



Write Essay Question Bank

Official Guide

(Lauren Kennedy, 2012)

1. Team sports are generally promoted as a great way to keep fit and build character. However, sporting events such as soccer matches are often accompanied by violence between rival supporters and other forms of antisocial behaviour. If sporting events can lead to antisocial behaviour, can team sports really be good for us?
2. The claim that animals have “rights” has been the subject of much debate since the 1970s. Are zoos helping or hurting our animals? Should zoos be banned? Do you agree or disagree?
3. Age discrimination occurs when a decision is made on the basis of a person’s age. In the workplace, these are most often decisions about being employed in the first place, winning promotions or being unfairly dismissed. Should discrimination against older workers be made illegal?

Practice Test Plus

(Kate Chandler, 2013)

1. As a result of advances in medical care, average life expectancy is increasing for men and women. Do you think most people will see this as a positive development? What are the disadvantages of an ageing population for individuals and society? Support your point of view with reasons and/or examples from your own experience or observations.
2. 'Schools should prepare students for university, rather than for work,' How far do you agree with this statement? Support your point of view with reasons and/or examples from your own experience or observations.

3. 'Students should be required to stay in school until the age of eighteen.' To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Support your point of view with reasons and /or examples from your own experience.
4. 'Environmental problems are too great to be managed by individuals so real change can only be achieved at government level.' To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Support your point of view with reasons and/or examples from your own experience.
5. 'Some types of employment are more suitable for men and other types of employment are more appropriate (or women.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Support your point of view with reasons and examples from your own experience.
6. Nowadays many young people leave home at an early age to either study or work in another city. 'Do you think this has more advantages or disadvantages for young people' Support your point of view with reasons and examples from your own experience.
7. 'Computer technology has had more of a negative than a positive impact on society. How far do you agree with this statement? Support your views with reasons and/or examples from your own experience.

Test Builder

(Taylor, 2012)

1. When computers first appeared on the scene, it was thought they would make us more productive in providing goods and services, smarter and possibly happier. Skeptics claim that the opposite is true as computers have proved disappointing in terms of productivity, and have made us less happy and more stupid because information is not knowledge. Which of these points of view do you agree with most? Support your argument with reasons and/or examples from your own experience and observations.
2. It has recently been suggested that the classical, or "dead", languages Latin and Greek should be re-introduced into the school curriculum. Those that oppose the idea claim that the ancient languages are of no practical use and no help in getting a job. Those in favour of the idea say that education is more about training the mind than preparing for a career. Which of these points of view do you most agree with? Support your argument, where possible, with reasons and/or examples from your own experience and observations.

3. More and more students are studying at universities abroad, either because it is cheaper, or because they feel they can receive a better education, or because it will provide them with greater professional opportunities.
Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad. Support your arguments with reasons and/or examples from your own experience and observations.
4. Some people prefer to spend their holidays in resorts where everything is organized for them and they take little interest in the country they are visiting. Others prefer to travel around the country and to see how the people live, to get to know their customs and traditions and cuisine. Write an essay on which type of foreign travel you think is best for both the tourist and the local community.
5. Most people in what are known as the developed nations have homes full of gadgets and labour-saving devices, from vacuum cleaners and dishwashers to the latest in computer technology. Some people claim that despite all these labour-saving devices, we seem to have less free time. In your opinion, has technology improved the quality of life or made it more complicated? Support your arguments with reasons and/or examples from your own experience and observations.
6. A recent trend in the entertainment world is to adapt classic works of literature for either TV or the movies. One argument is that this is to everyone's benefit, as it introduces people to works they might otherwise never have experienced, while others say that turning books into movies not only cheapens the original, but is rarely done successfully. In your opinion, do works of literature translate effectively to the screen? Support your arguments with reasons and/or examples from your own experience and observations.

References

Kate Chandler, S. C. (2013). *PTE Academic Practice Tests Plus*. Harlow: Pearson Education Limited.

Lauren Kennedy, C. C. (2012). *The Official Guide to PTE Academic*. Harlow: Pearson Education Limited.

Taylor, E. (2012). *PTE Academic Testbuilder*. London: Macmillan Education.