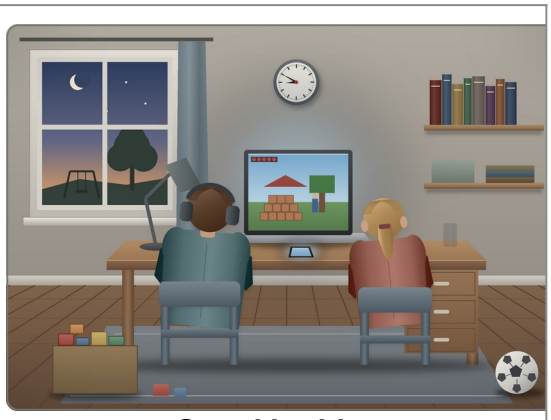
Englischarbeit Klasse 10

Thema: The media: kids and computers

Name: _____ Datum: _____

Punkte: _____ / 40 Note: _____

Unterschrift: _____



Good luck!

Read the magazine article. Then do tasks 1 to 3.

Swipe first, read later?

1 It is seven o'clock on a rainy Saturday morning in Bristol. While their parents are still asleep, five-year-old Leo is lying on the sofa with his dad's tablet, building a castle in a computer game. His sister Amy, who is eight, is sitting at the kitchen table with headphones on and watching a video about dolphins on the family laptop. Neither of them has said a word for half an hour.

2 Scenes like this are completely normal in many homes today. Children who are born now grow up surrounded by screens, and lots of them learn to swipe and tap long before they can tie their shoelaces. For many parents, a tablet has become a kind of electronic babysitter: it keeps the children quiet while the adults cook dinner, answer emails or simply enjoy a cup of coffee in peace.

3 But is that a problem? Experts do not agree. Dr Ruth Okafor, a children's doctor, believes that the devices themselves are not the danger. "A good learning app can help a child to practise numbers or letters in a playful way," she says. "And a video call with Grandma on the other side of the world is a wonderful thing." What worries her is the amount of time. "When a young child spends three or four hours a day in front of a screen, that time is missing for other things: running around, playing with friends, building something with their own hands – or simply being bored, which is important for creativity."

4 Other critics point out that small children cannot judge what they see online. Adverts, violent clips or messages from strangers can reach them within a few clicks if nobody is watching. Lack of sleep is another issue, because the bright light of a screen in the evening makes it harder to fall asleep.

5 Leo and Amy's parents have found a compromise. The family now has a "screen basket": at mealtimes and after seven in the evening, all phones and tablets go into it – Mum's and Dad's, too. "At first the kids complained a lot," their father admits, "but now they actually remind us when we forget." On school days, each child has one hour of screen time, and the parents choose the apps together with them.

6 "Computers are part of our world, and children need to learn how to use them," says Dr Okafor. "The question is not whether they use them, but how much and how."

1 Reading comprehension

Answer the questions on the text in your own words. Write complete sentences.

a) What are Leo and Amy doing early on Saturday morning? What is remarkable about the scene?

_____

_____

_____

b) Why do many parents use a tablet as an "electronic babysitter"?

_____

_____

_____

c) What does Dr Okafor like about computers, and what worries her?

_____

_____

_____

d) Explain the family's "screen basket" rule. How did the children react to it?

_____

_____

_____

___ / 8

2 Vocabulary

Find words in the text that match these definitions. The numbers in brackets tell you the paragraph.

a) to move your finger across a touchscreen (2) _____

b) phones, tablets and similar machines (3) _____

c) to decide if something is good or bad (4) _____

d) the state of not having enough of something (4) _____

e) a solution that both sides can accept (5) _____

f) to say that you are unhappy about something (5) _____

___ / 6

3 Mediation

Your aunt has two small children and is worried about their screen time. She cannot read English. Tell her in German

– which dangers the article mentions and
– how the family from Bristol deals with the problem.

Write about 60 words. Do not translate word for word.

___ / 4

4 Describe the picture

Look at the picture at the top of page 1 and describe it (about 80 words). Say where and when the scene takes place, who you can see and what they are doing, and mention important details.

___ / 4

5 Your reaction

How do you react to the scene in the picture? Give your personal opinion and support it with at least two reasons (about 60 words).

___ / 4

6 A parent's diary

Imagine you are the mother or the father of the two children in the picture. Write a diary entry about an average day in your family (about 120 words).

___ / 6

7 Comment

"Computers and tablets for young children – a good idea?"

Write a comment of about 180 words. Discuss the chances and the risks: give at least two arguments for each side and come to a conclusion.

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

___ / 8

Lösung: Englischarbeit Klasse 10

Insgesamt sind 40 Punkte erreichbar, halbe Punkte sind möglich.

