

كتيب إتقان مهارات الموائم للاختبارات



تم تحميل هذا الملف من موقع المناهج الإماراتية

موقع المناهج ← المناهج الإماراتية ← الصف الثاني عشر المتقدم ← لغة انجليزية ← ملفات متنوعة ← الملف

تاريخ إضافة الملف على موقع المناهج: 22:02:18 2026-10-24

ملفات اكتب للمعلم اكتب للطالب | اختبارات الكترونية | اختبارات | حلول | عروض بوربوينت | أوراق عمل
منهج انجليزي | ملخصات وتقارير | مذكرات وبنوك | الامتحان النهائي | للمدرس

المزيد من مادة
لغة انجليزية:

إعداد: Aggour Ahmed

التواصل الاجتماعي بحسب الصف الثاني عشر المتقدم



صفحة المناهج
الإماراتية على
فيسبوك

الرياضيات

اللغة الانجليزية

اللغة العربية

التربية الاسلامية

المواد على تلغرام

المزيد من الملفات بحسب الصف الثاني عشر المتقدم والمادة لغة انجليزية في

تحميل تطبيق المناهج للهواتف الذكية

تطبيق المناهج على Play Google (أندرويد)

تطبيق المناهج على Store App (آبل)

EXAM-ALIGNED MASTERY BOOKLET

VOCABULARY • GRAMMAR • READING • WRITING

Grade 12 Advanced | Term 1 | Weeks 1–6
Stage 9 | CEFR B2.2



STUDENT EDITION



BUILD
KNOWLEDGE



DEVELOP
SKILLS



PRACTISE
EXAM STYLE



ACHIEVE
HIGHER SCORES

2

BOOKLET CONTENTS

Section	Page Range	Description
COVER	1	Approved APlus cover and booklet identity.
CONTENTS	2	Complete booklet overview.
PART 1 - VOCABULARY	3-19	16 seven-gap vocabulary cloze sets.
PART 2 - GRAMMAR	20-28	8 mixed-grammar cloze sets.
PART 3 - READING	29-37	8 unseen passages with 64 questions.
PART 4 - WRITING	38-54	8 source-based summary and comparative writing sets.

1

PART 1 - VOCABULARY

16 seven-gap exam-aligned cloze sets • text line spacing 2.0 • options arranged horizontally

Set	Week	Topic
V1	1	SMART HOMES — CONNECTED LIVING
V2	1	SMART HOMES — CONVENIENCE, COST AND PRIVACY
V3	2	THE HUMAN BRAIN — RESEARCH AND DECISION-MAKING
V4	2	THE HUMAN BRAIN — DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION
V5	2	THE HUMAN BRAIN — MEMORY AND EVIDENCE
V6	3	FACIAL RECOGNITION — USES AND SAFEGUARDS
V7	3	FACIAL RECOGNITION — ACCURACY, PRIVACY AND POLICY
V8	4	NATURE OR NURTURE? — PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT
V9	4	MULTITASKING — ATTENTION AND PRODUCTIVITY
V10	4	PERSONALITY & MULTITASKING — STUDY HABITS
V11	5	SAILING AROUND THE GLOBE — PREPARATION
V12	5	SAILING AROUND THE GLOBE — RISK AND RESOURCES
V13	5	RESEARCH AND PRESENT — PERSUADING A COMMUNITY
V14	6	MEGACITIES AND SMALL TOWNS — QUALITY OF LIFE
V15	6	MEGACITIES — GROWTH AND PLANNING
V16	6	COMPARING PLACES — COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

V1

SMART HOMES — CONNECTED LIVING

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

A family in Abu Dhabi recently upgraded its apartment with connected technology. From an app, they can (1) _____ adjust the temperature before arriving home. Several kitchen (2) _____ can also be scheduled to operate when electricity demand is lower. The family wanted an (3) _____ system, so they compared how much energy each device used. They also installed a (4) _____ that sends an alert when a door opens unexpectedly. New (5) _____ lighting switches off automatically when a room is empty. Although automation is useful, the family still wants to (6) _____ important settings rather than allow software to make every decision. They regularly (7) _____ energy use and review unusual activity on the network. After three months, their bills have fallen and daily routines feel simpler. However, the parents remind everyone that smart technology is most valuable when users understand how it works, update passwords, and decide carefully which functions should operate automatically. The family also keeps a manual backup plan, because connected devices can fail during maintenance or internet outages. This helps them compare convenience with practical resilience.

	A	B	C
1	locally	remotely	manually
2	appliances	furniture	vehicles
3	decorative	temporary	efficient
4	security system	fire alarm	water filter
5	voice-controlled	energy-saving	battery-powered
6	observe	replace	control
7	predict	monitor	ignore

V2

SMART HOMES — CONVENIENCE, COST AND PRIVACY

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Smart-home technology can make everyday routines more (1) _____, but convenience is not the only factor families should consider. A connected camera may improve safety while also raising questions about (2) _____ if recordings are stored online. There is also a (3) _____ that an insecure device could allow an outsider to enter the network. On the other hand, one major (4) _____ is that residents can respond quickly to problems even when they are away. For this reason, buyers often look for equipment that is (5) _____ and continues working during ordinary network changes. Cost matters too: a system is more (6) _____ when the savings it produces justify the price of installation and maintenance. Some owners manage heating and lighting (7) _____ while travelling, but experts advise them not to depend on automation blindly. A smart home should support human decisions, not replace them. Security updates, careful settings, and clear household rules remain essential. Before buying anything new, they read independent reviews and ask what data the company collects. Their final choice depends on both performance and long-term trust.

	A	B	C
1	convenient	fragile	formal
2	comfort	speed	privacy
3	risk	benefit	choice
4	expense	benefit	warning
5	temporary	reliable	basic
6	free-standing	high-risk	cost-effective
7	remotely	automatically	publicly

V3

THE HUMAN BRAIN — RESEARCH AND DECISION-MAKING

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

A university research team is studying how the brain handles difficult decisions. The two cerebral (1) _____ are connected, yet each side participates in many different processes rather than controlling one simple type of thinking. The researchers use several (2) _____ tasks to measure attention, planning, and problem solving. They are especially cautious when volunteers describe (3) _____ experiences, because memories that have been pushed out of awareness are difficult to verify. The study also examines how sleep helps the brain remove metabolic (4) _____ that can build up during waking hours. Modern scans reveal patterns of neural (5) _____, showing how networks communicate across different regions. Experienced (6) _____ interpret these images, but they avoid claiming that a scan can explain every thought. Human (7) _____ may sometimes produce a quick judgment before conscious reasoning is complete, yet the team still requires evidence. Their goal is to explain brain processes without turning complex findings into misleading slogans. The team also repeats several tasks on different days to see whether the results remain stable. Consistent patterns matter more than one dramatic image or unusual result.

	A	B	C
1	regions	networks	hemispheres
2	physical	cognitive	financial
3	recorded	invented	repressed
4	nutrients	toxins	signals
5	surface	wiring	temperature
6	neuroscientists	teachers	designers
7	intuition	evidence	logic

V4

THE HUMAN BRAIN — DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Brain development continues for many years, and researchers distinguish between physical (1) _____ and psychological (2) _____. The first refers to biological development, while the second often involves judgment, responsibility, and emotional control. Scientists also investigate the (3) _____ of particular abilities by asking when and how they begin to develop. One important structure is the (4) _____, a large band of nerve fibres that connects the brain's two hemispheres. These regions do not work as isolated machines; instead, they (5) _____ continuously during complex tasks. A student solving a problem may use (6) _____ reasoning to organise evidence and also rely on (7) _____ thinking to imagine an original solution. This combination challenges the popular idea that people are simply “left-brained” or “right-brained.” Modern research suggests that successful thinking depends on communication among many systems. Therefore, explanations of intelligence should recognise both specialised functions and the way different regions operate together. This view also affects education: learners may strengthen reasoning by practising different kinds of tasks instead of assuming that ability is fixed at birth.

	A	B	C
1	maturity	memory	maturation
2	confidence	intuition	maturity
3	results	origins	limits
4	corpus callosum	brain stem	cerebellum
5	collaborate	separate	compete
6	creative	emotional	logical
7	logical	automatic	creative

V5

THE HUMAN BRAIN — MEMORY AND EVIDENCE

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Memory is not a perfect recording of experience. When people remember an event, the brain rebuilds details from stored information, expectations, and later experiences. As a result, (1) _____ can change over time even when a person feels completely certain. Researchers use the term (2) _____ when someone confidently remembers an event or detail that did not occur in the way described. Studies of the brain's two (3) _____ show that remembering depends on cooperation across several regions. Because memory is a complex (4) _____ process, attention and interpretation can influence what is stored. Some difficult experiences may become partly (5) _____, although scientists debate how such memories should be investigated. Sleep also matters because the brain clears chemical (6) _____ and strengthens some neural connections. The pattern of neural (7) _____ is not fixed like a circuit in a simple machine; it can change through learning and experience. For this reason, researchers treat confident memories as evidence to examine, not automatic proof. The research team therefore compares personal reports with timelines, documents, and other evidence whenever possible. Confidence is important, but it is not the same as accuracy.

