

COMPOSITIONS

Unit 1 The Law

سائقي السيارات

السكينة

1. Should motorists who drive too fast in residential areas be banned from driving?

St. (p.15)

تلك

Every year thousands of people go to hospital or die because of road accidents. A large number of such accidents are caused by motorists who drive too fast in residential areas.

Some people believe that fast motorists should be banned from driving to protect people's lives and make them respect the law. On the other hand, others think that we can stop them from driving too fast through using: traffic lights, speed limit signs, radar traps, traffic humps and large fines. I think the government has to protect people's lives from fast motorists who endanger their lives.

2. Do you think companies should allow their employees to use work computers for their own purposes?

Act. (p.8)

Today, almost everything is run by computers in both public and private companies. Employees must use computers daily at the office to make things go faster and easier, but some of them use work computers for their own purposes.

When work computers are used for personal purposes, the quality of the services provided will be affected. Besides, employees may use computers in illegal ways, such as fraud, identity theft or hacking other computers. I think companies have to prevent employees from using work computers for their own purposes to make sure that things are done in the right way.

Unit 2 Migration

3. Choose something that actually happened to you or use your imagination to make up a story.

Activity book (p.13)

Write about a significant event that changed your life.

Student Book (p. 21)

Hi,

How are you? I'm writing to tell you the story why I have chosen to study history.

When I was 16, my family and I visited the historic city of Palmyra. Palmyra is a well-known tourist attraction at the heart of the Syrian Desert, northeast of Damascus. It is known for its great historic sites and old Temple. We started our visit early in the morning. Despite the hot weather, we took a walk through the city's colonnaded street. Then we went to the city's ancient Roman Theater. Later, we visited the Old Temple. We took great photos of all the places we visited. This visit was the reason that made me decide to study history.

Write back soon,

4. Write an informal letter describing a visit.

Activity Book (p.31)

Write your own letter to a friend describing an interesting place you have visited. Activity Book (p.32)

Write an account of a visit you made.

Student Book p. (45)

Hi,

How are you? I'm writing to tell you about my visit to Palmyra.

When I was 16, my family and I visited the historic city of Palmyra. Palmyra is a well-known tourist attraction at the heart of the Syrian Desert, northeast of Damascus. It is known for its great historic sites and old Temple. We started our visit early in the morning. Despite the hot weather, we took a walk through the city's colonnaded street. Then we went to the city's ancient Roman Theater. Later, we visited the Old Temple. We took great photos of all the places we visited. It was a great visit.

Write back soon,

.....

Unit 3 Recycling

5. Write a report based on waste and recycling statistics.

St. Book (p. 27) / Act. Book (p. 17)

Recycling is the processing of used materials so that they can be used again. Recycling saves energy and reduces pollution. Usually four main materials are recycled; metal, glass, paper and plastic. Statistics show that countries in the developed world recycle materials more than countries in the developing world. Statistics also show that most developing countries are still burying or burning their waste materials, whereas developed countries have been recycling waste materials for more than 50 years. In Syria, lots of materials are recycled, but still some are buried or burned.

6. Write a set of recommendations to improve life in your city or country.

St. Book (p. 30)

Write a letter to a local newspaper making recommendations which might help to solve ONE of these problems.

Act. Book (p. 22)

- Very few tourists come to your town because they know nothing about it.

Dear Editor,

Although our town is an ancient one with so many places to visit, very few tourists come to visit it. I think the government has to do something to solve this problem. My first recommendation is to have a website for our town with lots of photos of the ancient sites. This website can attract tourists and make our town well-known nationally and internationally. Second, we need better public transport, underground stations and parking lots to help tourists enjoy their stay. Finally, more restaurants, hotels, shops, gyms, and parks have to be provided to make our town an interesting place to visit.

I am looking forward to reading this letter in your newspaper.

Yours,

.....

- There are very few public places in your town where people can go to keep fit.

