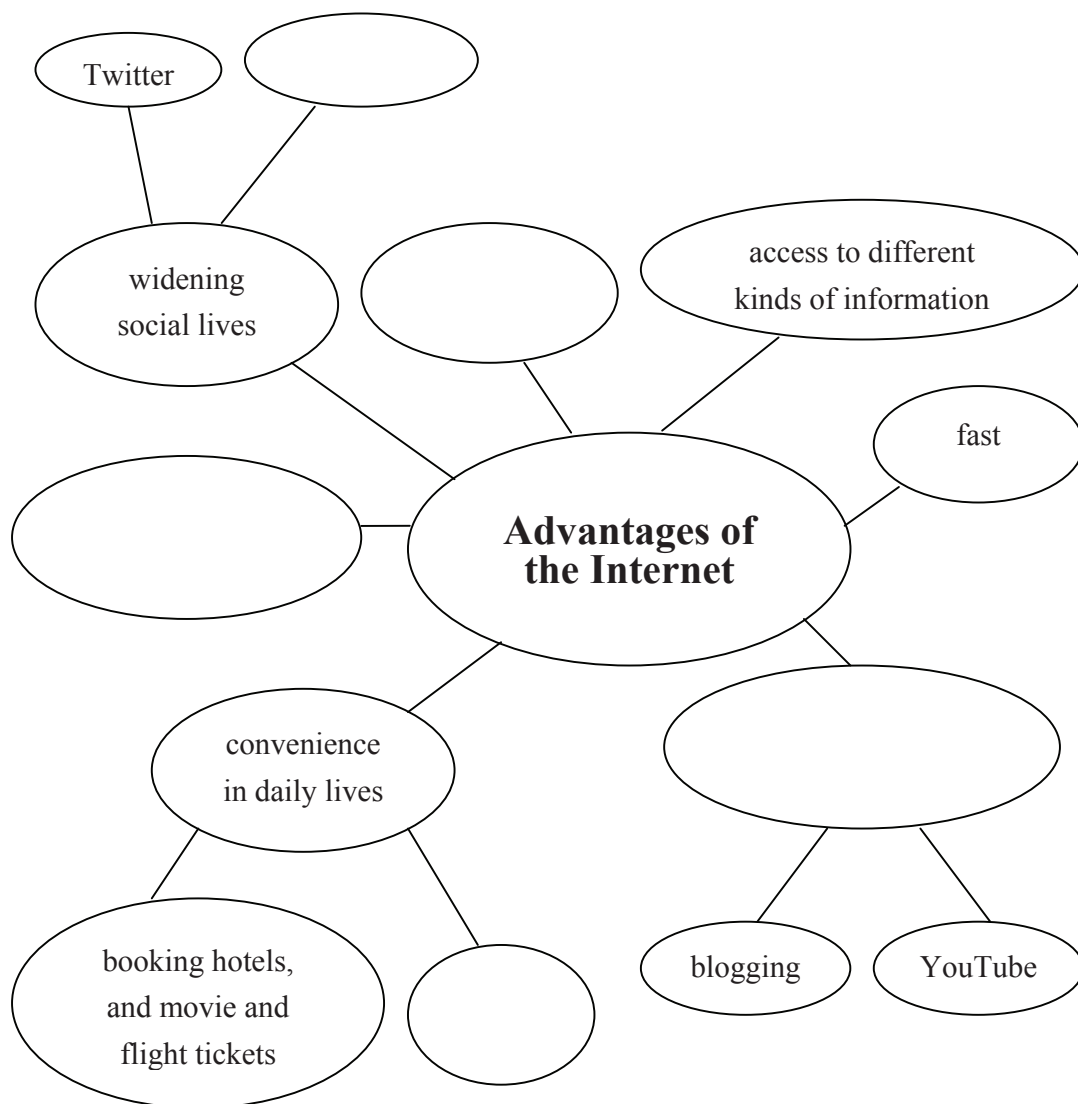


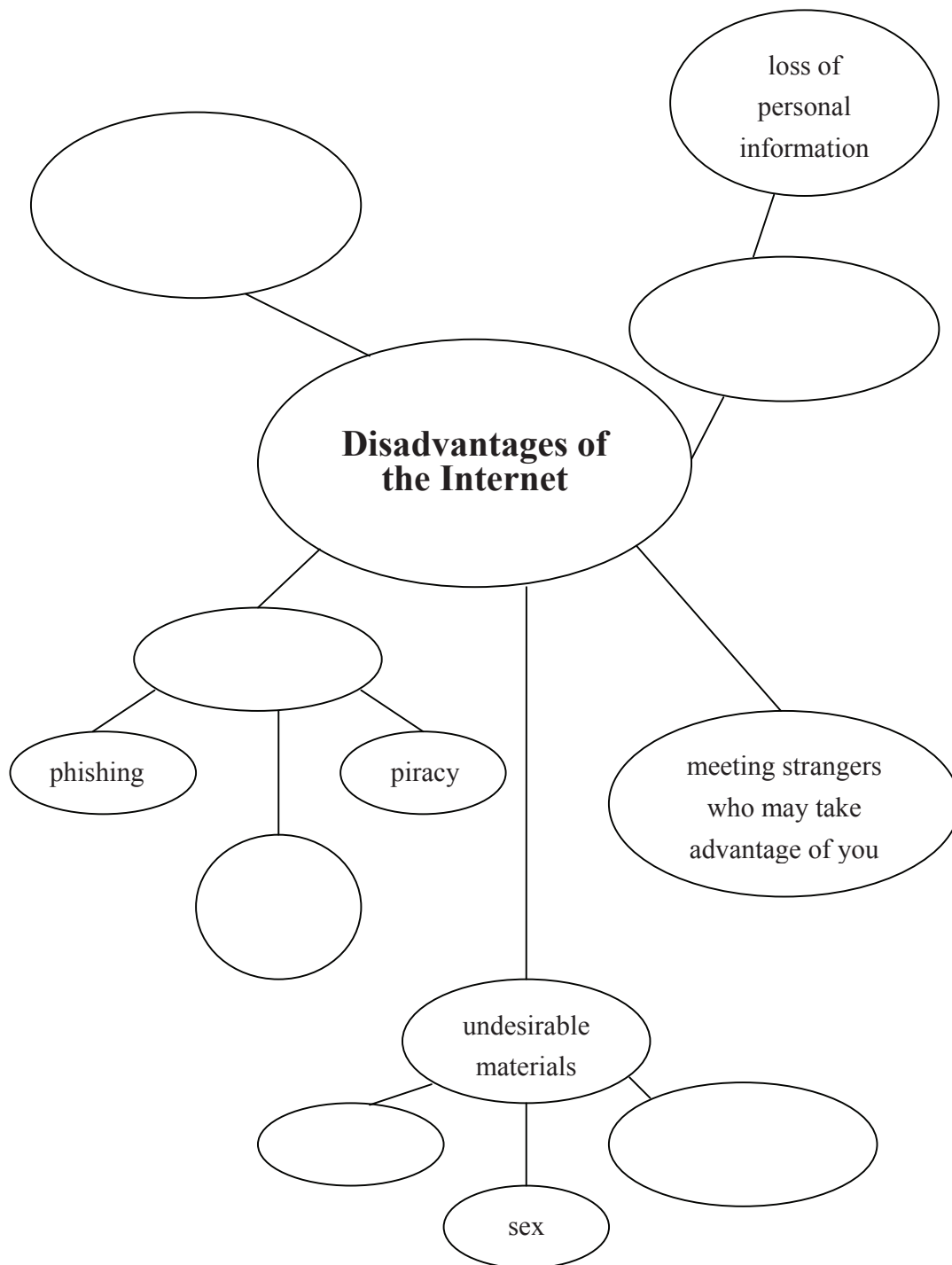
You know that an Internet discussion forum provides a good source of information and views on a particular topic. Study the following forum entries related to the advantages and disadvantages of the Internet.

[illegible]

<u>Yumi</u> (Gold member)	Posted: Mon Jan 12th, 2011 9:40 pm	Quote Reply	
Joined: Sun Oct 26th, 2008 Location: Tokyo Post: 259 Status: Offline	Is the Internet more of a blessing than a curse? ABSOLUTELY YES. I understand that there is always something unreliable or undesirable with everything digital. There may be false information, rumours, or even dishonest people waiting for their prey. But I certainly like the convenience brought by the Internet. Think about the flexibility to work or to learn in the Internet world. You can work or study whenever and wherever you like. I can book hotels, movie and flight tickets, and pay bills in seconds. I greatly appreciate the ease of life that the Internet has brought to me. After considering both the strengths and weaknesses of the Internet, I do think that the Internet does more good than harm.		30
			35
<u>Grace</u> (Bronze member)	Posted: Wed Jan 14th, 2011 11:40 pm	Quote Reply	
Joined: Mon Jan 5th, 2009 Location: Hong Kong Post: 2 Status: Online	It is hard for us to resist the temptation of the Internet and totally stay away from it. However, there are so many traps in the cyberworld. Bad people may find countless ways to commit digital crimes, such as phishing, identity theft, piracy, to name but a few. They set up websites containing pornographic pictures and songs for downloading to attract people to visit. They infect your computers with viruses and spyware through your visits to their websites. Virus or spyware infection may result in the loss of important personal information, such as credit and financial details. So, you are surely taking your own risks using the Internet.		40
			45

- A. A mind map is a useful tool for note-taking. With reference to the discussion forum entries, complete the following mind map to sum up the advantages and disadvantages of the Internet.



