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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 these views and give your own opinion.

Childen face many difficulties trying to blend in, especially in this competetive world of 21st century. They come across many challenges in guidance of their parents, teachers, and society in general. Is it right to push them hard with ambition along the way, or should they be taught, and informed on different ways to achieve their goals, such as co-operation, sharing, and be given the space, and time they might need?

Aside from the fact that children need guidance on figuring out what they want to do in life, and how to achieve them, I think most of the times they are pushed too hard. Although I believe at certain aspects that it might be useful to be encouraged, and pushed a little to be prepared for the competetive grown-up world, I also think that suffocating children with ambition might be something irreversible. Childhood is a very important period, and should not be remembered as a time of stress.

On the other hand, children should not be left to discover everything on their own, in order to not get them stressed. They have to learn to handle circumstances, and hard situations. Leading them to do team sports could be a good way to start, so they can learn to co-operate with team work, while they have fun competing.

As the circumstances of the competetive world get harder everyday for everyone, we should be very careful on how we guide children. Leading them right is as important as letting them enjoy the best time of their lives.

Comment: children

Comment: competitive

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Comment: appropriately

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

Comment: You have discussed both views but I think you could give more details. You need examples to explain the positive reasons for being competitive or cooperative when you are an adult

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

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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

Vocabulary	
Choose appropriate words for the topic	Comment: Just 1 or 2 mistakes
Use the correct word form	
Use accurate collocations	
Include a variety of words and use accurately	
Spell words correctly	Comment: Same word
	repeatedly spelt wrong
Grammar	
Choose the correct tenses	
Use correct punctuation	Comment: Dongt overdo the commas
Use correct prepositions	Comment: A few mistakes
Include a variety of complex and simple structures	The mistakes
Use complex and simple structures accurately	

Approximate grading for the essay:

Content 6.5 Organisation 7.5 Vocabulary 7 Grammar 7.5

Overall the approximate essay grade is 7.

(This represents 60% of the final writing result)