

# Highlight **ACADEMIC PHRASES** in examiners' essays

## C1 & C2 vocabulary

For those who aim to achieve  
a band score of 7.5 + in IELTS writing



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**2018-2023**



# Cuốn sách này là của

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Điểm mục tiêu cho phần thi IELTS Writing là: .....vào tháng.... năm.....

Để làm được điều này, mình sẽ sử dụng từ vựng trong cuốn sách này ít nhất ... cụm từ/tuần.

# LỜI GIỚI THIỆU

Chào các bạn,

Các bạn đang cầm trên tay cuốn “**Highlight academic phrases in examiners’ essays**” được biên soạn và cập nhật bởi mình và các bạn trong team A&M| English Language Research Center thuộc A&M|IELTS từ năm 2018. Cuốn sách được biên soạn nhằm mục đích giúp các bạn đang muốn cải thiện vốn từ vựng cho phần thi Writing trong IELTS. Sách được biên soạn dựa trên các essay mẫu trong bộ Cambridge IELTS của Nhà xuất bản Đại học Cambridge – Anh Quốc và các giám khảo/cựu giám khảo IELTS nổi tiếng khác trên thế giới.

Các bạn có thể cập nhật miễn phí bản mới nhất của cuốn sách này tại Facebook IELTS Đình Thắng <https://www.facebook.com/ieltsdinhthang>

Trong quá trình thực hiện, mình và các bạn trong nhóm đã dành nhiều thời gian để nghiên cứu cách thức đưa nội dung sao cho khoa học và dễ dùng nhất với các bạn. Tuy vậy, cuốn sách không khỏi có những hạn chế nhất định. Mọi góp ý để cải thiện nội dung cuốn sách mọi người xin gửi về email cá nhân của tác giả [thangwrm@gmail.com](mailto:thangwrm@gmail.com)

Trân trọng cảm ơn,

Đình Thắng

# TÁC GIẢ & NHÓM THỰC HIỆN

## Thầy giáo Đinh Thắng



Giáo viên dạy IELTS tại Hà Nội từ cuối năm 2012, sáng lập **A&M | IELTS** cung cấp các khóa học IELTS và tiếng Anh học thuật và **A&M | English Language Research Center**. Chứng chỉ ngành ngôn ngữ Anh, đại học Brighton, Anh Quốc, 2016. Diễn giả Hội thảo IELTS tổ chức bởi IDP Việt Nam, 2022.

<https://www.ielts-dinhthang.com>

... cùng các thầy cô giáo và team học thuật A&M English Language Research Center - **Như Ngọc, Ngọc Khuê, Nhật Hà, Âu Lê, Hoàng Anh.**



## CÁC BƯỚC SỬ DỤNG SÁCH

**1. Đọc hàng ngày để từ ngấm vào tự nhiên.** Nên đọc cả bài và cố nhớ cụm từ theo ngữ cảnh. Tuy nhiên, học như vậy là HỌC CHAY CHỨ CHƯA THỰC HÀNH! Đó chỉ là bước đầu.

**2. Chọn một bài essay mà bạn đã viết và cố gắng sử dụng các cụm từ trong này để thay cho các cụm từ đơn giản.** Ví dụ essay của bạn dùng "make news interesting to readers" 😊 Xem trong cuốn này có thể thấy cụm từ "tailor their news to their readers' and viewers' requirements" đã được highlight rất rõ 😊 Các bạn cố gắng sử dụng ngay trong essay của mình.

- Cố gắng **sử dụng ít nhất 5-10 cụm từ trong mỗi bài essay của bạn.** Sau đó nên nhờ người có kinh nghiệm góp ý giúp xem đã phù hợp chưa. Khoảng thời gian đầu sẽ khó khăn nhưng càng dùng các bạn sẽ càng có kinh nghiệm trong việc lựa chọn cụm từ phù hợp ngữ cảnh.

- Cứ làm như vậy, bạn sẽ "tân trang" lại toàn bộ các bài essay của bạn. Qua đó, bạn đã có thể ngay lập tức sử dụng cả trăm cụm từ trong cuốn sách này trong một thời gian ngắn.

**3. Nếu chưa viết bài essay nào thì bạn hãy chọn một bộ đề thi IELTS writing, hoặc có thể tham khảo các đề writing ở phụ lục cuốn sách này và thử gạch đầu dòng ý.** Lúc viết cố gắng dùng tối thiểu 05 cụm trong cuốn sách này cho mỗi bài. Bạn chỉ cần viết dàn ý cho khoảng 20 bài (mất tầm 2 tuần) là đã nhớ được kha khá các cụm từ để dùng cho kỳ thi IELTS writing rồi. Lúc này thì có thể nói là các cụm từ THỰC SỰ ĐÃ NGẤM vào đầu bạn.

# NHỮNG LƯU Ý QUAN TRỌNG CẦN GHI NHỚ

1. Sách đã được team nghiên cứu và sắp xếp để có hình thức trình bày giúp các bạn tăng khả năng ghi nhớ nhiều cụm từ nhất có thể. Các cụm từ cũng đã được lựa chọn để sao cho các bạn có thể áp dụng chúng vào bài essay - Đây cũng là mục đích chính của cuốn sách.
2. Chỉ đọc sách hoặc làm vở từ vựng chứ không sử dụng từ vựng sẽ **KHÔNG** giúp bạn cải thiện khả năng viết. Nhất định bạn cần tự đặt cho mình chỉ tiêu cụ thể, ví dụ dùng ít nhất 05 cụm từ trong sách cho mỗi bài essay mà bạn viết ra.
3. Để đảm bảo chất lượng cho bài viết của bạn, rất nên nhờ người có kinh nghiệm chữa bài và kiểm tra xem cụm từ mà bạn sử dụng đã đúng ngữ cảnh chưa. Đừng lo về việc có một số cụm từ bạn chưa dùng đúng ngữ cảnh. Bạn cần xác định là ai cũng có những lỗi sai khi mới tập viết, vấn đề là bạn sẽ rút kinh nghiệm và ngày càng sử dụng các cụm từ chính xác hơn, và điều này chỉ xảy ra khi bạn đọc nhiều, chịu khó dùng nhiều và được sửa bài nhiều.
4. Một số bạn quá cố gắng ghi nhớ các cụm từ dẫn đến việc số lượng essay đọc được là ít. Điều này rất không nên. Thay vào đó, nên chấp nhận việc quên các cụm từ mà bạn cảm thấy bộ não của bạn

không hoặc chưa ‘dung nạp’ được và dành năng lượng đó để đọc các bài essay mới và, nhắc lại lần nữa, việc quan trọng nhất vẫn là áp dụng liên tục các cụm từ đã học vào bài essay của bạn thì bạn mới nhớ được.

5. Một số bạn HIỂU LẦM là chỉ nên quan tâm đến các từ vựng được highlight. Thực tế là một số cụm từ không được highlight cũng rất hữu ích tuy nhiên do giới hạn về việc trình bày nên team không highlight hết các cụm từ tốt được mà bạn sẽ cần hiểu rằng: Tất cả các cụm từ mà bạn thấy đều có những giá trị sử dụng nhất định, quan trọng là bạn có nhìn thấy giá trị của chúng và sử dụng chúng hay không.
6. Các bạn có thể cập nhật miễn phí bản mới nhất của cuốn sách này tại <https://www.facebook.com/ieltsdinhthang>



# ÁP DỤNG VÀO ĐỀ THI THẬT IELTS WRITING

Với mỗi phần, các bạn sẽ thấy có 01-02 ví dụ. Để tham khảo nhiều ví dụ tương tự, các bạn có thể **liên hệ fanpage IELTS Đình Thắng**

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**để nhận thông tin về bản full cho cuốn “Ideas for actual IELTS writing questions”** – Đây là cuốn sách tổng hợp các ý tưởng/outlines cho các đề thi thật IELTS writing, và quan trọng là team A&M đã cố gắng **khai thác các từ vựng trong chính cuốn Highlight academic phrases in examiners’ essays** này. Hy vọng qua đó các bạn có thể thấy được tác dụng rất lớn của cuốn sách này trong việc giúp bạn nâng cao khả năng ghi nhớ và đặc biệt là áp dụng các từ vựng đã học.

# **PART 1**

# **ESSAYS FROM**

# **CAMBRIDGE IELTS**

[Phần 1 này khuyến nghị dành cho các bạn đang ở trình độ IELTS writing 7.0+ và muốn đạt mục tiêu writing 7.5+]

# HƯỚNG DẪN ÁP DỤNG TỪ VỰNG TRONG ESSAY MẪU VÀO ĐỀ THI THẬT

**Trước khi đọc các bài luận mẫu, các bạn có thể tham khảo tính hiệu quả của việc sử dụng bộ tài liệu này thông qua việc cùng nhóm biên soạn sách giải đề thi thật IELTS writing task 2 sau.**

Task 2: Around the world, many animal species become extinct. Some people believe that countries and individuals must try to solve this problem. Others believe that concentrating on problems of human beings is more important than those concerning species. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

[Trích đề thi thật tại IDP ngày 30/12/2021]

Dưới đây là phần dàn ý, trong đó các ký hiệu E08= cụm từ lấy từ bài essay số 08. Tuy nhiên, như đã nhắc đến trong phần lưu ý ở đầu sách, nhóm biên soạn sử dụng cả các cụm từ không được highlight, qua đó khai thác triệt để các bài mẫu.

I am of the opinion that we should concentrate our efforts on preserving animal species.

1. On one side of the argument, we must COMBAT THE SITUATION (E08) of the human race.

- Experience low STANDARDS OF LIVING (E08)

While INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES (E06) have fully built their economies, developing and under-developed ones have not PUT more RESOURCES (E03) into them improve citizens' lives

- Need more social stability

NATURAL DISASTERS, POLITICAL EVENTS AND THE HORRORS OF WAR (E01) are still a part of life these should be taken into consideration.

2. However, we must TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF (E16) mass extinction

- Food insecurity is a major issue

Animals are an important part of the food chain extinction disrupts the balance of the ecosystem cannot PROVIDE THE BASICS [E02] for the population

- Humans have the responsibility to prevent extinctions

Human activities cause ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION (E01), which lead to the disappearance of many animal species the responsibility of protecting the environment and animals rests with humans

**Như vậy, đã có 8 cụm từ trong số các bài essay của Cambridge (essay số 1 đến 20 – part 1) được sử dụng. Và nhóm biên soạn sách cũng tin chắc rằng các bạn hoàn toàn có thể khai thác được nhiều hơn.**

## Một số đề thi IELTS writing có thể được sử dụng phục vụ mục đích luyện tập và ghi nhớ từ vựng trong part 1 này

1. Despite the increased access to education, a significant number of adults cannot read or write. In what way can this be detrimental to society and what actions should governments take? **IDP TPHCM ngày 5/1**
2. Access to the internet possibly helps youngsters achieve their educational and their work-related goals more easily than in the past. To what extent do you agree or disagree? **BC TPHCM ngày 11/12. Thi trên giấy.**
3. Around the world, many animal species become extinct. Some people believe that countries and individuals must try to solve this problem. Others believe that concentrating on problems of human beings is more important than those concerning species. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. **IDP ngày 30/12/2021**
4. In recent times, economic growth has made some people richer in both developed and developing countries. While studies show that people in developing countries are happier now than before, people in developed countries are no happier than they were before. Why do you think this is and what lessons can be learnt from it? **BC HANOI ngày 25/12. Thi trên máy**
5. In many countries today, people buy a wide range of household goods (TVs, washing machines and so on). Is it a positive or negative development? **IDP TPHCM ngày 29/12. Thi trên máy**
6. Some people say that schools should teach good behaviour to children besides academic subjects. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this? **IDP TPHCM ngày 31/12. Thi trên máy.**
7. Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life. Why do you think people are doing this? What effects does it have on society and families? **IDP TPHCM ngày 27/12. Thi trên giấy.**
8. Many people argue that in order to improve educational quality, high school students are encouraged to make comments or even criticism on their teachers. Others think it will lead to loss of respect and discipline in the classroom. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. **BC ngày 20/1. Thi trên giấy**
9. Too much emphasis on education for young people. Some people think that some money should be spent on free-time activities. To what extent do you agree or disagree? **IDP Hanoi ngày 20/1. Thi trên máy**
10. Some people think that personal happiness is directly related to economic success. Others argue that happiness depends on different factors. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. **IDP HCM ngày 14/1. Thi trên máy**

Hiện tại team A&M đã biên soạn phần gợi ý cho các đề bài trên và một số đề thi thật khác nữa trong bộ sách "Ideas for actual IELTS writing questions". Các bạn có thể cập nhật cách thức nhận bộ tài liệu này bằng cách liên hệ đến fanpage IELTS Đình Thắng tại

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## ESSAY 01 - NEWS

*News editors decide what to broadcast on television and what to print in newspapers. What factors do you think influence these decisions? Do we become used to bad news? Would it be better if more good news was reported? (Cambridge IELTS 1)*

### Model Answer

It has often been said that "Good news is bad news" because it does not sell newspapers. A radio station that once decided to **PRESENT ONLY GOOD NEWS (chỉ trình bày mỗi tin tốt)** soon found that it **HAD GONE OUT OF BUSINESS (đã phá sản)** for lack of listeners. Bad news, on the other hand, is so common that in order to **COPE WITH (đương đầu với)** it, we often simply **IGNORE (lờ đi)** it. We have become **IMMUNE TO BAD NEWS (miễn nhiễm khỏi tin xấu)** and the newspapers and radio stations are aware of this.

While newspapers and TV stations may aim to **REPORT WORLD EVENTS ACCURATELY (tường thuật chính xác các sự kiện thế giới)**, be they natural or human disasters, political events or the horrors of war, it is also true that their main objective is to sell newspapers and **ATTRACT LISTENERS AND VIEWERS TO THEIR STATIONS (thu hút người nghe và người xem đài của họ)**. For this reason, TV and radio stations **ATTEMPT TO REFLECT THE FLAVOUR OF THEIR STATION (cố gắng phản ánh nét riêng của đài)** by providing news broadcasts **TAILOR-MADE TO SUIT THEIR LISTENERS' PREFERENCES (thích hợp sở thích người nghe)**. Program **SPECIALISING IN (chuyên về)** pop music or TV soap operas **FOCUS MORE ON LOCAL NEWS HOME ISSUES AND UP-TO-DATE TRAFFIC REPORTS (tập trung vào tin tức địa phương, vấn đề gia đình và báo cáo giao thông cập nhật)**. The more serious stations and newspapers like to provide "SO-CALLED" (**cái gọi là**) objective news reports with the **EDITORIAL COMMENT (nhận xét của chủ bút) AIMED AT ANALYSING THE SITUATION (nhằm phân tích tình huống)**.

If it is true, then, that newspapers and TV stations are **TAILORING THEIR NEWS TO THEIR READERS' AND VIEWERS' REQUIREMENTS (điều chỉnh tin tức nhằm đáp ứng yêu cầu của độc giả và người xem)** how can they possibly be reporting real world events **IN AN HONEST AND OBJECTIVE LIGHT (trên phương diện trung thực và khách quan)**? Many radio and TV stations do; in fact, report items of good news but they no longer call this news. They refer to these as human interest stories and **PACKAGE (gộp)** them in the program specialising, for instance, in **CONSUMER AFFAIRS (giao dịch khách hàng)** or local issues. Good news now comes to us in the form of **DOCUMENTARIES (phim tài liệu)** the fight against children cancer or AIDS, or **THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS (những diễn biến mới nhất)** in the fight to save the planet from **ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION (ô nhiễm môi trường)**.

## ESSAY 02 – FATHERHOOD & MOTHERHOOD

***Fatherhood ought to be emphasized as much as motherhood. The idea that women are solely responsible for deciding whether or not to have babies leads on to the idea that they are also responsible for bringing the children up. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement? (Cambridge IELTS 2)***

### Model Answer

I believe that **CHILD-REARING (nuôi dạy con cái)** should be the **RESPONSIBILITY OF BOTH PARENTS (trách nhiệm của cha mẹ)** and that, whilst the roles within that **PARTNERSHIP (sự cộng tác)** may be different, they are **NEVERTHELESS (tuy thế mà) EQUAL IN IMPORTANCE (quan trọng như nhau)**. In some societies, it has been made easier over the years for **SINGLE PARENTS (cha mẹ đơn thân)** to raise children on their own. However, this does not mean that the traditional family, with both parents **PROVIDING EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AND ROLE-MODELS FOR THEIR CHILDREN (mang lại sự hỗ trợ về mặt tinh thần và làm gương cho con cái)**, is not the most **SATISFACTORY WAY OF BRINGING UP CHILDREN (cách vừa ý nhất để nuôi dưỡng con cái)**.

**OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE (rất quan trọng)**, in my opinion, is how we **DEFINE (định nghĩa)** 'responsible for bringing the children up'. At its simplest, it could mean **GIVING THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT (mang lại sự hỗ trợ tài chính)** necessary to provide a home, food and clothes and making sure the child is safe and **RECEIVES AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION (nhận sự giáo dục đầy đủ)**. This would be the basic definition.

There is, however, another possible way of defining that part of the quotation. That would say it is not just a father's responsibility to **PROVIDE THE BASICS (mang lại điều cơ bản)** for his children, while his wife **INVOLVES HERSELF IN THE EVERYDAY ACTIVITY OF BRINGING THEM UP (tham gia các hoạt động thường ngày của việc nuôi nấng con cái)**. Rather, he should **SHARE THOSE DAILY DUTIES (chia sẻ các nhiệm vụ thường ngày)**, spend as much time as his job allows with his children, play with them, read to them, **HELP DIRECTLY WITH THEIR EDUCATION (giúp đỡ trực tiếp trong việc học hành)**, **PARTICIPATE VERY FULLY IN THEIR LIVES AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO SHARE HIS (tham gia vào đời sống của con và khuyến khích con chia sẻ cuộc sống của mình)**.

It is this second, fuller, **CONCEPT OF 'FATHERHOOD' (khái niệm cương vị làm cha)** that I am **IN FAVOUR OF (ủng hộ)**, although I also realise how difficult it is to achieve sometimes. The **ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT SITUATION (tình hình kinh tế và việc làm)** in many countries means that jobs are getting more, not less, stressful, requiring long hours and perhaps long journeys to work as well. Therefore it may remain for many **A DESIRABLE IDEAL (lý tưởng mong ước)** rather than **AN ACHIEVABLE REALITY (thực tế có thể đạt được)**.

## ESSAY 03 – GOVERNMENT SPENDING/HEALTH

*"Prevention is better than cure." Out of a country's health budget, a large proportion should be diverted from treatment to spending on health education and preventative measures.*

*To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?  
(Cambridge IELTS 3)*

### Model Answer

Of course it goes without saying that **PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE** (**phòng bệnh hơn chữa bệnh**). That is why, in recent years, there has been **A GROWING BODY OF OPINION** (**luồng quan điểm gia tăng**) **IN FAVOUR OF** (**ủng hộ**), **PUTTING MORE RESOURCES INTO** (**dành nguồn lực nhiều hơn vào**) health education and **PREVENTIVE MEASURES** (**biện pháp phòng chống**). The argument is that **IGNORANCE** (**sự không hiểu biết**) of, for example, **BASIC HYGIENE** (**vệ sinh cơ bản**) or the dangers of an unhealthy diet or lifestyle **NEEDS TO BE COMBATED** (**cần phải được giải quyết**) by special **NATIONWIDE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS** (**chiến dịch truyền thông**), as well as longer-term health education.

Obviously, there is a strong human argument for catching any **MEDICAL CONDITION** (**tình trạng y tế**) as early as possible. There is also an economic argument for doing so. Statistics demonstrate **THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF TREATING A CONDITION IN THE EARLY STAGES** (**tính hiệu quả về chi phí cho việc điều trị ở giai đoạn đầu**), rather than **DELAYING** (**trì hoãn**) until more expensive and **PROLONGED TREATMENT** (**sự điều trị kéo dài**) is necessary. Then there are social or economic costs, perhaps in terms of **LOSS OF EARNINGS** (**mất thu nhập**) for the family concerned or **UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT** (**trợ cấp thất nghiệp**) paid by the state.

So far so good, but the difficulties start when we try to define what the 'proportion' of the budget "should be, particularly if the funds will be 'diverted from treatment'. Decisions on exactly how much of the total health budget should be spent in this way **ARE NOT A MATTER FOR THE NON-SPECIALIST** (**không dành cho người không có chuyên môn**), but should **BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF** (**dựa trên cơ sở của**) an accepted health service model.

This is the point at which real problems occur - the formulation of the model. How do we accurately measure which health education campaigns are effective **IN BOTH MEDICAL AND FINANCIAL TERMS** (**về mặt y học và kinh tế**)? How do we agree about the **MEDICAL EFFICACY** (**hiệu quả y tế**) of various **SCREENING PROGRAMMES** (**chương trình sàng lọc**), for example, when the medical establishment itself does not agree? A very **RIGOROUS PROCESS OF EVALUATION** (**quá trình đánh giá khắt khe**) is called for so that we can **MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION** (**đưa ra quyết định sáng suốt**).

## ESSAY 04 – GENDER EQUALITY

*The position of women in society has changed markedly in the last twenty years. Many of the problems young people now experience, such as juvenile delinquency, arise from the fact that many married women now work and are not at home to care for their children.*

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

*(Cambridge IELTS 3)*

### Model Answer

It is certainly true that **THE POSITION OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY (vị thế của phụ nữ trong xã hội)** has **UNDERGONE A DRAMATIC CHANGE (trải qua sự thay đổi lớn)** in the past twenty years but I do not feel that this is **A DIRECT CAUSE (nguyên nhân trực tiếp)** of **THE INDISPUTABLE INCREASE IN JUVENILE-RELATED PROBLEMS (sự gia tăng không bàn cãi của các vấn đề liên quan đến thanh thiếu niên)** during this period.

It is now accepted that young women should find work on leaving school; **INDEED (thực vậy)** to **RELY TOTALLY ON THEIR PARENTS' FINANCIAL SUPPORT (phụ thuộc hoàn toàn vào sự ủng hộ tài chính của bố mẹ)** is no longer an option for many families. Likewise, once they get married, the majority of women continue working since **THE FINANCIAL PRESSURES OF SETTING UP A HOUSE (áp lực tài chính từ việc xây nhà)** and **ESTABLISHING A REASONABLE STANDARD OF LIVING (xây dựng mức sống hợp lý)** often **REQUIRE TWO INCOMES (đòi hỏi hai nguồn thu nhập)**.

Twenty years ago it was common for women to give up work once they had children and **DEVOTE THEIR TIME TO CARING FOR THEIR CHILDREN (dành hết thời gian chăm sóc con)**. This is no longer the general rule and the provision of **PROFESSIONALLY-RUN CHILD CARE FACILITIES (tiện nghi chăm sóc trẻ chuyên nghiệp)** and **DAY NURSERIES (nhà trẻ ban ngày)** have removed much of **THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD-REARING (trách nhiệm nuôi dạy con)** that used to fall to mothers. However, these facilities **COME AT A COST (có cái giá của nó)** and often require two salaries coming into a family to be afforded.

I do not believe that the increase in the number of working mothers has resulted in children being brought up less well than previously. Indeed it could be argued that by giving mothers the opportunity to work and earn extra money children can be better provided for than previously. There is **MORE MONEY FOR LUXURIES (nhiều tiền hơn cho đồ xa xỉ)** and holidays and **A MORE SECURE FAMILY LIFE (đời sống gia đình ổn định hơn)** is possible. Of course, there are **LIMITS AS TO THE AMOUNT OF TIME (những giới hạn về mặt thời gian)** that ideally should be spent away from home and **THE IDEAL SCENARIO (viễn cảnh lý tưởng)** would be for one of the parents (often the wife) to have a part-time job and thus be available for their children before and after school. It is important to **ESTABLISH THE CORRECT BALANCE BETWEEN FAMILY LIFE AND WORKING LIFE (thiết lập sự cân bằng giữa gia đình và công việc)**.



## ESSAY 05 – TRADITIONAL SKILLS AND WAYS OF LIFE

*When a country develops its technology, the traditional skills and ways of life die out. It is pointless to try and keep them alive.  
To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?*

### Model answer

Overall, I disagree with the opinion expressed, I would like to begin by **POINTING OUT (chỉ ra)** that ‘traditional skills and ways of life’ are not automatically of one country, but of a culture or community.

In many ways, **THE HISTORY OF CIVILISATION (lịch sử của nền văn minh)** is the history of technology: from the discovery of fire to **THE INVENTION OF THE WHEEL (phát minh bánh xe)** to the development of the Internet we have been moving on from previous ways of doing things. Some technologies, such as **WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (vũ khí hủy diệt hàng loạt) ARE OF NEGATIVE IMPACT (có ảnh hưởng xấu)**. Others, such as **MEDICAL ADVANCES (tiến bộ y học)** positively help people to live better or longer, and so very much help traditional ways of life. Surely, few people would **SEEK TO PRESERVE SUCH TRADITIONS AS (bảo tồn các nét truyền thống ví dụ như...)** living in caves.

Interestingly, technology can positively contribute to **THE KEEPING ALIVE OF TRADITIONAL SKILLS AND WAYS OF LIFE (việc giữ gìn các kỹ năng và lối sống cổ truyền)**. For example, the populations of some islands are too small to have normal schools. Rather than **BREAKING UP FAMILIES (khiến cho các thành viên gia đình bị tách lập)** by sending children to the mainland, **EDUCATION AUTHORITIES (nhà lãnh đạo giáo dục)** have been able to use the Internet to deliver schooling online. In addition, the Internet, and modern refrigeration techniques, are being used to **KEEP ALIVE THE TRADITIONAL SKILLS (gìn giữ những kỹ năng truyền thống)** of producing salmon; it can now be ordered from, and delivered to, anywhere in the world.

In conclusion, without suggesting that all technology is necessarily good, I think **IT IS BY NO MEANS ‘POINTLESS’ (không hề là vô nghĩa)**, in any way, to try to keep traditions alive with technology. We should not **IGNORE TECHNOLOGY (quên đi sự có mặt của công nghệ)**, because it can be our friend and support our way of life.

***Chỉ đọc sách hoặc làm vở từ vựng chứ không sử dụng từ vựng sẽ KHÔNG giúp bạn cải thiện khả năng viết. Nhất định bạn cần tự đặt cho mình chỉ tiêu cụ thể, ví dụ dùng ít nhất 05 cụm từ trong sách cho mỗi bài essay mà bạn viết ra.***

**Đình Thắng**

A&M English Language Research Center

## ESSAY 06 – CHILDREN TO DO PAID WORK

*In many countries, children are engaged in some kind of paid work. Some people regard this as completely wrong, while others consider it as valuable work experience, important for learning and taking responsibility. What are your opinions on this issue?*

### Model Answer

The issue of children doing paid work is a **COMPLEX AND SENSITIVE (phức tạp và nhạy cảm)** one. It is difficult to say who has the right to judge whether children working is 'wrong' or '**VALUABLE**' (**có giá trị**). Opinions will also differ as to 'learning' benefits: no doubt teachers and factory owners, for example, would have **VARYING CONCERNS (mối quan tâm khác nhau)**.

An important consideration is **THE KIND OF WORK UNDERTAKEN (loại công việc được thực hiện)**. Young children doing **ARDUOUS AND REPETITIVE TASKS (nhiệm vụ khó khăn lặp đi lặp lại)** on **A FACTORY PRODUCTION LINE (dây chuyền sản xuất ở nhà máy)**, for example, are less likely to be 'learning' than older children helping in an old people's home. **THERE ARE HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES (vấn đề sức khỏe và an toàn) TO BE CONSIDERED (cần cân nhắc các vấn đề sức khỏe và an toàn)** as well. It is an unfortunate fact that many employers may prefer to use the services of children simply to save money by paying them less than adults and it is this type of **EXPLOITATION (sự bóc lột)** that should be discouraged.

However, in many countries children work because their families need **THE ADDITIONAL INCOME (thu nhập thêm)**, no matter how small. This was certainly the case in the past in many **INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES (đất nước công nghiệp)**, and it is very difficult to judge that it is wrong for children today to **CONTRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY INCOME (đóng góp vào nguồn thu nhập gia đình)** in this way.

Nevertheless, I would like to conclude that, **IN BETTER ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES (với hoàn cảnh tài chính tốt hơn)**, few parents would choose to send their children out to **FULL-TIME PAID WORK (công việc toàn thời gian có trả lương)**. If **LEARNING RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORK EXPERIENCE (trách nhiệm học tập và kinh nghiệm việc làm)** are considered to be important, then children can acquire these by having **LIGHT, PART-TIME JOBS (công việc bán thời gian nhẹ nhàng)** or even doing tasks such as helping their parents around the family home, which **ARE** unpaid, but undoubtedly **OF VALUE IN CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT (có giá trị cho sự phát triển của trẻ em)**.

## ESSAY 07 - HAPPINESS

*Happiness is considered very important in life.  
Why is it difficult to define?  
What factors are important in achieving happiness?  
(Cambridge IELTS 4 – test 2)*

### Model Answer

Happiness is very difficult to **DEFINE (định nghĩa)**, because it means so many different things to different people. While some people **LINK HAPPINESS TO WEALTH AND MATERIAL SUCCESS (gắn hạnh phúc với sự giàu có và thành công vật chất)**, others think it lies in emotions and loving personal relationships. Yet others think that **SPIRITUAL PATHS (định hướng về mặt tinh thần)**, rather than either **THE MATERIAL WORLD (thế giới vật chất)** or relationships with people, are the only way to true happiness.

Because people **INTERPRETED HAPPINESS FOR THEMSELVES (giải thích về sự hạnh phúc theo cách của họ)** in so many different ways, it is difficult to give any definition that is true for everyone. However, if there are different kinds of happiness for different individuals that the first step in **ACHIEVING (đạt được)** it would be to **HAVE A DEGREE OF SELF-KNOWLEDGE (có sự tự biết mình)**. A person needs to know who he or she is before being able to know what it is that makes him or her happy.

Of course, factors such as **LOVING RELATIONSHIPS (mối quan hệ yêu thương)**, good health, the skills to **EARN A LIVING (kiếm sống)** and **A PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT (môi trường yên bình)** all contribute to our happiness too. But this does not mean that people without these conditions cannot be happy.

Overall, I think an ability to **KEEP CLEAR PERSPECTIVES IN LIFE (có một cái nhìn rõ ràng trong cuộc sống)** is a more essential factor in achieving happiness. By that I mean an ability to **HAVE A CLEAR SENSE OF (ý thức rõ về)** what is important in our lives **THE WELFARE OF OUR FAMILIES (gia đình thịnh vượng)**, the quality of our relationships, making other people happy, etc.) and what is not (a problem at work, **GETTING ANNOYED ABOUT TRIVIAL THINGS (bị làm phiền bởi những thứ vụn vặt)**, etc.).

Like **SELF-AWARENESS (sự tự nhận thức)**, this is also very difficult to achieve, but I think these are the two factors that may be most important for achieving happiness.

## ESSAY 08 - EDUCATION

*In many countries schools have severe problems with student behavior. What do you think are the causes of this? What solutions can you suggest? (Cambridge IELTS 4, test 4)*

### Model Answer

Poor student behaviour seems to be an increasingly **WIDESPREAD PROBLEM (vấn đề phổ biến)** and I think that **MODERN LIFESTYLES (lối sống hiện đại)** are probably **RESPONSIBLE FOR (chịu trách nhiệm)** this.

In many countries, **THE BIRTH RATE (tỷ lệ sinh)** is decreasing so that families are smaller with fewer children. These children are often **SPOILT (hư)**, not in terms of love and attention because working parents do not have the time for this, but **IN MORE MATERIAL WAYS (cách thức mang tính vật chất)**. They are allowed to have whatever they want, **REGARDLESS OF (không màng đến)** price, and to **BEHAVE AS THEY PLEASE (cư xử theo cách chúng muốn)**. This means that the children grow up without **CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS (quan tâm đến người khác)** and without any understanding of where their standard of living comes from.

When they get to school age they have not learnt any **SELF CONTROL OR DISCIPLINE (tự kiểm soát hoặc kỷ luật)**. They have less **RESPECT FOR THEIR TEACHERS (tôn trọng thầy cô)** and refuse to **OBEY SCHOOL RULES (tuân theo luật lệ của trường)** in the way that their parents did.

Teachers **CONTINUALLY COMPLAIN ABOUT (liên tục phàn nàn về)** this problem and **MEASURES (giải pháp)** should be taken to **COMBAT THE SITUATION (giải quyết vấn đề)**. But I think **THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM LIES WITH THE FAMILIES (giải pháp cho vấn đề này nằm ở gia đình)**, who need to **BE MORE AWARE OF THE FUTURE CONSEQUENCES (nhận thức được hậu quả tương lai)** of spoiling their children. If they could raise them **TO BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS (quan tâm đến người khác)** and **TO BE SOCIAL, RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS (những cá nhân có tinh thần xã hội và tính trách nhiệm)**, the whole community would benefit.

Perhaps **PARENTING CLASSES (lớp học làm cha mẹ)** are needed to help them to do this, and **HIGH-QUALITY NURSERY SCHOOLS COULD BE ESTABLISHED (trường mẫu giáo chất lượng cao có thể được thành lập)** that would support families more in terms of **RAISING THE NEXT GENERATION (nuôi nấng thế hệ tương lai)**. The government should fund this kind of parental support, because this is no longer a problem for individual families, but **FOR SOCIETY AS A WHOLE (cho toàn bộ xã hội)**.

## ESSAY 09 – TAKING A GAP YEAR

*In some countries, young people are encouraged to work or travel for a year between finishing high school and starting university studies.  
(Cambridge IELTS 5, test 2)*

### Model Answer

It is quite common these days for young people in many countries to **HAVE A BREAK (nghỉ ngơi)** from studying after graduating from high school. This trend **IS NOT RESTRICTED TO RICH STUDENTS (không chỉ dành riêng cho học sinh giàu)** who have the money to travel but is also evident among poorer students who choose to work and **BECOME ECONOMICALLY INDEPENDENT (trở nên độc lập về kinh tế)** for a period of time.

The reasons for this trend may **INVOLVE THE RECOGNITION (bao gồm sự thừa nhận)** that a young adult who passes directly from school to university is rather **RESTRICTED IN TERMS OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE WORLD (hạn chế về kiến thức chung và kinh nghiệm về thế giới xung quanh)**. By contrast, those who have spent some time earning a living or travelling to other places **HAVE A BROADER VIEW OF LIFE AND BETTER PERSONAL RESOURCES TO DRAW ON (có cái nhìn mở hơn về cuộc sống rộng và kinh nghiệm cá nhân tốt hơn để dựa vào)**. They tend to be more independent, which is a very important factor in **ACADEMIC STUDY AND RESEARCH (học thuật và nghiên cứu)**, as well as giving them an advantage in terms of **COPING WITH THE CHALLENGES OF STUDENT LIFE (đương đầu với thử thách của cuộc sống sinh viên)**.

However, there are certainly dangers in **TAKING TIME OFF (dành thời gian nghỉ)** at that important age. Young adults may **END UP NEVER RETURNING TO THEIR STUDIES (kết thúc bằng việc không bao giờ quay lại trường học)** or finding it difficult to **RE-ADAPT TO AN ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT (tái hòa nhập với môi trường học thuật)**. They may think that it is better to continue in a particular job or to do something completely different from a university course. But overall, I think this is less likely today when **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS (bằng cấp học thuật)** are essential for getting **A REASONABLE CAREER (công việc hợp lý)**.

My view is that young people should be encouraged to **BROADEN THEIR HORIZONS (mở rộng vốn hiểu biết)**. That is the best way for them to **GET A CLEAR PERSPECTIVE OF (có góc nhìn rõ ràng về...)** what they are hoping to do with their lives and why. Students with such a perspective are usually the most effective and motivated ones and taking a year off may be the best way to gain this.

## ESSAY 10 – NATURE OR NURTURE

*Research indicates that the characteristics we are born with have much more influence on our personality and development than any experiences we may have in our life.*

*Which do you consider to be the major influence?*

*(Cambridge IELTS 5, test 4)*

### Model Answer

Today the way we consider **HUMAN PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL DEVELOPMENT** (**tâm lý con người và sự phát triển tinh thần**) is heavily influenced by **THE GENETIC SCIENCES** (**khoa học di truyền**). We now understand the importance of **INHERITED CHARACTERISTICS** (**đặc điểm di truyền**) more than ever before. Yet we are still unable to decide whether **AN INDIVIDUAL'S PERSONALITY** (**tính cách cá nhân**) and development are more influenced by **GENETIC FACTORS** (**yếu tố di truyền**) (nature) or by the environment (**NURTURE** (**sự nuôi dưỡng**)).

