Selectividad (PAU) · English

Modelo de examen resuelto — estilo PEvAU

Read the text and do the tasks below. Total: 10 points. Answers on the last page.

GROWING UP ONLINE

Today's teenagers are the first generation to grow up entirely online. For them, the internet is not a not a tool they learned to use; it is simply part of the air they breathe. They make friends, do their their homework, watch films and share their lives through a screen.

There are clear advantages to this. A student in a small village can now take a free course from a top university, speak to people on the other side of the world, and find answers to almost any question in seconds. Shy teenagers sometimes find it easier to express themselves online than in person.

However, many experts are worried. Studies suggest that teenagers who spend many hours on social media are more likely to feel anxious or lonely. Constantly comparing their lives to the perfect images they see online can damage their confidence. There is also the problem of sleep: a surprising number of young people check their phones in the middle of the night.

The solution is probably not to ban technology, which would be both impossible and unfair. Instead, teenagers need to learn to use it wisely: to switch off from time to time, to question what they see, and to remember that real life also happens away from the screen.

1 Comprehension — answer in your own words. 2 pts

a) According to the text, what are the advantages of growing up online? (Give two.)

b) Why are many experts worried about teenagers and social media?

Continues on the next page →

2 True or False? Justify with words from the text.

2 pts

1 Teenagers today had to learn the internet as a difficult new tool. **T / F**

Justification: _____

2 The internet can give students in small villages access to good education. **T / F**

Justification: _____

3 Spending many hours on social media can affect teenagers' confidence. **T / F**

Justification: _____

4 The author thinks technology should be banned for teenagers. **T / F**

Justification: _____

3 Vocabulary — find a word in the text that means:

1 pt

1 benefits, good points (paragraph 2) _____

2 worried, nervous (paragraph 3) _____

3 feeling alone (paragraph 3) _____

4 to forbid, to prohibit (paragraph 4) _____

4 Use of English — rewrite so the meaning stays the same. 2 pts

1 *"I never switch off," said Laura.*

Laura said that she _____ .

2 *Students can find answers in seconds.*

Answers _____ in seconds. (passive)

3 *Teenagers don't question what they see, so they get confused.*

If teenagers _____ what they see, they _____ confused.

4 *Social media shows perfect images. The images damage confidence.*

Social media shows perfect images _____ damage confidence.

5 Writing — choose ONE option (80–100 words). 3 pts

a) Do you think teenagers spend too much time on their phones? Why?
b) What are the main advantages and disadvantages of social media?

Words: _____

Soluciones

Answer key. Tasks 1 and 5 are open — these are model answers and marking criteria.

1 · Comprehension (model answers)

a) Any two: you can take free courses from top universities; you can talk to people anywhere in the world; you can find information in seconds; shy people can express themselves more easily.
b) Because teenagers who spend many hours on social media are more likely to feel anxious or lonely, comparing themselves to perfect online images can harm their confidence, and many check their phones at night (poor sleep).

2 · True / False (+ justification)

1 FALSE — "the internet is not a tool they learned to use; it is simply part of the air they breathe".
2 TRUE — "can now take a free course from a top university".
3 TRUE — "comparing their lives to the perfect images… can damage their confidence".
4 FALSE — "The solution is probably not to ban technology".

3 · Vocabulary

1 advantages 2 anxious 3 lonely 4 (to) ban

4 · Use of English

1 … she never switched off.
2 Answers can be found in seconds.
3 If teenagers questioned what they see, they wouldn't get confused.
4 … perfect images which / that damage confidence.

5 · Writing (marking criteria, 3 pts)

Open task. Suggested marking: content & task completion (1) · organisation & cohesion, linkers (1) · range and accuracy of grammar and vocabulary (1). Penalise if clearly under/over the word limit.