

## **4B (15)**

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### **Part B**

#### **Question:**

**Your school debate club is preparing for a debate about typing versus handwriting in exams.**

**Write an essay comparing the advantages and disadvantages of typing in handwriting in exams.**

### **Reviewing typing and handwriting**

I was recently informed of another debate going on about what type of submission-whether typing or handwriting, is better for the exams so I shall review both sides, explain the advantage and disadvantage and input my own standpoint.

Firstly, typing can be overall faster if you manage your time and effort to actually train your typing. Secondly, the answers won't be affected by human errors due to all characters remaining the same, consistent and clear. Thirdly mistakes can be easily undone due to the several features of typing, which will ultimately save time as well. However, if the writer is inexperienced, typing can be extremely slow and time consuming. Secondly, if Internet is present, cheating can happen, and it would be harder to detect such cheating. Finally, if physical or hard copy submission is required, then printing is practically a requirement (it's time-consuming), which can also be costly.

Handwriting, on the other hand, is an inherent skill and we all acquire this skill since childhood, so it is easier. Secondly, detection of cheating is easier due to most cheating efforts to be recognizable to teachers and examiners, particularly because everyone's writing style is unique and easily recognizable. Thirdly, the generation of character or language structures is not limited by keyboard, which means handwriting has potential to give more creativity to the writer.

However, no matter how much one is skilled, handwriting is overall slower compared to typing. Secondly, handwriting can be inconsistent, unclear and hard to read depending on the person. Thirdly, mistakes cannot be easily erased, nor undone compared to typing. And finally, handwriting is limited to the size and amount of paper given thereby limiting the creative expression of the writers.

This section only covers my personal stance. Personally, I find typing superior in comparison to handwriting. The speed I can get things done with being able to erase and undo multiple mistakes to me is a godsend given the amount of frustrations handwriting causes me (my hand hurts writing this).

But in the end, it's my preference, and perhaps you can change my standpoint?