

# WRITING SAMPLES FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> FORM

## SPACE TOURISM

**Write a report in your school magazine to express your opinion about space tourism. Is it a waste of money or a thrilling experience that is worth the fortune paid on it?**

\* Space tourism is a very new idea that was once thought of as no more than science fiction, just like visiting the moon once was.

Although most people are totally against space tourism, I strongly believe that this phenomenon is an idea whose time has come. It's going to start soon and rapidly opening up space to a wide range of activities. Despite its drawbacks, space tourism does have many benefits. First, It is a clever way to fund space exploration. The money earned by space tourism can be used to advance research in space exploration. Thus, if we're in favour of progress we should never curb any experiments. Second, it offers a special adventure that is worth undertaking. There is much fun and entertainment in crossing space. Third, Space flight participants have the right to use their money the way they see it suitable. Consequently, we should not blame them. It's their right to experience this extraordinary adventure and to be famous in their countries.

In conclusion, no one pretends that space trips are cheap or affordable, but I still believe that space tourism is a source of discovering other planets and exploring new resources. If I were a millionaire, I would certainly have a trip to the space. It's an adventure worth living.

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It's true that some people are in favour of this new phenomenon, believing that space trips are adventures worth living and that Space flight participants have the right to use their money the way they see it suitable. Well, I strongly believe that space tourism is totally useless. First, it's a waste of money that should be used to solve some problems on earth that are more pressing like poverty, starvation, diseases and environmental issues. Second, it is useless to spend fortunes on space trips just to admire Planet Earth from outer space or to gain fame as the first space tourist. Third, it is weird to go on space trips while children in Africa are struggling for a loaf of bread or striving for a text book. Just for the sake of pleasure and the excitement of feeling weightless, millionaires are squandering fortunes that may feed villages in poor areas. Fourth, space trips are still dangerous. Many space expeditions have proved failing and space crafts can be hit by meteors.

In conclusion, instead of bridging the gap between the haves and the have-nots, we're providing the well-to-do people with another privilege. Space tourism will be nothing but another means of entertainment for just millionaires.

## COMPARING CONTRASTING

Comment on the data in the chart in a 5-line paragraph comparing the two countries. Focus on the similarities and differences:

countries	Adult Literacy	Life Expectancy	Income per capita
Japan	% 99.06	80.9 years	\$ 28.620
Kenya	% 85.1	47.8 years	\$ 1.100

The data given in the following chart shows that adult literacy in Japan reaches % 99.06, **whereas**, it is only % 85.1 in Kenya. The chart also shows that people in Japan **outlive** those in Kenya by almost 33 years with a life expectancy of 80.9 years **compared with** 47.8 years in Kenya. The last given data in this chart is surprising since it shows an unbelievable difference of income per capita in both countries. Japanese's income per capita exceeds \$ 28.000, **however**, Kenyan's income is only \$ 1.100.

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a- In New Zealand, pupils start school at 5 years old, **whereas/while/however**, in Tunisia, pupils start school at 6.

b- **Unlike** Tunisia where pupils start school at 6 years old, in New Zealand pupils start at 5.

c- **Both** the Tunisian **and** the American educational systems divide schooling into 3 cycles after which successful students can enrol either in university.

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### Writing an Advertisement

Use the notes below to complete this section of an advertisement about a successful school:  
dynamic staff / professional teachers / technology / modern approach

#### A great school a Great place to succeed

Just don't miss this chance! Enroll in our school and you will not regret your decision. You will not only be offered a dynamic staff, but also highly professional teachers. You will also enjoy the latest technology ever used in education and a modern approach of both learning and teaching.

Our school offers a great success that is worth living.

## ON-LINE LEARNING

Dear Mr. Bears,

I have read your assertion concerning on-line learning and I would like to comment on it. Obviously, this type of learning has many benefits as it solves the problems of many students who can't attend a traditional school. In fact, it is considered less stressful and more restful as the student is spared the bustle of the crowds outside, the rushing and the long school journeys. In addition, on-line learning is an option with job commitments and for students with health problems and it helps some others to regain their self-confidence by overcoming their shyness or their fear.

I do agree that it saves much time as it offers a level of flexibility unavailable at a traditional school. However; at this point, I have to precise that flexibility can be mainly beneficial for adult students who are mature enough to know how to deal with it in a proper way. But it can be hard for uncontrolled children who prefer doing other activities or sleeping during the day and studying late at night which may affect their sleeping habits in the future.

So, I think that on-line learning should be considered as an alternative to traditional schools, mainly for students with special needs. But despite all its benefits, its side effects can't be neglected. For example, spending too long hours in front of the screen without moving can cause health problems. Besides, it encourages laziness and passivity. As for isolation from students for many years, may involve verbal communication problems and a difficult social integration. Added to that, on-line students may be confused between the on-line world and real life.

Yours faithfully

## BRAIN DRAIN ESSAY

I would humbly like to draw your kind attention towards the fact that these days a large number of people are going abroad for further education or for better prospects. When they go abroad they do not return home at all and instead explore paths to settle there permanently. This deprives our country of the expertise of such people.

