

SMARTCOM ENGLISH EXPERTS



SMARTCOM **IELTS**

WRITING BOOSTER

ideas for Task **2**

PART 1

(Tài liệu lưu hành nội bộ)



IELTS WRITING BOOSTER

IDEAS FOR TASK 2

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IDEA GENERATION - FORECAST WRITING Q2

POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Question 1: More and more people no longer read newspapers or watch TV programmes to get news. They get news about the world through the Internet. Is this a positive or negative development?

Positive: Three advantages of getting news through the Internet:

1. **Access to a wide range of information:** -The Internet allows people to access news from **various sources** (*nhiều nguồn khác nhau*) around the world. This **abundance of information** (*thông tin phong phú*) can be seen as a positive development since individuals can explore **diverse viewpoints** (*quan điểm đa dạng*) and gain a **broader understanding** (*hiểu biết rộng hơn*) of global events. To illustrate, people can read news articles from **international sources** (*nguồn báo chí quốc tế*) such as BBC, CNN, or Al Jazeera. They can explore **complex issues** (*những vấn đề phức tạp*) like **climate change** (*Biến đổi khí hậu*) or **geopolitical conflicts** (*xung đột địa chính trị*).
2. **Instant and real-time updates:** With the Internet, news is **disseminated** (*lan truyền*) quickly, often in real-time. This means that people can **stay up-to-date** (*luôn cập nhật*) with the latest events and developments as they **unfold** (*hé lộ*). This **immediacy** (*tức thời*) can be considered positive, especially in situations where **prompt information** (*thông tin kịp thời*) is crucial, such as during **emergencies** (*tình hình khẩn cấp*) or breaking news. For example, during a Covid-19 **quarantine** (*cách li*), people in my country can receive real-time updates through news websites or social media platforms, helping them **stay informed** (*cập nhật thông tin*) about emergency services and **safety precautions** (*biện pháp phòng ngừa an toàn*).
3. **Customization and personalization:** Online news platforms often offer **personalized** (*cá nhân hóa*) content based on **individual preferences** (*sở thích cá nhân*) and interests. This allows users to receive news **tailored** (*được thiết kế phù hợp*) to their specific needs, resulting in a more **engaging and relevant experience** (*trải nghiệm hấp dẫn và phù hợp*). This **customization aspect** (*khía cạnh tùy biến*) can be viewed as a positive development, as it enhances user satisfaction and encourages continued news **consumption** (*tiêu dùng*). For example, if someone frequently reads about technology, they will receive news **recommendations** (*khuyến nghị*) related to the latest **gadgets** (*tiện ích*), innovations, and industry trends.

Negative: Two disadvantages of relying on the Internet for news:

1. **Spread of misinformation and fake news:** While the Internet provides a **wealth of information** (*thông tin phong phú*), it also opens the door to **misinformation** (*thông tin sai lệch*) and **fake news** (*tin giả*). The ease of sharing and spreading content online means that inaccurate or misleading information can reach a wide audience quickly. This **prevalence** (*sự thịnh hành*) of misinformation is a negative aspect, as it can **misguide** (*chỉ dẫn lệch lạc*) individuals and harm their understanding of the world. For instance, a **misleading image** (*hình ảnh gây hiểu nhầm*) or an **unverified rumor** (*tin đồn chưa được kiểm chứng*) about a celebrity's death can be shared extensively, leading to confusion and misinformation among the public.
2. **Decline of traditional media:** As more people rely on the Internet for news, traditional media platforms such as newspapers and TV programs may **suffer** (*phải chịu đựng*) a decline in **readership** (*lượng người đọc*) and **viewership** (*lượng người xem*). This shift can have negative consequences, including a **potential loss of jobs** (*khả năng mất việc làm*) in the traditional media industry and a decrease in the quality and diversity of **news coverage** (*tin tức*).
3. **Lack of credibility and trustworthiness:** The internet allows anyone to publish information, which makes it difficult to **determine** (*xác định*) if a source is reliable or **trustworthy** (*đáng tin*). Without proper **verification** (*kiểm chứng*) and **fact-checking** (*xác thực*), people may unknowingly rely on sources that lack **credibility** (*uy tín*) or have hidden **agendas** (*tuyên truyền ngầm*), which **undermines** (*phá hoại*) trust in the accuracy and objectivity of the information. Imagine a news article shared on social media that claims a breakthrough cure for a certain disease. However, upon closer examination, it is discovered that the source is an unknown blog with no **scientific credentials** (*bằng chứng khoa học*).

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Question 2: In the modern world it is possible to shop, work and communicate with people via the internet and live without any face-to-face contact with others. Is this a positive or negative development?

Positive: Three advantages of living without face-to-face contact with others:

1. **Convenience and accessibility:** The ability to shop, work, and communicate online offers **convenience** (*sự tiện lợi*) and **accessibility** (*khả năng tiếp cận*). People can shop for a **wide range of** (*nhiều loại*) products and services **from the comfort of** (*thoải mái như ở...*) their homes, without the need to travel to **physical stores** (*cửa hàng trực tiếp*). For example, individuals can order groceries online and have them **delivered to their doorstep** (*giao tận nhà*), saving time and effort.
2. **Global connectivity:** Global connectivity through the internet allows people from different parts of the world to connect and communicate, fostering **cultural exchange** (*trao đổi văn hóa*), understanding, and collaboration. For example, someone in Japan can participate in an **online forum** (*diễn đàn trực tuyến*) and engage in a discussion with individuals from the

United States, Brazil, and India, sharing perspectives and learning about different cultures. This **global interaction** (*tương tác toàn cầu*) can lead to innovative ideas and collaborative projects that benefit everyone involved.

3. **Increased productivity and flexibility:** Working online allows for greater **flexibility** (*sự linh hoạt*) in terms of location and working hours. **Remote work arrangements** (*bố trí công việc từ xa*) enable individuals to work from home or any location with an internet connection. This flexibility can enhance **productivity** (*năng suất lao động*) and **work-life balance** (*cân bằng giữa công việc và cuộc sống*). For instance, a parent can work remotely during Covid-19 quarantines while also taking care of their children.

Negative: Three disadvantages of living without face-to-face contact with others:

1. **Social isolation and lack of human connection:** Living without **face-to-face contact** (*tiếp xúc trực tiếp*) can lead to **social isolation** (*sự cô lập về mặt xã hội*) and a lack of human connection. Online interactions, while convenient, cannot fully replace the depth and richness of **in-person interactions** (*tương tác trực tiếp*). For example, video calls or chat conversations may lack **non-verbal cues** (*ngôn ngữ cơ thể*) and **physical presence** (*sự hiện diện trực tiếp*), potentially leading to a sense of **disconnection** (*mất kết nối*).
2. **Impact on local businesses and communities:** The shift towards online shopping can have negative effects on local businesses and communities. When people primarily shop online, it reduces **foot traffic** (*giao thông đường bộ*) and sales for local **brick-and-mortar** (*truyền thống*) stores, potentially leading to **closures** (*đóng cửa*) and job losses. For instance, a local bookstore may **struggle to** (*đấu tranh để*) compete with **online retailers** (*nhà bán lẻ trực tuyến*), impacting the local economy.
3. **Digital divide and access limitations:** Not everyone has equal access to the internet or the necessary **digital skills** (*kỹ năng số*) to fully participate in online activities. This creates a **digital divide** (*thiệt bị số*), where certain individuals or communities are excluded from the benefits of online shopping, remote work, and digital communication. This limitation can **exacerbate** (*làm trầm trọng thêm*) existing **inequalities** (*bất bình đẳng*) in society.

Question 3: Many people put their personal information online for everyday activities. Is this a positive or negative development?

Positive: Three advantages of putting personal information online for everyday activities:

1. **Convenience and efficiency:** Sharing personal information online for everyday activities can make **processes** (*các quy trình*) more convenient and **efficient** (*hiệu quả*). For instance, when making **online purchases** (*mua sắm trực tuyến*), providing shipping and payment information saves time compared to filling out forms **manually** (*thủ công*). This convenience can enhance the overall user experience.
2. **Access to personalized experiences:** Sharing personal information online allows businesses and service providers to offer **personalized experiences** (*trải nghiệm được cá*

nhân hóa). For example, online retailers can recommend products based on **browsing history** (*lịch sử truy cập website*) and preferences, improving the shopping experience for customers by offering relevant and **tailored options** (*tùy chọn phù hợp*).

3. **Connectivity and communication:** Online platforms, such as social media sites or messaging apps, allow individuals to **stay connected** (*giữ liên lạc*) with friends, family, and colleagues, **regardless of** (*bất kể*) where they are in the world. By sharing personal information, such as updates about their lives, photos, or **important milestones** (*cột mốc quan trọng*), people can foster meaningful connections and strengthen relationships. For instance, someone living abroad can share photos of their travels and experiences on a social media platform, allowing their loved ones back home to feel more connected and involved in their life. This exchange of personal information helps maintain and **deepen relationships** (*tăng cường mối quan hệ*), even when physical distance separates individuals.

Negative: Three disadvantages of putting personal information online for everyday activities:

1. **Privacy concerns:** Sharing personal information online **raises concerns** (*gây lo ngại*) about privacy and **data security** (*bảo mật dữ liệu*). When personal information is stored and transmitted digitally, there is a risk of it being accessed or misused by **unauthorized** (*trái phép*) individuals or organizations. This can lead to **identity theft** (*hành vi trộm cắp danh tính*), **fraud** (*lừa đảo*), or other **privacy breaches** (*vi phạm quyền riêng tư*). For instance, if a **malicious hacker** (*tin tặc có dã tâm*) gains unauthorized access to an **insecure website's database** (*cơ sở dữ liệu của trang web không an toàn*), they may be able to steal the personal information of users, leading to potential **identity theft** (*hành vi trộm cắp danh tính*) or **fraudulent activities** (*hành động lừa đảo*) using the stolen data.
2. **Targeted advertising and marketing:** Sharing personal information online enables targeted advertising and marketing. Advertisers can use the information to **tailor advertisements** (*quảng cáo được thiết kế riêng*) specifically to individuals' interests and preferences. While targeted advertising may benefit businesses, it can be seen as negative due to concerns about **privacy invasion** (*xâm phạm quyền riêng tư*) as personal data is collected and used without **explicit consent** (*sự đồng ý rõ ràng*). Additionally, targeted ads can become **intrusive** (*làm phiền*) and disrupt the online experience. There is also a risk of **data breaches and misuse** (*vi phạm và sử dụng sai mục đích các dữ liệu*), **compromising** (*làm tổn hại*) sensitive information. For example, if someone searches for vacation destinations online, they may start seeing ads for **travel packages** (*gói dịch vụ du lịch*) or hotels. While these ads may seem helpful at first, they can become intrusive and create a sense of discomfort, as the individual realizes their personal holiday plan is being used to **manipulate** (*thao túng*) their purchasing decisions.
3. **Online harassment and cyberbullying:** Sharing personal data online can lead to **online harassment** (*quấy rối qua mạng*) and **cyberbullying** (*bắt nạt trên mạng*). When personal information is accessible, **malicious individuals** (*những người ác ý*) can use it to track and **target victims** (*nạn nhân mục tiêu*). For instance, if someone shares their phone number online, it could be **exploited** (*khai thác*) by cyberbullies to send harassing messages. The **anonymity** (*ẩn danh*) of the internet and the ability to reach a wide audience can make

cyberbullying more **prevalent** (*thịnh hành*). It's important to be cautious about sharing personal information online to minimize the risk of becoming a target for harassment or cyberbullying.

Question 4: In many parts of the world, children are given more freedom than in the past. Is this a positive or negative development?

Advantages: Three advantages of children being given more freedom:

1. **Enhanced creativity and problem-solving skills:** Allowing children more freedom encourages them to think independently and come up with **innovative solutions** (*các giải pháp sáng tạo*) to challenges. It fosters creativity and **nurtures** (*nuôi dưỡng*) their problem-solving abilities, which are crucial skills for success in the modern world. This can lead to their ability to **think outside the box** (*suy nghĩ vượt khuôn khổ*) and adapt to new situations. For example, when children are given the freedom to explore and **experiment** (*thí nghiệm*) with different materials in an art class, they are encouraged to think independently and express their unique ideas. They might choose **unconventional** (*không tầm thường*) ways to use the materials or combine them in unexpected ways, leading to creative and innovative artwork.
2. **Development of self-confidence and resilience:** With increased **freedom** (*sự tự do*), children have the opportunity to make decisions and face the **consequences** (*những hậu quả*) of their actions. This helps build their **self-confidence** (*sự tự tin*) and **resilience** (*sự kiên cường*), as they learn to take responsibility for their choices and **overcome obstacles** (*vượt qua nghịch cảnh*). For example, if a child chooses to join a football team, they may learn to face challenges in a match, **handle victories** (*điều tiết cảm xúc khi chiến thắng*) and **grow from their defeats** (*trở thành từ những thất bại*). By learning from their mistakes, they become more **resilient** (*kiên cường*) and better equipped to handle future challenges.
3. **Exploration of personal interests and passions:** When children are given more freedom, it provides them with the space and autonomy to explore **various aspects** (*những khía cạnh*) of themselves. They can engage in activities that **genuinely** (*thực sự*) interest them and **align with** (*phù hợp với*) their unique talents and passions. By exploring this interest further, they may develop their skills, find joy in practicing and performing, and even consider pursuing it as a lifelong passion or career. For instance, a child who is given the freedom to experiment with different **artistic mediums** (*phương tiện nghệ thuật*) may discover a passion for painting. As they engage in this **creative outlet** (*lối sáng tạo*), they may realize their artistic abilities, explore different techniques, and even participate in local art exhibitions or competitions. This self-exploration and personal growth foster a **sense of fulfillment** (*cảm giác mãn nguyện*) and enable children to develop a stronger sense of identity and purpose.

Disadvantages: Three disadvantages of children being given more freedom:

1. **Lack of guidance and supervision:** **Excessive** (*quá mức*) freedom without proper guidance and **supervision** (*sự giám sát*) can expose children to potential risks and dangers. They may make poor choices or engage in activities that are not age-appropriate or harmful to their well-being. Without **adequate** (*đầy đủ*) guidance, children may struggle to differentiate between right and wrong or **navigate complex situations** (*định hướng các tình huống phức tạp*). To illustrate, a child given unrestricted freedom to choose their own meals and snacks might consistently **opt for** (*lựa chọn*) sugary snacks, fast food, and **processed foods** (*thực phẩm đã qua chế biến*), **neglecting** (*phớt lờ*) the **intake** (*ăn*) of essential nutrients from fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins.
2. **Potential for academic neglect:** If children are given too much freedom without adequate structure and discipline, they may **neglect** (*phớt lờ*) their academic responsibilities. Without proper guidance, they may **prioritize** (*ưu tiên*) leisure activities over their studies, leading to **academic underachievement** (*thành tích học tập kém*). For instance, if a child is granted complete autonomy over their academic schedule and study habits, they might **procrastinate** (*trì hoãn*), neglect important assignments, or fail to **allocate** (*phân bổ*) sufficient time for studying. This can **hinder** (*cản trở*) their educational progress and limit future opportunities.
3. **Emotional and social challenges:** While freedom allows children to explore their **individuality** (*tính cá nhân*), it can also bring emotional and social challenges. They may feel **overwhelmed** (*choáng ngợp*) by the pressure to fit in or make decisions on their own, leading to increased stress or feelings of **isolation** (*sự cô đơn*) if they are not **adequately supported** (*được động viên đầy đủ*) or connected to a **supportive network** (*mạng lưới hỗ trợ*). Specifically, a child who moves to a new neighborhood and starts attending a different school may face challenges in finding **like-minded** (*cùng chí hướng*) peers or understanding the **unwritten social norms** (*chuẩn mực xã hội bất thành văn*) of their new class.

Question 5: Cohabitation is believed to bring huge advantages for young people since it enables them to fully understand each other before deciding to get married. Is this a positive or negative development?

Advantages: Three advantages of cohabitation for young people before marriage:

1. **Enhanced understanding and compatibility:** Living together allows young couples to experience daily life together, sharing responsibilities, and understanding each other's habits, preferences, and values. This **firsthand experience** (*kinh nghiệm đầu đời*) can lead to a deeper understanding and improved **compatibility** (*khả năng tương thích*), which are crucial factors for a successful and **long-lasting marriage** (*hôn nhân bền lâu*). It provides an opportunity for couples to grow together and build a **solid foundation** (*nền tảng vững chắc*) based on shared experiences.
2. **Realistic assessment of long-term compatibility:** **Cohabitation** (*sống thử*) allows couples to realistically assess their **long-term compatibility** (*khả năng tương thích lâu dài*). By living together, they can test how well they handle living arrangements, finances, and decision-

making. This experience helps them identify potential challenges and **conflicts** (*tranh cãi*) that may arise in a **committed relationship** (*mối quan hệ có ràng buộc*). It enables couples to make **informed decisions** (*quyết định sáng suốt*) about their future and enter marriage with a **realistic understanding** (*hiểu biết thực tế*) of what to expect and how to work through **potential issues** (*Các vấn đề tiềm ẩn*).

3. **Building stronger communication skills:** Living together in marriage provides an environment for couples to build stronger communication skills. Constantly being in **close proximity** (*sự gần gũi*) allows for more frequent and **intimate conversations** (*cuộc trò chuyện thân mật*), fostering open and effective communication. This helps couples better understand each other's needs, **resolve conflicts** (*giải quyết xung đột*), and deepen their **emotional connection** (*kết nối cảm xúc*). Let's consider Lisa and John, a married couple. Before they moved in together, they would often have limited time together due to their **busy schedules** (*lịch trình bận rộn*). However, after living together, they found themselves engaging in more meaningful conversations **on a daily basis** (*hàng ngày*). They discussed their thoughts, feelings, and concerns openly, learning to **listen attentively** (*chăm chú lắng nghe*) and express themselves honestly. As a result, their communication skills improved, and they were able to address issues promptly, preventing misunderstandings from **escalating** (*leo thang*) into conflicts. Living together provided them with a constant opportunity to practice and refine their communication, leading to a stronger and more fulfilling marriage.

