

Persuasive Essay – Balancing Progress and Preservation



Persuasive Essay Prompt: Balancing Progress and Preservation

Background Information: The modern world stands at a crossroads, where the path of scientific progress intersects with the imperative for environmental preservation. As we advance, three contentious issues capture the essence of this dilemma: the environmental impact of plastic waste, the debate over genetically modified organisms (GMOs), and the investment in space exploration.

1. **Plastic bags**, despite their convenience, pose a significant threat to marine life and contribute to the growing problem of non-biodegradable waste.
2. **GMOs** promise to increase food production and resistance to pests, yet they raise concerns about biodiversity, health risks, and the control of the global food supply.
3. **Space exploration** offers the potential for new discoveries and the advancement of human knowledge but requires significant financial resources that could be allocated to pressing environmental issues on Earth.

Essay Prompt: Write a persuasive essay that answers the question: Should humanity prioritize environmental preservation over scientific progress in the fields of plastic usage, GMOs, and space exploration? Choose a stance and argue for the prioritization of environmental sustainability or the continuation of scientific advancement, using the three topics as the foundation of your argument.

Guidelines for a High-Scoring Essay:

Introduction: Briefly introduce the dilemma between scientific progress and environmental preservation. End with a thesis statement that presents your stance clearly and concisely.

Body Paragraphs:

- **Argument:** Develop a paragraph for each of the three issues (plastic bags, GMOs, space exploration), presenting your arguments. Use evidence, examples, and reputable sources to support your viewpoint.
- **Counterargument and Rebuttal:** Acknowledge the opposing viewpoint and provide a reasoned rebuttal. Demonstrating an understanding of the counterargument and refuting it effectively can enhance your essay's persuasive impact.

Conclusion: Summarize your arguments and reiterate your thesis in the light of the evidence presented. End with a compelling statement that underscores the importance of your viewpoint and the implications for the future.

Requirements for a Higher Grade:

- **Clarity and Coherence:** Ensure that your essay is well-organized, with clear transitions between paragraphs and a logical flow of ideas.
- **Evidence-Based Arguments:** Support your arguments with concrete evidence from credible sources. Statistics, studies, and expert opinions can lend weight to your essay.
- **Persuasive Techniques:** Use rhetorical questions, emotional appeals, and varied sentence structures to engage the reader and strengthen your persuasive message.
- **Critical Thinking:** Demonstrate critical thinking by considering the complexities of the issues and presenting a nuanced argument.
- **Grammar and Style:** Pay attention to grammar, punctuation, and stylistic choices. A well-written essay is more likely to persuade the reader.

This essay invites you to engage deeply with current debates that shape our world, challenging you to articulate a well-reasoned stance on the balance between progress and preservation.

Overview

