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| **Particiant’s NAME:** |
| **ARTICLE** |
| *You are going to write an article for an English website.*  *Before writing, you are going to watch a short video presentation. The video will be shown twice.*  *You can take notes if you wish. Use this sheet for your notes.*  *After viewing the video presentation, you will have 60 minutes to write your article.*  ***Follow this plan:***   * ***state the topic / issue of the talk;*** * ***give a short summary of the content of the talk and formulate the main message;*** * ***respond to the message of the talk by giving your opinion on the issue discussed by the speaker and / or linking the topic / issue to your personal experience;*** * ***comment on the speaker’s presentation style (manner of speaking, visuals etc.).***   *Use the sheets provided for your draft and your final version.*  *Write at least 300 words. Give a title to your article.* |
| **USE THIS SPACE FOR YOUR NOTES WHILE WATCHING THE PRESENTATION** |
| **USE THIS SHEET TO WRITE YOUR DRAFT** |

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| **Participant’s NAME:** |
| **USE THIS SHEET TO WRITE YOUR FINAL VERSION.**  **YOU MUST WRITE AT LEAST 300 WORDS.** |
| **TITLE:** |

**Student A**

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| **PAIR DISCUSSION** |
| *You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner.*  *Your partner has also read the same news item.*  *You have* ***2 minutes*** *to read the text and prepare for the discussion.*  *The discussion should take up to* ***3 minutes.***  *You are expected to:*   * *define the message / state the issue presented in the text* ***(Student A)****;* * *exchange opinions with the partner about the issue;* * *justify your opinion, provide arguments;* * *relate the issue to your own experience or knowledge, give examples;* * *summarise and conclude your discussion* ***(Student B)****.*   *Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.* |
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| **NO 1.** |
| [http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/](http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/t-shirt-wrapped-around-dolphin-by-pranksters-could-have-been-catastrophic/ar-AAmsc1I?li=BBoPWjQ)  http://img-s-msn-com.akamaized.net/tenant/amp/entityid/AAmu1Ai.img?h=456&w=728&m=6&q=60&o=f&l=f  **T-shirt wrapped around dolphin by pranksters could have been catastrophic**  A dolphin trapped in a T-shirt has been spotted swimming in a Western Australia (WA) bay. The entangled dolphin wrapped in a singlet was photographed by a concerned member of the public in Koombana Bay, on the south west coast.  WA’s Department of Wildlife said it was likely to be an “intentional act” of animal cruelty. “This could have been catastrophic for the dolphin if it had covered its blow hole and restricted its breathing. Unfortunately the animal has not been seen since.”  The department has urged anyone with information about the incident, or who has seen the dolphin, to contact them. Pia Courtis, an officer with the department, said it would be considered an offence under the country’s Wildlife Conservation Act, carrying a  $4,000 penalty.  “Dolphins are quite playful, but it’s unusual for them to be able to swim through something like that,” she said. “Thankfully, it’s on the other side of its blowhole and its pectoral fins are out, so it can still swim. But if it was done by somebody, it’s not great …”  Social media commentators condemned the act: “That is disgusting behaviour - upsetting.” “That is very sad, I hope it can be found and helped.” |

**Student B**

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| [http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/](http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/t-shirt-wrapped-around-dolphin-by-pranksters-could-have-been-catastrophic/ar-AAmsc1I?li=BBoPWjQ)  http://img-s-msn-com.akamaized.net/tenant/amp/entityid/AAmu1Ai.img?h=456&w=728&m=6&q=60&o=f&l=f  **T-shirt wrapped around dolphin by pranksters could have been catastrophic**  A dolphin trapped in a T-shirt has been spotted swimming in a Western Australia (WA) bay. The entangled dolphin wrapped in a singlet was photographed by a concerned member of the public in Koombana Bay, on the south west coast.  WA’s Department of Wildlife said it was likely to be an “intentional act” of animal cruelty. “This could have been catastrophic for the dolphin if it had covered its blow hole and restricted its breathing. Unfortunately the animal has not been seen since.”  The department has urged anyone with information about the incident, or who has seen the dolphin, to contact them. Pia Courtis, an officer with the department, said it would be considered an offence under the country’s Wildlife Conservation Act, carrying a  $4,000 penalty.  “Dolphins are quite playful, but it’s unusual for them to be able to swim through something like that,” she said. “Thankfully, it’s on the other side of its blowhole and its pectoral fins are out, so it can still swim. But if it was done by somebody, it’s not great …”  Social media commentators condemned the act: “That is disgusting behaviour - upsetting.” “That is very sad, I hope it can be found and helped.” |