Research, relating to **IDENTICAL TWINS** (**các cặp sinh đôi giống nhau**), has **HIGHLIGHTED HOW SIGNIFICANT INHERITED CHARACTERISTICS** (**nhấn mạnh tầm quan trọng của các yếu tố di truyền**) can be for an individual's life. But whether these characteristics are able to develop within the personality of an individual surely **DEPENDS ON** (**phụ thuộc vào**) whether the **CIRCUMSTANCES** (**hoàn cảnh**) allow such a development. It seems that the experiences we have in life are so unpredictable and so powerful, that they can **BOOST OR OVER-RIDE OTHER INFLUENCES** (**đẩy mạnh hoặc lấn át các yếu tố khác**), and there seems to be plenty of research findings to **CONFIRM** (**xác nhận**) this.

My own view is that there is no one major influence in a person's life. Instead, the **TRAITS WE INHERIT FROM OUR PARENTS** (**đặc điểm thừa hưởng từ cha mẹ**) and **THE SITUATION AND EXPERIENCES THAT WE ENCOUNTER IN LIFE** (**các tình huống và trải nghiệm mà chúng ta đối mặt trong cuộc sống**) are **CONSTANTLY INTERACTING** (**tương tác liên tục**). It is the interaction of the two that **SHAPES A PERSON'S PERSONALITY** (**định hình tính cách**) and **DICTATES HOW THAT PERSONALITY DEVELOPS** (**điều khiển sự phát triển của tính cách**). If this were not true, we would be able to **PREDICT THE BEHAVIOR AND CHARACTER OF A PERSON** (**đoán trước được hành vi và tính cách con người**) from the moment they were born.

In conclusion, I do not think that either nature or nurture is the major influence on a person, but that both have powerful effects. How these factors interact is still unknown today and they **REMAIN LARGELY UNPREDICTABLE** (**vẫn còn là rất khó đoán**) in a person's life.

## ESSAY 11 – SPORTS PROFESSIONALS

**Successful sports professionals can earn a great deal more money than people in other important professions. Some people think this is fully justified while others think it is unfair.**

**Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.**

**(Cambridge IELTS 6, test 2)**

### Model Answer

As a result of **CONSTANT MEDIA ATTENTION** (sự quan tâm không ngừng của truyền thông), **SPORTS PROFESSIONALS** (vận động viên thể thao chuyên nghiệp) in my country have become **STARS AND CELEBRITIES** (ngôi sao và người nổi tiếng), and those at the top **ARE PAID HUGE SALARIES** (được trả lương rất cao). Just like movie stars, they live **EXTRAVAGANT LIFESTYLES** (lối sống phung phí) with huge houses and cars.

Many people find their **REWARDS** (phần thưởng) unfair, especially when comparing these super salaries with those of **TOP SURGEONS OR RESEARCH SCIENTISTS** (các bác sĩ phẫu thuật và các nhà nghiên cứu khoa học hàng đầu), or even **LEADING POLITICIANS** (chính trị gia hàng đầu) who have the **RESPONSIBILITY OF GOVERNING THE COUNTRY** (trách nhiệm điều hành đất nước). However, **SPORTS SALARIES ARE NOT DETERMINED BY** (mức lương của các vận động viên thể thao được quyết định bởi) considering the contribution to society a person makes, or the level of responsibility he or she holds. Instead, they **REFLECT THE PUBLIC POPULARITY OF SPORT IN GENERAL AND THE LEVEL OF PUBLIC SUPPORT THAT SUCCESSFUL STARS CAN GENERATE** (phản ánh sự phổ biến của thể thao nói chung và mức độ ủng hộ của người dân mà những vận động viên thể thao có được). So **THE NOTION OF 'FAIRNESS'** (khái niệm công bằng) is not the issue.

Those who feel that sports stars are **JUSTIFIED** (hợp lý) might argue that the number of **PROFESSIONALS WITH REAL TALENT** (các vận động viên có tài năng thực sự) are very few, and the money is **A RECOGNITION OF THE SKILLS AND DEDICATION** (sự công nhận kỹ năng và sự cống hiến) a person needs to be successful. **COMPETITION IS CONSTANT** (sự cạnh tranh luôn diễn ra) and a player is tested every time they perform in their **RELATIVELY SHORT CAREER** (sự nghiệp ngắn ngủi). **THE PRESSURE FROM THE MEDIA IS INTENSE** (áp lực từ truyền thông là rất lớn) and **THERE IS LITTLE PRIVACY OUT OF THE SPOTLIGHT** (ít có sự riêng tư trước ánh sáng của giới truyền thông). So all of these factors may **JUSTIFY THE HUGE EARNINGS** (xứng đáng mức lương cao).

Personally, I think that the amount of money such sports stars make is more justified than the huge earnings of movie stars, but at the same time, it indicates that **OUR SOCIETY PLACES MORE VALUE ON SPORT** (xã hội của chúng ta coi trọng thể thao hơn) than on more essential professionals and achievements.



## ESSAY 12 - LIFESTYLE

*Some people prefer to spend their lives doing the same things and avoiding change. Others, however, think that change is always a good thing. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion. (Cambridge IELTS 6, test 4)*

### Model Answer

Over the last half century **THE PACE OF CHANGE (tốc độ thay đổi)** in the life of human beings **HAS INCREASED BEYOND OUR WILDEST EXPECTATIONS (đã tăng đến mức vượt qua những gì mong đợi)**. This **HAS BEEN DRIVEN BY TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS (được thúc đẩy bởi phát minh khoa học và công nghệ)** that are changing the whole way we view the world **ON ALMOST DAILY BASIS (gần như hàng ngày)**. This means that change is not always a personal option, but **AN INESCAPABLE FACT OF LIFE (sự thật cuộc sống không thể tránh được)**, and we **NEED TO CONSTANTLY ADAPT TO KEEP PACE WITH IT (cần liên tục thích ứng để bắt kịp nó)**.

Those people who believe they have **ACHIEVED SOME SECURITY (đạt được sự an toàn)** by doing the same, familiar things **ARE LIVING IN DENIAL (sống trong sự phủ nhận)**. Even when people believe they are **RESISTING CHANGE (chống lại sự thay đổi)** themselves, they cannot stop the world around them from changing. Sooner or later they will find that the familiar jobs no longer exist, or that **THE 'SAFE' PATTERNS OF BEHAVIOR ARE NO LONGER APPROPRIATE (lối sống theo phương thức an toàn là không còn phù hợp)**.

However, reaching the conclusion that **CHANGE IS EVITABLE (sự thay đổi là có thể tránh được)** is not the same as assuming that **CHANGE IS ALWAYS FOR THE BETTER (việc thay đổi luôn luôn là tích cực)**. Unfortunately, it is not always the case that **NEW THINGS ARE PROMPTED (những điều mới được thúc đẩy)** because they have good impacts for the majority of people. A lot of innovations are made **WITH THE AIM OF (với mục đích)** making money for a few. This is because it is **THE RICH AND POWERFUL PEOPLE (những người giàu và quyền lực)** in our society who are able to **IMPOSE CHANGES (áp đặt sự thay đổi)** (such as in **WORKING CONDITIONS OR PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS (điều kiện làm việc hoặc phát triển tài sản)**) that **ARE IN THEIR OWN INTERESTS (phù hợp với mong muốn của họ)**.

In conclusion, I would say that **change can be STIMULATING AND ENERGIZING FOR INDIVIDUALS (việc thay đổi có thể tạo động lực và năng lượng cho các cá nhân)** when they pursue it themselves, but that all change, including which is imposed on people, does not necessarily **HAVE GOOD INCOMES (có kết quả tốt)**.

## ESSAY 13 – NATURAL TALENTS

*It is generally believed that some people are born with certain talents, for instance for sport or music, and others are not. However, it is sometimes claimed that any child can be taught to become a good sports person or musician.*

*Discuss both these views and give your own opinion?*

*(Cambridge IELTS 7 test 2)*

### Model Answer

THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF NATURAL TALENT AND TRAINING (**tầm quan trọng tương đối của tài năng tự nhiên và đào tạo**) is A FREQUENT TOPIC OF DISCUSSION (**chủ đề bàn luận thường xuyên**) when people try to EXPLAIN DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ABILITY (**giải thích các mức độ tài năng**) in, for example, sport, art or music.

Obviously, EDUCATION SYSTEMS ARE BASED ON THE BELIEF THAT (**hệ thống giáo dục dựa trên quan niệm rằng**) all children can effectively be taught to ACQUIRE DIFFERENT SKILLS (**đạt được các kỹ năng khác nhau**), including those ASSOCIATED WITH (**gắn với**) sport, art or music. So from our own school experience, we can FIND PLENTY OF EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE VIEW THAT (**tìm ra nhiều bằng chứng để ủng hộ quan điểm**) a child can acquire these skills with CONTINUED TEACHING AND GUIDED PRACTICE (**dạy dỗ liên tục và thực hành có hướng dẫn**).

However, some people believe that INNATE (**bẩm sinh**) is what DIFFERENTIATES (**phân biệt**) a person who has been trained to play a sport or an instrument, FROM those who become good players. In other words, there is more to the skill than A LEARNED TECHNIQUE (**kỹ thuật đã học**), and this extra talent cannot be taught, no matter how good the teacher or how frequently a child practices.

I personally think that some people do have talents that ARE PROBABLY INHERITED VIA THEIR GENES (**có thể được kế thừa thông qua di truyền**). Such talents can give individuals A FACILITY FOR CERTAIN SKILLS (**khả năng học một số kỹ năng**) that allow them to EXCEL (**vượt trội**), while more hard-working students never manage to REACH A COMPARABLE LEVEL (**đạt được mức tương đương**). But as with all questions of NATURE VERSUS NURTURE (**tự nhiên so với nuôi dưỡng/khả năng bẩm sinh so với rèn luyện**), they are not MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE (**loại trừ lẫn nhau**). Good musicians or artists and EXCEPTIONAL SPORTS STARS (**các ngôi sao hiếm có**) have probably succeeded because of both good training and natural talent. Without the natural talent, CONTINUOUS TRAINING WOULD BE NEITHER ATTRACTIVE NOR PRODUCTIVE (**sự đào tạo liên tục sẽ vừa khó thu hút và vừa ít hiệu quả**), and without the training, the child would not learn how to EXPLOIT AND DEVELOP THEIR TALENT (**khai thác và phát triển tài năng của chúng**).

In conclusion, I agree that any child can be taught particular skills, but to be really good in areas such as music, art or sport, then some natural talent is required.

## ESSAY 14 – JOB SATISFACTION

*As most people spend a major part of their adult life at work, job satisfaction is an important element of individual wellbeing. What factors contribute to job satisfaction?*

*How realistic is the expectation of job satisfaction for all workers?*

*(Cambridge IELTS 7, test 3)*

### Model Answer

Nowadays many adults have full-time jobs and the proportion of their lives spent doing such jobs is very high. So feelings about one's job must **REFLECT HOW AN INDIVIDUAL FEELS ABOUT HIS OR HER LIFE AS A WHOLE** (**phản ánh cả về việc một người cảm thấy thế nào về cuộc sống của họ**), and because of this, **JOB SATISFACTION** (**sự hài lòng với công việc**) is **INDEED VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THAT PERSON** (**thực sự rất quan trọng với sự thỏa mãn trong cuộc sống của người đó**).

Employees get job satisfaction in a number of ways. Firstly, a person needs to feel that they are doing **VALUABLE WORK** (**công việc có giá trị**), so **POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM SUPERIORS** (**góp ý tích cực từ cấp trên**) is very important in this respect. **A SENSE OF FULFILLMENT** (**cảm giác hoàn thành**) is also encouraged if a worker feels the job is worth doing because it **CONTRIBUTES TO THE SOCIETY OR THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE** (**đóng góp cho xã hội hoặc cho toàn bộ nền kinh tế**). Secondly, when someone feels they are **IMPROVING OR DEVELOPING THEIR SKILLS THROUGH TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** (**cải thiện và phát triển kỹ năng thông qua cơ hội đào tạo**), for example, then there is **A SENSE OF PROGRESSION AND PURPOSE** (**cảm giác về sự tiến triển và có mục đích**) that rewards a work. The **SENSE OF BELONGING TO A TEAM** (**cảm giác thuộc về một nhóm**) or a working community also contributes to job satisfaction because **COLLEAGUES** (**đồng nghiệp**) help each other to enjoy their working lives. Satisfaction is also increased by **A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY** (**tinh thần trách nhiệm**) for and **LOYALTY TO A TEAM** (**lòng trung thành với đội nhóm**).

Of course, not everyone enjoys their work. **HARD ECONOMIC REALITIES** (**thực tiễn kinh tế khó khăn**) mean that many people have little choice in the kind of job they can get. In some cases, an employee is working in a job that suits neither skills nor their **PERSONALITY** (**tính cách**). Some jobs are **REPETITIVE AND BORING** (**lặp đi lặp lại và nhàm chán**), and **LABOUR RELATIONS** (**mối quan hệ trong lao động**) may be poor and lead to **RESENTMENT AND INSECURITY** (**dẫn tới sự oán giận và bất ổn**) rather than to job satisfaction.

However, even though it is unlikely that all workers do feel happy in their work, I think **IT IS NOT UNREALISTIC** (**không phải là thiếu thực tế**) to **PROMOTE MORE JOB SATISFACTION** (**tạo ra sự hài lòng với công việc**) in any job. If the factors identified above are **IMPLEMENTED** (**thực hiện**), then any job can be improved and more workers can **FEEL GREATER DEGREES OF JOB SATISFACTION** (**có được mức độ hài lòng với công việc cao hơn**).

## ESSAY 15 – MORAL VALUES

*Some people think that parent should teach children how to be good member of society. Others, however, believe that school is the place to learn this. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion?  
(Cambridge IELTS 8, test 1)*

### Model Answer:

A child's education has never been about learning information and basic skills only. It has always included teaching **THE NEXT GENERATION (thế hệ tiếp theo)** how to be **GOOD MEMBERS OF SOCIETY (thành viên tốt của xã hội)**. Therefore, this **CANNOT BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENTS ALONE (không chỉ là trách nhiệm của bố mẹ)**.

In order to be a good member of any society the individual must **RESPECT AND OBEY THE RULES OF THEIR COMMUNITY (tôn trọng và tuân theo luật của cộng đồng)** AND **SHARE THEIR VALUES (chia sẻ các giá trị)**. Educating children to understand the need to obey rules and respect others always **BEGINS IN THE HOME (bắt đầu từ phía gia đình)** and **IS WIDELY THOUGHT TO BE (được nhiều người tin là)** the responsibility of parents. They will certainly be the first to help children learn what is important in life, **HOW THEY ARE EXPECTED TO BEHAVE AND WHAT ROLE THEY WILL PLAY IN THEIR WORLD (cách cư xử chúng được kỳ vọng và vai trò của chúng trong thế giới)**.

However, learning to understand and **SHARE THE VALUE SYSTEM OF A WHOLE SOCIETY (chia sẻ hệ thống các giá trị cộng đồng)** cannot be achieved just in the home. Once a child goes to school, they are **ENTERING A WIDER COMMUNITY (bước vào cộng đồng lớn hơn)** where teachers and peers will have just as much influence as their parents do at home. At school, children will experience working and living with **PEOPLE FROM A WHOLE VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS FROM THE WIDER SOCIETY (những người thuộc nhiều tầng lớp trong xã hội rộng lớn hơn)**. This experience should teach them how to **CO-OPERATE WITH EACH OTHER (hợp tác với nhau)** and how to **CONTRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF THEIR COMMUNITY (đóng góp cho đời sống cộng đồng)**.

But to be **A VALUABLE MEMBER OF ANY COMMUNITY (thành viên giá trị của cộng đồng)** is not like learning a simple skill. It is something that an individual goes on learning throughout life and it is the responsibility of every member of a society to take responsibility for helping the younger generation to **BECOME ACTIVE AND ABLE MEMBERS OF THAT SOCIETY (trở thành thành viên cống hiến tích cực của xã hội đó)**.

**Một số bạn HIỂU LẦM là chỉ nên quan tâm đến các từ vựng được highlight. Thực tế là một số cụm từ không được highlight cũng rất hữu ích tuy nhiên do giới hạn về việc trình bày nên team không highlight hết các cụm từ tốt được mà bạn sẽ cần hiểu rằng: Tất cả các cụm từ mà bạn thấy đều có những giá trị sử dụng nhất định, quan trọng là bạn có nhìn thấy giá trị của chúng và sử dụng chúng hay không.**

Đình Thắng

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## ESSAY 16 – TRAFFIC & POLLUTION

*Increasing the price of petrol is the best way to solve growing traffic and pollution problems. To what extent do you agree or disagree? (Cambridge IELTS 8, test 3)*

**Model Answer:**

**THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT (không nghi ngờ rằng)** traffic and pollution from vehicles have become huge problems, both in cities and on motorways everywhere. **SOLVING THESE PROBLEMS IS LIKELY TO NEED MORE THAN A SIMPLE RISE IN THE PRICE OF PETROL (để giải quyết các vấn đề này cần nhiều hơn là việc tăng giá xăng).**

While it is undeniable that **PRIVATE CAR USE (việc sử dụng xe hơi cá nhân)** is one of the main causes of the increase in traffic and pollution, higher fuel costs are unlikely to **LIMIT THE NUMBER OF DRIVERS FOR LONG (hạn chế số lượng tài xế về mặt lâu dài)**. As this policy would also affect **THE COST OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT (giá phương tiện công cộng)**, it would be very unpopular with everyone who needs to **TRAVEL ON THE ROADS (lái xe)**. But there are various other **MEASURES THAT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED (giải pháp có thể được thực hiện)** that would have a huge effect on these problems.

I think to **TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF POLLUTION (giải quyết vấn đề ô nhiễm)**, cleaner fuels need to be developed. The technology is already available to produce electric cars that would be both quieter and cleaner to use. **PERSUADING MANUFACTURERS AND TRAVELLERS (thuyết phục các nhà sản xuất và người tham gia giao thông)** to **ADOPT THIS NEW TECHNOLOGY (chấp nhận công nghệ mới này)** would be a more effective strategy for improving air quality, especially in cities.

However, **TRAFFIC CONGESTION (tắc nghẽn giao thông)** will not be solved by changing the type of private vehicle people can use. To do this, we need to improve the choice of **PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES (dịch vụ giao thông công cộng)** available to travellers. For example, if **SUFFICIENT SKY TRAINS AND UNDERGROUND TRAIN SYSTEMS WERE BUILT AND EFFECTIVELY MAINTAINED (có đủ lượng tàu trên cao và đường tàu ngầm được xây dựng và duy trì hiệu quả)** in our major cities, then traffic on the roads would be dramatically reduced. **LONG—DISTANCE TRAIN AND COACH SERVICES (các dịch vụ tàu và xe khách đường dài)** **SHOULD BE MADE ATTRACTIVE AND AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVES (nên được trở thành giải pháp thay thế thu hút và phải chăng)** to driving your own car for long journeys.

In conclusion, I think that **LONG-TERM TRAFFIC AND POLLUTION REDUCTIONS (việc giảm ô nhiễm và giao thông lâu dài)** would depend on educating the public to use public transport more, and on governments **USING PUBLIC MONEY TO CONSTRUCT AND RUN EFFICIENT SYSTEMS (sử dụng công quỹ để xây dựng và vận hành các hệ thống hiệu quả)**. (267 words)

## ESSAY 17 – LANGUAGE EDUCATION

*Some experts believe that it is better for children to begin learning a foreign language at primary school rather than secondary school.  
Do the advantage of this outweigh the disadvantages?  
(Cambridge IELTS 9, test 1)*

### Model Answer:

TRADITIONALLY (theo truyền thống), children have begun studying foreign languages at secondary school, but INTRODUCING THEM EARLIER (đưa các môn ngoại ngữ vào sớm hơn) is recommended by some educationalists. This policy has been adopted by some EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES (nhà lãnh đạo giáo dục) or individual schools, with both positive and negative outcomes. The obvious argument in its favour is that young children PICK UP LANGUAGES (học ngôn ngữ) much more easily than teenagers. THEIR BRAINS ARE STILL PROGRAMMED TO ACQUIRE THEIR MOTHER TONGUE (bộ não của chúng vẫn đang được lập trình để tiếp thu ngôn ngữ mẹ đẻ), which FACILITATES LEARNING ANOTHER LANGUAGE (hỗ trợ việc học ngôn ngữ khác), and unlike adolescents, they ARE NOT INHIBITED BY SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS (không hạn chế bởi sự tự ý thức).

The greater flexibility of the primary timetable allows for more frequent, shorter sessions and for A PLAY-CENTRED APPROACH (phương pháp lấy việc chơi làm trung tâm), thus MAINTAINING LEARNERS' ENTHUSIASM AND PROGRESS (duy trì sự hào hứng và tiến bộ của người học). THEIR COMMAND OF THE LANGUAGE (khả năng thông thạo ngôn ngữ của chúng) in later life will benefit from this early exposure while learning other languages subsequently will be easier for them. They may also gain a better understanding of other cultures. There are, however, some disadvantages. Primary schools teachers are GENERALISTS (người có kiến thức rộng nhưng không chuyên về một lĩnh vực nào), and may not have the necessary skill themselves. If specialists have to be brought in to deliver these sessions, THE FLEXIBILITY REFERRED TO ABOVE IS DIMINISHED (tính linh động đã được nhắc đến ở trên sẽ giảm). If primary language teaching is not STANDARDISED (chuẩn hóa), secondary schools could BE FACED WITH A GREAT VARIETY OF LEVELS IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES WITHIN THEIR INTAKE (đối mặt với tình trạng năng lực ngôn ngữ đầu vào không đồng đều), resulting in a classroom experience which UNDOES THE EARLIER GAINS (lấy đi những gì đã đạt được trước đó). There is no advantage if enthusiastic primary pupils become DEMOTIVATED (nản lòng) as soon as they change schools. However, these issues CAN BE ADDRESSED STRATEGICALLY (có thể được giải quyết một cách có chiến lược) within the policy adopted. Anything which encourages language learning benefits society culturally and economically, and EARLY EXPOSURE TO LANGUAGE LEARNING (việc tiếp xúc sớm với việc học ngôn ngữ) contributes to this. Young children's INNATE ABILITIES (khả năng bẩm sinh) should be HARNESSSED (khai thác) to make these benefits more achievable.

## ESSAY 18 – PUBLIC HEALTH

*Some people say that the best way to improve public health is by increasing the number of sports facilities. Others, however, say that this would have little effect on public health and that other measures are required. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion. (Cambridge IELTS 9)*

### Model Answer:

A problem of modern societies is the declining level of health in the general population, with **CONFLICTING VIEWS ON HOW TO TACKLE THIS WORRYING TREND** (các quan điểm trái nhau về cách giải quyết xu hướng đáng lo ngại này). One possible solution is to provide more **SPORTS FACILITIES** (tiện ích thể thao) to **ENCOURAGE A MORE ACTIVE LIFESTYLE** (khuyến khích lối sống năng động hơn).

**ADVOCATES OF THIS** (những người ủng hộ điều này) believe that today's **SEDENTARY LIFESTYLE** (lối sống tĩnh tại) and **STRESSFUL WORKING CONDITIONS** (điều kiện làm việc áp lực) mean that physical activity is no longer part of either our work or our leisure time. If there were **EASY-TO-REACH LOCAL SPORTS CENTRES** (các trung tâm thể thao ở gần), we would be more likely to make exercise a regular part of our lives, rather than just **COLLAPSING IN FRONT OF A SCREEN** (ngồi bệt trước màn hình) every evening. The variety of sports that could be offered **WOULD CATER FOR ALL AGES, LEVELS OF FITNESS AND INTERESTS** (phục vụ cho mọi lứa tuổi, tình trạng sức khỏe và sở thích): those with painful memories of PE at school might be happier in the swimming pool than on the football pitch.

However, there may be better ways of tackling this problem. Interest in sport is not universal, and additional facilities might simply **ATTRACT THE ALREADY FIT** (thu hút những người vốn đã khỏe mạnh), not those who most need them. Physical activity could be encouraged relatively cheaply, for example by **INSTALLING EXERCISE EQUIPMENT** (lắp đặt thiết bị tập thể thao) in parks, as my **LOCAL COUNCIL** (chính quyền địa phương) has done. This has the added benefit that parents and children often use them together just for fun, which **DEVELOPS A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO EXERCISE AT AN EARLY AGE** (phát triển thái độ tích cực đối với việc tập thể thao khi còn nhỏ).

As well as physical activity, **HIGH TAX PENALTIES COULD BE IMPOSED ON** (mức phạt thuế cao có thể được áp dụng đối với) high-fat food products, tobacco and alcohol, as **EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION** (sự tiêu thụ quá mức) of any of these contributes to poor health. Even improving public transport would help: it takes longer to walk to the bus stop than to the car.

In my opinion, focusing on sports facilities **IS TOO NARROW AN APPROACH** (là một cách tiếp cận quá hạn hẹp) and would not **HAVE THE DESIRED RESULTS** (có kết quả mong muốn). People should be encouraged not only to be more physically active but also to **ADOPT A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE IN GENERAL** (có lối sống lành mạnh hơn nói chung).



## ESSAY 19 – MORAL VALUES

*It is important to learn the difference between right and wrong at an early age. Punishment is necessary to help them learn this distinction. To what extent do you agree and disagree with this opinion? What sort of punishment should parents and teachers be allowed to use to teach good behavior to children? (Cambridge IELTS 10, test 1)*

### Model Answer:

One important stage in a child's growth is certainly **THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSCIENCE (phát triển lương tâm)**, which **IS LINKED TO THE ABILITY TO TELL RIGHT FROM WRONG (gắn với khả năng phân biệt đúng sai)**. This skill comes with time and **GOOD PARENTING (sự dạy dỗ tốt của cha mẹ)**, and my **FIRM CONVICTION (sự tin chắc)** is that **PUNISHMENT (sự trừng phạt)** does not have much of a role to play in this. Therefore I have to disagree almost entirely with the given statement.

To some extent the question depends on the age of the child. To punish a very young child **IS BOTH WRONG AND FOOLISH (là sai trái và ngốc nghếch)**, as **AN INFANT (một đứa bé)** will not understand what is happening or why he or she is being punished. **ONCE THE AGE OF REASON IS REACHED (một khi đã đến độ tuổi biết phân biệt đúng sai)** however, a child can be **REWARDED FOR GOOD BEHAVIOUR (được thưởng vì cư xử tốt)** and **DISCOURAGED FROM BAD (khuyến khích khỏi cái xấu)**. This kind but firm approach will achieve more than **HARSH PUNISHMENTS (các biện pháp trừng phạt hà khắc)**, which might **ENTAIL MANY NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES UNINTENDED BY THE PARENTS (chứa đựng nhiều hậu quả không mong muốn từ các bậc cha mẹ)**.

To help a child learn the difference between right and wrong, teachers and parents should firstly **PROVIDE GOOD ROLE MODELLING IN THEIR OWN BEHAVIOUR (làm tấm gương tốt trong chính hành vi của họ)**. After that, **IF SANCTIONS ARE NEEDED (nếu hình phạt là cần thiết)**, **THE PUNISHMENT SHOULD NOT BE OF A PHYSICAL NATURE (không nên trừng phạt về mặt thể chất)**, as that **MERELY SENDS THE MESSAGE (chỉ gửi đi thông điệp rằng là)** that **IT IS ACCEPTABLE FOR LARGER PEOPLE TO HIT SMALLER ONES (người lớn được phép đánh trẻ con)** - an outcome which may well result in the child starting to **BULLY OTHERS (bắt nạt người khác)**. Nor should the punishment be in any way **CRUEL (độc ác)**.

Rather, teachers and parents can **USE A VARIETY OF METHODS TO DISCIPLINE THEIR YOUNG CHARGES, SUCH AS DETENTION, WITHDRAWAL OF PRIVILEGES, AND TIME-OUT (sử dụng đa dạng phương pháp để kỷ luật những đứa trẻ như là phạt không cho ra ngoài, rút lại các quyền lợi và thời gian chơi)**. **MAKING THE PUNISHMENT FIT THE CRIME (đưa ra hình phạt tương xứng với lỗi lầm mà trẻ mắc phải)** is **A USEFUL NOTION (khái niệm hữu ích)**, which would see children being made to **PICK UP RUBBISH THEY HAVE DROPPED (nhặt rác mà chúng vừa vứt)**, **CLEANED UP GRAFFITI THEY HAVE DRAWN (xóa hình mà chúng vẽ bậy lên tường)**, or **APOLOGISE TO SOMEONE THEY HAVE HURT (xin lỗi khi mà chúng làm đau ai đó)** which leads to much better future behaviour than does punishment.

## ESSAY 20 – INTERNATIONAL TRADE

*Countries are becoming more and more similar because people are able to buy the same products anywhere in the world. Do you think this is a positive or negative development? (Cambridge IELTS 10, test 3)*

### Model Answer:

It is said that countries are becoming similar to each other because of **THE GLOBAL SPREAD OF THE SAME PRODUCTS (sự tràn lan của các sản phẩm giống nhau trên thế giới)**, which are now **AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE (sẵn có cho chúng ta mua)** almost anywhere. I strongly believe that this modern development is largely detrimental to culture and traditions worldwide.

A country's history, language and **ETHOS (đặc tính) ARE ALL INEXTRICABLY BOUND UP (được gắn kết chặt chẽ lại với nhau)** in **ITS MANUFACTURED ARTEFACTS (đồ tạo tác đã sản xuất)**. If **THE RELENTLESS ADVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL BRANDS (sự phát triển không ngừng của thương hiệu quốc tế)** into every corner of the world continues, these bland packages might one day completely **OUST THE TRADITIONAL OBJECTS OF A NATION (hất cẳng các sản phẩm truyền thống)**, which would be **A LOSS OF RICHNESS AND DIVERSITY (sự đánh mất tính phong phú và đa dạng)** in the world, as well as the sad disappearance of **THE MANIFESTATIONS OF A PLACE'S CHARACTER (sự biểu lộ đặc tính một nơi)**. What would a **JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY (trà đạo Nhật bản)** be without its specially **CRAFTED TEAPOT (ấm trà thủ công)**, or a Fijian kava **RITUAL (lễ nghi)** without its bowl made from a certain type of **TREE BARK (vỏ cây)**?

Let us not forget either that traditional products, whether these be medicines, cosmetics, toys, clothes, utensils or food, provide employment for local people. The spread of **MULTINATIONAL PRODUCTS (sản phẩm đa quốc gia)** can often **BRING IN ITS WAKE A LOSS OF JOBS (đem đến theo đó sự biến mất của nhiều loại công việc)**, as people **TURN TO BUYING THE NEW BRAND (chuyển sang mua các đồ hiệu)**, perhaps thinking it more **GLAMOROUS (đẹp lộng lẫy)** than the one they are used to. This eventually **PUTS OLD-SCHOOL CRAFTSPEOPLE OUT OF WORK (khiến nghệ nhân truyền thống thất nghiệp)**.

Finally, tourism numbers may also be affected, as travellers **BECOME DISILLUSIONED WITH FINDING (vỡ mộng khi phát hiện thấy)** every place just the same as the one they visited **PREVIOUSLY (trước kia)**. To see the same products in shops the world over is boring, and does not **IMPEL VISITORS TO OPEN THEIR WALLETS (thôi thúc khách du lịch mở hầu bao)** in the same way that **TRINKETS OR SOUVENIRS UNIQUE TO THE PARTICULAR AREA (đồ trang trí hoặc quà lưu niệm mà chỉ duy nhất địa phương đó có)** do.

Some may argue that all people **ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE ACCESS TO (có quyền tiếp cận với)** the same products, but I say that local objects suit local conditions best, and that **FACELESS UNIFORMITY WORLDWIDE (sự đồng nhất về việc thiếu bản sắc riêng biệt trên toàn thế giới)** is **AN UNWELCOME AND DREARY PROSPECT (một điều không mong muốn và ảm đạm)**.

## ESSAY 21 – CAREERS

***Some people work for the same organisation all their working life. Others think that it is better to work for different organisations.***

***Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.***

***(The Official Cambridge guide to IELTS, test 1)***

For most people, when they get their first job, they have little idea whether or not they will **REMAIN IN THE SAME ORGANIZATION** (**duy trì công việc ở một tổ chức**) **THROUGHOUT THEIR WORKING LIFE** (**trong suốt quãng đời làm việc của họ**). If they decide to change, they need to consider how this will impact on their career overall.

People who stay with the same organization **HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF THOROUGHLY UNDERSTANDING** (**có lợi thế hiểu biết cặn kẽ**) how it works and also becoming familiar with the staff and processes. If they work hard, their **PROMOTION PROSPECTS** (**triển vọng thăng tiến**) are good and there is likely to **BE GREATER JOB SECURITY** (**sự bảo đảm về công việc ổn định hơn**), with **THE PROMISE OF A GOOD PENSION** (**sự hứa hẹn có lương hưu tốt**) when they retire. Employers **VALUE LOYALTY** (**trân trọng sự trung thành**) and may **OFFER ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES** (**cung cấp thêm sự đãi ngộ**) to **LONG-TERM EMPLOYEES** (**nhân viên lâu năm**), including **BONUSES AND REWARD SCHEMES** (**tiền thưởng và cơ chế thưởng**).

However, one of the drawbacks of staying with the same organization is that the person may **GET STUCK DOING THE SAME JOB YEAR AFTER YEAR** (**bị bế tắc trong việc làm một việc trong nhiều năm**). In some cases, this can lead to **BOREDOM AND DISILLUSIONMENT** (**sự nhàm chán và vỡ mộng**). Moving from one organization to another can be **A STRATEGIC DECISION** (**một quyết định chiến lược**) in order to have a variety and **ACQUIRE A RANGE OF SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE** (**thu được nhiều kỹ năng và kinh nghiệm**). A friend of my father started out as a sociology teacher, he then **JOINED THE SOCIAL SERVICES** (**tham gia vào dịch vụ cộng đồng**) and is currently managing a care home in Western Australia. This has **MADE HIM INCREDIBLY KNOWLEDGEABLE IN A RANGE OF RELATED FIELDS** (**giúp ông ấy có nhiều hiểu biết về một loạt các lĩnh vực liên quan**) and, in my view, has provided him with a much more interesting working life.

Although there are benefits to working for one organization. I feel that it is also valuable for an employee to be able to offer a wide range of experience having worked for different companies. As long as it is planned carefully, I feel that change is good and **WILL ULTIMATELY BENEFIT THE EMPLOYEE AND THE EMPLOYER** (**sẽ cực kỳ có lợi cho nhân viên và người quản lý**).

## ESSAY 22 – LIFE EXPECTANCY

**One of the consequences of improved medical care is that people are living longer and life expectancy is increasing. Do you think advantages outweigh disadvantages?**

*(The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS, test 2)*

Over the past 50 years, people have become used to the idea that they will probably live longer than their grandparents did. However, **A LONGER LIFE IS ONLY DESIRABLE (sống lâu hơn chỉ đáng mơ ước)** if you can look after yourself and be independent, otherwise there can be disadvantages for everyone.

If you walk into a hospital in my country, you are likely to see a lot more elderly people than you did in the past. In fact, this is causing significant problems as there is **A SHORTAGE OF BEDS (sự thiếu hụt giường bệnh)**. **MEDICAL TREATMENT IS KEEPING THE ELDERLY ALIVE (các biện pháp y tế đang ngày càng giúp người già duy trì sự sống)**, but **AT WHAT COST TO OTHERS (lấy đi những gì từ những người khác)**?

On top of this, **ONE OF THE BIGGEST MEDICAL PROBLEMS THESE DAYS IS DEMENTIA (một trong những vấn đề y học lớn nhất hiện nay là sự suy giảm trí tuệ)**. Even if old people are still fit, they may not be able to look after themselves. They may have to live with their children or **BE CAREED FOR IN A HOME (được chăm sóc tại viện dưỡng lão)**, which can be expensive. Elderly people do not like to be a burden, but their children can **FEEL OBLIGED TO CARE FOR THEM (cảm thấy có trách nhiệm phải chăm sóc họ)**.

