



Hobbies aren't fun anymore

A. VOCABULARY: talking about hobbies

Complete the text with the words in the box.

for the sake of | recreation | essential | infect | frivolous | side hustle

When Hobbies Become Another Job

For generations, hobbies have provided people with a form of _____: an opportunity to do something simply because they enjoy it. Yet the way we approach leisure appears to be changing.

Today, it is increasingly common for people to turn their hobbies into _____. Someone who enjoys photography may start selling prints. A person who likes baking may begin taking orders. Even gaming, exercising and travelling can become opportunities to create content or generate income.

There is nothing inherently wrong with this. In fact, earning money from something you love can be incredibly rewarding. The problem begins when the logic of productivity _____ every aspect of our free time.

A hobby can start feeling _____ if it doesn't produce anything measurable. Instead of painting because we enjoy it, we may feel that we should become good enough to sell our work. Instead of reading for pleasure, we might choose books that will make us more knowledgeable or improve our careers.

This pressure can make genuine leisure seem almost irresponsible. We may feel guilty about spending an afternoon playing video games or watching a film when we could be learning a language, exercising or developing a new skill.

Perhaps we need to remember that recreation doesn't always have to be productive. Doing something _____ enjoyment may be _____ precisely because it has no practical purpose.

B. GRAMMAR: linkers (contrast, purpose, reason and result)

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- 1 _____ having plenty of free time, I often feel guilty when I'm not being productive.
a) Because b) Despite c) Therefore
- 2 People increasingly monetize hobbies _____ they want an additional source of income.
a) because b) because of c) despite
- 3 She joined a dance class _____ meet new people.
a) so that b) in order to c) due to
- 4 Social media has changed the way we approach hobbies. _____, many people now feel pressure to perform.
a) Whereas b) In spite of c) Therefore
- 5 He started painting _____ relax after work.
a) because of b) so as to c) due to
- 6 _____ the financial benefits, she doesn't want to turn her hobby into a business.
a) Despite b) Because c) So that
- 7 I enjoy running, _____ my brother finds it extremely boring.
a) because b) whereas c) therefore
- 8 People have less leisure time _____ increasingly demanding work schedules.
a) yet b) so that c) due to