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Some people think that a sense of competition in children should be encouraged. Others believe that children who are taught to co-operate rather than compete become more useful adults.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

This essay question was taken from Cambridge Practice Tests for IELTS 5 (Academic Writing Test 3), CUP 2006

In some modern education methodologies, it is fiercely supported that, children must be encouraged to be competitive individuals rather than co-operative team players. But is this idea prudent enough to make us build our education system on that basis?

Comment: delete

Many people agree that to be successful in today's highly competitive world, individuals should have the skills which can grant competitive advantage to differentiate themselves from the masses. Admittedly, this idea is mostly true for the entrepreneurs who must have the determination and skills to pursue and realise their dreams. Further, in sectors such as advertising and marketing, the specialists generally need to put the welfare of their company in front of the masses' therefore choosing competitiveness and individualism over the good of all.

Comment: delete

Comment: advertising

However, co-operative people are required to make any organization to thrive. Cross-analysing the ideas stated in the previous paragraph, it must be remembered that only 10% - 20% of the entrepreneurs can pursue their ideas to success and in many parts of the organizations co-operation is paramount. Also, in very dire situations, such as acts of war, are taken into consideration, it can easily be understood that, although only a handful of leaders are needed, opposed to a great number of co-operative team-players.

Comment: departments

In conclusion, even though our children should have an enough sense of competition to better themselves, they need to be more encouraged to co-operate to be more beneficial to the society and to achieve greater accomplishments. After all, two hands can always make more noise than one hand.

Comment: encouraged more

Comment: in order

Word count 256

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Overall feedback

Content Answer task question appropriately Have a clear view/opinion Include relevant main and supporting ideas for the topic Introduce and conclude appropriately Minimum 250 words	
Organisation/Structure Use linking words appropriately and accurately, within and between paragraphs Use a formal/academic style Write well structured and balanced paragraphs with clear main and supporting ideas Logically organize ideas Use reference words appropriately and accurately to avoid repetition	Comment: 1 or 2 mistakes
Vocabulary Choose appropriate words for the topic Use the correct word form Use accurate collocations Include a variety of words and use accurately Spell words correctly	Comment: 2 mistakes
Grammar Choose the correct tenses Use correct punctuation Use correct prepositions Include a variety of complex and simple structures Use complex and simple structures accurately	Comment: 1 or 2 mistakes Comment: In addition, there are some mistakes with articles

Approximate grading for the essay:

Content 8
Organisation 8
Vocabulary 8
Grammar 8

Overall the approximate essay grade is 8. (This represents 60% of the final writing result)