



**D. Choose the correct form to make some more comparisons between the past and present.**

- 1 Joining a gym is *expensiver* / *more expensive* than it used to be.
- 2 It is *more hard* / *harder* to find the time to do exercise.
- 3 Most people eat *healthier* / *more healthy* food than they did before.
- 4 It is *dangerous* / *more dangerous* for children to play outside.
- 5 The pace of life is *faster* / *more faster* than it used to be.

“linking ideas”

**E. Complete the expressions the student uses in the essay to refer to the present or the past.**

Present	Past
n _ w	b _ _ o _ e
n _ _ _ d _ _ s	_ _ the p _ _ _
i _ t _ _ _ 's w _ _ _ d	s _ _ _ ral years _ _ _
th _ _ _ days	t _ _ r _ u _ _ d to b _

**F. Find the following expressions in the essay.**

- 1 two expressions used to give an opinion \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 two expressions used to introduce the opposite view \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 an expression to show there are two sides to the argument \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 an expression to introduce the conclusion \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 an expression to show that a point is the most important \_\_\_\_\_

**G. Read this Writing Part 2 question and think of some advantages and disadvantages.**

*Some children spend most of their free time taking part in clubs and other planned activities. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?*

advantages: \_\_\_\_\_  
 disadvantages: \_\_\_\_\_

**H. Fill in the gaps in the essay with the following linking expressions.**

My own view is                      my own opinion                      Unfortunately                      Firstly  
 One reason is that                      Thirdly                      also                      In addition

Many parents think that their children should have many free-time activities, such as joining sports clubs and having music lessons. Children often have no time which can really be called free time. In this essay I will look at the advantages and disadvantages of this and give (1)\_\_\_\_\_.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_, if we think of all the great artists, musicians and sportsmen and women in the world, they all started by doing their activity as a hobby. They found they had a talent and developed their skills to become world class. Secondly, children usually enjoy their activities, make friends and become well-developed people. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ parents think that being busy will stop the children getting into trouble. Their parents know what they are doing at all times.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_, this is not always a positive trend. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ children can become stressed when they have to run from activity to activity. (6) \_\_\_\_\_, they need time to play freely and use their imaginations. They can get to know themselves and their likes and dislikes during this time. It is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ important to give them time to relax, watch TV, read and be with their parents, grandparents and siblings.

(8) \_\_\_\_\_ that we need to have a balance. Children should choose one or two activities they really like, and have free time to just be themselves the rest of the time.