



The Gig Economy

Summary Writing

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Student

Two types of lesson

Lesson#1: [Easy] ***** [B2/C1]

1. Try to predict the content of text / write down key terms / ideas
2. Read text – check words and meanings with a dictionary
3. Fill in the outline to identify key points and support
4. Write the summary – only one paragraph (200-250 words)
5. Check key points & model answer (try to achieve 4 key points and 4 support points)
6. Answer critical thinking questions & check answers

Lesson #2: [Hard] ***** [C1]

1. Read text – no dictionary
2. Fill in outline to identify key points and support / or take notes from text
4. Write the summary – only one paragraph (200-250 words)
5. Check key points & model answer (try to achieve 4 key points and 4 support points)
6. Answer critical thinking questions & check answers

Teacher

Two types of lesson

Lesson#1: [easy] ***** [B2/C1]

1. Give out text a week /day before the test – students read, check vocabulary and meaning.
2. Test day – give out a new copy of text and summary question
3. Set 1 hour to read text, take notes and write the summary
4. The summary – only one paragraph (200-250 words)
5. Feedback¹: take in and mark [use correction code*]
6. Feedback²: give out key points & model answer
7. SUMMARY: Should contain at least 4 main ideas with support – see Summary Key Points
8. Extra: Answer critical thinking questions / group discussion (30 minutes)

Lesson #2: [hard] ***** [C1]

1. Set 1 hour to read text and write the summary
2. The summary – only one paragraph (200-250 words)
3. Feedback¹: take in and mark [use correction code*]
4. Feedback²: give out key points & model answer
5. SUMMARY: Should contain at least 4 main ideas with support – see Summary Key Points
6. Extra: Answer critical thinking questions / group discussion (30 minutes)

Correction code*: www.academic-englishuk/error-correction

The Gig Economy

C. Wilson (2017)

1) The working world is changing. In our increasing [REDACTED], the notion of a 'job for life' and the concept of 9-5 workday is diminishing. In its place is the gig economy, which [REDACTED] where people work on temporary contracts (gigs), often as freelancers and self-employed. Recent research from Oxford University (2016) suggests that [REDACTED] with predicted growth of [REDACTED], and is occupied by 30% of the UK's population working on short-term temporary projects. This significant growth is [REDACTED], increased financial pressures and the increased frequency of people changing jobs (The Recruitment & Employment Confederation (REC), 2016).

2) Defining the Gig Economy is incredibly difficult because of how diverse the labour market is. World leading research from the Mckinsey Report (2016) defines it as [REDACTED], payment [REDACTED] or sales and a short-term relationship between the worker'. This includes people who provide labour services [REDACTED] in goods or rent assets. The McKinsey Report also defines workers into four bands: Free [REDACTED] and Financially Strapped. Vaughan and Daverio (2016) separate the gig economy into five key sectors: peer to peer accommodation, peer-to-peer transportation, on demand household services, [REDACTED] and collaborative finance. Overall, these economies are independent temporary short-term positions that include a [REDACTED] and are often operated through a digital platform. This article will use the 'gig economy' as an umbrella [REDACTED] of the above.

3) There are 275 collaborative economy platforms in the EU creating an estimated €25bn annually (Vaughan and Daverio, 2016). Key leaders in peer-to-peer accommodation are companies like Airbnb. This platform allows [REDACTED] room or an entire house to [REDACTED] is the creation of extra income for the supplier but also creating an authentic experience and cheaper accommodation for the traveller. Peer-to-peer transportation is Uber who provide 'a [REDACTED] their Uber app. Clients submit a trip request and the app links them to the nearest Uber 'gig' driver. A popular [REDACTED] service is the company Deliveroo, who are an online food delivery service company through which customers order food from local restaurants advertised on the Deliveroo platform. The food is then [REDACTED] by gig employees within 30 minutes. On demand professional services are companies like [REDACTED]. These platforms advertise and organize top professionals. Workers showcase their portfolios, recent work and trusted reviews so that employers can choose appropriately. Finally, collaborative [REDACTED] as 'crowd-funding' these offer individuals and businesses opportunities to invest, lend and borrow directly between each other. The gig [REDACTED] a vital component of the UK labour market for a range of sectors and industries (REC, 2016).