Note 1	Note 2	Note 3	Note 4	Note 5	Note 6
40–36 P.	35,5–32 P.	31,5–26 P.	25,5–20 P.	19,5–12 P.	11,5–0 P.

1 Reading comprehension

Answer the questions on the text in your own words. Write complete sentences.

a) What are Leo and Amy doing early on Saturday morning? What is remarkable about the scene?

Leo is lying on the sofa and is building a castle in a computer game on his dad's tablet. Amy is sitting at the kitchen table with headphones and is watching a video about dolphins on the laptop.

Remarkable: It is only seven o'clock, their parents are still asleep, and the two children have not spoken to each other for half an hour.

b) Why do many parents use a tablet as an "electronic babysitter"?

The tablet keeps the children quiet and busy, so the parents have time to cook dinner, answer emails or relax with a cup of coffee.

c) What does Dr Okafor like about computers, and what worries her?

Positive: Learning apps help children to practise numbers or letters in a playful way, and video calls let them stay in contact with relatives who live far away.

Worry: the amount of time. If young children spend three or four hours a day in front of a screen, they have less time for running around, playing with friends, building things with their hands or being bored, which is important for creativity.

d) Explain the family's "screen basket" rule. How did the children react to it?

At mealtimes and after 7 p.m., all phones and tablets – also the parents' – have to go into a basket.

At first the children complained a lot, but now they even remind their parents when they forget the rule.

Je Teilaufgabe 2 P.: 1,5 P. Inhalt (vollständig, mit eigenen Worten), 0,5 P. Sprache.

2 Vocabulary

Find words in the text that match these definitions. The numbers in brackets tell you the paragraph.

a)	to move your finger across a touchscreen (2)	**swipe**
b)	phones, tablets and similar machines (3)	**devices**
c)	to decide if something is good or bad (4)	**judge**
d)	the state of not having enough of something (4)	**lack**
e)	a solution that both sides can accept (5)	**compromise**
f)	to say that you are unhappy about something (5)	**complain(ed)**

Je richtiges Wort 1 P.

3 Mediation

Your aunt has two small children and is worried about their screen time. She cannot read English. Tell her in German

- which dangers the article mentions and
- how the family from Bristol deals with the problem.

Write about 60 words. Do not translate word for word.

Gefahren (2 P., je Aspekt 0,5 P.):

- zu viel Zeit vor dem Bildschirm fehlt für Bewegung, Spielen mit Freunden und Basteln/Bauen
- Langeweile fällt weg, dabei ist sie wichtig für die Kreativität
- kleine Kinder können Inhalte im Netz nicht beurteilen: Werbung, Gewalt, Nachrichten von Fremden
- helles Bildschirmlicht am Abend führt zu Einschlafproblemen bzw. Schlafmangel

Lösung der Familie (2 P., je Aspekt 0,5 P.):

- ein „Bildschirmkorb": beim Essen und ab 19 Uhr kommen alle Handys und Tablets hinein
- die Regel gilt auch für die Eltern
- an Schultagen eine Stunde Bildschirmzeit pro Kind
- die Eltern suchen die Apps gemeinsam mit den Kindern aus

Beispiellösung:

Der Artikel nennt mehrere Gefahren: Wenn kleine Kinder stundenlang vor dem Bildschirm sitzen, fehlt ihnen Zeit für Bewegung, Freunde und kreatives Spielen. Außerdem können sie nicht beurteilen, was sie im Internet sehen, z. B. Werbung, Gewalt oder Nachrichten von Fremden. Bildschirme am Abend stören auch den Schlaf. Die Familie aus Bristol hat einen „Bildschirmkorb": Beim Essen und ab 19 Uhr kommen alle Geräte hinein, auch die der Eltern. An Schultagen darf jedes Kind eine Stunde an den Bildschirm, und die Apps suchen Eltern und Kinder gemeinsam aus.

4 Describe the picture

Look at the picture at the top of page 1 and describe it (about 80 words). Say where and when the scene takes place, who you can see and what they are doing, and mention important details.

Inhalt (2 P.):

- Ort und Zeit: Kinderzimmer, abends (dunkler Himmel, Uhr zeigt zehn vor neun)
- Personen und Tätigkeit: zwei Kinder von hinten am Schreibtisch, spielen ein Computerspiel am Laptop; Junge mit Kopfhörern, Mädchen mit Pferdeschwanz
- Details: Smartphone auf dem Tisch, ausgeschaltete Lampe, Fenster mit Schaukel und Baum, Bausteinkiste und Fußball unbenutzt auf dem Boden; Licht kommt vor allem vom Bildschirm

Sprache (2 P.):

- present progressive für Handlungen, there is/are, Ortsangaben (in the foreground/background, on the left/right, in the middle of …)
- sachlicher Stil, korrekte Grammatik und Rechtschreibung, treffender Wortschatz

Example answer:

The picture shows two children in a children's room in the evening. They are sitting on chairs at a wooden desk with their backs to us. In the middle of the desk there is a laptop with a computer game on the screen. The boy on the left is wearing headphones, and the girl on the right has a ponytail. A smartphone is lying in front of the laptop. Through the window on the left you can see that it is already dark, and the clock on the wall says ten to nine. In the foreground, a box of building blocks and a football are lying on the floor, but nobody is playing with them. The only bright light in the room comes from the screen.