	A	B	C
1	attention	memory	maturity
2	false memory	true memory	short memory
3	regions	hemispheres	layers
4	cognitive	physical	visual
5	forgotten	repeated	repressed
6	signals	toxins	proteins
7	surface	wiring	balance

V6

FACIAL RECOGNITION — USES AND SAFEGUARDS

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Many airports and government buildings now use (1) _____ to compare a person's image with stored records. The system converts features into numerical patterns and searches a large (2) _____ for possible matches. A screen may then (3) _____ a result to an authorised employee, who decides what action to take. Supporters argue that this technology can help detect identity (4) _____ and reduce the time needed for routine checks. Critics, however, worry that constant identification could reduce personal (5) _____ if people are tracked without meaningful consent. Accuracy is another concern. Developers must (6) _____ error rates across different groups rather than report only the strongest results. Independent organisations therefore (7) _____ how systems perform after deployment and whether safeguards are followed. Facial recognition can be useful, but its value depends on transparent rules, secure data, and careful human oversight. A fast match should never be treated as unquestionable proof of identity. Before adopting the system, the organisation publishes its purpose, retention period, and appeal process. These rules help users understand both the benefits and the limits of automated identification.

	A	B	C
1	fingerprinting	voice control	facial recognition
2	camera	database	profile
3	store	record	display
4	error	fraud	delay
5	efficiency	freedom	access
6	reduce	predict	measure
7	monitor	repair	replace

V7

FACIAL RECOGNITION — ACCURACY, PRIVACY AND POLICY

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

When engineers evaluate image-based identification, they examine more than simple face (1) _____. One important (2) _____ is how the software handles changes in lighting, age, or camera angle. Researchers may (3) _____ the distance between key facial points and compare proportions such as the (4) _____ of the eyes or mouth. Yet technical accuracy does not settle every debate. Artificial (5) _____ can process enormous amounts of data, but communities still have to decide where such systems should be permitted. The question of (6) _____ becomes especially important when images are collected in public places. In some settings, (7) _____ may speed up access to secure buildings; in others, people may object to being identified automatically. A responsible policy therefore considers accuracy, necessity, data retention, and the possibility of mistakes. Technology can support decisions, but institutions must explain how it is used and provide a fair process when a match is challenged. Public consultation can also reveal concerns that engineers may overlook. A technically successful system can still create social problems if people do not understand or trust its use.

	A	B	C
1	attention	connection	recognition
2	result	aspect	device
3	store	measure	calculate
4	width	height	colour
5	intelligence	software	privacy
6	security	convenience	privacy
7	facial recognition	manual checking	voice recording

V8

NATURE OR NURTURE? — PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Researchers have long debated the (1) _____ of personality: does behaviour mainly develop from experience, or does biology play a powerful role? Studies of (2) _____ twins can help investigate this question because the twins share nearly the same genes. Some characteristics appear partly (3) _____, meaning that inherited factors may influence them. However, even a statistically (4) _____ genetic effect does not prove that environment is unimportant. The field of (5) _____ explains patterns of inheritance, while social experience helps explain why similar biological tendencies can develop differently. Researchers sometimes describe a (6) _____ relationship to emphasise that personal characteristics and surroundings interact rather than operate separately. A person with strong (7) _____ may expect positive results and continue after setbacks, but that tendency can still be strengthened or weakened by experience. The most useful conclusion is therefore not “nature or nurture,” but an evidence-based account of how both contribute over time. Long-term studies are especially useful because they show how similar tendencies can produce different outcomes under changing conditions, relationships, and opportunities across a person's life.

	A	B	C
1	roots	results	limits
2	similar	related	identical
3	heritable	learned	temporary
4	simple	visible	significant
5	genetics	biology	history
6	social pattern	trait environment	genetic code
7	optimism	attention	maturity

V9

MULTITASKING — ATTENTION AND PRODUCTIVITY

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Students often have different expectations about difficult work. A learner showing (1) _____ may assume that a demanding assignment will go badly before beginning, while another person may approach challenge with confidence. Some people also enjoy (2) _____ activities that involve excitement or controlled risk. In study situations, however, switching constantly between messages, videos, and homework creates (3) _____ rather than genuine simultaneous thinking. This behaviour can reduce (4) _____ because time is lost each time the brain changes tasks. Sustained (5) _____ is necessary for noticing important information, and deep (6) _____ becomes harder when the mind repeatedly shifts direction. Notifications, background conversations, and open social-media tabs are common (7) _____ that compete for limited mental resources. A busy student may therefore feel highly active while completing less useful work. Effective study requires deciding which task deserves priority, protecting focused time, and checking results rather than judging success by how many activities are open at once. Some students solve this problem by turning off alerts and setting one clear goal for each study period. They then judge progress by completed learning rather than visible activity.

	A	B	C
1	pessimism	confidence	optimism
2	competition	thrill-seeking	planning
3	research	multitasking	revision
4	productivity	activity	concentration
5	attention	memory	confidence
6	speed	maturity	concentration
7	methods	distractions	choices

V10

PERSONALITY & MULTITASKING — STUDY HABITS

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

One study described a strong routine with the paired source words (1) ____: the method should use time wisely and still produce the intended learning result. Repeated alerts can (2) ____ a long period of study into many disconnected pieces. Even a brief message may (3) ____ the process of building an argument or understanding a difficult paragraph. These problems have deep (4) ____ in the way attention works rather than in personal weakness. Two students with nearly (5) ____ schedules can achieve different results if one protects focused time and the other switches tasks repeatedly. Research also suggests that some habits may be partly (6) ____, although experience and training still matter. The difference becomes (7) ____ when students compare not only how long they studied but also what they can explain afterwards. A strong routine therefore combines realistic planning, limited interruptions, and evidence of learning. Feeling busy is not enough; the important question is whether the method actually helps a learner remember, understand, and apply new ideas. This approach also reduces the temptation to blame personality alone. Students can change environmental conditions, test a new routine, and keep the methods that produce stronger evidence of learning.

	A	B	C
1	busy active	efficient effective	slow careful
2	combine	protect	fragment
3	continue	measure	interrupt
4	limits	roots	benefits
5	identical	different	complex
6	temporary	heritable	visible
7	significant	convenient	logical

V11

SAILING AROUND THE GLOBE — PREPARATION

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

A young sailor preparing for a long ocean trip knows that small problems can become serious at sea. Before departure, she checks the boat for possible (1) _____ and records every repair. The planned (2) _____ will take several months, so she studies weather patterns and chooses a safer (3) _____ between major stopping points. Her (4) _____ is designed for offshore conditions and carries communication equipment, emergency supplies, and additional water. While (5) _____ from one coast to another, she keeps detailed notes about changing conditions. Some (6) _____ are selected because they offer secure harbours where repairs and supplies are available. In a few regions, reports of (7) _____ mean she must avoid certain waters and follow official advice. The challenge is not simply to move across a map. Successful long-distance sailing requires preparation, patience, and the ability to change plans when conditions become unsafe. Every decision must balance progress with the responsibility to protect the crew and vessel. She also practises emergency procedures before leaving port, because calm preparation makes fast decisions easier when weather, equipment, or communication suddenly becomes difficult.

	A	B	C
1	weather	distance	damage
2	schedule	journey	survey
3	harbour	border	route
4	vehicle	station	sailboat
5	traveling	waiting	repairing
6	routes	destinations	signals
7	pilots	tourists	pirates

V12

SAILING AROUND THE GLOBE — RISK AND RESOURCES

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Crossing an ocean under wind power requires a sailor to understand when to (1) _____ quickly and when to wait. Severe (2) _____ can make even experienced crews change course, and a long (3) _____ may include delays that were impossible to predict at departure. (4) _____ maritime safety experts, preparation is often more important than speed. One careless decision can have a serious (5) _____ when help is many kilometres away. Sailors therefore try to (6) _____ fuel, fresh water, and battery power during calm periods. A sudden equipment failure can create a dangerous (7) _____ of essential supplies if reserves were not planned carefully. Modern navigation has made long-distance travel safer, but technology does not remove uncertainty. Crews still need to read weather information, communicate clearly, and make cautious decisions. The most successful expeditions are not always the fastest; they are the ones that adapt to changing conditions while protecting people and resources. Experienced sailors also review decisions after each difficult stage. This reflection helps them improve future planning instead of treating a safe arrival as proof that every choice was correct.

	A	B	C
1	measure	sail	travel
2	storms	currents	routes
3	voyage	route	stop
4	instead of	because of	according to
5	benefit	option	consequence
6	store	conserve	replace
7	shortage	supply	damage

V13

RESEARCH AND PRESENT — PERSUADING A COMMUNITY

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

A coastal community is debating how to respond to increasing pressure on its water supply. Local leaders say it is (1) _____ to act before the problem becomes an emergency. At a public meeting, a youth (2) _____ explains how schools and families could reduce unnecessary use. The central (3) _____ is whether voluntary changes will be enough or whether stronger rules are needed. The council proposes an (4) _____ plan that includes repairing leaks, improving public information, and measuring consumption. Speakers try to (5) _____ residents by presenting evidence rather than simply demanding agreement. They also (6) _____ businesses to invest in equipment that uses less water. Recent pipe (7) _____ has shown how quickly a local problem can affect homes and services. The discussion is sometimes difficult because different groups have different priorities, but the meeting ends with a shared goal: protect essential resources while making changes that are realistic, fair, and measurable. The council agrees to publish progress data after three months so residents can judge whether the measures are working. If results remain weak, the plan will be revised.