Obviously, not all old people become ill. Those who **REMAIN HEALTHY (duy trì sức khỏe tốt)** can **ENJOY A HAPPY OLD AGE (tận hưởng tuổi già) AS LONG AS THEY HAVE SAVED ENOUGH MONEY (miễn là họ đã tiết kiệm đủ tiền)**. People **ARE MUCH MORE ACTIVE IN THEIR SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES (tích cực hoạt động hơn khi 60 – 70 tuổi)** than they used to be and this can only be a good thing. They have time to **ENJOY THEIR RETIREMENT (tận hưởng thời gian hưu trí của bản thân)** and do a range of activities that they could not do when they were at work. They can also help look after their grandchildren, which is **A GREAT BENEFIT FOR WORKING PARENTS (một lợi ích to lớn cho các bậc phụ huynh phải đi làm)**.

To sum up, I believe that we **SHOULD AIM TO KEEP PEOPLE AS HEALTHY AS POSSIBLE (nên hướng đến việc giúp con người khỏe mạnh nhất có thể)** so that they can enjoy their old age without having to rely on others. **A LONGER LIFE EXPECTANCY IS OBVIOUSLY ADVANTAGEOUS (một tuổi thọ dài hơn hiển nhiên là tích cực)**, but no one wants to live to be 100 if they can only cause problems for their family and society. (309 words)

## ESSAY 23 – CAR OWNERSHIP

***Car ownership has increased so rapidly over the past thirty years that many cities in the world are now ‘one big traffic jam’. How true do you think this statement is? What measures can governments take to discourage people from using their cars?***

***(The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS, test 3)***

Most people would agree that **CAR OWNERSHIP** (việc sở hữu xe ô tô) has increased in recent years and is causing a range of problems, **PARTICULARLY IN BUILT-UP AREAS** (đặc biệt là các khu vực có nhiều công trình). I think there are **A NUMBER OF WAYS THAT GOVERNMENTS CAN AIM TO DEAL WITH THIS** (có nhiều giải pháp mà chính phủ có thể hướng đến để giải quyết).

Many big cities in the world have **TRAFFIC PROBLEMS** (vấn đề về giao thông) but **THESE PROBLEMS VARY** (các vấn đề này rất đa dạng). For example, it is **REASONABLY EASY TO DRIVE AROUND MY CITY** (khá dễ dàng để lái xe quanh thành phố của tôi) after 10 am and before 5 pm. However, outside these hours, you **HAVE TO ALLOW DOUBLE THE USUAL TIME TO REACH YOUR DESTINATION** (phải dành ra gấp đôi thời gian để đi tới được điểm đến). In some other cities, **TRAFFIC IS CONGESTED** (giao thông tắc nghẽn) at all times, and **THERE IS THE CONTINUAL SOUND OF CAR HORNS** (có những tiếng còi xe liên tiếp) as people try to get wherever they want to go.

**ONE OF THE BEST APPROACHES GOVERNMENTS CAN TAKE** (một trong những giải pháp tốt nhất mà các chính phủ có thể áp dụng) in busy cities is to **ENCOURAGE THE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT** (khuyến khích việc sử dụng phương tiện công cộng). This means **THE TRANSPORT FACILITIES HAVE TO BE WELL-RUN** (cơ sở hạ tầng giao thông cần phải được vận hành tốt) and people must be able to afford them. Buses, trams and trains are **GOOD WAYS OF GETTING AROUND** (các cách thức thuận tiện để đi lại), and if they are cheap and reliable, people will use them.

Another approach is **TO DISCOURAGE PEOPLE FROM ACTUALLY ENTERING THE CITY** (không khuyến khích mọi người vào trong trung tâm thành phố) by building car parks and shopping centres on the outskirts. Many cities around the world do this quite successfully and **OFFER PASSENGERS BUS TRANSPORT INTO THE CENTRE** (cung cấp cho hành khách sử dụng xe bus vào trong thành phố), if they need it.

**AT PEAK TRAVEL PERIODS** (trong khoảng thời gian đi lại cao điểm), governments can also **RUN CAMPAIGNS** (chạy các chiến dịch) **TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO BE LESS DEPENDENT ON THEIR CARS** (khuyến khích mọi người hạn chế phụ thuộc vào xe ô tô riêng). **APPARENTLY, A LOT OF CAR TRIPS INVOLVE VERY SHORT JOURNEYS TO** (rõ ràng, một lượng lớn lượt xe chỉ di chuyển một quãng đường ngắn), say, the supermarket or local school. These are

often unnecessary, but we **AUTOMATICALLY GET IN OUR CARS WITHOUT THINKING** (**sử dụng xe theo thói quen mà không cân nhắc**).

Clearly we all **HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO LOOK AFTER OUR CITIES** (**có trách nhiệm phải quan tâm đến thành phố của chúng ta**). Governments can do a lot to improve the situation and part of what they do should involve encouraging individuals to **CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES TO DRIVING** (**cân nhắc các cách khác thay thế lái xe**). (299 words)

## ESSAY 24 – FAST FOOD

*In some countries an increasing number of people are suffering from health problems as a result of eating too much fast food. It is therefore necessary for governments to impose a higher tax on this kind of food.*

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

*(The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS, test 4)*

THE GROWTH OF THE FAST FOOD INDUSTRY (sự lớn mạnh của ngành công nghiệp thức ăn nhanh) has, without doubt, impacted on THE EATING HABITS (thói quen ăn uống) and the health of many societies around the world. DIABETES, HIGH CHOLESTEROL, HEART AND RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS (tiểu đường, cholesterol cao, vấn đề về tim mạch và hệ hô hấp) are all on the rise due to FATTY AND SUGAR-RICH FOOD (đồ ăn nhiều chất béo và nhiều đường). However, the question is whether higher tax would improve this situation or not.

FROM AN ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW (từ góc độ kinh tế), higher tax might seem sensible. In countries such as the USA, Australia and Britain, THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM (hệ thống chăm sóc sức khỏe) SPENDS A LARGE PART OF ITS BUDGET ON (dành ra một lượng lớn ngân sách cho) people with DIET-RELATED HEALTH PROBLEMS (những vấn đề sức khỏe liên quan đến chế độ ăn uống). It could be argued that these people have caused their own illnesses because of their choice of food. In this case, why should they expect the state to pay for their treatment? The tax could HELP FUND THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM (giúp đóng góp vào hệ thống chăm sóc sức khỏe).

However, we also need to consider WHICH SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUP (thành phần kinh tế - xã hội nào) CONSUMES FAST FOOD AS THE MAIN PART OF THEIR DIET (tiêu thụ thức ăn nhanh như một phần chính của chế độ ăn của họ). STATISTICS INDICATE THAT (nghiên cứu chỉ ra rằng) LOWER INCOME GROUPS (nhóm có thu nhập thấp) eat more of this food than wealthier people. One possible reason for this is that fast food is far cheaper than FRESH PRODUCE (thực phẩm tươi sống). This is because many governments OFFER LARGE SUBSIDIES TO FARMERS (cung cấp lượng lớn trợ cấp cho nông dân) who provide products for the fast food industry, such as corn, wheat and beef. Fruit and vegetables, on the other hand, are not subsidised. Research suggests that many families simply cannot afford to buy healthy food or pay higher taxes on fast food. For them, FAST FOOD IS NOT A CHOICE BUT A NECESSITY (thức ăn nhanh không phải là một lựa chọn mà là một sự cần thiết).

In conclusion, IMPOSING A HIGHER TAX ON (áp mức thuế cao hơn đối với) fast food does not seem to be the answer. If the government chose to do this, it would only lead to greater poverty and FAMILIES FACING FURTHER HARDSHIP (các gia đình đối mặt với nhiều khó khăn hơn). (278 words)

## ESSAY 25 - TECHNOLOGY & SURVEILLANCE

*Nowadays technology is increasingly being used to monitor what people are saying and doing (for example, through cellphone tracking and security cameras). In many cases, the people being monitored are unaware that this is happening. Do you think the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?*

*(The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS, test 5)*

In recent years, advances in technology have allowed governments, the police, and **PRIVATELY OWNED COMPANIES (các công ty tư nhân)** to **KEEP THE PUBLIC UNDER CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE (liên tục giám sát mọi người)**. In many major cities and towns, **SECURITY CAMERAS ARE RECORDING THE MOVEMENTS OF ORDINARY CITIZENS (máy quay an ninh đang ghi lại các hành động của từng công dân)**. Whenever a cellphone is used, **THE CALL IS LOGGED (cuộc gọi được ghi lại)**, so **THE SERVICE PROVIDER (nhà cung cấp dịch vụ)** knows exactly when and where the user made the call. **INVISIBLE SATELLITES ORBIT THE EARTH (các vệ tinh mà chúng ta không nhìn thấy quay quanh quỹ đạo trái đất)**, watching us whether we like it or not. Is this, however, a development we should welcome?

Certainly, there are benefits. In areas where there is **A HIGH CRIME RATE (tỷ lệ tội phạm cao)**, the use of security cameras may **ACT AS A DETERRENT TO CRIMINALS (đóng vai trò là một biện pháp răn đe tội phạm)**: if they can see a camera, they may **THINK TWICE ABOUT BREAKING INTO A BUILDING (suy nghĩ lại trước khi đột nhập vào một tòa nhà)** or stealing a car. **IF A CRIME IS CARRIED OUT (nếu một tội ác được tiến hành)**, then **A CAMERA MAY PROVIDE USEFUL EVIDENCE (máy quay có thể cung cấp các bằng chứng cần thiết)**. The same is true for a cellphone; the police sometimes rely on call logs to help them **TRACE OUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF SUSPECTS OR VICTIMS (xác định nơi ở của các kẻ tình nghi hoặc nạn nhân)**.

On the other hand, there are a number of concerns. In countries where **HUMAN RIGHTS ARE IGNORED (quyền con người bị phớt lờ)**, the use of security cameras or listening devices may be harmful to society. People should be able to hold meetings and **EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS WITHOUT THEIR PRIVACY BEING INVADED (thể hiện quan điểm mà không xâm phạm sự riêng tư của họ)**. There is also a very different issue we should consider. Nowadays, many people **UPLOAD PERSONAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS ON SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES (đăng tải thông tin cá nhân và ảnh trên các trang thông tin đại chúng)**; they often do not realize how easy it is for other people to view this information or for **THE SITE OWNERS (người sở hữu các trang)** to **USE THE DATA OR PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THEIR OWN FINANCIAL GAIN (sử dụng dữ liệu và hình ảnh cho việc thu lợi nhuận về mình)**.

It seems inevitable that there will be more and more ways to **MONITOR SOCIETY (giám sát xã hội)** in the future. However, **IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO EVALUATE NEW TECHNOLOGY (đó là trách nhiệm của chúng ta để đánh giá công nghệ mới)** and **DECIDE WHETHER IT WILL DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD**



**(và quyết định mặt hạn chế của nó có nhiều hơn mặt tốt hay không).** Surely our freedom is more valuable than technological progress? (308 words)

## ESSAY 26 – STUDY ABROAD

*In the past, when students DID A UNIVERSITY DEGREE (học đại học), they tended to study in their own country.*

*Nowadays, they have more opportunities to study abroad.*

*What are the advantages and disadvantages of this development?*

*(The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS, test 6)*

**THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE (sự theo đuổi kiến thức)** is a concept that is valued by most cultures. In the 21st century, we now have many more options regarding how and where to find that knowledge. If you **ARE A FRENCH NATIONAL (là người mang quốc tịch Pháp)**, you can **APPLY TO DO AN ECONOMICS DEGREE (đăng ký học một bằng kinh tế học)** in the USA, and likewise an American citizen can **TAKE A COURSE IN LINGUISTICS (tham gia một khóa học về ngôn ngữ học)** in France. Indeed, most universities across the world now **HAVE A GOOD PROPORTION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THEIR PROGRAMS (có một lượng lớn sinh viên quốc tế đăng ký theo học chương trình của họ)**.

Certainly, there are numerous advantages of studying in a different country. Many students choose to do this because they know that a particular university, for instance, Stanford Business School, **HAS AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION (có một danh tiếng xuất sắc)**. Graduating from here, they believe, will **INCREASE THEIR CHANCES OF SECURING A DECENT POSITION IN A COMPANY BACK HOME (làm tăng cơ hội được đảm bảo cho một vị trí tốt trong một công ty ở quê nhà)**. Students studying abroad also have the opportunity to **FORM FRIENDSHIPS WITH PEOPLE OF VARIOUS NATIONALITIES (xây dựng mối quan hệ bạn bè với mọi người đến từ nhiều quốc gia)**: in time, these may **DEVELOP INTO USEFUL PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS (phát triển thành mối quan hệ hữu ích trong công việc)**. Furthermore, living far from family and friends can **ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENT (cho phép thế hệ trẻ trở nên độc lập và tự chủ)**.

Unfortunately, the experience of studying abroad is not always a positive one. Research suggests that a small percentage of young people **STRUGGLE TO ADAPT TO THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT (gặp khó khăn trong việc hòa nhập vào môi trường mới)** and **SUFFER FROM SEVERE CULTURE SHOCK (chịu nhiều cú sốc văn hóa lớn)**. The situation can become worse if the student **IS NOT MATURE ENOUGH TO COPE BY THEMSELVES (không đủ trưởng thành để tự mình giải quyết vấn đề)**. Different approaches to teaching and learning may also **COME AS AN UNWELCOME SURPRISE TO SOME STUDENTS (trở thành một bất ngờ không mong đợi đối với một vài sinh viên)**.

**IN ESSENCE (về bản chất)**, the key to a good experience at a foreign university is an open mind. If a student **IS PRESENTED WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY (đối diện với**

**cơ hội này**), they should **CERTAINLY SEIZE IT** (**chắc chắn nắm bắt nó**). (267 words)

## ESSAY 27 - SPORT

*In many parts of the world, there is **CONTINUOUS COVERAGE OF SPORT ON TELEVISION** (bản tin thể thao phát sóng liên tục trên TV).*

*Some people believe this discourages the young from taking part in any sport themselves.*

*Discuss this view and give your own opinion.*

*(IELTS Trainer 1, Test 1)*

These days, it is noticeable that young people are becoming less interested in team games, sports and other forms of exercise. It is my belief that this is mainly **BECAUSE OF OUR EVERYDAY WORK, WHICH IS INCREASINGLY SEDENTARY** (do công việc hàng ngày ngày càng ít vận động). Besides, I think every person would admit that sitting and relaxing is much easier than moving and running and sweating.

The question is, how much of this laziness is because of the sports programmes on television? From one point of view it could be true that these programmes make young people lazy. However, this may be because some people who like sport, and also like watching sports, are attracted to the television programmes and spend so much time watching sport that **THERE IS NO SPARE TIME FOR THEM TO PARTICIPATE THEMSELVES** (không có thời gian rảnh rỗi để tự tham gia các hoạt động thể thao).

By contrast, watching sport may encourage some other young people to **TAKE UP SPORT** (bắt đầu chơi thể thao), as these individuals might like that sport and consequently want to try it to see how it feels. Watching such programmes on television can make us feel that we want to be active, want to play basketball, or go swimming and so on. Thus, I would agree that **THERE ARE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF WATCHING SPORTS PROGRAMMES** (có nhiều khía cạnh tích cực của việc xem các chương trình thể thao).

In my opinion, **THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE IS** (vấn đề trọng yếu là) the reason why we like sport. Does an individual **LIKE SPORT MERELY AS A SPECTATOR OR AS A PARTICIPANT** (yêu thích thể thao chỉ như một khán giả hay như một người chơi)? If the reason is simply the pleasure of watching other people playing volleyball or football or even dancing, that person will **NEVER WANT TO BE AMONG THOSE WHO TAKE PART** (không bao giờ muốn trở thành một trong số những người tham gia). However, if a person **ENJOYS BEING ACTIVE AND JOINING IN** (yêu thích việc trở nên năng động và tham gia vào), then sports programmes will never prevent this. (272 words)

## ESSAY 28 - SHOPPING

*In the past, shopping was a routine domestic task. Many people nowadays regard it as a hobby.*

*To what extent do you think this is a positive trend?*

*(IELTS Trainer 1, Test 2)*

Going shopping used to be a chore, but **IT HAS BECOME A LEISURE ACTIVITY OR A PLEASANT OUTING** (nó đã trở thành một hoạt động giải trí hay một hoạt động đi chơi vui vẻ). To my mind, it is debatable whether this **CAN BE REGARDED AS A WHOLLY POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT** (có thể coi như là một bước phát triển hoàn toàn tích cực).

**FOR EARLIER GENERATIONS** (với các thế hệ trước), buying food or consumer products involved visiting several shops, each **WITH THE SAME LIMITED RANGE ON OFFER** (với một số ít các loại sản phẩm sẵn có giống nhau). Customers had less money and **CREDIT WAS NOT WIDELY AVAILABLE** (tín dụng chưa phổ biến sâu rộng). By contrast, shoppers nowadays can find almost anything in the supermarket or shopping mall. **THE COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT, THE VARIETY OF GOODS AND ATTRACTIONS** (môi trường thoải mái, sự đa dạng của sản phẩm và các điểm thu hút) such as cafés and cinemas make spending money enjoyable.

Nowadays, **WITH MANY PARENTS WORKING FULL-TIME** (với nhiều bố mẹ làm việc toàn thời gian), families have little time together. In my experience, it is normal to see families in the local shopping mall at weekends. Undoubtedly, one of the benefits of this is that **THEY ARE TOGETHER AS A FAMILY** (họ ở cạnh nhau như một gia đình). Nevertheless, this is not ideal, especially if **IT LEAVES NO TIME FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES** (không còn thời gian cho những hoạt động khác), such as sport.

Another negative result of this change in attitudes is the effect it has on young people all over the world, who spend time in shopping malls. The reasons for this **ARE THE INFLUENCE OF ADVERTISING AND THE AVAILABILITY OF CREDIT CARD** (sự ảnh hưởng của quảng cáo và sự sẵn có của thẻ tín dụng). On the one hand, they are with friends in a safe environment, but on the other, **IT CAN TEMPT THEM TO BUY THINGS THEY DO NOT REALLY NEED** (nó có thể khiến họ muốn mua những món đồ họ không thật sự cần) and may **CAUSE THEM INTO DEBT** (khiến họ rơi vào nợ nần). Moreover, it would be better for their health if they met friends to go swimming.

In conclusion I would like to suggest that although **SHOPPING NOW IS LESS TEDIOUS, THIS IS NOT NECESSARILY A POSITIVE TREND** (mua sắm hiện nay

**đã bớt tệ nhạt, nhưng nó không phải lúc nào cũng là một xu hướng tích cực) .**  
It **MAY BE GOOD FOR THE RETAILERS, BUT NOT FOR CONSUMERS (có thể tốt cho người bán hàng, nhưng không phải cho người tiêu dùng)** if it replaces other, healthier activities.

(284 words)

## ESSAY 29 - JOBS

***Some people argue that it is more important to have an enjoyable job than to earn a lot of money. Others disagree and think that a good salary leads to a better life. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.***  
***(IELTS Trainer 1, Test 3)***

Everybody knows that you need money to survive, but **IT IS OFTEN SAID THAT (mọi người thường nói rằng)** money does not bring happiness. Although the ideal situation may be to have an enjoyable job that also provides a good salary, that is not always possible. It is important to remember that some people might not have a choice of jobs because they **DID NOT HAVE THE CHANCE OF A GOOD EDUCATION (đã không có cơ hội được hưởng nền giáo dục tốt)** or because they **HAVE A LARGE FAMILY TO SUPPORT (có một gia đình lớn cần phải chăm lo)**.

Some people **SPEND LARGE SUMS OF MONEY (tiêu một lượng tiền lớn)** without thinking about it. However, they could manage with money and have a better life by taking a job they enjoy or by working fewer hours. **I HAVE OBSERVED THAT (tôi đã quan sát thấy rằng)** in families who go on expensive holidays and always have a new car, it is often the father who works such long hours that his children rarely see him. In my opinion that is not an attractive lifestyle and it would be better if he **FOUND A LESS WELL-PAID JOB THAT ENABLED HIM TO SPEND MORE TIME AT HOME (tìm một công việc trả lương thấp hơn mà cho phép anh ấy dành nhiều thời gian hơn ở nhà)**.

On the other hand, life is easier for those who have plenty of money as they can do what they want and do not have to **THINK CONSTANTLY ABOUT WHETHER THEY CAN AFFORD SOMETHING OR NOT (liên tục suy nghĩ xem họ có khả năng chi trả một món đồ nào đó hay không)**. In addition, **EARNING A GOOD SALARY (có thu nhập tốt)** makes it easier to be healthier because you can eat good food and join a gym.

To sum up, I think it is more important to have a job you enjoy if you can afford it. In my view, most people need less money than they think because they **WASTE A LOT ON BUYING THINGS THEY DO NOT NEED (tiêu tốn rất nhiều tiền bạc vào việc mua những thứ họ không cần)**.

(273 words)

## ESSAY 30 - THE INTERNET

*It is generally believed that the Internet IS AN EXCELLENT MEANS OF COMMUNICATION (là một phương thức giao tiếp tuyệt vời ) but some people suggest that it may not be the best place to find information.*

*Discuss both views and give your own opinion.*

*(IELTS Trainer 1, Test 4)*

Using the Internet **HAS BECOME A NORMAL PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE FOR PEOPLE** (đã trở thành một phần bình thường trong cuộc sống hàng ngày của con người). They use it to book airline tickets, or to access news about world events, or to **FOLLOW THE FORTUNES OF THEIR FAVOURITE FOOTBALL CLUB** (theo dõi diễn biến của câu lạc bộ bóng đá họ yêu thích). **MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ACROSS THE WORLD BELONG TO SOCIAL NETWORKING GROUPS** (hàng triệu người trên thế giới thuộc về các nhóm mạng xã hội) where they keep in touch with their friends and, if they live away from them, their family. In my opinion these are all good ways to use the Internet.

When it comes to finding out information **THERE ARE SOME VERY GOOD SITES WHERE IT IS POSSIBLE TO CHECK** (có nhiều trang web tốt mà có thể kiểm tra được), for example, **SOMEONE'S BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS** (chi tiết tiểu sử của ai đó) or **STATISTICS ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING** (số liệu về hiện tượng nóng lên toàn cầu). However, information from the Internet **SHOULD BE USED WITH CAUTION** (cần được sử dụng một cách thận trọng), because although there are many reliable sites, such as academic journals and well-known newspapers, there are also unreliable ones, so **IT IS IMPORTANT TO CHECK WHERE INFORMATION ORIGINATES FROM BEFORE USING IT** (việc kiểm tra nguồn của thông tin trước khi sử dụng rất quan trọng).

Some students use websites which **OFFER READY-MADE ASSIGNMENTS** (cung cấp các bài tập đã được làm sẵn). This is not a good idea, even if you ignore the fact that it is cheating, because such websites **MAY CONTAIN FACTUAL ERRORS OF BIASED VIEWS** (có thể chứa thông tin sai lệch sự thật hoặc góc nhìn thành kiến). In a recent case, **A STUDENT FOUND HERSELF IN SERIOUS TROUBLE** (một học sinh nhận ra mình đã gặp vấn đề nghiêm trọng) when she **SUBMITTED AN ESSAY FROM ONE OF THESE SITES ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT** (nộp bài luận lấy từ một trong các trang này rồi bất ngờ phát hiện ra rằng) it was about Austria, not Australia, but had an error in the title.

Nevertheless, it is nowadays possible for people all over the world **TO STUDY OR DO BUSINESS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING** (học tập và làm việc trong cùng điều kiện như nhau), in a way that was unimaginable only a few years ago. On the whole I



believe that the Internet is an excellent way both to communicate and to find information, as long as it is used intelligently.  
(277 words)

## ESSAY 31 - CHILDREN AND EDUCATION

*In some countries, IT IS THOUGHT ADVISABLE THAT CHILDREN BEGIN FORMAL EDUCATION (trẻ em được cho rằng nên bắt đầu chương trình giáo dục chính quy) at four years old, while in others they do not have to start school until they are seven or eight.*

*How far do you agree with either of these views?*

*(IELTS Trainer 1, Test 5)*

In some parts of the world, parents encourage their children to begin studying while they are still toddlers, using a variety of books and computer games which teach them to count or learn their letters. The parents **CHOOSE A FIRST SCHOOL FOR THEIR FOUR-YEAR-OLD WHICH FOCUSES ON ACADEMIC ABILITY (chọn trường học đầu đời cho những đứa con lên bốn của họ mà tập trung vào năng lực học tập)** in order that, by the time they enter the next school, **THE CHILDREN ARE WELL AHEAD OF THEIR AGE GROUP (những đứa trẻ sẽ vượt trội hơn so với lứa tuổi của chúng)**, with high marks in important subjects such as maths and language, or **ARE EQUIPPED TO TAKE COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS FOR OTHER SCHOOLS IF THAT IS RELEVANT (được trang bị để có thể tham gia các bài kiểm tra đầu vào đầy cạnh tranh vào các trường khác nếu phù hợp)**.

In other countries, children are at home or play school until they are around seven years old. They do not even begin to study reading until then, but they listen to and tell stories, they paint and draw, they **MAKE MODELS AND BUILD TREE HOUSES (làm mô hình và dựng nhà trên cây)**, they swim and play ball games, they keep fish and grow plants in the playschool garden.

In my opinion, the question **IS NOT WHICH METHOD PRODUCES THE MOST ABLE STUDENTS (không phải là phương pháp nào tạo nên những học sinh tốt nhất)**, because all over the world the majority of those who reach university do so at around the same age, wherever they are educated. A brilliant scientist from one country **MAY BE WORKING IN A LABORATORY ALONGSIDE AN EQUALLY BRILLIANT SCIENTIST FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY (có thể làm việc chung phòng thí nghiệm với một nhà khoa học thiên tài đến từ quốc gia khác)** and **THE EDUCATIONAL START OF EACH CAREER MAY HAVE BEEN IN COMPLETE CONTRAST (xuất phát điểm giáo dục của mỗi nghề nghiệp có thể hoàn toàn khác biệt)**. Therefore, it is clear that **THE TWO APPROACHES CAN BOTH PRODUCE ABLE ACADEMICS (hai cách tiếp cận đều có thể tạo ra những học giả tài năng)**, all other things being equal. Nevertheless, **IT IS PROBABLE THAT ONE METHOD IS PREFERABLE TO THE OTHER (có lẽ là có một phương pháp được ưa chuộng hơn các cách còn lại)**.

It seems to me that **SPENDING EARLY CHILDHOOD STRUGGLING TO ACQUIRE ACADEMIC SKILLS IN A COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE** (việc dành tuổi thơ để cố gắng có được các kỹ năng học thuật trong một môi trường cạnh tranh) is not the best way to **PRODUCE A BALANCED PERSONALITY** (hình thành nên nhân cách cân bằng). Learning through play and developing social skills **EQUIPS A CHILD FOR ADULT LIFE IN ESSENTIAL WAYS** (trang bị đứa trẻ cho cuộc sống trưởng thành sau này bằng những cách cần thiết) that **THE COMPETITIVE PARENTS NEGLECT** (những vị phụ huynh hiếu thắng bỏ qua). If the child has academic ability, **THIS WILL MANIFEST ITSELF** (điều đó sẽ tự biểu lộ ra) as the child develops and does not need to be forced at an early age  
(328 words)

## ESSAY 32 - VEGETARIANISM

*Some people choose to eat no meat or fish. They believe that this is not only better for their own health but also benefits the world as a whole. Discuss this view and give your own opinion.*

*(IELTS Trainer 1, Test 6)*

The number of vegetarians in a community may depend on various factors, for example the traditions of the country, the wealth of the country, the religion or the age group. Therefore, **THE REASONS WHY PEOPLE CHOOSE TO EXCLUDE MEAT AND FISH FROM THEIR DIET MAY ALSO VARY** (lý do tại sao có người chọn loại bỏ thịt và cá khỏi thực đơn của họ cũng có thể rất đa dạng).

Some people become vegetarians because they believe that this will benefit their health. Undoubtedly, eating too much meat, especially too much red meat, **IS NOT TO BE RECOMMENDED** (không được khuyến khích). Moreover, the fact that **THERE ARE HEALTHY POPULATIONS IN SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD** (có những bộ phận dân số khỏe mạnh ở một số nơi trên thế giới) where no one eats meat proves that it is not, as some people claim, **AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE HUMAN DIET** (một phần thiết yếu trong chế độ ăn của con người). However, it is important to ensure that enough protein, for example, is included in the diet from other sources. Where vegetarianism is not a tradition, this may **REQUIRE SOME CAREFUL PLANNING** (đòi hỏi sự lên kế hoạch cẩn thận).

In my experience, it is quite common for people to become vegetarians because they feel that it is selfish to eat meat or because **MEAT PRODUCTION INCREASES GLOBAL WARMING** (sản xuất thịt làm gia tăng sự nóng lên toàn cầu). They may also feel that if no one ate meat, **THERE WOULD BE NO FOOD SHORTAGES** (sẽ không có sự thiếu hụt thức ăn), because **MEAT PRODUCTION USES UP FOOD RESOURCES** (sự sản xuất thịt làm cạn kiệt nguồn cung thực phẩm). This idealistic point of view is very attractive, but it is hard to judge whether it is in fact correct.

In some families, if a teenager decides to become a vegetarian, they **MAY DO SO PARTLY OUT OF A SPIRIT OF REBELLION** (có thể một phần vì sự nổi loạn), because this behaviour **CAN BE INTERPRETED AS A CRITICISM OF THEIR PARENTS' WAY OF LIFE** (có thể được xem như sự chỉ trích lối sống của các bậc cha mẹ). However, provided that they continue to eat healthily, the parents **SHOULD NOT RAISE OBJECTIONS** (không nên phản đối), in my opinion. **VEGETARIANISM IS A VALID CHOICE IN LIFE** (chủ nghĩa ăn chay là một lựa chọn hợp lý trong cuộc sống). Moreover, research shows that vegetarians tend to be healthier in many ways than meat-eaters.

Personally, I think that being a vegetarian is **A GOOD IDEA IN PRINCIPLE AS THERE ARE PROVEN HEALTH BENEFITS** (về nguyên tắc là một ý tưởng tốt bởi có những lợi ích sức khỏe đã được chứng minh) and probably social benefits as well. However, it does not suit everybody, and I doubt whether it **WILL EVER BE A UNIVERSAL CHOICE** (sẽ là lựa chọn phổ biến).

(330 words)

## ESSAY 33 - SMARTPHONES

*Many people nowadays spend a large part of their free time using a smartphone. What do you think are the reasons for this?*

*Do you think this is a positive or negative development?*

*(IELTS Trainer 2, Test 1)*

It is clear that large numbers of people **SPEND A CONSIDERABLE PROPORTION OF THEIR LEISURE TIME** (dành một lượng lớn thời gian rảnh rỗi) looking at their smart phones or **SIMILAR GADGETS** (những đồ điện tử tương tự).

In my view there are two major reasons for this. Firstly, so much of our lives is now managed through these devices and we **ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN TOUCH AT ALL TIMES** (được mong đợi có thể liên lạc được mọi lúc). It is no longer acceptable to say that we are on holiday and **CUT OFF FROM COMMUNICATION WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD** (cắt đứt liên lạc với thế giới bên ngoài). A related but separate point is that **IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONDUCT OUR SOCIAL LIVES WITHOUT A MOBILE DEVICE** (thật khó để vận hành cuộc sống xã hội của chúng ta mà không có thiết bị di động). People travel much more and their friends often live far away. Therefore, they actually need to conduct relationships online rather than face to face and for this reason **FREQUENT USE OF A MOBILE DEVICE IS CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL** (việc sử dụng thường xuyên một thiết bị di động được xem là thiết yếu).

**THERE ARE SOME WORRYING ASPECTS** (có một vài phương diện đáng quan ngại) to this growth in the use of mobile devices, especially at times when people **ARE SUPPOSED TO BE RELAXING** (đáng lẽ có thể nghỉ ngơi). Firstly, it is widely believed that phone use can **BECOME ADDICTIVE AND LEAD TO AN UNHEALTHY DEPENDENCE** (có thể gây nghiện và dẫn tới sự phụ thuộc không lành mạnh). People can become anxious if they do not check their devices at all times of the day and night and this **CAN CAUSE INSOMNIA AND OTHER KINDS OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS** (có thể gây mất ngủ và các vấn đề về tâm thần khác).

On the other hand, such devices can **PROVIDE GREAT SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ENTERTAINMENT** (cung cấp những nguồn thông tin và giải trí tuyệt vời) during our free time. It is, for example, valuable to have a mobile device when travelling in a new area, **TO LOOK UP ROUTES** (để tìm đường) or to find interesting places to visit. They also greatly **FACILITATE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS** (hỗ trợ trong một vài hoạt động như lên lịch hẹn với bạn bè).

On balance, I feel that rather than **SPOILING OUR HEALTH OR REDUCING ENJOYMENT OF OUR FREE TIME** (hủy hoại sức khỏe hay giảm thiểu sự tận

**hưởng thời gian rảnh rỗi của chúng ta) these devices actually ENHANCE OUR LIVES (nâng cao cuộc sống của chúng ta).**

(288 words)

## ESSAY 34 - TAX

*Some people feel that governments should take a large proportion of people's salaries to pay for necessary public services such as roads and schools. Others feel that high taxes are a bad thing.*

*Discuss both views and give your own opinion.*

(IELTS Trainer 2, Test 2)

It is widely agreed that governments of all countries **NEED A STOCK OF MONEY TO DRAW ON TO PAY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE** (**cần một nguồn tiền để chi trả cho cơ sở hạ tầng**) such as roads and services such as **EDUCATION, DEFENCE OR WASTE DISPOSAL** (**giáo dục, quốc phòng hay xử lý rác thải**). **A MORE CONTENTIOUS ISSUE** (**một vấn đề dễ gây tranh cãi hơn**) is whether people should be taxed heavily to pay for these.

Many people feel that all these areas of public life are so vital that we must have high taxes **TO ENSURE THAT SERVICES ARE OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD** (**để đảm bảo rằng các dịch vụ có tiêu chuẩn tốt nhất**). If taxes are too low, the quality of the provision declines and eventually **SYSTEMS BEGIN TO BREAK DOWN** (**hệ thống bắt đầu ngừng lại**) and the only people able to manage are the wealthy. Proponents of high taxation also argue that **IN PRINCIPLE** (**về nguyên tắc**) it is a good thing to make the wealthiest in society **BEAR THE BIGGEST BURDEN OF PAYING FOR SERVICES FOR THE GOOD OF EVERYONE** (**chịu những gánh nặng lớn nhất bởi việc chi trả cho các dịch vụ vì lợi ích của mọi người**), including the poorest.

On the other hand, if too high a percentage of salaries is taken in tax, it is argued that people **LOSE THE INCENTIVE TO WORK HARD** (**mất đi động lực để làm việc chăm chỉ**). Another drawback of high taxation is that it **BUILDS RESENTMENT** (**gây nên sự oán giận**) and people **START TO LOOK FOR STRATEGIES TO AVOID PAYING IT** (**bắt đầu tìm cách để tránh phải trả các khoản phí này**).

I believe that taxation, **MANAGED SENSIBLY** (**được quản lý một cách hợp lý**), is a good way of redistributing wealth and I **AM IN FAVOUR OF THE RICH SUPPORTING THE LESS WELL OFF** (**tán thành ý kiến người giàu giúp đỡ những người có hoàn cảnh khó khăn hơn**). In the end, this equalising benefits everyone because if there is too great a gap between rich and poor, resentment develops. However, I feel hard work should be rewarded so **THE THRESHOLD ABOVE WHICH PEOPLE START TO PAY TAX SHOULD BE QUITE HIGH** (**ngưỡng thuế mà mọi người bắt đầu đóng nên là tương đối cao**). (256 words)



## ESSAY 35 - ENDANGERED SPECIES

*Many people feel it is a waste to try to save endangered animal species, for example the tiger or the blue whale.*

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

*(IELTS TRAINER 2, Test 3)*

It is often argued that with so much suffering in the human population these days, **IT IS WRONG TO USE UP PRECIOUS RESOURCES ON ANIMALS (sẽ là sai trái khi đầu tư nguồn lực quý giá cho việc bảo vệ động vật)**. Taking the example of the tiger, proponents of this view say that to encourage tiger populations to increase in areas farmed by humans would be morally wrong because **PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOODS WOULD BE DESTROYED FOR THE SAKE OF AN ANIMAL (kể sinh nhai của con người sẽ bị hủy hoại vì lợi ích của động vật)**. The tigers will hunt livestock and, **GIVEN THE CHANCE (nếu có cơ hội)**, humans as well. In other words, where there is competition between humans and animals in a given habitat, it is right that humans should win. The point is also made that, over millennia, **CERTAIN SPECIES HAVE DISAPPEARED WHILE OTHERS HAVE FLOURISHED (một số loài nhất định đã biến mất trong khi các loài khác sinh trưởng mạnh mẽ)**, and that we **SHOULD ALLOW NATURE TO TAKE ITS COURSE (nên cho phép tự nhiên diễn ra một cách bình thường)** and **LET FAILING SPECIES DIE OUT (để những loài kém cỏi biến mất)**. In fact, it is suggested that **PROTECTING VULNERABLE SPECIES DAMAGES THE ECOLOGY OF THE EARTH (việc bảo vệ các loài sắp nguy cấp sẽ phá hủy hệ sinh thái của trái đất)** because only the fittest should survive.