4) The transformative impact of the gig economy is having veritable economic benefits by raising [REDACTED], stimulating consumption, and boosting productivity

(McKinsey Report 2016). It is meeting the growing [redacted] and [redacted] the potential for considerable growth and development over the next 20 years (REC, 2016). Research [redacted] the gig economy offers a better work-life balance through autonomy and flexibility. In addition, businesses are benefitting from [redacted] talent pool, reduction in operational [redacted] the risks of long-term employment contracts.

5) Such a rapid growth of the gig economy is posing profound challenges for policy makers and [redacted] are already significant differences [redacted] in tax policies, applications and enforcement across Europe (Vaughan and Daverio, 2016: 3). REC (2016) claims that [redacted] common workers' rights laws, do not qualify for sick, holiday or pension entitlements, and they can be forced [redacted] with no job security or continuity. With regards to employers, REC (2016) states that gig workers [redacted] to the company's brand, there is also the possibility that crowd sourcing profiles are deceptive or exaggerated, [redacted] of gig employees, companies may become embroiled in legal disputes over worker's rights. Overall, it [redacted] a number of challenges to be addressed.

6) The commodisation of the labour market has created short fixed working contracts, and limited job security, and lifetime [redacted] is now a relic of the past. Digital technologies are changing work patterns and offering greater opportunities. It seems no [redacted] collaborative economy is highest [redacted] under 35 age range (Vaughan and Daverio, 2016), thus suggesting this is going to be the future of employment. The biggest challenge for the [redacted] control. Research is key in enabling policy-makers to modernize classifications of work patterns, tax filing [redacted] improvements. It is imperative that this research improves regulation offering protection for low-skilled, [redacted] working rights, acknowledging [redacted] discrimination laws and also controlling minimum wages. Overall, 'regulating the gig economy [redacted] to flourish but making sure the advantages [redacted] (REC, 2016: 56).

[Words: 860]

References

[redacted] (2016) Independent Work: choice, necessity and the gig economy (October 2016). *Mckinsey Global Institute Publications*.

The Recruitment & Employment Confederation (2016) [redacted] Work. *Institute of Recruitment Professionals publishing*.

The University of Oxford (2016) *Rise of Online Work Captured in the First Online Labour Index*. Available at: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2016-09-21-rise-online-work-captured-first-online-labour-index> [Accessed 03 February 2016]

Vaughan, R. & Daverio, R. (2016) [redacted] Collaborative Economy in Europe. *PWC- European Commission Paper* (DG GROW).

Outline: Summary note-taking – take notes on the key points of the article

1) main idea:

Support:

2) main idea:

Support:

3) main idea:

Support:

4) main idea:

Support:

5) main idea:

Support:

6) main idea:

Support:

Summary Key Points ANSWERS

A good summary should have 4 main ideas and 2 points of support for each main idea

1) main idea: The rise of the gig economy

Support: 1)

- a) The working world is changing / flexible labour market.
- b) 'Job for life' [redacted].
- c) Collaborative working platforms / temporary contracts (gigs), freelancers self-employed.
- d) Oxford University (2016) [redacted] 2020.
- e) 30% UK's population working on short-term temporary projects.
- f) Digitalization, increased [redacted] (REC, 2016).

2) main idea: Two definitions

Support: 2)

- a) Definition difficult = diverse market.
- b) Mckinsey Report (2016) [redacted] payment for the task or assignment or sales and short-term relationships.
- c) Labour services = [redacted] assets.
- d) MR: Free Agents, Casual Earners, Reluctants and Financially Strapped.
- e) Peer to peer accommodation, peer-to-peer transportation, on [redacted] services, on [redacted] (Vaughan & Daverio, 2016).

