

EXERCISE 6

Read the IELTS Writing Task 2 question.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages for countries where governments spend a lot of money on museums and landmarks.

Put the paragraphs in the correct order to complete the essay.

There is no doubt that governments of countries with enough money use a lot of tax income for museums and landmarks. In my view, this has both good and bad points: looking after the culture of any country is important but services like healthcare are more important. In this essay, I am going to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of supporting museums and landmarks financially and lastly, give my opinion.

On the other hand, if the government spends taxes on museums and landmarks it has less money to spend on services like education and health. Some countries that have famous landmarks must choose between looking after them and spending the money on schools and hospitals. In Zimbabwe, for example, looking after the roads, paths and land near the Victoria Falls costs as much money as paying for several schools and medical centres.

On the one hand, governments spending taxes on museums and landmarks has clear advantages. Providing a rich cultural life for the population increases national happiness. Landmarks that are looked after well also attract tourists. For example, a lot of Russians visit the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg and think it is an important part of their country. The pyramids in Egypt are important to the local economy with lots of visitors staying in hotels nearby and going to shops and restaurants.

In conclusion, there are advantages and disadvantages to a government supporting museums and landmarks with taxes. Although I think it is a good idea, I think services like healthcare are more important.

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