

Choose the appropriate answer !

College education should be free for all students. Education is a basic right, and no one should be deprived of it just because they can't afford it. Education is the key to success and (1), and making it accessible to all will lead to a better society. Additionally, countries that provide free college education have higher rates of college graduates and a more educated workforce, which in turn leads to (2) growth.

Furthermore, providing free college education will reduce the burden of student debt. Many students graduate from college with significant debt, which can take years to pay off. This debt can limit their career choices and delay their ability to start a family or purchase a home. By providing free college education, students can focus on their studies without worrying about the financial burden.

Opponents of free college education argue that it would be too (3) for the government to provide. However, investing in education is an (4) in the future of the country. The benefits of a more educated population will outweigh the costs in the long run. Additionally, the government can fund free college education by reducing spending on (5) programs or by increasing taxes on the wealthy.

In conclusion, college education should be free for all students.

Education is a right, not a privilege, and it is essential for personal and societal growth. By providing free college education, we can ensure that all students have an (6) opportunity to succeed, regardless of their financial background.



Cashless society:

What do we gain and lose when cash is no longer king?

(Adapted from: www.thebalance.com)

What do you think of a cashless world? A cashless world may sound like something out of science fiction, but it is on its way. Many modern financial processes and transactions are now taking place without the use of currency. To be more specific, a cashless society is one in which financial transactions are conducted without the usage of cash (including paper and coin currencies). Instead, all transactions are conducted electronically, with debit or credit cards or payment services.

Like two sides of a coin, a cashless society has its own advantages and weaknesses. The first advantage of cashless society is convenience. People do not need to carry cash when they want to make a transaction. Another advantage is that crime rates are lower. Carrying cash makes people a high-value target for thieves. It will be impossible to track their money or show that it is theirs once it has been removed from their wallet and placed in a criminal's wallet.

Similarly, in a cashless society, financial crime should disappear. Cash is commonly used in unlawful



activities, such as illegal gambling or drug trafficking, because there is no record of the transaction and the money is easier to launder. If the source of the money is unknown, money laundering becomes much more difficult. When every payment people get is recorded, it is more difficult to hide income and evade taxes.

Furthermore, going cashless is thought to be more than just handy. Printing bills and minting coins both cost money. Businesses must store money, obtain more when they run out, deposit cash when they have an excess of it, and in some situations, pay firms to transfer cash safely. To defend their branches from physical bank robberies, banks hire massive security teams. In a cashless future, wasting time and energy moving money around and protecting big sums of cash may become obsolete. People may need to exchange their dollars for local currencies while traveling. If people are traveling in a country that supports cashless transactions, though, they will not have to worry about how much local currency they will need. Instead, their mobile device takes care of everything.

Going cashless, on the other hand, may be more difficult than useful. First of all, electronic payments do not have the same level of privacy as cash payments.



Hackers are the electronic equivalents of bank robbers and muggers. People are more vulnerable to hackers in a cashless culture. If people are targeted and their accounts are emptied, they may be left with no other options for spending money. Secondly, glitches, outages, and unintentional errors can all cause issues, leaving buyers unable to purchase items needed. Similarly, when systems fail, merchants are unable to take payments.

Finally, negative interest rates may have a more direct impact on consumers once all money is electronic. Negative interest rates, according to the International Monetary Fund, lower bank profitability, and banks may be motivated to raise costs on customers to make up the difference. Customers can easily withdraw their cash from the bank if they do not like the fees, therefore banks are constrained in their capacity to pass on those expenses. Customers may have to accept any additional fees if they are unable to withdraw cash from the bank in the future.

Cash currency is becoming less and less prevalent as a result of several technological and sociological shifts toward digital and virtual financial transactions. However, there are other potential negatives to a truly cashless society, and only time will tell whether cash has a unique place in society.

After you read the text above, classify these sentences into benefits or weaknesses of using e-money. Check (✓) the correct column.

NO	SENTENCES	BENEFITS	WEAKNESSES
1	Lower crime rates		
2	Digital transaction sacrifice privacy		
3	Easier international payment		
4	Easier transaction tracking		
5	Hacking risks		
6	Technology problems when accessing funds		
7	Economic inequality barrier		
8	Increase payment fee		
9	Cash management cost money		
10	Effect of negative interest to consumers		

Does Spending Without Using Physical Cash Make People Spend More?

(www.bbc.com)

Does spending without using physical cash make people spend more? This is a complicated question and it involves seeing humans as fundamentally irrational creatures, in various ways. For instance, it has been shown psychologically that people feel more pain when they lose

£100 than the joy they feel on gaining £100. In other words, the pain of the loss stings more, even though the two sums are exactly the same.

This kind of psychological insight has powered enormous change in the field of economics. Whereas before, in classical economics, academics based their theories on the assumption that people behave rationally (so that the loss and gain of an equal sum would be treated the same by an individual), this was shown to be false by psychological studies. This led to the discipline of behavioral economics and branches such as consumer psychology.

One of the great researchers in this relatively new discipline is Drazen Prelec. The MIT professor once conducted a study that involved a silent auction. The auction was held for students at the prestigious Sloan business school, for tickets to sold-out NBA basketball games. The researchers told half the bidders they could pay only with cash, while the other half were told they could pay only with a credit card.

The results astonished the researchers. On average, it was found that the credit card buyers were bidding more than twice as much as the cash buyers. What this means, according to Prelec, is that the psychological cost of spending a dollar on a credit card is only 50 cents.

Spending on a credit card clearly has effects on how people spend, which numerous studies have borne out. However, it's also been shown that credit card bills, when they arrive, cause enormous pain for the receiver. So much so, in fact, that behavioral economists believe this explains the continuing popularity of debit cards.

But what about using e-wallets? What's important is feedback, explains Emir Efendic, a post-doctoral psychologist and behavioral economist at the University of Louvain. "With credit cards, you don't get instant updates. But with online banks, you see the amount deducted immediately," says Efendic. "If you lose feedback, then yes you'll be spending more".

No.	STATEMENTS	ANSWERS		
		T	F	NM
1	People feel more pain when they lose something than when they get something, even though the two sums are exactly the same.			
2	Drazen Prelec is a senior researcher at MIT			
3	During Prelec's research, there were more buyers who joined the bid by using cash			
4	Debit cards greatly affect how people spend their money.			
5	Spending on a credit card clearly has effects on how people spend			
6	The participants of Prof Prelec's research were the last semester students at the prestigious Sloan business school			

7	People are usually pleased when the credit card bills arrive			
8	People get instant feedback when using credit cards			
9	By using online bank, people can notice instantly that the amount of money they have is decreased			
10	People who lose feedback after payment will spend more money			