



Was beinhaltet dieser Prüfungsteil?

Hier geht es darum, mit einem Partner eine vorgegebene sachliche Thematik zu diskutieren. Es sollen Pro- und Kontraargumente gefunden werden, wobei die beiden Gesprächspartner unterschiedliche Perspektiven einnehmen. Du musst nun zu einer Aussage oder einer Frage Stellung beziehen und deine Meinung mit überzeugenden Argumenten bekräftigen. Durch Beispiele aus eigenen Erfahrungen oder deinem Allgemeinwissen kannst du deine Argumente veranschaulichen.

Wie bereite ich mich vor?

Sprecht euch ab, wer welche Perspektive einnehmen möchte. Bevor ihr euch ins Gespräch begeben, soll zuvor jeder seine Argumente stichpunktartig notieren. Die Notizen können dann als Hilfestellung im Gespräch verwendet werden.

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1 Cameras at school – the modern Big Brother?

Safety at school is a highly debated topic. One way to make life at school safer is to install cameras in and around the school building. Talk about the arguments for and against this idea. Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of your pros and cons for use as a guideline in your discussion.

2 Mobile phones – a “must have”?

Life without them seems to be unimaginable: mobile phones. Talk about the arguments for and against having a mobile phone. Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of your pros and cons for use as a guideline in your discussion.

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1 Learning environment

For pupils and teachers the school building is their daily working environment. Do you think that it is necessary to make the school building more attractive by decorating it and by installing sporting facilities? Talk about the arguments for and against this. Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of your pros and cons for use as a guideline in your discussion.

2 Doing a voluntary social year

After having passed all examinations at school, many pupils decide to do a social year. Talk about the arguments for and against doing a voluntary social year. Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of your pros and cons for use as a guideline in your discussion.

3 Using modern techniques

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1 Living in an extended family (= Großfamilie)

Some children are born into an extended family, where parents, many brothers and sisters, grandmas and grandpas all share one house. Which advantages and disadvantages do you see for these children? Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of possible advantages and disadvantages for use as a guideline in your discussion.

2 Dog or cat?

If you had the choice between having a dog or a cat as a pet, what things would you have to consider and what would your decision be? Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of possible advantages and disadvantages for use as a guideline in your discussion.

3 You settle?

Some people like to live in a big city, others prefer a small town or a village. Which advantages and disadvantages do you see for each? Give reasons and discuss your opinions.

Before you start, first make some notes of possible advantages and disadvantages for use as a guideline in your discussion.

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1.

Pros:

- Cameras are a protection against violence and aggression at school. Bullies who torture their victims or quarrels between pupils are recorded. So, on the one hand there's proof of what happened in that situation and on the other hand pupils won't dare to be aggressive so easily.
- There will be fewer thefts. If there are cameras all around the school building, thieves won't be able to steal things so easily. So it's a protection for material things and personal valuables.

Cons:

- Cameras disturb the privacy of pupils and teachers. There's always the feeling of being observed and if you want to be alone, it's hard to find a place.
- Bullies and ruffians will always find a place to act out their aggressions. You can't put cameras everywhere, so the bullies will simply find a place where they can be violent unseen.

2.

Pros:

- Mobile phones are more than just common telephones. Having a mobile phone makes it possible to take photos, play games or listen to music. So there are more functions in one device and you save money because you needn't buy expensive cameras or other devices.
- Mobile phones make you safer. If you carry a mobile with you, you can always call for help if there's an emergency, for example in case of an accident.

Cons:

- Having a mobile phone can be very expensive. People often send lots of text messages and make phone calls without being aware of the exact cost. Young people easily lose control of the costs and get into debt.
- Mobile phones can disturb personal contacts. If you meet your family or friends, you can't get in a personal conversation if everybody is playing with his or her mobile all the time.

3.

Pros:

- If you can test medicines on animals, you don't have to put human beings at risk. Experiments with certain animals like mice are also applicable to humans.
- Animal testing can save human lives. Many medications whose effectivity has been proven by testing animals can also be used for humans today, for example medications against cancer or senile dementia.

Cons:

- Animal testing is often very expensive and takes a long time.

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Cons:

- Lots of pictures or other decorations could distract pupils in lessons and make it more difficult for them to concentrate on the things they need to learn.
- The appearance of the school building isn't as important as a good working climate. Pupils and teachers must be able to talk to each other if there's a problem. Pupils must also respect their teachers.

5.

Pros:

- You can gain completely new experiences. If you decide to do a social year abroad, you can get to know a foreign country and its culture.
- You can prepare for your later job. You acquire skills that may help you in your future job by doing a social year in the business branch of your choice.

Cons:

- You lose time in which you could go to university or do an apprenticeship. Doing a social year is an interruption of your educational career.
- Most of the jobs you do during a voluntary social year are unpaid. That's why your parents must usually help you financially.

6.

Opportunities:

- By spending time with electronic devices children learn how to deal with them. In later life they will be able to handle them quite naturally, which may be an important advantage for finding a job when they are adults.
- There are good learning programmes available on the Internet where children can practice skills such as reading, calculating or concentration. Older children can use the Internet for finding information about special topics.

Risks:

- If children spend too much time in front of a screen, they may lose a part of their childhood. Playing outside and taking an active part in creative games plays an important role in developing the characters and abilities of children.
- Sitting at home and playing video games or surfing the Internet can make it hard for children to develop good social behaviour. Contact with peers is important at this age – playing and talking, sharing ideas or learning how to deal with conflicts teaches them self-confidence, social awareness and tolerance.

7.

Pros:



8.

Cats:

- Pro: Cats aren't emotionally dependent on you. You can leave them alone for several hours. So there's no problem about going to school or having a full time job. Nevertheless, cats like being with humans so that you can have a close relationship with them, stroke them or play with them.
- Con: Their independence can also be a disadvantage. They choose their own way of life and you don't always know where they are. Sometimes cats are moody and their behaviour can be difficult to read. Dogs:
- Pro: In a dog you can find a real partner. Dogs are very affectionate animals and are socially intelligent, so you can teach them the things you need to deal with them, such as walking next to you or understanding simple commands. They are very playful and make good partners for activities such as jogging or hiking.
- Con: Dogs need a lot of human contact and care. You have to take them for walks every day, even if it's raining or snowing. Furthermore, you can't leave dogs alone for long periods, which might be a problem for your job and you'll have less time for hobbies and other free time activities.

9.

City life:

- Pro: Living in a city never gets boring: There are many ways to spend your free time: You can go to the cinema, visit a museum or have dinner in your favourite restaurant. You don't need a car as most places are either within walking distance or can be reached by bus or underground.
- Con: City life also means there is always noise and turbulence around you. You can always hear the noise of traffic or noisy passengers. If you want some peace and quiet, it can be difficult.

Country life:

- Pro: Country life can be relaxing and also provides opportunities for activities such as riding through forests and fields or going for long walks with your dog. You can enjoy the changing nature during the different seasons and have your own big garden or parts of a garden.
- Con: Living in a small village can be very lonely. Especially in autumn and winter you won't meet many people outside. If you want to get to the next town, you often have to travel long distances by train or car. Spontaneous decisions such as going to a restaurant are more difficult to realize.

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