Disadvantages: Three disadvantages of cohabitation for young people before marriage:

1. **Increased risk of relationship instability:** Cohabiting couples face an increased risk of **relationship instability** (*mối quan hệ không ổn định*). Studies indicate that they are more likely to break up compared to couples who marry without **prior cohabitation** (*sống thử trước*). The absence of a **formal commitment** (*cam kết nghiêm túc*) may lead to less **dedication** (*cống hiến*) and an easier decision to end the relationship when faced with challenges. This lack of stability can hinder the development of a long-term, committed relationship. For instance, consider Emma and Jake, a couple who decided to move in together after a year of dating. They enjoyed the convenience and **companionship** (*bạn đồng hành*) of living together but had not made a formal commitment to marriage. However, when they encountered significant challenges, such as financial difficulties or disagreements about future goals, they found it easier to end the relationship rather than **working through** (*giải quyết*) the issues. The absence of a formal commitment and the ease of **dissolution** (*giải tán*) in their cohabitating arrangement contributed to relationship instability, ultimately leading to their separation.
2. **Delayed commitment to marriage:** Cohabitation may create **a sense of comfort and security** (*một cảm giác thoải mái và an toàn*) without the formal commitment of marriage. While this can be appealing to some couples, it may also lead to a **prolonged period** (*thời gian kéo dài*) of cohabitation without progressing to marriage. This delay in making a formal commitment can impact important life decisions and **milestones** (*dấu mốc quan trọng*), such as starting a family or planning for the future. It's important for couples to evaluate their intentions and timeline for marriage to ensure they are aligned.

3. **Social and familial pressure:** One of the significant disadvantages of cohabitation for young people before marriage is the social and familial pressure they may face. In many cultures and societies, there is still a **strong emphasis** (*nhấn mạnh*) on the **traditional institution** (*phong tục truyền thống*) of marriage, and cohabitation without marriage can **be frowned upon** (*bị dị nghị*) or met with **disapproval** (*sự phản đối*). This pressure can come from family members, relatives, or even close friends who hold **conservative views** (*quan điểm bảo thủ*) on relationships.

Question 6: Many top universities are providing online courses to the student as an alternative to on campus as anyone can have access to them. Is this a positive or negative development?

Advantages: Three advantages of online courses as an alternative to on-campus education:

1. **Accessibility and flexibility:** Online courses provide access to education for a wider range of students, regardless of their **geographical location** (*vị trí địa lý*) or **personal circumstances** (*hoàn cảnh cá nhân*). Students can study **at their own pace** (*tùy theo tốc độ*) and choose when and where they engage in learning, allowing for greater flexibility in managing their schedules. This enables **working professionals** (*làm việc chuyên nghiệp*) to pursue higher education while balancing their career and personal commitments. Thanks to online studying, I and my classmates could access education from the comfort of our own home. Not only that, we could **fit our coursework around our work schedule** (*khớp khóa học với lịch làm việc*) and other commitments. This flexibility allows us to continue our professional growth and personal development without compromising our existing responsibilities, making higher education more accessible and achievable for students like us.
2. **Cost-effective option:** Online courses often have lower tuition fees and **eliminate** (*xóa nhòa*) the need for additional expenses such as **commuting** (*đi lại*), accommodation, and textbooks. This makes education more affordable and accessible to individuals who may not have the **financial means** (*điều kiện tài chính*) to attend traditional **on-campus programs** (*chương trình học trong trường*). It also reduces the **burden** (*gánh nặng*) of student loan debt, allowing students to start their careers with greater financial stability. Consider Alex, a high school graduate with limited financial resources who dreams of pursuing a college degree. However, Alex is concerned about the **expenses** (*chi phí*) associated with traditional on-campus education. Opting for online courses presents a **cost-effective** (*tiết kiệm chi phí*) solution for Alex. Online programs typically offer lower **tuition fees** (*học phí*) and eliminate additional expenses like commuting and accommodation. This **affordability** (*khả năng chi trả*) allows individuals like Alex, who may not have the financial means for traditional education, to access quality learning opportunities.
3. **Diverse learning resources and opportunities:** Online courses **utilize** (*tận dụng*) various **multimedia tools** (*công cụ truyền thông đa phương tiện*), **interactive platforms** (*nền tảng tương tác*), and **virtual simulations** (*mô phỏng thực tế ảo*) to enhance the learning experience. Students can access a wealth of digital resources, collaborate with peers from different backgrounds, and engage in global discussions, broadening their knowledge and

perspectives. This exposure to diverse perspectives and learning resources **enriches** (*làm phong phú thêm*) the educational experience and prepares students for the **globalized workforce** (*lực lượng lao động toàn cầu*).

Disadvantages: Three disadvantages of online courses as an alternative to on-campus education:

1. **Limited face-to-face interaction:** When taking an online course, students miss out on the chance to physically meet their professors and classmates. In a traditional classroom setting, students can ask questions directly, have **in-depth discussions** (*thảo luận chuyên sâu*), and receive immediate feedback. However, in an online course, interactions are primarily through digital platforms. For instance, instead of participating in a **lively class debate** (*tranh luận sôi nổi trong lớp*), students might engage in online discussions or video conferences. While these digital tools provide some form of interaction, the absence of face-to-face communication can limit networking opportunities and the development of interpersonal skills that are essential for personal and professional growth.
2. **Potential for decreased motivation and self-discipline:** In an online course, students may find it challenging to stay motivated and **disciplined** (*có quy củ*) without the structure of attending physical classes. Without face-to-face interactions and set class schedules, some students may **procrastinate** (*trì hoãn*) or struggle with time management. For instance, a student might delay completing assignments or studying, leading to a lack of progress in their learning journey. However, online courses typically offer tools and resources to **mitigate** (*giảm bớt*) these challenges. They often provide clear course outlines, set deadlines, and offer support systems such as online forums or virtual office hours to help students stay motivated, organized, and accountable for their progress.
3. **Technical challenges and access disparities:** Participating in online courses can be challenging for students who don't have reliable internet access or the necessary technical skills. For instance, a student living in a rural area with limited internet connectivity may struggle to **stream lectures** (*tham dự bài giảng trực tuyến*) or upload assignments. Similarly, a student from a disadvantaged background who is unable to afford a personal computer may face difficulties in completing online coursework. These technical challenges can create **disparities** (*sự khác biệt/ chênh lệch*) in educational opportunities, as not all students have equal access to the resources needed for online learning. However, organizations and **educational institutions** (*các tổ chức giáo dục*) are working towards bridging this digital divide by providing internet access in underserved areas and offering support, such as loaning laptops or providing computer labs, to ensure that all students have an equal chance to participate in online education.

Question 7: There is a common phenomenon that products are commercially over-packaged or over-advertised. Is this a positive or negative development?

Advantages: Three advantages of products being commercially over-packaged or over-advertised:

1. **Increased visibility and brand recognition:** The company's continuous **advertising saturation** (*bão hòa quảng cáo*) contributes to their increased visibility, attracting a larger customer base and potentially leading to higher sales and a **dominant position** (*vị trí thống lĩnh*) in the market. To illustrate, a new soft drink company aims to establish its brand by launching an extensive advertising campaign across various platforms. The widespread visibility of their advertisements helps the brand reach a large audience and gain recognition. This repeated exposure enables the company to become a familiar name in the competitive soft drink industry.
2. **Perceived value and quality:** A product wrapped in fancy packaging with **intricate designs** (*thiết kế phức tạp*) and lots of wrapping can convey a message of a lavish item of high quality. The excessive packaging gives a feeling of **exclusivity** (*sự độc nhất*) and attracts people who believe that **sophisticated** (*cầu kì*) packaging means the product is better. To demonstrate, when a customer sees a beautifully designed box with **exquisite** (*tinh xảo*) details and **luxurious** (*sang trọng*) packaging for a perfume, they might associate it with a **high-end and premium product** (*sản phẩm cao cấp và thượng hạng*) with **superior value** (*giá trị vượt trội*).
3. **Informative and persuasive:** Extensive advertising can provide consumers with detailed information about a product's features, benefits, and **availability** (*tính khả dụng*). **Well-crafted** (*được chế tác tốt*) advertisements can be persuasive, influencing consumer buying decisions by highlighting the **unique selling points** (*đặc điểm bán hàng độc đáo*) and competitive advantages of a product. This helps consumers make informed choices and can **enhance** (*tăng cường*) their overall shopping experience. For example, in a television ad for a new smartphone, viewers see its **sleek** (*kiểu dáng đẹp*) design, high-quality camera, and advanced features, along with its longer battery life than other phones. The ad shares detailed information about the phone's capabilities, persuading viewers with its **unique selling points** (*đặc điểm bán hàng độc đáo*). This informative and persuasive advertising enables consumers to make informed decisions about the phone and enhances their shopping experience by providing the necessary information to evaluate the product.

Disadvantages: Three disadvantages of products being commercially over-packaged or over-advertised:

1. **Environmental impact:** When products are excessively packaged, it creates more waste that ends up polluting the environment. Over-packaging contributes to the **depletion** (*sự suy kiệt*) of natural resources, excess energy consumption, and the **accumulation** (*sự tích lũy*) of **non-biodegradable** (*không phân hủy sinh học*) materials in landfills, harming ecosystems and contributing to climate change. For instance, if a small item is packaged in a large box with unnecessary layers of plastic and foam, it generates more trash that takes up space in landfills.

This **unsustainable practice** (*phương pháp không bền vững*) raises concerns about the long-term environmental consequences.

- Misleading or deceptive practices:** Over-advertising can sometimes involve misleading claims or **manipulative** (*lạm dụng*) marketing tactics that **exaggerate** (*phóng đại*) product benefits or misrepresent reality. Such practices can **deceive** (*lừa dối*) consumers and **erode** (*làm xói mòn*) trust, leading to **dissatisfaction** (*bất mãn*) and disappointment when the product fails to meet **inflated expectations** (*kỳ vọng bị thổi phồng*). For instance, if a commercial for a beauty cream makes exaggerated claims about its **anti-aging benefits** (*lợi ích chống lão hóa*), it may lead consumers to have high expectations which may end up with frustration once the cream fails to deliver the promised results. This **undermines** (*phá hoại*) consumer confidence and can have negative implications for **brand reputation** (*uy tín thương hiệu*).
- Financial burden on consumers:** Excessive packaging and over-advertising can **drive up** (*tăng*) the overall cost of products because companies **pass on** (*chuyển lại*) these expenses to consumers through higher prices. This can be **burdensome** (*gánh nặng*), especially for individuals **on a budget** (*có giới hạn về tài chính*), as they end up paying for unnecessary packaging and marketing costs. As a result, the limited **affordability** (*khả năng chi trả*) of these products restricts consumer choices and may exclude certain **segments** (*phân khúc*) of the population from being able to afford or access them. For example, if a cereal box is wrapped in multiple layers and has **flashy advertisements** (*quảng cáo hào nhoáng*), the price of the cereal may be higher to cover those packaging and advertising expenses.

Question 8: Organized tours to remote areas and communities are increasingly popular. Is it a positive or negative development for the local people and the environment?

Advantages: Three advantages of organized tours to remote areas and communities:

- Economic opportunities for local communities:** Organized tours to remote areas can bring economic benefits to local people by creating jobs and generating income. This can contribute to the development and **well-being** (*hạnh phúc*) of the community, improving their quality of life. For example, local residents may offer guided tours, sell **handmade crafts** (*hàng thủ công*), or provide accommodation and transportation services to tourists. The increased income from tourism allows them to improve their living conditions, invest in education, and preserve their cultural practices.
- Cultural exchange and preservation:** Organized tours provide an opportunity for **cultural exchange** (*giao lưu văn hóa*) between tourists and local communities. Visitors can learn about the traditions, customs, and way of life of the local people, while locals can share their knowledge and preserve their **cultural heritage** (*di sản văn hóa*). This exchange can foster **mutual respect** (*tôn trọng lẫn nhau*) and **appreciation** (*sự trân trọng*), helping to **safeguard** (*bảo vệ*) and promote the local culture.

3. **Environmental awareness and conservation:** Organized tours can raise awareness about the importance of **environmental conservation** (*bảo tồn môi trường*) among tourists and local communities. This can lead to **initiatives** (*những sáng kiến*) for preserving natural resources, protecting **wildlife habitats** (*môi trường sống của động vật hoang dã*), and promoting **sustainable practices** (*biện pháp bền vững*) in these areas. For instance, guided nature walks can educate visitors about the **fragile** (*dễ vỡ, dễ tổn thương*) ecosystem and the need to minimize their **ecological footprint** (*dấu chân sinh thái*).

Disadvantages: Three disadvantages of organized tours to remote areas and communities:

1. **Overcrowding and strain on infrastructure:** The increasing popularity of organized tours can lead to **overcrowding** (*trình trạng quá tải*) in remote areas, putting **strain** (*sự căng thẳng*) on limited infrastructure and resources. For example, a sudden **influx of tourists** (*lượng du khách*) may overwhelm local transportation systems, accommodations, and facilities, leading to **congestion** (*tắc nghẽn*) and **degradation** (*xuống cấp*) of the local environment.
2. **Environmental degradation:** Despite efforts to promote **sustainable practices** (*biện pháp bền vững*), organized tours can still have negative environmental impacts. Increased foot traffic, waste generation, and **disturbance** (*sự xáo trộn*) to wildlife can degrade **fragile ecosystems** (*hệ sinh thái mong manh, dễ bị tổn thương*) and **disrupt** (*làm gián đoạn*) natural habitats. For instance, excessive tourism activities may result in habitat destruction, pollution, and the introduction of **invasive species** (*các loài xâm lấn ngoại lai*), **posing** (*gây thành*) risks to the local **flora and fauna** (*thảm động thực vật*).
3. **Disruption of traditional lifestyles:** The influx of organized tours can disrupt the traditional way of life and social dynamics of local communities. The **commercialization** (*thương mại hóa*) of their culture and the increased focus on **catering** (*phục vụ ăn uống*) to tourists' demands may lead to the loss of **authentic** (*nguyên bản*) cultural practices and traditions. This can result in the **erosion** (*xói mòn*) of local identity and a loss of **cultural heritage** (*di sản văn hóa*). For example, in some remote villages known for its traditional ceremonies and **rituals** (*nghi lễ*), the increasing number of organized tours brings a change in the **community's dynamics** (*động lực cộng đồng*). The locals start **prioritizing** (*ưu tiên*) performances and cultural displays that cater to the tourists' preferences rather than preserving their authentic practices. As a result, the true **essence** (*bản chất*) of their cultural heritage **fades away** (*nhạt nhòa đi*), and the younger generation grows up with a **diluted sense** (*cảm giác bão hòa*) of their own identity and cultural traditions.

AGREE OR DISAGREE

Question 1: Some people think that the best way to improve road safety is to increase the minimum legal age for driving a car or motorbike. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Enhanced maturity and responsibility:** Increasing the minimum legal age for driving can ensure that individuals have more time to mature and develop the necessary **cognitive** (*nhận thức*) and emotional skills required for responsible driving. This can lead to a decrease in **reckless behavior** (*thái độ bất cần đời*) and improve overall road safety. For example, a higher age requirement can give young drivers more time to gain life experiences and develop better **decision-making abilities** (*khả năng đưa quyết định*) before operating a vehicle.
2. **Reduced accident rates among inexperienced drivers:** Raising the minimum driving age can result in fewer accidents caused by inexperienced drivers. With more time for formal driver education and training, young individuals can **acquire** (*giành được*) better driving skills, knowledge of traffic rules, and awareness of **potential hazards** (*nguy cơ tiềm ẩn*). This can contribute to a decrease in accidents, injuries, and **fatalities** (*tử vong*) on the roads. For instance, countries that have implemented higher minimum driving ages have observed a decline in road accidents involving young drivers.
3. **Alignment with scientific evidence:** Research suggests that the brain continues to develop throughout **adolescence** (*thời niên thiếu*) and into early **adulthood** (*tuổi trưởng thành*), particularly in areas related to risk assessment, **impulse control** (*kiểm soát xung lực*), and decision-making. Increasing the minimum driving age aligns with this scientific understanding, as it acknowledges the **ongoing cognitive** (*nhận thức liên tục*) development of young individuals. This evidence-based approach promotes road safety by ensuring that drivers have a more developed capacity to handle the **complexities** (*sự phức tạp*) of driving.

Disagree:

1. **Limiting independence and mobility:** Raising the minimum driving age can restrict the independence and mobility of young individuals. Delaying their ability to drive may hinder their access to education, employment, and social activities. For example, in rural areas with limited public transportation options, increasing the driving age may **pose challenges** (*đặt ra những thách thức*) for teenagers to **commute** (*đi lại*) to school or work.
2. **Inconvenience for families and caregivers:** A higher minimum driving age can create **logistical challenges** (*những thách thức về hậu cần*) for families and **caregivers** (*người chăm sóc*) who rely on young individuals to assist with transportation responsibilities. For instance, parents who work long hours may depend on their teenager to pick up **siblings** (*anh em ruột*) from school or run **essential errands** (*việc vặt thiết yếu*). Increasing the driving age could place additional burdens on families and limit their flexibility.
3. **Potential for unlicensed and unauthorized driving:** A higher minimum driving age may lead to an increase in **unlicensed** (*trái phép*) and **unauthorized** (*không được phép*) driving among

young individuals. If they are unable to legally obtain a driver's license but still need to travel, they may **resort to** (*dùng đến*) driving without proper training or supervision, posing a risk to themselves and other road users. This can **undermine** (*hủy hoại*) road safety efforts and increase the likelihood of accidents.

Question 2: It is better to learn the way people lived in the past through films and video records than written documents. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Visual and immersive learning experience:** Films and video records provide a visual and **immersive learning experience** (*trải nghiệm học tập đắm chìm*) that can bring historical events and lifestyles to life. Watching historical footage can engage viewers on a **sensory level** (*mức độ cảm giác*), allowing them to see and hear the past in a more **vivid** (*sống động*) and engaging way. For example, watching documentaries or historical dramas can provide a deeper understanding of the cultural and social aspects of a particular time period than simply going through pages of **bland documents** (*tài liệu nhạt nhẽo*) which can be frustrating and boring.
2. **Preservation of cultural heritage:** Films and video records can help preserve and document cultural heritage that may otherwise be lost or inaccessible. They capture moments in history, traditions, and ways of life that may not have been extensively documented in written texts. These **audiovisual records** (*hồ sơ nghe nhìn*) serve as valuable **historical artifacts** (*hiện vật lịch sử*), allowing future generations to connect with and learn from the past. For instance, old footage of traditional ceremonies or cultural practices provides a tangible link to **ancestral customs** (*phong tục tập quán của tổ tiên*).
3. **Enhanced accessibility and inclusivity:** Films and video records can reach a wider audience and make history more accessible to people with different learning styles or those who may have difficulty engaging with written documents. **Visual representations** (*hình ảnh đại diện*) can **cater** (*phục vụ*) to different cognitive abilities, making historical information more engaging and understandable for a broader range of individuals. This **inclusivity** (*bao hàm*) allows for a more diverse and comprehensive understanding of the past.