	A	B	C
1	useful	popular	crucial
2	resident	manager	representative
3	issue	event	benefit
4	discussion	route	action
5	persuade	inform	invite
6	force	encourage	measure
7	damage	repair	cost

V14

MEGACITIES AND SMALL TOWNS — QUALITY OF LIFE

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Life in a (1) _____ can offer universities, hospitals, specialised jobs, and entertainment within one large urban area. By contrast, a small (2) _____ may provide closer social relationships and less traffic. Many people choose cities because of the (3) _____ of having services nearby, yet heavy (4) _____ can make daily travel slow and stressful. For young adults, a large city may provide greater (5) _____ to study, work, or meet people from different backgrounds. Smaller places, however, may create a strong sense of (6) _____ because neighbours know one another and local activities are shared. Another difference is the (7) _____: some residents enjoy the energy of a fast-moving city, while others prefer a slower routine. Neither choice is automatically better. Quality of life depends on priorities such as employment, housing, family connections, transport, and access to services. A useful comparison therefore considers both advantages and trade-offs instead of relying on stereotypes. Surveys often show that satisfaction depends less on a simple city-versus-town label than on whether a place matches a person's stage of life, responsibilities, and expectations.

	A	B	C
1	megacity	village	district
2	town	suburb	village
3	privacy	convenience	freedom
4	pollution	congestion	development
5	opportunity	benefit	risk
6	community	population	infrastructure
7	cost of living	public space	pace of life

V15

MEGACITIES — GROWTH AND PLANNING

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

City growth changes how people move, work, and use public space. Reliable (1) _____ can reduce dependence on private cars, but weak networks may increase traffic and travel time. Air (2) _____ becomes a serious concern when large numbers of vehicles and industries operate close to residential areas. Rapid (3) _____ can also place pressure on housing, schools, and public services if planning does not keep pace. An (4) _____ neighbourhood usually has denser buildings and more commercial activity, whereas a (5) _____ area may have more open land and fewer services nearby. These differences influence daily (6) _____, including how people shop, travel, work, and spend leisure time. A district can feel especially (7) _____ during peak hours when streets, stations, and public spaces are full. Good planning does not simply make a city larger. It tries to connect housing, employment, green space, and services so that growth remains manageable and residents can move through the city safely. Planners must also consider who benefits from investment. A modern transport project has limited value if housing costs force essential workers far from the services they support.

	A	B	C
1	transport	housing	community
2	growth	pollution	congestion
3	migration	urbanisation	construction
4	rural	coastal	urban
5	industrial	rural	urban
6	lifestyle	infrastructure	opportunity
7	affordable	crowded	peaceful

V16**COMPARING PLACES — COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT**

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Many families imagine small-town life as quiet and (1) _____, but the reality depends on employment, services, and location. Housing may be more (2) _____ outside major cities, yet lower prices do not solve every problem. Residents still need dependable (3) _____ to schools, healthcare, shops, and workplaces. Roads, public transport, water systems, and digital networks are all part of the (4) _____ that allows a place to function. Long-term planning should therefore begin with the needs of current (5) _____ rather than only attracting new development. A strong (6) _____ can help newcomers feel connected and encourage people to support local projects. At the same time, a growing (7) _____ must manage housing demand, traffic, waste, and public services carefully. The best place to live is not determined by population alone. People make different choices depending on cost, opportunity, family ties, environment, and preferred pace of life, so comparisons should recognise both measurable conditions and personal priorities. For this reason, planners increasingly ask residents what they value before approving major changes. Growth can improve a place, but only when development supports everyday life rather than replacing it.

	A	B	C
1	peaceful	isolated	crowded
2	efficient	significant	affordable
3	control	privacy	access
4	infrastructure	community	transport
5	visitors	workers	residents
6	lifestyle	community	megacity
7	village	suburb	megacity

2

PART 2 - GRAMMAR

8 mixed-grammar seven-gap cloze sets • all Weeks 1-6 grammar constructs

Set	Week	Topic
G1	Mixed	SMART HOMES — RELIABLE AUTOMATION
G2	Mixed	THE HUMAN BRAIN — RESEARCH METHODS
G3	Mixed	FACIAL RECOGNITION — RESPONSIBLE USE
G4	Mixed	NATURE OR NURTURE? — INTERPRETING EVIDENCE
G5	Mixed	MULTITASKING — STUDY PERFORMANCE
G6	Mixed	SAILING & CHALLENGE — DECISIONS AT SEA
G7	Mixed	MEGACITIES — PLANNING FOR GROWTH
G8	Mixed	MIXED WEEKS 1-6 — EVIDENCE AND DECISIONS

G1

SMART HOMES — RELIABLE AUTOMATION

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Connected homes work best when technology supports clear human decisions. Before installing a new system, families (1) _____ compare privacy, security, cost, and convenience rather than buying devices only because they look modern. A central hub usually (2) _____ several appliances through one interface. Sensitive information (3) _____ on secure servers, so residents need to understand who can access it and for how long. After a short outage last month, the technician explained that the router (4) _____ power before the backup battery activated. In many systems, if a smoke sensor detects danger, the alarm (5) _____ an immediate warning to the household. If the family adds outdoor cameras next month, they (6) _____ clear rules about recording shared spaces. A professionally configured network can be (7) _____ a collection of unrelated devices because updates, passwords, and permissions are managed together. Even so, no system is completely automatic. Owners still need to review alerts, install updates, and decide which functions should remain under direct human control. Good automation reduces routine effort without removing responsibility from the people who use it.

	A	B	C
1	should	should to	are should
2	controls	is controlling	control
3	stores	is stored	stored
4	had lost	has lost	loses
5	will send	sends	sent
6	need	will need	needed
7	most secure than	secure than	more secure than

G2

THE HUMAN BRAIN — RESEARCH METHODS

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Research on the human brain depends on careful methods rather than dramatic claims. A laboratory often (1) _____ the same task with several groups so that results can be compared. After yesterday's trial, the lead researcher reported that one participant (2) _____ the instructions before the timed section began. Brain scans (3) _____ useful evidence, but scientists know that a single image cannot explain every thought or decision. Activity in different regions (4) _____ with specialised equipment while volunteers complete memory or attention tasks. Some findings are (5) _____ others because they have been repeated across larger samples and different laboratories. If a participant sleeps poorly before testing, performance sometimes (6) _____, which researchers must consider when interpreting the data. If the team receives funding next term, it (7) _____ the study for another year and include more age groups. This process may seem slow, yet careful replication protects research from attractive but unreliable conclusions. Strong evidence comes from patterns that remain stable when methods, samples, and conditions are examined critically.

	A	B	C
1	repeats	repeat	is repeated
2	had misunderstood	has misunderstood	misunderstands
3	may provides	may provided	may provide
4	measures	is measured	was measuring
5	reliabler than	most reliable than	more reliable than
6	will decline	declined	declines
7	extends	will extend	extended

G3

FACIAL RECOGNITION — RESPONSIBLE USE

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Facial-recognition systems are increasingly used at secure entrances, but responsible use requires more than technical speed. Each captured image (1) _____ with stored reference data before the software produces a possible match. Organisations (2) _____ protect biometric records because replacing a compromised face pattern is not as simple as changing a password. The software usually (3) _____ several measurements rather than relying on one facial feature. If image quality falls below a reliable level, error rates often (4) _____. During a public briefing, an official said that older records (5) _____ after the retention period ended. A new system may be (6) _____ the previous version while still producing unacceptable errors for some groups. If the airport adopts the updated model next year, it (7) _____ independent accuracy reports before full deployment. These safeguards matter because a rapid result can appear more certain than it really is. Human review, transparent rules, and a clear appeal process help prevent an automated match from becoming unquestioned proof.

	A	B	C
1	is compared	compares	was compared
2	must to	must	is must
3	uses	use	is using
4	will increase	increase	increased
5	will be deleted	would be deleted	are deleted
6	more accurate	most accurate than	more accurate than
7	publishes	published	will publish

G4

NATURE OR NURTURE? — INTERPRETING EVIDENCE

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

The nature-versus-nurture debate is often presented as a simple choice, but modern evidence suggests a more complicated relationship. Long-term studies are (1) _____ short observations because researchers can track how behaviour changes across years. Environment regularly (2) _____ how inherited tendencies are expressed in daily life. Identical twins (3) _____ in some studies so researchers can examine similarities and differences under different conditions. Genetic factors (4) _____ influence personality, but they do not provide a complete explanation on their own. One researcher explained that no single gene (5) _____ a person's final behaviour in the study. If evidence comes from only one family, scientists generally (6) _____ broad conclusions because the sample is too limited. If a future project follows hundreds of twins from childhood to adulthood, it (7) _____ stronger evidence about how experiences and inherited characteristics interact. Careful interpretation therefore avoids both extremes: biology matters, and environment matters, but neither should be treated as an independent cause of every personal difference. This caution keeps complex evidence from becoming a simple slogan.

