

**International GCSE English
Language B
Question 8 Exemplars
2019**

SECTION B: Reading and Writing

Answer the question in this section.

You should spend 1 hour on this section.

Use ideas from BOTH Text One and Text Two in the Extracts Booklet to answer this question.

- 8 Write a letter to your local newspaper explaining why you think there should be more opportunities for after-study activities in your local community.

You should include:

- the reasons why there are not enough activities
- the types of activities that could be offered
- the benefits of after-study activities.

Think carefully about the purpose of your letter and the audience for whom it is intended.

(30)

- Risks, need for determinat° (pupils + adults)
- Physically demanding → funding \$
- Ages, fees, time-consuming
- Balance, study, relax.

- Sailing, language, science, maths, physical, etc., volunteering.

- Leadership + management + responsibility
- Meet similar / different people, discuss about interests / opinions
- Fun, enjoyable, overwhelming
- Challenging, resilience
- Applications



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Dear editor,

Having recently read your helpful ~~report~~ article on pupils' involvement in after-study activities, I thought it both my right and my duty to express my opinions to you regarding this topic. Indeed, as a teenager, I believe that students are willing to engage in such activities, and take many benefits from them.

Firstly, the reason why Brent cruelly lacks proper after-study activities might not be, as you remarked in your article, that "teenagers are lazy good-for-nothings who spend their weekends stuffing themselves with Netflix and popcorn". Indeed, as my past experiences



suggest, schools and community centres are often reluctant to organise activities: they lack funding, ^{they} fear risks, and they need determined pupils - and adults - for it to work. Besides, some activities are physically demanding and cannot include younger students (for example sailing). Furthermore, at this age, teenagers are encouraged to focus on grades, and have to find a balance between their study time, their "relaxing" time, and after-study activities.

However, I firmly believe that pupils and schools can overcome these challenges. Teenagers can demonstrate impressive abilities to get involved in activities they enjoy. Moreover, the benefits of implementing extra-curricular activities entirely ~~say~~ surpass its drawbacks. Indeed, pupils can learn leadership and management skills, as well as ~~learn~~ being more responsible. Also, they can meet many people, ~~be~~ they interested in all kinds of topics and with various opinions, which enables teenagers to interact socially while developing other skills, such as mental and physical resilience. Believe me - all teenagers like a challenge, and participating in an after-study activity is fun, engaging and even



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overwhelming. Finally, it also helps with university and job applications, as it shows responsibility and polyvalence.

I would also like to draw your attention to the infinite possibilities that the borough's support in this cause could bring. We could implement clubs for every child in Brent, and why not everywhere else in the UK? Indeed, a sea of activities exists: French, chess, music, drama, science, maths, and all the ~~physical~~ team sports we could imagine.

Of course, after-study activities are time-consuming and expensive for schools, but I am strongly in favour of them nevertheless. I hope that I have shown you the tremendous benefits they can bring - and the benefits teenagers can bring as engaged, proactive members of a society without barriers.

Thank you for your time reading this letter. I hope that other people will also wish to share their opinions regarding this topic.

Yours faithfully,



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(30)

Dear Sir,

I am writing to convince you about a matter which I believe to be very important for the development of our community. I strongly think I have a few reasons which I would like to convince you about some ideas you could include in your local newspaper which I strongly think will be concerning the after-study activities available, which I strongly think would be beneficial to our community.

Being a resident of our friendly, habitable town, I have noticed that after-school hours fill the streets with wandering and sometimes scandalous teenagers who seem to not have do not seem incredibly busy. Apart from our lack of famous successful events, I believe this may be a feature that may be holding our community down and there is no reason why we should not try and resolve this matter.



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Turn over ►

For example, in newspaper articles, ~~one~~ one can always read ~~over~~ about highly successful events organised by schools and ~~an~~ carried out by students in their after-study activities such as the ~~of~~ Fastnet Yacht race last month. It would be wonderful if something like that could be hosted by some of our younger residents. It is evident we need to offer more opportunities than the ones present to reduce the number of young people in the streets and increase our recognitions.

In order to be a ~~committed~~ committed resident, I have come up with a list of activities that could be offered; ~~these include~~ ~~all~~ these ~~now~~ include of all different ~~price~~ prices, age ranges and physical levels. For example, for ~~the~~ the ~~an~~ youth of our community who are stuck in classrooms, ~~handbooked~~ with work and exams, a ~~range~~ multiple sports teams could be arranged, such as the following: dance, basketball, baseball, athletics, tennis and soccer. ~~Or~~ We could create a survey to collect results and predict which ~~most~~ ~~ones~~ ones would be ~~more~~ more popular to ~~involve~~ prevent a waste of resources.

I have also thought of ~~an~~ ideas to make available to our groups of statistically disadvantaged residents and even of a few sponsors we could use to bring attention to our new and improved town. ~~in addition~~ In addition, ~~Finally, I would be willing to~~ I would be willing to contribute to the creation of a website to encourage the use of these new activities and help the people



students find the most adequate club for them, ^{based} ~~depending~~ on factors such as their time. Whether, its a quiet activity such as chess or ~~of~~ French or a more active programme such as drama, we could make sure ~~there is~~ no ~~one~~ young resident ever feels the need to cause chaos and disrupt our streets.

Finally, I ~~would like to~~ believe that ~~the~~ investment in the creation of these new activities will ~~not only~~ reduce any problems, but ~~the~~ ~~many~~ ~~many~~ ~~also~~ benefit the individuals themselves. After ~~some research~~ researching into this important matter, I have found that in fact ~~a~~ students who attend after-study activities have shown to exemplify improved school attendance by over 25%. To add to this, it will encourage them to raise money for our community in order to fund events, as well as ~~help them~~ ~~to~~ help them learn to manage themselves through competitions, they will gain an understanding that you have to work hard to get what you want and help them find which role they will wish to take on in life: captain, participant, leader, ~~supporter~~ or supporter.

I hope ~~and~~ you will take my ~~recommendations~~ recommendations into consideration and include them in your well-known newspaper, which is ^{very} popular amongst ^{the members of our community} ~~the community~~ in order to be able to ^{improve} ~~develop~~ our town.

Yours faithfully,

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(30)

Dear Sir / Madam

I have been recently taking a look around our local community and there are not enough activities to do after the ~~the~~ school day. I have also asked local members and they share my opinion. There are few facilities and clubs in which kids could spend their afternoons. Most of the clubs are full and most of the facilities are occupied. Other local members are worried that their son and daughter will not be ~~be~~ able to join the sports club.

In the last few days, local members have approached to me asking for a wider variety of activities to do after the school day. The most requested activity the local community would like further on would be a



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kids club with a larger capacity than the actual. The reason for this is that many parents work till dinner time and they are not able to take care of their kids. In addition, older members have requested a chess club where they can spend their afternoons. Even though there is already a sports club after the school day, some kids complain that the range of age is really difficult to cope with, so, as a solution some teenagers are wishing to create a different club for teenagers. ~~we would also like a new sports hall which will benefit everyone due to our number of members~~
~~The local community as a whole requests~~

Creating more opportunities for after study activities for our local community will benefit all different ages and genders. Some clubs require a certain age, this means that there are people which would like ~~the~~ to belong to that club. Also, some kids have to travel in order to take part in the activity they want as the entrance fee in our local community is too high. ~~which~~

~~the~~ Furthermore, offering an extra number of after study activities will always benefit our local community. Participating in after study activities will help our students for the future. If they participate in after-study activities it will be shown on their CV for universities and for older people it will be shown in their job applications. But, this could only happen if those clubs are offered to our local community. If a



~~student of our local community~~ ^{wants to be} ~~at a football club~~ ^{sports}

A student of our local community wants to train smaller kids at a sports club. For example football, basketball or tennis, being a member of the sports club will show the depth of his commitment.

In addition, we ~~would~~ would also like to begin an athletics programme, where we will begin training students on their specific goals and furthermore persuade them to compete at higher levels, where they would need to fundraise money by giving talks to athletics teams and professional coaches, this will show the level of their commitment in order to triumph and improve constantly over time.

In conclusion, we would like an improvement of our local community facilities and clubs, this will benefit our students which will have higher chances of studying at recognised universities, fathers and mothers which will be able to work knowing that their children are being taken care of by professionals, older people which can enjoy their afternoons outside rather than staying home without making new friends neither having a nice time and finally we could be able to train students to become professional athletes our local community would be pleased if all of our petitions would ~~be~~ taken in consideration.



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Yours faithfully,