I agree that human life **IS ALWAYS OF GREATER VALUE THAN ANIMAL LIFE (luôn có giá trị hơn cuộc sống của động vật)**. However, I feel that **TRYING TO SAVE ANY CREATURE FROM EXTINCTION ENHANCES HUMAN EXISTENCE (cố gắng bảo vệ bất cứ loài nào khỏi tuyệt chủng đều nâng cao khả năng tồn tại của loài người)**, because our lives would be diminished if fascinating and beautiful creatures such as tigers or elephants were lost forever. Furthermore, being the most powerful creature on the planet means that we **HAVE A MORAL AND ETHICAL DUTY TO CARE FOR WEAKER SPECIES (có trách nhiệm đạo đức phải quan tâm đến những loài yếu ớt hơn)**. Finally, **EVEN LESS-APPEALING ANIMALS SUCH AS INSECTS AND AMPHIBIANS (thậm chí các cá thể ít thu hút hơn như côn trùng và lưỡng cư)** should be preserved, because **MAINTAINING DIFFERENT SPECIES PROMOTES BIODIVERSITY (duy trì các loài khác nhau thúc đẩy sự đa dạng sinh học)**. It is possible, for example, that scientists might be able to find products from these animals of benefit to humans, such as medicines or fertilisers.

On balance, I feel that every effort should be made to save as many species as possible, **FOR PRACTICAL AND MORAL AS WELL AS AESTHETIC REASONS (vì lý do thực tiễn, đạo đức cũng như thẩm mỹ)**. (289 words)

## ESSAY 36 - TRAVEL

*These days it is much easier for many people to travel to different countries for tourism than in the past. Do the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?*  
(IELTS Trainer 2, Test 4)

In the last few decades there has been a significant increase in the number of opportunities for international travel, **WITH MORE TRANSPORT ROUTES AND CHEAPER FARES** (với nhiều tuyến đường và chi phí đi lại rẻ hơn).

There are undoubtedly benefits flowing from this growth in international tourism. People now **HAVE A GREATER AWARENESS OF OTHER CULTURES THAN WAS THE CASE EVEN ONE GENERATION AGO** (có ý thức tốt hơn về các nền văn hóa khác so với chỉ một thế hệ trước đó). Travelling widely to enjoy such things as the art, customs and cuisine of different countries **USED TO BE THE PRESERVE OF THE WEALTHY CLASSES** (đã từng là hoạt động dành riêng cho tầng lớp giàu có). Now **EVEN THE LESS WELL OFF HAVE ACCESS TO THEM** (thậm chí những người kém giàu có hơn đã có thể tiếp cận với chúng).

There are, however, **DRAWBACKS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS LEVEL OF MOBILITY** (các tác động tiêu cực đi kèm với hình thức di chuyển này). Firstly, a number of resorts, even whole countries, have so many tourists that the culture and environment are severely damaged. For example, **TRADITIONAL CRAFTS ARE REPLACED BY THE MANUFACTURING OF CHEAP TRINKETS** (các nghề thủ công truyền thống bị thay thế bởi sự sản xuất công nghiệp đồ nữ trang rẻ tiền) and **LOCAL SINGING AND DANCING ARE PACKAGED FOR TOURIST CONSUMPTION** (âm nhạc và điệu múa địa phương được quảng cáo để thu hút khách du lịch). Because tourists stay for only a short time they often don't care if they behave badly or **LITTER THE STREETS** (xả rác ra đường phố). Secondly, although **THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY DOES BRING EMPLOYMENT** (ngành công nghiệp du lịch tạo ra việc làm), it **TENDS TO BE PRECARIOUS BECAUSE MUCH OF IT IS SEASONAL** (có xu hướng không ổn định do đa số mang tính vụ mùa), with long periods of the year offering no work. **THE INCOME FROM TOURISM IS UNEVENLY DISTRIBUTED** (nguồn thu nhập từ ngành du lịch phân bố không đồng đều), with a small number of big businesses (e.g. property developers) making a lot of money but the majority of people working for low wages as waiters or guides. Related to this is the fact that money spent by tourists is **SELDOM RETAINED BY THE LOCAL ECONOMY** (hiếm khi được nắm giữ bởi hệ thống kinh tế bản địa): profits are frequently taken out by multinational corporations. Finally, international travel **ADDS TO GREENHOUSE GASES** (làm gia tăng khí nhà kính), leading to harmful climate change.

In my view, despite the advantages of travel to both tourists and host countries, these **DO NOT COMPENSATE FOR THE DAMAGE (không thể bù đắp những nguy hại) INFLECTED ON THE ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND INDIVIDUALS BY MASS TOURISM (gây ra cho môi trường, cấu trúc xã hội và các cá nhân từ việc du lịch ồ ạt).**

(294 words)

## ESSAY 37 - AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

*Scientific developments in farming always bring major benefits. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?*  
(IELTS Trainer 2, Test 5)

In recent decades there has been **A NUMBER OF HIGH-PROFILE INNOVATIONS IN FARMING BASED ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH** (một số các phát minh thu hút nhiều sự chú ý trong lĩnh vực nông nghiệp dựa trên các nghiên cứu khoa học), most notably **THE USE OF CHEMICAL INSECTICIDES AND THE GENETIC MODIFICATION OF CROPS** (việc sử dụng thuốc diệt côn trùng hóa học và biến đổi gen hoa màu).

Without doubt these have led to some very positive outcomes. For example, researchers have been able to identify which pests cause problems for a particular plant and to create a means of destroying them. In some areas of the world this **HAS TRANSFORMED FARMERS' ABILITY TO GROW FOOD FOR THEIR OWN CONSUMPTION** (đã thay đổi hoàn toàn khả năng của người nông dân để trồng hoa màu phục vụ cho nhu cầu tiêu thụ của chính họ) as well as to sell it to generate income. Equally, in recent years **THE ABILITY TO MANIPULATE THE GENETIC MAKE-UP OF PLANTS** (khả năng kiểm soát cấu trúc gen của các loại cây trồng) has made it possible to **CREATE STRAINS OF CROPS NATURALLY RESISTANT TO PESTS AND DISEASES** (tạo ra các giống hoa màu có khả năng chống chịu lại côn trùng và dịch bệnh). In fact, some of these new scientific developments are reducing the need for the innovations of the previous generation.

However, there can be serious drawbacks to these scientific developments in agriculture. For instance, it is now becoming clear that pesticides **MAY BE DAMAGING BENEFICIAL ORGANISMS** (có thể gây nguy hại đối với sinh vật có lợi) as well as pests. For example, it is widely agreed that the world's bee population is being affected by chemicals; this means fewer plants are being pollinated, which affects food supplies. It is possible, also, that a range of human diseases which are becoming increasingly common, for example asthma, **MAY BE EXACERBATED BY THESE CHEMICALS** (có thể tồi tệ hơn bởi những chất hóa học này)

My own view is that it would be wrong to deny the potential of science to improve agriculture – as it has done throughout history, from the development of the plough to **THE REFINEMENT OF LIVESTOCK BREEDING** (cải tiến trong chăn nuôi). However, we must be sure we understand as much as possible about the effects of innovations before it is too late **TO REVERSE ANY NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES** (đảo ngược bất kỳ tình thế bất lợi nào).

(281 words)

## ESSAY 38 - TIME MANAGEMENT

*In many parts of the world, children and teenagers are spending more and more of their time indoors. What do you think is the cause of this problem? What measures could best be taken to solve it?*  
(IELTS Trainer 2, Test 6)

In my country these days many young people hardly ever leave their homes, preferring to sit in front of a screen instead of being in the open air. **THIS WAS NOT THE CASE EVEN AS RECENTLY AS 15 YEARS AGO (việc này đã không xảy ra thậm chí chỉ 15 năm trước)**, when I was a teenager.

There are a number of possible reasons for the change. Firstly, youngsters are under more pressure to study hard to ensure that they **GET THE QUALIFICATIONS THEY NEED TO SECURE EMPLOYMENT (nhận được các bằng cấp họ cần để đảm bảo công việc)**. This means that they **HAVE LESS TIME FOR THE OUTDOOR LEISURE PURSUITS (có ít thời gian hơn cho các hoạt động giải trí ngoài trời)** which were once considered essential for the young – playing with friends and taking part in team sports. A related point is that **ACCESS TO STUDY IS NOW ALMOST ALWAYS DONE AT HOME (việc tiếp cận giáo dục hiện nay hầu như đã có thể thực hiện tại nhà)**, whereas in the past it often involved going out to a library or lecture hall. These days, with **THE DEVELOPMENT OF RECORDING AND RELAY TECHNOLOGIES (sự phát triển của công nghệ ghi hình và phát sóng)**, even college study can be done from home. Finally, many public spaces, such as football fields, are being built on, so there are fewer places where children can play safely.

In my view spending so much time indoors is a serious issue because it leads to physical and mental ill health, and ways must be found to address it. One strategy would be for governments **TO BAN CONSTRUCTION ON PLAYING FIELDS (cấm việc xây dựng ở các sân chơi)** and **TO GIVE TAX INCENTIVES TO PEOPLE WANTING TO CREATE NEW PLAY AREAS (giảm thuế cho những người muốn mở sân chơi mới)**. However, the most effective measure would be **TO GIVE HIGHER STATUS TO OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS (nâng cao vị thế của hoạt động ngoài trời trong trường học)**. **SCHOOL CURRICULA SHOULD BE CHANGED TO REDUCE THE EMPHASIS ON ACADEMIC SUBJECTS (chương trình học ở trường nên được thay đổi để giảm bớt vai trò của các bộ môn học thuật)**, thus **FREEING UP TIME TO MAKE PE A MAJOR PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY (tạo thời gian trống để cho các hoạt động thể chất trở thành một phần quan trọng trong ngày học)** and to encourage people from a young age to be outdoors: habits developed in youth stay with people their whole lives.

(292 words)

## ESSAY 39 - COLOUR

*Psychologists have known for many years that colour can affect how people feel. For this reason, attention should be given to colour schemes when decorating places such as offices and hospitals.*

*How true is this statement?*

*How far does colour influence people's health and capacity for work?*

*(Complete IELTS bands 6.5-7.5, Unit 2)*

Colour is certainly something that influences people. In their home lives, many of the choices people make, **WITH REGARD TO CONSUMER GOODS (liên quan tới hàng hóa tiêu dùng)**, are based on colour. However, I would argue that in public buildings, people **HAVE OTHER PREOCCUPATIONS (có các mối quan tâm khác)** and **ARE LESS AFFECTED BY THEIR SURROUNDING COLOUR SCHEME (ít bị ảnh hưởng bởi sự phối hợp màu sắc xung quanh)**.

The colour of an office, for instance, is less important than a home. Offices are places where people work, and **WHAT MATTERS THERE IS THAT EQUIPMENT OR TECHNOLOGY IS FUNCTIONING WELL (điều quan trọng ở đây là thiết bị hoặc sản phẩm công nghệ có hoạt động trơn tru hay không)**, that meetings have been organised and targets are being met. Employees do not care about whether their office walls are pink or green.

Obviously no one would choose to paint an office black or such a bright colour that it distracts people from their work. That is just common sense. If there is a change in decor, staff **MIGHT REACT TO IT INITIALLY, BUT IT SOON BECOMES PART OF THE BACKGROUND (có thể sẽ phản ứng lúc đầu, nhưng nó sẽ nhanh chóng trở thành một phần nền)**. Ultimately, people **ARE TOO INVOLVED IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING (mọi người thường bị quá cuốn vào những gì họ đang làm)** to be influenced by colour.

Similarly, hospital patients are unaware of the colours around them. Instead, **THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT FACTORS SUCH AS (họ quan tâm đến những yếu tố khác chẳng hạn như)** the quality of healthcare they receive and the qualifications and experience of their doctors. For while **A DIRTY HOSPITAL OR POOR NURSING MIGHT THREATEN THEIR RECOVERY (một bệnh viện không sạch sẽ hoặc dịch vụ y tế kém chất lượng có thể đe dọa đến quá trình hồi phục của họ)**, **A PASTEL-COLOURED WARD (một bức tường màu nhạt)** will not.

What is more, psychologists' ideas about colour and its effect on health are not reliable. While some have argued that pastels are better because they calm people down, others suggest that lively colours are best because they make people happier.

This all leads me to the conclusion that although colour has a significant role to play in our lives **ON A PERSONAL LEVEL (ở mức độ cá nhân)**, that is where its influence ends. In most public places, we are concentrating on other, more important matters and colour has little impact on us.

## ESSAY 40 - SOCIAL GAP

*Some modern artists receive huge sums of money for the things they create, while others struggle to survive. Governments should take steps to resolve this unfair situation. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*  
(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, Unit 4)

Artists, like many creative people, have to work hard to survive on the income they receive from selling their products. Some artists become popular and **CAN CHARGE A LOT OF MONEY FOR THEIR WORK** (**kiếm bộn tiền từ các tác phẩm của họ**), while many others never achieve success. I think there are good reasons why this happens, and there is nothing that governments can or should do about it.

Generally, people are willing to pay for something that they admire and would like to own. In the case of art, this may be because they **FEEL SOMETHING IS UNIQUE, OR IS EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL OR SKILLFUL** (**cảm thấy nó độc đáo, hoặc nó đẹp hay điệu nghệ một cách đặc biệt**). Whatever the reason, I would argue that it would be quite unfair for any government to prevent the artist from asking a high price for it. Surely the public has to decide what something is worth, even if it means that **LESS ADMIRER ARTISTS FIND IT HARD TO EARN A LIVING** (**các nghệ sĩ ít được ngưỡng mộ phải chật vật kiếm sống**)?

**IN MANY RESPECTS** (**trên nhiều khía cạnh**), artists are like business people. Those who can sell a lot of their work develop a reputation and can raise their prices over time. This may **SEEM UNFAIR TO OTHERS WHO REMAIN UNKNOWN** ( **dường như không công bằng đối với các nghệ sĩ ít nổi tiếng hơn**), but if they **CHOOSE TO CONTINUE WITH A CAREER IN ART** (**lựa chọn tiếp tục con đường nghệ thuật**), it seems they must accept the situation. In most cases, popular artists have spent years developing their skills, studying their subject and **EXHIBITING THEIR WORK** (**triển lãm tác phẩm của họ**). Why should a government **DENY THEM THE EARNINGS THEY HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO ACHIEVE** (**từ chối nguồn thu nhập họ đã vất vả tạo ra**)?

Ultimately, people have to be free to spend their money as they wish. If this means that some artists **HAVE TO MAKE THE DIFFICULT CHOICE OF FINDING ANOTHER WAY TO EARN A LIVING** (**phải đưa ra những lựa chọn khó khăn của việc tìm kiếm những con đường kiếm sống khác**), no one can **ALTER THAT FACT** (**thay đổi sự thật đó**). After all, not much in life is fair.

(282 words)



## ESSAY 41 - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

*Information technology is changing many aspects of our lives and now **DOMINATES OUR HOME, LEISURE AND WORK ACTIVITIES** (chi phối các hoạt động ở nhà, hoạt động giải trí và công việc).*

*To what extent do the benefits of information technology outweigh the disadvantages?*

*(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, Unit 6)*

Mobile technology **HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR LIVES** (trở thành một phần thiết yếu trong cuộc sống của chúng ta), and the existence of mobile phones, laptops and iPads has altered the way many people work. While there are distinct advantages to this, it is important to **GUARD AGAINST OVERUSE AND POSSIBLE DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON HEALTH AND RELATIONSHIPS** (kiểm soát việc sử dụng quá mức và những ảnh hưởng có hại tiềm ẩn đối với sức khỏe và các mối quan hệ).

One of the biggest benefits of mobile technology is that people no longer have to work in an office. In fact, many businesses now **PERMIT THEIR STAFF TO WORK FROM HOME** (cho phép nhân viên của họ làm việc tại nhà) on some days of the week. This is particularly helpful for busy parents; it can reduce stress levels and **HELP PEOPLE MANAGE THEIR DAILY LIVES BETTER** (giúp mọi người quản lý cuộc sống hàng ngày của họ tốt hơn).

Another benefit for many people and businesses is that work can continue outside the office. Phone calls can be made almost anywhere and documents can be read or written on public transport or in cafés. This is extremely beneficial for people who **HAVE LONG TRIPS TO WORK** (có quãng đường đi làm dài).

Despite the advantages mentioned above, care must be taken to ensure that **THE CONVENIENCE OF "TELEWORKING" DOES NOT LEAD TO MORE HOURS ON THE JOB** (sự tiện dụng của "làm việc từ xa" không kéo theo việc làm nhiều giờ hơn) and less time spent doing exercise or being with friends and family. No one would deny that it is wonderful to be able to work from home, but a person who spends too much time on their computer **MAY FIND THAT THEIR HEALTH SUFFERS IN THE LONG RUN** (có thể sẽ phát hiện ra sức khỏe của họ phải gánh chịu về lâu dài).

Similarly, anyone who enjoys the benefits of working on public transport needs to make sure that they **CONSIDER OTHER PEOPLE AROUND THEM** (để tâm đến những người xung quanh họ). In my city, there are notices that **WARN TRAVELLERS NOT TO TALK LOUDLY ON THEIR PHONES** (cảnh báo hành khách không nói chuyện to qua điện thoại); in others, **THERE ARE MOBILE-FREE CARRIAGES ON TRAINS** (Có những toa tàu không dùng điện thoại) because companies have had so many complaints.

On the whole, most people profit from the use of mobile technology, and there are obvious advantages to its use. However, we **NEED TO KEEP AN EYE ON HOW MUCH WE RELY ON THIS RESOURCE (cần phải để ý xem chúng ta phụ thuộc vào công nghệ đến đâu)**, otherwise the disadvantages will be greater for everyone.

(322 words)

## ESSAY 42 - SPACE EXPLORATION

*Some people argue that space exploration has had more to do with national pride than international effort.*

*To what extent do you agree with this?*

*How do you think space exploration will change in the future?*

*(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, Unit 8)*

It is only in the last century that humans have explored space and, to begin with, nations **ESTABLISHED THEIR SPACE PROGRAMMES INDEPENDENTLY** (**phát triển độc lập các chương trình thám hiểm không gian**). However, this situation has changed over time, and I believe **THE SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION** (**tinh thần của sự hợp tác**) which is now more common is likely to continue into the future, although some competition will remain.

One reason why nations worked alone on their space technology was that governments **WERE NOT USED TO INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION** (**không quen với sự hợp tác quốc tế**) and did not have the relationships that they do today. In particular, Russia and North America **REGARDED SPACE EXPLORATION AS A RACE THAT THEY HAD TO WIN** (**coi thám hiểm không gian là một cuộc đua mà họ phải thắng**), rather than an opportunity to work together.

Another reason is that nations, like individuals, are naturally competitive, and space exploration **OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COUNTRIES TO TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS** (**tạo ra một cơ hội cho các quốc gia để có thể tự hào về những thành công và thành tựu của mình**). Thus Russia was able to celebrate Yuri Gagarin's memorable flight into space in 1961, while the US **ENJOYED THE THRILLING SIGHT OF** (**tận hưởng khung cảnh ngoạn mục của**) Neil Armstrong walking on the Moon in 1969.

Since that time, the **SPACE RACE HAS SLOWED DOWN** (**cuộc đua vào không gian đã chậm lại**), and there has been more emphasis on research, **WITH ROBOTS AND SHUTTLES** (**với người máy và tàu con thoi**) **DOING THE WORK OF MANNED SPACECRAFT** (**thay thế công việc của tàu vũ trụ có người lái**). These days, fewer astronauts have to risk their lives, and **THERE IS LESS NEED FOR ONE NATION TO TRY TO GET AHEAD OF ANOTHER** (**việc một quốc gia cố gắng để dẫn trước quốc gia khác đã không còn cần thiết như trước**). Instead, there is collaboration, including the development of the International Space Station, one of the greatest space projects in history. Having said that, the universe is vast and much remains to be explored. We **HAVE YET TO LAND AN ASTRONAUT ON MARS** (**chưa thể đưa nhà du hành vũ trụ đến sao Hỏa**), for example, and new planets are being discovered all the time. While there are still 'firsts' to be won, such as the Chinese space project in my country, which aims to explore Mars over the next few years.

Thus the picture in the future looks mixed, I believe that nations will work together in many areas, but I also feel that **A NATURAL RIVALRY (một sự tranh đua tự nhiên)** between countries will continue.

(323 words)

## ESSAY 43 - EDUCATION

**Graduates who cannot find work in their chosen field should be advised to DO A SECOND DEGREE (học văn bằng 2), rather than taking a job that does not interest them.**

**To what extent do you agree with this statement?**

**(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, writing reference 1)**

These days, it can be difficult to get a good job when you leave university. Many more students are studying for degrees, so the job market is very competitive. Some people believe that it is better to take a second degree if you **CANNOT SECURE SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT (không thể đảm bảo được một công việc phù hợp)**. Nevertheless, I tend to think it depends on your circumstances.

The first consideration is finance. Universities **CHARGE HIGH FEES FOR THEIR COURSES (thu phí cao cho các khóa học của họ)**, and in some countries it can cost up to £25,000 to do a first degree. Although some students are fortunate in that their parents can **FUND THEIR STUDIES (chi trả cho việc học của họ)**, many others have to borrow the money and then repay it when they start working. In my view, it is not a good idea to recommend that these students continue this situation, particularly if they **HAVE NO REAL DESIRE TO STUDY FURTHER (không có khát khao thực sự để tiếp tục việc học)**.

I think we now have to accept that **THERE ARE NOT ALWAYS ENOUGH JOBS TO GO ROUND (không phải lúc nào cũng có đủ công việc để lựa chọn)**. So the second consideration is that it might be better to be patient, **START AT THE BOTTOM AND WORK YOUR WAY UP THE CAREER LADDER (bắt đầu một công việc từ vị trí thấp nhất và phát triển dần lên trên con đường sự nghiệp)**. This is what my father did, and it **DEFINITELY GAVE HIM A FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF HIS CHOSEN FIELD (chắc chắn đã cho ông ấy một sự hiểu biết đầy đủ nhất về lĩnh vực ông ấy lựa chọn)**.

On the other hand, a second degree may be **A NATURAL PROGRESSION (một sự phát triển tự nhiên)** for students who **WISH TO ENTER A CERTAIN PROFESSION (mong muốn gia nhập một ngành cụ thể)** or **TO PURSUE A RESEARCH-BASED CAREER (theo đuổi công việc nghiên cứu)**. If they can afford the course **WITHOUT GETTING INTO DEBT (mà không để rơi vào cảnh nợ nần)**, it may be advisable for them to carry on with their studies, especially **IN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE (trong xu hướng kinh tế hiện nay)**.

Ultimately, the decision may be a difficult one. However, I feel that those who do not really want to continue studying or cannot afford it should not be encouraged to do so. Unless you had already **PLANNED TO DO A POSTGRADUATE COURSE (lên kế hoạch cho việc học sau đại học)**, it could turn out to be much better if you start working, whatever the status or salary. (314 words)

## ESSAY 44 - PRIVACY

*Some people believe that technological tools such as **BODY SCANNERS AND CCTV** (máy quét cơ thể và máy quay an ninh) have significantly enhanced our safety and security, while others feel that they have resulted in **A LOSS OF PRIVACY** (mất tự do cá nhân).*

*Do the benefits of these items outweigh their disadvantages?*

*(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, writing reference 2)*

Information technology **HAS PROGRESSED IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS** (phát triển rất nhanh) over the past few decades. New devices are being designed and upgraded all the time, and it is inevitable that society will want to use them. However, what is important is how they are used. I believe that if they **ARE EMPLOYED FOR THE RIGHT PURPOSES** (được sử dụng đúng mục đích), their advantages outweigh their drawbacks.

No one can deny that CCTV makes many public places safer for people. If youngsters need to travel by train or underground on their own, for example, their parents feel happier knowing that **THE PUBLIC ARE BEING MONITORED ON THE PLATFORMS** (mọi người đang được giám sát bởi các nền tảng). This type of surveillance also reduces anxiety for those travelling in the evening, and **HAS CERTAINLY BEEN WELCOMED BY** (chắc chắn được chào đón bởi) staff working in shops and cafes at night.

Like CCTV, scanners are also used in many situations where the public **WELCOME THE HEIGHTENED SECURITY THAT THEY PROVIDE** (đón nhận sự bảo mật cao hơn mà chúng mang lại). Flying is the form of travel that makes people most nervous, so **BODY AND LUGGAGE SCANNERS CAN HELP EASE THIS CONCERN** (máy quét cơ thể và hành lý có thể xóa bỏ mối lo ngại này). Although it can be time-consuming, most passengers **DO NOT MIND THE ADDITIONAL WAIT AS LONG AS THE PROCESS IS EFFICIENT** (không để tâm đến thời gian chờ dài hơn miễn là quy trình này hiệu quả).

**HAVING MADE THESE POINTS** (Mặc dù vậy), it is true that every invention receives some criticism, and perhaps this is a good thing. It is perfectly possible that **THE HUGE AMOUNTS OF DATA GATHERED BY CCTV AND SCANNERS** (một lượng lớn dữ liệu được thu thập từ máy quay an ninh và máy quét) **COULD BE MISUSED BY AUTHORITIES** (có thể bị sử dụng sai mục đích bởi các cơ quan chức năng) or **PASSED ON TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS WITHOUT PEOPLE'S KNOWLEDGE** (bị chuyển tới các tổ chức khác mà người dùng không hay biết). Such uses **WOULD AMOUNT TO AN ABUSE OF PERSONAL PRIVACY** (giống như một sự xâm phạm riêng tư cá nhân). If this were to happen, I would agree with the view expressed in the task.

In the end, it is up to us to ensure that technology is used wisely. Generally, this is what happens and people who complain are often too impatient or **TOO SHORT-SIGHTED TO SEE THE ADVANTAGES THAT IT OFFERS** (tầm nhìn quá hạn hẹp để có thể nhìn

**thấy lợi ích nó mang lại**). However, that does not mean that we **SHOULD BECOME COMPLACENT ABOUT IT (nên cảm thấy hài lòng về nó)** .

(311 words)

## ESSAY 45 - ANIMAL LIFE

*Recent research has confirmed that 'human activity has become the greatest threat to plant and animal life'.*

*Why do you think this has happened?*

*How can we reduce our impact on the natural world?*

*(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, writing reference 3)*

There can be no doubt that human beings **HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS OF WILDLIFE** (**chịu trách nhiệm cho sự biến mất của thế giới hoang dã**). While we **TEND TO EXPLOIT THE NATURAL WORLD FOR OUR OWN PURPOSES** (**có xu hướng khai thác thế giới tự nhiên vì mục đích của chính chúng ta**), some of our ancestors understood their relationship with other species much better. I would argue that **IT IS THIS SENSE OF HARMONY WITH NATURE THAT WE NEED TO RECAPTURE** (**chính sự hài hòa với tự nhiên này là thứ mà chúng ta cần phải xây dựng lại**).

One of the main reasons why certain species of wildlife have become threatened is loss of habitat. As the population of the world has grown, humans **HAVE CLAIMED INCREASINGLY LARGE AREAS OF LAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOMES AND CITIES** (**chiếm đoạt khu vực ngày càng rộng lớn cho công trình nhà ở và thành phố**). An inevitable result has been **THE REMOVAL OF PLANTS AND TREES AND THE DESTRUCTION OF ANIMAL TERRITORIES** (**sự xóa sổ của thực vật và sự phá hủy lãnh thổ của động vật**).

Increasing urban development has, in turn, led to global warming, which is another contributing factor. **TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL ARE CRITICAL TO THE SURVIVAL OF WILDLIFE** (**hiệu ứng và lượng mưa là thiết yếu đối với sự tồn tại của thế giới hoang dã**). Global warming **HAS BROUGHT ABOUT A SHIFT IN WEATHER PATTERNS** (**đem đến sự biến đổi các quy luật thời tiết**), resulting in drought, flooding and heatwaves, all of which **HAVE TAKEN THEIR TOLL ON THE NATURAL WORLD** (**gây thiệt hại nặng nề cho thế giới tự nhiên**).

So what can be done? I believe that **THE PROBLEM HAS TO BE TACKLED ON A NUMBER OF LEVELS** (**vấn đề cần được giải quyết ở nhiều mức độ khác nhau**). As individuals, we should ensure that we **TREAT THE COUNTRYSIDE WITH RESPECT** (**coi trọng khu vực nông thôn**), avoid activities that harm animal life and, if possible, participate in projects or donate to charities that work to protect the world around us.

However, it seems that the **REAL WORK HAS TO BE DONE ON A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL** (**hành động cần đi vào thực tế ở cấp độ quốc gia và quốc tế**). What governments need to do in their own countries is **TO ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES, LIMIT URBAN GROWTH** (**khuyến khích việc xây dựng bền vững, hạn chế phát triển đô thị**) and reduce human activities which contribute to global warming. But they also need to **SIGN UP TO TREATIES** (**ký kết các**



**hiệp ước**) that **ENABLE NATIONS TO COLLABORATE IN THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD'S DIVERSE SPECIES (cho phép các quốc gia hợp tác trong việc bảo vệ sự đa dạng thành phần loài của thế giới)**. After all, we cannot live without our flora and fauna.

Many of the threats to plant and animal life are a direct result of human activity, so it is now time **TO REDRESS THE SITUATION (khắc phục tình huống này)**. If we do not do this, we may be the next species to become endangered.

(336 words)

## ESSAY 46 - HEALTH

*These days, too many people maintain their health by relying on doctors and medicine, rather than by following a healthy lifestyle.*

*To what extent do you agree with this statement*

*(Complete IELTS bands 6.5 - 7.5, Practice Test)*

Most people are aware that they need to **TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR HEALTH (có trách nhiệm với sức khỏe của bản thân)** by eating sensibly and taking regular exercise, and many succeed in doing this. The reasons why others fail can be complex and do not necessarily mean that they **RELY ON THE MEDICAL PROFESSION TO KEEP THEM HEALTHY (phụ thuộc vào y tế để duy trì sức khỏe)**.

The main reasons people give for being less healthy than others are often economic. People who **FAIL TO EAT SENSIBLY (không thể ăn uống khoa học)** argue that they do not have the time or the money to **COOK NUTRITIOUS MEALS (nấu bữa ăn giàu dinh dưỡng)**. Being busy and working long hours also **AFFECT PEOPLE'S WILLINGNESS TO GIVE UP TIME TO (ảnh hưởng đến mong muốn của mọi người trong việc dành thời gian để)** go to the gym or join a sports club. These **MAY SEEM VALID EXCUSES (có thể xem như là lý do hợp lý)**, but ultimately they **CAN LEAD TO A SEDENTARY LIFESTYLE (có thể dẫn đến một lối sống lười vận động)**.

These days, research has shown that **THERE IS A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN INACTIVITY AND ILLNESS (có một mối liên hệ trực tiếp giữa lười vận động và bệnh tật)**. Eating large quantities of fat, for instance, can result in weight gain, which can **LEAD TO HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE OR ARTHRITIS (dẫn đến cao huyết áp hoặc bệnh xương khớp)**; heart-related problems are common among people who **LIVE STRESSFUL, INACTIVE LIVES (có cuộc sống áp lực, lười vận động)**. Eventually, people may **END UP REQUIRING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS IN ORDER TO TREAT THEIR CONDITIONS (cuối cùng phải nhờ cậy đến thuốc và bệnh viện để giải quyết các vấn đề sức khỏe của bản thân)**.

It is often only after this has happened that people decide to change their diet and start exercising, usually on the advice of their doctor. Clearly, if they had always had a healthy lifestyle, they would not have needed medical treatment. However, only they do become ill, most people **TAKE STEPS TO REDRESS THE SITUATION AS BEST THEY CAN (bắt đầu hành động để giải quyết vấn đề một cách tốt nhất có thể)**.

In summary, most people try, **WITH VARYING DEGREES OF SUCCESS (với nhiều mức độ thành công khác nhau)**, to live a healthy lifestyle, even if they take some time to realise how important this is. Only a small proportion of the population are unable to change, and thus rely on doctors.

(290 words)

# PART 2

# ESSAYS PREPARED BY LIZ

Source: <http://ieltsliz.com>

[Phần 2 này khuyến nghị dành cho các bạn đang ở trình độ IELTS writing 6.5+ và muốn đạt mục tiêu writing 7.0+]

## ESSAY 01

*Nowadays young people lack an understanding of how to manage their finances after they finish high school. Explain why they do not know how to manage money and how this can be changed.*

Many young people are **LEAVING SCHOOL WITHOUT A BASIC AND VITAL UNDERSTANDING OF HOW PERSONAL FINANCES OUGHT TO BE MANAGED** (tốt nghiệp mà không có hiểu biết cơ bản và cần thiết về quản lý tài chính cá nhân) in the adult world. This lack of knowledge **IS DUE TO A LACK OF LIFE EXPERIENCE AND LIMITED EDUCATION** (là do thiếu kinh nghiệm cuộc sống và hạn chế về giáo dục) which can be solved in two simple ways.

One main reason why so many young people **ARE UNABLE TO MANAGE THEIR OWN FINANCES UPON FINISHING HIGH SCHOOL** (không có khả năng quản lý tài chính cá nhân khi học xong phổ thông) is that they have been living with their parents for free. As a result, they have never needed to earn a salary or save their money in order to pay bills. Another cause is that schools do not factor personal financial management into their curriculum. Schools **FOCUS INSTEAD ON** (thay vào đó tập trung vào) classic subjects, such as math, geography, history and languages, which means **IMPORTANT LIFE SKILLS ARE NOT BEING TAUGHT** (những kỹ năng sống quan trọng không được dạy). Both teachers and parents **ARE FAILING TO PREPARE YOUNG PEOPLE FOR REAL WORLD** (thất bại trong việc chuẩn bị cho người trẻ bước vào thế giới thực tế).

There are two options for solving young people's inability to manage personal Finances. Firstly, parents should spend time with their children teaching them **HOW MONEY IS EARNED, BUDGETED AND USED FOR EITHER SAVINGS OR EXPENSES** (cách kiếm tiền, lên kế hoạch chi tiêu và sử dụng tiền cho việc tiết kiệm và tiêu dùng). One simple step could be for parents to start by teaching young children how to manage their pocket money and, as their child grows up, **EXPAND INTO MORE SERIOUS HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES** (mở rộng ra những khoản chi tiêu quan trọng hơn trong gia đình). Secondly, schools should **INCORPORATE LIFE SKILLS INTO THEIR CURRICULUM** (lồng ghép kỹ năng sống vào chương trình giảng dạy của họ) for final year students. In this way, children will be able to learn in a supportive environment how their finances need to be budgeted and managed **TO AVOID DEBT PROBLEMS LATER IN LIFE** (để tránh những vấn đề nợ nần trong cuộc sống sau này).

In conclusion, young people lack financial management skills due to **THE NEGLIGENCE OF PARENTS AND SCHOOLS** (sự sơ suất của cha mẹ và nhà trường), which can only be solved if both take more responsibility for **EQUIPPING SCHOOL LEAVERS WITH THE RIGHT SKILLS** (trang bị cho học sinh đã tốt nghiệp những kỹ năng cần thiết).

## ESSAY 02

*Advertising discourages us from being different and individuals eventually look the same. To what extent do you agree or disagree.*

It is sometimes thought that **ADVERTISEMENTS RESULT IN PEOPLE BECOMING INCREASINGLY SIMILAR** (quảng cáo dẫn đến việc con người ta ngày càng trở lên giống nhau) and that they discourage individuality. In my opinion, advertising certainly does promote conformity amongst certain people but most people will always **MAKE THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL CHOICES** (đưa ra những lựa chọn cá nhân) which will make them appear different.

