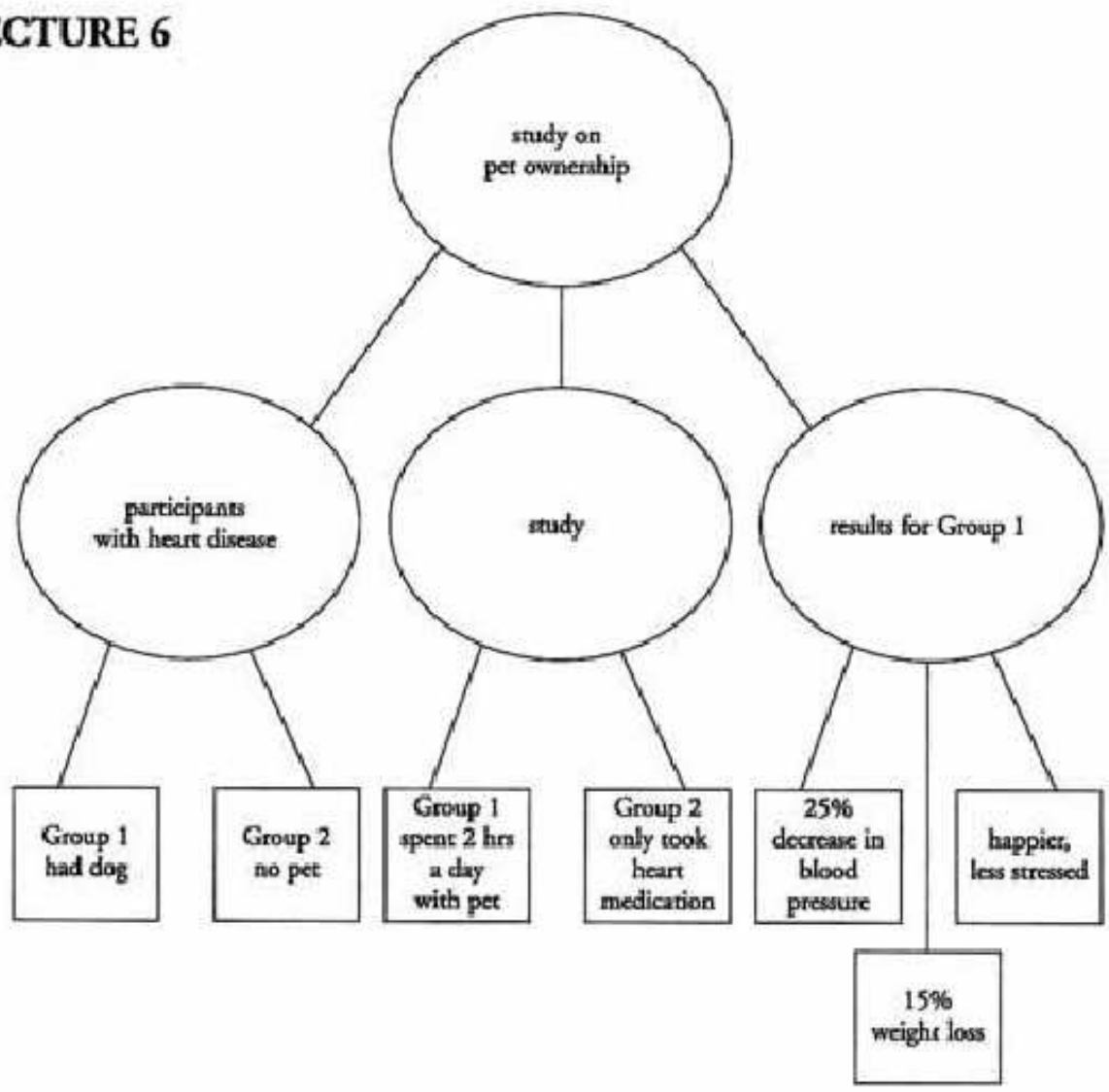
LECTURE 5



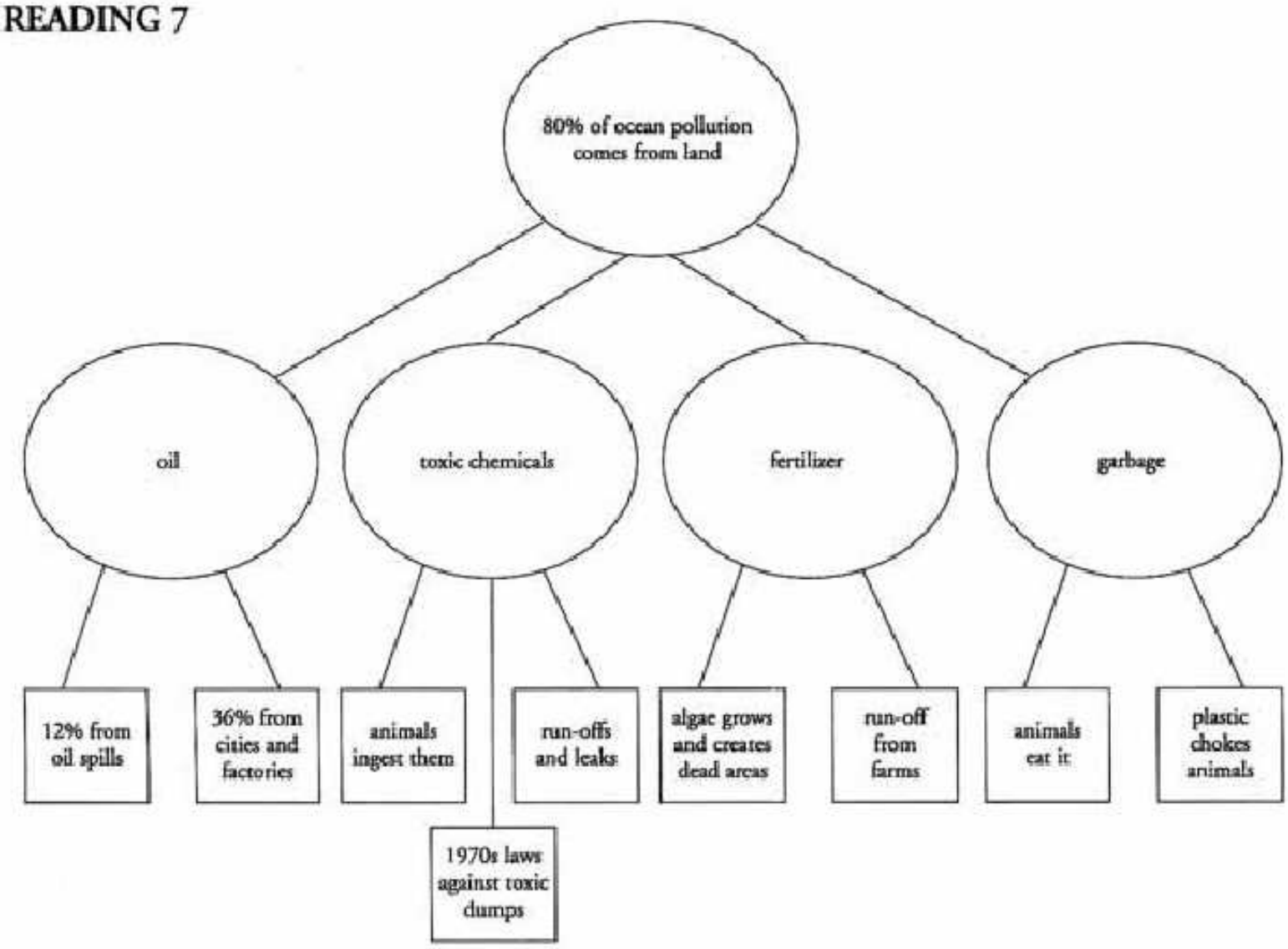
READING 6



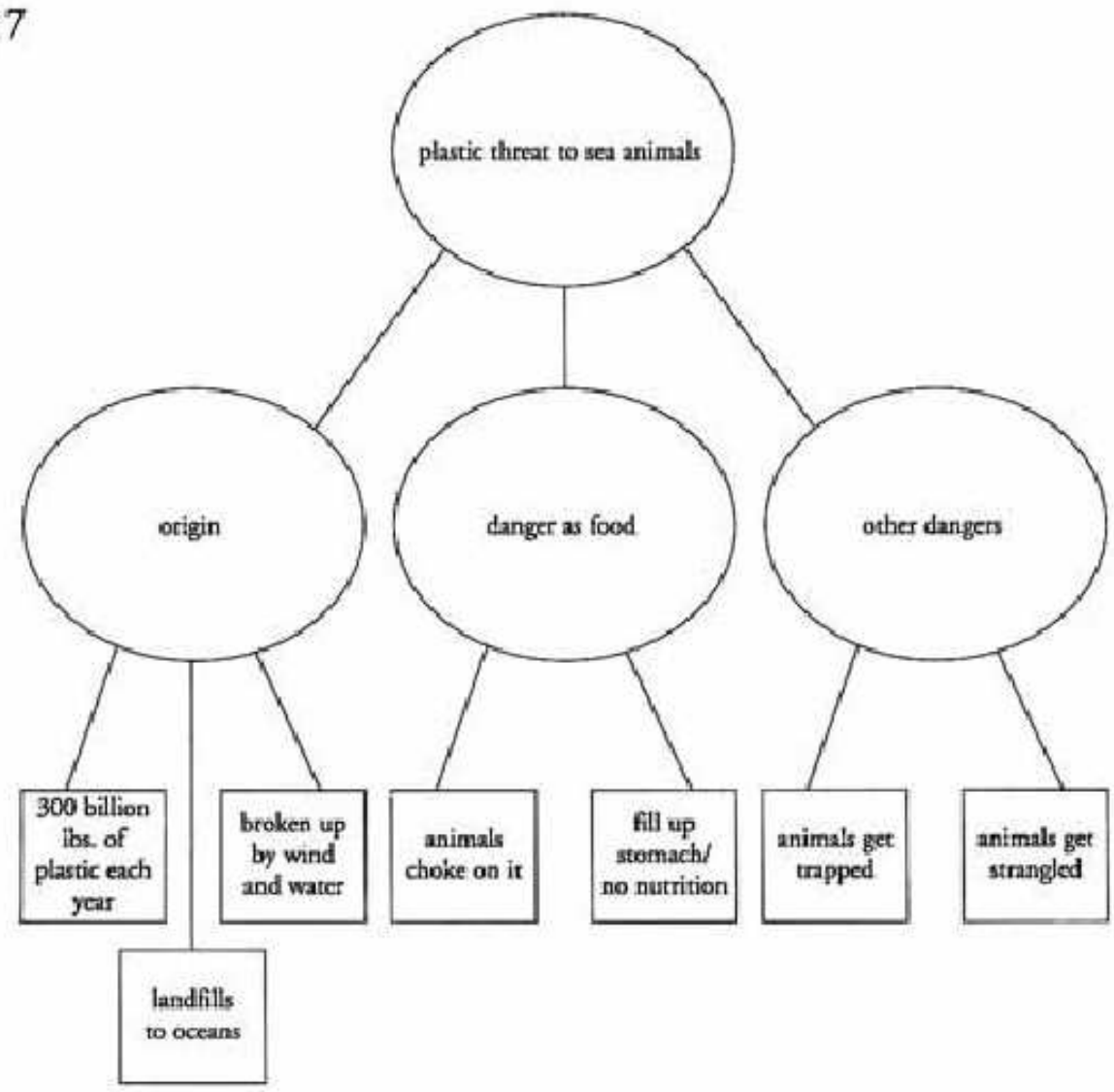
LECTURE 6



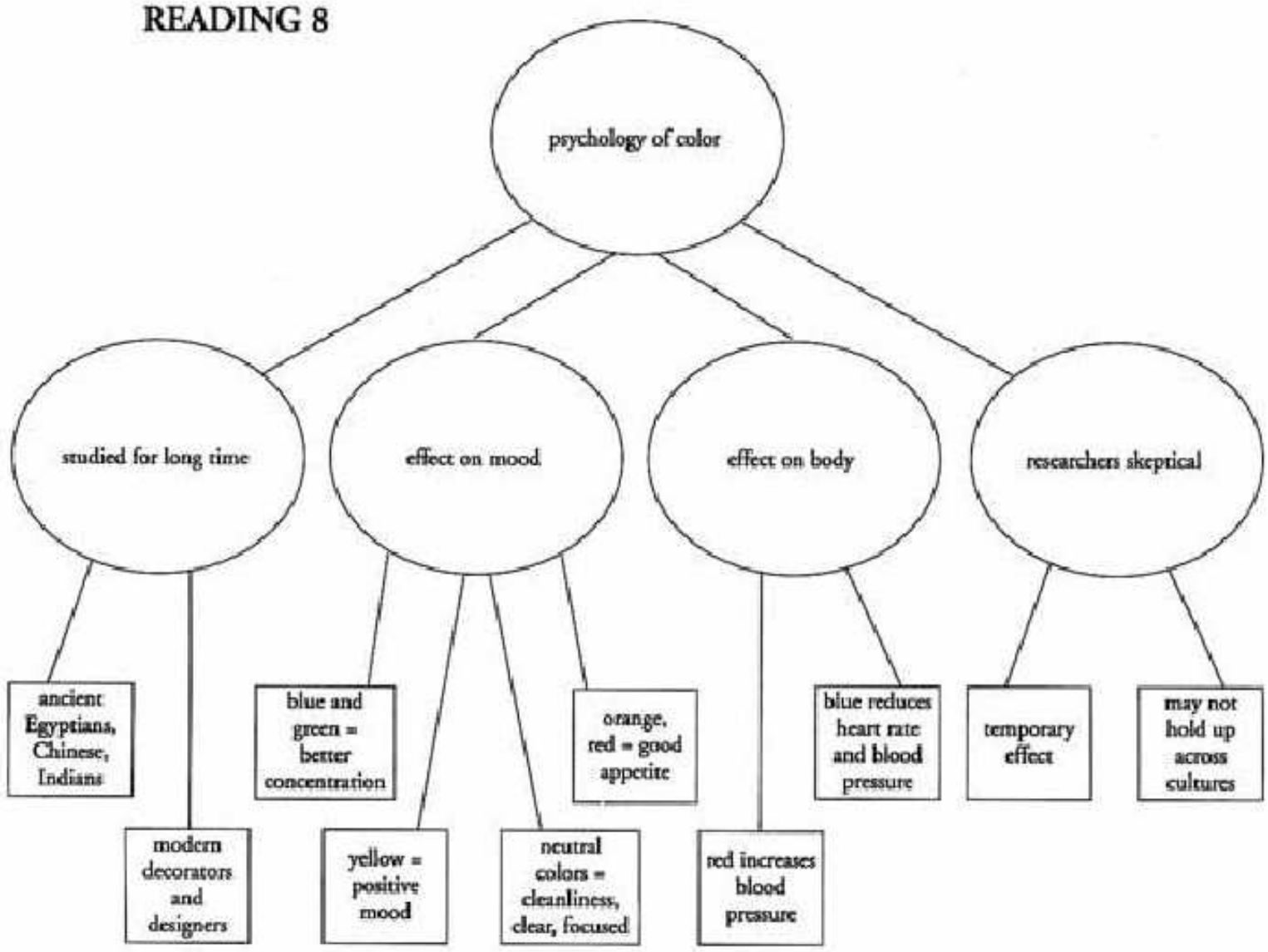
READING 7



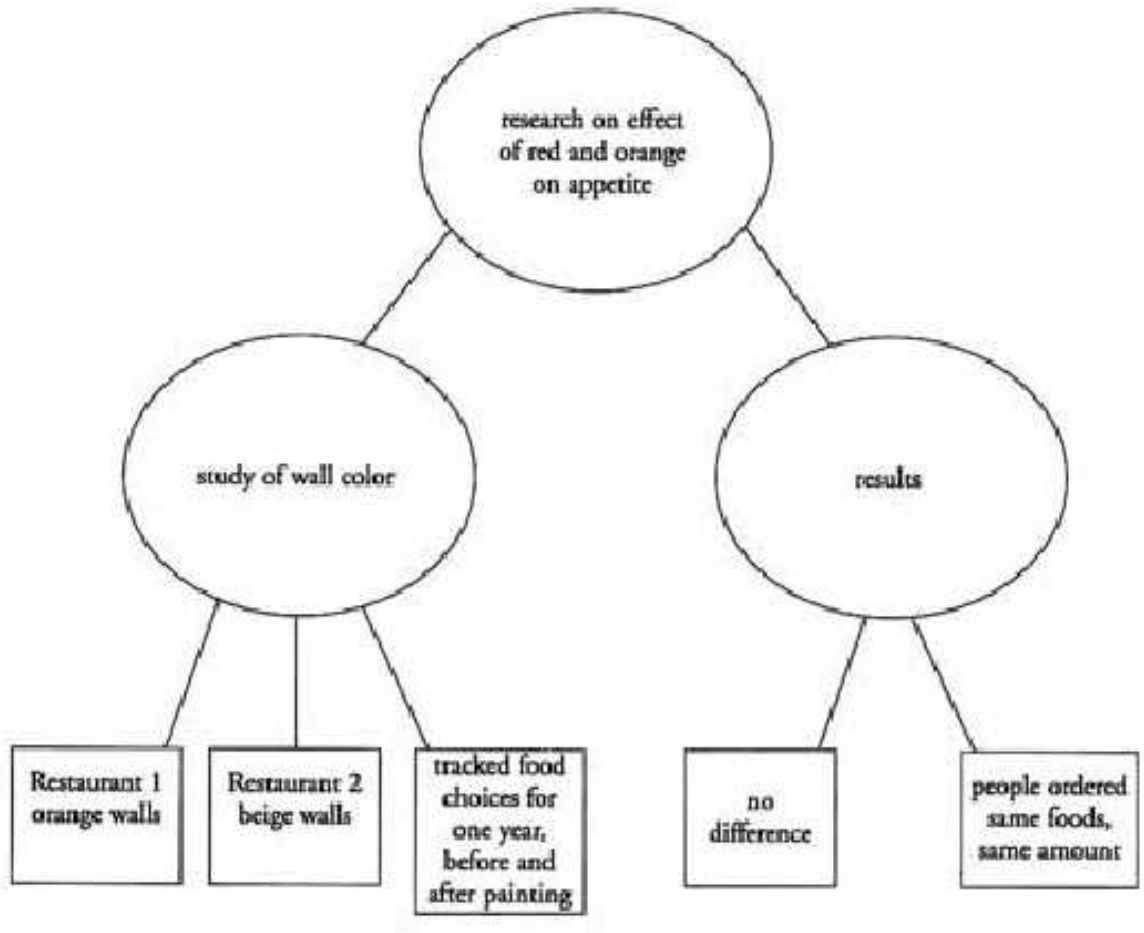
LECTURE 7



READING 8



LECTURE 8



Step 2: Write

PRACTICE 1 (Page 65)

Possible answers:

READING 1	The author states that invasive plants harm native plants.
LECTURE 1	The speaker explains that garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.
READING 2	The author believes that TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance.
LECTURE 2	The speaker proposes that TV watching can actually improve school performance.
READING 3	The author tells us about a particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people that has been successful.
LECTURE 3	The speaker warns us that initial results of public health campaigns can be deceptive.
READING 4	The author proposes that a good mood makes shoppers buy more.
LECTURE 4	The speaker explains that studies show that music can make consumers spend more time shopping.
READING 5	The author asserts that advances in technology don't always lead to increased productivity.
LECTURE 5	The speaker suggests that investment in technology is paid back in increased productivity.
READING 6	The author explains that animal-assisted therapy is used to improve emotional and physical health.
LECTURE 6	The speaker tells us about a study that showed positive effects of pet ownership on health.
READING 7	The author warns that ocean pollution is a serious problem.