Disagree:

1. **Subjectivity and artistic interpretation:** Films and video records are artistic creations that involve **interpretation** (*diễn giải*) and **storytelling** (*kể chuyện*). They may not always accurately reflect historical facts or provide a comprehensive understanding of the past. Filmmakers may prioritize entertainment value or convey a particular **narrative** (*chuyện kể*), leading to **biases** (*thành kiến*) or **distortions** (*méo mó, biến dạng*) in the representation of historical events. Relying solely on films and video records can limit a more **nuanced** (*sắc thái*) and critical examination of the past.
2. **Limited scope and perspective:** Films and video records capture specific moments and perspectives, often focusing on notable events or individuals. They may not provide a **comprehensive view** (*góc nhìn toàn diện*) of the broader **historical context** (*bối cảnh lịch*

sử) or the lives of ordinary people. Written documents, on the other hand, can offer a wider range of perspectives, opinions, and details that contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the past.

3. **Preservation and accessibility challenges:** Films and video records require proper preservation techniques to ensure their longevity and accessibility. The **degradation** (*suy thoái*) of **film reels** (*cuộn phim*) or **technological obsolescence** (*công nghệ lỗi thời*) can lead to the loss of valuable historical footage. Additionally, not all films and video records may be **digitized** (*số hóa*) or readily available for public access, limiting their usefulness as a primary source for learning about the past.

Question 3: Some people think the money spent on developing the technology for space exploration is not justified. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Disagree:

1. **Scientific and technological advancements:** Investing in space exploration technology can lead to significant scientific and technological advancements that benefit society. Research and development in areas such as **propulsion systems** (*hệ thống đẩy*), materials science, robotics, and satellite technology have practical applications beyond space exploration. For example, NASA's research on **water purification systems** (*hệ thống lọc nước*) for astronauts led to the development of filters used in remote areas with limited access to clean water.
2. **Economic benefits and job creation:** The space industry can stimulate economic growth and create employment opportunities. Investments in space exploration technology drive innovation and foster the growth of high-tech industries. This can lead to the creation of skilled jobs in areas like **aerospace engineering** (*kỹ thuật hàng không vũ trụ*), **satellite** (*vệ tinh*) manufacturing, and data analysis. For instance, companies like SpaceX, which have **emerged** (*xuất hiện*) as major players in the commercial space industry, have created a significant number of jobs in various fields. They employ engineers, technicians, scientists, and support staff who contribute to the design, manufacturing, and operations of space vehicles and related technologies.
3. **Inspirational and educational value:** Space exploration captures the imagination of people worldwide and inspires future generations of scientists, engineers, and explorers. The achievements and discoveries made through space missions serve as educational tools and ignite **curiosity** (*ó tò mò*) about the universe and our place in it. The pursuit of knowledge and the exploration of the unknown can foster a sense of wonder, curiosity, and **scientific literacy** (*kiến thức khoa học*) among the general population.

Agree:

1. **Allocation of resources:** Critics argue that the money invested in space exploration could be better utilized to address pressing issues on Earth, such as poverty, healthcare, and climate change. They believe that directing funds towards solving immediate societal problems should take precedence over space exploration **endeavors** (*nỗ lực*). They argue that the money could be more effectively used to improve the quality of life for people on Earth.
2. **Opportunity costs:** Investing in space exploration comes with opportunity costs, as resources allocated to the space industry may divert funding from other areas of research and development. Critics contend that the same financial resources could be used to address **critical challenges** (*những thử thách quan trọng*) on Earth, such as renewable energy, public health, or environmental conservation. They argue that the benefits **derived from** (*có nguồn gốc từ*) space exploration do not outweigh the potential benefits of investing in other areas.
3. **Environmental impact:** Space exploration activities, such as **rocket launches** (*phóng tên lửa*) and **satellite deployments** (*triển khai vệ tinh*), have environmental implications. Critics argue that the environmental footprint of space exploration, including the carbon emissions associated with space launches and the **accumulation** (*sự tích lũy*) of space **debris** (*mảnh vụn*) in Earth's orbit, raises concerns about sustainability. They believe that the environmental impact should be carefully considered and mitigated when investing in space exploration.

Question 4: Children who are brought up in families which have no amount of money are better prepared to deal with the problem of adult life than children who are brought up by wealthy parents. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Resilience and resourcefulness:** Children from financially disadvantaged families learn to be **resourceful** (*tháo vát*) and **resilient** (*kiên cường*) in the face of challenges. They develop problem-solving skills and are better equipped to handle **adversity** (*ngịch cảnh*) in adulthood. For example, growing up in a low-income household may teach children the value of money, **budgeting** (*lập ngân sách*), and finding creative solutions to make ends meet.
2. **Work ethic and determination:** Children who grow up with limited financial resources often develop a strong **work ethic** (*đạo đức nghề nghiệp*) and determination to improve their circumstances. They understand the importance of hard work and may strive to overcome obstacles to achieve their goals. This can lead to success in adulthood as they are driven to work hard and make the most of opportunities. For instance, individuals who come from financially disadvantaged backgrounds may demonstrate exceptional drive and ambition to pursue higher education or secure stable employment.
3. **Appreciation for non-material aspects:** Children raised in families with limited financial means often place greater value on **non-material** (*phi vật chất*) aspects of life, such as relationships, experiences, and personal growth. They learn to appreciate the things that money cannot buy and prioritize emotional well-being over material possessions. This mindset can lead to a more fulfilling and balanced adulthood. For example, a child raised in a low-

income family may have limited access to expensive toys or **gadgets** (*dụng cụ*). Instead, they learn to find joy in spending time with their siblings, engaging in imaginative play, and building strong bonds with their family members. As they grow older, they continue to prioritize meaningful relationships and experiences over material possessions.

Disagree:

1. **Limited access to opportunities:** Children from low-income families may face limited access to educational and career opportunities that can hinder their ability to succeed in adulthood. They may lack the resources and support needed to pursue higher education or develop certain skills. This can **perpetuate** (*duy trì mãi*) the **cycle of poverty** (*chu kỳ nghèo đói*) and restrict their options in adulthood.
2. **Financial insecurity and stress:** Growing up in financially disadvantaged families can lead to heightened financial stress and instability. For instance, a child growing up in a financially disadvantaged family may witness their parents struggling to **make ends meet** (*kiếm sống*), constantly worrying about bills, and making **sacrifices** (*hi sinh*) to provide basic necessities. The child may internalize this financial stress and develop anxiety about money management and stability. As they transition into adulthood, they may carry this burden of financial insecurity, which can hinder their ability to make confident financial decisions and achieve **financial stability** (*ổn định kinh tế*).
3. **Social and educational disparities:** Children from low-income families may face social and educational **disparities** (*sự chênh lệch*) compared to their wealthier **counterparts** (*bạn đồng trang lứa*). They may not have access to **private tutoring** (*gia sư*) or after-school programs that can enhance their learning and skill development. Additionally, their social circle may be limited to others facing similar economic challenges, which can restrict their **exposure** (*tiếp xúc*) to diverse perspectives and networks. This can create disadvantages in adulthood, affecting their career prospects and overall life opportunities.

Question 5: Some people claim the best way to reduce poverty in developing countries is to provide at least 6 years of free education. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Empowering individuals through education:** Increased access to education can empower individuals and communities, leading to poverty reduction. By providing at least 6 years of free education in developing countries, more children would have the opportunity to receive formal education and acquire knowledge and skills that can improve their **future prospects** (*triển vọng tương lai*). This can break the cycle of poverty by enabling individuals to secure better employment and **income-generating opportunities** (*cơ hội tạo thu nhập*). For example, countries like Kenya and Ghana have implemented free primary education policies, resulting in increased school enrollment and positive impacts on poverty reduction.

- Promoting social and economic development:** Education is a key factor in promoting social and economic development. By providing free education for at least 6 years in developing countries, it becomes more accessible to **marginalized** (*bị gạt ra ngoài lề xã hội*) and disadvantaged populations who may otherwise be unable to afford schooling. This helps bridge the education gap and fosters equality, allowing all children, regardless of their **socioeconomic** (*kinh tế xã hội*) background, to have a fair chance at improving their lives. An example of this is the "Programa Bolsa Família" in Brazil, which provides cash transfers to low-income families, with the condition that children attend school regularly, leading to increased enrollment and **educational attainment** (*thành tích học tập*).
- Education is a fundamental human right and a powerful tool for empowerment:** Providing free education for at least 6 years in developing countries ensures that children have access to basic education, which can enhance their cognitive abilities, critical thinking skills, and overall well-being. It **equips them with** (*trang bị cho... cái gì*) knowledge to make informed decisions, contributes to their personal growth, and enables them to actively participate in society. For instance, the United Nations' "Education for All" initiative aims to provide free education to children worldwide, recognizing its importance in eradicating poverty and promoting **sustainable development** (*phát triển bền vững*).

Disagree:

- Addressing immediate needs:** While education is crucial, solely providing 6 years of free education may not be sufficient to address the **multifaceted** (*đa diện*) causes of poverty in developing countries. Poverty reduction requires a comprehensive approach that tackles systemic issues such as access to healthcare, clean water, infrastructure, and economic opportunities. Focusing solely on education may overlook other critical aspects that contribute to poverty.
- Sustainability and funding challenges:** Implementing free education for at least 6 years can place a significant financial burden on governments and may not be financially sustainable **in the long run** (*trong tương lai*). It requires substantial investments in infrastructure, qualified teachers, and educational resources. Without proper funding and planning, the quality of education may suffer, leading to ineffective outcomes and limited impact on poverty reduction.
- Tailoring education to local contexts:** Providing free education for 6 years may not be the most effective solution if the education system itself **is plagued by** (*bị cản trở bởi*) challenges such as low-quality teaching, **outdated curricula** (*chương trình giảng dạy lỗi thời*), and **inadequate** (*không đủ*) infrastructure. For instance, in a developing country where the education system is struggling with outdated textbooks, underqualified teachers, and overcrowded classrooms, providing free education for 6 years may not address the root causes of educational challenges. Even if the duration of education is extended, the quality of teaching and learning may remain subpar, limiting students' ability to acquire relevant knowledge and skills. Therefore, it is crucial to invest in improving teaching standards, updating curricula, and upgrading infrastructure to create an effective education system that truly prepares students for future success.

Question 6: Space travel has been possible for some time. Some people think space tourism could be developed in the future which can help to develop countries' economies. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Economic Boost:** Space tourism has the potential to stimulate economic growth by creating new industries and job opportunities. The development of **spaceports** (*trạm không gian*), hotels, and related infrastructure can generate **revenue** (*doanh thu*) and attract tourists from around the world. For instance, the rise of space tourism could lead to the growth of space travel agencies, manufacturing companies, and **hospitality services** (*dịch vụ khách sạn*), contributing to the economy of countries involved.
2. **Technological Advancements:** The pursuit of space tourism can drive technological advancements that have **far-reaching** (*có ảnh hưởng sâu rộng*) benefits. Developing the necessary **spacecraft propulsion** (*động cơ đẩy tàu vũ trụ*) systems, and life-support technologies can lead to **breakthroughs** (*đột phá*) in various fields, such as transportation, materials science, and **telecommunications** (*viễn thông*). These advancements can be utilized in other industries, **spurring innovation** (*thúc đẩy sự đổi mới*) and fostering economic progress.
3. **Scientific Exploration:** Space tourism can support scientific research and exploration. Companies offering space tourism experiences may collaborate with scientists to gather data, conduct experiments, and advance our understanding of space. For example, a space tourism company collaborating with **astronomers** (*nhà thiên văn học*) could equip their spacecraft with specialized telescopes and instruments to observe **celestial bodies** (*thiên thể*) from unique **vantage points** (*điểm thuận lợi*). By collecting data and conducting experiments during these tourism trips, scientists can gain valuable insights into **space phenomena** (*hiện tượng không gian*) and contribute to scientific discoveries. This knowledge could then be applied to develop new technologies for satellite communications, deep space exploration, or even advancements in **astronomy** (*thiên văn học*) that benefit our understanding of the universe.

Disagree:

1. **Prioritization of resources:** Critics argue that resources allocated to space tourism should be prioritized for addressing pressing global issues, such as poverty, healthcare, and climate change. For example, instead of investing billions of dollars in developing space tourism infrastructure and spacecraft, those resources could be directed towards providing essential healthcare services and infrastructure in underserved areas. This could involve building hospitals, training medical professionals, and improving access to medication and healthcare facilities. By prioritizing these areas, governments and organizations can address immediate challenges and make a **tangible impact** (*tác động hữu hình*) on improving people's lives on Earth.
2. **Environmental Impact:** The development of space tourism can have significant **environmental consequences** (*hậu quả về môi trường*). Spacecraft launches emit greenhouse gases and can contribute to air pollution. The increase in space tourism activities

could further **strain** (*kéo căng*) Earth's limited resources and **exacerbate** (*làm trầm trọng thêm*) environmental degradation, which contradicts sustainable development goals.

3. **Social equity concerns:** Space tourism is currently accessible only to the wealthiest individuals, **perpetuating social inequality** (*kéo dài bất bình đẳng xã hội*). Focusing on space tourism development may exacerbate the wealth gap and divert resources from projects that could benefit a broader population. It is essential to address social and **economic disparities** (*bất bình đẳng kinh tế*) on Earth before investing heavily in space tourism.

Question 7: Newspapers and magazines will not be available in the near future because large amounts of information from the Internet will replace them. Do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Accessibility and convenience:** The internet provides instant access to a vast amount of information, making it more convenient for people to find news and articles online. With smartphones and other digital devices becoming increasingly **prevalent** (*thịnh hành*), accessing information from the internet is becoming easier and more widespread. For example, a person commuting on a train can easily pull out their smartphone, open a news app, and instantly access the latest headlines and articles from various sources. They can browse through different categories, bookmark articles for later reading, and even receive notifications for breaking news updates. This convenience allows individuals to stay informed and access information **at their fingertips** (*trong tầm tay*), regardless of their location.
2. **Cost-effectiveness:** Online news platforms often provide free access to news articles and content, eliminating the need for individuals to purchase physical newspapers or magazines. This **cost-saving aspect** (*khía cạnh tiết kiệm chi phí*) makes online information more attractive to readers. To illustrate, people can browse multiple online news websites without having to pay for **individual subscriptions** (*thuê bao cá nhân*) or purchasing physical copies, which can save them money in the long run.
3. **Environmental considerations:** The **digitization** (*số hóa*) of newspapers and magazines can contribute to environmental sustainability. The production of paper-based publications requires large quantities of wood, energy, and water, leading to **deforestation** (*phá rừng*) and pollution. To be specific, by transitioning to digital formats, publishers can reduce their environmental footprint and contribute to conservation efforts. This shift aligns with the growing **global awareness** (*nhận thức toàn cầu*) of the need for sustainable practices across industries.
4. **Interactive and multimedia content:** The internet allows for the **integration** (*hội nhập*) of multimedia elements such as videos, images, and interactive features, enhancing the news reading experience. Online platforms can provide a more engaging and immersive way to consume information compared to traditional print media. For specific, online news articles may include **embedded videos** (*video nhúng*), **interactive graphics** (*đồ họa tương tác*), and

photo galleries that provide additional context and visual appeal, creating a more interactive and engaging reading experience for users.

Disagree:

1. **Tangibility and nostalgia:** Print newspapers and magazines offer a physical and **tactile experience** (*trải nghiệm cảm giác*) that some individuals find enjoyable and **nostalgic** (*hoài niệm*). Some people still prefer the feeling of holding a physical newspaper in their hands and flipping through its pages. For example, many **avid readers** (*người mê đọc sách*) enjoy the ritual of flipping through the pages of a print newspaper, taking their time to read and enjoy the articles, advertisements, and various sections that a physical publication offers.
2. **Credibility and trust:** Traditional newspapers and magazines have a **long-standing** (*lâu đời*) reputation for **credibility** (*sự uy tín*) and **journalistic integrity** (*báo chí liêm chính*). While the internet offers a vast amount of information, it also presents challenges in terms of misinformation and fake news. Print publications, with their **rigorous editorial processes** (*quy trình biên tập chặt chẽ*) and fact-checking standards, continue to be trusted sources of information for many readers. For instance, certain readers may have a **longstanding trust** (*tin tưởng lâu dài*) in specific newspapers or magazines due to their history of thorough fact-checking, professional journalism, and **adherence to** (*tuân thủ theo*) ethical standards.
3. **Offline accessibility and reliability:** Print media does not rely on internet connectivity, ensuring that individuals can access news even in areas with limited or no internet access. Additionally, physical newspapers and magazines do not face the risks of **technical glitches** (*trục trặc kỹ thuật*) or **server outages** (*máy chủ ngừng hoạt động*) that can disrupt online information flow. For example, in remote areas or during natural disasters, where internet connectivity may be unreliable or nonexistent, having access to physical newspapers and magazines becomes crucial for staying informed and updated on current events.

Question 8: Some people think that things learnt at school are not as useful, and there are important skills to learn outside school. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Practical life skills:** One argument is that there are essential life skills that are not taught in school but are crucial for success in the real world. Practical skills and real-world experiences gained outside of school can complement academic learning and provide valuable knowledge that is applicable to everyday life. For example, learning how to manage personal finances, navigate social situations, or develop **critical thinking skills** (*kỹ năng tư duy phản biện*) through practical experiences can be equally important as traditional classroom learning.
2. **Personal development:** Supporters of this view believe that education outside the classroom, such as participation in sports, arts, volunteering, or travel, provides valuable opportunities for **personal growth** (*phát triển cá nhân*) and character development. For instance, a student who volunteers at a local animal shelter not only gains practical skills in caring for animals but also develops a sense of **empathy** (*sự đồng cảm*) and responsibility towards other living

beings. This experience outside the classroom helps them understand the importance of giving back to the community and **cultivates** (*nuôi dưỡng*) qualities like kindness and **compassion** (*lòng trắc ẩn*). These non-academic experiences contribute to a well-rounded education, fostering personal growth and character development in ways that traditional classroom learning may not fully **encompass** (*bao quát*).