3) main idea: Principal gig companies

Support: 3)

- a) [redacted] collaborative economy [redacted]] (Vaughan & Daverio, 2016).
- b) Peer-to-peer accommodation = Airbnb.
- c) Peer-to-peer transportation = Uber.
- d) On-demand household = Deliveroo.
- e) On demand professional services = [redacted].
- f) Collaborative finance = as 'crowd-funding'.

4) main idea: The importance of the gig economy

Support: 4)

- a) Economic - labour force participation [redacted] / boasting productivity (McKinsey Report, 2016).
- b) Excessive growth and [redacted] (REC, 2016).
- c) Workers - satisfied better work-life balance / autonomy / flexibility.
- d) Businesses - global [redacted] operational costs and lowering long-term employment contracts.

5) main idea: The limitations of the gig economy

Support: 5)

- a) Profound challenges for policy makers and regulators.
- b) Differences in EU [redacted] / applications/ enforcement (V&D).
- c) Workers no workers' rights laws, No sick, holiday or pension entitlements / lower rates with no job security or continuity.
- d) Employees not loyal to [redacted] are deceptive or exaggerated, and with little regulatory control = embroiled in legal disputes over worker's rights.(REC)

6) main idea: **Future challenges**

Support: 6)

- a) Gig economy is highest under [REDACTED] (Vaughan & Daverio, 2016)
- b) The biggest challenge is regulation and control.
- c) Research modernize [REDACTED] filing and compliance requirements.
- d) Regulation offers protection for low-skilled, low-paid gig workers / better working rights / disability and [REDACTED]

Summary Model

Task: Write a 200-250 word summary on the key elements of the Gig Economy.

Word count: _____

Gig Economy: Model Summary

Task: Write a 250-word summary on the key elements of the Gig Economy

According to Wilson (2017), the gig economy is increasingly popular but needs better regulation and [redacted] and [redacted] digital platforms that employ self-employed workers are becoming the new flexible [redacted] a predicted growth [redacted] (Oxford university cited in Wilson, 2017). The gig economy crosses a variety of [redacted] complicated to offer a clear definition but generally it consists of short-term working relationships [redacted] and autonomous, with [redacted] for sales, tasks, trade or rents. It can be divided into key sections of accommodation, transportation, household task, professional services and finance that [redacted] collaborative elements (Vaughan [redacted] in Wilson, 2017). The beneficial aspects of the gig economy is that it offers more employments productivity [redacted], it offers opportunities for better work-life balance and for businesses, it can improve operational costs by [redacted] times. However, there are a number of limitations that need to be discussed such as the challenges [redacted] tries view gig companies with [redacted] enforcements (ibid). There are worker [redacted] and no traditional working entitlements. For employers there is the controversy of hiring [redacted] that have not been [redacted] may not be loyal. Overall, Wilson (2017) claims that the gig economy needs [redacted] which can only [redacted] better research.

[244]

Critical thinking Questions

i) What's the stance of the author? Does he think that the gig economy is good for the future of the labour market? Highlight where?

[2 points]

ii) Is this a credible article? Yes /no – why?

[2 points]

iii) Highlight four key parts of information in the text you would use for an essay on 'the gig economy will have a negative impact on the future labour market'.

[4 points]

iv) Highlight two areas in the text that you question, disagree with or lack evidence

[2 points]

Critical thinking Questions

i) What's the stance of the author? Does he think that the gig economy is good for the future of the labour market? Highlight where?

Yes, good for the future / economic benefits

1. Sees the economy as the future of the labour market

2. **But** believes more regulation & research is necessary to make it fairer.

[2 points]

ii) Is this a credible article? Yes /no – why?

Yes, good source choice.

But who is the author? Not published or supported by a journal publication. Probably a good idea to use the primary sources ...

[2 points]

ALL ANSWERS INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...