

Topic 1 – Discuss

Bedömning: A

Innocent Fun or Dangerous Possibilities.

A person once said “The best way of getting rid of your temptations is to follow them”. Think about that for a moment and imagine the world in front of you. What would it look like?

In today’s society young people are faced with all kinds of temptations; drinking, gambling, drugs etc. None of these examples are good or healthy in any way. So why do we still do these things? I would have to say like Roman historian Publicus Cornelius Tacitus once said “Things forbidden have a secret charm” and also the so common peer pressure plays an important role.

When you are young and uncertain of yourself it’s easier to be manipulated, and media knows this. A lot of advertisements often tells you to buy this or that and you will look just like him or her. And the fear of being alone and different from everyone often makes you buy things you don’t really want to. You could call this following the crowd. This is where your conscience is very important because it is your conscience that tells you whether it’s good or bad.

A typical example of this is smoking. Maybe you want to be part of this cool group of kids in school but they are all smoking. So you are thinking – to be one of them I also have to smoke. In this example following the crowd is bad, but there are situations where it can be useful. I will get back to that later.

Dealing with your temptations is definitely a part of growing up. It is a way of testing your limits. This is where good role models are so important. I believe the lack of role models is one of the biggest causes to a lot of these problems. Good upbringing and good parents are very important. It is part of raising a child – telling him or her what to do and not to do. The parents can easily turn off the TV when something inappropriate is on, even if the children complain. When the children are getting older they need to understand what is good and what is bad, hopefully the parent already has taught the basics. Parents and role models I believe are the most important persons keeping young people away from these bad temptations such as smoking.

When you are older you maybe stop listening to your parents and your friends become more important. Maybe you then try to smoke and drink some beer, it’s okay I believe and hopefully your upbringing has taught you something. As long as you can get yourself back again after you have let go. Often you learn from a new experience. Younger people can’t deal with temptations in a responsible way.

However there are times when peer pressure can be useful. If you have a goal you want to reach really bad, a group or a crowd can support you reaching it. So you can’t say that all peer pressure is bad and following a crowd can help too sometimes. It is how you follow it, use your own head and don’t let the temptations lead you into bad peer pressure. My final words are: Start with being a good role model yourself and maybe some day everyone will be one as well. And No, the world would not look very good if every one followed their temptations.

Eleven inleder med ett citat från elevmaterialet (*"The best way of getting rid of your temptations is to follow them"*) och uppmanar läsaren att begrunda och ställa sig frågan vad ett sådant förhållningssätt skulle leda till. Därmed engageras läsaren på ett strategiskt sätt i resonemanget redan från början. Eleven bygger strukturerat upp sin text och utvecklar ett fylligt innehåll, där många aspekter behandlas. Ytterligare ett citat används som stöd, när eleven med medvetenhet om mottagaren ställer och besvarar frågan *So why do we still do these things?*. Frågeställningen utreds sedan vidare och resonemanget leder över på att ungdomar i sin osäkerhet blir lätta måltavlor för grupstryck, reklam och media. Eleven belyser den negativa sidan men låter också läsaren ana att det finns positiva aspekter med att följa gruppens normer, vilket dock eleven väljer att återkomma till (*but there are situations where it can be usefull. I will come back to that later*). Eleven utvecklar och fördjupar sedan sitt resonemang (*It is a part of raising a child – telling him or her what to do and not to do*). Diskussionen nyanseras genom påpekandet om vännernas ökande betydelse för besluten (*When you are older you maybe stop listening to your parents*) och att föräldrarnas grundläggande uppfostran då blir av ännu större vikt (*Maybe you then smoke and drink...and hopefully your upbringing has taught you something*). Mot slutet återkommer eleven till aspekten om grupstryck i dess goda mening (*a group or a crowd can suport you reaching it*) samt vikten av att bli en förebild själv. Framställningen avrundas med en slutsats (*And No, the world would not look very good if everyone followed their temptations*) som på ett effektivt sätt återkopplar till frågan i inledningen (*What would it look like?*)