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| **NO 2.** |
| <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/>  burka  **Austria agrees full-face veil ban in public places**  Austria's governing coalition has agreed to ban full-face veils in courts, schools and other public places as part of a reform programme ahead of next year's parliamentary election.  "The full-face veil will be banned in public spaces," said Chancellor Christian Kern, adding that the ban will be implemented over the next 18 months.  The full 35-page statement included increased security measures and forcing migrants to sign an "integration contract" and a "statement of values".  "Those who are not prepared to accept our values will have to leave our country. We believe in an open society that is based on open communication. Full-body veils in public spaces stand against that and will therefore be prohibited," said the text of the coalition agreement.  The term used would apply to the Muslim burka and niqab, which cover all or most of the face.  The French parliament passed an act six years ago that made France the first EU country to ban the burka in public places. Last year, Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, called for a ban on the full-face veil as she launched her re-election bid for a fourth term in office. Burka bans have also been approved by MPs in Belgium, the Netherlands, Bulgaria and Switzerland. |

**Student B**

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| **NO 3.** |
| <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/>  The robot can sense when new pictures are uploaded by friends and family and ask if its owner wants to see   **Elli.Q – a robot 'friend' launched to chat and play games with lonely elderly**  A talking robot which chats to elderly people, reminding them to take their medication and stay active, has been launched in London.  Elli.Q, one of the most advanced robots in the world, has been designed to convey emotion through different speech tones, lights and body language to be as engaging as possible.  The little robot suggests activities such as reading, listening to music, going for a walk, playing games or phoning friends and family. She is also programmed to learn what her owner enjoys, gradually tailoring her programming to fit.  Elli.Q has been developed by Intuition Robotics to prevent older people feeling isolated, and keep them connected to family and friends. It is comprised of two separate elements – a 'social director' robot which sits alongside a tablet. She’s easy to talk to, simple to operate and understands her owner.  In UK, nearly half of all people aged 75 and over live alone and say they often feel lonely. Thirty-six percent speak to one person a day and 11 per cent spend a week each month without seeing anyone.  "Elli.Q could never replace human interaction, but it can be an important motivating factor in keeping older adults healthy and active when living alone." |

**Student B**

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| **NO 4.** |
| <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/>    **UK throwing away £13bn of food each year**  UK households binned £13bn worth of food in 2015 that could have been eaten, according to latest figures.  Despite efforts to reduce food waste, a new update revealed that 7.3m tonnes of household food waste was thrown away in 2015 – up from 7m tonnes in 2012.  Of the food thrown away, 4.4m tonnes was deemed to be “avoidable” waste that was edible at some point before it was put in the bin. That meant the average UK household wasted £470 worth of food, which could have been eaten.  The avoidable food waste generated 19m tonnes of greenhouse gases over its lifetime – and preventing that pollution would be equivalent to taking one in four cars off UK roads.  Between 2007 and 2012, the total amount of household food waste fell by 15%, thanks to rising food prices alongside campaigning to raise awareness. But the latest figures show the food industry has failed to meet a commitment to cut household food waste by 5% between 2012 and 2015.  Trewin Restorick, founder of the environmental charity Hubbub, said: “Seeing food waste grow is massively disappointing and should be a wake-up call for efforts to be redoubled.” |