	A	B	C
1	most informative than	more informative than	informative than
2	shape	is shaped	shapes
3	compare	were comparing	are compared
4	can to	can	is can
5	determined	has determined	determines
6	will avoid	avoided	avoid
7	will provide	provides	provided

G5

MULTITASKING — STUDY PERFORMANCE

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Multitasking often feels productive because several activities appear to be happening at once. If phone alerts appear during demanding work, attention usually (1) _____ toward the new message. A focused study session (2) _____ best when students protect time for one demanding task. Learners (3) _____ reduce unnecessary interruptions by silencing alerts or moving the phone out of reach. Deep concentration (4) _____ each time a student stops to answer a message, so rebuilding the original train of thought takes extra effort. In one class survey, several students said that they (5) _____ more work than usual the previous evening, although their quiz results did not improve. If students disable non-essential notifications for a week, they (6) _____ whether the change improves their actual performance. Working on one complex task is often (7) _____ switching repeatedly among several unfinished tasks because less time is lost rebuilding context. The important measure is not how busy a learner feels, but how accurately and efficiently the learner can understand, remember, and apply new information.

	A	B	C
1	will shift	shifted	shifts
2	work	works	is worked
3	can	can to	are can
4	interrupts	was interrupting	is interrupted
5	had completed	have completed	complete
6	will discover	discover	discovered
7	most efficient than	more efficient than	efficient than

G6

SAILING & CHALLENGE — DECISIONS AT SEA

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Long-distance sailing rewards preparation because conditions can change faster than a crew expects. Before leaving port, sailors (1) _____ check weather forecasts, emergency equipment, and communication systems. Essential supplies (2) _____ in protected areas so that water or equipment damage does not remove every reserve at once. Weather information usually (3) _____ throughout the voyage as new forecasts become available. After a night of strong winds, the captain reported that the storm (4) _____ farther east than earlier models had predicted. A route close to reliable ports may be (5) _____ an isolated crossing when repairs or medical assistance could be needed. If wind speed rises above safe limits, experienced crews generally (6) _____ sail area to protect the boat. If the next storm reaches the planned route tomorrow, the crew (7) _____ course before entering dangerous conditions. Successful voyages are therefore not simply tests of courage. They depend on disciplined decisions, accurate information, and the willingness to change a plan when evidence shows that the original choice is no longer safe.

	A	B	C
1	must to	must	are must
2	store	were storing	are stored
3	changes	change	is changed
4	has moved	had moved	moves
5	more safer than	safest than	safer than
6	reduce	will reduce	reduced
7	change	will change	changed

G7

MEGACITIES — PLANNING FOR GROWTH

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

Megacities offer major economic opportunities, but rapid growth also places pressure on housing, transport, and public services. In some districts, living outside the centre is (1) _____ renting near major business areas. Large cities (2) _____ attract workers because specialised jobs and universities are concentrated in one place. Urbanisation often (3) _____ demand for roads, schools, water, and public transport. New infrastructure (4) _____ according to expected population growth, but forecasts are never perfectly accurate. If a city expands without matching transport investment, congestion usually (5) _____. During a planning meeting, an economist reported that housing costs (6) _____ sharply over the previous three years. If a new metro line opens as scheduled next year, many commuters (7) _____ a faster alternative to driving. Good urban planning therefore involves trade-offs. A project may improve access in one area while increasing prices in another, so decision-makers need evidence about affordability, travel time, environmental impact, and the needs of current residents. Public consultation can reveal priorities that forecasts alone may miss.

	A	B	C
1	more affordable than	affordabler than	most affordable than
2	may to	are may	may
3	create	is creating	creates
4	plans	is planned	was planning
5	will increase	increased	increases
6	has risen	had risen	rises
7	will have	have	had

G8

MIXED WEEKS 1-6 — EVIDENCE AND DECISIONS

Choose A, B or C for each gap.

A city is testing a “smart district” that combines ideas from transport planning, digital security, and energy management. At the first review meeting, engineers reported that the pilot (1) _____ more electricity than expected during its opening month. Personal travel data (2) _____ before planners receive statistical reports, reducing the risk that individuals can be identified. Officials (3) _____ explain clearly what information is collected and how long it is kept. The system normally (4) _____ traffic signals, public-transport data, and building sensors to identify patterns across the district. A coordinated network can be (5) _____ separate systems that do not share information, but integration also creates new risks. If one major service fails, other connected services sometimes (6) _____ down as well. If the council approves the second phase next year, it (7) _____ independent security and accessibility reviews before expansion. The project will be judged not by how advanced the technology appears, but by whether it improves daily life while protecting privacy, reliability, affordability, and public trust.

	A	B	C
1	had used	has used	uses
2	anonymises	was anonymising	is anonymised
3	should to	should	are should
4	combine	is combined	combines
5	more reliable than	most reliable than	reliable than
6	slow	will slow	slowed
7	requires	will require	required

3

PART 3 - READING

8 unseen Stage 9 / B2.2 passages • 64 exam-style questions

Set	Week	Topic
R1	Argumentative	SMART HOMES — CONVENIENCE OR DEPENDENCE?
R2	Expository	THE HUMAN BRAIN — WHY MEMORY CHANGES
R3	Argumentative	FACIAL RECOGNITION — SECURITY AND PRIVACY
R4	Expository	NATURE, NURTURE AND PERSONALITY
R5	Argumentative	MULTITASKING — BUSY OR PRODUCTIVE?
R6	Expository	SAILING AROUND THE GLOBE — DECISIONS UNDER PRESSURE
R7	Argumentative	MEGACITIES AND SMALL TOWNS — WHERE IS LIFE BETTER?
R8	Argumentative	TECHNOLOGY, CITIES AND HUMAN CHOICE — CUMULATIVE TRANSFER

R1

SMART HOMES — CONVENIENCE OR DEPENDENCE?

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

Smart-home systems are often advertised as a simple route to greater comfort. Lights can switch off automatically, air-conditioning can respond to room use, and security cameras can be checked from another country. For a busy family, these features are convenient. They can also reduce wasted energy when appliances are monitored carefully. Supporters therefore argue that connected homes are not merely fashionable; they can make daily routines more efficient.

However, convenience can create a new kind of dependence. A household that controls doors, heating, cameras, and kitchen equipment through one network may struggle if the internet fails or a central system is damaged. There is also a privacy question. Smart devices collect information about when people are home, which rooms are used, and sometimes what users say. Even if a company promises strong security, no digital system is completely free from risk.

The strongest case for smart homes is not that they should make every decision. It is that they can handle repetitive tasks while residents keep control of important choices. A reliable system should allow manual operation, clear privacy settings, regular updates, and limits on how long data is stored. Families should also know what happens when a device stops working.

For this reason, the debate should not be framed as technology versus tradition. A house can be highly connected and still be designed around human judgment. The real question is whether automation remains a tool or becomes something residents cannot function without. A useful smart home saves time and energy without making ordinary life fragile. Before adding another connected device, households should ask not only what it can do, but also what information it collects, what happens when it fails, and whether the benefit is worth the new responsibility. This evaluation should be repeated as household needs change, because a system that is useful today may become unnecessary, insecure, or expensive to maintain later. Families can also review which functions they actually use after several months. Removing unnecessary connections may reduce cost and security exposure, while keeping the features that genuinely save time.

1 What advantage of smart-home systems does the writer identify in the first paragraph?

- A. They can lower energy use without residents changing any settings.
- B. They can reduce the need for residents to check security while away.
- C. They can reduce the effort required for repeated household routines.

2 What risk does the writer associate with linking many household functions to one network?

- A. Problems in the central network can interrupt several connected functions.
- B. Devices may become less efficient when they share the same network.
- C. Residents may need to switch more often between manual and automatic settings.

3 In paragraph 2, the word 'dependence' is closest in meaning to

- A. reliance on something in order to function normally
- B. preference for using the newest available technology
- C. confidence in being able to repair equipment independently

4 What does the writer imply about a well-designed smart-home system?

- A. It should make most household decisions without asking residents.
- B. It should store more information so that fewer manual choices are needed.
- C. It should automate routine tasks without removing important user control.

5 Why does the writer mention manual operation, privacy settings and data-storage limits together?

- A. They explain why traditional homes are usually cheaper to maintain.
- B. They illustrate how convenience can be balanced with control and privacy.
- C. They show that software updates matter more than the devices themselves.

6 Why does the writer end by suggesting that households review connected devices over time?

- A. To suggest that older devices normally become cheaper after several months.
- B. To show that the value and risks of a device may change as needs change.
- C. To suggest that connected devices should be replaced once their maintenance costs become too high.

7 Which statement best summarises the writer's view of smart homes?

- A. They are useful when convenience is supported by privacy, resilience and human control.
- B. They work best when automation covers most household decisions and reduces the need for user input.
- C. Their convenience is the main consideration once the network itself is reliable.

8 Which household decision would best reflect the writer's argument?

- A. Adding extra automation because remote access makes household routines more convenient.
- B. Keeping useful automation while removing unused connections and maintaining manual alternatives.
- C. Keeping collected data available so the system can learn from a longer record of household use.

