General Paper: TOP 30 PROMPTS TO STUDY

Having a general understanding of the following list of prompts will help you get a broad coverage of the many topics covered on the GP exam. Remember that content is not ‘everything,’ grammar counts too, but having a working knowledge of these subjects will give you the confidence that you have something to say.

*For best results in brainstorming ideas, USE THE HAND APPROACH themes to tap into the various perspectives from which the issue can be viewed!

SECTION 1 PROMPTS

• ‘Human migration is solely determined by economic considerations.’ How far do you agree?
• How justified are the high salaries and bonuses paid out in some professions?
• How far can a company afford to take the health and safety of its workers into consideration?
• Should the key industries of a society (i.e. health, education, etc.) be controlled by the State?
• Is there any value in studying the history of other countries?
• Who is winning the gender wars?
• ‘Not too much nor too little.’ To what extent is this the basis for a fulfilled life?
• How far are ‘ordinary’ people important in the history of a country?
• To what extent are racism and other forms of discrimination a problem in your society?
• How far do history books provide reliable evidence about the past?
• ‘History repeats itself.’ Do you agree?
• ‘National boundaries have far less meaning now than they did in the past.’ To what extent do you agree?
• Can breaking the law ever be justified?
• ‘Politics have no appeal to the younger generation since it has no impact on their lives.’ Discuss.
• Assess the most important areas for government spending.

SECTION 2 PROMPTS

• ‘For the sake of our planet, tourism should be discouraged.’ How far do you agree or disagree?
• Assess the ability of technology to ensure human happiness in the present century.
• Can renewable resources ever meet our energy needs?
• How effective are diets in helping people to lose weight and become fit?
• How far can countries be prepared for serious outbreak or disease?
• ‘People always respond to a crisis when it’s too late.’ To what extent is this a fair comment?
• In your society, how far can people look forward with confidence to growing old.
• Should there be limits to scientific research?

SECTION 3 PROMPTS

• ‘If we all spoke the same language, the world would be a better place.’ How true is this?
• Consider the influence of writers from your region and its culture.
• What does the theatre offer that cinema and television do not?
• Can music contribute anything of worth?
• Is it more important to preserve old buildings or encourage new forms of architecture?
• To what extent is advertising always misleading?
• ‘All art is useless.’ How far do you agree?