3. **Specialized skills and interests:** Non-academic skills such as communication, problem-solving, teamwork, and adaptability are often acquired through extracurricular activities, hobbies, or part-time jobs. These skills are crucial for personal and professional success and may not be emphasized as much within the **school curriculum** (*chương trình giáo dục*). For example, a student who participates in a school theater production or joins a debate club can develop effective communication skills by expressing their thoughts and ideas in front of an audience. They also learn to collaborate with team members, solve problems creatively, and adapt to different roles or situations.

Disagree:

1. **Academic foundation:** One **counter-argument** (*phản biện*) is that school education provides a **solid academic foundation** (*nền tảng học thuật vững chắc*) that forms the basis for further learning and professional development. For example, in a school setting, students receive instruction in core subjects such as mathematics, science, language arts, and social studies. These subjects provide a solid **foundation of knowledge** (*nền tảng kiến thức*) and skills that are necessary for higher education and future career opportunities.
2. **Structured learning environment:** School education provides a structured and comprehensive curriculum designed to impart essential knowledge and skills across various subjects. The systematic learning approach in schools ensures a **well-rounded education** (*nền giáo dục toàn diện*), covering a wide range of subjects that are fundamental for personal and **intellectual growth** (*tăng trưởng trí tuệ*). For specific, Qualified teachers in schools possess the expertise and experience to guide students in their learning journey, providing them with proper guidance, feedback, and evaluation. This level of guidance may be lacking in informal learning outside of school, where the quality and reliability of information may vary.
3. **Socialization and teamwork:** Schools offer opportunities for socialization, collaboration, and teamwork, which are vital for personal and professional success. For example, in schools, students have the opportunity to work on group projects and participate in team sports or clubs. These activities promote collaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills as students learn to work together towards a common goal. Through these interactions, they develop important social skills such as empathy, **active listening** (*nghe chủ động*), and **conflict resolution** (*giải quyết xung đột*), which are valuable in both personal and professional contexts.

Question 9: Countries should try to produce all the food and import as little food as possible. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Food Security:** Food **self-sufficiency** (*sự tự cung tự cấp*) promotes food security and reduces dependence on **external sources** (*nguồn lực bên ngoài*). By producing a significant portion of their own food, countries can ensure a stable and reliable food supply, especially during times of **global crises** (*khủng hoảng toàn cầu*) or disruptions in trade. For instance, Japan encourages domestic agricultural production to reduce its reliance on imported food, particularly in the wake of natural disasters or **geopolitical tensions** (*căng thẳng địa chính trị*) that may impact international trade.
2. **Economic Self-Sufficiency:** Local food production supports the local economy and creates jobs. By focusing on domestic production, countries can stimulate agricultural sectors, generate employment opportunities, and boost economic growth. For example, in Brazil, the government has implemented policies to support local farmers and **incentivize** (*khuyến khích*) domestic food production, which contributes to job creation and economic development in rural areas.
3. **Environmental friendly:** Producing food locally can promote sustainability and reduce carbon emissions associated with long-distance transportation. By **minimizing** (*giảm thiểu*) food imports, countries can lower their **ecological footprint** (*hủy hoại sinh thái*) and promote environmentally friendly agricultural practices. For instance, Denmark has prioritized local food production and sustainable farming methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with transporting food from distant locations.

Disagree:

1. **Economic cooperation and global interconnectedness:** International trade promotes **economic cooperation** (*hợp tác kinh tế*) and **global interconnectedness** (*kết nối toàn cầu*). By engaging in food imports, countries can establish trade partnerships, foster **diplomatic relations** (*quan hệ ngoại giao*), and benefit from **comparative advantages** (*lợi thế so sánh*) in different regions. For example, South Korea imports a significant portion of its agricultural products, including grains and fruits, to diversify its food supply and take advantage of favorable trade agreements with other countries.
2. **Resource Efficiency:** Importing food can support food affordability and accessibility. Depending solely on domestic production may lead to higher prices if local resources are limited or affected by natural disasters. Importing can help maintain stable food prices and ensure food availability for all. Singapore, for specific, with its limited land for agriculture, relies heavily on food imports to feed its population and maintain affordable prices in the face of **land constraints** (*hạn chế về đất đai*).
3. **More available choices:** Importing food can provide access to a greater variety of products and diverse nutritional options. Countries may not have the climate or resources to produce certain types of food, and importing allows consumers to enjoy a wider range of choices. The United Arab Emirates, for example, relies heavily on food imports to meet the **dietary needs**

(*nhu cầu ăn uống*) of its diverse population and provide a variety of **international cuisine** (*ẩm thực quốc tế*) options.

Question 10: Responsible tourists could preserve both the local culture and environment. Some people think it is impossible to be a responsible tourist. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Disagree:

1. **Cultural Sensitivity and Respect:** Responsible tourists can contribute to the preservation of local culture by respecting customs, traditions, and **cultural heritage** (*di sản văn hóa*). By engaging in respectful interactions with local communities and supporting local businesses, tourists can help **sustain** (*duy trì*) cultural practices and ensure their **authenticity** (*tính xác thực*). For example, in Bhutan, visitors are required to follow a "High-Value, Low-Impact" tourism policy, which focuses on preserving Bhutanese culture, traditions, and the environment through responsible tourism practices.
2. **Sustainable Practices:** Responsible tourists can minimize their environmental impact by practicing sustainable tourism behaviors. This includes reducing waste, conserving resources, supporting **eco-friendly accommodations** (*chỗ ở thân thiện với môi trường*) and transportation, and respecting natural habitats. The Galapagos Islands in Ecuador have implemented strict regulations to protect the **delicate** (*mong manh*) ecosystem, and responsible tourists are encouraged to **adhere to** (*tuân thủ*) these guidelines to preserve the unique **biodiversity** (*sự đa dạng sinh học*) of the region.
3. **Supporting Local Communities:** Responsible tourists can contribute to the local economy and community development by engaging in responsible tourism practices. This includes supporting local businesses, artisans, and farmers, and participating in **community-based tourism** (*du lịch cộng đồng*) initiatives that provide direct benefits to the local population. In Thailand, the "Sufficiency Economy" philosophy promotes responsible tourism by encouraging visitors to support local communities, purchase locally made products, and engage in activities that contribute to the well-being of the local economy.

Agree:

1. **Mass Tourism and Overcrowding:** Irresponsible tourism can lead to overcrowding and **overtourism** (*quá tải du lịch*), which **puts strain on** (*gây căng thẳng*) local infrastructure, natural resources, and cultural sites. The **sheer volume** (*khối lượng lớn*) of tourists in some destinations can cause negative impacts, even if individuals may have intended to be responsible. The city of Venice, Italy, has **been grappling with** (*vật lộn với*) issues of overcrowding and the negative consequences of mass tourism, such as environmental damage, increased waste, and disruption of local life.
2. **Selfish Priority:** Some tourists may prioritize personal enjoyment and convenience over responsible practices, leading to activities such as wildlife exploitation, **unethical** (*phi đạo đức*) behavior, or cultural insensitivity. Instances of tourists engaging in activities like riding

elephants or participating in animal shows in Southeast Asia highlight the need for greater awareness and responsible decision-making among tourists.

3. **Lack of Awareness and Education:** Some tourists may not be aware of their impact or lack the knowledge to be responsible. Despite good intentions, they may unknowingly engage in activities that harm the local culture and environment. Specifically, In popular tourist destinations like Bali, excessive tourism and unsustainable practices have led to environmental degradation and **cultural commodification** (*mặt hàng văn hóa*), indicating that not all tourists are responsible.

Question 11: In countries where there is high unemployment, most pupils should be offered only primary school, there is no point in offering secondary education to those who will have no hope of finding a job. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Focus on vocational training:** In a country with high unemployment rates, primary schools could introduce **vocational training programs** (*chương trình đào tạo nghề*) that focus on practical skills relevant to local industries, such as **carpentry** (*nghề mộc*), **plumbing** (*sửa đường ống nước*), or computer programming. By offering targeted vocational training at the primary level, students can develop valuable skills early on, increasing their **employability** (*khả năng có việc làm*) and potential for finding jobs upon completing their education. This approach not only addresses the immediate need for employment but also aligns education with the demands of the local job market, preparing students for specific career paths from an early age.
2. **Resource allocation:** In a country with limited resources and high unemployment, focusing on primary education and investing in basic literacy and **numeracy instruction** (*dạy toán*) can have a significant impact. By ensuring that all students have a strong foundation in essential skills, such as reading, writing, and mathematics, they are better equipped to pursue further education or enter the workforce. This approach maximizes the use of limited resources by targeting the critical early years of education, setting students up for success in their future academic and **professional endeavors** (*nỗ lực nghề nghiệp*).
3. **Addressing immediate needs:** In regions with high unemployment rates, prioritizing primary education ensures that children gain essential skills and knowledge necessary for their personal and professional lives. By focusing on subjects like reading, writing, and basic mathematics, students acquire foundational skills that can help them **navigate** (*điều hướng*) everyday challenges and improve their **employability** (*khả năng có việc làm*). This approach acknowledges the immediate needs of the population and **empowers** (*trao quyền*) individuals with the necessary tools to make a positive impact on their lives, regardless of their employment prospects.

Disagree:

1. **Long-term development:** Denying secondary education to pupils in countries with high unemployment may **perpetuate** (*duy trì*) the **cycle of poverty** (*chu kỳ nghèo đói*) and limit their long-term prospects. Secondary education can provide specialized skills, vocational training, and broader knowledge that can increase employability and open doors to various career paths. In some countries, vocational training programs offered as part of secondary education have helped young people gain practical skills and find employment in industries with a demand for specialized workers.
2. **Personal growth:** Secondary education goes beyond job prospects and contributes to personal development, critical thinking, and social awareness. It equips individuals with a broader understanding of the world, enabling them to participate actively in society. For example, secondary education helps develop skills such as research, analysis, and communication, which are valuable in various professional settings, **entrepreneurship** (*tinh thần kinh doanh*), and civic engagement.
3. **Diverse skill sets:** Education is not solely about finding employment; it is also about fostering **well-rounded individuals** (*những cá nhân giỏi toàn diện*) who can contribute to society in diverse ways. Denying secondary education based solely on immediate job prospects neglects the importance of education for personal growth, **citizenship** (*quyền công dân*), and **lifelong learning** (*học tập suốt đời*). Secondary education promotes intellectual curiosity, encourages creativity, and provides opportunities for personal exploration and self-discovery, regardless of immediate employment outcomes.

Question 12: The best way to solve the traffic and transportation problem is to encourage people to live in cities rather than suburbs or countryside. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Agree:

1. **Efficient use of infrastructure:** Encouraging people to live in cities can help **maximize** (*tối đa hóa*) the **utilization** (*sự tận dụng*) of existing transportation infrastructure, reducing congestion and improving **traffic flow** (*lưu lượng giao thông*). It allows for better **integration** (*hội nhập*) of public transportation systems and promotes sustainable modes of commuting. Initiatives that prioritize urban development and create **incentives** (*ưu đãi*) for city living, such as affordable housing options, improved public transportation networks, and vibrant city centers, can encourage people to choose city living.
2. **Access to amenities and services:** Living in cities provides residents with easier access to a wide range of **amenities** (*tiện nghi*), including schools, healthcare facilities, **entertainment venues** (*địa điểm giải trí*), and employment opportunities. Concentrating population in urban areas can **facilitate** (*tạo điều kiện*) the efficient delivery of services and reduce travel distances. By living in cities, individuals can benefit from the **proximity** (*sự gần gũi*) of essential services like hospitals, schools, shopping centers, and **recreational facilities** (*phương tiện giải trí*), making their daily lives more convenient and time-efficient.

3. **Environmental sustainability:** Concentrating population in cities can lead to reduced carbon emissions and environmental impact. With shorter commuting distances, there is less reliance on private vehicles, and public transportation and walking become more **feasible** (*khả thi*) options. This can contribute to mitigating air pollution and promoting sustainable living. By encouraging urban living, cities can implement policies that support eco-friendly transportation alternatives such as **bike-sharing programs** (*chương trình chia sẻ xe đạp*), electric vehicle infrastructure, and **pedestrian-friendly infrastructure** (*hạ tầng thân thiện với người đi bộ*), reducing reliance on fossil fuels and promoting a greener environment.

Disagree:

1. **Quality of life:** Quality of life in suburbs and countryside: Some individuals prefer the peacefulness, spaciousness, and closer connection to nature that suburbs and countryside offer. Encouraging everyone to live in cities may neglect the preferences and lifestyle choices of those who prioritize a quieter and more rural environment. For instance, families may choose to live in the suburbs for the sake of their children's **upbringing** (*nuôi dưỡng*), as they value access to green spaces, larger homes, and a sense of community that may be lacking in densely populated urban areas.
2. **Housing affordability:** Living in cities often comes with higher housing costs due to the demand for limited urban space. This can create housing affordability issues and make it challenging for certain **segments** (*phân khúc*) of the population to live in cities. Specifically, high housing prices in cities can lead to **gentrification** (*hoán đổi cư dân*), displacing low-income residents and forcing them to seek affordable housing options in suburbs or rural areas.
3. **Urban overcrowding and strain on infrastructure:** Concentrating too much population in cities without **adequate** (*đầy đủ*) infrastructure development can lead to overcrowding, increased pressure on public services, and strained transportation networks. This may **exacerbate** (*làm trầm trọng thêm*) existing traffic and transportation problems rather than solving them. For example, encouraging more people to live in cities without sufficient investment in transportation systems, roads, and public services can result in increased congestion, longer commute times, and a **deterioration** (*suy thoái*) in the overall quality of life in urban areas.

DISCUSS BOTH VIEWS AND GIVE OPINION

Question 1: Restoration of old buildings in many cities involves enormous government expenditure. It would be more beneficial to spend this money to build new houses and roads. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Arguments in favor of restoring old buildings:

1. **Preservation of historical and cultural heritage:** Restoring old buildings helps maintain a city's **unique identity** (*bản sắc độc đáo*) and cultural heritage. These buildings often hold **historical significance** (*ý nghĩa lịch sử*) and tell stories about the city's past. Preserving them contributes to the overall character and charm of the city, attracting tourists and fostering a sense of pride among the local community. For instance, renovating a **historic landmark** (*đấu tích lịch sử*), such as a centuries-old **cathedral** (*nhà thờ lớn*) or a traditional **townhouse** (*nhà phố*), not only preserves its architectural beauty but also serves as a reminder of the city's rich history, attracting visitors and boosting **tourism revenue** (*doanh thu du lịch*).
2. **Economic benefits and revitalization:** Restoration projects can **revitalize** (*hồi sinh*) neglected neighborhoods and stimulate economic growth. **Rehabilitating** (*phục hồi chức năng*) old buildings can attract businesses, restaurants, and shops, creating job opportunities and boosting local economies. Additionally, renovated areas often become attractive places to live, increasing property values and encouraging further investment. To illustrate, converting an abandoned factory building into a vibrant arts district can breathe new life into the area, attracting artists, galleries, and visitors, and driving economic activity through increased tourism and spending.
3. **Sustainable development and environmental conservation:** **Retrofitting** (*trang bị thêm*) and **repurposing** (*tái sử dụng*) old buildings are more sustainable practices compared to constructing new ones. It reduces the consumption of raw materials and minimizes construction waste. Additionally, older buildings often possess unique architectural features that can enhance energy efficiency when upgraded with modern technologies. Renovating an old office building to meet green building standards, such as installing **energy-efficient windows** (*cửa sổ tiết kiệm năng lượng*), **insulation** (*vật liệu cách nhiệt*), and renewable energy systems, not only reduces the environmental impact but also lowers energy costs and promotes sustainability.

Arguments in favor of building new houses and roads:

1. **Urgent need for infrastructure development:** Allocating significant government funds to building new houses and roads addresses pressing issues such as housing shortages and inadequate transportation networks. The investment in new infrastructure can provide immediate benefits, such as improving connectivity, reducing traffic congestion, and meeting the growing demand for housing. Specifically, constructing new roads and bridges in rapidly expanding urban areas can **alleviate** (*giảm thiểu*) traffic congestion and **facilitate** (*tạo điều kiện*) smoother transportation, ensuring efficient movement of goods and people.

2. **Cost-effectiveness and long-term benefits:** Building new houses and roads may be more **cost-effective** (*tiết kiệm chi phí*) in the long run compared to restoring old buildings, which often require extensive renovations and ongoing maintenance. Allocating funds to new construction projects can result in modern, efficient structures that require fewer repairs and provide better amenities. Constructing new affordable housing units with modern designs and energy-efficient features can provide long-term solutions to the housing crisis, reducing maintenance costs and improving living conditions for residents.
3. **Economic stimulus and job creation:** Investing in new construction projects generates employment opportunities and stimulates economic growth. Building new houses and roads involves a range of **construction-related jobs** (*công việc liên quan đến xây dựng*), including architects, engineers, **contractors** (*nhà thầu*), and laborers. This can have a positive impact on local economies by creating jobs and boosting demand for goods and services. For specific, constructing new residential developments or expanding transportation infrastructure can create a significant number of jobs in the construction industry, contributing to economic growth and reducing unemployment rates.

Opinion:

In my opinion, while there is value in investing in both the restoration of old buildings and the construction of new houses and roads, the decision should be **context-specific** (*ngữ cảnh cụ thể*). It depends on factors such as the historical and cultural significance of the buildings, the urgency of infrastructure needs, and the available resources. A balanced approach that considers the preservation of heritage, sustainable development, and immediate requirements for housing and infrastructure is essential.