Meningsbyggnaden är smidig och varierad, vilket gör texten omväxlande och dynamisk. Detta är särskilt tydligt i inledningen av de olika avsnitten (*A person once said; In today's society young people are faced with; When you are young and uncertain of; A typical example of this is; Dealing with your temptations is; However there are times*). Dessa och många andra exempel på lediga formuleringar bidrar också till ett gott flyt och visar på förmåga att på ett nyanserat sätt formulera sig kring mer komplexa förhållanden (*And the fear of being alone and different from everyone often makes you buy things; In this example following the crowd is bad, but there are situations where; It's a way of testing your limits; after you have let go*). Till tydlighet och sammanhang bidrar också en genomgående användning av bindeord, d.v.s. ord som binder samman uttryck och satser (*None of these examples; and media knows this; This is where; A typical example of this; It is a part of raising a child – telling him or her; these bad temptations such as; However*). Ordförrådet är gott och varierat och anpassat till

situationen (*uncertain; manipulated; conscience; lack of; upbringing; the basics*). Eleven visar vid något enstaka tillfälle osäkerhet beträffande kongruens, d.v.s överensstämmelse mellan subjekt och predikat (*A lot of advertisements often tells you*) och prepositionsval (*the biggest cause to*), men språket är i övrigt formellt säkert. En del stavfel förekommer dock (*off =of; wether; usefull, allready; belive: suport, realy*), men de är inte av den arten att de påverkar flyt eller tydlighet.

Sammanfattningsvis blir bedömningen att eleven med väl fungerande strategier kan formulera sig, även i mer komplexa sammanhang, på ett nyanserat och strukturerat sätt och med anpassning till syfte, situation och mottagare. Eleven uttrycker sig därvid tydligt, ledigt, varierat och med flyt, varför texten bedöms uppfylla kunskapskravet för betygssteget A.

Bedömning: A

Topic 2 – Argue

Bedömning: A

Gambling might lead to trouble!

Gambling is getting more and more common in today's society. There are several shows on TV about poker each night and even more gambling related sites on the internet. These TV-shows and sites influence young people and they might get stuck with gambling related issues for their entire life.

That's why I'm going to argue against gambling and why gambling is a bad thing.

People have been gambling for hundreds of years, so it's not a brand new thing. What is new though, is that gambling has reached its way to younger people and even children. This is what concerns me.

Underaged gambling is illegal. The law isn't there to put young people off, it was made for a reason. If you're underaged and start gambling you might get hooked for the rest of your life. When you start your "career" as a gambler, it's probably with your friends and you're not taking it serious. It probably isn't either. The sums are not as big and you enjoy spending time with your friends, playing poker. But soon you're gambling every day, instead of once in a while. You spend less time with your former friends, less time doing schoolwork, less time with your family. All you do is gamble. So gambling affects not just yourself, but the people around you, the ones you love. So gambling leads to a not very good social life.

Money. Always about money. As I stated before the sums aren't especially big when you start gambling. But when time goes by, you'll find yourself gambling about more and more money. At first, the money was there to make the poker nights a little more exciting. Now, on the other hand, you try to make a living out of your gambling. At this stage almost all your money and savings, if you have any, will go to your gambling.

When you run out of money, which you eventually will, you might start selling stuff. If you're young and perhaps don't got many things to sell, you start owing people money. This is, in my opinion, the worst thing about gambling. When you have a debt and owe people money, they can control you and make you do stuff you never thought you were capable of doing.

Like I said before, if you owe people money and can't pay off your debt, you might get involved in other criminal actions. Examples of things you might have to do is: stealing, dealing and perhaps even murder. If you refuse to do these things the people you owe money will most likely get rid of you, or someone you hold dear.

So gambling can also lead to more criminality.

This being said, I don't think gambling is just negative, there are some good to it as well.

To meet up with your mates on a friday night in order to play some poker and just hang out is deffinatly not wrong. But you have to be careful so you don't get hooked. Therefore you need to control yourself and know when to stop.

To finish it all up there are good and bad things about gambling. But there's more bad things than good things about it – so don't start it! When you loose control it only leads to worse things, and you never know when it'll stop...

Eleven bygger strukturerat upp sin argumentation, vilket visar på anpassning till genren. I inledningen beskrivs med konkreta exempel hur det moderna samhällets medier ökar risken för spelberoende hos unga människor, vilket utgör anledningen till elevens ställningstagande, d.v.s. tesen (*That's why I'm going to argue against gambling...*). Med en kort historisk tillbakablick konstaterar eleven att spel inte är någon ny företeelse. Påståendet nyaseras genom påpekandet att det nya är att denna företeelse nu nått ut till allt yngre människor, vilket ytterligare förstärker elevens ståndpunkt (*This is what concerns me*). Med ett direkt tilltal (*If you are underaged*), som visar på mottagarmedvetenhet, bygger eleven sedan skickligt upp sin argumentation med utgångspunkt i det faktum att det finns en anledning till att spel är olagligt för omyndiga ungdomar (*Underaged gambling is illegal. The law isn't there to ..., it was made for a reason*). Resonemanget stegras effektivt genom en beskrivning av hur oskyldigt sällskapsspel kan accelerera till ett spelande utan kontroll. Ingående beskrivs sedan hur ekonomin gradvis raderas och vilka allvarliga konsekvenser detta kan få (*the people you owe money will almost likely get rid of you, or someone you hold dear*). Slutsatsen blir att spelberoende också kan leda till ökad kriminalitet i samhället. Med hänvisning till vad som tidigare beskrivits som oskyldigt sällskapsspel, tar eleven också upp motargument (*I don't think gambling is just negative, ... To meet up with your mates on a Friday night...*) men varnar för riskerna, dock utan att vidareutveckla detta. Eleven avrundar sin text med en sammanfattning och en slutsats som inbjuder läsaren att fundera vidare.