LECTURE 7	The speaker explains how plastic garbage threatens sea animals.
READING 8	The author describes psychological effects of color.
LECTURE 8	The speaker tells us about a study that showed no effect of color on appetite.

PRACTICE 2 (Page 67)

Possible answers:

1. The author states that invasive plants harm native plants, and the speaker explains that garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.
2. The author believes that TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance. The speaker, on the other hand, proposes that TV watching can actually improve school performance.
3. The author tells us about a particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people that has been successful. In contrast, the speaker warns us that initial results of public health campaigns can be misleading.
4. The author proposes that a good mood makes shoppers buy more. Similarly, the speaker explains that studies show that music can make consumers spend more time shopping.
5. The author asserts that advances in technology don't always lead to increased productivity. The speaker, in contrast, suggests that investment in technology is paid back in increased productivity.
6. The author explains that animal-assisted therapy is used to improve emotional and physical health, and the speaker tells us about a study that showed positive effects of pet ownership on health.
7. The author warns that ocean pollution is a serious problem. In the same way, the speaker explains how plastic garbage threatens sea animals.
8. The author describes psychological effects of color. In contrast, the speaker tells us about a study that showed no effect of color on appetite.

PRACTICE 3 (Page 69)

1. C	4. B	7. A	10. C	13. B
2. A	5. A	8. B	11. C	
3. B	6. C	9. A	12. A	

PRACTICE 4 (Page 73)

Possible answers:

1. Garlic mustard is a problem in the U.S. because it threatens other spring-blooming plants by taking up light, nutrients, and space.
2. Garlic mustard also threatens the West Virginia white butterfly. It competes with another type of mustard which is the butterfly's food source.
3. Garlic mustard was first grown on Long Island for food and has since spread to other areas of the country.
4. Children can learn new things from TV.
5. The amount of time spent watching TV is important.
6. More than three hours a day of TV watching results in lower reading and math test scores.

7. Surveys made at the end of an antismoking campaign showed that 50% knew about the campaign and 40% would probably not smoke.
8. Three months later, the numbers had changed.
9. More than half said they would probably smoke, and fewer than one-third said they knew about the campaign.
10. Research showed that slow music caused customers to stay at the restaurant longer and order more food.
11. Some of the study subjects, college students, heard popular music in the store, and others heard older music.
12. Those who heard familiar music shopped longer and said better things about the store's products.

PRACTICE 5 (Page 77)

Possible verbs; the quotes are shown where needed.