Dear Editor,

Although our town is a modern one with so many places to go to, there are very few public places where people can go to keep fit. I think the government has to do something to solve this problem. My first recommendation is to have a gym in every neighborhood so that people won't have difficulty finding a place to keep fit. Second, the price of going into the gym has to be cheap so that everyone can afford it. Finally, the equipment in these gyms has to be suitable for all ages.

I am looking forward to reading this letter in your newspaper.

Yours,

Unit 4 the Earth at Risk

7. Write a reply to an e-mail on water shortage, suggesting ways of consuming less water.

Students' Book (p. 39)

Water shortage is one of the most important problems facing the world today. Governments and people worldwide have to find solutions to solve this problem.

Actually, fighting water shortage and consuming less water can be done through: repairing old water systems, using modern watering systems for farming and stopping the use of drinking water for watering lands or for cleaning. Governments should also think of ways to preserve water like building dams and controlling the use of drinking water. I think that preserving water is everybody's job.

Unit 6 Under Threat

8. Write a report to the council making recommendations about where to build houses.

Students' Book (p. 51)

I am writing this report to make recommendations about where to build houses in our town.

You know that our town centre is busy and polluted, so it would be a good idea if we started building the northern area outside the town. It is cleaner and unpolluted with fresh air and lovely views.

The new houses area should have a good network of roads and good public transport that link it with the town centre and prevent traffic jams. It should also have schools, shopping centres, large green areas, gyms and parking lots. I think building the northern area out of town is the best decision to make.

9. Write a leaflet publicising the problem of climate change and suggesting two or three ways in which ordinary people can reduce the amount of energy they use.

Activity Book (p.41)

Climate change is one of the most serious problems facing the world today. It is caused by greenhouse gases, mainly CO₂ and methane, which are trapping the heat of the sun, making the Earth hotter and hotter. This is leading to more extreme weather conditions like strong winds and heavy rain. People and governments could help in solving this problem if they cut down on using fossil fuels and used other sources of energy like solar power, wind power and water power. People could also help in controlling global warming if they used public transport instead of their own cars.

10. Write an essay including arguments for and against protecting wild animals. Activity Book (p.37)

Some people think that protecting wild animals is something we have to do. The spread of the human societies has recently endangered wild animals' natural habitats. In order to live, people started killing wild animals either to protect themselves or to feed on them. As a result, animals like sand gazelles and white tigers have become endangered. On the other hand, other people think that we shouldn't overdo in protecting wild animals for two reasons. First, it is better to protect people from wild animals. Second, protecting wild animals means keeping them in zoos which are large prisons.

11. Write an essay about the arguments for and against keeping household pets. Activity Book (p.37)

Many people like keeping animals as pets. Singing birds and goldfish are beautiful and entertain children and adults. Cats have many advantages and people keep dogs for many purposes. However, pets may carry germs that cause many dangerous diseases. Doctors advise children to keep away from them. Pets also leave dirt wherever they move. Personally, I don't have strong feelings about keeping any kind of animals at home. I believe that animals live better in their habitat where they enjoy their natural lives.

12. Write an essay about the arguments for and against eating meat. Activity Book (p.37)

There are many health benefits of eating meat. For example, it is a great source of proteins. It contains all the amino acids that the body needs. Besides, meat is very delicious. However, many people think that eating meat is bad for your health. There are many diseases related to meat eaters. Dieters think that avoiding meat is the simplest way to cut down on fat. I believe that eating various kinds of food and vegetables in few quantities is better for your health.

Unit 7 Healthy Life

13. Write a magazine article giving advice to people of your age who are about to start a new job.

Students' Book (p. 63) دورة 2013 علمي

When you start a new job, it's good to remember some of these tips. First of all, always try to be punctual: arriving early to work always gives a good idea about you. To learn fast, you have to keep your eyes and ears open: you have to listen and learn from your workmates, and you have to keep asking questions about things you don't know. Also, the best way to make friends at work is to be honest and to work hard: show everyone that they can depend on you, offer help whenever you can and don't leave unfinished work. And remember: "Good starts lead to great successes."

