

### Task 3 – Reading into writing

Use the information from the four texts you read in Task 2 to write a report (150-180 words) for your teacher on young people's TV watching habits and what the benefits and disadvantages are.

You should plan your report **before** you start writing. Think about what you want to say and make some notes to help you in this box:

Planning notes

(No marks are given for these planning notes)

Now write your report of 150-180 words on the lines below. Try to use your own words as far as possible – don't just copy sentences from the reading texts.

For the purpose of this document, the relevant texts are reprinted below.

#### Text A

TV in small doses can be an excellent educator and entertainer of young children. Pre-schoolers can get help learning things like the alphabet on television and older schoolchildren can learn about wildlife on nature shows. But despite its advantages, too much television can be harmful both physically and mentally. Research consistently shows that violent and other bad behaviour on screen negatively affects those children who experience it.

Child psychologists recommend that babies under 2 years old should not watch any TV and that those older than 2 watch no more than 1 to 2 hours a day of quality programming. The first 2 years of life are considered a critical time for brain development and function. TV and other electronic media can get in the way of exploring, playing, and interacting with others, all of which encourage learning and healthy physical and social development.

#### Text B

Parents – it's your responsibility to monitor and limit the time your child spends playing video games, watching TV, and on the computer and the internet.

- ✓ Treat TV and other screen time as a privilege, not a right they are entitled to.
- ✓ Make it a reward for finishing their homework, clearing the dinner table or doing other jobs.
- ✓ Turn off TV during meals and ban it from children's bedrooms.
- ✓ Stock the TV room with books, board games, toys and puzzles, to encourage children to do other activities.
- ✓ Check which programmes are suitable for you to watch together as a family and try not to leave children alone in front of the TV.
- ✓ Try a weekday ban on TV and do physical activities with your children in the evenings.
- ✓ Talk to your children about what they see on TV and try to share your own beliefs and values of what's good and bad with them.

**Text C**

**Melanie's blog**

November 10, 2014

I'm completely fed up with 'experts' telling us what we can and can't watch on our screens. Give us young people a little credit, will you?



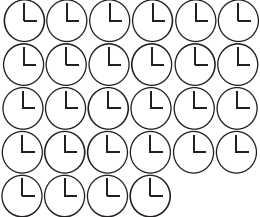
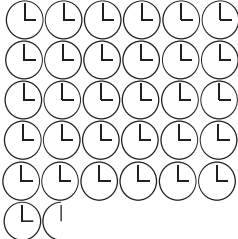

Life's about making decisions, so the sooner you start, the better. We'll learn positively from being trusted to know what TV is 'good' or 'bad' for us.

It's about time our parents listened to our views rather than laying down laws about where, what and how we entertain ourselves.

It's not realistic to prevent us from watching violence and crime. It's also not helpful. We need to learn about the big world out there, so don't stop us from finding out about it!

I'm not talking about really little kids, obviously, but teenagers? Trust us! Plus, these days, when digital devices are so common, how are adults going to be able to keep control over what we watch anyway?

**Text D**

Kids aged 6-11 watch about 4 hours per day		And the average pre-schooler watches even more. About 4.5 hours a day		Even when they're not watching, the average child is exposed to 4 hours of background TV per day
A total of 28 hours a week		A total of 31.5 hours a week		

Note: For the purpose of this document, candidates' planning notes are left out as they are not part of the assessment.