

Step To AcCEPT Proficiency

Student Book

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Writing

Essay Task: *Addiction to internet gambling has become a big problem. Internet gambling should be banned.*

5 Discuss these statements with a partner.

- Gambling makes poor people even poorer.
- Taking risks is part of human nature.
- Alcohol causes more problems than gambling.
- It's impossible to ban gambling.

6 Complete the essay with words from the box.

dramatic enforce similarly counterproductive strictly
outlaw ban convinced responsible examples



Over the past decade, there has been a _____(1) increase in the popularity of online gambling. The media have started to highlight problems of addiction related to betting on the Internet and there have been calls from some politicians and church groups to ban it. I strongly believe that a _____(2) would be both unfair and impractical.

First of all, it is wrong to single out online gambling because it is no worse than regular gambling which remains legal. In fact, the government runs its own lottery. If we ban online betting then wouldn't we have to _____(3) all kinds of gambling? Furthermore, addiction to gambling is rare and much less common than other forms of addiction. Alcoholism, for example, is _____(4) for numerous health problems, and also a high percentage of violent crimes and traffic accidents. _____(5), addiction to nicotine leads to millions of deaths every year. How could we ban online betting when we allow cigarettes and alcohol to be consumed freely?

The second major problem with making online gambling illegal is that it would be almost impossible to _____(6) a ban. Because the Internet is a global network, gamblers will find ways to gamble on sites based in other countries. People have been gambling for thousands of years and they will continue to do so regardless of any regulations. Trying to outlaw it will only drive gamblers to unregulated sites where there is greater risk of them being cheated. Attempts to prohibit alcohol and prostitution are good _____(7) of activities being driven underground and becoming less safe as a result.

All things considered, I am _____(8) that online gambling should not be made illegal. It is relatively harmless fun, and criminalising it would be _____(9). However, online betting should be, as with other forms of gambling, _____(10) regulated by the government.

Listening Section L3

IT Classes for Adults

1 You will hear a teacher giving a group of prospective adult students a tour of a school. For questions one to five listen to the recording and tick the correct box. For questions six to ten, fill in the missing information.

1. The school is being used because
 - A. the community centre is closed for summer.
 - B. the school's equipment is better.
 - C. the school rooms are larger.

2. The Digital Photography for Beginners class will focus on
 - A. using computer software.
 - B. taking pictures.
 - C. choosing the right camera.

3. The Digital Photography for Beginners class
 - A. provides cameras for free.
 - B. provides cameras for a small charge.
 - C. requires all students to bring a camera.

4. Students in the Computer Basics class follow
 - A. the tutor's lecture.
 - B. steps shown on a big screen.
 - C. instructions from an interactive computer programme.

5. The Computer Basics class has a maximum of
 - A. 15 students.
 - B. 12 students.
 - C. 10 students.

6. The lecture room is named after a _____.
7. The Advanced Internet class is ideal for the _____.
8. Students should bring _____.
9. The Computer Basics class time is Mon-Fri from _____.
10. Registering early gives attendees time for _____.



The Squeaky Wheel **05**

Speaking

1 Vocabulary – Urban Problems

vandalism	lack of housing	air pollution	traffic congestion
litter	theft	ugly architecture	poor public transport
graffiti	stray dogs	homeless people	lack of sporting facilities



2 Discussion

1. What problems are shown in the pictures? What are some possible solutions?
2. Do cities in your country have any of the problems listed above?
3. What other problems are there in your urban areas?
4. How do you think urban areas in your country could be improved?

Writing

Writing Letters and Emails

In Section W2 there are two tasks: writing a formal letter (110–130 words) and writing an informal email (at least 80 words). Both tasks are compulsory. Each of the tasks will be a different function; so, for example, if you're asked to write a complaint letter, you won't be asked to write an email complaining about something.

In W2 you'll be asked to do two of the following:

- ask for information or advice
- give information
- thank someone
- congratulate someone
- complain
- invite someone
- refuse/accept an invitation
- apologise

Examples of formal letter questions

Write a letter to...

- a hotel complaining about your room.
- a newspaper complaining about a... proposed airport / heavy traffic / crime in your country / local council plans to knock down an old building.
- a language school in England asking for information about summer courses.
- a local company enquiring about job vacancies during the summer holidays.
- your favourite author asking for advice on the best way to become a successful writer.

Examples of informal email questions

Write an email to...

- a good friend congratulating him about his forthcoming wedding (and apologising for not being able to attend).
- a relative thanking him/her for a present or for helping you overcome a problem.
- a good friend inviting him/her to go on an overseas trip with you.
- a friend apologising for behaving badly at his/her party.
- a foreign friend asking for his/her advice about visiting his country.



Hotel Lobby