The role of advertising is to promote products in a way that encourages people to buy them and this in turn means that **PEOPLE INEVITABLY END UP BUYING THE SAME THINGS** (cuối cùng con người không thể tránh được việc mua những thứ giống nhau) and appearing the same. This is particularly true of the fashion industry which tells **FOLLOWERS OF FASHION** (tín đồ thời trang) what colors to wear in which seasons, what styles of clothes they should wear and even the length of their hair. The adverts **PUT PRESSURE ON YOUNG PEOPLE TO LOOK FASHIONABLE** (đặt áp lực rằng người trẻ phải trông thật thời trang) by following looks which have been planned by the fashion industry. As a result, **THOSE WHO ARE EASILY INFLUENCED BY FASHION TRENDS** (những người dễ bị ảnh hưởng bởi xu hướng thời trang) will tend to appear more similar and with less individuality **IN AN ATTEMPT TO BE CONSIDERED FASHIONABLE** (có gắng để được nhìn nhận là hợp thời trang).

However, **THE WISH TO APPEAR FASHIONABLE AND FOLLOW FASHION TRENDS** (mong muốn được xuất hiện hợp thời trang và theo đuổi những xu hướng thời trang) with strict conformity only applies to a certain group of young "trendy" people. For others, the fashion trends are interesting but not something that should be followed religiously. For instances, while some of them may choose to follow the fashionable colour that season, they may prefer a different hair style **WHICH IS MORE SUITED TO THEIR OWN FACE SHAPE OR CHARACTER** (mà phù hợp hơn với khuôn mặt và tính cách của họ). Consequently, although some aspects of their dress may be similar, the majority of what they wear and how they wear it is different and **SHOWS THEIR INDIVIDUAL CHARACTER** (thể hiện tính cách cá nhân).

In conclusion, although fashion victims follow trends and may appear similar, they are in the minority as most people **PREFER TO SELECT WHAT THEY WEAR AND HOW THEY LOOK FOR THEMSELVES** (thích lựa chọn những gì họ mặc để thể hiện đúng con người của họ).

**Để đảm bảo chất lượng cho bài viết của bạn, rất nên nhờ người có kinh nghiệm chữa bài và kiểm tra xem cụm từ mà bạn sử dụng đã đúng ngữ cảnh chưa. Đừng lo về việc có một số cụm từ bạn chưa dùng đúng ngữ cảnh. Bạn cần xác định là ai cũng có những lỗi sai khi mới tập viết, vấn đề là bạn sẽ rút kinh nghiệm và ngày càng sử dụng các cụm từ chính xác hơn, và điều này chỉ xảy ra khi bạn đọc nhiều, chịu khó dùng nhiều và được sửa bài nhiều.**

Đình Thắng

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## ESSAY 03

*Some people believe that development of business results in a loss of cultural ties between countries. Other people contradict this belief. Give your opinion.*

The development of business, according to some, has had a negative impact on **CULTURAL TIES BETWEEN COUNTRIES** (sự liên kết văn hóa giữa các nước). I do not agree with this as international business can often encourage cultural ties and does not impact on existing ones.

Firstly, international business has resulted in **NEW RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COUNTRIES THAT PREVIOUSLY HAD LITTLE CONTACT** (mối quan hệ mới giữa các nước mà trước đó ít qua lại với nhau). Consequently, products from countries all around the world become available to the everyday person which **RAISES THEIR AWARENESS OF** (nâng cao nhận thức của) these countries. **AS AWARENESS BETWEEN COUNTRIES GROWS, SO TOO DOES CULTURAL RESPECT AND INTEREST** (khi nhận thức phát triển thì sự quan tâm và tôn trọng văn hóa cũng tăng theo). For this reason, there are more people travelling abroad today to **EXPERIENCE NEW CULTURES THAN EVER BEFORE** (trải nghiệm được nhiều nền văn hóa mới hơn bao giờ hết). One good example of this is the long lasting cultural interest between China and Europe which was initially brought about by the silk trade.

Another point to consider is that cultural ties that already exist between countries **ARE NOT NECESSARILY DISTURBED BY BUSINESS** (không nhất thiết bị cản trở bởi yếu tố kinh tế). Most cultural ties have actually been established due to the development of transportation **WHICH HAS ENABLED PEOPLE TO TRAVEL FURTHER DISTANCES FROM THEIR HOMES** (có thể giúp con người đi du lịch xa hơn). For decades, if not centuries, the British were known to travel to France and even as far as Egypt to enjoy warmer climates as well as to appreciate their culture. Regardless of business or business problems which came later, these cultural ties continue to exist today. In other words, although business may **THROW A SPANNER IN THE WORKS WITH REGARDS TO** (cản trở) international relationships **FROM TIME TO TIME** (bất cứ lúc nào), it **CANNOT UNDO THE DEEP CULTURAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THESE COUNTRIES** (không thể xóa bỏ mối liên kết văn hóa sâu sắc giữa các nước này) that have evolved and been enjoyed over time.

To conclude, business mostly certainly does not cause a loss of cultural ties between countries and can, in fact, be the root of establishing new ones.

## ESSAY 04

***In some parts of the world it is becoming popular to research the history of one's own family. Why might people want to do this? Is it a positive or negative development?***

**EXPLORING ONE'S FAMILY BACKGROUND AND HISTORY** (việc khám phá hoàn cảnh xuất thân và lịch sử của gia đình) is becoming increasingly popular in numerous countries around the world. In my opinion, through research and knowing more about one's family, people can **SEE COMMON TRENDS PASSED THROUGH GENERATIONS** (nhìn ra những xu hướng phổ biến đã được lưu truyền qua các thế hệ) which can only be seen as beneficial for people's future.

Firstly, some people look into their family history in order to discover any common trends with family members of a previous generation. This can be especially so with people who have particular skills, gifts or interests in uncommon fields. In other words, as **SOME GIFTS AND SKILLS ARE HEREDITARY** (một vài tài năng và kỹ năng mang tính chất di truyền), it can be interesting for people to learn how many others in their family **SHARED THESE TALENTS FROM PREVIOUS GENERATIONS** (có những tài năng giống với những thế hệ đi trước)

Another reason for the popularity of finding out about one's family history is often due to general curiosity of one's geographical origins. That is to say, some families moved abroad, away from their own country, generations ago which resulted in them losing their original culture and **ADOPTING THE CULTURE** (tiếp nhận văn hóa) of the country they moved to. Therefore, through research, people can learn more about **THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** (quê hương của họ) and understand more about the culture that their family originally came from.

Finally, the trend of researching family history is certainly beneficial and can help people find their place in the world. Some people **FEEL A LACK OF DIRECTION** (cảm thấy mất phương hướng) in life or are dislocated from others but by learning more about their past family history, it can help them **RELATE TO THE WORLD** (gắn kết với thế giới) and feel more comfortable about who they are. Take, for example, a person who feels nervous about making a certain choice in life, they may feel comforted by knowing that others in their family made the same choice many generations ago.

In conclusion, it can be advantageous for people to learn more about **THE FAMILY'S BACKGROUND AND ORIGINS** (hoàn cảnh xuất thân và nguồn gốc của gia đình). It would be useful for children to learn about their own family history if this **WAS INCORPORATED INTO THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM** (được lồng ghép trong chương trình học ở trường).



## ESSAY 05

***Nowadays, more people are choosing to socialize online rather than face to face. Is this a positive or negative development?***

An increasing number of people meet and talk to their friends online instead of in person. In my opinion, this is a negative development which can lead to **ISOLATION (sự cô lập)**, **POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SITUATIONS** (các tình huống có khả năng gây nguy hiểm) and also problems later on in life.

One serious problem that can **ARISE FROM (có thể phát sinh từ việc)** people socializing online is that it can lead to isolation. Before the internet, people would frequently go out to meet friends, for example in cafes, bars or restaurants, whereas now people prefer to stay at home alone, chatting online. As a result, people are starting to spend the majority of their time alone at home in their room without meeting others. Isolation of this kind is not healthy and can sometimes **LEAD TO DEPRESSION (dẫn tới chán nản)** and other issues.

Another issue is that meeting people online can be risky. In other words, people can **ASSUME FAKE IDENTITIES ONLINE (tự lập ra các tài khoản giả mạo danh tính trên mạng)** as well as **HIDE THEIR TRUE CHARACTERISTICS (giấu đi tính cách thật)**. This is particularly concerning for teenagers who are **IMPRESSIONABLE (nhạy cảm)** and can easily be led into dangerous situations. Furthermore, as this interaction is online, parents **HAVE NO WAY OF MONITORING (không có cách nào để giám sát)** it and protecting their children.

Finally, socializing online can end in difficulties years later as conversations and shared photos that had been forgotten reappear. This situation is currently critical for many people, again especially for teenagers who do not think carefully before posting online. That is to say, information which is put online can remain there forever and while people may **SHARE INTIMATE COMMUNICATIONS WITH (có sự liên lạc thân thiết với)** close friends, **THESE WORDS CAN THEN RESURFACE LATER ON (những cuộc nói chuyện này sau đó xuất hiện trở lại)** leading to too much embarrassment.

In conclusion, although it has become more popular for people to socialize through the internet, it has brought about too many problems for this **TO BE CONSIDERED A POSITIVE TREND (để được xem là một xu hướng tích cực)**.

## ESSAY 06

*Art is considered an important part of a society as well as an expression of its culture. Do you think it is important for children to be taught art? Do you think children should be encouraged to focus on art rather than other subjects?*

It is commonly believed that art **PLAYS A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE IN SOCIETY** (đóng một vai trò quan trọng trong xã hội) as artists are able to **EXPRESS THEIR THOUGHTS AND THEIR CULTURE IN THEIR WORK** (thể hiện suy nghĩ và lối sống của họ). In my opinion, children should definitely learn art because they can develop creativity and learn to express themselves in their art work but it **SHOULD NOT BE TAUGHT TO THE DETRIMENT OF OTHER SUBJECTS** (không nên vì dạy môn này mà làm ảnh hưởng tới các môn học khác).

Firstly, art is an essential subject which children, especially young children, should learn in order to help **PROMOTE THEIR CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION** (khuyến khích sự sáng tạo và tưởng tượng của chúng). Without the development of imagination and creative thinking, children will **STRUGGLE TO GROW INTO DYNAMIC, INDIVIDUAL THINKERS** (gặp khó khăn nếu muốn trở thành những con người có lối suy nghĩ năng động và độc lập) when they **REACH ADULTHOOD** (đến tuổi trưởng thành). Furthermore, some children are particularly gifted in their creative abilities and studying art can help them **NURTURE THEIR TALENTS** (nuôi dưỡng tài năng của chúng).

Another important advantage for children when practicing art is that it provides a medium through which they can express their emotions and feelings. In other words, young children do not **HAVE THE LINGUISTIC CAPABILITIES** (có khả năng ngôn ngữ) to put their ideas into language and thus communicate directly. Therefore, by using art, they are able to **CONVEY MEANING THROUGH PICTURES AND SYMBOLS** (truyền đạt ý nghĩa thông qua hình ảnh và biểu tượng). For this reason, many child psychologists often study the art work of children to **GAIN AN INSIGHT INTO** (có thể thấu hiểu) what they think and feel.

Finally, however, regardless of how useful the study of art is for children, this should not result in more focus being placed on art rather than other subjects. Children need to **HAVE A BALANCE OF ALL SUBJECTS** (cần có sự cân bằng tất cả môn học)

so as to **FACILITATE A HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT BOTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY** (giúp ích cho quá trình phát triển cả về mặt tinh thần và thể chất). Thus, ensuring that there is a healthy balance of art, sciences, languages and physical education in the school syllabus is essential.

In conclusion, while art certainly helps a child develop creativity as well as express their thoughts, it **SHOULD BE TAUGHT EQUALLY ALONGSIDE ALL OTHER SUBJECTS** (nên được dạy song song bên cạnh các môn học khác). A school curriculum should offer a balance of subjects.

*Trong các bản cập nhật của cuốn sách này, team A&M sẽ tiếp tục bổ sung các bài essay/outline của tác giả Liz kèm giải nghĩa tiếng Việt. Dự kiến có khoảng 20 bài.*

Các bạn có thể cập nhật miễn phí bản mới nhất của cuốn sách này tại <https://www.facebook.com/ieltsdinhthang>

# PART 3

# ESSAYS PREPARED BY SIMON

Source: <https://ielts-simon.com>

[Phần 3 này khuyến nghị dành cho các bạn đang ở trình độ IELTS writing 4.5+ và muốn đạt mục tiêu writing 6.5+]

# HƯỚNG DẪN ÁP DỤNG TỪ VỰNG TRONG ESSAY MẪU Ở PART 3 – SIMON'S ESSAYS VÀO ĐỀ THI THẬT

Nowadays young people spend too much of their free time in shopping malls. Some people fear that this may have negative effects on young people and the society they live in. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

[Trích đề thi thật tại IDP ngày 21/01/2017]

Dưới đây là phần dàn ý trong đó các cụm từ in hoa được sử dụng là các cụm từ nằm trong các essay ở part 3 này. Chú ý: Như đã nhắc đến trong phần lưu ý ở đầu cuốn sách, nhóm biên soạn sẽ sử dụng cả các cụm từ không được highlight để có thể khai thác triệt để các bài mẫu.

## [ESSAY OUTLINE]

**Totally agree**

**1: Ở cấp độ cá nhân, xu hướng này ảnh hưởng xấu đến chính người mua hàng.**

FROM A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE (essay 5), such a trend HAS DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON (essay 19) shoppers.

**Các bạn trẻ có xu hướng thiếu kiên nhẫn để cân nhắc cẩn thận các lựa chọn trước khi mua sắm--> dẫn đến việc nghiện mua sắm, có những quyết định tài chính không khôn ngoan hoặc thậm chí phạm pháp.**

Young people are LIKELY TO LACK THE PATIENCE TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER OPTIONS BEFORE purchase (essay 39)

COMPULSIVE SHOPPING, UNWISE FINANCIAL DECISIONS, OR EVEN CRIMINAL ACTIVITY (essay 39)

**Giảm thời gian học tập, thể thao, và giải trí.**

Reduce the amount of time spent on EXAM REVISION ON TOP OF ATTENDING LESSONS and DOING SPORTS AND OTHER LEISURE ACTIVITIES (essay 32)

**2. Ở cấp độ xã hội, xu hướng này gây nguy hại lớn đến môi trường và nền kinh tế.**

ON THE SOCIETAL LEVEL (essay 04), this trend could HAVE A DEVASTATING EFFECT ON THE PLANET (essay 11) and the economy as a whole.

***Điều này là bởi vì việc mua sắm và tiêu thụ sản phẩm khiến sản sinh ra nhiều rác thải hơn (như là bao bì sản phẩm, túi đựng đồ...)***

With the increasing number of people going to shopping malls, we ARE PRODUCING EVER GREATER QUANTITIES OF WASTE, WHICH CONTAMINATES THE EARTH AND POLLUTES RIVERS AND OCEANS (essay 11)

## ESSAY 01 - HOMEWORK

*Some people believe that school children should not be given homework by their teachers, whereas others argue that homework plays an important role in the education of children. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.*

People's opinions differ as to whether or not school children should be given homework. While there are some strong arguments against **THE SETTING OF HOMEWORK** (việc giao bài tập về nhà), I still believe that it is a necessary aspect of education.

There are several reasons why people might argue that homework **IS AN UNNECESSARY BURDEN ON CHILDREN** (là một gánh nặng không cần thiết đối với trẻ em). Firstly, there is evidence to support the idea that homework does nothing to **IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES** (cải thiện kết quả giáo dục). Countries such as Finland, where school children are not given homework, regularly **TOP INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE TABLES** (đứng đầu bảng xếp hạng giáo dục quốc tế) and outperform nations where setting homework is the norm. Secondly, many parents would agree that the school day is already long enough, and leaves their children too tired to do further study when they return home. Finally, it is recognised that play time is just as beneficial as study time from the perspective of brain development.

In spite of the above arguments, I support the view that homework **HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN** (đóng một vai trò quan trọng trong) the schooling of children. The main benefit of homework is that it **ENCOURAGES INDEPENDENT LEARNING AND PROBLEM SOLVING** (khuyến khích học tập và giải quyết vấn đề một cách độc lập), as children are challenged to work through tasks alone and at their own pace. In doing so, students must apply the knowledge that they have learnt in the classroom. For example, by doing mathematics exercises at home, students consolidate their understanding of the concepts taught by their teacher at school. In my view, it is important for children to **DEVELOP AN INDEPENDENT STUDY HABIT** (tạo thói quen tự nghiên cứu học hỏi) because this prepares them to work alone as adults.

In conclusion, homework certainly has its drawbacks, but I believe that the benefits outweigh them in the long term.

## ESSAY 02 – PRIVATE SCHOOLS

***Families who send their children to private schools should not be required to pay taxes that support the state education system.***

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

Some people believe that parents of children who attend **PRIVATE SCHOOLS (học các trường dân lập)** should not need to contribute to state schools through taxes. Personally, I completely disagree with this view.

For a variety of reasons, it would be wrong to reduce taxes for families who pay for private education. Firstly, it would be difficult to calculate the correct amount of tax reduction for these families, and staff would be required to manage this complex process. Secondly, we all pay a certain amount of tax for public services that we may not use. For example, most people are fortunate enough not to have to call the police or fire brigade at any time in their lives, but they would not expect a tax reduction for this. Finally, if **WEALTHY FAMILIES (những gia đình giàu có)** were given a tax discount for sending their children to private schools, we might have a situation where poorer people pay higher taxes than the rich.

In my opinion, we should all be happy to pay our share of the money that supports **PUBLIC SCHOOLS (trường công lập)**. It is beneficial for **ALL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY (tất cả người dân)** to **HAVE A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION SYSTEM (hệ thống giáo dục chất lượng cao)** with equal opportunities for all young people. This will result in **A WELL-EDUCATED WORKFORCE (một đội ngũ lao động có tri thức)**, and in turn **A MORE PRODUCTIVE AND PROSPEROUS NATION (một quốc gia năng suất làm việc cao và thịnh vượng)**. Parents of children in private schools may also see the advantages of this in their own lives. For example, a company owner will need **WELL QUALIFIED AND COMPETENT STAFF (cần những nhân viên giỏi và có trình độ)**, and **A WELL-FUNDED EDUCATION SYSTEM (một hệ thống giáo dục được hỗ trợ tốt)** can provide such employees.

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



## ESSAY 03 – ONLINE EDUCATION

*Some universities now offer their courses on the Internet so that people can study online. Is this a positive or negative development?*

It is true that online courses **ARE BECOMING A COMMON FEATURE** (**đang trở thành một hình thức phổ biến**) of university education. Although there are drawbacks of **INTERNET-BASED LEARNING** (**học trên internet**), I would argue that there are far more benefits.

The main drawback of the trend towards online university courses is that there **IS LESS DIRECT INTERACTION** (**thiếu tương tác trực tiếp**). Students may not have the opportunity to **ENGAGE FACE-TO-FACE WITH THEIR TEACHERS** (**trao đổi trực tiếp với giáo viên**), and will instead have to **RELY ON WRITTEN FORMS OF COMMUNICATION** (**phụ thuộc vào hình thức thảo luận bằng văn bản**). Similarly, students who study online do not come into direct contact with each other, and this could have a negative impact on peer support, discussion and exchange of ideas. For example, whereas **STUDENTS ON TRADITIONAL COURSES** (**học sinh của các khóa học truyền thống**) can attend seminars and even discuss their subjects over coffee after lessons, online learners **ARE RESTRICTED TO** (**bị bó buộc vào**) chatting through **WEBSITE FORUM AREAS** (**diễn đàn trực tuyến**). These learners may also **LACK THE MOTIVATION AND ELEMENT OF COMPETITION** (**thiếu động lực và yếu tố cạnh tranh**) that **FACE-TO-FACE GROUP WORK** (**các nhóm học trực tiếp**) brings.

Despite the negatives mentioned above, I believe that **ONLINE UNIVERSITY COURSES** (**khóa học đại học trực tuyến**) are a positive development for various reasons. Firstly, they allow learners to **STUDY IN A FLEXIBLE WAY** (**học một cách linh hoạt**), meaning that they can work whenever and wherever is convenient, and they can **COVER THE MATERIAL AT THEIR OWN PACE** (**học được những tài liệu đó theo nhịp độ của họ**). Secondly, the cost of a university education can be greatly reduced, while **REVENUES FOR** (**lợi nhuận của**) institutions may increase as more students can be taught. Finally, online learning offers open access to anybody who is willing to study, **REGARDLESS OF AGE, LOCATION, ABILITY AND BACKGROUND** (**bất kể tuổi tác, nơi ở, khả năng và trình độ**). For example, my uncle, who is 65 years old, has recently enrolled on an online MBA course in a different country, which would have been impossible in the days before Internet-based education.

In conclusion, while I recognise the possible disadvantages of online learning, I consider it to be a positive development overall.

## ESSAY 04 – CHOOSING A SUBJECT

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

People have different views about how much choice students should have with regard to what they can study at university. While some argue that it would be better for students **TO BE FORCED INTO CERTAIN KEY SUBJECT AREAS** (**phải bắt buộc học các môn học chính nhất định**). I believe that everyone should be able to study the course of their choice.

There are various reasons why people believe that universities should only offer subjects that will be useful in the future. They may assert that university courses like medicine, engineering and information technology are more likely to be beneficial than certain art degrees. From a personal perspective, it can be argued that these courses **PROVIDE MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES** (**cung cấp nhiều cơ hội việc làm hơn**), **CAREER PROGRESSION** (**thăng tiến trong sự nghiệp**), **BETTER SALARIES** (**mức lương cao hơn**), and therefore **AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE** (**chất lượng cuộc sống được cải thiện**) for students who take them. On the societal level, by forcing people to choose particular university subjects, governments can ensure that any knowledge and skill gaps in the economy are covered. Finally, a focus on technology in **HIGHER EDUCATION** (**giáo dục đại học**) could **LEAD TO NEW INVENTIONS** (**tạo ra những phát minh mới**), **ECONOMIC GROWTH** (**tăng trưởng kinh tế**), and **GREATER FUTURE PROSPERITY** (**sự thịnh vượng hơn trong tương lai**).

In spite of these arguments, I believe that university students should **BE FREE TO CHOOSE THEIR PREFERRED AREAS OF STUDY** (**các lĩnh vực nghiên cứu – được tự do lựa chọn ngành học họ yêu thích hơn**). In my opinion, society will benefit more if our students are passionate about what they are learning. Besides, nobody can really predict which **AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE** (**các lĩnh vực kiến thức**) will be most useful to society in the future, and it may be that employers begin to **VALUE CREATIVE THINKING SKILLS** (**đánh giá cao kỹ năng tư duy sáng tạo**) above practical or technical skills. **IF THIS WERE THE CASE** (**nếu điều này xảy ra**), perhaps we would need more students of art, history and philosophy than of science or technology.

In conclusion, although **IT MIGHT SEEM SENSIBLE FOR** universities **TO** (**có vẻ hợp lý cho ... để...**) focus only on the most useful subjects, I personally prefer the current system in which people have the right to study whatever they like.

## ESSAY 05 - EQUALITY

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

*What is your view of the relationship between equality and personal success?*

In my opinion, **AN EGALITARIAN SOCIETY** (**một xã hội bình đẳng**) is one in which everyone **HAS THE SAME RIGHTS AND THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES** (**có những quyền lợi và cơ hội như nhau**). I completely agree that people can achieve more in this kind of society.

Education is an important factor with regard to personal success in life. I believe that all children should **HAVE ACCESS TO FREE SCHOOLING** (**được đi học miễn phí**), and **HIGHER EDUCATION** (**giáo dục đại học**) should be either free or affordable for all those who chose to pursue a university degree. In a society without free schooling or **AFFORDABLE HIGHER EDUCATION** (**giáo dục đại học giá rẻ**), only children and young adults from **WEALTHIER FAMILIES** (**những gia đình giàu có hơn**) would **HAVE ACCESS TO THE BEST LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES** (**có cơ hội học tập tốt nhất**), and they would therefore **BE BETTER PREPARED FOR THE JOB MARKET** (**chuẩn bị tốt hơn cho thị trường việc làm**). This kind of inequality would ensure the success of some but **HARM THE PROSPECTS** (**gây ảnh hưởng xấu đến khả năng phát triển**) of others.

I would argue that **EQUAL RIGHTS** (**quyền bình đẳng**) and opportunities are not in conflict with people's freedom to succeed or fail. **IN OTHER WORDS** (**nói cách khác**), equality does not mean that people **LOSE THEIR MOTIVATION TO SUCCEED** (**mất đi động lực để thành công**), or that they are not allowed to fail. **ON THE CONTRARY** (**ngược lại**), I believe that most people would **FEEL MORE MOTIVATED TO WORK HARD** (**cảm thấy có động lực hơn để làm việc chăm chỉ**) and **REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL** (**phát huy tối đa tiềm năng**) if they thought that they **LIVED IN A FAIR SOCIETY** (**sống trong một xã hội công bằng**). Those who did not make the same effort would know that they had wasted their opportunity. Inequality, on the other hand, **WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO DEMOTIVATE PEOPLE** (**giảm đi động lực thúc đẩy con người**) because they would know that **THE ODDS OF SUCCESS WERE STACKED IN FAVOUR OF** (**khả năng thành công là cao đối với**) those from privileged backgrounds.

In conclusion, it seems to me that there is a positive relationship between **EQUALITY** (**bình đẳng**) and **PERSONAL SUCCESS** (**thành công cá nhân**).

**Một số bạn quá cố gắng ghi nhớ các cụm từ dẫn đến việc số lượng essay đọc được là ít. Điều này rất không nên. Thay vào đó, nên chấp nhận việc quên các cụm từ mà bạn cảm thấy bộ não của bạn không hoặc chưa ‘dung nạp’ được và dành năng lượng đó để đọc các bài essay mới và, nhắc lại lần nữa, việc quan trọng nhất vẫn là áp dụng liên tục các cụm từ đã học vào bài essay của bạn thì bạn mới nhớ được.**

Đinh Thắng

A&M | English Language Research Center

## ESSAY 06 – ADMISSIONS BASED ON GENDER

***Universities should accept equal numbers of male and female students in every subject. To what extent do you agree or disagree?***

In my opinion, men and women should **HAVE THE SAME EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES** (có cơ hội được giáo dục như nhau). However, I do not agree with the idea of **ACCEPTING EQUAL PROPORTIONS OF EACH GENDER** (chấp nhận sự cân bằng về tỷ lệ nam nữ) in every university subject.

Having the same number of men and women on all degree courses **IS SIMPLY UNREALISTIC** (đơn giản là phi thực tế). Student numbers on any course depend on the applications that the institution receives. If a university decided to fill courses with equal numbers of males and females, it would need enough applicants of each gender. In reality, many courses are more popular with one gender than the other, and it would not be practical to aim for equal proportions. For example, **NURSING COURSES** (các khóa học điều dưỡng) tend to attract more female applicants, and it would be difficult to fill these courses if fifty per cent of the places needed to go to males.

Apart from the practical concerns expressed, I also believe that it would be unfair to base admission to university courses on gender. Universities should continue to **SELECT THE BEST CANDIDATES** (lựa chọn các ứng viên tốt nhất) for each course according to their qualifications. In this way, both men and women have the same opportunities, and applicants know that they will be successful if they work hard to **ACHIEVE GOOD GRADES AT SCHOOL** (đạt được điểm số tốt ở trường). If a female student **IS THE BEST CANDIDATE FOR A PLACE ON A COURSE** (ứng viên tốt nhất cho một suất trong khóa học), **IT IS SURELY WRONG** (chắc chắn là sai lầm) to reject her in favour of a male student with **LOWER GRADES** (điểm kém hơn) or **FEWER QUALIFICATIONS** (có ít bằng cấp hơn).

In conclusion, the selection of university students should **BE BASED ON MERIT** (dựa trên thành tích), and it would be both impractical and unfair to change to **A SELECTION PROCEDURE BASED ON GENDER** (quy trình chọn lựa dựa trên giới tính)

## ESSAY 07 – MUSIC

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

It is true that **A RICH VARIETY OF MUSICAL STYLES** (nhiều thể loại âm nhạc đa dạng) can be found around the world. Music **IS A VITAL PART OF** (là một phần quan trọng của) all human cultures **FOR A RANGE OF REASONS** (vì nhiều lý do), and I would argue that **TRADITIONAL MUSIC** (nhạc truyền thống) is more important than **MODERN, INTERNATIONAL MUSIC** (nhạc hiện đại quốc tế).

Music is something that accompanies all of us throughout our lives. As children, we **ARE TAUGHT SONGS BY OUR PARENTS AND TEACHERS AS A MEANS OF LEARNING LANGUAGE OR SIMPLY AS A FORM OF ENJOYMENT** (được dạy những bài hát bởi cha mẹ và thầy cô như một phương tiện học ngôn ngữ hoặc đơn giản như một hình thức giải trí), Children delight in singing with others, and it would appear that the act of singing in a group **CREATES A CONNECTION BETWEEN PARTICIPANTS** (tạo ra mối gắn kết giữa những người tham gia), **REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE** (bất kể tuổi tác của họ). Later in life, people's musical preferences develop, and we come to **SEE OUR FAVOURITE SONGS AS PART OF OUR LIFE STORIES** (coi những bài hát yêu thích như một phần câu chuyện cuộc sống của chúng tôi). Music both **EXPRESSES AND AROUSES EMOTIONS** (thể hiện và gọi lên cảm xúc) in a way that words alone cannot. **IN SHORT** (tóm lại), it is difficult to imagine life without it.

In my opinion, traditional music should be valued over the international music that has become so popular. International pop music is often catchy and fun, but it **IS ESSENTIALLY A COMMERCIAL PRODUCT THAT IS MARKETED** (về cơ bản là một sản phẩm thương mại được quảng cáo) and sold by business people. Traditional music, by contrast, **EXPRESS THE CULTURE, CUSTOMS AND HISTORY OF A COUNTRY** (thể hiện văn hóa, phong tục và lịch sử của một quốc gia). **TRADITIONAL STYLES** (phong cách truyền thống), such as ...(example)..., connect us to the past and form part of our cultural identity. It would be a real pity if pop music became so predominant that these national styles disappeared.

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

## ESSAY 08 – SUPPORTING ARTISTS

***Some people think that governments should give financial support to creative artists such as painters and musicians. Others believe that creative artists should be funded by alternative sources. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.***

People have different views about the funding of **CREATIVE ARTISTS** (**các nghệ sĩ sáng tạo**). While some people disagree with the idea of government support for artists, I believe that money for **ART PROJECTS** (**các dự án nghệ thuật**) should come from both governments and other sources.

Some art projects definitely require help from the state. In the UK, there **ARE MANY WORKS OF ART IN PUBLIC SPACES** (**có nhiều tác phẩm nghệ thuật trong không gian công cộng**), such as streets or squares in city centres. In Liverpool, for example, there are several new statues and sculptures in the docks area of the city, which **HAS BEEN REDEVELOPED** (**đã được phát triển lại**) recently. These artworks represent culture, heritage and history. They serve to educate people about the city, and **ACT AS LANDMARKS OR TALKING POINTS FOR VISITORS AND TOURISTS** (**có vai trò như các địa điểm nổi tiếng hoặc nơi trò chuyện dành cho du khách và khách du lịch**). Governments and **LOCAL COUNCILS** (**chính quyền địa phương**) should pay creative artists to produce this kind of art, because without their funding our cities would be much less interesting and attractive.

On the other hand, I can understand the arguments against government funding for art. The main reason for this view is that governments have more important concerns. For example, **STATE BUDGETS** (**ngân sách nhà nước**) need to be spent on education, healthcare, infrastructure and security, among other areas. These **PUBLIC SERVICES** (**dịch vụ công**) are vital for a country to **FUNCTION PROPERLY** (**hoạt động đúng mong muốn**), whereas the work of creative artists, even in public places, is a luxury. Another reason for this opinion is that artists do a job like any other professional, and they should therefore **EARN THEIR OWN MONEY BY SELLING THEIR WORK** (**kiếm tiền bởi bán công sức của họ**).

In conclusion, there are good reasons why artists should **RELY ON ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT** (**dựa vào các nguồn tài chính thay thế**), but in my opinion government help is sometimes necessary.

## ESSAY 09 – ECONOMIC PROGRESS

**Many governments think that economic progress is their most important goal. Some people, however, think that other types of progress are equally important for a country.**

**Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.**

People have different views about how governments should measure their countries' progress. While **ECONOMIC PROGRESS (tăng trưởng kinh tế)** is of course essential, I agree with those who believe that other measures of progress are just as important.

There **ARE THREE KEY REASONS (có ba lý do chính)** why economic growth **IS SEEN AS A FUNDAMENTAL GOAL FOR COUNTRIES (được xem là mục tiêu cơ bản của quốc gia)**. Firstly, **A HEALTHY ECONOMY RESULTS IN JOB CREATION (một nền kinh tế mạnh tạo ra việc làm)**, **A HIGH LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT (tỷ lệ có việc làm cao)**, and **BETTER SALARIES FOR ALL CITIZENS (mức lương cao hơn cho tất cả người dân)**. Secondly, economic progress ensures that more money is available for governments to **SPEND ON INFRASTRUCTURE (sử dụng cho cơ sở hạ tầng)** and **PUBLIC SERVICES (dịch vụ công)**. For example, a government with **HIGHER REVENUES (thu nhập cao hơn)** can **INVEST IN THE COUNTRY'S TRANSPORT NETWORK (đầu tư vào mạng lưới giao thông của đất nước)**, its education system and its hospitals. Finally, a strong economy can **HELP A COUNTRY'S STANDING ON THE GLOBAL STAGE (giúp đất nước có chỗ đứng trên vị thế toàn cầu)**, **IN TERMS OF (về mặt)** its **POLITICAL INFLUENCE (ảnh hưởng về mặt chính trị)** and **TRADING POWER (năng lực thương mại)**.

However, I would argue that various other forms of progress are just as significant as the economic factors mentioned above. In particular, we should **CONSIDER THE AREA OF SOCIAL JUSTICE, HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITY AND DEMOCRACY** itself (**xem xét các khía cạnh công bằng xã hội, nhân quyền, bình đẳng và dân chủ**). For example, the treatment of minority groups is often **SEEN AS A REFLECTION OF THE MORAL STANDARDS (được xem như sự phản ánh về các tiêu chuẩn đạo đức)** and **LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OF A SOCIETY (mức độ phát triển của cả một cộng đồng)**. Perhaps **ANOTHER KEY CONSIDERATION (điểm quan trọng khác cần cân nhắc)** when **JUDGING THE PROGRESS (đánh giá sự tiến bộ)** of **A MODERN COUNTRY (quốc gia hiện đại)** should be how well that country protects the natural environment, and whether it is moving towards **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (môi trường bền vững)**. Alternatively, the success of a nation could be measured by looking at the health, **WELL-BEING (sự no ấm)** and happiness of its residents.

In conclusion, the economy is obviously a key marker of a country's success, but social, environmental and health criteria are equally significant.



## ESSAY 10 – BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITIES

*As well as making money, businesses also have social responsibilities. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

Businesses have always **SOUGHT TO MAKE A PROFIT** (**tìm kiếm lợi nhuận**), but it is becoming increasingly common to hear people talk about **THE SOCIAL OBLIGATIONS** (**trách nhiệm xã hội**) that companies have. I completely agree with the idea that businesses should do more for society than simply make money.

On the one hand, I accept that businesses must make money in order to **SURVIVE IN A COMPETITIVE WORLD** (**tồn tại trong một thế giới cạnh tranh**). It seems logical that the priority of any company should be to **COVER ITS RUNNING COSTS** (**chi trả chi phí hoạt động**), such as **EMPLOYEES' WAGES** (**tiền lương của nhân viên**) and **PAYMENTS FOR BUILDINGS** (**chi phí cơ sở hạ tầng**) and utilities. On top of these costs, companies also need to invest in improvements and innovations if they wish to remain successful. If a company is unable to pay its bills or meet the changing needs of customers, any concerns about social responsibilities become irrelevant. In other words, a company can only **MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY** (**đóng góp tích cực cho xã hội**) if it **IS IN GOOD FINANCIAL HEALTH** (**có tiềm lực tài chính tốt**).