14. Write an article giving advice to people of your age about how to do well at school. St. (p. 63)

To be a good student, it is good to remember some of these tips. First of all, always try to make use of your time whether during school time or at home. To learn well, you have to keep your eyes and ears open in class: always listen well to your teachers and keep asking questions about things you don't know. Also, work with your classmates, learn from them and offer them help when they need it. At home, study your lessons daily and prepare well before exams. And remember: "Don't put off till tomorrow what can be done today."

15. Write an article giving advice to people of your age about how to be a good brother or sister.

St. (p. 63)

To be a good brother or sister, it's good to remember some of these tips. First of all, you have to be there every time your brothers or sisters need you. Offer help whenever needed and don't ask thanksgiving because it is your duty to help. Try to listen well to them and always keep the secrets they tell you because you are also their friend. Share with them not only your sad moments but also the happy ones. Give advice when needed and ask for their advice when you are in trouble. If you follow these tips, you will be a good brother or sister.

16. Staying Healthy

What do you do to keep healthy? Do you have the best balance of habits and activities? How can you improve your health?

Act. (p. 45)

There are many things we can do to stay healthy. Doctors advise that regular exercise and a healthy diet are important to stay healthy. In addition, it is very important to get enough sleep. Getting enough sleep keeps our minds fresh, but we need to exercise our brains, too. This could involve doing puzzles and crosswords, playing chess or reading a book. As we get older, it is even more important that we keep busy. We should make plans for the future, keep a positive outlook on life and enjoy the support of the family environment.

Unit 8 Urban & Rural Life

17. Write your own description of a building you know well. It could be the building you live in.

Include the following:

Activity Book (p.51)

- the location of the building
- the appearance of the outside of the building
- information about any natural features near the building

I live in a seven-storey modern building located in the center of Damascus. It is a massive white-stone building with a lovely garden around it and different kinds of trees. It has two entrances, a parking area, two lifts and a large hall used for meetings and celebrations. There is also a playground for children where they can play safely. The balconies overlook the garden, and you can have a lovely view of Damascus from there. There is a committee that looks after the building and provides all services. It is good to live in a place like this.

Write a description of a photograph using position words, adjectives and weather words.

Activity Book (p.27)

This is a photograph of a seven-storey modern building located in the center of Damascus. It is a massive white-stone building with a lovely garden around it and different kinds of trees. It has two entrances, a parking area, two lifts and a large hall used for meetings and celebrations. There is also a playground for children where they can play safely. The balconies overlook the garden, and you can have a lovely view of Damascus from there. There is a committee that looks after the building and provides all services. It is good to live in a place like this.

18. Write an email giving recommendations to some people (a family) about the most suitable place for them to live in. Students' Book (p.69)

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Mahmoud,

I think I have found the best place for you. It is a flat in a seven-storey modern building located in the center of Damascus. The building is a massive white-stone building with a lovely garden around it and different kinds of trees. It has two entrances, a parking area, two lifts and a large hall used for meetings and celebrations. There is also a playground for children where they can play safely. The balconies overlook the garden, and you can have a lovely view of Damascus from there. There is a committee that looks after the building and provides all services.

I think it's a chance you shouldn't miss.

Many thanks,
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Unit 9 New Ways & Old

19. Write a short biography of someone you know or know about. 2012 دورة Students' Book (p.75)

Write a brief biography of a young person you know well.

Activity Book (p.56)

Write a letter recommending a genius for an award. 2013 دورة

Students' Book (p.99)

A letter about a genius you know.

Students' Book (p.99)

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to nominate Ahmed Droubi for your new Genius Award.

Ahmed Droubi is the most famous chess player in Syria. He has won many chess competitions for the last five years.

He was born in Damascus in 1997. He started learning chess when he was at the age of five, playing chess with his father. Three years later, he won his first chess competition. Now, at the age of 17, he is the best chess player in the Arab world. He sometimes takes time off school to practise the game because he is planning to take part in international chess competitions.

I believe he is a great genius and has the right to be nominated for the new Genius Award.

Yours,
.....