1. The author explains that invasive plants may have "devastating" results.
2. The author asserts that most children's TV programs don't have "valuable content."
3. The author reports that antismoking campaigns for teens have had "significant success."
4. The speaker claims that offices save money because office workers "can now devote themselves to other tasks."
5. The speaker states that when children watch TV, they "actually do better in school."
6. The author points out that play helps people "live longer, healthier lives."
7. The author remarks that neutral colors are used in health care centers to "convey a sense of cleanliness."

PRACTICE 6 (Page 80)

Possible summaries:

SUMMARY 1

The author states that invasive plants harm native plants, and the speaker explains that garlic mustard is an invasive species that causes problems.

Gardeners have introduced nonnative plants for food and medicine. They have also planted them because they are hardy, drought resistant, or beautiful. However, these plants escape from the garden and cause problems. Invasive plants harm native species by shading them out, strangling them, or using up all the nutrients in the soil. The local ecology suffers because there are fewer native plants and animals lose their homes and food.

The speaker mentions garlic mustard as an example of an invasive plant that harms the local ecology. It threatens other spring-blooming plants by taking up light, nutrients, and space. It also threatens the West Virginia white butterfly by competing with another type of mustard which is the butterfly's food source. Garlic mustard was first grown on Long Island for food and has since spread to other areas of the country.

SUMMARY 2

The author believes that TV viewing has negative effects on children's school performance. The speaker, on the other hand, proposes that TV watching can actually improve school performance.

According to the author, children who have TV sets in their bedrooms don't do as well in school as their classmates. Some people think of TV as educational, but the author asserts that most children's TV programs don't have "valuable content." In addition, TV takes time away from important activities like doing homework or being with other people. Parents can help their children by turning off the television.

The lecturer does not agree with this point of view. It is his opinion that children actually can learn new things from watching TV. The lecturer points out, however, that the amount of time spent watching TV is important. The speaker says that more than three hours a day of TV watching can result in lower reading and math scores.

SUMMARY 3

The author tells us about a particular smoking prevention campaign aimed at young people that has been successful. In contrast, the speaker warns us that initial results of public health campaigns can be misleading.

The antismoking campaign described in the passage included advertising, no-smoking policies, and antismoking events. Many teens participated in the events and many more saw the ads. The public health department plans to continue with this successful campaign to improve public health among young people in the state.

The speaker warns us that we can be deceived by the initial results of public health campaigns. She mentioned a recent antismoking campaign as an example. Surveys made at the end of the campaign showed that 50% knew about the campaign and 40% would probably not smoke. Three months later, however, the numbers had changed. Many more said they would probably smoke and many fewer said they knew about the campaign. So, a public health campaign that looks successful at first can look less successful a few months later.

SUMMARY 4

The author proposes that a good mood makes shoppers buy more. Similarly, the speaker explains that studies show that music can make consumers spend more time shopping.

The reading passage explains that a shopper's mood may be influenced by things that retailers cannot control, such as the weather or personal or work problems. Retailers can, however, influence shoppers' moods by controlling the store environment. Shoppers buy more when retailers use lighting, color, and music to improve shopper mood.

The speaker describes research about the effect of music on consumers. Research showed that slow music caused customers to stay at a restaurant longer and order more food. In another study, some of the subjects, college students, heard popular music in a store, and others heard older music. Those who heard familiar music shopped longer and said better things about the store's products. These two studies show that restaurant and store owners can influence shoppers' moods and encourage shoppers to buy more.

Step 3: Revise

PRACTICE 1 (Page 110)

1. C	5. C	9. B	13. B	17. C
2. A	6. B	10. A	14. A	18. A
3. B	7. A	11. A	15. B	19. A
4. B	8. C	12. C	16. A	20. B

PRACTICE 2 (Page 115)

Missing items:
Paragraph 1: Incomplete thesis statement
Paragraph 2: Main idea
Paragraph 3: none

Grammar and vocabulary errors:
Paragraph 1: none
Paragraph 2: Consequently, the harsh climate . . . ; . . . can to be very high . . .
Paragraph 3: Although, because of the losses . . . ; . . . many people in this northern province is . . .

Rewritten essay.
Possible added and corrected parts are underlined.

The reading passage explains why farming is difficult in far northern regions in general. In a similar way, the lecture describes difficulties faced by farmers in a particular northern province.

According to the author, the cold climate of far northern regions makes it very difficult for farmers to make a living. In the first place, the growing season is very short. It might last three months or less, which is not enough time for most crops to mature. Additionally, few people live in northern regions because the cold weather is not attractive. Therefore, farmers have to pay to transport their crops long distances to cities where they can sell them to a larger market. Finally, the harsh climate causes farm machinery to break down frequently. The cost to repair or replace specialized farm equipment can be very high.

The speaker discusses farmers working in a particular northern province. He explains that many people have stopped farming in that area because they are no longer able to make a living that way. One reason is the disease affecting the rye crop, one of the few crops that can be grown so far north. Another reason is the rising cost of transportation. Fewer and fewer farmers can afford to ship their crops to cities. Furthermore, because of the losses due to the rye disease, many farmers have difficulty paying the cost of maintaining their buildings and equipment. For reasons similar to those outlined in the reading passage, many people in this northern province are leaving their farms to look for jobs in towns and cities.

PRACTICE 3 (Page 118)

Corrected words are underlined.

1. Garlic mustard is a problem in the U.S. because it threatens other spring-blooming plants by taking up light, nutrients, and space.
2. Garlic mustard also threatens the West Virginia white butterfly. It competes with another type of mustard which is the butterfly's food source.
3. *correct*
4. Children can learn new things from TV.
5. The amount of time spent watching TV is important.
6. More than three hours a day of TV watching results in lower reading and math test scores.
7. Surveys made at the end of an antismoking campaign showed that 50% knew about the campaign and 40% would probably not smoke.
8. *correct*
9. More than half said they would probably smoke, and fewer than one-third said they knew about the campaign.
10. Research showed that slow music caused customers to stay at the restaurant longer and order more food.
11. Some of the study subjects, college students, heard popular music in the store, and others heard older music.
12. Those who heard familiar music shopped longer and said better things about the store's products.

PRACTICE 4, INTEGRATED TASK (Page 123)

See Step 2, Practice 6 answers.

Possible response:

The author discusses the dangers of cell phone use while driving. The speaker, however, believes that cell phones are not any more dangerous to drivers than other distractions.

The author explains that talking on the phone while driving is dangerous because it distracts the driver. Because of this, drivers in accidents involving cell phones have been held responsible for the accidents. The author also discusses laws that prohibit the use of cell phones while driving.

The speaker disagrees that using cell phones while driving is so dangerous. She points out that drivers can be distracted by things other than talking on the phone, such as eating, talking to passengers, taking care of children, putting on make-up, and other things. She cites a study that found that cell phone use actually causes fewer accidents than other distractions. She mentions another study that used video. The video showed that drivers were less distracted by their phones than by other activities. Finally, the speaker emphasizes that cell phones contribute to our safety. People use cell phones to report accidents and dangerous drivers on the road.

ANSWER KEY

Independent Task

Step 1: Plan

PRACTICE 1 (Page 128)

1. B and C They both mention a specific decision.
2. A It answers the question *Do you agree or disagree?*
3. B and C They both mention reasons why people visit museums.
4. A and C They both state a preference.
5. B It states an opinion.

EXTRA PRACTICE (Page 129)

Answers will vary.

