

# writings

## THE INTERNET

Many people consider the internet as one of the most important sources of learning. It not only gives sound and picture but reading texts as well. Besides this, it enables people of different ages to widen and enrich their knowledge about a specific topic. The internet is a bank of information where one can find anything he or she dreams of. Although some people still dread using the internet, it remains a powerful and vital means of learning

## CULTURE

Culture is referred to as ways of living and behaviours which people all over the world should preserve and respect. Having an awareness of different cultures enables people to tolerate odd behaviours that seem uncommon to them. Another point is the one concerning values. Parents and educators should implement good values such as truthfulness, loyalty, hardwork, punctuality, creativity... so that the future generations would be able to hold the burden. To summarise, foreign languages are worth learning in order to avoid cultural shock and to have the ability to deal with cultural issues in an appropriate way.

## SMOKING

Psychologists think that young people start smoking because they think it's cool. They do it so purely because they find it enjoyable. They also think they have the right to do so. Another reason is that older people who are supposed

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to set an example to them smoke too. Once they start, they keep wanting it and so they can't stop it. Some youngsters do that because they want to fit within a particular group, to be accepted or to feel more adult. That's to say, many of them want to exercise some sense of independence or rebellion.

Most of these young people claim that smoking helps them cope with stress. But in fact, nicotine is a stimulant and won't help to attain relaxation. A withdrawal from it, however, makes them feel miserable and lose concentration.

Other reasons :

\*Smokers may use smoking as a support when things go wrong.

\*They may enjoy it with others as a group activity.

\*They may also use it to start a conversation with new people so as to look more confident and be in control.

\*They think that a cigarette keeps them company when they feel bored or lonely.

Knowing why you smoke is one of the first steps towards giving up:

Giving up is the best thing smokers can do to improve their health. Most of them say that they would like to give up if they could. The solution isn't a simple thing to do. It may take several attempts to quit for good. There are no magic solutions for quitting smoking, "When there is a will, there's a way".

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## WOMEN

Women have for so long been likened to slaves, created just to serve and execute men's orders. In some cultures, they were considered as a part of the furniture of the house. The situation is not as acute as it used to be. However, girls in some parts of the world are still unable to go to school because life in the countryside needs help even from children. Thus, illiteracy is so prevailing in rural areas. It undoubtedly affects development and prosperity. As a result, the government has launched many campaigns aiming at fighting this problem which is an obstacle in the integration of women in the development of the Moroccan society.

Women in all parts of the world have struggled so as to get a place in the sun. The fruit of this hard work has been the family code. Many claim that it's a triumph for Moroccan women. Others, however, believe that it has complicated things and has widened the gap between men and women.. The point is that women need more rights to be able to efficiently contribute to the welfare of the society. For this reason, we witness today their emergence in political parties and organisations to raise up their voices against gender discrimination within the same society.

## WHY DO CHILDREN LEAVE SCHOOL ?

One of the biggest issues that some families encounter is their children's dropping out of school. This is due to many reasons. First, most children who live in rural areas can't attend school regularly because it is situated far away from where they live. Their parents also need them to help with the housework. Another reason is that poor families can't afford to provide their children with all what they need for school, as books and school things are getting expensive. The problem is also due to family problems and divorce. Children can't study when parents often have rows. In cities, small children leave school early to go out to work and support their deprived families. As a

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result, these poor kids get lost in the world of adults. Some become addicted to smoking and drugs. Others turn to crime. Generally speaking, they are victims of circumstances and are, thus, often imprisoned.

## MOROCCO'S CULTURE

Morocco is very rich culturally. It has many dialects and traditions which differ from one region to another. The more we move towards the center , the north, the south , the west or the east things start to change. This difference is what makes our country attractive and a destination for millions of tourists every year. Morocco offers numerous delicious dishes and comfortable hotels available everywhere. Another advantage is the suitable weather that appeals to foreign visitors from the five continents. The Moroccan people are tolerant, generous and ready to give a helping hand to the needy. They welcome their guests and try their best to make their stay as enjoyable as possible.

## ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Advanced technology has transformed our lives completely both physically and morally. Every day people are assaulted by new gadgets on markets. As a result, life is becoming more and more comfortable but complicated as well. Unemployment is spreading because machines are taking man's place. Armed conflicts break out here and there due to free arm trade. More and more refugees abandon their home land in search of peaceful shelter. Technology is something good as long as it serves humanity. However, when it makes a mistake, the price to pay is very high : human lives!

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## MOROCCAN WEDDING

Every country has got its own culture and customs which of course differ from other nations. Therefore, Morocco is no exception. As far as celebrations are concerned, weddings are prepared differently in our country. There are many steps to be done before, during and after the wedding ceremony. Firstly, meetings are organised by both families to agree on many things in particular the dowry and also to fix the date of the feast.

Then, the groom's family take food ( sheep, oil, sugar, vegetables, fruit etc...in vans usually accompanied by a musical group) to the bride's house who are of course expecting the visit.

Next, on the day of the wedding party, many people are invited. A lot of food is served to the guests mainly two main dishes : chicken and meat. Cake and tea are served to the visitors before and after. A musical orchestra plays popular songs and many people dance. The bride changes costumes and walks in front of her future husband.

At dawn, many cars in cavalcade leave for the hotel where the new couple is supposed to spend the night.

