UNIT 8 – WRITING SECTION #1

NAME: _____ **DATE:** _____

WRITING

Advantages and Disadvantages Essay When you write about advantages and disadvantages, you should include at least two advantages and two disadvantages. To make your views clear, use expressions like *on the one hand, on the other hand, one (dis)advantage is . . . , and another (dis)advantage is . . .*

1 **Read.** Read the paragraphs. Underline the expressions that show advantages, and circle the expressions that show disadvantages.

Future Bots: Ready or Not?

Scientists have been studying artificial intelligence (AI) for many decades. Using AI, robots and computers are able to think for themselves and do things like order products, make movie or music recommendations, or even drive cars without the help of humans.

On the one hand, this is positive. For example, a self-driving car can often be safer than a human. One advantage is that self-driving cars aren't distracted, as humans sometimes are when driving. Smartphones and speakers have also made life easier. Now, we can order products or ask for directions just by speaking into our smartphones or speakers.

On the other hand, there are risks. Are we ready for robots that can think by themselves? One disadvantage is that they might do things we don't want them to do. For example, they might be listening to and watching us without us knowing about it. They may be tracking our activity online, for example, which is another disadvantage. We may lose our privacy.

Technology is here to stay, we just need to be aware of how we use it.



1 **Read *Future Bots: Ready or Not?* in your Student's Book.** How did the writer plan her writing? Read the steps.

1. First, the writer chose a topic that has at least two advantages and disadvantages. She chose the following situation:

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2. Next, the writer read some information on artificial intelligence (AI). She learned what it is and what robots will be able to do with AI.

3. Then she wrote down a list of advantages and disadvantages. She asked herself the following questions: How would robots with AI be good? What bad things could happen? She used a T-chart to organize her ideas. Complete the chart.

Advantages	Disadvantages

4. Then she thought of words and expressions that show advantages and disadvantages:

5. Complete the following sentences from the essay in your Student's Book.

   a. _____ this is positive.

   b. _____ self-driving cars aren't distracted, as humans sometimes are when driving.

   c. _____ there are risks.

   d. _____ they might do things we don't want them to do.

6. Finally, she wrote a first version, called a draft, of her essay.

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