Question 2: Countries with a long average working time are more economically successful than those countries which do not have a long working time. But some negative social consequences result as well. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Positive Side:

1. **Increased productivity and economic growth:** Countries with a long average working time may experience higher productivity levels, as more time is dedicated to work-related activities. This increased productivity can lead to economic success, as it allows for the production of more goods and services, contributing to overall economic growth. For example, countries like Japan and South Korea, known for their long working hours, have achieved remarkable economic success, with high levels of industrial production and technological advancements.
2. **Competitive advantage and innovation:** Longer working hours can provide a competitive advantage for countries in global markets. The additional time spent working allows for more opportunities to innovate, develop new technologies, and improve processes. This can lead to increased competitiveness, attracting foreign investments and driving economic success. Silicon Valley in the United States, for instance, is renowned for its long working hours and a

culture of **entrepreneurship** (*tinh thần kinh doanh*), which has contributed to its status as a **global hub** (*đầu mối toàn cầu*) for technological innovation and economic prosperity.

3. **Increased individual earnings and living standards:** Longer working hours may result in higher individual incomes, which can lead to improved **living standards** (*mức sống*) for citizens. The ability to earn more can provide individuals with access to better healthcare, education, housing, and overall quality of life. Countries like Switzerland and Singapore, where long working hours are common, have high average incomes and offer a range of social benefits, contributing to a high standard of living for their citizens.

Negative Side:

1. **Negative impact on work-life balance and well-being:** Long working hours can lead to a poor **work-life balance** (*cân bằng giữa công việc và cuộc sống*), causing stress, **fatigue** (*mỏi mệt*), and **burnout** (*kiệt sức*) among employees. This can have **detrimental effects** (*ảnh hưởng bất lợi*) on their physical and mental health, reducing overall well-being and happiness. Countries with long working hours, such as Japan, have observed high rates of overwork-related health issues, including Karoshi (death by overwork) and mental health concerns.
2. **Decreased productivity and inefficiency:** Working excessively long hours can actually decrease productivity and efficiency. Fatigue and reduced concentration levels can lead to a decline in the quality of work and increased error rates. This can result in wasted time and resources, ultimately hindering economic success. Several European countries, such as Denmark and the Netherlands, have shorter working hours compared to countries with longer working hours but still maintain high levels of productivity and economic success.
3. **Negative social impact and inequality:** Long working hours can contribute to **social inequalities** (*bất bình đẳng xã hội*) by limiting leisure time and opportunities for personal growth, education, and community engagement. This can lead to **social fragmentation** (*sự phân hóa xã hội*), decreased social cohesion, and disparities in access to resources and opportunities. European countries, known for their shorter working hours and strong social welfare systems, have achieved high levels of social equality and well-being among their citizens, despite not having a long average working time.

Question 3: Some people think that the government should provide assistance to all kinds of artists, while some others think it is a waste of money. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

View 1: Government should provide assistance to all kinds of artists

1. **Cultural preservation:** Providing assistance to all kinds of artists can contribute to the **enrichment** (*làm giàu*) and preservation of a nation's cultural heritage. Artists **play a vital role** (*đóng một vai trò quan trọng*) in expressing and **showcasing** (*trưng bày*) diverse art forms, traditions, and creative expressions. Government support can help sustain artistic practices and ensure their continuity for future generations. For example, the government of France provides extensive support and funding to artists through various programs, **grants** (*trợ cấp*), and **subsidies** (*trợ cấp*), which has resulted in a vibrant artistic and cultural scene that attracts tourists and contributes to the country's cultural identity.
2. **Economic impact and job creation:** Supporting artists can have positive economic effects by stimulating the creative economy. Investments in the arts sector can generate employment opportunities, boost tourism, and attract cultural events and festivals. Artists and their works often contribute to the overall economic development of a region or country. For instance, the film industry in Hollywood, supported by government incentives and infrastructure, has not only created numerous jobs but also generated substantial revenue through film production, distribution, and related industries.
3. **Social well-being:** Art has the power to bring people together, foster **dialogue** (*hội thoại*), and promote social cohesion. Supporting artists and their initiatives can contribute to community engagement, cultural exchange, and social integration. Artistic activities, such as exhibitions, performances, and workshops, have the potential to enhance the well-being and quality of life for individuals and communities. Street art projects in cities like Bristol, England, have transformed **neglected areas** (*khu vực bị bỏ quên*) into vibrant cultural hubs, fostering a sense of pride, community, and urban renewal.

View 2: Government assistance to artists is a waste of money

1. **Allocation of resources:** Critics argue that government assistance to artists can **divert** (*chuyển hướng*) resources from other pressing social needs, such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure. Limited public funds should be directed towards areas with more immediate and **tangible societal benefits** (*lợi ích xã hội hữu hình*). In times of **economic recession** (*suy thoái kinh tế*) or budget constraints, governments may face challenges in justifying substantial financial support for the arts when there are competing priorities that directly impact citizens' well-being.
2. **Artistic subjectivity and market demand:** Some people believe that government intervention in supporting artists may lead to biased selection processes or funding decisions that do not necessarily align with public taste or market demand. **Subsidizing** (*trợ cấp*) artists and art forms that have limited appeal could be seen as wasteful spending. For example, critics often question the allocation of public funds to **avant-garde** (*tiên phong*) or experimental art

forms that may not have widespread popularity or commercial success, arguing that such support should be driven by market forces rather than government intervention.

3. **Individual responsibility and self-sustainability:** Opponents argue that artists should rely on their own talent, entrepreneurship, and **private patronage** (*bảo trợ tư nhân*) to sustain their artistic careers. Government assistance can create dependency and hinder artists' independence and innovation. For instance, some successful artists have built their careers without significant government support, relying on their own creativity, networking, and entrepreneurial skills to gain recognition and financial stability.

Opinion:

In my opinion, providing assistance to all kinds of artists can have significant cultural, economic, and social benefits. Artistic expression and creativity are essential components of a vibrant society, and government support can help nurture artistic talent, preserve cultural heritage, and stimulate economic growth. However, it is crucial to ensure **transparent funding mechanisms** (*cơ chế cấp vốn minh bạch*), accountability, and a balanced allocation of resources to address other societal needs effectively. Collaboration between the government, private sector, and artists themselves can create a sustainable ecosystem that supports **artistic endeavors** (*những nỗ lực nghệ thuật*) while considering the overall well-being and priorities of society.

Question 4: The restoration of old buildings in major cities in the world involves numerous government expenditures. This money should be used in new housing and road development. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Argument in favor of restoring old buildings:

1. **Preservation of cultural heritage:** Restoring old buildings in major cities helps preserve their cultural and historical significance. These buildings often hold architectural, artistic, and symbolic value that represents the city's identity and heritage. Government **expenditures** (*chi tiêu*) on restoration ensure the protection of these **cultural assets** (*tài sản văn hóa*) for future generations. For example, the restoration of the Colosseum in Rome, Italy, preserves a significant historical landmark, attracting tourists and contributing to the country's cultural tourism industry.
2. **Economic benefits:** Restored old buildings can become major tourist attractions, generating economic benefits for the city and its residents. Tourism revenue from visitors interested in the city's historical architecture can stimulate local businesses, job creation, and overall economic growth. For example, the restoration of the Gyeongbokgung Palace in Seoul, South Korea, has boosted tourism and created opportunities for local businesses, such as souvenir shops, restaurants, and tour operators.
3. **Sustainable development and adaptive reuse:** Retrofitting and restoring old buildings align with principles of sustainable development by utilizing existing infrastructure rather than demolishing and constructing new ones. Adaptive reuse of old buildings can provide cost-effective solutions for housing, office spaces, or community facilities, reducing the need for

extensive new development. For instance, the High Line Park in New York City transformed an old elevated railway into a green public space, attracting visitors, supporting nearby businesses, and **revitalizing** (*hồi sinh*) the surrounding neighborhood.

Argument in favor of investing in new housing and road development:

1. **Meeting growing population needs:** Investing in new housing and road development addresses the increasing demand resulting from population growth and urbanization. By providing adequate housing options, cities can **accommodate** (*cung cấp nhà ở*) a larger number of residents and ensure access to safe and affordable housing. In rapidly growing cities like Dubai, the government's investment in new housing developments has helped address the housing needs of a growing population.
2. **Infrastructure improvement and economic growth:** Developing new roads and transportation infrastructure enhances connectivity, reduces congestion, and facilitates efficient movement of goods and people. This, in turn, can boost economic activities, attract investments, and create job opportunities. For example, the construction of the High-Speed Rail (HSR) network in China has led to improved transportation connectivity between cities, promoting economic development and **regional integration** (*hội nhập khu vực*).
3. **Modernization and sustainability:** New housing and road development projects provide an opportunity to incorporate modern architectural designs, **energy-efficient technologies** (*công nghệ tiết kiệm năng lượng*), and sustainable practices. This promotes environmental sustainability and creates livable, **resilient communities** (*cộng đồng bền vững*). The development of eco-friendly residential communities, such as Masdar City in Abu Dhabi, focuses on sustainable urban planning, renewable energy sources, and efficient transportation systems.

Opinion:

In my opinion, there should be a balanced approach when deciding whether to allocate government expenditures on restoring old buildings or investing in new housing and road development. Both perspectives have **valid points** (*điểm có lý*), and it is essential to consider the historical, cultural, economic, and environmental factors specific to each city. Governments should conduct comprehensive assessments, **taking into account** (*tính đến*) the significance of the buildings, the economic potential of restoration, the availability of resources, and the pressing needs of the population. A thoughtful approach that combines restoration efforts for iconic historical buildings and targeted investments in new developments can contribute to the overall sustainability and **vibrancy** (*sự sống động*) of a city.

Question 5: A 14-year-old person who seriously damaged school was made to clean streets as a punishment. Do you think young criminals should be sent to prison or there are alternative forms of punishment?

Side 1: Young criminals should be sent to prison

1. **Severity of the offense:** Some may argue that certain crimes committed by young individuals **warrant** (*bảo đảm*) more **severe punishment** (*phạt nặng*), such as **imprisonment** (*cầm tù*). If the offense is serious and poses a significant threat to public safety, sending the young criminal to prison may be seen as a necessary measure to protect society and deter others from similar actions. For example, imagine a 16-year-old individual who committed a violent crime, such as **armed robbery** (*cướp có vũ trang*) with a **firearm** (*vũ khí*), causing harm to innocent victims. By **incarcerating** (*tống giam*) the young criminal, it not only holds them accountable for their actions but also serves as a deterrent to others who might consider engaging in similar criminal behavior.
2. **Accountability and consequences:** Opponents of alternative punishments may argue that young criminals need to face the full **consequences** (*hậu quả*) of their actions. For instance, consider a 15-year-old individual who participated in a gang-related activity resulting in the severe injury of another person. Experiencing the harsh realities of prison life, including the loss of personal freedom and restricted **privileges** (*đặc quyền*), can serve as a **powerful deterrent** (*răn đe mạnh mẽ*) and make the individual realize **the gravity of their actions** (*hậu quả của hành động*). This approach emphasizes the importance of accountability and the need for young criminals to understand the severe consequences of their behavior.
3. **Legal consistency:** Critics of alternative punishments may point out that treating young criminals differently from adult offenders may **undermine** (*hủy hoại*) the principle of **legal consistency** (*tính nhất quán pháp lý*). If the crime committed is severe enough to warrant prison for an adult, it may be argued that the same punishment should be applied to a young individual who committed a similar offense.

Side 2: Alternative forms of punishment

1. **Rehabilitation and education:** Instead of sending young criminals to prison, alternative forms of punishment can focus on **rehabilitation** (*phục hồi nhân phẩm*) and education. Providing them with opportunities to learn from their mistakes, acquire new skills, and develop a sense of responsibility can help **steer them away** (*lái chúng ra khỏi*) from criminal behavior. For example, community service or vocational training programs can teach valuable lessons and promote positive change in young criminals who lack the awareness of their actions.
2. **Restorative justice:** Alternative forms of punishment can emphasize repairing the harm caused by the young criminal's actions. **Restorative justice practices** (*Các biện pháp phục hồi công lý*), such as mediation and dialogue between the **offender** (*kẻ xúc phạm*) and the affected parties, can promote accountability, understanding, and the restoration of relationships. This approach encourages **empathy** (*sự đồng cảm*) and personal growth, while also addressing the needs of the victims.

3. **Prevention and deterrence:** Alternative punishments can focus on preventing future offenses and **detering young individuals from** (*ngăn ai đó làm việc gì*) engaging in criminal activities. Programs that provide counseling, mentorship, and support services can help address the underlying causes of **delinquency** (*phạm pháp*), such as family problems or **substance abuse** (*lạm dụng chất kích thích*). By addressing these issues, alternative punishments can contribute to long-term crime prevention.

Question 6: Some celebrities say that their private lives should not come under media scrutiny. Other people, however, believe that they should accept it as part of their fame. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Ideas in favor of celebrities' private lives not coming under media scrutiny:

1. **Right to Privacy:** Celebrities, like any individual, have a right to privacy and should not have their personal lives constantly **scrutinized** (*xem xét kỹ lưỡng*) by the media. They deserve the same level of privacy and protection as anyone else. Paparazzi **intrusion** (*xâm phạm*) and invasive reporting can have negative effects on their mental well-being and personal relationships. As a result, celebrities should be able to enjoy their personal lives without constant media intrusion, just like any other person. Their private moments and personal matters should not be subject to public scrutiny.
2. **Focus on Professional Achievements:** Supporters argue that the focus should be on the talent and work of celebrities rather than their personal lives. The media should prioritize reporting on their professional achievements, **artistic endeavors** (*artistic endeavors*), and contributions to society. This allows celebrities to maintain a sense of normalcy and separate their public persona from their private life. Therefore, instead of invading their privacy, the media should celebrate the talent and creativity that celebrities bring to their respective fields. Their personal lives should not **overshadow** (*làm lu mờ*) their professional accomplishments.
3. **Mental Health and Well-being:** The intense media scrutiny can have detrimental effects on the mental health of celebrities. Constant exposure, rumors, and invasion of privacy can lead to stress, anxiety, and even depression. Respecting their boundaries and allowing them to have private lives can contribute to their overall well-being. By respecting their privacy, we can create a healthier environment for them to thrive in their careers.

Ideas in favor of celebrities accepting media scrutiny as part of their fame:

1. **Celebrity status and public interest:** Opponents argue that being a celebrity comes with a certain level of public interest and **curiosity** (*sự tò mò*). The public is interested in the lives of celebrities, and the media has a role in catering to this demand. Their fame and success are closely tied to their personal lives, and the public has a right to know about them. For more specific, celebrities enjoy the **privileges** (*đặc quyền*) and benefits that come with their fame, including financial success and **public adoration** (*sự tôn thờ của công chúng*). In return, the public has a **legitimate interest** (*quyền lợi chính đáng*) in knowing about their personal lives.

2. **Transparency and Accountability:** Some believe that celebrities should **embrace transparency** (*ủng hộ sự minh bạch*) and authenticity by allowing their personal lives to be part of the public domain. By being open about their struggles, relationships, and experiences, they can connect with their audience on a deeper level and foster a sense of relatability. For example, sharing personal stories and experiences can help break down barriers and create a sense of empathy between celebrities and their fans. Being transparent about their personal lives can make them more relatable and humanize their public image.
3. **Influence and role model status:** Critics argue that celebrities have a significant influence on society, especially on young people. Their actions and choices can serve as examples, both positive and negative. By subjecting their personal lives to scrutiny, they are held accountable for their behavior and serve as **role models** (*hình mẫu*). To be clearer, celebrities have a powerful platform that allows them to shape public opinion and influence social trends. It is essential to examine their personal lives to ensure they are acting responsibly and setting a good example for their fans.

Question 7: Some people think hosting major sporting events brings benefits for the country. Other people think that it only brings disadvantages. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Advantages of hosting major sporting events:

1. **Economic boost:** Hosting major sporting events can bring significant economic benefits to a country. It stimulates tourism, generates **revenue** (*doanh thu*) from ticket sales and **sponsorships** (*tài trợ*), boosts local businesses, and creates job opportunities. The **influx** (*dòng chảy lũ lượt*) of visitors and increased economic activity can have a positive impact on the country's overall economy. For example, the hosting of the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 led to a surge in tourism, increased employment opportunities, and stimulated infrastructure development, leaving a lasting positive impact on the city's economy.
2. **Infrastructure development:** Major sporting events often require the construction or improvement of stadiums, transportation systems, and other infrastructure. Hosting such events can accelerate infrastructure projects that benefit the host country in the long term. These developments can enhance transportation networks, create **recreational** (*giải trí*) spaces, and improve the overall quality of life for residents. For instance, the FIFA World Cup held in South Africa in 2010 prompted the construction of **state-of-the-art** (*hiện đại nhất*) stadiums, the expansion of transportation networks, and the improvement of public facilities, leaving a lasting **legacy** (*di sản*) of improved infrastructure in the country.
3. **National pride and international recognition:** Hosting major sporting events can boost national pride and provide an opportunity for a country to showcase its culture, traditions, and achievements to the world. It fosters a sense of unity and brings the **international spotlight** (*tiêu điểm quốc tế*) to the host nation, which can lead to increased global recognition and **positive perception** (*nhận thức tích cực*). For example, the 2012 London Olympics not only brought economic benefits but also **instilled** (*thấm nhuần*) a sense of national pride among

the British population. It showcased the country's rich history, diverse culture, and **organizational prowess** (*năng lực tổ chức*) on a global stage.

Disadvantages of hosting major sporting events:

1. **High costs and financial burden:** Hosting major sporting events often requires significant investment in infrastructure, security, and event organization. The costs associated with hosting can outweigh the economic benefits, leading to **financial strain** (*khó khăn về mặt tài chính*) on the host country. The expenses incurred may not be fully recovered, resulting in a financial burden for the government and taxpayers. The 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil faced criticism for its high costs and the strain it put on the country's economy, leading to protests and concerns over the diversion of funds from essential public services.
2. **Displacement and social issues:** Hosting major sporting events can lead to the displacement of local communities and social issues such as **gentrification** (*tiến bộ hóa*). The focus on infrastructure development for the event may neglect other pressing social needs, such as affordable housing, healthcare, and education. To illustrate, the 2008 Beijing Olympics brought about the **demolition** (*phá dỡ*) of numerous traditional neighborhoods, displacing thousands of residents to make way for Olympic venues, leading to social **unrest** (*bất ổn*) and concerns about **human rights violations** (*vi phạm nhân quyền*).
3. **Environmental impact:** Major sporting events often require large-scale construction and energy consumption, leading to environmental consequences. The carbon footprint, increased waste generation, and potential damage to natural habitats and ecosystems can outweigh any short-term economic gains. The 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, faced criticism for its environmental impact, including the destruction of protected areas and unsustainable construction practices.