PRACTICE 2 (Page 132)

Possible answers:

1. I would be healthy.
2. Beach, soccer, bicycle
3. No need to heat the house
4. Use a computer
5. Machines are neat.
6. Answering machine

PRACTICE 3 (Page 134)

Answers will vary.

PRACTICE 4 (Page 142)

Possible answers:

1. people to teach me about life
2. laugh and joke with me
3. problems
4. history
5. restaurants
6. tourist and craft shops

PRACTICE 5 (Page 146)

Answers will vary.

Step 2: Write

PRACTICE 1 (Page 151)

1. In my opinion, people's lives are (or are not) easier today.
2. It seems to me that most people prefer (or do not prefer) to spend their leisure time outdoors.
3. To my mind, an apartment building is (or is not) better than a house.
4. From my point of view, it is (or is not) good the English is becoming the world language.

PRACTICE 2 (Page 152)

1. I believe that high schools should (or should not) allow students to study what they want.
2. I guess that it is better to be a leader (or member) of a group.
3. I agree that people should (or should not) do things they do not enjoy doing.
4. I suppose that I would rather have the university assign (or not assign) me a roommate.

PRACTICE 3 (Page 152)

1. I am sure that children should (or should not) spend a great amount of time practicing sports.
2. I am positive that a shopping center in my neighborhood will (or will not) be a benefit to our community.

PRACTICE 4 (Page 153)

1. No doubt a zoo has (or does not have) a useful purpose.
2. Perhaps growing up in the countryside is (or is not) better than growing up in the city.
3. Certainly, our generation is (or is not) different from that of our parents.
4. Conceivably, a sense of humor can sometimes be helpful (or detrimental) in a difficult situation.

PRACTICE 5 (Page 154)

1. All things considered, the family is (or is not) the most important influence on young adults.
2. In general, parents are (or are not) the best teachers.
3. By and large, people are never (or are sometimes) too old to attend college.

PRACTICE 6 (Page 155)

1. In a way, it is better to make a wrong decision than to make no decision. Or, In a way, it is better to make no decision than to make a wrong decision.
2. To some extent, watching movies is (or is not) more enjoyable than reading.
3. More or less, you can (or cannot) learn as much by losing as by winning.

PRACTICE 7 (Page 157)

Possible answers:

1. Opinion: I think the more friends we have, the better.
   Paragraph focus: learn how to trust others
   Paragraph focus: learn what to expect from others
   Paragraph focus: help us profit from experiences

2. Opinion: I believe that playing games is both fun and useful.
   Paragraph focus: teaches cause-effect relationship
   Paragraph focus: teaches us about teamwork
   Paragraph focus: teaches us to follow rules

3. Opinion: Nothing is as important to me as my family.
   Paragraph focus: learned about trust
   Paragraph focus: learned about ambition
   Paragraph focus: learned about love

4. Opinion: I'd rather be alone.
   Paragraph focus: need time to pursue solitary activities
   Paragraph focus: need time to get to know myself better
   Paragraph focus: need time to reenergize mind and spirit

5. Opinion: Traveling alone is the only way to travel.
   Paragraph focus: meet new people
   Paragraph focus: have new experiences
   Paragraph focus: learn more about yourself

PRACTICE 8 (Page 160)

Answers will vary.

PRACTICE 9 (Page 163)

1. E—gives advice (*look for another opportunity; don't give up*)
2. E—gives advice (*maybe you shouldn't make it at all*)
3. C—explains what could happen (*it would bring more variety . . ., give us the opportunity to amuse ourselves . . ., bring more jobs . . .*)
4. D—ends with questions (*Isn't it important . . .? Don't you want . . .?*)
5. D—ends with questions (. . .*wouldn't I? Could you call me . . .?*)

EXTRA PRACTICE (Page 164)

Answers will vary.

Step 3: Revise

PRACTICE 1 (Page 189)

1. B	5. C	9. A	13. A	17. A
2. A	6. C	10. C	14. B	18. C
3. C	7. B	11. A	15. C	19. A
4. A	8. B	12. C	16. B	20. B

PRACTICE 2 (Page 195)

Missing items:
Paragraph 1: thesis statement
Paragraph 2: supporting ideas
Paragraph 3: main idea
Paragraph 4: none
Paragraph 5: none

Grammar and vocabulary errors:
Paragraph 1: none
Paragraph 2: . . . the drinking water <u>are</u> . . .
Paragraph 3: none
Paragraph 4: Life in the countryside <u>help</u> . . .; In the countryside, <u>for instance</u> . . .; . . . they know where <u>there</u> food comes from.
Paragraph 5: . . . I plan to let <u>they</u> grow up . . .

Revised essay.
Added and corrected parts are underlined.

I agree that it is better for children to grow up in the countryside. When children grow up in the countryside, they have a healthier life. They also have a safer life. Children also learn to appreciate nature when they grow up in the countryside.

Life in the countryside is healthier for children than life in the city. Drinking water in the city is usually dirty. In the countryside, on the other hand, the drinking water is clean and pure. Also, the air in the countryside is much cleaner and fresher than city air. In addition, in the countryside children can play outside often, but in the city they have to spend most of their time indoors.

Life in the countryside is safer for children than city life. They don't have to worry about crime because there are fewer criminals in the countryside than in the city. They don't have to worry about traffic accidents, either, because there are fewer cars in the countryside. Furthermore, they don't have to worry about strangers who might hurt them because in the countryside almost everybody knows everybody else.

Life in the countryside helps children appreciate nature. There are few plants in the city. In the countryside, on the other hand, children see trees and flowers around them all the time. They also have opportunities to see wild animals, while in the city they can only see animals in zoos. In addition, they know where their food comes from. In the countryside children are surrounded by farms, but in the city they only see fruits and vegetables in the grocery stores.

Life in the countryside is definitely much better for children than life in the city. It is cleaner, safer, and closer to nature. When I have children, I plan to let them grow up far away from any city.

PRACTICE 3 (Page 198)

Why People Are Living Longer

People are living to be much older these days than ever before. The main reasons for this are greater access to health care, improved health care, and better nutrition.

Basic health care is available to more people now. When someone is seriously ill, he or she can go to a public hospital. There are also more clinics and doctors than there used to be. Years ago, health care wasn't available to everyone. Some people didn't live near a doctor or hospital and others couldn't pay for the care they needed.

People also live longer because the quality of health care has improved. Doctors now know more about diseases and cures. Years ago, people died young because of simple things such as infection or a virus. Now we have antibiotics and other medicines to help cure infections.

The quality of nutrition has improved also. We eat more healthfully than we used to. We know that eating low-fat food can prevent heart disease, and we know that eating fruits and vegetables can prevent cancer.

Improved health care and healthy eating habits allow us to live longer. Now we need to make sure that everyone in the world has these benefits.

