

### Γ. ΠΑΡΑΓΩΓΗ ΓΡΑΠΤΟΥ ΛΟΓΟΥ (40 points)

**TASK:** As far back as 1956, Ray Bradbury's novel *Fahrenheit 451* presents a future American society where books are outlawed and burnt when found. This makes access to knowledge and information impossible.

As a reader of a student magazine discussing Bradbury's book, you decide to write an **article** (180- 200 words) in which you:

- a) express your opinion on people's right to knowledge and information, providing **two arguments** to justify it
- b) describe **two ways** in which your life would be affected if you could no longer access paper books or electronic sources of information.

You do not need to provide a title.

Do not sign the article.

#### SAMPLE 1

##### The Power of Knowledge

In his novel *Fahrenheit 451*, Bradbury describes a world in which access to information of all kinds is not just censored, but strictly forbidden, characterised by book burning. To my mind, this constitutes a nightmare, a real dystopia.

To begin with, access to information is vital to humans, due to the fact that in this way they are offered the ability to develop mentally as individuals, form their own opinions and beliefs, and gain insight from past mistakes. Thus, access to historical events, political affairs and decisions which have affected, are currently influencing or are going to have an impact on citizens and their lives should be easily accessible in order for people to have both a national and an individual identity, as well as oppose to any decisions affecting them.

Additionally, information is closely related to development. Being able to study previous theories, experiments, discoveries and inventions, scientists are able to gain insight into how everything in our world functions or create new inventions to cover our needs. With the aid of previous knowledge, for instance, we have established the laws of Physics, found cures for diseases, and made our lives easier.

Given the above, it is evident that without any access to knowledge and information, governments will take advantage of citizens without them being aware of what is about to happen in order to possibly express themselves against it, humans will not have any information about whatever is beyond their everyday life and societies will not be able to advance as there will be no scientific breakthroughs.

To conclude, to my mind, access to information is vital not only to citizens of democratic nations, but also to humans, as it is crucial for our development both as individuals and as a society.

## **SAMPLE 2**

It goes without saying, that access to knowledge and information is a basic human right that should be free and not be commoditized. Having recently read Bradbury's novel depicting a future without sources of information, I can't begin to imagine a society that deprives people of broadening their horizons.

To begin with, I believe that knowledge is a substantial factor in a person's life. It will not only provide them with the power and the ability to pursue their dreams, as well as evolve as individuals, but also with the potential to contribute to the development of society.

Therefore, were I to live in such a stunted world, the consequences would be disastrous. First and for most, the educational system would be seriously affected, having, as a result non-intelligent and knowledgeable individual. This would also mean, that the government would take advantage of citizens, leading them by hand. Similarly, on a personal scale, people would stay locked up in their own minds, unable to share their perspective of the world.

Summing up, knowledge and information access shouldn't be considered as a privilege, but as a right that should be granted to everyone.