On the other hand, companies should not be **RUN WITH THE SOLE AIM OF MAXIMISING PROFIT** (**hoạt động với mục tiêu duy nhất là tối đa hóa lợi nhuận**); they **HAVE A WIDER ROLE TO PLAY IN SOCIETY** (**có vai trò lớn hơn trong xã hội**). One social obligation that owners and managers have is to treat their employees well, rather than exploiting them. For example, they could pay a “living wage” to ensure that workers **HAVE A GOOD QUALITY OF LIFE** (**có chất lượng cuộc sống tốt**). I also like the idea that businesses could use a proportion of their profits to **SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES** (**hỗ trợ các tổ chức từ thiện địa phương**), environmental projects or **EDUCATION INITIATIVES** (**chương trình giáo dục**). Finally, instead of trying to minimise their tax payments by **USING ACCOUNTING LOOPHOLES** (**sử dụng sơ hở trong kế toán**), I believe that **COMPANY BOSSES** (**các chủ doanh nghiệp**) should be happy to **CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY THROUGH THE TAX SYSTEM** (**đóng góp cho xã hội thông qua hệ thống thuế**).

In conclusion, I believe that companies should **PLACE** as much **IMPORTANCE ON** (**chú trọng vào**) their social responsibilities as they do on their **FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES** (**mục tiêu tài chính**).

## ESSAY 11 – ENVIRONMENT

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

Humans are responsible for a variety of environmental problems, but we can also take steps to reduce the damage that we are causing to the planet. This essay will discuss environmental problems and the measures that governments and individuals can take to **ADDRESS THESE PROBLEMS (giải quyết các vấn đề này)**.

Two of **THE BIGGEST THREATS TO THE ENVIRONMENT (các mối đe dọa lớn nhất đối với môi trường)** are air pollution and waste. **GAS EMISSIONS FROM FACTORIES (khí thải từ các nhà máy)** and **EXHAUST FUMES FROM VEHICLES (khí thải từ các phương tiện giao thông)** lead to **GLOBAL WARMING (nóng lên toàn cầu)**, which may **HAVE A DEVASTATING EFFECT ON THE PLANET (có tác động tàn phá lên hành tinh chúng ta)** in the future. As **THE HUMAN POPULATION INCREASES (dân số thế giới tăng lên)**, we are also producing ever greater quantities of waste, which contaminates the earth and pollutes rivers and oceans.

Governments could certainly make more effort to reduce air pollution. They could introduce laws to limit emissions from factories or to force companies to **USE RENEWABLE ENERGY FROM SOLAR, WIND OR WATER POWER (sử dụng năng lượng tái tạo từ mặt trời, gió hoặc nước)**. They could also impose 'green taxes' on drivers and airline companies. In this way, people would be encouraged to use public transport and to take fewer flights abroad, therefore reducing emissions.

Individuals should also take responsibility for the impact they have on the environment. They can **TAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORT RATHER THAN DRIVE (di chuyển bằng phương tiện giao thông công cộng thay vì lái xe)**, choose products with less packaging, and recycle as much as possible. Most supermarkets now **PROVIDE REUSABLE BAGS FOR SHOPPERS (cung cấp túi tái sử dụng được cho người tiêu dùng)** as well as 'banks' for recycling glass, plastic and paper in their car parks. **BY REUSING AND RECYCLING (bằng cách tái sử dụng và tái chế)**, we can help to reduce waste.

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

## ESSAY 12 – TECHNOLOGY

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

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

Technology has had an impact on relationships in business, education and social life. Firstly, telephones and the Internet allow business people in different countries to interact without ever meeting each other. Secondly, services like Skype create new possibilities for relationships between students and teachers. For example, a student can now **TAKE VIDEO LESSONS (học các bài học bằng video)** with a teacher in a different city or country. Finally, many people **USE SOCIAL NETWORKS (sử dụng mạng xã hội)**, like Facebook, to make new friends and find people who **SHARE COMMON INTERESTS (chung sở thích)**, and they **INTERACT THROUGH THEIR COMPUTERS RATHER THAN FACE TO FACE (tương tác thông qua máy tính của họ chứ không phải gặp mặt trực tiếp)**

On the other hand, these developments can **BE EXTREMELY POSITIVE (cực kì tích cực)**. **COOPERATION BETWEEN PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES (sự hợp tác giữa người dân các nước)** was much more difficult when **COMMUNICATION WAS LIMITED TO WRITTEN LETTERS (giao tiếp chỉ gói gọn qua thư viết tay)** or telegrams. Nowadays, interactions by email, phone or video are almost as good as **FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS (các cuộc họp trực tiếp)**, and many of us benefit from these interactions, either **IN WORK OR SOCIAL CONTEXTS (trong công việc hoặc trong cuộc sống thường ngày)**. On the other hand the availability of **NEW COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (công nghệ truyền thông mới)** can also have the result of **ISOLATING PEOPLE AND DISCOURAGING REAL INTERACTION (cô lập người dùng và giảm sự tương tác trực tiếp)**. For example, many young people **CHOOSE TO MAKE FRIENDS ONLINE (chọn cách kết bạn trực tuyến)** rather than **MIXING WITH THEIR PEERS (hòa mình với bạn bè)** in the real world, and **THESE 'VIRTUAL' RELATIONSHIPS ARE A POOR SUBSTITUTE FOR REAL FRIENDSHIPS (những mối quan hệ ảo này là một sự thay thế không tốt cho tình bạn ngoài đời thực)**.

In conclusion, technology **HAS CERTAINLY REVOLUTIONISED COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PEOPLE (thực sự cách mạng hóa giao tiếp giữa con người với nhau)**, but not all of the outcomes of this revolution have been positive.

## ESSAY 13 – TRADITIONAL CULTURES AND TECHNOLOGY

*It is inevitable that traditional cultures will be lost as technology develops. Technology and traditional cultures are incompatible. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view?*

Some people believe that technological developments **LEAD TO THE LOSS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURES** (dẫn tới sự biến mất của các nét văn hóa truyền thống). I **PARTLY AGREE WITH THIS ASSERTION** (tôi một phần đồng ý với quan điểm này); while it may be true in the case of some societies, others seem to be unaffected by technology and the modern world.

On the one hand, the advances in technology that **HAVE DRIVEN INDUSTRIALISATION IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES** (thúc đẩy sự công nghiệp hóa ở các nước đang phát triển) have certainly **CONTRIBUTED TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF TRADITIONAL WAYS OF LIFE** (gây nên sự biến mất của các phong tục truyền thống). For example, in pre-industrial Britain, generations of families grew up in the same small village communities. These communities **HAD A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY** (có tinh thần dân tộc to lớn), due to **THEIR SHARED CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS** (tập quán và niềm tin của họ giống nhau). However, developments in transport, communications and manufacturing **LED TO THE DISPERSAL OF FAMILIES AND VILLAGE COMMUNITIES** (sự phân tán của các gia đình và cộng đồng làng xã) as people **MOVED TO THE CITIES IN SEARCH OF WORK** (đến thành phố tìm kiếm việc làm). Nowadays most British villages are inhabited by commuters, many of whom do not know their closest neighbours.

On the other hand, in some parts of the world **TRADITIONAL CULTURES STILL THRIVE** (văn hóa truyền thống vẫn phát triển mạnh). There are **TRIBES IN THE AMAZON RAINFOREST** (những bộ lạc ở rừng mưa Amazon), for example, that have been completely untouched by the technological developments of the developed world. These tribal communities continue to hunt and gather food from the forest, and **TRADITIONAL SKILLS ARE PASSED ON TO CHILDREN BY PARENTS AND ELDERS** (các kỹ năng truyền thống được cha mẹ và người lớn truyền lại cho thế hệ tiếp theo). Other traditional cultures, such as **FARMING COMMUNITIES** (cộng đồng nông dân) in parts of Africa, are **EMBRACING COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES** (ứng dụng công nghệ thông tin). Mobile phones **GIVE FARMERS ACCESS TO INFORMATION** (cho phép nông dân tra cứu thông tin), **FROM WEATHER PREDICTIONS TO MARKET PRICES** (từ dự báo thời tiết đến giá cả thị trường), which helps them to prosper and therefore supports their culture.

In conclusion, many traditional ways of life have been lost as a result of advances in technology, but other **TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES HAVE SURVIVED AND EVEN FLOURISHED** (một số nền văn hóa vẫn giữ được bản sắc của mình và thậm chí còn phát triển mạnh hơn nữa)

## ESSAY 14 – VIDEO GAMES

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

**MANY PEOPLE, AND CHILDREN IN PARTICULAR** (nhiều người đặc biệt là trẻ em) enjoy playing computer games. While I accept that these games can sometimes have a positive effect on the user, I believe that they **ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE A HARMFUL IMPACT** (có nhiều khả năng có tác động nguy hại hơn).

On the one hand, video games can be both entertaining and educational. Users, or gamers, **ARE TRANSPORTED INTO VIRTUAL WORLDS** (được đưa vào thế giới ảo) which are often more exciting and engaging than **REAL-LIFE PASTIMES** (các trò chơi giải trí trong đời thực). **FROM AN EDUCATIONAL PERSPECTIVE** (theo quan điểm giáo dục), these games **ENCOURAGE IMAGINATION AND CREATIVITY, AS WELL AS CONCENTRATION, LOGICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING** (khuyến khích trí tưởng tượng và sự sáng tạo, cũng như tập trung, tư duy logic và giải quyết vấn đề) all of which are useful skills outside the gaming context. Furthermore, it has been shown that **COMPUTER SIMULATION GAMES** (các trò chơi mô phỏng trên máy tính) can improve users' motor skills and **HELP TO PREPARE THEM FOR REAL-WORLD TASKS** (giúp họ chuẩn bị cho các nhiệm vụ trong thế giới thực), such as flying a plane.

However, I would argue that **THESE BENEFITS ARE OUTWEIGHED BY THE DRAWBACKS** (những lợi ích này là rất ít so với những hạn chế của nó). Gaming **CAN BE HIGHLY ADDICTIVE** (có thể gây nghiện nặng) because users **ARE CONSTANTLY GIVEN SCORES, NEW TARGETS AND FREQUENT REWARDS TO KEEP THEM PLAYING** (liên tục được cho điểm số, mục tiêu mới và phần thưởng thường xuyên để khuyến khích họ chơi). Many children now spend hours each day trying to progress through the levels of a game or **TO GET A HIGHER SCORE THAN THEIR FRIENDS** (đạt được điểm số cao hơn bạn bè của họ). This type of addiction can have effects ranging from lack of sleep to problems at school, when homework **IS SACRIFICED FOR A FEW MORE HOURS ON THE COMPUTER OR CONSOLE** (bị đánh đổi bằng vài giờ ngồi máy tính hoặc đầu điện tử). **THE RISE IN OBESITY IN RECENT YEARS HAS ALSO BEEN LINKED IN PART TO THE SEDENTARY LIFESTYLE AND LACK OF EXERCISE** (sự gia tăng của bệnh béo phì trong những năm gần đây có liên quan tới lối sống lười vận động và thiếu tập thể dục) that often accompany gaming addiction.

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

## ESSAY 15 – FESTIVALS

***Most people have forgotten the meaning behind traditional or religious festivals; during festival periods, people nowadays only want to enjoy themselves. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?***

Some people argue that we no longer **REMEMBER THE ORIGINAL MEANING OF FESTIVALS** (**nhớ ý nghĩa gốc gác của lễ hội**), and that most of us treat them as opportunities to have fun. While I agree that enjoyment seems to be the priority during festival times, I do not agree that people have forgotten what these festivals mean.

On the one hand, religious and traditional festivals have certainly become times for celebration. In the UK, Christmas **IS** a good example of **A FESTIVAL PERIOD** (**thời gian nghỉ lễ**) when people **ARE MOST CONCERNED WITH** (**được quan tâm nhất với**) shopping, giving and receiving presents, **DECORATING THEIR HOMES** (**trang trí nhà của họ**) and **ENJOYING TRADITIONAL MEALS** (**thường thức các bữa ăn truyền thống**) with their families. Most people **LOOK FORWARD TO** (**mong chờ**) Christmas as a holiday period, rather than **A TIME TO PRACTISE RELIGION** (**thời gian để dành cho việc thực hiện các nghi lễ tôn giáo**). Similar behaviour can be seen during **NON-RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS** (**các lễ hội không nhằm mục đích tôn giáo**), such as Bonfire Night. People associate this occasion with making fires, **WATCHING FIREWORK DISPLAYS** (**xem bắn pháo hoa**), and perhaps going to large events in local parks; **IN OTHER WORDS** (**nói cách khác**), enjoyment **IS PEOPLE'S PRIMARY GOAL** (**là mục đích chính**).

However, I disagree with the idea that **THE UNDERLYING MEANING OF SUCH FESTIVALS** (**ý nghĩa cơ bản của các lễ hội**) has been forgotten. In UK primary schools, children **LEARN IN DETAIL ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS REASONS FOR CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS** (**học kĩ lưỡng về việc giáng sinh phục vụ những mục đích tôn giáo nào**), Easter and **A VARIETY OF FESTIVALS IN OTHER RELIGIONS** (**hiều lễ hội thuộc các tôn giáo khác**). For example, in late December, children sing Christmas songs which **HAVE A RELIGIOUS CONTENT** (**có nội dung tôn giáo**), and they may even perform nativity plays telling the story of Jesus' birth. Families also **PLAY A ROLE IN PASSING KNOWLEDGE OF RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS' DEEPER SIGNIFICANCE ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION** (**giữ vai trò trong truyền khiến thức về ý nghĩa sâu xa hơn của tôn giáo cho các thế hệ tiếp theo**). The same is true for festivals that **HAVE A HISTORICAL BACKGROUND** (**có ý nghĩa về mặt lịch sử**), such as Bonfire Night or Halloween, in the sense that people generally **LEARN THE STORIES BEHIND THESE OCCASIONS** (**học được những câu chuyện đằng sau những sự kiện này**) **AT AN EARLY AGE** (**khi còn nhỏ**).

In conclusion, although people mainly want to enjoy themselves during festivals, I believe that they are still aware of the reasons for these celebrations.

## ESSAY 16 – HIGH SALARIES

*In many countries, a small number of people earn extremely high salaries. Some people believe that this is good for the country, but others think that governments should not allow salaries above a certain level.*

*Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.*

People have different views about whether governments **SHOULD INTRODUCE A MAXIMUM WAGE** (**nên đưa ra mức lương tối đa**). While **IN SOME WAYS** (**trong một số trường hợp**) it may seem reasonable to allow people to earn as much as companies are willing to pay, I personally believe that **EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION SHOULD BE CAPPED AT A CERTAIN LEVEL** (**mức lương của người lao động nên được giới hạn ở một mức độ nhất định**).

There are various reasons why it might be considered beneficial to allow people to be paid extremely high salaries. If companies offer excellent pay packages, they can attract the most talented people in their fields to work for them. For example, technology companies like Google are able to **EMPLOY THE BEST PROGRAMMERS** (**thuê các lập trình viên tốt nhất**) because of **THE HUGE SUMS** (**một khoản tiền lớn**) that they **ARE WILLING TO PAY** (**sẵn sàng trả**). Furthermore, these **WELL-PAID EMPLOYEES** (**nhân viên được trả lương cao**) are likely to **BE HIGHLY MOTIVATED TO WORK HARD** (**có động lực cao để làm việc chăm chỉ hơn**) and therefore **DRIVE THEIR BUSINESSES SUCCESSFULLY** (**thúc đẩy doanh nghiệp của họ thành công**). In theory, this should **RESULT IN A THRIVING ECONOMY** (**tạo ra một nền kinh tế thịnh vượng**) and increased tax revenues, which means that paying high salaries benefits everyone.

However, I agree with those who argue that there should be a maximum wage. By introducing a limit on earnings, **THE PAY-GAP** (**khoảng cách thu nhập**) between bosses and employees can be reduced. Currently, **THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NORMAL AND TOP SALARIES IS HUGE** (**sự khác biệt giữa mức lương bình thường và mức lương cao là lớn**), and this can demotivate workers who feel that the situation is unfair. With lower executive salaries, it might become feasible to **INTRODUCE HIGHER MINIMUM WAGES** (**đưa ra mức lương tối thiểu cao hơn**), and everybody would be better off. One possible consequence of greater equality could be that **POVERTY AND CRIME RATES** (**tỉ lệ nghèo đói và tội phạm**) fall because **THE GENERAL POPULATION** (**người dân**) will **EXPERIENCE AN IMPROVED STANDARD OF LIVING** (**có một cuộc sống với tiêu chuẩn sống được cải thiện**).

In conclusion, it seems to me that it would be better, on balance, for governments to set a limit on the wages of the highest earners in society.

## ESSAY 17 – CLIMATE CHANGE

*Some people think that instead of preventing climate change, we need to find a way to live with it. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

Climate change represents a major threat to life on Earth, but some people argue that we need to accept it rather than try to stop it. I completely disagree with this opinion, because I believe that we still have time to tackle this issue and reduce the human impact on the Earth's climate.

There are various measures that governments and individuals could take to prevent, or at least mitigate, climate change. Governments could **INTRODUCE LAWS TO LIMIT THE CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS** (đưa ra các luật lệ hạn chế lượng CO2 thải ra) that **LEAD TO GLOBAL WARMING** (dẫn tới sự nóng lên toàn cầu). They could **IMPOSE “GREEN TAXES” ON** (áp đặt các loại thuế xanh lên) drivers, airline companies and other **POLLUTERS** (nguồn ô nhiễm), and they could **INVEST IN RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION FROM SOLAR, WIND OR WATER POWER** (đầu tư vào sản xuất năng lượng tái tạo từ năng lượng mặt trời, gió hoặc nước). As individuals, we should also **TRY TO LIMIT OUR CONTRIBUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE** (cố gắng hạn chế các hoạt động gây ra biến đổi khí hậu), by **BECOMING MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT** (sử dụng năng lượng hiệu quả hơn), by **FLYING LESS** (dùng máy bay ít hơn), and by using bicycles and public transport. Furthermore, the public can affect the actions of governments by **VOTING FOR POLITICANS WHO PROPOSE TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE** (bỏ phiếu cho các chính trị gia những người mà đưa ra giải pháp giải quyết vấn đề biến đổi khí hậu), rather than for those who would prefer to ignore it.

If instead of taking the above measures we simply try to live with climate change, I believe that the consequences will **BE DISASTROUS** (thảm khốc). To give just one example, I am not optimistic that we would be able to **COPE WITH EVEN A SMALL RISE IN SEA LEVELS** (đối phó với sự tăng lên của mực nước biển dù chỉ là nhỏ). Millions of people **WOULD BE DISPLACED BY FLOODING** (sẽ phải di dời bởi lũ lụt), particularly in countries that **DO NOT HAVE THE MEANS TO SAFEGUARD LOW-LYING AREAS** (không có phương tiện để bảo vệ các khu vực nằm thấp hơn so với mực nước biển). These people would lose their homes and their jobs, and they **WOULD BE FORCED TO MIGRATE TO NEARBY CITIES** (bị buộc phải di chuyển đến các thành phố lân cận) or perhaps to other countries. The potential for human suffering would be huge, and it is likely that **WE WOULD SEE OUTBREAKS OF DISEASE AND FAMINE** (chúng ta có thể sẽ phải thấy sự bùng phát của dịch bệnh và nạn đói), as well as **INCREASED HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY** (sự gia tăng nạn vô gia cư và nghèo đói).

In conclusion, it is clear to me that we must address the problem of climate change, and I disagree with those who argue that we can find ways to live with it.



## ESSAY 18 – CITY LIFE

***More and more people are migrating to cities in search of a better life, but city life can be extremely difficult. Explain some of the difficulties of living in a city. How can governments make urban life better for everyone?***

Cities are often seen as places of opportunity, but there are also some major drawbacks of living in **A LARGE METROPOLIS (một thành phố lớn)**. In my opinion, governments could do much more to improve city life for the average inhabitant.

The main problem for anyone who hopes to migrate to a large city is that **THE COST OF LIVING (chi phí sinh hoạt)** is likely to be much higher than it is in a small town or village. Inhabitants of cities have to pay higher prices for housing, transport, and even food. Another issue is that urban areas **TEND TO SUFFER FROM SOCIAL PROBLEMS (có xu hướng gặp phải các vấn đề xã hội)** such as **HIGH CRIME AND POVERTY RATES (tỉ lệ tội phạm và nghèo đói cao)** in comparison with **RURAL areas (khu vực nông thôn)**. Furthermore, the air quality in cities is often poor, due to **POLLUTION FROM TRAFFIC (ô nhiễm từ phương tiện giao thông)**, and the streets and public transport systems **ARE USUALLY OVERCROWDED (thường quá tải)**. As a result, city life can be unhealthy and stressful.

However, there are various steps that governments could **TAKE TO TACKLE THESE PROBLEMS (giải quyết các vấn đề này)**. Firstly, they could **INVEST MONEY IN THE BUILDING OF AFFORDABLE OR SOCIAL HOUSING (đầu tư vào nhà ở giá rẻ hoặc nhà ở xã hội)** to reduce the cost of living. Secondly, politicians have the power to **BAN VEHICLES FROM CITY CENTRES (cấm các phương tiện giao thông trong khu vực trung tâm)** and **PROMOTE THE USE OF CLEANER PUBLIC TRANSPORT (thúc đẩy việc sử dụng các phương tiện công cộng sạch với môi trường hơn)**, which would help to reduce both air pollution and **TRAFFIC CONGESTION (tắc nghẽn giao thông)**. In London, for example, **THE INTRODUCTION OF A CONGESTION CHARGE FOR DRIVERS (áp dụng phí tắc nghẽn cho người lái xe)** has helped to **CURB THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM (kiểm soát vấn đề tắc đường)**. A third option would be to **DEVELOP PROVINCIAL TOWNS (phát triển các thị trấn tại các tỉnh thành)** and rural areas, by moving industry and jobs to those regions, in order to reduce the pressure on major cities.

In conclusion, governments could certainly **IMPLEMENT A RANGE OF MEASURES (thực hiện một loạt các biện pháp)** to enhance the quality of life for all city residents.

## ESSAY 19 – LIVE ALONE

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

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

The rise in **ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS** (các hộ gia đình một người) can be seen as positive for both personal and broader economic reasons. **ON AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL** (ở cấp độ cá nhân), people who choose to live alone may **BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT AND SELF-RELIANT** (trở lên độc lập và tự chủ hơn) than those who live with family members. **A YOUNG ADULT** (một người trưởng thành trẻ tuổi) who lives alone, for example, will need to learn to cook, clean, **PAY BILLS** (chi trả các loại hóa đơn) and **MANAGE HIS OR HER BUDGET** (quản lý ngân sách của bản thân), all of which **ARE VALUABLE LIFE SKILLS** (là các kỹ năng sống giá trị); an increase in the number of such individuals can certainly be seen as a positive development. **FROM AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE** (về góc độ kinh tế), **THE TREND TOWARDS LIVING ALONE** (xu hướng sống một mình) will result in **GREATER DEMAND FOR HOUSING** (dẫn đến nhu cầu nhà ở lớn hơn). This is likely to benefit the construction industry, **ESTATE AGENTS** (các công ty môi giới bất động sản) and a whole host of other companies that rely on **HOMEOWNERS** (chủ nhà) to buy their products or services.

However, the personal and economic arguments given above **CAN BE CONSIDERED FROM THE OPPOSITE ANGLE** (có thể được xem xét theo chiều hướng ngược lại). Firstly, rather than the positive feeling of increased independence, people who live alone **MAY EXPERIENCE FEELINGS OF LONELINESS, ISOLATION AND WORRY** (có thể cảm nhận thấy sự cô đơn, cô lập và lo lắng). They **MISS OUT ON THE EMOTIONAL SUPPORT** (mất đi sự hỗ trợ tinh thần) and daily conversation that family or flatmates can provide, and they must **BEAR THE WEIGHT OF ALL HOUSEHOLD BILLS AND RESPONSIBILITIES** (chịu gánh nặng về tài chính và các trách nhiệm); in this sense, perhaps the trend towards living alone is a negative one. Secondly, **FROM THE FINANCIAL POINT OF VIEW** (theo khía cạnh tài chính), a rise in demand for housing is likely to **PUSH UP PROPERTY PRICES AND RENTS** (đẩy giá bất động sản và thuê nhà lên). While this may benefit some businesses, the general population, including those who live alone, will **BE FACED WITH RISING LIVING COSTS** (đối mặt với chi phí sinh hoạt tăng cao).

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

## ESSAY 20 – CRIME

***Some people who have been in prison become good citizens later, and it is often argued that these are the best people to talk to teenagers about the dangers of committing a crime.***

***To what extent do you agree or disagree?***

It is true that **EX-PRISONERS** (**cựu tù nhân**) can become normal, **PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY** (**công dân có ích cho xã hội**). I completely agree with the idea that allowing such people to speak to teenagers about their experiences is the best way to discourage them from **BREAKING THE LAW** (**vi phạm pháp luật**).

In my opinion, teenagers are more likely to accept advice from someone who can speak from experience. **REFORMED OFFENDERS** (**tù nhân đã được cải tạo**) can tell young people about how they became involved in crime, **THE DANGERS OF A CRIMINAL LIFESTYLE** (**những sự nguy hiểm khi là một tội phạm**), and what life in prison is really like. They can also dispel any ideas that teenagers may have about criminals **LEADING GLAMOROUS LIVES** (**sống một cuộc sống vương giả**). While adolescents **ARE OFTEN INDIFFERENT TO THE GUIDANCE GIVEN BY OLDER PEOPLE** (**thường thờ ơ với những lời khuyên của người lớn tuổi**), I imagine that most of them would be extremely keen to hear the stories of an ex-offender. The vivid and perhaps shocking nature of these stories is likely to **HAVE A POWERFUL IMPACT** (**có tác động mạnh mẽ**).

The alternatives to using reformed criminals to educate teenagers about crime would be much less effective. One option would be for police officers to visit schools and talk to young people. This could be useful in terms of informing teens about what happens to **LAWBREAKERS** (**những người vi phạm pháp luật**) when they are caught, but young people **ARE OFTEN RELUCTANT TO TAKE ADVICE FROM FIGURES OF AUTHORITY** (**thường miễn cưỡng nhận lời khuyên từ những người có thẩm quyền**). A second option would be for school teachers to speak to their students about crime, but I doubt that students would see teachers as credible sources of information about this topic. Finally, educational films might be informative, but there would be no opportunity for young people to interact and ask questions.

In conclusion, I fully support the view that people who have turned their lives around after serving a prison sentence could **HELP TO DETER TEENAGERS FROM COMMITTING CRIMES** (**giúp ngăn ngừa thanh thiếu niên phạm tội**).

## ESSAY 21 – TRADITIONAL IDEAS

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

It is true that many older people believe in **TRADITIONAL VALUES** (**các giá trị truyền thống**) that often seem **INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE NEEDS OF YOUNGER PEOPLE** (**mâu thuẫn với nhu cầu của giới trẻ**). While I agree that some traditional ideas are outdated, I believe that others are still useful and should not be forgotten.

On the one hand, many of the ideas that elderly people have about life **ARE BECOMING LESS RELEVANT FOR YOUNGER PEOPLE** (**đang không còn phù hợp với giới trẻ**). In the past, for example, people were advised to learn a profession and **FIND A SECURE JOB FOR LIFE** (**tìm kiếm một công việc ổn định cho cả đời**), but today's workers expect much more variety and diversity from their careers. At the same time, the 'rules' around relationships are being eroded as young adults make their own choices about who and when to marry. But perhaps **THE GREATEST DISPARITY BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS** (**sự khác biệt lớn nhất giữa các thế hệ**) can be **SEEN IN THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARDS GENDER ROLES** (**biểu hiện rõ qua thái độ của họ đối với vai trò của giới tính trong xã hội**). The traditional roles of men and women, **AS BREADWINNERS AND HOUSEWIVES** (**với tư cách là trụ cột tài chính và người nội trợ gia đình**), are no longer accepted as necessary or appropriate by most younger people.

On the other hand, **SOME TRADITIONAL VIEWS AND VALUES** (**một vài quan điểm và giá trị truyền thống**) are certainly applicable to the modern world. For example, older generations **ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO WORKING HARD** (**đề cao sự làm việc chăm chỉ**), **DOING ONE'S BEST** (**làm việc hết sức mình**), and **TAKING PRIDE IN ONE'S WORK** (**tự hào về công việc của mình**), and these behaviours can surely benefit young people as they **ENTER TODAY'S COMPETITIVE JOB MARKET** (**gia nhập vào thị trường lao động cạnh tranh ngày nay**). Other characteristics that are perhaps seen as traditional are politeness and good manners. In our globalised world, young adults can expect to **COME INTO CONTACT WITH PEOPLE FROM A HUGE VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS** (**tiếp xúc với nhiều người có trình độ khác nhau**), and **IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO TREAT OTHERS WITH RESPECT** (**điều quan trọng hơn bao giờ hết là đối xử với mọi người một cách tôn trọng**). Finally, I believe that young people would lead happier lives **IF THEY HAD A MORE 'OLD-FASHIONED' SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBOURLINESS** (**nếu họ cảm nhận nhiều hơn theo cách của người xưa về cộng đồng và tình hàng xóm**).

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

## ESSAY 22 – FOREIGN FILMS

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

It is true that foreign films are more popular in many countries than **DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED FILMS** (**phim được sản xuất trong nước**). There could be several reasons why this is the case, and I believe that governments should **PROMOTE LOCAL FILM-MAKING BY SUBSIDISING THE INDUSTRY** (**khuyến khích làm phim nội địa bằng cách hỗ trợ cho ngành công nghiệp điện ảnh**).

There are various reasons why many people find foreign films more enjoyable than the films produced in their own countries. Firstly, the established film industries in certain countries **HAVE HUGE BUDGETS FOR ACTION** (**có ngân sách khổng lồ để hoạt động**), **SPECIAL EFFECTS** (**hiệu ứng đặc biệt**) and **TO SHOOT SCENES IN SPECTACULAR LOCATIONS** (**quay phim trong các bối cảnh hoành tráng**). **HOLLYWOOD BLOCKBUSTERS** (**các bộ phim bom tấn Hollywood**) like 'Avatar' or the James Bond films are examples of such productions, and their global appeal is undeniable. Another reason why these **BIG-BUDGET FILMS** (**các bộ phim được đầu tư kinh phí lớn**) are so successful is that they often **STAR THE MOST FAMOUS ACTORS AND ACTRESSES** (**thường có các diễn viên nổi tiếng nhất đảm nhận vai chính**), and they are made by **THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED PRODUCERS AND DIRECTORS** (**những nhà sản xuất và đạo diễn xuất sắc**). The poor quality, **LOW-BUDGET FILMMAKING** (**các bộ phim với kinh phí thấp**) in many countries suffers in comparison.

In my view, governments should **SUPPORT LOCAL FILM INDUSTRIES FINANCIALLY** (**hỗ trợ kinh phí cho ngành công nghiệp điện ảnh trong nước**). In every country, there may **BE TALENTED AMATEUR FILM-MAKERS** (**nhà làm phim nghiệp dư tài năng**) who just **NEED TO BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE THEMSELVES** (**cần có cơ hội để thể hiện khả năng của mình**). To compete with big-budget productions from overseas, these people **NEED MONEY TO PAY FOR FILM CREWS** (**cần kinh phí để trả cho đội ngũ làm phim**), actors and **A HOST OF OTHER COSTS RELATED TO PRODUCING HIGH-QUALITY FILMS** (**rất nhiều chi phí khác liên quan đến sản xuất phim chất lượng cao**). If governments did help with these costs, they would **SEE AN INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE FILM INDUSTRY, INCOME FROM FILM SALES** (**thấy sự gia tăng về nhân lực trong ngành điện ảnh, doanh thu từ các bộ phim**), perhaps even **A RISE IN TOURIST NUMBERS** (**sự gia tăng số lượng khách du lịch**). New Zealand, for example, has seen an increase in tourism related to the 'Lord of the Rings' films, which **WERE PARTLY FUNDED BY GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES** (**được tài trợ một phần bởi chính phủ**).

In conclusion, I believe that increased financial support could **HELP TO RAISE THE QUALITY OF LOCALLY MADE FILMS** (**giúp nâng cao chất lượng của các bộ phim sản xuất trong nước**) and allow them to compete with the foreign productions that **CURRENTLY DOMINATE THE MARKET** (**hiện đang chiếm lĩnh thị trường**).

## ESSAY 23 – ROAD SAFETY

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

People have differing views with regard to the question of **HOW TO MAKE OUR ROADS SAFER** (làm như thế nào để việc tham gia giao thông trở nên an toàn hơn). In my view, both punishments and a range of other measures can be used together **TO PROMOTE BETTER DRIVING HABITS** (khuyến khích thói quen lái xe an toàn hơn).

On the one hand, **STRICT PUNISHMENTS** (các hình phạt nghiêm khắc) can certainly help to **ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO DRIVE MORE SAFELY** (khuyến khích mọi người lái xe an toàn hơn). **PENALTIES FOR DANGEROUS DRIVERS CAN ACT AS A DETERRENT** (hình phạt đối với những người lái xe bất cẩn có thể xem như một cách răn đe), meaning that people **AVOID REPEATING THE SAME OFFENCE** (tránh lặp lại các lỗi vi phạm tương tự). There are various types of driving penalty, such as **SMALL FINES** (khoản tiền phạt nhỏ), **LICENCE SUSPENSION** (tạm giữ giấy phép lái xe), **DRIVER AWARENESS COURSES** (các khóa đào tạo nâng cao ý thức của những người lái xe), and **EVEN PRISON SENTENCES** (thậm chí là phạt tù). The aim of these punishments is to show dangerous drivers that their actions **HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES** (để lại những hậu quả xấu). As a result, we would hope that drivers **BECOME MORE DISCIPLINED AND ALERT** (trở nên kỷ luật và cảnh giác hơn), and that they **FOLLOW THE RULES MORE CAREFULLY** (tuân thủ các nguyên tắc một cách cẩn trọng hơn).

On the other hand, I believe that safe driving can be promoted in several different ways that do not punish drivers. Firstly, **IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO EDUCATE PEOPLE PROPERLY** (việc giáo dục mọi người đúng cách là rất quan trọng) before they start to drive, and **THIS COULD BE DONE** in schools or even **AS PART OF AN EXTENDED OR MORE DIFFICULT DRIVING TEST** (điều này có thể được thực hiện bằng cách lồng ghép vào bài kiểm tra lái xe bổ sung hoặc một bài kiểm tra lái xe khó hơn). Secondly, more attention could be paid to **SAFE ROAD DESIGN** (thiết kế đường an toàn). For example, signs can be used to warn people, **SPEED BUMPS** (gờ giảm tốc) and road bends can be added **TO CALM TRAFFIC** (để hạn chế tốc độ), and **SPEED CAMERAS CAN HELP TO DETER PEOPLE FROM DRIVING TOO QUICKLY** (camera bắn tốc độ có thể giúp ngăn chặn mọi người lái xe vượt quá tốc độ quy định). Finally, governments or **LOCAL COUNCILS** (chính quyền địa phương) could reduce road accidents by **INVESTING IN BETTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT** (đầu tư cải thiện các phương tiện công cộng), which would mean that fewer people would need to travel by car.

In conclusion, while punishments can help to **PREVENT BAD DRIVING** (ngăn ngừa việc lái xe không an toàn), I believe that other road safety measures should also be introduced.

## ESSAY 24 – PARENTAL ROLES

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

It is true that men are increasingly likely **TO TAKE ON THE ROLE OF HOUSEHUSBAND** (đảm nhiệm vai trò người chăm sóc gia đình), while more women than ever are **THE BREADWINNERS IN THEIR FAMILIES** (trụ cột tài chính trong gia đình). There could be several reasons for this, and I consider it to be a very positive trend.