ANSWER KEY

Both Tasks

PRACTICE 1 (Page 205)

Paragraph 1:

1. first
2. Next
3. we
4. such as
5. In addition
6. As a result of

Paragraph 2:

1. Consequently
2. such as
3. After
4. Moreover
5. Whenever

Paragraph 3:

1. A major part of
2. while
3. on the other hand
4. first
5. Usually
6. If

Paragraph 4:

1. in order to
2. For example
3. because
4. In addition
5. Although

Paragraph 5:

1. On the contrary
2. Even though
3. as well as
4. if
5. much as

PRACTICE 2 (Page 208)

1. options
2. choice
3. count on
4. transit
5. Driving
6. quickly
7. purpose
8. admit
9. favor

PRACTICE 3 (Page 210)

1. a number of
2. benefits
3. introduce to
4. are apt
5. impulsive
6. relax
7. restless
8. shy
9. confident
10. trade-off
11. response

PRACTICE 4 (Page 215)

1. maintain
2. think
3. advancing
4. in
5. improve
6. interesting
7. You
8. engineers
9. where my cousins still live
10. to

PRACTICE 5 (Page 217)

1. A 2. C 3. C 4. A 5. B 6. A

PRACTICE 6 (Page 218)

1. B 2. A and B 3. C 4. A and B

PRACTICE 7 (Page 220)

Paragraph 1:

1. S 2. Cx 3. S 4. Cx 5. S

Paragraph 2:

6. Cx 7. Cx 8. S 9. S 10. Cx 11. Cx

Paragraph 3:

12. S 13. Cx 14. S 15. Cx

Paragraph 4:

16. S 17. S 18. C 19. Cx

Paragraph 5:

20. S 21. S 22. C-Cx

PRACTICE 8 (Page 222)

1. A 2. C 3. C 4. A 5. A 6. C

PRACTICE 9 (Page 224)

Paragraph 1:

1. like (active), bring (active)
2. are outweighed (passive)
3. cause (active), bring (active)
4. destroy (active)
5. is (active), oppose (active)

Paragraph 2:

6. cause (active)
7. build (active), breathe (active), will become (active)
8. will be covered (passive)
9. pollute (active)
10. will be (active)
11. will be hurt (passive), will be affected (passive)

Paragraph 3:

12. will say (active), will be created (passive)
13. can have (active)
14. will grow (active)
15. will be built (passive)
16. will be (active)
17. can cause (active)

Paragraph 4:

18. will change (active)
19. is (active)
20. is (active)
21. knows (active)
22. brings (active), will change (active)
23. will be lost (active)

Paragraph 5:

24. would be helpful (active), outweigh (active)
25. would be changed (passive)
26. cannot support (active)

PRACTICE 10 (Page 226)

1. A 2. C 3. A 4. B

AUDIOSCRIPT

Integrated Task

SELF-TEST (Page 31)

(male speaker)

After years of warnings from scientists, it has finally become widely accepted that average temperatures on our planet are rising, with many potentially serious consequences. And just in case anyone still has doubts about the actuality of global warming, a recent report on changing conditions in the northeastern United States should help dispel them. Data collected by weather stations throughout the Northeast shows that there has been a definite warming trend in that region over the past half century. The greatest warming has occurred in the winter season. Average temperatures in the December to March period increased between 1965 and 2005. In addition, yearly snowfall totals dropped, while the number of days with at least an inch of snow on the ground fell by an average of nine days. This is a significant change in a region that is traditionally known for its cold and snowy winters.

One sector of the economy that has taken a direct hit from this warming trend is the ski industry. The local economy in many rural areas is dependent on recreational ski centers. Less snowfall means fewer days that ski centers can be open for business. There are also increased expenses from making artificial snow to compensate for the lack of natural snow. The economic impact reaches far beyond the owners of ski resorts. Local hotels, restaurants, ski rental centers, and gift shops all suffer from the decrease in tourism that results from a poor ski season. Warm autumns also have a negative impact on local economies. Brilliant fall foliage brings tourists, and their dollars, to many remote rural areas in the Northeast. A hot summer and warm autumn mean that the fall foliage season is less colorful and less attractive to tourists.

Leading scientists have predicted that average temperatures in the Northeast will increase by several degrees Fahrenheit before the end of this century. In addition, the number of days with snow on the ground will be reduced by 25 to 50 percent. With much of the economy of the Northeast dependent on the tourism that skiing and autumn foliage bring, changes in weather patterns can have a serious effect on the economy of that region.

PRACTICE 1 (Page 48)

LECTURE 1 (Page 48)

(female speaker)

Let's take a look at some invasive species that are causing problems locally. Garlic mustard, a European native, has become a problem in several areas in the United States. It's a cool season plant, blooming in midspring. It prefers moist, shady areas at the edge of woods or along roadsides. It thrives in the same habitat as a number of native midspring bloomers, such as spring beauty, wild ginger, and trillium. Garlic mustard threatens these native species because it aggressively competes with them for light, nutrients, and space. The presence of garlic mustard also threatens many local animals that depend on the leaves, roots, flowers, and pollen of the threatened native plants as a food source.

The West Virginia white butterfly is particularly vulnerable to invasion by garlic mustard. The plant pushes out certain native species of mustard which constitute the major food source for the caterpillar stage of this rare butterfly. In addition, garlic mustard may contain chemicals which are toxic to the butterfly's eggs. It has been observed that eggs laid on garlic mustard leaves do not hatch. Garlic mustard was introduced to the United States in the nineteenth century as a food source and may have had medicinal uses as well. It was first recorded on Long Island but now thrives throughout the eastern and midwestern United States.

LECTURE 2 (Page 49)
(male speaker)

TV has been blamed for a lot of things, most particularly for poor school performance. However, we can't blame the mere fact of TV-watching for low achievement in school. For one thing, not all TV watchers are low achievers. Japanese children, who as a whole have higher test scores than American children, watch more hours of TV than their American counterparts. For another thing, in the past two decades, the amount of time American children spend watching TV has declined, but overall test scores have not risen. The fact is, research shows that children who watch an hour or so of TV daily, but not more, actually do better in school than children who don't watch TV at all.

Why is this? TV can expose children to new ideas and information that they might otherwise not have access to. Children who watch TV occasionally are probably discriminating in the programs they choose to view. Research suggests that an important point is the amount of time spent in front of the TV. Children who spend three hours a day or more in front of the TV do poorly in school, scoring lower on both math and reading tests than children who watch some, but less, TV. Guidelines for parents include: limiting children's TV-watching time to no more than two hours a day; guiding children in their choice of programs to watch; discouraging eating while watching TV; and encouraging children to participate in other sorts of activities such as reading, playing outside, or visiting zoos and museums.

LECTURE 3 (Page 50)
(female speaker)

How effective are public health campaigns? They must be evaluated with care because initial results can be deceptive. Evaluations of the effectiveness of a public health campaign too often take place close to the end of the campaign only. To truly understand the impact a public health campaign may—or may not—have had, we have to look at where we stand several months after the campaign has ended. Unfortunately, this piece is often neglected.

To illustrate the point, let's take a look at a recent campaign to reduce smoking among teens in the Midwestern region. Teens in this area were inundated with antismoking information for the better part of a year. There were ads all over the local communities, representatives went into high schools to offer workshops, literature was distributed, antismoking clubs were formed, in short, all the usual activities of a campaign of this sort were instigated. Surveys taken near the end of this campaign,

in March of last year, showed that well over half of those surveyed were aware of the campaign. This means they reported that they had seen the ads, participated in workshops, attended a meeting, and so on. At the same time, forty percent of those surveyed reported that they were unlikely to try smoking in the next year. It sounds like a great success, doesn't it? Just three months after the campaign ended, however, this last figure changed dramatically. At the end of June, fifty-eight percent of survey participants reported that they were "very likely" to smoke in the next year. At the same time, less than thirty percent reported awareness of the antismoking campaign, so it seems a number of them had already forgotten the ads they had seen just a few months earlier.

This information puts the whole effort in a completely different light. Naturally, no public health official likes to see such poor numbers resulting from such a huge effort. If we truly aim for effectiveness in our public health work, however, we need to take an honest look at all the figures.

LECTURE 4 (Page 51)
(male speaker)

Retailers may find that investment in a good music system for their retail space will bring them a worthwhile return on the money. Several very interesting studies have been published recently which show positive—for the retailer, anyhow—effects of music on shopping behavior.