R2

THE HUMAN BRAIN — WHY MEMORY CHANGES

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

People often speak about memory as if the brain were a camera that stores complete recordings. Research suggests a different picture. Remembering is an active process in which the brain reconstructs an event from pieces of stored information. This helps explain why two people can experience the same situation and later describe it differently without either person deliberately lying.

Attention is important at the beginning of this process. If a student is distracted during a lesson, fewer details may be encoded clearly. Later, the brain may fill missing information with expectations or knowledge gained after the event. Repeated conversations can also influence recall. When a person hears the same version of a story many times, some of those later details may become connected with the original memory.

Scientists study these effects through controlled tasks. Participants might view an event, answer questions after a delay, and then return for another test. Researchers compare what changes and what remains stable. They also examine whether confidence matches accuracy. A confident answer can be correct, but confidence alone does not prove that the memory is reliable.

This does not mean that memory is useless. Reconstructing information allows people to connect new experiences with existing knowledge and to make sense of incomplete situations. The problem begins when certainty is treated as perfect evidence. In legal, academic, and everyday settings, important memories should be checked against documents, timelines, other witnesses, or other independent information when possible.

The broader lesson is that memory is both powerful and flexible. Its ability to organise experience helps people learn, but the same flexibility means that recollections can change. Understanding this balance can make people more careful about what they claim to remember and more willing to verify important details before reaching a conclusion. This understanding also affects learning. Students who review, organise, and connect new information soon after a lesson may create stronger retrieval paths than students who simply reread material much later. Memory improves when learners actively reconstruct ideas instead of assuming one exposure will remain complete.

1 According to the first paragraph, what happens when an event is remembered?

- A. The original experience is retrieved as a largely complete record.
- B. The event is re-created from stored fragments rather than replayed exactly.
- C. Later information replaces the original memory when some details are missing.

2 What can happen if a person is distracted while an event is taking place?

- A. Some details may not be stored clearly in the first place.
- B. The person will usually become more confident about what happened.
- C. Later information will no longer influence the memory of the event.

3 In paragraph 2, the word 'encoded' is closest in meaning to

- A. stored in a form that can later be recalled
- B. checked carefully to decide whether it is accurate
- C. repeated several times so that other people remember it

4 What does the discussion of confidence in paragraph 3 suggest?

- A. A memory becomes more accurate when a person is confident about it.
- B. People who are uncertain about a memory are usually remembering a different event.
- C. A person may sound certain even when a memory is inaccurate.

5 Why does the writer refer to legal, academic and everyday settings in paragraph 4?

- A. To suggest that memory mistakes have greater consequences in formal settings.
- B. To show why important memories sometimes need independent verification.
- C. To show that written records are generally more useful for learning than personal recall.

6 What is the main purpose of the final paragraph?

- A. To draw practical conclusions from the research about memory.
- B. To introduce a new explanation for how memories are created.
- C. To challenge the research methods described earlier in the passage.

7 Which statement best expresses the main point of the passage?

- A. Memory is too unreliable to be used as evidence in serious situations.
- B. Memory becomes dependable when people review an event repeatedly after it happens.
- C. Memory is useful but reconstructive, so important recollections should sometimes be checked.

8 Which finding would most strongly support the writer's argument?

- A. Participants remain confident after later information changes details in what they recall.
- B. Participants answer memory questions more quickly after several practice sessions.
- C. Participants remember more details when an event is emotionally important to them.

R3

FACIAL RECOGNITION — SECURITY AND PRIVACY

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

Facial-recognition technology can identify a possible match in seconds, which is why airports, secure buildings, and some public agencies are interested in using it. Supporters argue that faster identification can reduce fraud, improve security, and allow staff to focus on cases that need human attention. In crowded environments, a system can compare one image with a large database far more quickly than a person could.

Speed, however, should not be confused with certainty. The software measures facial features and calculates similarity, but a high score is still a prediction rather than proof. Lighting, camera angle, age, image quality, and the quality of stored records can all affect performance. If an organisation treats every automated match as final, an error may become a serious decision before anyone checks the evidence.

Privacy creates a second concern. A person can choose to replace a password, but a face cannot easily be replaced. Biometric records therefore require strict protection. Organisations also need clear rules about why images are collected, how long they are kept, and whether they can be used for a different purpose later. Without those limits, a tool introduced for security could gradually become a system for routine tracking.

A responsible policy does not have to reject facial recognition completely. It can restrict the technology to situations where there is a clear need, require independent testing, and ensure that a trained person reviews important matches. People affected by a decision should also have a way to challenge it.

The strongest argument, then, is not simply for or against the technology. It is for controlled use. Facial recognition may provide useful evidence, but institutions should treat it as one source of information among several. A fast system becomes trustworthy only when technical accuracy is combined with transparency, data protection, human review, and meaningful limits on use. Public trust also depends on communication. If an institution publishes accuracy data, explains how complaints are handled, and reports how often matches are rejected after human review, people can judge the system by evidence rather than by advertising claims or fear alone.

1 Why are some organisations interested in facial-recognition technology?

- A. It can identify people from a live image without comparing it with stored information.
- B. It can reduce the number of routine cases that require immediate staff attention.

2 What does the writer say about a high similarity score produced by the software?

- A. It indicates likelihood, so the result still needs independent checking.
- B. It is dependable unless the original image was taken in poor lighting.
- C. It becomes reliable evidence when similar scores appear in repeated searches.

3 In paragraph 2, the word 'certainty' is closest in meaning to

- A. the speed at which a system reaches a result
- B. complete confidence that a result is correct
- C. agreement between two different software systems

4 Why are biometric records presented as especially sensitive in paragraph 3?

- A. A security leak could have lasting consequences because the identifier is difficult to change.
- B. The records are especially valuable because the same face can be used across

5 How do the privacy concerns in paragraph 3 affect the policy proposed in paragraph 4?

- A. They support limiting use, reviewing important matches and allowing challenges.
- B. They lead the writer to recommend replacing facial recognition with passwords.
- C. They show that independent testing is unnecessary when data is protected.

6 Why does the writer refer to public reporting in the final paragraph?

- A. To suggest that accuracy data matters more than privacy protection.
- B. To explain why public agencies should advertise the technology more widely.
- C. To show how transparency can support accountability and trust.

7 Which statement best summarises the writer's position?

- A. Facial recognition can be useful, but only within clear limits and with human oversight.
- B. Facial recognition should be used whenever it is faster than manual checking.
- C. Facial recognition is too uncertain to have any legitimate role in security.

8 Which policy would best reflect the writer's reasoning?

- A. Using facial recognition in a wide range of situations while shortening the time records are stored.
- B. Allowing each organisation to set its own reuse rules as long as accuracy data is published.
- C. Using facial recognition for defined purposes, testing it independently and providing a review process.

R4 NATURE, NURTURE AND PERSONALITY

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

The question “Is personality caused by nature or nurture?” sounds as if only one answer can be correct. Modern research usually treats the relationship as more complicated. Genetics can influence tendencies, while environment affects how those tendencies develop and when they appear. The two influences can interact across an entire lifetime.

Studies of identical twins have been useful because twins share almost all of their genes. When identical twins show similar traits even after growing up in different environments, researchers may suspect a heritable influence. Yet such findings do not prove that genes directly determine behaviour. Twins can still share cultural expectations, family histories, or similar opportunities, and their experiences continue to shape choices.

Environment also has many layers. It includes family relationships, education, friendship groups, economic conditions, and unexpected events. A person who is naturally confident may become more willing to take risks in an environment that rewards bold behaviour. In a different setting, the same person may learn to act cautiously. This is why researchers prefer to discuss probabilities and patterns rather than fixed outcomes.

Long-term studies are especially valuable. A short observation can show how someone behaves at one moment, but a study lasting many years can reveal whether a trait remains stable or changes when circumstances change. Researchers also compare large groups because one unusual family cannot represent everyone.

The most useful conclusion is therefore an interaction model. Biology may create tendencies, and experience may strengthen, weaken, or redirect them. This approach avoids the mistake of treating personality as either completely inherited or completely learned. It also has a practical implication: even when people begin with different tendencies, habits and environments can still influence development. Understanding personality requires evidence about both what people bring with them and what happens to them over time. This perspective also explains why personality can appear stable while still changing. A tendency may remain recognizable across years, but its expression can shift as responsibilities, relationships, and opportunities change. Researchers therefore separate broad patterns from claims about what one person will inevitably do.

1 How does the passage describe the relationship between genetics and environment?

- A. Genetic influence is strongest early in life, while environmental influence becomes stronger later.
- B. Neither acts alone; each can influence how personality tendencies are expressed.

2 Why can studies of identical twins suggest a genetic influence without proving that genes determine behaviour?

- A. Shared genes are only part of the comparison because twins can also share experiences and contexts.
- B. Similar environments make it difficult to determine whether twins have

3 In paragraph 3, the word 'probabilities' is closest in meaning to

- A. average measurements that describe a group with complete accuracy
- B. predictions based on a researcher's interpretation rather than observed patterns
- C. likely outcomes rather than guaranteed results

4 What does the example in paragraph 3 suggest about a natural tendency?

- A. It will disappear if a person enters a different social environment.
- B. It becomes fixed once a person reaches adulthood.
- C. Its expression can change according to the environment in which it develops.