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Question 8: Some people prefer to spend their lives doing the same things and avoiding change. Others, however, think that change is always a good thing. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Some people prefer to spend their lives doing the same things and avoiding change:

1. **Stability and comfort:** Some people prefer a stable and predictable life because it provides a sense of security and comfort. They may find satisfaction and contentment in routine and familiarity, avoiding unnecessary stress or disruptions that can come with change. They prioritize maintaining stability and a sense of control over **venturing into** (*mạo hiểm tham gia*) the unknown. In particular, a person who values stability may prefer to stay in the same job or live in the same place for an extended period, finding comfort in the familiarity of their surroundings.
2. **Risk aversion:** Change can bring about risks and uncertainties that some individuals may be reluctant to face. They may fear the potential negative consequences or disruptions that change can bring to their lives. For them, avoiding change is a way to mitigate risks and maintain a sense of stability and control. For specific, a business owner who decides against

implementing a new marketing strategy may do so to avoid potential risks and uncertainties associated with changing their current approach, preferring to maintain the **status quo** (*hiện trạng*).

3. **Efficiency and mastery:** People who prefer to do the same things often argue that repetition and consistency allow them to become more efficient and master their skills or tasks. They believe that by sticking to what they know, they can achieve higher levels of **proficiency** (*hiệu quả*) and productivity. For example, consider a professional musician who has been playing the same genre of music for many years. They argue that by consistently practicing and performing within their **comfort zone** (*vùng an toàn*), they have developed exceptional technical skills and deep understanding of their chosen style. They believe that this repetition has allowed them to master their instrument and deliver flawless performances. However, this focus on routine and familiarity may limit their creativity and hinder their ability to adapt to **evolving circumstances and innovation** (*điều kiện phát triển và đổi mới*).

Others, however, think that change is always a good thing:

1. **Personal growth and development:** Embracing change can lead to personal growth and development. By stepping out of their comfort zones and trying new things, individuals can expand their horizons, gain new experiences, and acquire valuable skills. Change can stimulate creativity, foster resilience, and open doors to new opportunities for self-improvement. To depict, A person who decides to change careers later in life may discover a newfound passion and achieve greater **professional fulfillment** (*sự hài lòng về công việc*) and satisfaction.
2. **Adaptability and resilience:** Change is a constant in life, and those who embrace it are better equipped to adapt to new circumstances and overcome challenges. By being open to change, individuals can develop resilience and the ability to navigate uncertainties. This can lead to increased flexibility, problem-solving skills, and the capacity to thrive in dynamic environments. For instance, a student who willingly embraces changes in the educational system, such as transitioning to online learning during a pandemic, can adapt more effectively and continue their education without significant disruptions.
3. **Innovation and progress:** Change drives innovation and progress in various aspects of life. By embracing change, societies and individuals can **break free** (*giải phóng*) from **stagnation** (*trì trệ*) and explore new ideas, technologies, and approaches. This fosters creativity, drives scientific advancements, and promotes positive societal transformation. A typical example, the introduction of renewable energy sources as a response to the need for sustainable development represents a change that brings about positive environmental impacts and contributes to the progress of society.

Question 9: Some people think that family is the most powerful influence on a child's development while others feel that other factors such as television and friends play a greater role today. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

View 1: Family as the Most Powerful Influence on a Child's Development

1. **Family as the primary influence:** Some believe that family plays the most significant role in a child's development. They argue that a loving and supportive family environment provides the foundation for a child's emotional well-being, values, and character. For example, parents who prioritize quality time, provide guidance, and **instill** (*đề tâm đến*) positive values can shape a child's behavior and future success.
2. **Emotional support and stability:** A supportive and **nurturing** (*nuôi dưỡng*) family environment can contribute to a child's emotional well-being and **resilience** (*sự kiên cường*). Strong family bonds provide a sense of security and stability that positively impacts a child's development. For example, a child growing up in a loving and supportive family where open communication is encouraged may develop strong emotional intelligence and social skills. They are more likely to feel safe expressing their thoughts and emotions, which can lead to healthier relationships with peers and **authority figures** (*thống kê của chính quyền*). The family's influence in fostering empathy, understanding, and conflict resolution skills can shape the child's behavior and interactions throughout their life.
3. **Educational and intellectual stimulation:** Families can create a **conducive learning environment** (*một môi trường học tập thuận lợi*) at home, fostering **intellectual growth** (*phát triển trí tuệ*) through educational activities, discussions, and encouragement to pursue academic interests. For instance, parents who prioritize education may set aside regular time for reading together, engaging in educational games, or **discussing school assignments** (*thảo luận về bài tập ở trường*). They may provide resources such as books, educational apps, or access to online learning platforms. By creating an environment that values education, children are more likely to develop a love for learning, critical thinking skills, and a strong academic foundation that can propel them towards future success.

View 2: Other Factors (Television and Friends) as Playing a Greater Role

1. **Influence of television and friends:** Others believe that in today's digital age, television and friends play a greater role in a child's development. Television exposes children to diverse perspectives and can educate and entertain. Friends also contribute to **socialization** (*hòa nhập xã hội*) and peer influence, shaping a child's behavior and choices. For example, television programs and documentaries can introduce children to various cultures, ideas, and concepts that they might not encounter within their immediate family. Through educational shows, children can learn about history, science, and different parts of the world, expanding their knowledge and broadening their **horizons** (*tầm hiểu biết*). Similarly, friends can provide opportunities for social interaction, teamwork, and the development of important social skills such as communication, empathy, and cooperation. Interacting with peers can also expose children to different perspectives and experiences, fostering their personal growth and understanding of the world.

- Peer influence and socialization:** Friends and peers play a crucial role in a child's social development. They provide opportunities for social interactions, shaping social skills, and influencing behaviors and preferences. This peer influence can impact decision-making and shape the **formation of personal identities** (*hình thành bản sắc cá nhân*). For instance, a child who is friends with avid readers may develop a love for books and reading, while a child who spends time with athletes may become more interested in sports. Thus, the influence of friends can significantly contribute to a child's social development and personal growth.
- Diverse perspectives and experiences:** Interacting with a broader range of influences, such as friends from different backgrounds or exposure to diverse media content, can contribute to a child's understanding of the world, fostering **empathy and tolerance** (*cảm thông và khoan dung*). For example, when a child has friends from diverse cultural backgrounds, they have the opportunity to learn about different traditions, customs, and perspectives. This exposure helps them develop a broader understanding of the world and cultivates empathy towards people from different cultures. Similarly, when children are exposed to diverse media content, such as books, movies, or documentaries, they are exposed to different stories, experiences, and viewpoints. This exposure challenges their **preconceived** (*có định kiến*) notions and encourages them to embrace diversity, fostering a more **inclusive mindset** (*tư duy hòa nhập*). Ultimately, these interactions and exposures can contribute to a child's personal growth and development of important values such as empathy, tolerance, and respect for others.

Question 10: In some countries people are not taking care of their elderly relatives, some believe elderly people should live in nursing homes where trained professional care for the elderly, others think they should live with the younger family members. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Idea 1 - Elderly Living in Nursing Homes:

- Professional Care:** Nursing homes employ trained professionals who can provide **round-the-clock** (*suốt ngày đêm*) medical care and assistance to elderly residents. For example, they may have nurses, doctors, and **physical therapists** (*vật lý trị liệu*) who can address specific health conditions such as **dementia** (*sa sút trí tuệ*), mobility issues, or **chronic illnesses** (*bệnh mãn tính*). These facilities are equipped with medical equipment and resources to ensure the safety and well-being of the elderly.
- Social Interaction:** Nursing homes often organize social activities and events where residents can interact with one another. For instance, they may have game nights, exercise classes, or **group outings** (*nhóm đi chơi*). These opportunities for socialization can help combat loneliness and isolation among the elderly. Being surrounded by peers facing similar life stages can create a supportive community and contribute to their overall mental and emotional well-being.
- Relief for younger family members:** Placing elderly relatives in nursing homes can provide relief for younger family members who may have demanding work schedules or other responsibilities. For instance, if an adult child has a full-time job and young children to care

for, they may find it challenging to provide the level of care and attention that their elderly parents require. Nursing homes can offer peace of mind, knowing that their elderly loved ones are in a safe and supportive environment.

Idea 2 - Elderly Living with Family Members:

1. **Emotional Support:** Living with younger family members allows for daily interactions and the strengthening of family bonds. For example, having grandparents living with their adult children and grandchildren can create a sense of continuity and a connection to family history. The presence of grandparents can also provide emotional support and guidance to younger family members.
2. **Personalized care and attention:** Family members can provide personalized care tailored to the specific needs and preferences of the elderly. For instance, they may be familiar with the **individual's dietary preferences** (*sở thích ăn kiêng của cá nhân*), hobbies, and daily routines. Family **caregivers** (*người chăm sóc*) can also offer emotional support, love, and **companionship** (*bạn đồng hành*), which can contribute to the overall well-being and happiness of the elderly person.
3. **Cultural and societal values:** In some cultures, it is deeply rooted in tradition and cultural values to care for elderly family members within the household. For example, **multi-generational** (*nhiều thế hệ*) living may be seen as a way to respect and honor one's elders. It provides an opportunity for the passing down of family traditions, values, and wisdom from one generation to the next.

Opinion:

My opinion is that the best approach depends on individual circumstances and the specific needs of the elderly person. Each option has its advantages and disadvantages, and it is important to consider factors such as the availability of family support, the health condition of the elderly person, and their personal preferences. Ultimately, the priority should be ensuring the well-being, safety, and dignity of the elderly, whether through nursing homes or living with family members. Flexibility and open communication among family members can help determine the most suitable arrangement for everyone involved.

Question 11: Some people claim that it is acceptable to use animals in medical research for the benefit of human beings, while others argue that it is wrong. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Idea 1 (Supporting the use of animals in medical research):

1. **Scientific and medical advancements:** Animal research has played a crucial role in the development of life-saving treatments, vaccines, and **surgical procedures** (*quy trình phẫu thuật*) that have significantly improved human health. For example, the development of insulin for **diabetes treatment** (*điều trị bệnh tiểu đường*) relied on experiments conducted on animals like **guinea pigs** (*chuột bạch*)
2. **Lack of alternatives:** Some argue that there are currently no **viable alternatives** (*các giải pháp thay thế khả thi*) to animal research in certain areas of medical science. For instance, in the development of new cancer treatments, animal models are crucial for studying the effectiveness and safety of potential drugs. Researchers can observe how these drugs interact with **living organisms** (*cơ thể sống*), monitor their impact on **tumor** (*khối u*) growth, and evaluate any potential **side effects** (*tác dụng phụ*). Without the use of animals, it would be challenging to assess the **efficacy** (*hiệu quả*) and potential risks of new cancer therapies before they are tested on human subjects.
3. **Ethical considerations:** Supporters argue that the potential benefits to human health outweigh the **ethical concerns** (*mối quan tâm về đạo đức*) of using animals in medical research. They believe that as long as **strict regulations** (*Các quy định nghiêm ngặt*) and **ethical guidelines** (*các nguyên tắc đạo đức*) are followed, the **sacrifice** (*hi sinh*) of animal lives can be justified for the greater good. For example, the development of the **polio vaccine** (*vắc xin bại liệt*) relied on extensive animal testing before it could be safely **administered** (*điều hành*) to humans. The research conducted on animals helped scientists understand the virus and develop an effective vaccine, ultimately eradicating polio as a public health threat in many parts of the world. Supporters argue that without the use of animals in this research, the discovery of a life-saving vaccine may have been significantly delayed or even impossible.

Idea 2 (Opposing the use of animals in medical research):

1. **Animal welfare and cruelty concerns:** Opponents argue that using animals in medical research causes unnecessary suffering and violates their rights. They believe that animals have the right to live free from harm and exploitation, regardless of potential human benefits. For example, organizations advocating for animal rights highlight cases of animals subjected to painful procedures and experiments, arguing that these actions are unethical and inhumane. They argue that animals possess the ability to experience pain and suffering, just like humans, and therefore should not be used for our benefit.
2. **Alternatives and advancements in research methods:** Critics argue that there are alternative research methods, such as in **vitro testing** (*thử nghiệm trong ống nghiệm*) and computer modeling, which can provide meaningful data without involving animals. These advancements give hope to opponents who believe that finding alternatives should be prioritized to eliminate the need for animal experimentation.

3. **Ineffectiveness and differences:** Some argue that the **physiological** (*sinh lý*) and genetic differences between humans and animals make the results of animal research unreliable and less applicable to human conditions. They question the **validity** (*hiệu lực*) of **extrapolating findings** (*kết quả được suy rộng ra*) from animals to humans. For instance, studies have shown that certain drugs that appeared to be safe and effective in animal testing later proved to have **adverse effects** (*tác động tiêu cực*) in human trials. The differences in genetic makeup and physiological responses between humans and animals can lead to variations in how drugs and treatments affect different species.

Question 12:. Some people think watching TV is bad for children, while others think that watching TV has more beneficial effects on children. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Argument: Watching TV is bad for children

1. **Sedentary lifestyle:** Excessive TV watching can lead to a **sedentary lifestyle** (*lối sống ít vận động*) and lack of physical activity, which may contribute to health issues such as obesity. It is important for children to engage in a balanced range of activities that include physical exercise. For example, a study published in the Journal of Pediatrics found that children who watched more than two hours of TV per day had a higher risk of developing obesity compared to those who watched less. The lack of physical activity associated with **prolonged** (*kéo dài*) TV viewing can lead to weight gain and related health problems.
2. **Limited interaction and creativity:** Excessive screen time can limit children's opportunities for social interaction, imaginative play, and creative pursuits. Engaging in real-life activities and face-to-face interactions are crucial for developing social and communication skills. A study conducted by the University of California, Los Angeles, revealed that excessive screen time during **adolescence** (*thiếu niên*) was linked to lower social competence and decreased ability to read **emotional cues** (*dấu hiệu cảm xúc*) in others.
3. **Exposure to inappropriate content:** Some TV content, such as violence or inappropriate behavior, can negatively impact children's behavior and attitudes. Exposure to age-inappropriate content can be harmful to their emotional and psychological well-being. For example, a study conducted by the American Psychological Association found that children who watched violent TV shows were more likely to display **aggressive behaviors** (*hành vi hung hăng*) and have a **desensitized attitude** (*thái độ vô cảm*) towards violence. Additionally, a study published in the Journal of Pediatrics revealed that children who were exposed to sexual content on TV at an early age were more likely to engage in risky sexual behaviors during adolescence.

Argument: Watching TV has beneficial effects on children

1. **Educational programming:** Watching educational programs can provide children with valuable knowledge and enhance their **cognitive** (*nhận thức*) and **intellectual development** (*phát triển trí tuệ*). For example, educational shows like Sesame Street teach children letters, numbers, and social skills in an engaging and interactive manner.

2. **Increased cultural awareness:** Television exposes children to diverse cultures, traditions, and perspectives from around the world. This exposure can foster tolerance, empathy, and a broader understanding of the global community. For example, documentaries and travel programs aimed at children can provide insights into various countries and cultures, expanding their knowledge and worldview.
3. **Entertainment and relaxation:** Watching TV can be a source of entertainment and relaxation for children, offering a break from daily routines and providing opportunities for leisure and enjoyment. After a long day at school or engaging in other activities, children can **unwind** (*thư giãn*) by watching their favorite TV shows or movies. This can provide them with a sense of relaxation and enjoyment, allowing them to recharge and decompress. Additionally, certain programs, such as animated series or comedy shows, can bring laughter and joy to children, contributing to their overall well-being and emotional satisfaction.

Question 13: Some people think that it is better for a child to grow up in the countryside than in the city, others disagree. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Arguments in favor of a child growing up in the countryside:

1. **Peaceful and natural environment:** Growing up in the countryside offers a peaceful and natural environment, which can have a positive impact on a child's development. The absence of noise pollution and the presence of green spaces allow children to connect with nature, engage in outdoor activities, and experience a sense of **tranquility** (*yên bình*). For example, children living in the countryside may have the opportunity to explore forests, rivers, and wildlife, fostering their appreciation for the environment and encouraging physical activity.
2. **Strong community bonds:** Rural areas often have **tight-knit communities** (*các cộng đồng gắn bó chặt chẽ*) where everyone knows each other. This sense of community can provide a nurturing environment for children, with neighbors looking out for one another. Close community ties can foster a supportive network for children to grow up in, ensuring their safety and well-being. Additionally, these communities often organize local events and activities that allow children to participate and develop social skills.
3. **Less exposure to urban challenges:** City life can present numerous challenges for children, such as traffic congestion, pollution, and crime rates. Growing up in the countryside can shield children from some of these urban problems, providing a safer and healthier environment. Children in the countryside may have more freedom to **roam** (*đi lang thang*) and play outdoors without the same concerns for safety as their **urban counterparts** (*bạn bè cùng thành phố*).

Arguments in favor of a child growing up in the city:

1. **Limited educational and cultural opportunities:** Living in the countryside may limit a child's access to diverse educational and cultural opportunities that are more readily available in cities. A child growing up in a city might have access to a variety of specialized educational programs, such as robotics clubs or language immersion schools, which can enhance their skills and knowledge in specific areas. They may also have the opportunity to visit museums

and theaters regularly, broadening their understanding of art, history, and culture. On the other hand, a child in the countryside may have limited options when it comes to **extracurricular activities** (*các hoạt động ngoại khóa*) and cultural experiences. They might have to travel long distances to participate in certain programs or attend cultural events, which could be inconvenient or impractical for many families.

2. **Social isolation and limited peer interactions:** Growing up in the countryside may result in social isolation for children, as there may be fewer opportunities to interact with a diverse group of peers. In cities, children have a higher chance of meeting individuals from various backgrounds, which can enhance their social skills, broaden their perspectives, and promote cultural diversity. Lack of exposure to a diverse social environment in the countryside may lead to a narrower worldview and reduced social adaptability.
3. **Access to amenities and services:** Urban areas typically provide convenient access to a **plethora of amenities** (*vô số tiện nghi*), such as libraries, museums, sports facilities, and healthcare services. Children can benefit from a wide range of **recreational activities** (*hoạt động giải trí*), cultural experiences, and specialized healthcare facilities that may not be as readily available in rural areas. This access to amenities and services enhances their overall quality of life and provides opportunities for personal growth and development.