**Student B**

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| **NO 5.** |
| [http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/](http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/offbeat/boy-6-gives-away-his-toys-in-lemonade-stand-after-realizing-some-kids-are-less-fortunate/ar-AAmD3Mj)  Boy, 6, Gives Away His Toys in 'Lemonade' Stand After Realizing Some Kids Are Less Fortunate: Blake, 6, had his mind set on giving away all his toys when his mom told him some kids didn't have as many toys as he did.  **Boy, 6, Gives Away His Toys in 'Lemonade' Stand**  Blake Work, 6, decided to give away all his toys by setting up a lemonade stand. Instead of selling drinks, he invited customers to take one of his toys, for free.  It all started one evening, when his Mom asked Blake to clean up his toys. Blake protested, saying it would take a lot of time, since he had so many toys. His Mom told him, ‘You’re very lucky. Some kids don’t have any.’  The following morning, Blake woke his Mom up with a pile of toys and boks set aside. She followed him outside, and helped him set up a stand. But, every budding business venture runs into problems. For Blake, his problem was their neighborhood.  "We live in an older community with no kids. He sat out there for a couple hours with nothing." While his neighbors congratulated him for his selfless gesture, Blake started feeling discouraged since no one was picking up his toys.  Then his Mom started posting in local Facebook groups, inviting strangers to pick some toys. Eventually, people came. “A family with an 18-month-old son wanted some books. Blake ran back into his room and got five more books.”  By the end of the day, Blake gave away 10 toys, and donated whatever was left to his school. |

**Student B**

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| [http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/](http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/offbeat/boy-6-gives-away-his-toys-in-lemonade-stand-after-realizing-some-kids-are-less-fortunate/ar-AAmD3Mj)  Boy, 6, Gives Away His Toys in 'Lemonade' Stand After Realizing Some Kids Are Less Fortunate: Blake, 6, had his mind set on giving away all his toys when his mom told him some kids didn't have as many toys as he did.  **Boy, 6, Gives Away His Toys in 'Lemonade' Stand**  Blake Work, 6, decided to give away all his toys by setting up a lemonade stand. Instead of selling drinks, he invited customers to take one of his toys, for free.  It all started one evening, when his Mom asked Blake to clean up his toys. Blake protested, saying it would take a lot of time, since he had so many toys. His Mom told him, ‘You’re very lucky. Some kids don’t have any.’  The following morning, Blake woke his Mom up with a pile of toys and boks set aside. She followed him outside, and helped him set up a stand. But, every budding business venture runs into problems. For Blake, his problem was their neighborhood.  "We live in an older community with no kids. He sat out there for a couple hours with nothing." While his neighbors congratulated him for his selfless gesture, Blake started feeling discouraged since no one was picking up his toys.  Then his Mom started posting in local Facebook groups, inviting strangers to pick some toys. Eventually, people came. “A family with an 18-month-old son wanted some books. Blake ran back into his room and got five more books.”  By the end of the day, Blake gave away 10 toys, and donated whatever was left to his school. |

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| **NO 6.** |
| <http://www.draugas.org/news/>  **Mission Siberia participants making their way to a Lithuanian cemetery. Mission Siberia participants in the Siberian forest.**  **Mission Siberia – Now Recruiting in the US**  Part adventure, part history and civics lesson, Mission Siberia (MS) is an annual two-week expedition by young Lithuanians to various locales in Siberia, where Lithuanians were once forcibly exiled by the Soviet government. MS has become one of the most recognized youth-centered projects in Lithuania.  The purpose is to locate Lithuanian cemeteries in the Siberian wilderness, clear them of bush, and restore or construct memorial crosses there.  The volunteers thus honor the lives of those who died in Siberia. They also seek out descendants of Lithuanian exiles who still live in Siberia.  Upon returning home, participants write up their experiences and make presentations for schools throughout Lithuania.  Last fall, Lithuanian Americans had the opportunity to hear presentations about MS expeditions from Ignas Rusilas, the program’s executive director. He spoke to Lithuanian Saturday school children in Chicago, New York, and Washington, DC.  Rusilas commented, “We often joke that this project is the most popular “university” in Lithuania. Every year participants share their Siberian experiences in hundreds of presentations. We have created 9 documentary films that have been aired on TV and can be viewed on Youtube. We have active media sites and some 26,000 Facebook followers.” |