5 How does paragraph 4 build on the earlier discussion of twin studies?

- A. It suggests that twin evidence becomes more informative when behaviour is tracked across a longer period.
- B. It explains why broader and longer evidence is needed before general conclusions are made.

6 What is the main purpose of the final paragraph?

- A. To introduce a separate argument about the limits of genetic research.
- B. To claim that personality changes so much that stable tendencies do not exist.
- C. To combine the earlier evidence into an interaction model of personality.

7 Which statement best expresses the main point of the passage?

- A. Personality develops through continuing interaction between inherited tendencies and experience.
- B. Personality is mostly inherited, although environment can make small temporary changes.

8 Which finding would best support the passage's interaction model?

- A. People with similar family environments develop similar traits even when their inherited tendencies differ.
- B. People with similar inherited tendencies develop differently when their long-term environments differ.
- C. A trait remains stable across situations despite major environmental change.

R5

MULTITASKING — BUSY OR PRODUCTIVE?

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

Many students describe themselves as good multitaskers because they can answer messages, watch a video, and work on an assignment during the same period. The feeling of activity is real, but it does not necessarily mean that several demanding tasks are being processed at the same time. In many situations, the brain is switching rapidly from one focus to another.

That switching has a cost. When attention leaves a difficult paragraph to check a notification, the student must later rebuild the context of the paragraph. A single interruption may take only a few seconds, but repeated interruptions can fragment an entire study session. This is why a learner may spend an hour “working” while completing less than expected.

Defenders of multitasking point out that not every combination is harmful. Listening to familiar music while organising notes may not require the same concentration as solving a complex problem. Some routine tasks can occur together with little difficulty. The mistake is to treat all tasks as equally demanding and assume that confidence proves efficiency.

A better strategy is to match attention to the task. Complex reading, writing, and problem solving usually benefit from protected periods of concentration. Messages and simpler activities can be handled during planned breaks. Students can also test their own habits by comparing results: How much was completed? How many mistakes were made? What can still be explained an hour later?

The argument is not that people must work in complete silence or perform only one action every minute. It is that productivity should be judged by the quality of the result rather than by the number of activities taking place. If switching tasks repeatedly reduces understanding, the appearance of being busy is misleading. Effective learners therefore manage distractions deliberately and use evidence from their own performance to decide when divided attention is acceptable. This makes the issue especially relevant during exam preparation. A student who studies with constant notifications may cover many pages but remember fewer connections. By comparing focused and interrupted sessions, learners can decide which habits improve not only speed, but also accuracy and later recall.

1 What point does the writer make about apparent multitasking in the first paragraph?

- A. People often switch attention rapidly rather than process several demanding tasks at once.
- B. People can process several demanding tasks at once if they are familiar with them.
- C. People often focus on one task at a time, but they are interrupted frequently.

2 Why can even a brief notification reduce efficiency?

- A. The new message may require more concentration than the task that was interrupted.
- B. The interruption reduces the amount of information the learner can store during the rest of the session.
- C. The interruption creates a switching cost because the learner has to reconstruct the context of the task.

3 In paragraph 2, the word 'fragment' is closest in meaning to

- A. break into separate, disconnected periods
- B. shorten while keeping the work continuous
- C. organise into planned stages with clear boundaries

4 What does the writer suggest about combining routine tasks?

- A. It may be manageable when the tasks place limited demands on attention.
- B. It is more damaging than switching between two difficult tasks.
- C. It is efficient whenever the person feels confident about doing both tasks.

5 Why does the writer recommend comparing completion, errors and later recall?

- A. To identify which students can work for the longest time without taking a break.
- B. To judge study habits by measurable results rather than by how busy they feel.
- C. To show that speed is a more useful measure of learning than accuracy is.

6 Why does the writer refer to exam preparation in the final paragraph?

- A. To show that distraction has greater consequences when students are preparing for important assessments.
- B. To contrast the number of pages students cover with the amount of information they can later use.
- C. To apply the argument to a situation where the effects of distraction can be clearly seen.

7 Which statement best expresses the writer's main argument?

- A. The effectiveness of multitasking should be judged by performance, not by the feeling of activity.
- B. Multitasking is ineffective whenever two activities require attention at the same time.
- C. Students are most efficient when they alternate frequently between demanding tasks.

8 Which finding would most strongly support the writer's argument?

- A. Students say that they enjoy study sessions more when several apps remain open.
- B. Students make more errors and remember less after interrupted study than after focused study.
- C. Students complete the same amount of work in both conditions but prefer the interrupted session.

R6

SAILING AROUND THE GLOBE — DECISIONS UNDER PRESSURE

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

A long ocean voyage is often described as a test of courage, but successful sailing depends at least as much on preparation and decision-making. Before departure, crews inspect the sailboat, study possible routes, check emergency equipment, and calculate supplies. They also plan alternative destinations because the safest route on a map may become unsuitable when weather conditions change.

Once the journey begins, decisions must be updated continually. Forecasts can change within hours, equipment can fail, and strong storms may force a crew to reduce speed or change direction. Experienced sailors do not treat changing a plan as failure. Instead, they compare the new information with the risks of continuing. Conserving water, fuel, and battery power can also become crucial if a voyage takes longer than expected.

Human factors matter too. Tired crew members may make poorer decisions, so watches and rest periods need to be organised carefully. Communication is equally important. If one person notices damage or a change in the weather, that information must reach the rest of the crew clearly and quickly. On a small boat, misunderstandings can have immediate consequences.

Modern technology has improved navigation and communication, but it has not removed uncertainty. Electronic charts, satellite forecasts, and tracking systems are valuable tools, yet sailors still need practical knowledge and backup procedures. A device can provide information without deciding how much risk is acceptable.

This is why an experienced crew may choose a longer route instead of the shortest one. The decision can look inefficient on a map while being safer in reality. The central principle is adaptation: good sailors prepare carefully, monitor conditions, protect essential resources, and change their plans when evidence demands it. Reaching the destination matters, but doing so safely depends on judgment rather than speed alone. Preparation therefore includes practising failure scenarios before they occur. Crews may rehearse communication loss, steering problems, or emergency repairs while conditions are calm. When a real problem develops, these routines reduce confusion and allow people to focus on the new evidence instead of inventing a response under pressure.

1 Why do crews plan alternative destinations before a long voyage?

- A. Because alternative destinations generally require fewer supplies than the preferred route.
- B. Because changing conditions may force the crew to abandon the route or destination first planned.
- C. Because experienced crews usually choose a second destination after comparing

2 Why can conserving water, fuel and battery power become important during a voyage?

- A. Navigation technology uses more resources in calm weather.
- B. Crews are not normally able to replace supplies at any destination.
- C. Delays may make the journey longer than originally expected.

3 In paragraph 2, the word 'conserving' is closest in meaning to

- A. collecting extra supplies before they are needed
- B. replacing damaged supplies with more efficient ones
- C. using carefully so that supplies are not wasted

4 What does paragraph 3 imply about tired crew members?

- A. Fatigue can reduce the quality of decisions, so rest has to be managed.
- B. Experienced sailors can avoid the effects of tiredness by communicating clearly.
- C. Fatigue is most significant when technical equipment has already begun to fail.

5 How does paragraph 4 connect technology with human judgment?

- A. Technology reduces uncertainty enough for experienced crews to follow the shortest route safely.
- B. Technology provides useful information, but people still have to decide what level of risk is acceptable.
- C. Technology is most valuable when it replaces practical knowledge and backup

6 Why does the writer mention choosing a longer route in the final paragraph?

- A. To show that experienced sailors usually prefer longer journeys.
- B. To prove that route planning is more important than monitoring weather.
- C. To illustrate that a choice which looks inefficient may be safer in practice.

7 Which statement best expresses the main point of the passage?

- A. Safe long-distance sailing depends on preparation, monitoring and adapting decisions to new evidence.
- B. Modern sailing depends mainly on technical information because uncertainty can now be predicted more accurately.
- C. Successful crews minimise delay by keeping as close as possible to the route

8 Which action would best reflect the writer's reasoning?

- A. Continuing on the shortest route because changing plans may delay arrival.
- B. Relying on one navigation system so that conflicting information does not confuse the crew.
- C. Changing course when updated evidence shows that the planned route has become unacceptably risky.

R7

MEGACITIES AND SMALL TOWNS — WHERE IS LIFE BETTER?

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

Large cities attract people because they concentrate jobs, universities, hospitals, entertainment, and specialised services. For a young adult beginning a career, a megacity may offer opportunities that a small town cannot match. Public transport can also make it possible to reach many destinations without owning a car. These advantages explain why urban populations continue to grow.

Yet growth creates pressure. When housing supply cannot keep up with demand, prices rise and residents may be pushed farther from workplaces. Congestion can lengthen journeys, while pollution affects health and quality of life. Expanding roads alone may not solve the problem if more traffic quickly fills the new space. Cities also need water systems, schools, digital networks, parks, and other infrastructure to grow with the population.

Small towns offer a different set of strengths. Housing may be more affordable, the pace of life may be slower, and residents may feel a stronger sense of community. However, fewer specialised jobs and services can mean longer travel for work, education, or medical care. A peaceful environment can become less convenient when essential services are far away.