Question 14: Some people think that the government should offer financial support and care to the elderly people, while others think that people should save money for their future life. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

View 1: Government should offer financial support and care to the elderly people.

1. **Social responsibility:** Providing financial support and care to the elderly is a **societal obligation** (*nghĩa vụ xã hội*). Governments have a responsibility to ensure the well-being and **dignity** (*danh dự*) of their senior citizens, who have contributed to society throughout their lives. This demonstrates a **commitment** (*cam kết*) to **upholding** (*duy trì*) the values of **compassion** (*lòng trắc ẩn*) and **solidarity** (*sự đoàn kết*) within the community.
2. **Economic impact:** Supporting the elderly can have positive economic implications. Elderly individuals often face challenges in finding employment or sustaining a steady income. By offering financial support, governments can **alleviate financial burdens** (*giảm nhẹ gánh nặng tài chính*), reducing **poverty rates** (*tỷ lệ nghèo đói*) among the elderly and stimulating local economies through increased spending power. This can contribute to a more **equitable and prosperous** (*công bằng và phồn vinh*) society for all.
3. **Healthcare and social services:** **Aging populations** (*già hóa dân số*) often require specialized healthcare and social services. Government support can help cover medical expenses, provide access to quality healthcare, and offer assistance for long-term care needs. This investment in the health and well-being of the elderly not only enhances their quality of life but also reduces the **strain** (*gánh nặng*) on healthcare systems, leading to more efficient and effective healthcare **provision** (*sự cung cấp*) for all citizens.

View 2: People should save money for their future life.

1. **Personal responsibility:** Encouraging individuals to save for their future life promotes personal responsibility. It fosters **self-reliance** (*tự lực cánh sinh*) and independence, allowing individuals to have greater control over their financial security in old age. By taking **proactive** (*chủ động*) steps to save and plan for the future, individuals can have **peace of mind** (*yên bình trong tâm trí*) and a sense of **empowerment** (*được trao quyền*).
2. **Burden on public finances:** With aging populations and increasing **life expectancies** (*tuổi thọ*), governments face significant financial strains in providing support to all elderly citizens. By encouraging individuals to save for their future, the burden on public finances can be reduced, allowing governments to **allocate resources** (*phân bổ tài nguyên*) to other **pressing areas** (*khu vực cấp thiết*) such as education and healthcare. This ensures a more sustainable and balanced approach to addressing societal needs.
3. **Individual preferences and choices:** Saving money gives individuals the freedom to make choices that **align with** (*tương thích với*) their preferences. Some individuals may prefer alternative forms of support, such as investing in **private pension plans** (*kế hoạch hưu trí tư nhân*) or seeking financial advice. This flexibility allows individuals to tailor their financial strategies to their unique circumstances and goals, promoting **personal autonomy** (*quyền tự quyết cá nhân*) and financial well-being.

TWO QUESTION ESSAY

Question 1: The best way for a country to prepare for the future is investing more resources in its young people. How true do you think it is? What is the best way to invest the resources?

How true do you think it is?

1. Idea 1: Completely true:

Investing more resources in young people is crucial for a country's future. By providing them with quality education, healthcare, and opportunities for skill development, a nation can **cultivate** (*tu luyện*) a skilled and innovative workforce that drives economic growth and social progress. For example, countries like Finland have consistently invested in education, resulting in high literacy rates and a highly skilled workforce that contributes to their overall success.

2. Idea 2: Partially true:

While investing in young people is important, it should not be the sole focus of a country's preparation for the future. Other factors such as infrastructure development, technological advancements, and support for research and development also play significant roles. A **balanced approach** (*phương thức tiếp cận cân bằng*) that considers various aspects of development is necessary for long-term success.

3. Idea 3: Not entirely true:

While investing in young people is valuable, it is not the sole determinant of a **country's future preparedness** (*chuẩn bị cho tương lai của đất nước*). Factors like economic stability, political stability, and investment in infrastructure also contribute to a nation's **long-term prospects** (*triển vọng dài hạn*). It is important to consider a **holistic approach** (*phương pháp tiếp cận toàn diện*) that addresses **multiple dimensions** (*nhiều chiều*) of development.

What is the best way to invest the resources?

1. Idea 1: Education and skill development:

One effective way to invest in young people is by prioritizing education and skill development. Enhancing access to quality education, vocational training, and technical programs equips the youth with the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute to the workforce and drive innovation. Countries like South Korea have focused on education and skill development, leading to a highly educated and **competitive workforce** (*lực lượng lao động cạnh tranh*).

2. Idea 2: Healthcare and well-being:

Investing in young people's health and well-being is crucial for their overall development. Accessible and affordable healthcare services, nutrition programs, and mental health support contribute to the physical and mental well-being of the youth. For instance, countries like Norway **prioritize** (*ưu tiên*) healthcare and well-being, resulting in healthy and productive young citizens.

3. Idea 3: Entrepreneurship and innovation:

Encouraging entrepreneurship and fostering innovation among young people can have a significant impact on a country's future. Offering funding, mentorship, and support systems for startups and **entrepreneurial ventures** (*dự án kinh doanh*) can create jobs, drive economic growth, and stimulate innovation. Countries like the United States have nurtured **entrepreneurial ecosystems** (*hệ sinh thái khởi nghiệp*), leading to the success of **tech giants** (*gã khổng lồ công nghệ*) and the emergence of **innovative startups** (*khởi nghiệp sáng tạo*).

Question 2: Do you agree that crime is a product of human nature? Do you think we can stop children from becoming criminals?

Ideas for the first question:

1. **Crime can be influenced by socio-economic factors:** Studies have shown that individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds with limited access to education and employment opportunities are more likely to engage in criminal activities. For example, a study conducted in a low-income neighborhood found a **correlation** (*tương quan*) between poverty and higher crime rates. This suggests that crime is not solely determined by human nature but is also influenced by external circumstances.
2. **Psychological factors play a role in criminal behavior:** Certain psychological factors, such as **impulsivity** (*bốc đồng*), lack of empathy, and antisocial personality traits, have been linked to an increased likelihood of engaging in criminal activities. For instance, a study on criminal behavior found that individuals with **psychopathic tendencies** (*khuyh hướng tâm lý*) were more prone to commit violent crimes. This indicates that crime can be influenced by **inherent psychological traits** (*đặc điểm tâm lý vốn có*) rather than solely being a product of human nature.
3. **Cultural and societal influences shape criminal behavior:** **Cultural norms** (*Chuẩn mực văn hóa*), values, and societal expectations can significantly impact an individual's **inclination** (*khuyh hướng*) towards criminal behavior. For instance, in some societies where corruption is prevalent, individuals may engage in criminal acts as a means of survival or to gain power and influence. This suggests that crime can be shaped by external influences rather than being solely a result of **inherent human nature** (*bản chất vốn có của con người*).

Ideas for second question:

1. **Early intervention and prevention programs:** Implementing targeted intervention programs that focus on at-risk children can significantly reduce the likelihood of them becoming criminals. For example, programs that provide access to quality education, **mentorship** (*cố vấn*), and **extracurricular activities** (*các hoạt động ngoại khóa*) have been shown to positively influence a child's behavior and reduce **delinquency rates** (*tỷ lệ nợ quá hạn*). By addressing underlying issues at an early stage, we can effectively steer children away from criminal paths.
2. **Promoting a positive and inclusive society can deter children from criminal behavior:** Creating a society that values inclusivity, **tolerance** (*lòng khoan dung*), and respect can have a **profound** (*thâm thúy*) impact on preventing children from becoming criminals. When children grow up in environments that encourage empathy, civic engagement, and provide equal opportunities for all, they are more likely to develop a sense of belonging and engage in **pro-social behavior** (*hành vi vì xã hội*). For instance, promoting **anti-bullying campaigns** (*chiến dịch chống bắt nạt*), fostering a culture of acceptance, and implementing restorative justice practices in schools can help create a positive social environment that reduces the appeal of criminal activities for children.
3. **Education is also important in preventing children from becoming criminals:** Children who receive a good education are more likely to succeed in life and less likely to engage in criminal activities. Schools can provide children with opportunities to learn new skills and explore their interests. This can help them develop a sense of purpose and direction in life, which can reduce the likelihood of them engaging in criminal activities. Additionally, education can help children develop critical thinking skills and make **informed decisions** (*quyết định sáng suốt*) about their lives. This can help them avoid negative influences and make positive choices that will benefit them in the long run.

Question 3: Many people these days travel far for work or spend more hours working. Does this trend have more advantages or disadvantages? What do you think about work-life balance?

Q1: Does this trend have more advantages or disadvantages?

Advantages:

1. **Increased job opportunities:** Travelling or working longer hours may allow individuals to access a wider range of job opportunities that are not available in their local area. This can lead to career advancement and higher income.
2. **Professional growth and skill development:** Engaging in work that requires travel or extended hours can provide individuals with valuable experiences, exposure to different work environments, and opportunities to develop new skills.

3. **Economic growth and productivity:** For businesses, having employees who are willing to travel or work longer hours can contribute to increased productivity and **competitiveness** (*năng lực cạnh tranh*), leading to economic growth.

Disadvantages:

1. **Negative impact on health and well-being:** Excessive travel or long working hours can lead to stress, **fatigue** (*mệt mỏi*), and various health issues, including **sleep deprivation** (*thiếu ngủ*), mental health problems, and weakened **immune system** (*hệ miễn dịch*).
2. **Strained personal relationships:** Spending long periods away from home or working extensive hours can strain personal relationships, leading to reduced quality time with family and friends, and potential conflicts.
3. **Work-life imbalance:** Traveling far or working long hours can disrupt the balance between work and personal life, making it challenging to engage in activities outside of work and impacting overall life satisfaction.

Striking a balance and considering alternatives:

1. **Flexibility and remote work options:** Embracing flexible work arrangements, such as remote work or flexible working hours, can help individuals maintain a better work-life balance while still fulfilling their **professional obligations** (*nghĩa vụ nghề nghiệp*).
2. **Efficient time management:** Encouraging effective time management practices within the workplace can help individuals optimize their working hours and reduce the need for excessive travel or extended work hours.
3. **Emphasizing employee well-being:** Prioritizing employee well-being and implementing policies that support work-life balance, such as providing wellness programs, paid time off, and family-friendly policies, can contribute to a healthier and more satisfied workforce.

Q2: What do you think about work-life balance?

1. **The importance of work-life balance for personal well-being:** Work-life balance is essential for maintaining good mental health, reducing stress levels, and preventing burnout. It allows individuals to have time for personal relationships, hobbies, and self-care, leading to overall life satisfaction. For example, studies have shown that employees who have a better work-life balance report higher job satisfaction, better physical and mental health, and increased productivity in the long run.
2. **The benefits of work-life balance for employers:** Encouraging work-life balance can result in higher employee engagement, loyalty, and **retention rates** (*tỷ lệ giữ chân*). When employees feel supported in balancing their work and personal lives, they are more likely to be motivated, productive, and committed to their organization. For instance, companies that prioritize work-life balance often experience reduced **absenteeism** (*vắng mặt*), improved teamwork, and enhanced employer branding, attracting top talent in the competitive job market.

3. **Achieving work-life balance requires a collective effort:** Both employers and employees play a role in achieving work-life balance. Employers should create a supportive work environment, implement flexible policies, and promote a culture that values work-life balance. Employees, on the other hand, need to prioritize self-care, set boundaries, and effectively manage their time and responsibilities to ensure a healthy balance between work and personal life.

Question 4: Children find it difficult to concentrate on or pay attention to school. What are the reasons? How can we solve this problem?

Q1: Children find it difficult to concentrate on or pay attention to school. What are the reasons?

1. **Distractions in the learning environment:** Technological distractions: The prevalence of smartphones, tablets, and other electronic devices can **divert children's attention away from** (*chuyển hướng sự chú ý của trẻ khỏi*) their schoolwork. Access to social media, online games, and other digital entertainment can be highly **enticing** (*hấp dẫn*) and **distracting** (*làm mất tập trung*). Noisy classrooms, overcrowded spaces, or disruptive behavior from peers can also make it challenging for children to focus and concentrate on their studies.
2. **Lack of engagement and relevance in the curriculum:** In a classroom with **monotonous lectures** (*bài giảng đơn điệu*) and limited interactive activities, students may struggle to concentrate and become **disengaged** (*không gắn kết*). For instance, if a history teacher simply lectures without involving students in discussions or hands-on projects, it can lead to boredom and reduced attention. Similarly, when the curriculum doesn't connect with students' interests or future goals, they may find it difficult to stay focused. For example, a student passionate about the environment may have trouble concentrating in a math class that doesn't relate to their interests. To improve concentration, it's important to incorporate interactive teaching methods and align the curriculum with students' interests and **aspirations** (*nguyện vọng*).
3. **Individual factors affecting concentration:** Children with learning disabilities, attention **deficit hyperactivity disorder** (*rối loạn tăng động giảm chú ý*) (ADHD), or other cognitive challenges may find it harder to sustain attention and focus in the classroom. Inadequate sleep, irregular sleep patterns, or tiredness can also impact a child's ability to concentrate effectively during school hours.

Q2: Children find it difficult to concentrate on or pay attention to school. How can we solve this problem?

1. **Creating a conducive learning environment:** Implementing policies that restrict the use of electronic devices during class time and ensuring a quiet, well-organized classroom can help reduce distractions and improve students' ability to concentrate. Also, reducing class sizes can promote better student-teacher interaction, reduce noise levels, and create a more focused learning environment.

2. **Employing interactive and engaging teaching methods:** **Integrating educational technology** (*Tích hợp công nghệ giáo dục*), interactive multimedia, and digital learning tools can make lessons more engaging and enhance students' attention and involvement. Furthermore, Providing opportunities for experiential learning, group work, and practical applications of knowledge can increase student engagement and concentration in the classroom.
3. **Tailoring instruction to students' needs and interests:** Recognizing and addressing the diverse learning styles, abilities, and interests of students can help make the curriculum more meaningful and relevant, increasing their motivation and attention. Moreover, demonstrating the real-life applications and relevance of the subject matter can help students understand the purpose behind their studies, fostering greater concentration and engagement.

Question 5: The gap between the rich and the poor is becoming wider; the rich are becoming richer, and the poor are getting even poorer. What problems can this situation cause? What can be done to reduce this gap?

Q1: What problems can this situation cause?

1. **Increased inequality and social unrest:** A widening wealth gap can lead to increased social inequality, as the rich accumulate more wealth and resources while the poor struggle to meet their basic needs. This disparity can breed **resentment** (*phẫn nộ*), social tensions, and even **social unrest** (*bất ổn xã hội*) as **marginalized** (*bị gạt ra ngoài lề xã hội*) groups feel excluded from opportunities and resources. The "Occupy Wall Street" movement that emerged in 2011 was a response to growing wealth inequality, with protesters demanding fairer distribution of wealth and resources. This demonstrates how a significant wealth gap can lead to social unrest and dissatisfaction among marginalized groups.
2. **Limited access to education and healthcare:** The growing wealth gap can hinder access to quality education and healthcare for the less affluent population. Without adequate resources and opportunities, individuals from lower-income backgrounds may face limited educational and career prospects, perpetuating the cycle of poverty. For example, in some low-income communities, **underfunded schools** (*trường học thiếu kinh phí*) struggle to provide quality education and resources, leading to lower academic achievement and limited opportunities for students. Similarly, inadequate access to affordable healthcare can result in poorer health outcomes for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.
3. **Reduced economic mobility and opportunities:** A significant wealth gap can restrict **upward mobility** (*sự tiến lên*), making it more difficult for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to improve their economic situation. Limited access to resources, networks, and opportunities can further widen the gap and hinder social and economic mobility. Studies have shown that countries with high levels of income inequality tend to have lower rates of economic mobility. For instance, a child born into poverty may face significant barriers to upward mobility, such as limited access to quality education and networking opportunities, making it harder to escape the cycle of poverty.

Q2: What can be done to reduce this gap?

1. **Implement progressive taxation and wealth redistribution:** Governments can adopt progressive tax policies where the wealthy contribute a larger portion of their income, and the funds are used to provide social services and support for the less **privileged** (*đặc quyền*). **Redistributive measures** (*Các biện pháp phân phối lại*), such as welfare programs, **targeted subsidies** (*trợ cấp có mục tiêu*), and public investment in education and healthcare, can help reduce the gap and provide equal opportunities for all. Countries like Sweden and Denmark have implemented progressive tax systems, where higher-income individuals pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes. The funds collected are then used to finance social welfare programs and public services that benefit the less **affluent** (*sung túc*) population.
2. **Enhance access to quality education and skills development:** Investing in education and skill development programs can equip individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds with the tools needed to secure better-paying jobs and improve their **economic prospects** (*triển vọng kinh tế*). Scholarships, vocational training initiatives, and initiatives that bridge the digital divide can help reduce **disparities** (*chênh lệch*) in education and empower individuals to break the cycle of poverty. The "Pell Grant" program in the United States, for example, provides need-based financial aid to low-income students, enabling them to pursue higher education.
3. **Promote inclusive economic policies and job creation:** Governments and policymakers can prioritize inclusive economic policies that support job creation, particularly in sectors that have the potential to **uplift** (*nâng đỡ*) lower-income groups. Providing incentives for businesses to invest in underserved areas, promoting **entrepreneurship** (*khởi nghiệp*), and supporting small and medium-sized enterprises can contribute to narrowing the wealth gap and fostering economic growth. For instance, Germany's "Mittelstand" sector, composed of small and medium-sized enterprises, has been instrumental in driving economic growth and job creation. Supporting and **incentivizing** (*khuyến khích*) the growth of such enterprises can help generate employment opportunities in underserved areas and reduce the wealth gap.

Question 6: People often think about creating an ideal society, but most of the time fail in making this happen. What is your opinion about an ideal society? How can we create an ideal society?

Q1: What is your opinion about an ideal society?