Språkbehandlingen är säker och i allt väsentligt korrekt. Eleven formulerar sig ledigt (*you might get hooked for the rest of your life; At first, the money was there to make the poker nights a little more exciting; people you owe money will most likely get rid of you*). Satsstrukturen är varierad med omväxlande långa och korta satser, ofta inskjutna (*At this stage almost all your money and savings, if you have any, will go to your gambling; When you run out of money, which you eventually will, you might start selling*). Vissa meningar är

stilistiskt väl uppbyggda vilket är en strategi som ger eftertryck åt budskapet (*You spend less time with your former friends, less time doing schoolwork, less time with your family*). Elevens förmåga att tydliggöra orsakssammanhang visar sig genomgående i användningen av sambandsord och uttryck, som binder ihop satser och avsnitt och som bidrar till effektivitet och sammanhang i argumentationen (*These TV shows and sites; That's why; What is new though, is; This is what concerns me; As I stated before; Now, on the other hand; Like I said; If you refuse to do these things; This being said*). Användningen av bindeordet *so* blir dock stundtals något repetitivt (*All you do is gamble. So gambling affects not just yourself; So gambling leads to*). Fraseologi och ordförråd är varierat och avancerat och bidrar till textens kvalitet (*gambling related; brand new; stated; stage; savings; eventually; capable; debt*), även om ordvalet *stuff* är för informellt för att passa för situationen, d.v.s. i en nättidning. Eleven visar formell språklig säkerhet även om enstaka kongruensfel, d.v.s. predikatets överensstämmelse med subjektet, förekommer (*Examples of things you is; But there's more bad things*), liksom ett par oidiomatiska formuleringar (*taking it serious; To finish it all up*) samt några stavfel (*influenc; asvell; deffinately*).

Helhetsbedömningen blir att eleven med väl fungerande strategier och anpassning till syfte, situation och mottagare kan formulera sig strukturerat och nyanserat även i komplexa sammanhang. Eleven uttrycker sig därvid tydligt, ledigt, varierat och med gott flyt, varför texten bedöms uppfylla kunskapskravet för betygssteget A.

Bedömning: A

Have Fun – Drink less

In the last few years society has been able to witness a rise in under-age drinking. To start drinking at an early age can not only cause severe liver damage, but also increases the risk of becoming an alcoholic.

Most people would like to blame the media and the high pressure many teenagers and children suffer from. It is my belief that these, although they might contribute, are not the main factors. But that it is merely a way for parents to say “Oh, but you can’t blame my daughter/son, s/he doesn’t know any better. Because they should know better. At the age of twelve (which is the lowest age I have heard of children starting to drink at) a child is supposed to understand the dangers that come with drinking.

Almost every child has at one time or another seen their parents order a glass of wine with the food or having mixed drinks while with friends. The question is, does this affect children’s drinking habits? Probably not, because this is not the way children drink.

Most children drink because everyone else does (which is no excuse, but they do it all the same) and they wish to be more relaxed and easy going, which in itself is stupid, because if you can’t relax while out with your friends you should probably find some new ones.

With risk of sounding like a goody-two-shoes, I have never myself been one for drinking. Mainly because I don’t like the way alcohol tastes (and I think most people my age would secretly agree since you don’t develop a taste for alcohol until you are a few years older than me) but also because I don’t believe in doing things half-way, and since being a drunk doesn’t seem like all that fun, I will stick to being sober.

It has been said that in Great Britain binge drinking has been a problem for quite some time now and not only in the younger generation, but also among adults. This is as far as I’m aware true, because while my parents might get a little tipsy at a party, their British friends get quite drunk. Not so they have to spend the rest of the night with their head down the toilet, but enough to raise my eyebrows. And also most of their stories begin with “So, I was down at the pub when...”.

So aren’t you supposed to drink anything at all? Sure you can, after all being a teenager is about testing limits and realising who you are, and how can you do that without making a few mistakes along the way. All I am saying is that you should do it moderately and not make it a habit to wake up every Sunday with a splitting headache.