One study was actually done in a restaurant and compared the effects of fast and slow music on restaurant patrons. The researchers found that patrons who heard music with a slow tempo tended to remain at the restaurant longer than patrons who heard fast music. As they lingered over their meals, they purchased more food and beverages, which of course is the effect desired by the restaurant owner. When restaurant patrons heard fast music, they ate more quickly and tended not to order extras such as appetizers, desserts, and beverages. The average length of time spent in the restaurant when fast music was playing was fifteen minutes less than it was when slow music was playing. In addition, each patron spent on average four dollars less for the meal when fast music was playing.

Another study looked at the effects of familiar and unfamiliar music on shoppers in a clothing store. The study subjects were mostly college students shopping in a store that catered to their age group. Some of them heard currently popular hit songs while shopping—the "familiar" music—while others heard music normally aimed at an older age group. The students who heard familiar music stayed in the store longer than those listening to unfamiliar music. They also expressed more positive opinions of the products offered for sale. This study did not report on how many products study subjects purchased nor on how much money they spent. Retailers reading about such a study would, of course, want to know this type of information. Nevertheless, this study does give us some interesting general information on the effects of music on shopping behavior. Clearly, music has an impact, and retailers need to take this into account.

PRACTICE 2 (Page 52)

LECTURE 5 (Page 54)
(female speaker)

Purchasing new office technology and getting office staff trained to use it involves a significant investment of time and money. Quite understandably, companies are often reluctant to keep spending money in this way. Study after study, however, has shown that the investment is almost always paid back many times over in increased worker productivity. For example, in the past, an office assistant could spend a large percentage of the day photocopying documents, then collating and stapling them. It wasn't unusual for busy offices to hire assistants whose main duties involved photocopying. Now, the newest photocopiers not only copy much faster than the old ones, they also fold, collate, and staple. The work is done quickly and accurately, and office assistants can devote themselves to other tasks. Offices can operate with fewer assistants, thus spending a great deal less on salaries and benefits.

E-mail is another example of how technology has improved office procedures. Communication by e-mail is fast and convenient. It's also cheap. It costs no more to send an e-mail to a colleague in an overseas office than it does to send one to someone sitting at the next desk. E-mail can help projects run more smoothly. Many times, a matter can be resolved quickly through e-mail, thus eliminating the need for frequent meetings. Important updates can be communicated to staff members in a timely manner, allowing everyone to work more efficiently. All of this means workers can spend more time at their desks producing. Hiring trained staff to keep e-mail, websites, and Internet access running smoothly does require some investment of company resources, but the payback more than makes up for it. No doubt about it—investment in office technology is a sound business choice.

LECTURE 6 (Page 57)
(male speaker)

University Hospital, a leader in the field of cardiac disease research, recently conducted a study of the effects of pet ownership on health, more specifically, on heart health. The results showed overwhelmingly that pets can contribute to improving the health of heart patients. Participants in the study were being treated for heart disease at the hospital's Powell Memorial Heart Clinic. Most were in recovery from cardiac bypass surgery. Half the participants were given a dog to care for at home during the course of the study. They were asked to spend one to two hours a day caring for the pet, including walking it twice a day, playing with it, feeding and bathing it, and petting it. The dogs chosen for the study came from a local animal shelter and were all considered to be mild-tempered, well trained, friendly, and easy to care for. The remaining study participants continued with traditional heart disease treatments only, which included both drug and physical therapy and dietary recommendations, but did not involve any specific exercise program to follow at home.

At the end of six months, it was found that those who had been caring for dogs had a decrease in blood pressure as compared to the patients who had received traditional treatment only. They also had an average weight loss 20 percent greater than the traditional patients. Many also reported feeling much happier and less

stressed. High blood pressure, weight gain, and stress are factors contributing to heart disease. If you're wondering what happened to the dogs, put your mind at rest. The majority of dog caretakers in the study elected to keep their pets after the study was over. Several of the study participants who had been on traditional treatment only also expressed interest in the dogs. Other research hospitals in the country are looking to carry out similar studies with hopes of replicating the results. It looks like dogs may truly turn out to be man's best friend.

LECTURE 7 (Page 60)

(female speaker)

Plastic garbage poses a serious threat to ocean animals. Every year, billion of pounds of plastic are produced. Much of this plastic is in the form of bags, bottles, and other sorts of packaging which is used once, then thrown away. Where does all this plastic garbage go? Some of it ends up in landfills, but significant amounts make their way into our oceans. Rainstorms wash all sorts of garbage into storm drains and rivers, and from there, sooner or later it reaches the ocean.

Plastic decomposes very slowly. In the ocean, large pieces eventually get broken up into smaller pieces by the movement of the water and wind. Those smaller pieces can end up floating around in the ocean's waters for decades or even centuries. Sea animals often mistake these pieces of plastic for food. A floating plastic bag could look like a tasty jellyfish to a sea turtle. Sea birds can confuse small bits of plastic with the fish eggs they usually dine on. An animal that tries to swallow plastic may choke on it. Other animals starve to death after filling their stomachs with plastic. Plastic has no nutrition, but the animal doesn't look for more food since it feels full.

Plastic bags, balloons, bottle tops, and other sorts of plastic trash have been found blocking the breathing passages and stomachs of many sea animals, but plastic can be dangerous even if an animal doesn't try to eat it. Animals frequently get caught in the middle of large accumulations of plastic garbage that float around our oceans. Others get strangled by plastic straps or plastic rings. The death toll from plastic in the oceans is high. It has been estimated that tens of thousand of sea turtles and other marine animals are killed each year by plastic garbage in the ocean. For birds the figures are much higher. As many as one million sea birds a year may fall victim to plastic garbage.

LECTURE 8 (Page 63)

(male speaker)

Have you ever noticed that many restaurants have red or orange walls? This fashion comes from the widely held belief that these two colors stimulate the appetite. Restaurateurs hope that by stimulating the appetites of their customers in this way, they can encourage them to order more food.

A large fast-food chain recently decided to test the notion that the color of the decor affects how much food their customers order. This company has restaurants in major cities across the country and caters to customers of all ages, including small children. The traditional décor of this restaurant chain includes beige paint on the walls. Several years ago, the company painted the walls in half of its restaurants orange, leaving the other half of its restaurants with their original beige walls. In

order to compensate for the possible influence of cultural differences between cities, the company made sure that in every city where its restaurants are located, there were both restaurants with orange walls and restaurants with beige walls.

The restaurant chain kept track of exactly what foods were ordered in each restaurant for one year before the walls were painted, and then again for one year after the walls had been painted. They found no difference. On average, customers in each restaurant, whether it had beige or orange walls, ordered the same types and quantities of food. "It's a myth that the color of walls has an effect on appetite, a complete myth," the president of the company said. "We have proven it." The walls of all the restaurants in the chain have been restored to their original beige color. The company president explained that this color is part of the company's image. Now that the study is over, people might be confused if they walked into a restaurant expecting beige walls and got orange instead, so the company president explained.