For this reason, asking whether cities or small towns are “better” is too simple. The answer depends on priorities. A family with young children may value space and community ties, while a graduate may value career access and public transport. Even within the same city, neighbourhoods can offer very different experiences.

Good planning should therefore focus on quality of life rather than population size alone. Megacities need affordable housing, efficient transport, and accessible public spaces. Small towns need reliable connections and enough services to remain attractive. The best place is not automatically the largest or the quietest; it is the place whose opportunities, costs, infrastructure, and community match the needs of the people who live there. Remote work and digital services have also changed this comparison. Some people can now access jobs or education without living near a major centre, while others still need reliable transport and local services. These changes make infrastructure and connectivity important in both large and small communities.

- 1 **What advantage of megacities does the writer identify for young adults?**
 A. They generally make housing near major workplaces more affordable for new workers.
 B. They can place advanced study and specialised career opportunities within easier reach.
- 2 **What may happen when housing supply fails to grow as quickly as demand?**
 A. Traffic pressure may decrease as fewer people choose to live close to the centre.
 B. Public services may become more specialised while remaining available at the same cost.
 C. Residents may feel isolated because of the distance to essential services.
- 3 **In paragraph 2, the phrase 'keep up with demand' is closest in meaning to**
 A. increase fast enough to meet the level of need
 B. predict accurately how demand will change later
 C. reduce demand before additional housing is required
- 4 **What does paragraph 3 suggest about the advantages of small-town life?**
 A. Their strongest advantage is usually lower housing cost rather than community life.
 B. Their benefits can be weakened when access to essential services requires long commutes.
- 5 **Why does the writer compare the priorities of a family with those of a graduate in paragraph 4?**
 A. To show that families benefit from cities while graduates benefit from small towns.
 B. To explain why housing costs are the main factor in deciding where to live.
 C. To show that the best place to live depends on a person's needs and stage of life.
- 6 **Why does the writer mention remote work and digital services at the end?**
 A. To argue that physical transport will soon become less important than digital access.
 B. To show that changing forms of connectivity can alter the city-versus-town comparison.
- 7 **Which statement best expresses the writer's main argument?**
 A. The quality of a place depends on how its opportunities, costs, services and community fit residents' needs.
 B. Megacities are usually the better choice because they offer more opportunities and specialised services.
 C. Small towns provide a better quality of life because lower density reduces most problems.
- 8 **Which planning approach would best reflect the writer's argument?**
 A. Improving affordability and transport in cities while strengthening services and connections in smaller communities.
 B. Encouraging population growth in whichever type of place currently has the lower housing costs.
 C. Using the same development priorities in cities and small towns so that residents receive equal treatment.

R8

TECHNOLOGY, CITIES AND HUMAN CHOICE — CUMULATIVE TRANSFER

Questions 1-6 follow the passage in order. Questions 7-8 assess whole-text understanding and reasoning.

Cities are increasingly using digital systems to manage transport, energy, security, and public services. Supporters of “smart city” projects argue that connected sensors can reduce congestion, identify maintenance problems, and help residents access services more efficiently. A transport network that responds to real-time demand, for example, may use vehicles and staff more effectively than a fixed schedule.

The attraction of efficiency, however, can hide difficult questions. A system that monitors traffic may also collect detailed information about people's movements. Facial-recognition tools can increase security at selected locations while creating concerns about privacy and freedom if they are used everywhere. The more services depend on one digital network, the more serious a technical failure or security breach can become.

This does not mean that cities should reject technology. It means that convenience should be compared with resilience and public trust. A useful system needs manual alternatives, clear limits on data collection, independent security checks, and a process for challenging automated decisions. Residents should also know what a system is designed to do before it becomes part of ordinary life.

The same principle applies at home. Smart appliances can save energy, but users still need control when a network fails. Technology works best when it supports judgment rather than replacing it. In both homes and cities, the question is not whether a device is advanced; it is whether the whole system remains reliable, understandable, and fair.

Future urban development will probably involve more automation, not less. If planners treat efficiency as the only goal, they may create places that function quickly but are difficult to trust. If they combine innovation with privacy, accessibility, affordability, and human oversight, technology can support stronger communities. Progress therefore depends on balancing what systems can do with what people need them to protect. Another test is whether benefits are shared fairly. A system may save time for some residents while creating barriers for people with limited digital access. Measuring success therefore requires more than technical performance; planners must examine who gains, who faces new risks, and who can challenge mistakes.

- 1 **What benefit of smart-city systems is illustrated in the first paragraph?**
 A. Public services can replace fixed schedules with automated decisions in most situations.
 B. Transport provision can be adjusted in response to current patterns of use.
 C. Digital applications can reduce traffic congestion and improve emergency services.
- 2 **Why can dependence on one digital network create a serious risk?**
 A. Adding more services can reduce the usefulness of the information collected by the network.
 B. Some residents may lose access to services that use identification tools they cannot use easily.
 C. A problem in the shared network can spread across several connected services.
- 3 **In paragraph 2, the word 'breach' is closest in meaning to**
 A. a planned interruption for system maintenance
 B. a disagreement about how a service should operate
 C. an unauthorised failure of security or access
- 4 **What does paragraph 3 imply about public trust in smart systems?**
 A. Trust will develop naturally if the technology produces efficient results.
 B. Trust depends partly on people understanding the system and being able to challenge decisions.
 C. Trust depends largely on whether the system collects enough information to produce accurate results.
- 5 **Why does the writer introduce the smart-home example in paragraph 4?**
 A. To show that privacy is a greater concern in homes than in public systems.
 B. To apply the same principle of human control and backup options at a smaller scale.
 C. To argue that smart-city technology should develop from household technology.
- 6 **Why does the writer add the issue of fair access in the final paragraph?**
 A. To show that unequal digital access can weaken the benefits of an otherwise efficient system.
 B. To argue that accessibility should receive greater priority than privacy in future planning.
- 7 **Which statement best expresses the writer's main argument?**
 A. Smart-city systems are worthwhile when measurable gains in efficiency justify the additional data they collect.
 B. Smart-city technology should be judged by efficiency, resilience, fairness and human oversight together.
 C. Cities should limit automation whenever connected services create risks that cannot be managed.
- 8 **Which proposal would best reflect the writer's reasoning?**
 A. Connecting more services to the same platform so that decisions can be coordinated more quickly.
 B. Using automation where it adds value while preserving privacy limits, backup access and human review.
 C. Offering automated services first to residents who are comfortable sharing the data needed for personalisation.

4

PART 4 - WRITING

8 source-based summary + comparative writing sets • 4.1 and 4.2

Set	Week	Topic
W1	4.1/4.2	SMART HOMES
W2	4.1/4.2	THE HUMAN BRAIN
W3	4.1/4.2	FACIAL RECOGNITION
W4	4.1/4.2	NATURE OR NURTURE?
W5	4.1/4.2	MULTITASKING
W6	4.1/4.2	SAILING / CHALLENGE
W7	4.1/4.2	MEGACITIES VS SMALL TOWNS
W8	4.1/4.2	CUMULATIVE UNSEEN

4.1

SMART HOMES

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

Smart homes can make life easier and more efficient. Connected appliances can reduce wasted energy, security systems can alert residents to problems, and controls can help families manage routines when they are away. Supporters argue that automation saves time and can improve safety. They believe the main issue is not whether homes should become smarter, but whether families choose useful technology and understand how to use it responsibly. For them, a well-designed system supports human decisions instead of replacing them, and regular updates, secure passwords, and manual controls can reduce many common risks.

Others worry that smart homes create unnecessary dependence and privacy risks. If many devices rely on one network, a technical failure can affect several parts of the home at once. Cameras, voice assistants, and sensors may also collect information about household habits. Critics argue that convenience is not worth losing control over personal data or becoming unable to manage ordinary tasks without technology. They prefer simpler systems with fewer connected devices, clear manual alternatives, and strict limits on what information companies can store or share. In their view, the safest home is one that remains practical even when the internet, an app, or a central system fails.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

SMART HOMES - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1 THE HUMAN BRAIN

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

Some researchers believe that memory improves most when people actively reconstruct information. Instead of rereading the same notes, learners should retrieve ideas from memory, explain connections, and check what they have forgotten. Supporters of this approach argue that effort strengthens learning because the brain must organise information again each time it is recalled. They also point to the value of spaced review, which gives students repeated opportunities to recover information after short delays. From this viewpoint, successful memory depends less on repeated exposure and more on purposeful retrieval, feedback, and connections between new and existing knowledge.

Other researchers emphasise the importance of accurate first learning and stable study conditions. They argue that retrieval practice cannot repair information that was never understood clearly in the first place. Distraction, poor sleep, and divided attention may weaken the original memory, making later recall less dependable. Supporters of this view recommend careful explanation, focused study, and meaningful organisation before repeated testing begins. They accept that retrieval can strengthen memory, but they see it as one stage in a larger process. For them, strong learning starts with attention and understanding, then develops through review, practice, and opportunities to correct inaccurate or incomplete memories over time.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

THE HUMAN BRAIN - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1 FACIAL RECOGNITION

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

Supporters of facial-recognition technology argue that it can improve security and efficiency when used for a clear purpose. Airports, secure buildings, and public services may process large numbers of people more quickly by comparing images with authorised records. The technology can also help identify fraud or reduce repeated manual checks. Supporters say that these benefits are especially valuable when human staff review important matches and organisations publish rules about how images are collected, stored, and deleted. In their view, the technology should be judged by its accuracy, safeguards, and practical value rather than rejected simply because it uses biometric data.

