

Übungsaufgaben zur Vorbereitung auf die Kombinierte Abiturprüfung im achtjährigen Gymnasium

Titel: "Fashion item or symbol of fear?"

Lehrwerk: *The New Summit*, S. 28ff.

Aufgabenart: Textaufgabe (nicht-fiktional)

Länge: Mit 1092 Wörtern ist der im Buch abgedruckte Artikel deutlich länger als die in der Abiturprüfung vorgesehene Textbasis (ca. 700-750 Wörter). Eine Kürzung des Texts auf 747 Wörter ist unter Auslassung folgender Absätze möglich:
- Z. 45-58
- Z. 81-97

Niveau: Empfohlen zum Einsatz in Q12/2.

Anmerkungen:

Die Aufgaben wurden auf der Basis der gekürzten Fassung erstellt, doch ist auch eine Bearbeitung auf der Grundlage der Langfassung möglich.

Der Lehrbuchtext enthält viele Wortanmerkungen. Soll die Arbeit mit den Lexika eingeübt werden, so ließen sich diese Anmerkungen reduzieren, z. B. auf:

- 5 *adamant*
- 12 Tony Blair
- 14 *yob*
- 19 John Major
- 28 *intimidation*
- 35 *scant*

Der Lösungsvorschlag ist sehr ausführlich gehalten; was den Umfang und die Schwerpunktsetzung der zu erwartenden Schülerantworten betrifft, so liegt die Entscheidung im pädagogischen Ermessen der Lehrkraft.

Worksheet: FASHION ITEM OR SYMBOL OF FEAR?

Questions on the text

credits

Answer the following questions, using your own words as far as is appropriate.

1. Tony Blair speaks of a “‘culture of disrespect’ sweeping Britain” (l. 12). Explain what is meant by this and how this ‘culture of disrespect’ shows itself in everyday life. Sum up the suggestions given in the text to change the situation. 20
2. Analyze what the authors have to say about teenagers and their image in society. 20
3. “Respect, it seems, takes many forms” (l. 103). What message do the authors want to convey with the last sentence of their article? 10
4. Choose one of the following topics. Write about 200 to 250 words. 40
 - a) In an interview with the BBC on the ban of wearing hooded tops and baseball caps in the shopping centre, Bluewater property manager Helen Smith explained “We're very concerned that some of our guests don't feel at all comfortable in what really is a family environment.”¹ As a regular customer at Bluewater shopping centre, you write a letter to Ms Smith, commenting on this decision.
 - b) Growing up – show how teenage life is depicted in a work of literature by an English-speaking author.
 - c) Our society worships the concept of youth, but cares little about young people. Discuss.
 - d) You are spending several weeks at an American high school as part of an exchange programme and are quite amazed when you realize there is a dress code for students, forbidding them for example to wear spaghetti straps, short skirts/pants or sunglasses. Write an article on the topic for their school magazine.

¹ From: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/kent/4534903.stm

Erwartungshorizont: FASHION ITEM OR SYMBOL OF FEAR?

1. **Tony Blair speaks of a “‘culture of disrespect’ sweeping Britain” (l. 12). Explain what is meant by this and how this ‘culture of disrespect’ shows itself in everyday life. Sum up the suggestions given in the text to change the situation.**

‘culture of disrespect’:

- People’s (especially young people’s) behaviour in public has changed for the worse: they curse openly, spit and consume large quantities of alcohol – all of which shows their lack of respect for other members of society;
- this development makes public life rougher and potentially dangerous: town centres are “drink-sodden, rowdy” (l. 13) places, where people don’t feel safe any more.

suggestions to change the situation:

- according to Hazel Blear, who published ‘The Politics of Decency’, punishing young people who misbehave is not the only way to tackle the problem;
- she argues that the lack of “order and structure and work and relationships” (ll. 66f.) and good role-models is a possible reason for the increasing lack of respect; therefore it is necessary to change people’s (esp. parents’) way of life accordingly;
- according to Anne Longfield, adults need to overcome “this dreadful mass mentality” (ll. 76f.) which keeps them from actively confronting misbehaving children and teenagers; they should set rules and make sure that these guidelines are respected.

2. **Analyze what the authors have to say about teenagers and their image in society.**

The authors offer a balanced view of teenagers in their article:

- in the beginning, the authors introduce a group of teenagers who smoke, drink and dress in a way that makes them look potentially dangerous; but even though they look like ‘jobs’, they don’t actually pose a threat, “there is nothing to fear” (l. 5) from them;
- by using a quotation from 1823 (“the morals of children are ten times worse than formerly”, ll. 20f.), the authors show that adults have always criticised young people, thus making the “moral panic” (ll. 19f.) in Britain today look slightly exaggerated;
- the authors point out that many people see teenagers far too negatively: they are “unreasonably intolerant” (l. 29) of them; for example, they believe adolescents to be responsible for about 40% of all crime, while in reality they only commit about 10% of the offences;
- the authors admit that there are teenagers who actually threaten (and probably harm) others, but that many young people simply behave like young people do, “finding their way in the world, trying things” (ll. 31f.);
- the authors also show that it is often adults that are responsible for the problematic behaviour of young people: they speak of “neglectful parenting” (l. 16), “the lack of male role models in single-parent families” (l. 70) and their example of children throwing cans into a swimming pool shows that many

adults do not “take their responsibility seriously” (l. 78) and refuse to educate children that misbehave.

3. “Respect, it seems, takes many forms” (l. 103). What message do the authors want to convey with the last sentence of their article?

- many people believe that teenagers don't have enough respect for others, especially teenagers who behave and dress like Sophie and Lewis – which is one of the reasons why “hoodies” have been banned from Bluewater shopping centre;
 - however, in the last paragraph Lewis is portrayed as somebody who actually shows respect to other people, as he takes off his hood and cap “if he's going to talk to someone” (l. 101) because he is aware of the negative effect his clothing has;
 - the police, on the other hand, stop and check young people for no real reasons, but “simply for the way they dress” (l. 103), which, to the authors, is a sign of disrespect.
- ➔ The authors want to show that respect is something that everyone deserves and that it is not enough to simply demand respect from others, but that people should also reflect on their own behaviour.