In recent years, parents **HAVE HAD TO ADAPT TO VARIOUS CHANGES IN OUR SOCIETIES** (đã phải thích ứng với nhiều sự thay đổi khác nhau trong xã hội). **EQUAL RIGHTS MOVEMENTS HAVE MADE GREAT PROGRESS** (các phong trào về quyền bình đẳng đã có những bước tiến lớn), and it has become normal for women to **GAIN QUALIFICATIONS AND PURSUE A CAREER** (có được bằng cấp và theo đuổi sự nghiệp). It has also become socially acceptable for men to stay at home and **LOOK AFTER THEIR CHILDREN** (chăm sóc con cái của họ). At the same time, **THE RISING COST OF LIVING** (sự gia tăng chi phí sinh hoạt) has meant that both marriage partners usually need to work and save money before **STARTING A FAMILY** (lập gia đình). Therefore, when couples have children, they may decide who works and who stays at home depending on the personal preference of each partner, or **BASED ON** (dựa trên việc) which partner earns the most money.

In my view, the changes described above should be seen as progress. We should be happy to live in a society in which men and women **HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES** (có những cơ hội ngang nhau), and in which **WOMEN ARE NOT PUT UNDER PRESSURE TO SACRIFICE THEIR CAREERS** (phụ nữ không bị áp lực phải hi sinh sự nghiệp của họ). Equally, **IT SEEMS ONLY FAIR THAT** (dường như chỉ công bằng khi) men **SHOULD BE FREE TO LEAVE THEIR JOBS IN ORDER TO ASSUME CHILDCARE RESPONSIBILITIES** (nên cảm thấy thoải mái/không bị ràng buộc khi nghỉ việc để đảm nhận trách nhiệm chăm sóc con cái của mình) if this is what they wish to do. Couples should be left to make their own decisions about which parental role each partner takes, **ACCORDING TO THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES AND NEEDS** (tùy theo hoàn cảnh và nhu cầu cụ thể của họ).

In conclusion, the changing roles of men and women in the family **ARE A RESULT OF WIDER CHANGES IN SOCIETY** (là kết quả của những thay đổi lớn trong xã hội), and I believe that these developments are desirable.

## ESSAY 25 – WILD ANIMALS

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

Some people argue that it is pointless to spend money on the protection of wild animals because **WE AS HUMANS** (**con người chúng ta**) have no need for them. I completely disagree with this point of view.

In my opinion, **IT IS ABSURD TO ARGUE THAT** (**thật là vô lý khi nói rằng**) wild animals have no place in the 21st century. I do not believe that planet Earth exists only for the benefit of humans, and there is nothing special about this particular century that means that we suddenly **HAVE THE RIGHT TO ALLOW OR ENCOURAGE THE EXTINCTION OF ANY SPECIES** (**có quyền quyết định việc tuyệt diệt bất kì loài nào**). Furthermore, **THERE IS NO COMPELLING REASON** (**không có lý do thuyết phục**) why we should let animals die out. We **DO NOT NEED TO EXPLOIT OR DESTROY EVERY LAST SQUARE METRE OF LAND** (**không cần phải khai thác hoặc phá hủy bất kì mét vuông đất cuối cùng nào**) in order to **FEED OR ACCOMMODATE THE WORLD'S POPULATION** (**cung cấp thức ăn và chỗ ở cho người dân trên thế giới**). There is plenty of room for us to **EXIST SIDE BY SIDE WITH** (**tồn tại song song cùng**) wild animals, and this should be our aim.

I also disagree with the idea that protecting animals **IS A WASTE OF RESOURCES** (**là một sự lãng phí nguồn lực**). It is usually the protection of **NATURAL HABITATS** (**môi trường sống tự nhiên**) that ensures the survival of wild animals, and most scientists agree that these habitats **ARE ALSO CRUCIAL FOR HUMAN SURVIVAL** (**cũng rất quan trọng cho sự sống còn của con người**). For example, rainforests **PRODUCE OXYGEN, ABSORB CARBON DIOXIDE AND STABILISE THE EARTH'S CLIMATE** (**sản sinh oxy, hấp thụ carbon dioxide và ổn định khí hậu trái đất**). If we destroyed these areas, **THE COST OF MANAGING THE RESULTING CHANGES TO OUR PLANET** (**cái giá phải trả để kiểm soát các hệ quả tác động lên hành tinh của chúng ta**) would far outweigh **THE COSTS OF CONSERVATION** (**chi phí bảo tồn**). By protecting wild animals and their habitats, we **MAINTAIN THE NATURAL BALANCE OF ALL LIFE ON EARTH** (**duy trì sự cân bằng tự nhiên của mọi sự sống trên trái đất**).

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



## ESSAY 26 – HAPPINESS

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

It is no doubt true that the majority of people would like to be happy in their lives. While **THE PERSONAL NATURE OF HAPPINESS MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO DESCRIBE** (**hạnh phúc tự bản thân nó đã rất khó để định nghĩa được**), there do seem to be some common needs that we all share **WITH REGARD TO** (**liên quan đến**) experiencing or achieving happiness.

Happiness is difficult to define because it means something different to each individual person. **NOBODY CAN FULLY UNDERSTAND OR EXPERIENCE ANOTHER PERSON'S FEELINGS** (**không ai có thể hoàn toàn hiểu hay trải qua được cảm giác của người khác**), and we all have our own particular passions from which we take pleasure. Some people, for example, **DERIVE A SENSE OF SATISFACTION FROM EARNING MONEY** (**có được cảm giác hài lòng từ việc kiếm tiền**) or achieving success, whereas for others, health and family are much more important. At the same time, **A RANGE OF OTHER FEELINGS, FROM EXCITEMENT TO PEACEFULNESS** (**một loạt các cảm xúc khác, từ vui vẻ đến bình yên**), may be associated with the idea of happiness, and the same person may therefore feel happy in a variety of different ways.

Although it seems almost **IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE A PRECISE DEFINITION OF HAPPINESS** (**không thể đưa ra một định nghĩa ngắn gọn về hạnh phúc**), most people would agree that there are some basic preconditions to achieving it. Firstly, it is hard for a person to be happy if he or she **DOES NOT HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE AND ENOUGH FOOD TO EAT** (**không có nơi sinh sống an toàn và không đủ đồ ăn**). **OUR BASIC SURVIVAL NEEDS** (**Những nhu cầu sống thiết yếu của chúng ta**) must surely be met before we can lead a pleasant life. Secondly, the greatest joy in life is usually found in shared experiences with family and friends, and it is rare to find a person who is content to live in complete isolation. Other key factors could be **INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM** (**tự do cá nhân**) and **A SENSE OF PURPOSE IN LIFE** (**có mục tiêu trong cuộc sống**).

In conclusion, happiness is difficult to define because it is particular to each individual, but I believe that our basic needs for shelter, food and company need to be fulfilled before we **CAN EXPERIENCE IT** (**có thể tận hưởng nó**).

## ESSAY 27 – SALARY

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

Many people choose their jobs **BASED ON THE SIZE OF THE SALARY OFFERED** (dựa trên mức lương được trả). Personally, I disagree with the idea that money is the key consideration when deciding on a career, because I believe that other factors are equally important.

On the one hand, I agree that money is necessary **IN ORDER FOR PEOPLE TO MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS** (để mọi người đáp ứng những nhu cầu cơ bản của họ). For example, we all need money to **PAY FOR HOUSING, FOOD, BILLS, HEALTH CARE, AND EDUCATION** (trả tiền thuê nhà, thực phẩm, hóa đơn, dịch vụ chăm sóc sức khỏe và giáo dục). Most people consider it a priority to at least earn a salary that **ALLOWS THEM TO COVER THESE NEEDS** (cho phép họ trang trải những nhu cầu đó) and **HAVE A REASONABLE QUALITY OF LIFE** (có một chất lượng sống hợp lý). If people chose their jobs **BASED ON ENJOYMENT OR OTHER NON-FINANCIAL FACTORS** (dựa trên sở thích hoặc các yếu tố khác không liên quan đến vấn đề tài chính), they might find it difficult to support themselves. Artists and musicians, for instance, are known for choosing **A CAREER PATH** (con đường sự nghiệp) that they love, but that does not always provide them with enough money to live comfortably and **RAISE A FAMILY** (nuôi sống gia đình).

Nevertheless, I believe that other considerations are just as important as what we earn in our jobs. Firstly, personal relationships and the atmosphere in a workplace are extremely important when choosing a job. Having a good manager or friendly colleagues, for example, **CAN MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE TO WORKERS' LEVELS OF HAPPINESS AND GENERAL QUALITY OF LIFE** (có thể tạo ra sự khác biệt rất lớn đối với mức độ hạnh phúc và chất lượng cuộc sống nói chung của người lao động). Secondly, many people's feelings of job satisfaction **COME FROM THEIR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS** (đến từ những thành tựu đạt được trong công việc), the skills they learn, and the position they reach, rather than the money they earn. Finally, some people choose a career because they want to help others and **CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING POSITIVE TO SOCIETY** (đóng góp một điều gì đó tích cực cho xã hội).

In conclusion, while salaries certainly **AFFECT PEOPLE'S CHOICE OF PROFESSION** (ảnh hưởng sự lựa chọn của mọi người về nghề nghiệp), I do not believe that **MONEY OUTWEIGHS ALL OTHER MOTIVATORS** (tiền bạc quan trọng hơn những động lực khác).

## ESSAY 28 – INDEPENDENCE

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

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

There are two main reasons why it could be argued that we are more dependent on each other now. Firstly, life is more complex and difficult, especially because **THE COST OF LIVING HAS INCREASED SO DRAMATICALLY** (**chi phí sinh hoạt đã tăng lên rất đáng kể**). For example, young adults tend to rely on their parents for help when buying a house. Property prices are higher than ever, and without help it would be impossible for many people **TO PAY A DEPOSIT AND A MORTGAGE** (**chi trả các khoản tiền đặt cọc và thế chấp**). Secondly, people **SEEM TO BE MORE AMBITIOUS** (**có vẻ trở nên tham vọng hơn**) nowadays, and they **WANT A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THEIR FAMILIES** (**muốn có một cuộc sống tốt hơn cho gia đình họ**). This means that both parents usually **NEED TO WORK FULL-TIME** (**cần làm việc toàn thời gian**), and they depend on support from grandparents and babysitters for child care.

However, I would agree with those who believe that people are more independent these days. In most countries, families are **BECOMING SMALLER AND MORE DISPERSED** (**đang trở nên nhỏ hơn và xa cách hơn**), which means that people **CANNOT COUNT ON RELATIVES AS MUCH AS THEY USED TO** (**không thể dựa vào người thân nhiều như trước đây**). We also have more freedom to travel and **LIVE FAR AWAY FROM OUR HOME TOWNS** (**sống xa nhà**). For example, many students choose to study abroad instead of going to their **LOCAL UNIVERSITY** (**đại học trong nước**), and this experience makes them more independent as they learn to live alone. Another factor in this growing independence is technology, which allows us to **WORK ALONE AND FROM ANY PART OF THE WORLD** (**làm việc một mình và làm từ bất kỳ nơi nào trên thế giới**).

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

## ESSAY 29 – FOREIGN TOURISTS

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

It is sometimes argued that tourists from overseas should be charged more than **LOCAL RESIDENTS** (**người dân địa phương**) to visit important sites and monuments. I completely disagree with this idea.

The argument in favour of higher prices for foreign tourists would be that cultural or historical attractions often **DEPEND ON STATE SUBSIDIES** (**trợ cấp của chính phủ**) to keep them going, which means that the resident population already **PAYS MONEY TO THESE SITES THROUGH THE TAX SYSTEM** (**trả tiền cho các khu vực này thông qua hệ thống thuế**). However, I believe this to **BE A VERY SHORTSIGHTED VIEW** (**một cái nhìn thiển cận**). Foreign tourists **CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMY OF THE HOST COUNTRY WITH THE MONEY THEY SPEND ON A WIDE RANGE OF GOODS AND SERVICES** (**đóng góp vào nền kinh tế nước sở tại bằng tiền họ chi cho hàng loạt các hàng hóa và dịch vụ**), including food, souvenirs, accommodation and travel. The governments and inhabitants of every country should be happy to subsidise important tourist sites and encourage people **FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD** (**từ những nơi khác trên thế giới**) to visit them.

If travellers realised that they would have to pay more to visit historical and cultural attractions in a particular nation, they would perhaps decide not to go to that country on holiday. To take the UK as an example, the tourism industry and many related jobs rely on visitors coming to the country to see places like Windsor Castle or Saint Paul's Cathedral. These two sites charge the same price regardless of nationality, and this helps to **PROMOTE THE NATION'S CULTURAL HERITAGE** (**quảng bá di sản văn hóa của quốc gia**). If overseas tourists stopped coming due to higher prices, there would be a risk of insufficient funding for the maintenance of these important buildings.

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

## ESSAY 30 – AGEING POPULATION

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

It is true that people in **INDUSTRIALISED NATIONS** (các nước công nghiệp) can expect to **LIVE LONGER** (sống lâu hơn) than ever before. Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, societies can take steps to mitigate these potential problems.

As people live longer and the populations of developed countries grow older, several related problems can be anticipated. The main issue is that there will obviously be more **PEOPLE OF RETIREMENT AGE** (người ở độ tuổi nghỉ hưu) who **WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A PENSION** (sẽ đủ điều kiện để được trợ cấp). The proportion of younger, working adults will be smaller, and governments will therefore receive less money in taxes in relation to the size of the population. In other words, **AN AGEING POPULATION WILL MEAN A GREATER TAX BURDEN FOR WORKING ADULTS** (lão hóa dân số đồng nghĩa với việc một gánh nặng lớn về thuế sẽ đè nặng lên vai người lao động). Further pressures will include a rise in the demand for healthcare, and the fact young adults will increasingly have to look after their elderly relatives.

There are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems described above. Firstly, a simple solution would be to increase the retirement age for working adults, perhaps from 65 to 70. Nowadays, people of this age tend to be healthy enough to **CONTINUE A PRODUCTIVE WORKING LIFE** (tiếp tục cuộc sống làm việc hiệu quả). A second measure would be for governments to **ENCOURAGE IMMIGRATION** (khuyến khích nhập cư) in order to increase the number of **WORKING ADULTS** (người lao động) who pay taxes. Finally, money from **NATIONAL BUDGETS** (ngân sách quốc gia) will need to be taken from other areas and spent on vital healthcare, accommodation and transport facilities for the rising numbers of older citizens.

In conclusion, various measures can be taken to **TACKLE THE PROBLEMS THAT ARE CERTAIN TO ARISE** (giải quyết những vấn đề chắc chắn xảy ra) as **THE POPULATIONS OF COUNTRIES GROW OLDER** (dân số các nước đang ngày già đi).

## ESSAY 31 – ANIMAL TESTING

*Nowadays animal experiments are widely used to develop new medicines and to test the safety of other products. Some people argue that these experiments should be banned because **IT IS MORALLY WRONG TO CAUSE ANIMALS TO SUFFER** (sai trái về mặt đạo đức khi gây ra những đau đớn cho động vật), while others are in favour of them because of their benefits to humanity. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.*

It is true that medicines and other products are routinely tested on animals before they are cleared for human use. While I tend towards the viewpoint that **ANIMAL TESTING IS MORALLY WRONG** (thí nghiệm trên động vật là sai về mặt đạo đức), I would have to support a limited amount of animal experimentation for the development of medicines.

On the one hand, there are clear ethical arguments against animal experimentation. To use a common example of this practice, laboratory mice **MAY BE GIVEN AN ILLNESS** (có thể bị cho nhiễm bệnh) so that **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A NEW DRUG CAN BE MEASURED** (tính hiệu quả của một loại thuốc mới có thể được đánh giá). Opponents of such research argue that humans have no right to subject animals to this kind of trauma, and that the lives of all creatures should be respected. They believe that **THE BENEFITS TO HUMANS DO NOT JUSTIFY THE SUFFERING CAUSED** (những lợi ích của con người không nên là lý do biện hộ để khiến cho động vật phải chịu đau đớn), and that scientists **SHOULD USE ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF RESEARCH** (nên sử dụng các phương pháp nghiên cứu thay thế).

On the other hand, **RELIABLE ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION** (những phương thức nghiên cứu đáng tin cậy khác thay cho phương thức thử nghiệm trên động vật) may not always be available. Supporters of the use of animals in medical research believe that a certain amount of suffering on the part of mice or rats can be justified if human lives are saved. They argue that opponents of such research might feel differently if a member of their own families needed a medical treatment that had been developed through the use of animal experimentation. Personally, I agree with **THE BANNING OF ANIMAL TESTING FOR NON-MEDICAL PRODUCTS** (việc cấm thí nghiệm trên động vật cho những sản phẩm phi y tế), but I feel that it may be a necessary evil where new drugs and medical procedures are concerned.

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

## ESSAY 32 – TEENAGERS TO DO UNPAID WORK

*Some people think that all teenagers should be required to do unpaid work in their free time to help the local community. They believe this would benefit both the individual teenager and society as a whole.*

*Do you agree or disagree?*

Many young people **WORK ON A VOLUNTEER BASIS** (làm tình nguyện viên), and this can only **BE BENEFICIAL FOR BOTH THE INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE** (tốt cho cả cá nhân đó và toàn bộ xã hội). However, I do not agree that we should therefore force all teenagers to **DO UNPAID WORK** (làm công việc tình nguyện).

Most young people **ARE ALREADY UNDER ENOUGH PRESSURE WITH THEIR STUDIES** (vốn đã phải chịu khá nhiều áp lực học tập), without being given the added responsibility of working in their spare time. **SCHOOL IS JUST AS DEMANDING AS A FULL-TIME JOB** (trường học có các yêu cầu khắt khe giống như một công việc toàn thời gian), and teachers expect their students **TO DO HOMEWORK AND EXAM REVISION ON TOP OF ATTENDING LESSONS EVERY DAY** (làm bài tập và kiểm tra bài cũ vào đầu các buổi học mỗi ngày). When young people do have some free time, we should encourage them to enjoy it with their friends or to spend it doing sports and other leisure activities. **THEY HAVE MANY YEARS OF WORK AHEAD OF THEM WHEN THEY FINISH THEIR STUDIES** (họ sẽ có nhiều năm làm việc phía trước khi họ hoàn thành việc học của họ).

At the same time, **I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SOCIETY HAS ANYTHING TO GAIN** from (tôi không tin rằng chẳng đạt được lợi ích gì từ) obliging young people to do unpaid work. In fact, I would argue that **IT GOES AGAINST THE VALUES OF A FREE AND FAIR SOCIETY TO FORCE A GROUP OF PEOPLE TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST THEIR WILL** (đi ngược lại các giá trị của một xã hội tự do và công bằng khi mà buộc một nhóm người làm điều gì đó trái với ý muốn của họ). Doing this **CAN ONLY LEAD TO RESENTMENT AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE** (chỉ có thể dẫn đến sự bất bình trong giới trẻ), who would feel that they were being used, and parents, who would not want to be told how to raise their children. Currently, nobody is forced to volunteer, and this is surely the best system.

In conclusion, teenagers may choose to work for free and help others, but in my opinion we **SHOULD NOT MAKE THIS COMPULSORY** (không nên bắt buộc).

## ESSAY 33 - HOBBIES

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

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

On the one hand, many people enjoy easy hobbies. One example of an activity that is easy for most people is swimming. This hobby requires very little equipment, it is simple to learn, and it is inexpensive. I remember learning to swim at my local swimming pool when I was a child, and **IT NEVER FELT LIKE A DEMANDING OR CHALLENGING EXPERIENCE (không bao giờ cảm thấy khó khăn hay là thách thức)**. Another hobby that I find easy and fun is photography. In my opinion, anyone can take interesting pictures without knowing too much about **THE TECHNICALITIES OF OPERATING A CAMERA (các kỹ thuật của việc sử dụng máy ảnh)**. Despite being straightforward, taking photos **IS A SATISFYING ACTIVITY (là một hoạt động khá là thoải mái, dễ chịu)**.

On the other hand, difficult hobbies can sometimes be more exciting. If an activity is more challenging, we **MIGHT FEEL A GREATER SENSE OF SATISFACTION** when we manage to do it successfully. For example, film editing is a hobby that **REQUIRES A HIGH LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE (đòi hỏi trình độ kiến thức và chuyên môn cao)**. In my case, it took me around two years before I became competent at this activity, but now I enjoy it much more than I did when I started. I believe that many hobbies give us more pleasure when we **REACH A HIGHER LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE (đạt được trình độ cao hơn)** because the results are better and the feeling of achievement is greater.

In conclusion, simple hobbies can be fun and relaxing, but difficult hobbies can be equally pleasurable for different reasons.



## ESSAY 34 – HELP PEOPLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES

*We cannot help everyone in the world that needs help, so we should only be concerned with our own communities and countries.*

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

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

On the one hand, I accept that it is important to help our neighbours and **FELLOW CITIZENS** (**đồng hương**). In most communities there are people who are impoverished or disadvantaged in some way. It is possible to find homeless people, for example, in even the wealthiest of cities and for those who are concerned about this problem, there are usually opportunities to volunteer time or give money to support these people. In the UK, people can help in a variety of ways, **FROM DONATING CLOTHING TO SERVING FREE FOOD IN A SOUP KITCHEN** (**từ việc tặng quần áo cho đến việc phục vụ đồ ăn tại các bếp ăn miễn phí**). **AS THE PROBLEMS ARE ON OUR DOORSTEP** (**vì những vấn đề đang ở trước mắt**), and there are obvious ways to help, I can understand why some people feel that we **SHOULD PRIORITISE LOCAL CHARITY** (**nên ưu tiên làm từ thiện ngay tại địa phương**).

At the same time, I believe that we have an obligation to help those who **LIVE BEYOND OUR NATIONAL BORDERS** (**sống ở các nước khác**). In some countries the problems that people face are much more serious than those in our own communities, and it is often even easier to help. For example, when children are dying from curable diseases in African countries, governments and individuals in richer countries can save lives simply by paying for vaccines that already exist. **A SMALL DONATION TO AN INTERNATIONAL CHARITY** (**một sự đóng góp nhỏ cho một tổ chức từ thiện quốc tế**) might have a much greater impact than helping in our local area.

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

## ESSAY 35 – MUSEUMS

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

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

On the one hand, it can be argued that the main role of a museum is to entertain. Museums are tourist attractions, and their aim is **TO EXHIBIT A COLLECTION OF INTERESTING OBJECTS** (**trưng bày bộ sưu tập các hiện vật thú vị**) that many people will want to see. The average visitor may become bored if he or she has to read or listen to too much educational content, so museums often **PUT MORE OF AN EMPHASIS ON ENJOYMENT RATHER THAN LEARNING** (**coi trọng yếu tố giải trí hơn là học hỏi**). This type of museum **IS DESIGNED TO BE VISUALLY SPECTACULAR** (**được thiết kế để có tầm nhìn ngoạn mục**), and may have interactive activities or even games as part of its exhibitions.

On the other hand, some people argue that museums should focus on education. The aim of any exhibition should be to teach visitors something that they did not previously know. Usually this means that **the history behind the museum's exhibits** (**lịch sử đằng sau những đồ vật trưng bày trong các bảo tàng**) needs to be explained, and this can be done in various ways. Some museums employ professional guides to talk to their visitors, while other museums offer headsets so that visitors can **LISTEN TO DETAILED COMMENTARY ABOUT THE EXHIBITION** (**lắng nghe thông tin giải thích về những thứ được trưng bày**). In this way, museums can play an important role in teaching people about history, culture, science and many other **aspects** of life.

In conclusion, it seems to me that a good museum should be able to **OFFER AN INTERESTING, ENJOYABLE AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE** (**mang lại trải nghiệm thú vị, hấp dẫn và mang tính giáo dục**) so that people can have fun and learn something at the same time.

## ESSAY 36 – CAREER PATHWAY

***Some people believe that studying at university or college is the best route to a successful career, while others believe that it is better to get a job straight after school.***

***Discuss both views and give your opinion.***

When they finish school, teenagers **FACE THE DILEMMA OF WHETHER TO GET A JOB OR CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION** (đối mặt với tình thế tiến thoái lưỡng nan giữa việc tìm kiếm một công việc hay là tiếp tục học cao hơn). While there are some benefits to getting a job straight after school, I would argue that it is better to go to college or university.

The option to start work straight after school is attractive for several reasons. Many young people want to start earning money as soon as possible. In this way, they can become independent, and they **WILL BE ABLE TO AFFORD THEIR OWN HOUSE OR START A FAMILY** (sẽ có khả năng để mua nhà hoặc lập gia đình). **IN TERMS OF THEIR CAREER** (về mặt sự nghiệp của họ), young people who decide to find work, rather than continue their studies, may progress more quickly. They will have the chance to gain real experience and learn practical skills related to their chosen profession. This may **LEAD TO PROMOTIONS AND A SUCCESSFUL CAREER** (dẫn tới sự thăng tiến và một sự nghiệp thành công).

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial for students to continue their studies. Firstly, academic qualifications **ARE REQUIRED IN MANY PROFESSIONS** (được yêu cầu trong nhiều ngành nghề). For example, it is impossible to become a doctor, teacher or lawyer without having the relevant degree. As a result, university graduates have access to more and better job opportunities, and they tend to earn higher salaries than those with fewer qualifications. Secondly, **THE JOB MARKET IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY COMPETITIVE** (thị trường lao động đang ngày càng trở nên cạnh tranh), and sometimes there are hundreds of applicants for one position in a company. Young people who do not have qualifications from a university or college will not be able to compete.

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

## ESSAY 37 – MINORITY LANGUAGES

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

*Discuss both these views and give your opinion.*

It is true that **SOME MINORITY LANGUAGES** (một vài **ngôn ngữ thiểu số**) may disappear in the near future. Although it can be argued that governments could save money by allowing this to happen, I believe that these languages should be protected and preserved.

There are several reasons why saving minority languages **COULD BE SEEN AS A WASTE OF MONEY** (**có thể được xem là sự lãng phí tiền bạc**). Firstly, if a language is only spoken by a small number of people, expensive education programmes will be needed to make sure that more people learn it, and the state will have to pay for facilities, teachers and marketing. This money might be better spent on other public services. Secondly, it would be much cheaper and more efficient for countries to have just one language. Governments could **CUT ALL KINDS OF COSTS RELATED TO** (**cắt giảm mọi loại chi phí liên quan đến**) communicating with each minority group.

Despite the above arguments, I believe that governments should try to preserve languages that are less widely spoken. A language is much more than simply a means of communication; it **HAS A VITAL CONNECTION WITH THE CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE PEOPLE WHO SPEAK IT** (**có một mối liên kết cực kỳ quan trọng với việc định hình nền văn hóa của những người sử dụng thứ ngôn ngữ ấy**). If a language disappears, a whole way of life will disappear with it, and we will **LOSE THE RICH CULTURAL DIVERSITY** (**mất đi tính đa dạng văn hóa**) that makes societies more interesting. By spending money on protecting minority languages, governments can also preserve traditions, customs and behaviours that are part of a country's history.

In conclusion, it may save money in the short term if we allow minority languages to disappear, but in the long term this would have an extremely negative impact on **OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE** (**di sản văn hóa của chúng ta**).

## ESSAY 38 – PERMISSIVE PARENTING

*Some parents buy their children whatever they ask for, and allow their children to do whatever they want. Is this a good way to raise children? What consequences could this style of parenting have for children as they get older?*

It is true that some parents **ARE OVERLY PERMISSIVE** (**quá nuông chiều**) and tend to **SPOIL THEIR CHILDREN** (**làm hỏng những đứa con của họ**). In my opinion, this **IS NOT A GOOD PARENTING STYLE** (**không phải là một cách dạy con tốt**), and it can have a range of negative long-term consequences.

If parents **WANT TO RAISE RESPECTFUL AND WELL-BEHAVED CHILDREN** (**muốn con cái ngoan ngoãn và cư xử đúng mực**), I believe that a certain amount of discipline is necessary. **HAVING WORKED WITH CHILDREN MYSELF** (**bản thân tôi cũng đã trải qua việc nuôi dạy con cái**), I have learnt that clear expectations and boundaries are necessary, and it is important to be able to say ‘no’ to children when they **MISBEHAVE OR TRY TO PUSH AGAINST THESE BOUNDARIES** (**trở nên ngỗ nghịch hoặc đang đi quá giới hạn**). This is the only way to help young people to **REGULATE THEIR DESIRES AND DEVELOP SELF CONTROL** (**điều chỉnh những ham muốn và phát triển khả năng tự kiểm soát**). In my view, parents who do the opposite and constantly give in to their children’s demands, are actually doing more harm than good. They **ARE FAILING THEIR CHILDREN RATHER THAN BEING KIND TO THEM** (**làm hư con cái của họ chứ không phải đang đối xử tốt với chúng**).

**THE CHILDREN OF INDULGENT OF LENIENT PARENTS** (**những đứa trẻ sống trong sự nuông chiều từ các bậc phụ huynh hay khoan nhượng**) are likely to **GROW UP WITH SEVERAL NEGATIVE PERSONALITY TRAITS** (**phát triển với tính cách cá nhân tiêu cực**). The first and most obvious danger is that these children will become self-centred adults who show little consideration for the feelings or needs of others. One consequence of such an attitude could be that these adults are unable to work successfully in teams with other colleagues. A second negative trait in such people could be impulsiveness. A person who has never lived with any boundaries is likely to **LACK THE PATIENCE TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER OPTIONS BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS** (**thiếu sự kiên nhẫn để cân nhắc cẩn thận các lựa chọn trước khi đưa ra quyết định**). This may lead, for example, to **COMPULSIVE SHOPPING** (**việc mua sắm quá mức**), **UNWISE FINANCIAL DECISIONS** (**quyết định tài chính không khôn ngoan**), or even criminal activity.

In conclusion, parents should help their children to develop self-control and respect for others, and I do not believe that the permissive parenting style supports this objective.

## ESSAY 39 – CELEBRITIES

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

It is true that **SOME CELEBRITIES** (**một số người nổi tiếng**) are known for their **GLAMOROUS LIFESTYLES** (**những lối sống xa xỉ**) rather than for the work they do. While I agree that these celebrities set a bad example for children, I believe that other famous people act as positive role models.

On the one hand, many people do achieve fame without really working for it. They may have inherited money from parents, married a famous or wealthy person, or they may have **APPEARED IN GOSSIP MAGAZINES** (**xuất hiện trên báo lá cải**) or on a reality TV programme. A good example would be Paris Hilton, who is rich and famous for the wrong reasons. She spends her time attending parties and nightclubs, and her behaviour promotes the idea that appearance, glamour and media profile are more important than hard work and good character. The message to young people is that success can be achieved easily, and that school work is not necessary.

On the other hand, there are at least as many celebrities whose accomplishments make them **EXCELLENT ROLE MODELS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE** (**là những tấm gương tốt cho thế hệ trẻ**). Actors, musicians and sports stars become famous idols because they have worked hard and applied themselves to develop real skills and abilities. They **DEMONSTRATE GREAT EFFORT, DETERMINATION AND AMBITION** (**thể hiện nỗ lực quyết tâm và tham vọng to lớn**), which is required for someone who wants to be truly successful in their chosen field. An example is the actor and martial artist Jackie Chan, who has become world famous through years of practice and hard work. This kind of self-made celebrity can inspire children to **DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS THROUGH APPLICATION AND PERSEVERANCE** (**phát triển tài năng của mình bằng sự chuyên tâm và sự kiên trì**).

In conclusion, while some celebrities affect the youth badly, I believe others are becoming motivators for children.

## ESSAY 40 – HOBBIES

*Popular hobbies and interests change over time and are more a reflection of trends and fashions than an indication of what individuals really want to do in their spare time. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

Some leisure activities **BECOME FASHIONABLE** (trở nên thịnh hành) for a short time and then disappear when **A NEW TREND COMES ALONG** (một xu hướng mới xuất hiện), whereas others **SEEM TO BE PERENNIALY POPULAR** ( dường như được ưa chuộng rất lâu/trong một thời gian dài). I can therefore only partly agree with the assertion that hobbies reflect changing fashions rather than our true interests

On the one hand, it is true that many hobbies **ARE SIMPLY PASSING TRENDS** (đơn giản là chạy theo xu hướng). Children and teenagers, in particular, are attracted to whatever activity is currently popular among their peers. My 10-year-old niece, for example, seems to **HAVE A NEW INTEREST** (có sở thích mới) every month, as she **JOINS IN WITH THE LATEST CRAZE** (tham gia vào một trào lưu mới) that sweeps through her primary school. Over the last year or so, she **HAS BEEN OBSESSED WITH** (bị ám ảnh bởi) Rubik's cubes, fidget spinners, squidgies and slime. **IN A SIMILAR WAY** (tương tự), **THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL DIFFERENT FITNESS TRENDS** ( từng có một số xu hướng tập luyện thể dục, thể thao khác nhau) for adults over recent years, from jogging to yoga to circuit training, and I doubt whether the majority of participants continued to enjoy those activities **IN THE LONG TERM** (về lâu dài).

On the other hand, many people spend their free time doing popular activities that **ARE FAR FROM TRENDY** (không theo/đi ngược lại xu hướng). One good example would be the game chess. Children and adults who enjoy playing chess are certainly **NOT FOLLOWING A NEW FASHION** (không theo xu hướng mới) or wasting their time on something that they do not truly like. On the contrary, they are passionate about a game that has existed for hundreds of years, and they **FIND IT INHERENTLY FASCINATING AND ABSORBING** (cảm thấy nó vốn đã hấp dẫn và lôi cuốn). I would say the same about many other hobbies, from reading to swimming.

In conclusion,.....

## ESSAY 41 – CHOICES

*Some people believe that nowadays we have too many choices. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?*

It is often said that modern life **PRESENTS US WITH AN OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF CHOICES** (đặt trước chúng ta vô số lựa chọn). I completely agree with this, and I believe that the Internet and globalisation are the two major factors involved.

It is undeniable that the Internet **HAS LED TO A DRAMATIC EXPANSION IN THE NUMBER OF CHOICES** (dẫn đến số lựa chọn gia tăng đáng kể) that are available to us. The number of online media options, for instance, is now almost endless. There are countless websites offering entertainment, news, videos, on-demand TV and music streaming, many of which are free. I would argue that **THIS ABUNDANCE OF MEDIA** (sự phong phú của các phương tiện truyền thông) **LEADS TO CONFUSION ON THE PART OF THE AVERAGE USER** (dẫn tới sự bối rối về phía người sử dụng), as we have to make so many decisions about **THE CONTENT THAT WE CONSUME** (các nội dung chúng ta xem). A personal example of this trend would be the fact that I had a choice of just four TV channels when I was a child, whereas I now **HAVE ACCESS TO THOUSANDS OF FILMS AND SERIES** (có quyền truy cập vào hàng ngàn bộ phim và loạt phim truyền hình) through services like Netflix.

Alongside the influence of the Internet, globalisation is making the world smaller and compounding this problem of too much choice. Cheap international flights **HAVE MADE OVERSEAS TRAVEL POSSIBLE FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE** (giúp việc đi du lịch nước ngoài trở nên khả thi đối với hàng triệu người), but this also means that we **ARE FACED WITH A WORLD OF OPTIONS** (đối mặt với vô số lựa chọn) when deciding where to go on holiday or even where to live. We no longer have the limited but simple travel choices of our grandparents' generation. The same is true if we look **AT THE INCREASING TENDENCY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO STUDY ABROAD** (xu hướng đi du học ở giới trẻ tăng). While the opportunity for overseas study seems appealing, many students **ARE CONFUSED ABOUT WHERE TO GO AND WHICH PATH TO TAKE** (cảm thấy bối rối về việc nên đi đâu và nên lựa chọn con đường nào).

In conclusion, we are faced with a huge number of options in most areas of life nowadays, and **THIS IS OFTEN MORE BEWILDERING THAN BENEFICIAL** (điều này thường gây hoang mang hơn là có lợi).



## ESSAY 42 – SMALL FAMILY UNITS

*In many countries today, people in cities either live alone or in small family units, rather than in large, extended family groups. Is this a positive or negative trend?*

It is true that cities are seeing a rise in smaller families and **ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS** (những hộ gia đình có một người), while **THE EXTENDED FAMILY** (gia đình mở rộng) is becoming a rarity. In my opinion, this is a negative development.