5 Your reaction

How do you react to the scene in the picture? Give your personal opinion and support it with at least two reasons (about 60 words).

Inhalt (2 P.):

- klar erkennbare persönliche Reaktion (z. B. Sorge, Verständnis, Kritik)
- mindestens zwei Begründungen mit Bezug auf das Bild (Uhrzeit, unbenutztes Spielzeug, Kinder spielen immerhin zusammen …)

Sprache (2 P.):

- Meinungsäußerung (I think / In my opinion / It seems to me …), Verknüpfungen, korrekte Sprache

Example answer:

When I look at the picture, I feel a bit worried. The children seem to be completely fascinated by the game, but it is nearly nine o'clock and they should be getting ready for bed. Their toys and the football are lying on the floor, and nobody is using them. On the other hand, the two of them are playing together, which is better than sitting alone in front of a screen. Still, I think a parent should switch off the laptop now.

6 A parent's diary

Imagine you are the mother or the father of the two children in the picture. Write a diary entry about an average day in your family (about 120 words).

Inhalt und Textsorte (3 P.):

- Merkmale eines Tagebucheintrags: Datum, Anrede (Dear Diary), Ich-Perspektive, persönlicher Ton (1 P.)
- nachvollziehbarer Tagesablauf (Morgen, Nachmittag, Abend) mit Bezug zur Mediennutzung der Kinder (1 P.)
- Gefühle, Bewertung oder Vorsätze des Elternteils (1 P.)

Sprache (3 P.):

- Erzählzeiten (simple past, past progressive, past perfect) sicher verwendet
- abwechslungsreicher Wortschatz, Satzverknüpfungen, korrekte Grammatik und Rechtschreibung

Example answer:

Tuesday, 8 December

Dear Diary,

What a day! I got up at half past six, made breakfast and took the kids to school before work. When I came home at five, they were already sitting in front of the laptop. I had promised them one hour of screen time after their homework, but Leon hadn't even opened his maths book. We had a long argument, and Mia started to cry. After dinner I wanted to read them a story, but they begged for "just one more level". When I looked at the clock, it was almost nine! I felt really guilty. Tomorrow I'm going to talk to my husband about clear rules. Maybe we should try a "screen basket" like the family in the magazine article.

Good night!

7 Comment

"Computers and tablets for young children – a good idea?"

Write a comment of about 180 words. Discuss the chances and the risks: give at least two arguments for each side and come to a conclusion.

Inhalt und Aufbau (4 P.):

- Einleitung, die zum Thema hinführt (1 P.)
- mindestens zwei Chancen, erläutert, z. B. spielerisches Lernen, frühe digitale Kompetenz, Lernspiele, Kontakt zur Familie per Videoanruf (1 P.)
- mindestens zwei Risiken, erläutert, z. B. Abhängigkeit, Bewegungsmangel, ungeeignete Inhalte, zu viel Bildschirmzeit, Schlafprobleme (1 P.)
- Schluss mit begründeter eigener Meinung, z. B. begrenzte, begleitete und altersgerechte Nutzung, Medienkompetenz (1 P.)

Sprache (4 P.):

- Gliederungs- und Verknüpfungswörter (on the one hand, moreover, however, in conclusion …)
- Wendungen der Meinungsäußerung, treffender Themenwortschatz
- korrekte Grammatik, Satzbau und Rechtschreibung

Example answer:

Today even three-year-olds know how to unlock a smartphone. But should young children really use computers and tablets? There are good arguments on both sides.

On the one hand, digital devices offer real chances. Good learning apps help children to practise letters, numbers or a foreign language in a playful way. Moreover, children who grow up with computers learn early how to use them, which is an important skill for school and later jobs. Video calls also help them to keep in touch with relatives who live far away.

On the other hand, there are serious risks. Many children spend far too much time in front of a screen, so they get too little exercise and see their friends less often. Young children cannot judge what they see online, so they may come across violent content, adverts or strangers. Furthermore, screens in the evening can cause sleeping problems, and some children even become dependent on games.

In my opinion, computers are not bad in themselves. Young children should use them only for a limited time, with age-appropriate apps and with their parents nearby. In this way, they can enjoy the chances and learn how to use media responsibly.