C. WRITING

Exercise 1 :

In IELTS Writing Task 2 you may be asked to write an essay giving two opposing views and also your own opinion.

Look at the following essay question.

Some people believe that social media sites, such as Facebook or Twitter, have a negative impact on young people and their ability to form personal relationships. Others believe that these sites bring people together in a beneficial way.

Discuss both these views and give your opinion.

Put the ideas for and against social media sites into the correct columns.

meet people from around the world	meet people with similar interests
easier to express yourself	build confidence	only online	can be dangerous
waste of time	not real communication

For	Against

Exercise 2: Look at the essay question again. Then put the paragraphs in the correct order to complete the sample essay.

Many argue that modern social media allows us to connect with a variety of people from different places and backgrounds, which can be true. Nevertheless, these websites often lead young people into dangerous situations, for example, they may be bullied because of how they look. Also, their personal information becomes available to all if they are not careful and they never really know who they are connecting with.

New types of technology mean that you can easily connect with people around the world. Many believe that this is harmful and prevents us from forming meaningful friendships with others, while some people argue that using social media improves our ability to build new relationships. In my opinion, the negative impact is greater than the benefits, as I will explain.

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Firstly, let us consider what makes a meaningful relationship. Being able to talk and meet with people is key and this can be done in person in the traditional way, or, increasingly, online. However, seeing people in the real world is very different from meeting them online. You can learn more about them and see them at both their best and their worst; therefore, your relationship is based on more than short text communication.

While it is true that social media sites can be very useful and help us to connect and keep in touch with others, we need to be careful and not forget that we can only make real friends in the real world. These are the relationships that last a lifetime.

Exercise 3: Look at the essay plan and read the student's essay. Which ideas from the plan did the candidate use? Match the sentences in bold in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the essay with the ideas. You can use some of the ideas more than once and some you don't need at all.

For	Against
meet people from around the world	only online
easier to express yourself	not real communication
build confidence	can be dangerous
meet people with similar interests	waste of time

New types of technology mean that you can easily connect with people throughout the world. Many believe that this is harmful and prevents us from forming meaningful friendships with others, while some people argue that using social media improves our ability to build new relationships. In my opinion, the negative impact is greater than the benefits, as I will explain.

Firstly, let us consider what makes a meaningful relationship. Being able to talk and meet with people is key and this can be done in person in the traditional way, or, increasingly, online. However, **seeing people in the real world is very different from meeting them online**. You can learn more about them and see them at both their best and their worst; therefore, **your relationship is based on more than short text communication**.

Many argue that modern **social media allows us to connect with a variety of people from different places and backgrounds**, which can be true. Nevertheless, **these websites often lead young people into dangerous situations**, for example, they may be bullied because of how they look. Also, **their personal information becomes available to all** if they are not careful and **they never really know who they are connecting with**.

While it is true that social media sites can be very useful and help us to connect and keep in touch with others, we need to be careful and not forget that we can only make real friends in the real world. These are the relationships that last a lifetime.

build confidence	can be dangerous	easier to express yourself
meet people from around the world		meet people with similar interests
not real communication	only online	waste of time

1 seeing people in the real world is very different from meeting them online

2 your relationship is based on more than short text communication

3 social media allows us to connect with a variety of people from different places and backgrounds

4 these websites often lead young people into dangerous situations

5 their personal information becomes available to all

6 they never really know who they are connecting with

Exercise 4. Look at the spelling mistakes. Can you correct them?

1 thrughout

2 harmfull

3 meeningful

4 medier

5 inpact

6 never the less

7 bulied

Exercise 5. Put the words and phrases in the correct columns to complete the table.

| I personally believe | While some people argue | Nevertheless | In my opinion |
| Many believe | However | Many argue | |

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Your opinion	General opinion	Opposing view

Exercise 6. Complete the table. Put the phrases for expressing opinions and views in the correct columns.

Some (people) say	It is said	It is my belief	To contrast	In spite of
On the contrary		My (personal) opinion is		It is generally accepted that
To my mind				

Your opinion	General opinion	Opposing view

Exercise 7. Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 It is my *believe/ belief* that Facebook is excellent because it brings people closer.
2 Nevertheless, some people *discuss/ argue* that social media affects young people in a. negative way.
3 In spite *of/ to* this, some feel that Facebook can build confidence in people who are shy.
4 I *personal/ personally* think there are both good and bad aspects of social media.
5 Some people *tell/ say* that online relationships are not genuine.
6 On the *contrast/ contrary*, many people feel that all relationships are beneficial.

Exercise 8. Look at the essay question. Then complete the essay. Use each of the words in the box once only.

Some people believe that social media sites, such as Facebook or Twitter, have a negative impact on young people and their ability to form personal relationships. Others believe that these sites bring people together in a beneficial way.

Discuss both these views and give your opinion

However	Nevertheless	feel	however	nevertheless	nowadays	personally
some	start	therefore	while			

Social media is a huge business today and many feel it has changed the world for the better. Others _____ the opposite and worry that we do not connect with people in a good way. I _____ feel that social media is, on the whole, a good thing as it has improved the way we communicate.

To _____ with, sites such as Facebook and Instagram mean we can now talk to people from across the world and find out about different cultures. _____ people feel this can be a little dangerous, as we can't be sure who we are talking to. _____ , if we are responsible and take care, there are lots of benefits. For example, you can make friends with people who you would never meet in your normal life.

Lots of people say that internet friends are not real friends, and that spending all your time talking to people on the computer is a waste of your life. _____ this may be true if you only communicate electronically, meeting people on the internet can be a way of overcoming shyness and these relationships can lead to real meetings. _____ , it is becoming more common for people to meet their husbands or wives on the internet.

In conclusion, there are possible problems connected with social media; _____ , if you are careful it can give you many opportunities for friendship that you would not normally have. If these sites did not exist, _____ , the world would be a much more boring place.

Exercise 9. WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.
Write about the following topic.

Many people believe that modern music can have a negative impact on the young. Others believe the effect of modern music is positive. Discuss both these views and give your opinion.

Give reasons for your answers and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.
You should write at least 250 words.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS