OPTION A

EASY ANONYMITY: CURSE OF THE INTERNET

Wanting your voice to be heard is an almost universal desire. For generations we had the village pub, the pamphlet, the letters page. Politicians, clerics, commentators, critics, technical experts aired their views more formally and widely, but we knew who said what. So, we judged them accordingly, whether as interesting thinkers, fools or malicious bastards. Then came the Internet and everyone could have a say with a chance that the world might agree. Unfortunately, it also became easier to hide from the safety of darkness, or to invent any number of imaginary enthusiasts to shower praise on your book or business. So, the Times report about TripAdvisor was unsurprising. This lucrative US website, where customers review hotels and restaurants worldwide and contribute to their rankings, has been found to have many fake reviews. Some suspicious companies offer to post five-star verdicts and some malicious negative reviews are being sold in order to damage rivals. One remedy should be to forbid anonymity: at least your name should be given to the host, who should be able to contact you. Easy anonymity for noisy opinions is the curse of the Internet age. Hiding your identity is not admirable, at least not if you're going to join arguments. Hate me if you like, but tell me who you are! Let's engage as humans, not robots! Once you join an argument rather than asking a question, it is only decent to stand up.

QUESTIONS

[1] ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION ACCORDING TO THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS (10 TO 20 WORDS) (2 POINTS).

What is the problem explained in the text and what is the main cause?

[2] ARE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? INDICATE THE LINE(S) IN THE TEXT AND COPY THE FIRST 2 WORDS AND THE LAST TWO WORDS SUPPORTING YOUR CHOICE (1.5 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).

2.1. Before the Internet people expressed their opinions openly, giving their names.
2.2. TripAdvisor has written a surprisingly incorrect report about the Times.
2.3. Some bad comments do not come from real customers; they are invented to harm competitors.

[3] CHOOSE *A*, *B* OR *C*. ONLY ONE CHOICE IS CORRECT ACCORDING TO THE TEXT (0.5 POINTS).

a) Before booking hotels or restaurants, you should always look at their rankings and reviews and trust them.
b) Giving too many personal details is the curse of the Internet age.
c) Because it is not necessary to give your real name to post an opinion, some companies are obtaining benefit dishonestly.

[4] VOCABULARY (2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.4 EACH).

- Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:

a) to have the same opinion
b) making a lot of money or being very profitable

- Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:

c) false
d) adversaries
e) prohibit

[5] COMPLETE TASKS A AND B ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN (1 POINT AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).

a. Ask a question about the underlined element: Suspicious companies offer to post five-star verdicts.
b. Transform into the passive: You should not hide your identity.

[6] WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 100-120 WORDS (3 POINTS).

Do you check reviews before buying or booking on the Internet? Why or why not?

OPTION B

CAN ULTIMATE FRISBEE SAVE THE WORLD?

They'd gathered for supper one night in July, at the summer camp at the Kfar Silver School, in Ashkelon, Israel. For the last couple of weeks this group of kids — some from Israel, some from Palestine — had been trying to learn something about conflict resolution, by playing Ultimate Frisbee. Some of them had become friends. That was when the air raid siren went off. The rockets came from Gaza. The missiles didn't land in Ashkelon. But they did score a direct hit on the hopes of the people who saw the camp as an oasis of peace.

When I interviewed David Barkan, director of the camp, and he described his hope of changing hearts and minds through Ultimate Frisbee, I struggled to imagine how Frisbee - seriously, Frisbee? - might succeed where a half-century of diplomacy had failed. Ultimate Frisbee has something unique: There's no referee. The sport is self-regulated by its players, and when there's a dispute, they come to an agreement. If the conflict can't be resolved, the match starts over. But most of the time, the players work it out together.

Jews and Palestinians who've been part of this project have begun to see each other in new ways, with empathy for people they used to consider enemies. As for that missile attack, the camp received over 300 calls from worried parents. But not one child left the camp that night. Instead, when the all-clear signal was given, the children began to sing, in Arabic and in Hebrew.

QUESTIONS

[1] ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION ACCORDING TO THE TEXT. <u>USE YOUR OWN WORDS</u> (10 TO 20 WORDS) (2 POINTS).

What is the purpose of this summer camp?

[2] ARE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? INDICATE THE LINE(S) IN THE TEXT AND COPY THE FIRST 2 WORDS AND THE LAST TWO WORDS SUPPORTING YOUR CHOICE (1.5 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).

2.1. There was a missile attack on a summer camp for children in Ashkelon.
2.2. It is the Frisbee players themselves who make sure that the rules are observed.
2.3. After the missile attack some parents arrived at the camp to pick up their children and take them home.

[3] CHOOSE *A*, *B* OR *C*. <u>ONLY ONE CHOICE</u> IS CORRECT ACCORDING TO THE TEXT (0.5 POINTS).

a) Ultimate Frisbee's most important tournament is now played in Palestine.
b) Frisbee referees can be good diplomats in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
c) Frisbee can be used to learn how to be more understanding, for example in Israel and Palestine.

[4] VOCABULARY (2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.4 EACH).

- Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:

a) achieve something that you planned to do or attempted to do
b) the ability to understand how someone feels because you can imagine what it is like to be them

- Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:

c) two
d) fought
e) indication

[5] COMPLETE TASKS A AND B ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN (1 POINT AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).

a. Complete: "If children learnt good values through sport,… "
b. Write a question for which the underlined word is the answer: The rockets came from <u>Gaza</u>.

[6] WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 100-120 WORDS (3 POINTS).

In what ways can sport help us to build a better society?