Topic: Parenting

Question: Parents should limit children’s time watching TV and playing computer games, others insist children should spend time reading books, do you agree or disagree?

What are the leisure activities for children nowadays? Without a doubt, most children like to spend their free time in front of a square box; either watching their favorite television programs or playing computer games. This is mainly because of the attractive living-colored pictures on the screen in addition to the loud, silly and funny sounding voices. Though they may love it, parents should limit their children’s time watching TV and playing computer games due to the bad effects upon their children. In contrast, they should encourage their children to read books.

Today’s TV programs and computer games are often filled with violent behavior such as abuse, kidnap, murder, fights and so on for commercial purposes. Children who view these events are likely to believe that the world is scary and something bad will happen to them. This fear is simply caused by the inability of children to tell the difference between the fantasies presented on the TV and the reality. Besides, children may also imitate the bad behaviors and attitudes shown through the TV programs. Therefore, children should be discouraged from watching TV and playing computer games.

Meanwhile, watching TV and playing games are said to be unhealthy. Based on research, the obesity level has increased among children because they are inactive while watching TV and playing games as they do not exercise or play outdoor games. Moreover, fast food and junk food advertisements such as soft drinks which are shown in TV also influence children to consume them and similarly leads to obesity due to high cholesterol and sugar level.

Conversely, parents should encourage their children to read more books for it is benefiting. In fact, reading can increase the ability of children in understanding new subjects and information. Reading out loud also exposes children to proper grammar, phrasing and language skills. On top of that, reading books can also allow children to enlarge their knowledge of factual information, learn more about the world and increase their understanding of humanity. All these positive influences from the right books support parents to insist their children to read books instead of watching TV or playing computer games.

In conclusion, parents should insist their children read books instead of watching TV or playing computer games. Accordingly, parents can actually set up a schedule for their children to ensure that they spend their leisure time in the right way by reading books and have a limited time to watch TV and play computer games. This could indirectly discipline their children too.

Comments: A good essay with some interesting points and good vocabulary usage. Time spent on extra words could have been invested in improving accuracy. There are a lot of article mistakes, mistakes associated with gerunds and some odd phrase.

Rating: IELTS Band 6 Word Count: 435