1. **Equality and social justice as core values:** In an ideal society, equality and social justice should be **fundamental principles** (*nguyên tắc cơ bản*). Every individual should have equal access to opportunities, resources, and basic rights, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status. For example, Scandinavian countries like Norway and Sweden are often regarded as having high levels of social equality due to their focus on providing comprehensive welfare systems, quality education, and healthcare for all citizens.
2. **Sustainability and environmental consciousness:** An ideal society should prioritize sustainability and **environmental stewardship** (*bảo vệ môi trường*). It should aim to strike a balance between economic growth and **ecological preservation** (*bảo tồn sinh thái*), ensuring

the well-being of future generations. The concept of Bhutan's Gross National Happiness, which measures progress based on well-being indicators rather than solely **economic metrics** (*chỉ số kinh tế*), reflects the idea of an ideal society that values environmental sustainability and **holistic happiness** (*hạnh phúc toàn diện*).

3. **Collaboration, empathy, and inclusivity:** An ideal society should foster a culture of collaboration, empathy, and **inclusivity** (*bao hàm*), where individuals support and respect one another. It should embrace diversity, promote dialogue, and actively work to address **social divisions and biases** (*sự phân chia và thành kiến xã hội*). For instance, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa played a significant role in the country's transition from **apartheid** (*chế độ phân biệt chủng tộc*) to **democracy** (*nền dân chủ*), promoting dialogue, healing, and inclusivity among diverse communities.

Q2: How can we create an ideal society?

1. **Education and Awareness:** Education plays a crucial role in creating an ideal society. By promoting critical thinking, fostering empathy, and teaching values of equality, sustainability, and inclusivity, education can empower individuals to contribute to positive societal change. Countries like Finland are often recognized for their high-quality education systems that emphasize **holistic development** (*phát triển toàn diện*), fostering students' social skills, creativity, and civic engagement.
2. **Strengthening institutions and governance:** Building strong institutions and ensuring transparent, **accountable governance** (*quản lý có trách nhiệm*) are essential in creating an ideal society. Institutions should be designed to promote justice, fairness, and equal representation, with policies that address social disparities and protect human rights. The Nordic countries, such as Denmark and Sweden, are often cited as examples of effective governance with low **corruption** (*tham nhũng*) levels, robust social welfare systems, and inclusive policies.
3. **Community engagement and grassroots initiatives:** Engaging communities and empowering individuals to actively participate in decision-making processes is vital for creating an ideal society. **Grassroots initiatives** (*sáng kiến cấp cơ sở*), volunteerism, and civil society organizations can play a crucial role in addressing societal challenges and **advocating** (*ủng hộ*) for positive change. The Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, founded by Muhammad Yunus, is an example of a grassroots initiative that empowers individuals through **microfinance** (*tài chính vi mô*), lifting people out of poverty and promoting social and economic development.

Question 7: In recent years, traffic jams have become a headache problem around the world. Why is this so and what effects does it bring?

Q1: Why has traffic congestion become a prevalent issue worldwide?

1. **Rapid urbanization and population growth:** The phenomenon of rapid urbanization, coupled with population growth, has led to an increase in the number of vehicles on the roads. As cities expand, more people are commuting, resulting in congestion and traffic jams. For example, cities like Mumbai in India and Lagos in Nigeria have experienced significant population growth and **urban sprawl** (*phát triển đô thị*), leading to severe traffic congestion.
2. **Insufficient infrastructure and road capacity:** Many cities have struggled to keep up with the growing demand for transportation. Insufficient road infrastructure and limited road capacity contribute to traffic congestion. In some cases, the infrastructure may not be designed to handle the volume of vehicles, resulting in **bottlenecks** (*nút thắt cổ chai*) and **gridlock** (*tắc nghẽn*) during peak hours.
3. **Reliance on private vehicles and inadequate public transportation:** A heavy reliance on private vehicles, **coupled with** (*kết hợp với*) inadequate public transportation options, **exacerbates** (*làm trầm trọng thêm*) traffic congestion. Insufficient investment in public transportation systems leads to more cars on the roads, increasing congestion levels. For instance, cities with underdeveloped or inefficient public transportation networks, such as Los Angeles, often experience **severe traffic congestion** (*tắc nghẽn giao thông nghiêm trọng*) due to a high number of private vehicles.

Q2: What effects does traffic congestion bring?

1. **Increased travel time and productivity loss:** Traffic jams result in longer travel times, causing frustration and wasted productivity for commuters. Delays in reaching destinations can lead to missed appointments, reduced work efficiency, and negative impacts on businesses and the economy.
2. **Environmental and health implications:** Traffic congestion contributes to increased air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Idling vehicles release harmful pollutants, leading to poor air quality and negative health effects for both drivers and nearby residents. Studies have linked traffic-related air pollution to **respiratory problems** (*vấn đề về đường hô hấp*), **cardiovascular diseases** (*bệnh tim mạch*), and other health issues.
3. **Economic costs and reduced quality of life:** Traffic congestion imposes significant economic costs on individuals and society as a whole. Increased fuel consumption, maintenance expenses, and transportation inefficiencies can strain household budgets and impact economic productivity. Moreover, traffic jams can **diminish** (*giảm bớt*) the overall quality of life for residents, as they waste valuable time and experience heightened stress levels due to **prolonged commutes** (*đi lại kéo dài*).

OUTWEIGHING

Question 1: Some people believe that teaching children at home is best for a child's development while others think that it is important for children to go to school. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

Advantages of teaching children at home:

1. **Personalized learning and individual attention:** Teaching children at home allows for personalized instruction tailored to a child's specific needs, learning style, and pace. The one-on-one attention can foster a deeper understanding of subjects and promote academic growth. For instance, research has shown that **homeschooling** (*giáo dục tại nhà*) can lead to higher academic achievements compared to traditional schooling, as children receive individualized support and guidance.
2. **Flexibility and customization of curriculum:** Homeschooling provides the flexibility to design a curriculum that aligns with a child's interests, values, and learning goals. This customization enables parents to incorporate real-world experiences, diverse perspectives, and specialized subjects that may not be covered extensively in traditional schools. Evidence suggests that **personalized curriculum** (*chương trình giảng dạy cá nhân*) in homeschooling can enhance creativity, critical thinking, and a love for learning.
3. **Strong family bonds and values:** Homeschooling promotes strong family bonds and allows parents to **instill** (*thấm nhuần*) their values, **morals** (*đạo đức*), and beliefs in their children's education. It creates opportunities for open discussions, shared experiences, and a **close-knit** (*gần gũi*) family dynamic. Research indicates that homeschooling can contribute to positive social and emotional development, as children have a secure support system and the chance to develop strong relationships with their parents.

Disadvantages of teaching children at home:

1. **Limited social interaction and diverse perspectives:** Homeschooled children may have limited exposure to diverse social settings, interactions with peers, and opportunities for collaboration. This can hinder the development of crucial social skills, such as teamwork, **conflict resolution** (*giải quyết xung đột*), and **adaptability** (*khả năng thích nghi*). Studies suggest that homeschoolers may experience challenges in social integration and forming relationships outside of their immediate family or homeschooling community.
2. **Potential gaps in specialized instruction and extracurricular activities:** Homeschooling parents may face challenges in providing comprehensive instruction across all subjects, particularly in specialized areas such as music, art, or science laboratories. Access to **extracurricular activities** (*các hoạt động ngoại khóa*), sports teams, and resources that are readily available in schools might be limited for homeschooled children, potentially affecting their **holistic** (*toàn diện*) development and exposure to diverse interests.
3. **Time commitment and potential strain on parents:** Homeschooling requires a significant time commitment from parents or guardians who act as primary educators. Balancing teaching responsibilities with other commitments, such as work or household tasks, can be demanding and potentially overwhelming for parents. Research suggests that homeschooling parents may

experience higher levels of stress and **burnout** (*kiệt sức*) due to the **multifaceted roles** (*nhều vai trò*) they undertake.

Question 2: Nowadays, it is easy to apply for and be given a credit card. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

Advantages:

1. **Convenience and flexibility:** Easy accessibility to credit cards offers convenience in making purchases, whether online or in physical stores. Credit cards provide a flexible payment option, allowing individuals to buy goods and services without carrying large amounts of cash. For example, credit cards enable secure and efficient online transactions, contributing to the growth of **e-commerce** (*thương mại điện tử*) and providing a **seamless** (*liền mạch*) shopping experience.
2. **Building credit history:** Obtaining a credit card and using it responsibly can help individuals build a positive credit history. Timely payments and responsible credit usage demonstrate financial responsibility, which can be beneficial when applying for loans or **mortgages** (*thế chấp*) in the future. Studies have shown that responsible credit card use and maintaining a good credit score can enhance financial well-being and provide opportunities for favorable interest rates on loans.
3. **Rewards and perks:** Many credit cards offer rewards programs, **cashback incentives** (*ưu đãi hoàn tiền*), or loyalty points that can benefit **cardholders** (*chủ thẻ*). These perks can include discounts, travel rewards, or exclusive access to events or services. For instance, airline credit cards often provide travel miles or access to **airport lounges** (*phòng chờ sân bay*), enhancing the travel experience for frequent flyers.

Disadvantages:

1. **Accumulation of debt and financial mismanagement:** Easy access to credit cards can lead to **impulsive** (*bốc đồng*) and excessive spending, potentially resulting in debt accumulation. The temptation to overspend and the allure of deferred payments can cause individuals to live beyond their means and struggle with repayment. Evidence suggests that high credit card debt and financial mismanagement can have negative consequences on individuals' financial stability and overall well-being.
2. **Fraud and identity theft:** The widespread use of credit cards increases the risk of identity theft and fraud. Personal and financial information associated with credit cards can be targets for **cybercriminals** (*tội phạm mạng*), leading to **unauthorized transactions** (*giao dịch trái phép*) and potential financial loss. Instances of credit card fraud and data breaches highlight the importance of maintaining **vigilant security measures** (*các biện pháp an ninh thận trọng*) and practicing responsible usage to safeguard personal and financial information.
3. **Hidden fees and high interest rates:** Credit cards often come with high-interest rates and fees, especially for late payments or exceeding **credit limits** (*giới hạn tín dụng*). Failure to manage credit card balances and meet **payment obligations** (*nghĩa vụ thanh toán*) can lead to significant financial burdens due to **accruing interest** (*tiền lãi tích lũy*) and **penalties** (*hình*

phạt). Research shows that high credit card interest rates can trap individuals in a cycle of debt, making it challenging to pay off balances and achieve financial stability.

Question 3: Nowadays, more and more people decide to have children later in their life. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

Advantages:

1. **Increased emotional and financial stability:** Waiting to have children allows individuals to establish emotional and financial stability before starting a family. With more time to build their careers and financial resources, parents may provide a more secure and comfortable **upbringing** (*Nuôi dưỡng*) for their children. Research suggests that parents who have children later in life tend to have higher levels of education and income, which can positively impact a child's development and future opportunities.
2. **Enhanced emotional maturity:** Older parents often bring a wealth of life experience, wisdom, and maturity to their parenting role. They may have developed better **coping mechanisms** (*cơ chế đối phó*), communication skills, and a more patient and nurturing approach to raising children. Studies indicate that older parents may exhibit higher levels of emotional maturity, stability, and responsiveness, contributing to positive parent-child relationships.
3. **Increased personal fulfillment and readiness:** Waiting to have children allows individuals to pursue personal goals, fulfill **aspirations** (*nguyện vọng*), and gain a sense of readiness for parenthood. This can lead to a higher level of commitment and engagement in parenting. For example, individuals who delay parenthood to focus on education, travel, or personal growth may feel more fulfilled and ready to embrace the responsibilities of raising children when the time is right.

Disadvantages:

1. **Decreased fertility and increased pregnancy risks:** As individuals age, fertility declines, making it more challenging to **conceive** (*tưởng tượng*) naturally. Older parents may face difficulties in achieving pregnancy and may require medical assistance such as fertility treatments. Additionally, advanced maternal age is associated with a higher risk of pregnancy complications, such as **gestational diabetes** (*tiểu đường thai kỳ*), high blood pressure, and **chromosomal abnormalities** (*nhiễm sắc thể bất thường*) in the baby.
2. **Generation gap and potential energy limitations:** Having children later in life can result in a significant age gap between parents and their children. This **generational difference** (*khác biệt thế hệ*) may lead to challenges relating to the younger generation's experiences, interests, and cultural trends. Older parents may also face physical limitations, such as reduced energy levels and potential health issues, which could impact their ability to keep up with the demands of parenting, particularly in the child's early years.
3. **Financial pressures and concerns about longevity:** **Delaying parenthood** (*trì hoãn việc làm cha mẹ*) may pose financial pressures, as older parents may need to support their children

through college or higher education while simultaneously planning for their own retirement. Moreover, there may be concerns about parental longevity, as older parents may have a shorter period of active involvement in their children's lives or may face challenges in being present for **significant milestones** (*cột mốc quan trọng*) later in their children's adulthood.

Question 4: Some people believe that students who want to attend colleges or universities after graduating from high school should spend one more year taking a job to gain work experience or traveling to enlarge their vision. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

Advantages:

1. **Enhanced personal and professional growth:** Taking a gap year allows students to gain valuable work experience, develop important life skills, and explore their interests outside of the academic setting. It provides an opportunity for personal growth, self-discovery, and increased **maturity** (*trưởng thành*). For example, volunteering or **interning** (*thực tập*) during a gap year can help students develop valuable skills such as leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving, which can be highly beneficial for their future academic and professional pursuits.
2. **Expanded worldview and cultural understanding:** Traveling during a gap year exposes students to diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives. It broadens their horizons, fosters tolerance, and promotes a greater understanding of global issues. Research has shown that students who have taken a gap year often exhibit increased **cultural competence** (*năng lực văn hóa*) and a more **global outlook** (*triển vọng toàn cầu*), which can be advantageous in today's interconnected world.
3. **Improved academic performance and motivation:** Students who take a gap year often return to **academia** (*hàn lâm*) with renewed motivation, clearer goals, and a better understanding of their chosen field of study. The real-world experiences gained during the gap year can enhance their academic performance and bring a practical perspective to their studies. Studies have found that students who take a gap year tend to have higher **GPAs** (*điểm trung bình*) and graduation rates compared to those who enroll directly after high school.

Disadvantages:

1. **Potential academic disruption and loss of momentum:** A gap year may interrupt the academic flow and **momentum** (*quán tính*) of students, making it more challenging to transition back to a structured learning environment. Extended time away from academics may require additional effort to re-engage with studies and adapt to the **rigors** (*sự khắc nghiệt*) of college. Some studies suggest that students who take a gap year may experience a slight decrease in academic performance upon returning to college, although this effect tends to be temporary.
2. **Financial considerations and affordability:** Taking a gap year can be financially demanding, as students may need to cover expenses for travel, living costs, or potential lost earnings

during their gap year activities. **Financial constraints** (*hạn chế tài chính*) may limit access to certain gap year opportunities and pose challenges for students from lower-income backgrounds. Affordability and financial planning should be carefully considered to ensure that the benefits of a gap year outweigh the potential financial burdens.

3. **Delay in career entry and potential loss of competitive edge:** A gap year may result in a delay in entering the job market or pursuing advanced degrees. This delay could impact the students' **career progression timeline** (*lộ trình thăng tiến nghề nghiệp*) and potential earning potential. In highly competitive fields or industries, taking a gap year might mean falling behind peers who continue their education without interruption. However, this impact can vary depending on the field of study and industry.

Question 5: Some people think that young people should be required to do unpaid work helping people in the community. Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?

Advantages:

1. **Development of valuable skills and attributes:** Engaging in unpaid community work helps young people develop important skills such as communication, teamwork, empathy, and problem-solving. These skills are **transferable** (*có thể chuyển nhượng*) and can benefit them in their personal and professional lives. For example, volunteering at a local charity or organization can enhance a young person's ability to collaborate with others, navigate diverse perspectives, and develop a sense of social responsibility.
2. **Increased civic engagement and social awareness:** Requiring young people to participate in community work fosters a sense of **civic responsibility** (*trách nhiệm dân sự*), encouraging them to actively engage with and contribute to their communities. It promotes a greater understanding of societal issues, social inequalities, and the importance of **social cohesion** (*sự gắn kết xã hội*). Research suggests that youth involvement in community service can positively influence their long-term civic engagement and commitment to social causes.
3. **Personal growth and character development:** Unpaid community work provides young people with opportunities for personal growth, self-reflection, and character development. It can instill values such as **compassion** (*lòng trắc ẩn*), **altruism** (*lòng vị tha*), and a sense of purpose, which contribute to their overall well-being and character development. Evidence shows that engagement in community service is linked to increased **self-esteem** (*lòng tự trọng*), improved mental health, and a sense of fulfillment among young individuals.

Disadvantages:

1. **Potential exploitation and undermining of fair labor practices:** **Mandatory** (*Bắt buộc*) unpaid community work can be seen as a form of **exploitation** (*khai thác*), as young people are expected to contribute their time and efforts without receiving **compensation** (*đền bù*). This practice may undermine the importance of fair labor practices and **perpetuate** (*kéo dài mãi mãi*) the notion that work can be **undervalued** (*định giá thấp*) or **taken for granted** (*được coi là đương nhiên*). Critics argue that unpaid work can perpetuate inequalities and limit access to opportunities for young individuals from lower **socioeconomic backgrounds** (*bối cảnh kinh tế xã hội*).
2. **Academic and time constraints:** Requiring young people to engage in unpaid community work may create additional **time commitments** (*các cam kết về thời gian*) that can interfere with their academic pursuits or **extracurricular activities** (*các hoạt động ngoại khóa*). Striking a balance between community work and academic responsibilities can be challenging, potentially leading to increased stress or decreased academic performance. It is crucial to ensure that mandatory community work does not place an **excessive burden** (*gánh nặng quá mức*) on young individuals, compromising their educational journey and personal growth.
3. **Lack of genuine engagement and impact:** **Mandatory community work** (*Công việc cộng đồng bắt buộc*) may result in a lack of genuine engagement or meaningful impact if young people perceive it as a **mere obligation** (*nghĩa vụ đơn thuần*). Forcing individuals to participate without genuine interest or understanding of the purpose behind community work may hinder the effectiveness of their efforts. It is essential to create an environment that encourages young people to develop a **genuine passion** (*niềm đam mê thực sự*) for community service, allowing them to make a more significant and lasting difference in their communities.



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