This practice called brain drain has put the country at great loss. Millions of dollars are spent on the specialized education received by these people at home. When time for reaping the harvest comes, they slip into other countries and benefit those with their talent. There is no doubt that the most outstanding of our people have been manning strategic responsibilities in other countries and depriving our country of their valuable proficiency. This is like saying that we sow the seeds and others have the crop. Obviously there is something wrong with our system. But whatever it may be, the people settling abroad have a moral responsibility to do something for their motherland. They should not forget their roots and their sense of service towards their own people and their own nation.

The government is also responsible for this brain drain. It should create congenial conditions in the country so that better facilities, better living conditions and use of their talents are ensured. I request the government to think over this serious problem and do something to put things right.



## BENEFITS OF INTERNET AND COMPUTER

**Essay: Your friend thinks that the use of computer and internet is not very interesting. Write him a letter in which you try to convince him of this magic machine. 'knowledge, information, communication, time, energy, effort, entertainment'.**

Dear Slim,

You can't imagine my extreme happiness when I received your letter, but when I read it, I really felt disappointed. You have a point when you said that both computer and the internet have many disadvantages, but my dear friend you should not forget their positive sides. Personally, I think that these two devices are extremely important. I can't imagine our lives without them. They are not only means of entertainment, but also communication. The internet has changed our world positively. You can communicate with whoever you like, wherever you are and whenever you like. Now, the whole world has become a small village connected from all directions.

Another positive impact the internet has on us is that you can obtain all kinds of information with no effort. Pupils will no more buy plenty of books or go to public libraries to look for specific information. They will simply access the Internet to gather information for their school projects. As you can see, you will not only save your time and energy, but also you will widen your knowledge in a perfect and precise way.

My dear friend, I think that you get my idea. There is no technological device that is 100 per cent a curse or a blessing and I hope that your next letter will be different.

## VIDEOGAMES ADDICTION ( ADVICE LETTER )

**Your friend Slim spends many hours a day playing videogames. He neglected his family, friends and studies.**

**Write him a letter to advise him to cut down on videogames. Insist on the risks of addiction to such games.**

Dear Slim,

I've heard lately that you spend so many hours a day playing videogames and that your school results have dropped enormously.

It's true that videogames are means of fun and entertainment, but we should not let them enslave us. You have to know my friend that you may get addicted and can't concentrate on your studies. Once you are addicted, you will play them often without stopping. Consequently, you will be isolated and lose all contacts with your family and friends. My dear friend, videogames are really a waste of time since you are sacrificing time that can be used positively. As you can see, you have even neglected your studies and you risk losing your school year. You are using much of your time playing videogames and forget about what is more important: your education.

My friend, I am not asking you to cut down on videogames once forever. You can play videogames in your free time and during school holidays.

My friend, videogames do not only have negative impact on your school and family life, but also on your health and behaviour. On the one hand, they may cause short sightedness, headaches and backache. On the other hand, they teach children bad habits and practices such as violence, smoking and even drugs.

As you can see my friend, videogames have many bad effects that may ruin our lives if we are not enough mature. So, you had better cut down on them and care for your family, friends and studies. I will feel so happy if you tell me in your next letter that you have taken my advice into consideration.

Yours,  
Karim(a)

## SMOKING: ADVICE LETTER

**ESSAY: One of your friends has become a heavy smoker. Write him a letter and advise him to quit this bad habit.**

Dear Mourad,

I really felt so pleased when I received your letter. But when I knew about your last news, I felt very disappointed. You **should** know my friend that starting smoking is a very bad thing you did and you had better stop this bad habit.

Nobody pretends that giving up smoking is easy, but a lot of people have managed it and so can you. I **advise** you my dear friend to quit smoking because it can cause lung cancer and other types of cancers. It causes not only heart diseases, but also respiratory difficulties. You **should** also remember that smoking is a waste of money and **don't forget** the bad smell of cigarettes.

My friend, I hope that you listen to my advice and abandon this filthy habit.

Yours,  
Amin(a)

## SAVING ENERGY: WRITING A LEAFLET

**Write a leaflet for home-owners advising them on how to save energy and conserve resources at home**

- **Be energy friendly,**

Each day you probably use a lot more energy in your home than you need to. Doing all or even just some of the following tips will not only help the planet, but it could also save you money on your energy bills- and surely that's worth it !

A simple step could be turning off unwanted lights. Replacing your light bulbs with lower wattage ones would instantly save electricity, but better still would be replacing them with energy saving ones. So put them on your next shopping list. The initial cost will soon be paid for by your reduced bills.

Another source of wasted energy is excessive use of water. Water bills cost so much each year. So, please do not waste water and try your best to save it. Make sure taps and hoses are turned off after use

and don't use more water than you need. Whenever there is a water leakage or a dripping tap, just report it to be fixed rapidly. If such tips are followed, you will not only save energy but also save money.

Earn money while saving energy.

- **Be world friendly,**

The world as we know is under threat. We are rapidly using up our natural resources- coal, gas and oil. Global warming, caused by excessive use of fossil fuels, is destroying the ozone layer which is the world's protection from the harmful rays of the sun. Already climates are changing and sea levels are rising as the polar ice is melting.

Scientists and industrialists are working hard to solve the problem, but by taking some simple steps. You too can help.