20. Write about a tourist attraction in your country. Choose one of these places:

(Activity Book p. 60)

- a historical town or city

- an interesting old building

- an area of natural beauty

1- A Historical Town or City

Palmyra is a well-known tourist attraction at the heart of the Syrian Desert, northeast of Damascus. It was an important trading centre on the Silk Road and the most important city in the region during the time of Queen Zenobia. It is known for its great historic sites and old Temple. When you visit Palmyra, you can take a walk through the city's colonnaded street. Then you can go to the city's ancient Roman Theater. Later, you can visit Palmyra's Old Temple. If you want to see rich ancient history, try visiting Palmyra.

2- An Interesting Old Building

Al Azem Palace is an interesting old building in the Old City of Damascus. It was built in the mid 18th century for the Ottoman governor of Damascus. It is now a very famous museum visited by thousands of tourists as well as locals every year. It is an excellent example of a Damascene traditional house with large courtyards, fountains and different types of trees and flowers. The rooms are large and have many things that show how people lived in the past. It is really an interesting building to visit.

3- An Area of Natural Beauty

The Damascus Ghouta is a green area of natural beauty surrounding the city of Damascus. It has always been the place where almost every Damascene family goes during the spring for a picnic to enjoy the view of trees covered in white blossom and the coming of spring and the warm season. The area is rich with different types of trees and plants. When you take a walk in the Damascus Ghouta, you enjoy the green view and the shade of trees. It is really an interesting place to visit.

Unit 10 Record Breakers

21. Write your own email to a friend whose family you are going on holiday with.

دورة 2013 ألبى

activity Book (p. 65)

Hi,

Thanks for letting me go on holiday with your family. I've almost finished packing my bags. As you know, I've taken the things we have agreed on, like the tent, sleeping bags and first-aid kit. But I think that there are other things we might need. I think it might be a good idea to take a small gas cooker if we wanted to make tea or coffee. And how about taking some ice cubes for the water? And don't you think that we have to take a ball or tennis rackets? Is there anything else we should take? Let me know what you think.

See you soon.

22. Write a response to an advert for a place on a Syrian expedition to the summit of Mount

Everest.

Students' Book (p.87)

Dear Manager,

I have read your advert about finding people to go on a Syrian expedition to the summit of Mount Everest, and I think I am the person you are looking for. First of all, I love challenge and adventure and I'd like to do something good to my country, Syria. I have great experience in climbing mountains, which I got from my father who was a famous mountaineer. I have won many awards for climbing mountains in Europe and North America. Climbing Mount Everest is my dream, and I would be happy to be a member of your team.

Yours,

Unit 11 Future Projects

23. Write a report about the most important technological changes that have affected people's lives recently. Students' Book (p.93)

Write a report about how computers have affected people's lives recently.

I am writing this report to focus on how electronic technology has affected people's lives recently.

Before computers, doing things used to take a lot of time, while now things are done easier and faster through using computer software. Today, software like Word, Excel, Photoshop and many other programs have made jobs done easier. The Net has also made communication and interaction easier and faster. Today, for example, it takes only seconds to send someone a message. These are just some changes through which electronic technology has affected our life.

24. Write a report making recommendations which will improve road safety in your town or city.

Activity Book (p.70)

I am writing this report to make a number of recommendations which will improve road safety in our city.

First of all, accidents which kill and injure hundreds every year must be reduced. This could be done through using more traffic humps, radar traps, large fines or even sending fast motorists to prison. More pedestrian areas and zebra crossings are needed to help protect pedestrians. And finally, more traffic lights and traffic police are needed around school areas. If these recommendations are accepted, we believe that road safety in our city will be improved.

Unit 12 Geniuses

25. What do you think about people who risk their lives climbing mountains? Activity Book (p.79)

Mountaineering is a dangerous, world-famous sport usually practised by young people who love challenge and adventure. It is most common in countries with high mountains. People who do this sport say that they feel excited when they make it to the top, despite all the dangers they may come across.

On the other hand, non-mountaineers think that it is crazy to practise such a dangerous sport. I think that people who are born with love of adventure and challenge are the ones who don't mind climbing high mountains.