**Student B**

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| **NO 7.** |
| <http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/offbeat/>  Family members pose for giant photo in Zhejiang Province.: Family members pose for the giant photo.  **Chinese family of 500 reunite for supersize group photo**  Members of the Ren family came together to celebrate China’s lunar new year. The size of their group has made the resulting image an instant hit online. The shot was taken by photographer Zhang Liangzong, who used a drone to help him fit so many people into one frame.  The reunion was organised to commemorate the completion of a detailed family tree.  Local researchers managed to identify over 2,000 living members of the extended Ren family, whose history can be traced back eight centuries. “It took us two years to complete the family tree,” Ren said.  A tumultuous 20th century of war, dictatorship, famine and, recently, breathtaking economic growth has scattered Chinese families far and wide, with younger generations swapping villages for life in cities, where there are greater opportunities.  Members of the Ren clan reportedly journeyed to the get-together from homes in China and Taiwan.  Ren, who is also the village chief, said the family portrait was an attempt to reconnect those who had left their ancestral home.  “China is moving toward modernity, but Chinese people’s roots in their native land never disappear,” he said. “Wherever they go, the descendants of any family have always got something to bring them together.” |

**Student B**

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| **PAIR DISCUSSION** |
| *You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner.*  *Your partner has also read the same news item.*  *You have* ***2 minutes*** *to read the text and prepare for the discussion.*  *The discussion should take up to* ***3 minutes.***  *You are expected to:*   * *define the message / state the issue presented in the text* ***(Student A)****;* * *exchange opinions with the partner about the issue;* * *justify your opinion, provide arguments;* * *relate the issue to your own experience or knowledge, give examples;* * *summarise and conclude your discussion* ***(Student B)****.*   *Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.* |
| Student A and Student B read the same news item.  Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.  Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion. |

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**Student A**

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| **PAIR DISCUSSION** |
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| Student A and Student B read the same news item.  Student A starts the conversation by summarising the news item.  Student B completes the conversation by summarising the discussion. |

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| **NO 8.** |
| [http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/offbeat/](http://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/offbeat/flight-attendant-saves-teenage-girl-from-human-trafficking-after-seeing-secret-note/ar-AAmEHbq)  http://img-s-msn-com.akamaized.net/tenant/amp/entityid/AAmENJB.img?h=157&w=270&m=6&q=60&o=f&l=f&x=265&y=217  **Flight attendant saves teenage girl from human trafficking**  A flight attendant rescued a victim of human trafficking after she spotted a girl looking dishevelled on a plane accompanied by a well-dressed man.  Sheila Frederick was working on a flight from Seattle to San Francisco when she noticed a girl, around 15 years old, and immediately knew something was wrong. “He was well-dressed.That’s what got me because I thought why is he well-dressed and she is so untidy?“  When she tried to speak with them, the man became defensive and the girl wouldn't talk. She subsequently left a note for the teenager in the plane's toilet, to which the girl later responded in writing “I need help.”  The flight attendant informed pilots who then communicated the message to police in San Francisco, and the man was arrested when the flight landed.  It comes as efforts have been ramped up in the US to train flight staff to recognise possible victims of human trafficking - someone who appears battered or won’t answer questions or make eye contact.  Emphasising the importance of such training, Ms Frederick added: “I've been a flight attendant for ten years and I could have seen these girls and boys, but I didn't know they were in danger.” |

**Student B**

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| **PAIR DISCUSSION** |
| *You are going to read a news item. You have to respond to the news and discuss it with a partner.*  *Your partner has also read the same news item.*  *You have* ***2 minutes*** *to read the text and prepare for the discussion.*  *The discussion should take up to* ***3 minutes.***  *You are expected to:*   * *define the message / state the issue presented in the text* ***(Student A)****;* * *exchange opinions with the partner about the issue;* * *justify your opinion, provide arguments;* * *relate the issue to your own experience or knowledge, give examples;* * *summarise and conclude your discussion* ***(Student B)****.*   *Note: if you start the discussion, your partner will have to complete the discussion and vice versa.* |
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