Critics argue that facial recognition creates risks that are difficult to reverse. A password can be changed, but a person's face cannot easily be replaced if biometric data is exposed. They also worry that a system introduced for one purpose may gradually be used for wider monitoring. Errors can affect innocent people, especially if automated matches are treated as proof. Critics therefore prefer strict limits, independent testing, short data-retention periods, and meaningful consent where possible. Some believe that in public spaces the privacy cost is too high, even when the technology is accurate and convenient, especially in high-risk settings today.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

FACIAL RECOGNITION - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1 NATURE OR NURTURE?

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

One viewpoint is that genetics plays a major role in personality. Studies of identical twins, inherited traits, and biological development suggest that people may begin life with different tendencies toward confidence, risk-taking, emotional response, or sociability. Supporters of this view do not claim that genes determine every action, but they argue that inherited characteristics can influence how easily certain behaviours develop. They believe that understanding these biological differences can explain why people raised in similar environments still react differently to the same experiences and opportunities.

The contrasting viewpoint gives greater importance to environment and experience. Family relationships, education, friendships, culture, and major life events can shape habits and beliefs over many years. Supporters argue that even a strong inherited tendency may be strengthened, weakened, or redirected by circumstances. A naturally cautious person may become more confident through successful experiences, while an outgoing person may become less social after repeated negative experiences. From this perspective, personality is not fixed at birth. Biology may provide a starting point, but development continues as people respond to changing environments, make choices, and learn from the consequences of those choices. Long-term evidence is therefore essential for explaining how personality develops and changes across different stages.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

NATURE OR NURTURE? - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1 MULTITASKING

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

Supporters of multitasking argue that combining activities can make people more flexible and productive. In everyday life, students and workers often need to respond to messages, organise information, and complete routine tasks within limited time. Some activities require little concentration and can be combined without serious loss of quality. Supporters also argue that practising task switching can help people adapt to busy environments where priorities change quickly. From this viewpoint, the important skill is not avoiding multitasking completely, but recognising which activities can be combined and managing attention efficiently when several demands compete.

Critics argue that multitasking often creates the appearance of productivity rather than real efficiency. When people move repeatedly between demanding tasks, they may lose concentration, make more mistakes, and spend time rebuilding the context of interrupted work. Notifications can fragment study sessions even when each interruption is brief. Critics therefore recommend protected periods of focused work for complex reading, writing, and problem solving. They accept that simple tasks can sometimes be combined, but they believe performance should be judged by accuracy, understanding, and later recall rather than by how many activities are happening at the same time. Results matter more than the number of tasks attempted overall.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

MULTITASKING - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1 SAILING / CHALLENGE

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

Supporters of difficult personal challenges, such as sailing long distances, argue that they build independence, resilience, and practical judgment. Preparing for a demanding journey requires research, planning, risk assessment, and the ability to respond calmly when conditions change. Participants may also learn more about their own strengths and weaknesses because success depends on sustained effort rather than short-term motivation. Supporters believe that carefully managed challenges can provide experiences that ordinary routines do not, especially when people prepare properly, use reliable equipment, and understand when to change or abandon a plan.

Others argue that extreme challenges can involve unnecessary risk, cost, and pressure. A serious equipment failure, storm, injury, or poor decision can have consequences far beyond the value of the experience. Rescue operations may also place other people in danger or use public resources. Critics believe that personal growth can be achieved through safer forms of challenge that do not require exposure to severe conditions. They do not oppose ambition, but they argue that risk should be justified by more than personal excitement. For them, responsible decision-making includes recognising when a goal is not worth the possible harm. Preparation should therefore include clear limits on acceptable risk before departure begins.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

[illegible]

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

SAILING / CHALLENGE - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1

MEGACITIES VS SMALL TOWNS

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

Supporters of megacity life argue that large urban areas provide opportunities that smaller communities cannot easily match. Universities, specialised hospitals, major employers, public transport, cultural events, and professional networks are often concentrated in cities. Young adults may find it easier to change careers, continue their education, or meet people from different backgrounds. Supporters accept that housing and congestion can be difficult, but they believe good planning can reduce these problems. For them, the range of services and opportunities makes city life worth the higher costs and faster pace.

Others prefer smaller towns because they value affordability, space, community ties, and a slower pace of life. Housing may cost less, neighbourhoods may feel more personal, and residents may spend less time in heavy traffic. Critics of megacity life argue that access to opportunity has limited value if long journeys, pollution, crowded housing, and high costs reduce daily well-being. They acknowledge that specialised services may be farther away in small towns, but improved transport and digital access can reduce some disadvantages. For them, quality of life depends more on stability, relationships, and manageable costs than on the number of services nearby. Different life stages may change which advantages matter most to people.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

MEGACITIES VS SMALL TOWNS - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE

4.1

CUMULATIVE UNSEEN

SOURCE TEXT - 200 WORDS

One viewpoint is that use of connected technology will make future communities more efficient. Smart transport, automated buildings, digital public services, and data-based planning can help cities respond quickly to changing demand. Supporters argue that technology can reduce wasted energy, improve access to services, and identify problems before they become serious. They also believe that people will become more comfortable with automation as systems become more reliable and transparent. From this perspective, the main task is to improve safeguards while continuing to develop useful technology rather than slowing innovation because every system carries some risk.

The opposing viewpoint is that communities should place stronger limits on automation before it becomes difficult to control. Connected systems can collect large amounts of personal data, create dependence on complex networks, and make failures affect many services at once. Critics also worry that efficiency may become more important than fairness, privacy, or human judgment. They argue that essential services should keep manual alternatives and that residents should be able to question automated decisions. From this perspective, progress should be measured not by how much technology is used, but by whether communities remain resilient, understandable, affordable, and accountable to the people who depend on them.

4.1 UNIVERSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The text presents two different viewpoints on [topic], each showing contrasting ways of living and priorities.

On one side, [X] focuses on [values/benefits], offering benefits such as [details]. However, this lifestyle can also be limiting because of [drawbacks]. In contrast, [Y] emphasizes [values/benefits], giving people access to [details], though challenges such as [drawbacks] may also occur. Overall, both [X] and [Y] illustrate different approaches to life, each with unique advantages and difficulties.

YOUR SUMMARY

In your own words, summarise the two viewpoints presented in the source text. Make the difference between the viewpoints clear.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

4.1 STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I summarise BOTH viewpoints clearly and use my own words.

Language use ____ / 5

My vocabulary and grammar are clear, varied and accurate.

Organisation & clarity ____ / 5

My ideas are logical, connected and easy to follow.

TOTAL: ____ / 15

4.2

CUMULATIVE UNSEEN - WRITE AT LEAST 220 WORDS

TASK

Write a comparative essay responding to the source text.

1. Compare the two viewpoints.
2. Explain which viewpoint you agree with or prefer, and why.
3. Support your response with relevant evidence from the source text.

Minimum: 220 words.

UNIVERSAL 4.2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY TEMPLATE

Paragraph 1 - Introduction Both [A] and [B] represent different ways of living that reflect contrasting values and priorities. While [A] focuses on [idea/value], [B] highlights [idea/value]. Each appeals to people who value [value] or [value]. However, I personally believe that [A/B] offers a more [adjective] and [adjective] lifestyle. This essay will compare both viewpoints and explain my preference.

Paragraph 2 - Comparison On one hand, [A] provides [benefit] and [benefit], which attract individuals who value [value]. It creates a sense of [idea] and encourages [idea/action]. Nevertheless, this lifestyle can be challenging because [drawback] and [drawback] often occur. On the other hand, [B] emphasises [benefit] and [benefit], appealing to people who appreciate [value]. It allows them to [action], yet issues such as [drawback] or [drawback] may limit its comfort. Overall, the contrast highlights [main difference].

Paragraph 3 - Opinion In my opinion, I prefer [A/B] because it provides [reason] and reflects my values. It enables me to [action], which makes life more [adjective]. For example, [example] shows how this lifestyle encourages [idea/value]. Although [other option] also has advantages, I believe [preferred option] suits people who value [value] and [value].

Paragraph 4 - Conclusion To conclude, both [A] and [B] offer clear benefits and challenges. Yet, for me, [preferred option] achieves a better balance of [idea] and [idea], making it the most [adjective] choice in today's world.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK RUBRIC

Task completion ____ / 5

I compare both viewpoints, give my preference and support it.

Structure ____ / 5

I organise the essay into clear paragraphs with a logical flow.

Grammar ____ / 5

I use a range of accurate simple and complex structures.

Vocabulary ____ / 5

I use precise topic vocabulary and avoid unnecessary repetition.

Spelling & punctuation ____ / 5

My spelling, capitals and punctuation are accurate.

YOUR RESPONSE