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## ILLITERACY

Illiteracy is one of the biggest problems in the third world countries. It is spreading as quick as a forest fire among women especially in rural areas. The government has already launched several campaigns aiming at reducing the rate. However, this is not enough. We should build more and more schools in remote regions. Moreover, we ought to urge villagers to send their children, mainly girls, to school. Mass media should play a major role to fight this phenomenon which hinders development through special programmes so as to show the importance of literacy and its benefits for individuals no matter how different in age or sex they are.

## BRAIN DRAIN

One of the most serious issues in the world today is the brain drain phenomenon. Thousands of intellectuals leave their native country in search for a better life. There are many factors that breed this situation. First, the lack of job opportunities is one of them. Moreover, the host country offers better work conditions and ensures a comfortable life for these newcomers. This "Capital flight" as many people call it has both positive and negative effects. It not only helps these brainy people to improve their standards of living but it also enables them to contribute to the development of their home country when they come back. One way to prevent this, is to offer to these people tempting salaries and opportunities to ameliorate their potentials inside their home country.

## THE DRIFT TOWARDS CITIES

More and more villagers move towards cities every year in search for a better life. This drift is due to many reasons. First, the city offers many job opportunities with tempting salaries. Second, life necessities such as water,

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electricity, transport, health care, education and entertainment are available. Moreover, severe droughts and unemployment are the major cause of this drift. Once these villagers set foot on a big city, they find it hard to adjust to the new life. The city now is crammed with people and vehicles. As a result, pollution and waste are everywhere which affects people's health.

### MY SCHOOL'S PROJECT

Some of my classmates and I decided to take part in our school's project. We wanted to change the way the classroom looked. The walls had bad writings on them, the rooms were dirty and unsuitable for learning and the windows were broken. A group got in charge of painting the walls. We wanted the classrooms to be bright and nicely decorated. Some replaced broken windows and repaired the lamps. At first, the idea seemed impossible. But now, I can say that team work always pays off. I never knew how important voluntary work was until I took part in my school's project. Thanks to a group work, our school now looks different. In fact, its name used among other schools as a model of cleanness.

### A WOMAN'S PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT

Nobody can deny the fact that a woman's place in society is extremely crucial. Her presence and contribution in many domains solve many problems.

At the political level, a woman's presence in regional, national and international meetings is vital to speak on the behalf of millions of deprived, illiterate and defenceless women. Who can better urge a woman to get educated and struggle for rights than a woman herself ?

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At the economic level, she can support her family financially and help them lead a comfortable life. A working woman has got the means to improve the standard of living of the people under her responsibility by providing adequate food, better education and health care.

At the social level, she can participate in the development of her country by going out to work and sharing responsibility with man. Thus, she can bridge gaps, and build confidence among hopeless and desperate women. Both women and men can ensure a safer world for the coming generations.

## POVERTY

Poverty has many causes. First, it is due to severe droughts. Irregular weathers have been so frequent for many years. As a consequence, farming faces hard times and farmers give up their jobs, abandon their land and move to cities. Another reason is that wars : civil wars, ethnic wars etc break out here and there. As a result, millions of people leave their homeland in search of a safer place. Globalization has made the poor poorer and the rich richer. Hence, poverty has led millions of people throughout the world to immigrate to richer and safer places.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

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Advanced technology has deeply transformed our life. It has shortened distances and improved the way we live. No doubt, life is much more comfortable than ever before. Nevertheless, modern life has drawbacks. Millions of people are on the dole because the factories where they work have closed down. More than this, economic crisis compels these firms to limit services and reduce their work opportunities. As a result, many people find themselves in the street. Another factor that contributes to unemployment is that machines are taking man's place. Employers strongly hold the view that automation speeds up production and stabilises its pace. What's more, machines never go on a strike and do not ask for a raise in salaries !..

## HOMELESS CHILDREN

Street kids, runaways, or children living in poverty are sometimes intentionally disfigured to attract more money from passersby. These victims are often beaten or injured if they don't bring in enough money. They are also vulnerable to sexual abuse. Ranging in age from three to eighteen, about 40% are homeless. They are unable to attend school and are considered to live in "especially difficult circumstances". , these children are the defenseless victims of brutal violence, sexual exploitation, Street living children are children who may have lost their families through war or illness, or have been abandoned because they had It is not unusual to see children as young as four or five years old working in the street, selling chewing gum and matches. These children often resort to theft and prostitution for survival. Most of them are addicted to shoe glue, which cause brain damage They put it into bottles, and hide it under their tee shirts, guarding it with their lives. They sniff it constantly because it gets them high and masks their loneliness and gives them security. Soon they

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are on to harder drugs Without education they have little hope of getting a decent job or building a better life in the future.

## STRESS :

Many specialists regard stress as modern man's main problem. It not only makes one feel bored and lazy but it also fills him or her with despair. Now, what are the causes ?

First, one essential cause is insufficient sleep. Research has proved that those who stay up late in front of computers or TV, for example, are easy prey. That's to say, these people start suffering from lack of concentration. As a result, they find it hard to do their duties properly. Students, in particular, inevitably miss classes and fail to fulfill satisfactory school results. Another cause for stress is the race against time that some people find themselves inside of it. They do everything in a rush for fear that they would run out of time.

Stressed people are moody, bad-tempered and irritable. Consequently, they constantly have rows and quarrels which makes life with them unbearable. Another thing is that these people see life from a dark side. They are all the time complaining, criticizing and discontented. Gradually, they will reach the top of despair and become pessimistic. As a consequence, many of them will think about putting an end to their lives !

Doctors advise people to get enough sleep, avoid stimulants and manage time well. This, of course will help in feeling more at ease and relaxed.

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