As families become smaller, **THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK** (nền tảng hỗ trợ truyền thống từ gia đình) is disappearing, and this can have a negative impact on children as they grow up. In **A NUCLEAR FAMILY** (gia đình hai thế hệ) or **SINGLE-PARENT HOUSEHOLD** (hộ gia đình là cha mẹ đơn thân), childcare **BECOMES AN EXPENSIVE AND STRESSFUL PART OF DAILY LIFE** (trở thành một phần đắt đỏ và áp lực trong cuộc sống hàng ngày). Without the help of grandparents or aunts and uncles, busy parents must rely on babysitters, nannies and after-school clubs to take care of younger children, while older children **MAY BE LEFT ALONE AFTER SCHOOL AND DURING HOLIDAYS** (bị bỏ lại một mình sau giờ học và trong suốt kỳ nghỉ). **THE ABSENCE OF ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS** (sự thiếu vắng những thành viên lớn tuổi trong gia đình) can mean that friends, television and the Internet **BECOME THE PRIMARY INFLUENCES ON CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOR** (là nguồn ảnh hưởng chủ yếu đến hành vi của trẻ). It is no surprise that the decline of the extended family has been linked to **A RISE IN PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE** (sự gia tăng các vấn đề về tâm lý và hành vi trong giới trẻ).

The trend towards people living alone is perhaps even more damaging because of **THE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF REDUCED HUMAN INTERACTION** (những tác động tâm lý của việc giảm tương tác giữa con người). Individuals who live on their own have nobody to talk to in person, so they cannot share problems or **DISCUSS THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF DAILY LIFE** (chia sẻ về thăng trầm trong đời sống hàng ngày). They forgot **THE CONSTANT STIMULATION** (sự kích thích liên tục) **AND HUSTLE AND BUSTLE** (sự nhộn nhịp) of a large family, and **ARE LEFT TO THEIR OWN DEVICES** (được tự do làm những gì họ muốn) **FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME** (trong thời gian dài). **THE LACK OF HUMAN CONTACT IN THE HOME** (việc thiếu đi sự tiếp xúc, trao đổi giữa các thành viên trong gia đình) is necessarily **REPLACED BY PASSIVE DISTRACTIONS** (được thay thế bởi những trò tiêu khiển thụ động), such as television, video games, online chat rooms or Internet surfing. This type of existence **IS ASSOCIATED WITH BOREDOM, LONELINESS, AND FEELINGS OF ISOLATION OR EVEN ALIENATION** (đi kèm với sự buồn chán, cô đơn và cảm giác bị cô lập hay thậm chí là xa lánh), all of which are factors that are known to **INCREASE THE RISK OF MENTAL ILLNESS** (gia tăng nguy cơ mắc bệnh tâm thần).

In conclusion, I believe that individuals thrive when they are part of larger family groups, and so it is worrying that many people are choosing to live alone or in such small family units.

## ESSAY 43 – ENERGETIC ENGINEERING

*Genetic engineering is an important issue in society today. Some people think that it will improve people's lives in many ways. Others feel that it may be a threat to life on earth. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.*

It is true that **GENETIC ENGINEERING** (kỹ thuật di truyền) is **A KEY AREA OF MODERN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH** (lĩnh vực quan trọng trong nghiên cứu khoa học hiện đại), with **BROAD IMPLICATIONS FOR ALL HUMAN SOCIETIES** (ứng dụng rộng rãi cho xã hội loài người). While I accept that this field of technology may have its dangers, I believe that the benefits of genetic engineering outweigh the drawbacks.

The negative implications of genetic engineering are often discussed in terms of two key areas, which are food production and **THE CLONING OF HUMANS** (sự nhân bản vô tính ở người). **GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS** (những cây trồng biến đổi gen) are already being grown, and people are concerned that they may damage whole ecosystems as foods **BECOME RESISTANT TO DISEASES AND NATURAL PREDATORS** (kháng lại bệnh tật và các loài động vật ăn thịt trong tự nhiên). But perhaps even more worrying is **THE POSSIBILITY THAT HUMANS COULD BE MODIFIED OR CLONED** (khả năng con người có thể bị biến đổi gen hay nhân bản vô tính). Some people imagine a world in which **CLONED HUMANS** (những người nhân bản vô tính) are used to fight wars or to **PROVIDE BODY PART REPLACEMENTS** (cung cấp các bộ phận cơ thể thay thế). Although perhaps not a threat to life on earth, the implications of such practices would be unprecedented.

**A MORE OPTIMISTIC PREDICTION** (một dự đoán lạc quan hơn), and one that I favour, is that humans will find ways to **MITIGATE THE RISKS** (giảm thiểu những rủi ro) and use genetic technologies **IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY** (một cách có trách nhiệm). **FROM THE FOOD PRODUCTION PERSPECTIVE** (xét khía cạnh sản xuất thực phẩm), genetic engineering could be **THE SOLUTION TO FAMINE** (giải pháp cho nạn đói kém) in developing countries, if, for instance, crops can **BE GROWN MORE RELIABLY IN HARSH CONDITIONS** (được trồng trong điều kiện khắc nghiệt). **FROM A MEDICAL PERSPECTIVE** (nhìn từ góc độ y học), scientists may use genetic engineering to produce vaccines, to cure diseases, or to **CORRECT A GENETIC DEFECT** (sửa chữa những khiếm khuyết trong gen di truyền) before a child is born. **IF PROPERLY REGULATED** (nếu được kiểm soát tốt), even cloning can be done in a way that improves lives. For example, **THE CLONING OF INDIVIDUAL ORGANS** (việc nhân bản những cơ quan riêng lẻ trong cơ thể), such as a heart or kidney, **COULD BE PERMITTED FOR TRANSPLANT PURPOSES** (có thể được cho phép nhằm/cho mục đích cấy ghép nội tạng).

In conclusion, I am convinced that genetic engineering will have a positive impact on our lives, and that **PEOPLE'S FEARS WILL BE UNWARRANTED** (sự sợ hãi của con người là không có cơ sở).

## ESSAY 44 – MUSIC

*Some people say that music is a good way of bringing people of different cultures and ages together. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?*

It is often said that music has **THE POWER TO UNITE AND CONNECT PEOPLE** (sức mạnh đoàn kết và kết nối mọi người), **REGARDLESS OF THEIR CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS OR AGES** (bất kể nền tảng văn hóa hay tuổi tác). I completely agree with this view, and will give my reasons below.

Music can certainly **REACH ACROSS CULTURAL AND NATIONAL BOUNDARIES** (vượt qua những ranh giới về văn hóa và quốc gia) and **BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER** (mang mọi người đến gần nhau). Perhaps the best example of this would be the Live Aid concerts that took place back in the 1980s, and which **WERE BROADCAST TO A GLOBAL AUDIENCE** (được phát sóng cho khán giả trên toàn cầu). Two live events were held simultaneously in the UK and the US, and the objective was to **RAISE FUNDS FOR FAMINE RELIEF** (gây quỹ để giảm thiểu nạn đói) in Ethiopia. The concerts were a huge success, both in terms of the number of people around the world who watched them and their **IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE FAMINE** (tác động lên nhận thức của cộng đồng quốc tế về nạn đói). They demonstrated, I believe, that **MUSIC TRULY IS THE PLANET'S GLOBAL LANGUAGE** (âm nhạc đích thực là ngôn ngữ toàn cầu).

Just as it **TRANSCENDS CULTURES** (vượt lên trên rào cản văn hóa), music also **HAS THE ABILITY TO CONNECT PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT GENERATIONS** (có khả năng kết nối các thế hệ khác nhau). Regardless of age, we can all **ENJOY A MEMORABLE MELODY** (thường thức một giai điệu đáng nhớ), **A STRONG RHYTHM** (một nhịp điệu mạnh mẽ) or a beautiful singing voice, and the best songs seem to have the same magical effect on all of us. This would explain why **TELEVISED MUSIC COMPETITIONS** (các cuộc thi âm nhạc được truyền hình trực tiếp), such as 'The X Factor' or 'The Voice', are such popular **PRIME-TIME SHOWS** (những chương trình được chiếu vào khung giờ vàng). These programmes **ATTRACT INCREDIBLY BROAD AUDIENCES** (thu hút khán giả nhiều độ tuổi) because singing and popular songs appeal to children, parents and grandparents alike. I would argue that no other **FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT** (loại hình giải trí) can bring families together in this way.

In conclusion, I believe that **MUSIC IS UNIQUE IN ITS CAPACITY TO CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES BETWEEN PEOPLE** (âm nhạc độc đáo vì nó có thể tạo ra tính chia sẻ trải nghiệm giữa người với người), **IRRESPECTIVE OF CULTURE AND AGE** (bất luận văn hóa hay tuổi tác).

## ESSAY 45 – DRESS CODE

*Some people think that employers should not care about the way their employees dress, because what matters is the quality of their work. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

In the modern workplace, dress codes are changing as employers focus more on results than on the rules that employees must follow. While I agree that the way people dress **SHOULD BE SEEN AS IRRELEVANT IN MANY WORK CONTEXTS** (**nên được coi là không quan trọng trong nhiều môi trường công việc**), I believe that dress codes **STILL EXIST FOR GOOD REASON IN CERTAIN PROFESSIONS** (**vẫn tồn tại vì lý do chính đáng trong một số ngành nghề**).

On the one hand, many employers have stopped telling their staff how to dress, and I see this as a positive trend. Some of the most successful companies in the world, including **TECHNOLOGY GIANTS** (**những gã khổng lồ công nghệ**) like Google and Facebook, are famous for **THE RELAXED OFFICE ENVIRONMENTS** (**môi trường làm việc thoải mái**) that they try to create. Employees are encouraged to **DRESS CASUALLY** (**ăn mặc thoải mái**), and even the company executives and leaders are rarely seen wearing anything other than T-shirts and jeans. However, while managers and **PROGRAMMERS ARE FREE TO DRESS HOW THEY LIKE** (**được tự do ăn mặc theo cách họ thích**), they are expected to **PRODUCE WORK OF OUTSTANDING QUALITY** (**hoàn thành công việc với chất lượng vượt trội**). It is clear from the performance and **GLOBAL DOMINANCE** (**sự thống trị trên toàn cầu**) of such companies that **STRICT DRESS CODES ARE COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY** (**những quy định nghiêm ngặt về trang phục là hoàn toàn không cần thiết**) in **THE TECHNOLOGY SECTOR** (**lĩnh vực công nghệ**).

However, I would also argue that rules regarding employees' clothing **ARE STILL RELEVANT IN OTHER WORK SITUATIONS** (**là cần thiết trong một số tình huống công việc khác**). We expect certain professionals, such as nurses, police officers and airline pilots, to wear uniforms. These uniforms may **HAVE A PRACTICAL OR SAFETY FUNCTION** (**có chức năng thiết thực và đảm bảo an toàn**), but perhaps more importantly they **IDENTIFY THE PERSON'S POSITION OR ROLE IN SOCIETY** (**xác lập vị thế hoặc vai trò của một người trong xã hội**). Similarly, a lawyer, politician or school principal may choose to wear formal clothing in order to **PORTRAY AN IMAGE OF AUTHORITY, TRUSTWORTHINESS AND DILIGENCE** (**khắc họa một hình ảnh đầy uy quyền, đáng tin cậy và cẩn mẫn**). I believe that most of us prefer to **SEE THESE PROFESSIONALS IN SMART, FORMAL ATTIRE** (**thấy những người này trong trang phục bảnh bao và trang trọng**), even if it is not strictly necessary.

In conclusion, I support **THE TREND TOWARDS RELAXED DRESS CODES** (**xu hướng về sự thoải mái trong cách ăn mặc**) for workers, but I do not see it as applicable to all occupations or sectors of the economy.

## ESSAY 46 – PARENTING COURSE

*Caring for children is probably the most important job in any society. Because of this, all mothers and fathers should be required to take a course that prepares them to be good parents. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view?*

It is true that parents **SHOULDER A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY** (gánh vác trách nhiệm to lớn) and that raising children **IS BY NO MEANS AN EASY TASK** (chắc chắn không phải một nhiệm vụ dễ dàng). However, I completely disagree with the idea that we should therefore force all mothers and fathers to **ATTEND PARENTING COURSES** (tham gia các khóa học làm bố mẹ).

In my opinion, the idea that all future parents should **TAKE A PARENTHOOD PREPARATION COURSE** (tham dự khóa học làm cha mẹ) is completely impractical. **MANY PROSPECTIVE PARENTS HAVE JOBS AND BUSY SCHEDULES** (nhiều bậc phụ huynh tương lai có công việc và lịch trình bận rộn), and they may not be willing or able to attend regular parenting classes. This raises the question of whether those who missed the classes, or perhaps refused to attend, would be punished. I believe that it would be wrong to do this, and it would therefore be impossible to **ENFORCE THE IDEA OF COMPULSORY TRAINING FOR PARENTS** (áp đặt các chương trình hướng dẫn bắt buộc dành cho bậc cha mẹ). Besides, even if parents could be forced to attend, I doubt that people would agree on what good parenting entails, and so it would be difficult to **CREATE A PARENTING COURSE TO SUIT EVERYONE** (tạo ra một khóa học về nuôi dạy con cái phù hợp với tất cả mọi người).

As well as being impractical, I would argue that training courses for parents are unnecessary. Mothers and fathers have been raising children **WITHOUT ANY FORMAL HELP OR OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE** (mà không có bất cứ sự trợ giúp hay can thiệp nào từ chính quyền nào) for thousands of years. Parenting skills are learnt from family members, friends, neighbours and the surrounding culture. Perhaps more importantly, adults **LEARN TO BE GOOD PARENTS BY INSTINCT** (học cách để trở thành cha mẹ tốt bằng bản năng), **BY TRIAL AND ERROR** (bằng cách thử và sai), and **BY GETTING TO KNOW THEIR OWN CHILDREN** (bằng cách dần thân thiết hơn với con cái); for example, a good parent will **TRY DIFFERENT STRATEGIES** (thử các cách khác nhau) when **FACED WITH A BADLY-BEHAVED CHILD** (đối mặt với một đứa trẻ cư xử tệ), and will **GRADUALLY DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT WORKS** (dần hiểu được cách nào thì hữu hiệu) **TO CORRECT THE BEHAVIOR** (để sửa chữa hành vi đó). None of this requires the intervention of a taught course.

In conclusion, while **COMPULSORY PARENTING LESSONS** (những bài học bắt buộc về nuôi dạy con cái) might seem like a good idea, I believe that **SUCH A SCHEME WOULD BE UNWORKABLE AND LARGELY POINTLESS** (một kế hoạch như thế không thực tế và vô nghĩa).

## ESSAY 47 – LITERATURE AND HISTORY

*Some people believe that it is more important to teach children the literature and history of their own country, rather than the literature and history of other countries. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

People have different views about **THE TEACHING OF NATIONAL VERSUS GLOBAL LITERATURE AND HISTORY IN SCHOOLS** (**việc giảng dạy văn học và lịch sử nước nhà so với thế giới**). Personally, I support the idea that children should study first and foremost the great books and historical events of their own countries.

There are several reasons why I believe that schools should focus on teaching national literature and history. Firstly, children enjoy learning about where they live, and by studying the ideas, culture and history of their own countries they begin to **DEVELOP A SENSE OF IDENTITY** (**hình thành tư duy về bản sắc dân tộc**). At the same time, this approach is appealing to parents, who studied the same books and historical events and can therefore help their children with school work. English children, for example, read Shakespeare and learn about the Battle of Hastings just as their parents did, and **THERE IS EDUCATIONAL CONTINUITY ACROSS THE GENERATIONS** (**có sự tiếp nối về giáo dục qua các thế hệ**). Finally, **AN EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL LITERATURE AND HISTORY** (**việc chú trọng vào văn học và lịch sử quốc gia**) **GIVES EDUCATORS A NARROWER TEACHING SCOPE** (**phạm vi giảng dạy của giáo viên sẽ được thu hẹp hơn**), **MAKING CURRICULUM DESIGN AN EASIER TASK** (**nhệm vụ thiết kế chương trình học cũng trở nên dễ dàng hơn**).

By contrast, the study of global events and foreign novels could **CAUSE UNNECESSARY DIFFICULTY AND CONFUSION FOR SCHOOL PUPILS** (**gây ra những khó khăn và sự khó hiểu không đáng có cho học sinh**). For example, I do not see the point in presenting Russian or Chinese history to a British child who has not yet studied the history of his or her own country in detail. Surely the child would be more able to **COMPREHEND HISTORICAL EVENTS** (**hiểu được các sự kiện lịch sử**) that took place in London than those that happened in Moscow or Beijing. Similarly, any **EXPOSURE TO INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE** (**việc tiếp xúc với văn học nước ngoài**) is likely to require the teaching of a foreign language or the use of translations. Young people at primary or secondary school age **ARE SIMPLY NOT READY FOR SUCH COMPLICATIONS** (**đơn giản là chưa chuẩn bị sẵn sàng cho những điều phức tạp như vậy**).

In conclusion, I would argue that it is undesirable for **SCHOOLS TO COVER ASPECTS OF FOREIGN HISTORY AND LITERATURE** (**bao phủ mọi mặt của văn học và lịch sử nước ngoài**); they should **GROUND THEIR PUPILS IN THE LOCAL CULTURE** (**đưa học sinh đến với văn hóa trong nước**) instead.

## ESSAY 48 – POWER OF ADVERTISING

*Today, the high sales of popular consumer goods reflect the power of advertising and not the real needs of the society in which they are sold. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

It is true that we **ARE INCREASINGLY SURROUNDED BY ADVERTISING** (**ngày càng bị vây quanh bởi quảng cáo**) by companies that want to sell us their products. To some extent I agree that advertising has an impact on sales, but I would also argue that we do need most of the goods that we buy.

Advertisements can certainly **TEMPT PEOPLE TO BUY PRODUCTS THAT THEY MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE WANT** (**dụ dỗ mọi người mua những món đồ mà có thể họ không muốn**). A good example could be the mobile phone. Every year people can be seen **QUEUING TO BUY THE LATEST MODELS** (**xếp hàng để mua được mẫu mới nhất**), even when they already have a perfectly good phone that does not need replacing. Perhaps it is **THE INFLUENCE OF MARKETING** (**ảnh hưởng của tiếp thị**) that leads us to make these kinds of decisions; we want to **STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST FASHIONS** (**cập nhật những xu hướng thời trang mới nhất**) or **OWN THE NEWEST HIGH-STATUS DEVICE** (**sở hữu các thiết bị tân tiến nhất**). **THE HIGH SALES OF THE IPHONE** (**doanh số bán hàng cao của iPhone**) seem to support this idea.

On the other hand, I believe that most people do not buy products because of the advertising alone. There are other good reasons why we make these choices, and there must be some kind of need before a person **MAKES A PURCHASE** (**mua hàng**). New versions of products almost always **HAVE IMPROVED FEATURES** (**có các tính năng cải tiến**) that buyers may want. A new car, for example, may have greatly improved safety features, or it may be more economical to run, or it may pollute less. A new phone may allow the user to **COMMUNICATE MORE QUICKLY OR EFFECTIVELY** (**giao tiếp nhanh chóng và hiệu quả hơn**), thus **ENHANCING THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE** (**nâng cao chất lượng cuộc sống**).

In conclusion, while advertising obviously **INFLUENCES OUR BUYING BEHAVIOR** (**ảnh hưởng tới hành vi mua sắm**), I do not agree that people make decisions that **GO AGAINST THEIR REAL NEEDS** (**đi ngược lại nhu cầu thực sự**).

## ESSAY 49 – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

***Some people believe that developments in the field of artificial intelligence will have a positive impact on our lives in the near future. Others, by contrast, are worried that we are not prepared for a world in which computers are more intelligent than humans. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.***

People seem to be either excited or worried about the future impact of artificial intelligence. Personally I can understand the two opposing points of view; I am both fascinated by **DEVELOPMENTS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** (**sự phát triển của trí tuệ nhân tạo**) and **APPREHENSIVE ABOUT** (**lo ngại về**) its possible negative effects.

On the one hand, the increasing intelligence of technology should bring some obvious benefits. Machines are clearly able to do many jobs better than humans can, especially in areas that **REQUIRE HIGH LEVELS OF ACCURACY OR CALCULATIONS** (**đòi hỏi độ chính xác và tính toán cao**) using large amounts of data. For example, robots are being developed to **CARRY OUT SURGICAL PROCEDURES WITH GREATER PRECISION** (**tiến hành các cuộc phẫu thuật với độ chính xác cao hơn**) than a human doctor, and we already have **CARS THAT USE SENSORS AND CAMERAS TO DRIVE THEMSELVES** (**xe tự lái sử dụng cảm biến và máy quay**). Such technologies can improve safety by **REDUCING THE LIKELIHOOD OF HUMAN ERRORS** (**giảm khả năng mắc những lỗi sai do con người**). It is easy to imagine how these developments, and many others, will steadily **IMPROVE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE** (**cải thiện chất lượng cuộc sống**).

On the other hand, I share the concerns of people who believe that artificial intelligence may harm us if we are not careful. In the short term, it is likely that we will see **A RISE IN UNEMPLOYMENT** (**sự gia tăng tình trạng thất nghiệp**) as workers in various industries are replaced by machines or software programs. For example, **self-driving vehicles** (**xe tự lái**) are expected to **CAUSE REDUNDANCIES IN DRIVING JOBS** (**gây dư thừa nhân lực ngành vận tải**), such as lorry drivers, taxi drivers and bus drivers. **IN THE MEDIUM TERM** (**xét về mặt trung hạn**), if intelligent technologies gradually **TAKE JOBS AWAY FROM HUMANS** (**lấy đi công việc của con người**), we may find that people **BECOME DESKILLED AND LOSE THEIR SENSE OF PURPOSE IN LIFE** (**không còn đủ năng lực và đánh mất chí hướng**). **A LONGER TERM FEAR** (**nỗi sợ lâu dài hơn**) is that computers become so intelligent that they begin to **MAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT HUMAN OVERSIGHT** (**quyết định mà không có sự giám sát của con người**) and **WITHOUT REGARD FOR OUR WELL-BEING** (**không quan tâm tới niềm hạnh phúc và sự khỏe mạnh của chúng ta**).

In conclusion, while intelligent machines will no doubt improve our lives in many ways, **THE POTENTIAL RISKS** (**những nguy cơ tiềm ẩn**) of such technologies should not be ignored.



## ESSAY 50 – CCTV

*In many cities the use of video cameras in public places is being increased in order to reduce crime, but some people believe that these measures restrict our individual freedom.*

*Do the benefits of increased security outweigh the drawbacks?*

It is true that **VIDEO SURVEILLANCE** (**camera giám sát**) has **BECOME COMMONPLACE** (**trở nên phổ biến**) in many cities in recent years. While I understand that critics may see this as **AN INVASION OF PRIVACY** (**sự xâm phạm quyền riêng tư**), I believe that the benefits do outweigh the drawbacks.

There are two main reasons why people might **DISAPPROVE OF THE USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS IN PUBLIC PLACES** (**không ủng hộ việc dùng máy quay tại những nơi công cộng**). The first objection is that these cameras **INVADE OUR PRIVACY** (**xâm phạm quyền riêng tư**), **IN THE SENSE THAT** (**theo cái cách là**) we are constantly being watched by the authorities or by **PRIVATE SECURITY FIRMS** (**công ty an ninh tư nhân**). Many people **FIND THIS INTRUSIVE** (**cảm thấy khó chịu**) and feel that the recording of their movements is **A FORM OF STATE CONTROL** (**một hình thức kiểm soát của chính phủ**) that **CURTAINS THEIR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM** (**kiềm chế sự tự do cá nhân**). The second argument against **THE PROLIFERATION OF CCTV CAMERAS** (**việc gia tăng đáng kể số lượng camera giám sát**) is that they are being used as **AN ALTERNATIVE TO POLICE OFFICERS PATROLLING THE STREETS** (**một giải pháp thay thế cho cảnh sát tuần tra**). If this is indeed happening, then it is unlikely that members of the public will feel safer.

In spite of the drawbacks mentioned above, I believe that the use of video cameras to **MONITOR PUBLIC AREAS** (**giám sát các khu vực công cộng**) is a positive measure. The key objective of video surveillance is to **DETER CRIMINALS AND TO PREVENT CRIME** (**phòng ngừa tội phạm và ngăn chặn các hành vi phạm tội**). For example, **PETTY CRIMINALS** (**tội phạm nhỏ/ít nguy hiểm**) like shoplifters and pickpockets are less likely to operate in parts of cities where they know that they are being watched. At the same time, when crimes are committed, the police can use video evidence to **CATCH AND PROSECUTE OFFENDERS** (**bắt và truy tố những kẻ phạm tội**). Therefore, in my view, video cameras **OFFER VALUABLE SUPPORT TO POLICE OFFICERS** (**công cụ hỗ trợ đắc lực cho cảnh sát**), and they make cities safer for inhabitants, workers and visitors alike.

In conclusion, it seems to me that we gain more than we lose from **THE ENHANCED SECURITY** (**an ninh được tăng cường**) that CCTV cameras bring to our cities.

## ESSAY 51 – RECYCLING

*Some people claim that not enough of the waste from homes is recycled. They say that the only way to increase recycling is for governments to make it a legal requirement. To what extent do you think laws are needed to make people recycle more of their waste?*

It is true that we DO NOT RECYCLE ENOUGH OF OUR HOUSEHOLD WASTE (**chưa tái chế đủ lượng rác thải sinh hoạt**). Although I accept that NEW LEGISLATION TO FORCE PEOPLE TO RECYCLE (**một pháp chế buộc mọi người phải tái chế rác thải**) could help this situation, I do not agree that a recycling law is the only measure that governments should take.

In my view, a new recycling law would be just one possible way to TACKLE THE WASTE PROBLEM (**giải quyết vấn đề về rác thải**). Governments could MAKE IT A LEGAL OBLIGATION FOR HOUSEHOLDERS (**tạo nghĩa vụ pháp lý đối với chủ hộ**) to SEPARATE ALL WASTE INTO DIFFERENT BINS (**phân loại rác thải**). There could be punishments for people who fail to adhere to this law, ranging from a small fine to community service, or even perhaps PRISON SENTENCES FOR REPEAT OFFENDERS (**bỏ tù những người tái diễn**). These measures would ACT AS A DETERRENT (**có giá trị răn đe**) and ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO OBEY THE RECYCLING LAW (**khuyến khích mọi người tuân thủ luật**). As a result, the improved behaviour of homeowners could LEAD TO A CLEAN, WASTE-FREE ENVIRONMENT (**mang tới một môi trường trong sạch, không rác thải**) for everyone.

However, I believe that governments should do more than simply introduce a recycling law. It might be more effective if politicians PUT EDUCATION, RATHER THAN PUNISHMENT, AT THE CENTRE OF A RECYCLING CAMPAIGN (**đưa giáo dục thay vì là hình phạt trở thành yếu tố cốt lõi trong chiến dịch đẩy mạnh tái chế**). For example, children could be taught about recycling in schools, and homeowners could be informed about the environmental impact of household waste. Another tactic that governments could use would be TO CREATE STRICTER REGULATIONS FOR THE COMPANIES (**ban hành các quy định nghiêm khắc hơn đối với các công ty**) that produce the packaging for household products. Finally, money could also be spent TO IMPROVE RECYCLING FACILITIES AND SYSTEMS (**cải thiện các cơ sở và hệ thống tái chế rác thải**), so that waste is processed more effectively, regardless of whether or not people separate it correctly at home.

In conclusion, perhaps we do need to MAKE RECYCLING A LEGAL REQUIREMENT (**quy định bắt buộc về việc tái chế**), but this would certainly not be the only way to encourage people to DISPOSE OF THEIR WASTE (**đổ rác**) more responsibly.

## ESSAY 52 – EXTREME SPORTS

*Extreme sports such as sky diving and skiing are very dangerous and should be banned. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view?*

In recent years, **EXTREME SPORTS HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR** (những môn thể thao mạo hiểm đang ngày càng trở nên phổ biến), and some people argue that governments should prohibit them. I completely disagree with the idea that these sports are too dangerous, and I therefore believe that they should not be banned.

In my opinion, **SO-CALLED EXTREME SPORTS** (những môn thể thao được xem là mạo hiểm) are not as dangerous as many people think. All sports **INVOLVE SOME ELEMENT OF RISK** (đính tới yếu tố rủi ro), and there should always be **CLEAR REGULATIONS AND SAFETY PROCEDURES** (quy định và quy trình đảm bảo an toàn rõ ràng) to **REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCIDENTS** (giảm khả năng xảy ra tai nạn). People who take part in extreme sports are usually required to **UNDERGO APPROPRIATE TRAINING** (trải qua khóa đào tạo thích hợp) so that the dangers are minimised. For example, anyone who wants to try skydiving will need to sign up for lessons with a registered club, and beginners are not allowed to dive solo; they **MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL** (phải được chuyên gia có kinh nghiệm kèm cặp). Finally, **THE PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY** (công nghệ và trang thiết bị bảo hộ) used in sports from motor racing to mountain climbing is constantly improving safety.

While I support **REGULATIONS AND SAFETY MEASURES** (các quy định và biện pháp an toàn), I believe that it would be wrong, and almost impossible, to ban extreme sports. In the first place, we should all be free to decide how we spend our leisure time; as long as we understand the risks, I do not believe that politicians should stop us from enjoying ourselves. However, an even stronger argument against such a ban would be **THE DIFFICULTY OF ENFORCING IT** (sự khó khăn trong việc thực thi). Many of the most risky sports, like base jumping or big wave surfing, are practised **FAR AWAY FROM THE REACH OF ANY AUTHORITIES** (nằm ngoài tầm kiểm soát của các cơ quan chức năng). I cannot imagine the police being called to stop people from **PARACHUTING OFF A MOUNTAIN FACE** (nhảy dù khỏi vách núi) or surfing on an isolated beach.

In conclusion,...

# PHỤ LỤC

## MỘT SỐ ĐỀ THI THẬT IELTS WRITING PHỤC VỤ MỤC ĐÍCH LUYỆN TẬP VIẾT DÀN Ý VÀ KHAI THÁC TỪ VỰNG TRONG CUỐN SÁCH NÀY

**Part 1** Tham khảo các dàn ý của các đề dưới đây, trong đó sử dụng từ vựng trong phần 1 (essays from Cambridge IELTS book series) của cuốn sách này, qua cuốn “Ideas for actual IELTS writing questions” – Liên hệ fanpage để được nhận sách miễn phí <https://www.facebook.com/ieltsdinhthang>

1. Despite the increased access to education, a significant number of adults cannot read or write. In what way can this be detrimental to society and what actions should governments take? **IDP TPHCM ngày 5/1/2021**
2. Access to the internet possibly helps youngsters achieve their educational and their work-related goals more easily than in the past. To what extent do you agree or disagree? **BC TPHCM ngày 11/12/2021. Thi trên giấy.**
3. Around the world, many animal species become extinct. Some people believe that countries and individuals must try to solve this problem. Others believe that concentrating on problems of human beings is more important than those concerning species. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. **IDP ngày 30/12/2021**
4. In recent times, economic growth has made some people richer in both developed and developing countries. While studies show that people in developing countries are happier now than before, people in developed countries are no happier than they were before. Why do you think this is and what lessons can be learnt from it? **BC HANOI ngày 25/12/2021. Thi trên máy**
5. In many countries today, people buy a wide range of household goods (TVs, washing machines and so on). Is it a positive or negative development? **IDP TPHCM ngày 29/12/2021. Thi trên máy**
6. Some people say that schools should teach good behaviour to children besides academic subjects. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this? **IDP TPHCM ngày 31/12/2021. Thi trên máy.**
7. Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life. Why do you think people are doing this? What effects does it have on society and families? **IDP TPHCM ngày 27/12/2021. Thi trên giấy.**
8. Many people argue that in order to improve educational quality, high school students are encouraged to make comments or even criticism on their teachers. Others think it will lead to loss of respect and discipline in the classroom. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. **BC ngày 20/1/2022. Thi trên giấy**
9. Too much emphasis on education for young people. Some people think that some money should be spent on free-time activities. To what extent do you agree or disagree? **IDP Hanoi ngày 20/1/2022. Thi trên máy**
10. Some people think that personal happiness is directly related to economic success. Others argue that happiness depends on different factors. Discuss both views and give your own opinion. **IDP HCM ngày 14/1/2022. Thi trên máy**

### Part 2 – Đang được cập nhật

Part 3 - Tham khảo các dàn ý của các đề dưới đây, trong đó sử dụng từ vựng trong phần 3 (Simon's essays) của cuốn sách này, qua cuốn "Ideas for actual IELTS writing questions" – Liên hệ fanpage để nhận sách miễn phí <https://www.facebook.com/ieltsdinhthang>

#### CHÚ Ý

Các đề thi IELTS writing có xu hướng lặp lại nên sẽ không có nhiều sự khác biệt về các chủ đề writing qua các năm. Điều này đồng nghĩa với việc các bạn có thể làm các đề thi từ những năm trước.

#### 07/01/2017: ONLINE EDUCATION

**Some universities offer online courses as an alternative to classes delivered on campus. Do you think this is a positive or negative development?**

#### 12/01/2017: UNIVERSITY PLACES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**It is neither possible nor useful for a country to provide university places for a higher proportion of young people. To what extent do you agree or disagree ?**

#### 21/01/2017: SHOPPING MALLS

**Nowadays young people spend too much of their free time in shopping malls. Some people fear that this may have negative effects on young people and the society they live in. To what extent do you agree or disagree**

#### 16/02/2017: MODERN TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

**Many people think modern communication technology is having some negative effects on social relationships. Do you agree or disagree?**

**18/02/2017: SCIENCE SUBJECT**

**Do you agree or disagree with the statement that the government should invest more money in science education rather than other subjects to develop the country?**

**04/03/2017: FINANCIAL HELP**

**Some people think that developing countries need financial help from international organizations. Others think that it is practical aid and advice that is needed. Discuss these views and give your own opinion**

**25/03/2017: THE COST OF FUEL**

**The best way to solve the world's environmental problems is to increase the cost of fuel. Do you agree or disagree with this view?**

**20/04/2017: LANGUAGE**

**Scientists say that in the future humanity will speak the same language. Do you think this is a positive or negative social development?**

**22/04/2017: CHANGING JOBS**

**Some people think that people who choose a job early and keep doing it are more likely to get a satisfying career life than those who frequently change jobs. To what**

**06/05/2017: HEALTH CARE**

**Some people think that good health is very important to every person, so medical service should not be run by profit-making companies. Do the advantages of private health care outweigh the disadvantages?**

**20/05/2017: SOCIAL LIFE**

**Some people think a job not only provides income but also social life. Others think it is better to develop social life with people you do not work with. Discuss both views and give your opinions.**

**15/07/2017: WILDLIFE**

**Many animal species are becoming extinct due to human activities on land and in sea. What are the reasons and solutions?**

**02/11/2017: AGING POPULATION**

**The aging population is good for business, the economy and society. Others disagree. Discuss both views and give your opinion.**

**16/12/2017: SOCIAL MEDIA**

**The use of social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, is replacing face-to-face contact in everyday life**

**09/03/2019: FILM INDUSTRY**

**Some people believe that the only purpose of films is to entertain. Others say films should have educational value. Discuss both view and give your opinion**

**SPORT & GENDER**

**TOPIC: Today, TV channels provide men's sport shows more than women's sports shows. Why? Should TV channels give equal time for women's sports and men's sports?**

**11/1/2020: Cinematography**

**Nowadays it is not only large companies that can be able to make films. Digital technology enables anyone to produce films. Do you think this is a positive or negative development?**

**18/1/2020: Sports**

**Some people think that physical strength is important for success in sport, while other people think that mental strength is more important. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**

**19/1/2020: Happiness**

**In some countries, young people have become richer, healthier, and live longer, but they are less happy. What are the causes? What can be done to address this situation?**

**14/12/2019: Children's education**

**Some people think that children should begin their formal education at a very early age. Some think they should begin at least 7 years old. Discuss both views give opinions**



# LỜI KẾT

Cuốn sách này đã được nhóm A&M biên soạn từ năm 2018 và đến nay vẫn đang được cung cấp miễn phí. Nếu các bạn sử dụng sách và thấy nó hữu ích, rất mong các bạn dành 5 phút để viết một bài review ngắn lên các group

- IELTS family – Các nhóm tự học IELTS <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IELTSfamily>
- IELTS Việt <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IELTSviet>
- Tự học IELTS writing thầy Đình Thắng <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tuhocIELTSwritingthayDinhThang>
- hoặc gửi review vào facebook cá nhân của tác giả Đình Thắng <https://www.facebook.com/dinhthangielts>

Như vậy team làm sách sẽ có thêm động lực để tiếp tục cập nhật, chỉnh sửa bộ sách này về cả số lượng và chất lượng, qua đó giúp được nhiều bạn đang học IELTS ở Việt Nam.

Thay mặt team làm sách

**Đình Thắng**

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