Practice Integrated Task (page 123)

(female speaker)

Cell phones have been accused by many of making the highways dangerous, but it's time to take a hard look at the facts. What's really behind the majority of traffic accidents? A recent study found that close to eighty percent of automobile crashes were caused by driver inattention. Of course, talking on the phone is a common cause of driver inattention, but it's certainly not the only one. Other causes found in the study were drowsiness, talking with passengers, eating or drinking, and reaching for a falling object. In fact, the study found that while drivers talking on a cell phone increased their risk of an accident, those other distractions increased the risk even more. Another study looked at driver behavior, using video cameras installed in the cars of 70 drivers. The videos showed that drivers were much less distracted by their cell phones than they were by other activities such as reaching for items or talking to passengers. The Department of Transportation lists a number of common causes of inattentive driving in addition to cell phone use. These include eating, talking, putting on make-up, changing the radio, and attending to children. It even includes things like watching videos or reading while driving! The latest distraction is, of course, using GPS.

Discussions about the dangers of cell phone use while driving tend to overlook an important fact about cell phones, which is that they actually contribute to our safety on the road. Drivers place over 100,000 emergency calls on their cell phones every day. They report accidents, road hazards, and problem drivers, thus helping keep the roads safe for everyone. Drivers' use of cell phones to report emergencies has greatly reduced response times and helped save lives. Individual drivers' own security is protected by using cell phones to contact help when they experience mechanical problems while on the road.

We cannot, of course, say that cell phones are completely innocent. Certainly, cell phone use has contributed to traffic accidents, but so have many other things. It is better to be clear-headed about the facts and look at all sides of the issue.

Model Test 1—Integrated Task

(male speaker)

School systems across the country are devoting resources to equipping their classrooms with computers and training teachers to use them. In reality, how well prepared are teachers to use computers with their students? The government recently conducted a survey to find out, gathering information from over one hundred schools across the country. Ninety-six percent of the teachers surveyed reported that their training consisted mainly of developing basic computer skills which they already had prior to training. Skills and knowledge that would help them incorporate the use of computers more fully into their lessons were not addressed in most training programs. Seventy-eight percent reported that the training they received was too brief, averaging less than five hours in total. Sixty-five percent said they were not comfortable using technology and rarely or never made use of computers in their classrooms. Of those who did use computers, the majority used them for skill and drill exercises and did not feel that the use of computers had changed their approach to teaching in any significant way. School administrators are wondering whether money invested in educational technology might yield better results if used to support other educational needs.

This is a bleak picture indeed. However, there is hope. Let's look at a success story that shows how technology can support education. Five years ago, the Riverdale School District implemented a program to train teachers to integrate technology into their lessons. Teachers who participated in the program received two hundred hours of training on using technology with their students to develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. The training occurred over a two-year period. In addition, teachers were assigned mentors who could assist them in implementing computer-based activities in the classroom. As a result of this, computers were fully integrated into the lesson plans of these teachers. Rather than the skill and drill software so commonly used, these teachers had their students working with simulation software to solve problems. When their students took the statewide achievement tests at the end of the first year of the program, they scored significantly higher than students who were not participating in the program.

Clearly, a commitment to filling schools with computers is not enough. An equal, if not greater, commitment must be made to training teachers to use this technology in ways that enrich the learning experience of their students.

Model Test 2—Integrated Task

(female speaker)

The subject of animal intelligence has long been of interest to scientists. One issue is how do we define or describe intelligence? The ability to feel empathy for fellow creatures is often considered as one mark of intelligence, and has been the subject of a number of research studies. This brings up the question of how do we measure empathy? Scientists believe that an animal must be able to perceive itself as an individual in order to empathize with another. Therefore, an important step in researching the ability to empathize is to test self-recognition. The most common way to do this is to use mirrors. Elephants, dolphins, and great apes are the only

animals in addition to humans that demonstrate recognition of self in a mirror. When presented with a mirror, these animals often react to their image, touching it, displaying their teeth, or preening.

There is another a test that scientists commonly use to test self recognition. In this test, a mark is painted on the animal, somewhere on or near its face. The animal is then shown a mirror. If the animal tries to wipe the mark off its face while looking at its image in the mirror, this shows, scientists say, that the animal recognizes the mirror image as a reflection of itself. In a study done with dolphins, some dolphins received marks on their bodies, others were touched with a marker but no mark was made, and still other dolphins were left completely alone. A mirror was place in the dolphins' tank. All those that had felt the marker on their body rushed to the mirror to look. Those that actually had marks used the mirror to look at them closely. In similar experiments, elephants, chimpanzees, and orangutans have responded to marks in a like way. Not all scientists agree that that such a test proves self recognition. Showing interest in the painted mark does not necessarily mean that the animal makes a connection between the mirror image and the self, they say. There are still many controversies surrounding research on animal intelligence.

Model Test 3—Integrated Task

(male speaker)

There is a popular idea going around that William Shakespeare did not actually write his own plays. Although attempts have been made to cast doubt on the authorship of these plays, no one has yet produced any real evidence that they were not written by William Shakespeare, humble resident of Stratford-on-Avon, himself. Proponents of the theory that Shakespeare did not write the plays claim that he was too poor, too obscure, and too uneducated to have written them himself. Poor and obscure though he may have been, it is not certain that he was uneducated. There was a school in Stratford-on-Avon and the young Shakespeare may well have attended it along with other boys of his social class. As a student at the local school, he would have gained the knowledge of literature and the classics that the author of the plays certainly had. And although he was not an aristocrat himself, through his work at the theater he had plenty of opportunity to come into contact with the aristocratic classes that he often wrote about. He could easily have observed in this way the aristocratic manners and customs that he gave characters in his plays.

The lack of records about Shakespeare's life is also not evidence that he did not write the plays. As a commoner, there would not have been many records kept about him, and any records that may have existed could easily have been lost over the course of time. Neither has there been convincing evidence that another person actually authored the plays. One of the more popular theories is that Francis Bacon was the one who actually wrote the Shakespeare plays, but it does not hold up. Some claim as proof a similarity between Bacon's writings and those attributed to Shakespeare. Even a quick comparison of works by the two authors, however, clearly shows that the writing styles of the two men are completely different.

Model Test 4—Integrated Task

(female speaker)

It's widely accepted that the bubonic plague, which devastated the world in the fourteenth century, originated in Asia. There is new evidence, however, that suggests that it may actually have started in North Africa. Outbreaks of the plague still occur in Africa today.

An archeologist discovered evidence of the plague in ancient Egypt accidentally. She was studying insect fossils at the site of an ancient village when she came across human and cat flea remains. According to the archeologist, insect remains can tell us a great deal about how people lived in the past. For example, the remains can give clues about what kinds of animals people kept. In the case of the flea remains, she knew this meant that the plague could have been present in the ancient village. Previous research had turned up evidence of rats living along the Nile River as long ago as the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries B.C. Those rats are known carriers of the type of flea that carries the bubonic plague. Many ancient towns and cities were built along the Nile River. Periodic flooding in the area would have driven rats out of their natural homes and into human settlements—an ideal scenario for spreading plague among human communities. Further research brought up evidence that ancient Egyptians had suffered epidemics of a disease that seemed remarkably similar to the bubonic plague. The archeologist suggests that the plague was transported to Europe by rats that carried plague-ridden fleas onto ships crossing the Mediterranean Sea.

The bubonic plague is not only a disease of the ancient world or the Middle Ages. Contrary to popular belief, it did not disappear in the seventeenth century, but still occurs today. In Madagascar, for example, between 500 and 2,000 new cases of the disease are reported each year. According to the World Health Organization, every year there are as many as 3,000 new cases of the plague world wide. Scientists continue to study the disease. Research on epidemics both past and present helps scientists understand how epidemics spread and may help predict when new outbreaks will occur. There are still many mysteries surrounding the bubonic plague. It can disappear for years, or even centuries, then reappear suddenly, and just as suddenly disappear again. Scientists have a great deal to learn about this disease.

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