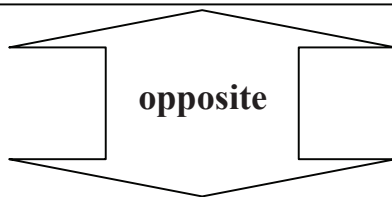


- B. In the Internet discussion forum, a number of words which share similar meanings to that of 'advantages' or 'disadvantages' have been used. Find these words in the forum and fill in the word frames below. One answer has been given as an example.

A word frame consisting of an outer rectangle and an inner rectangle, with lines connecting the corners of the outer rectangle to the corners of the inner rectangle, creating a 3D effect. The word "benefits" is written in the top section, and "advantages" is written in the bottom section.

benefits

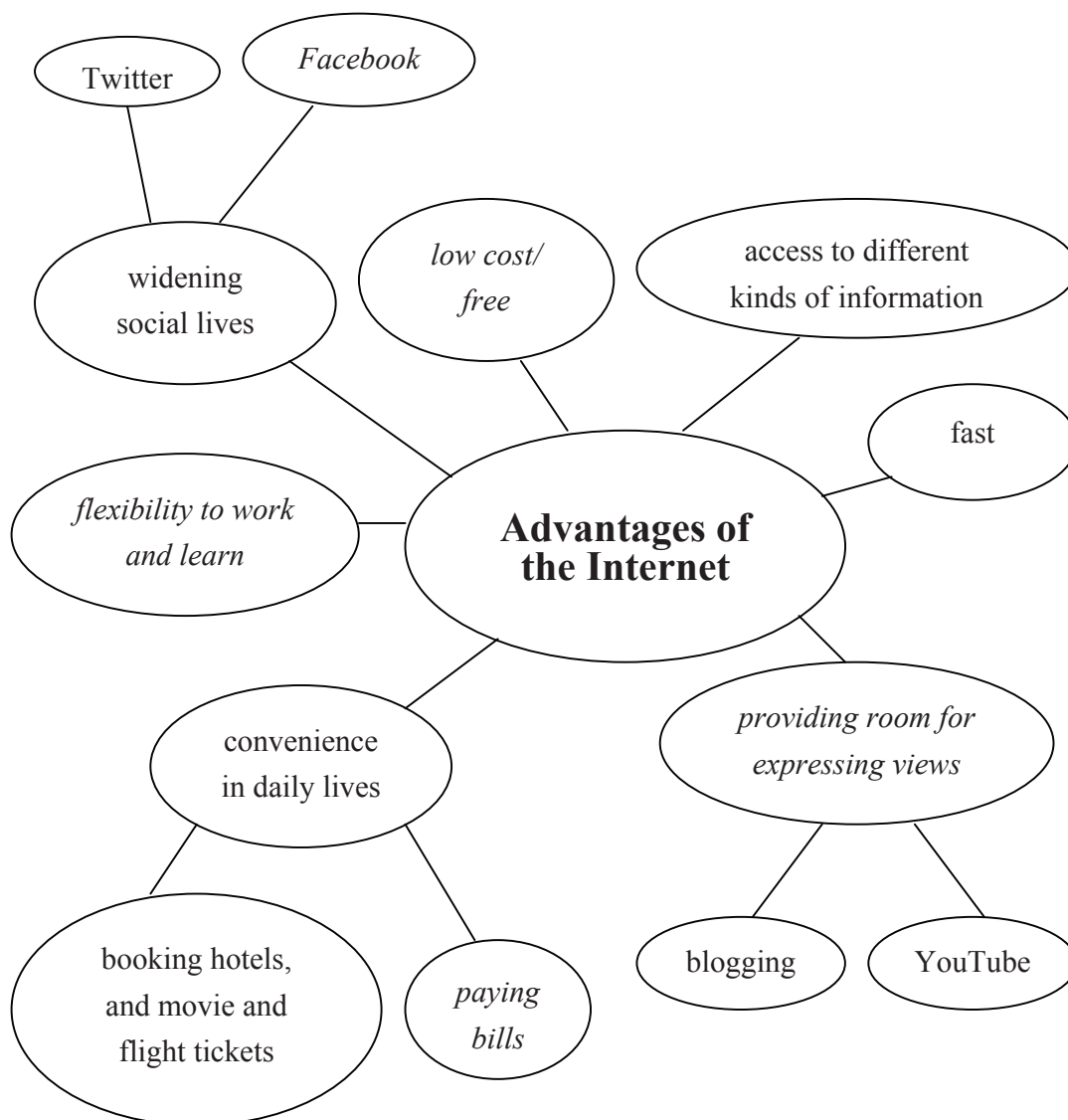
advantages

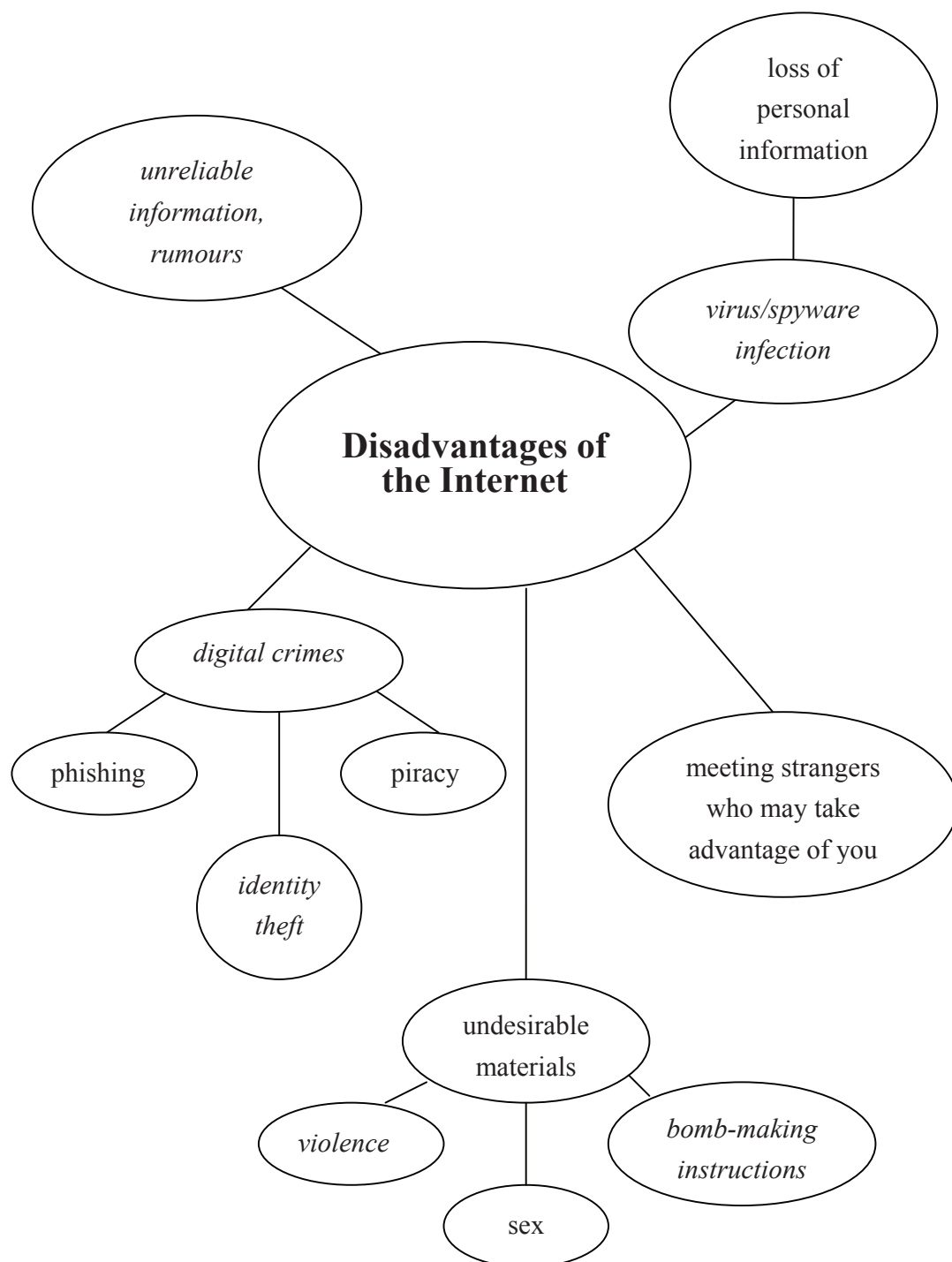


A word frame consisting of an outer rectangle and an inner rectangle, with lines connecting the corners of the outer rectangle to the corners of the inner rectangle, creating a 3D effect. The word "disadvantages" is written in the bottom section.

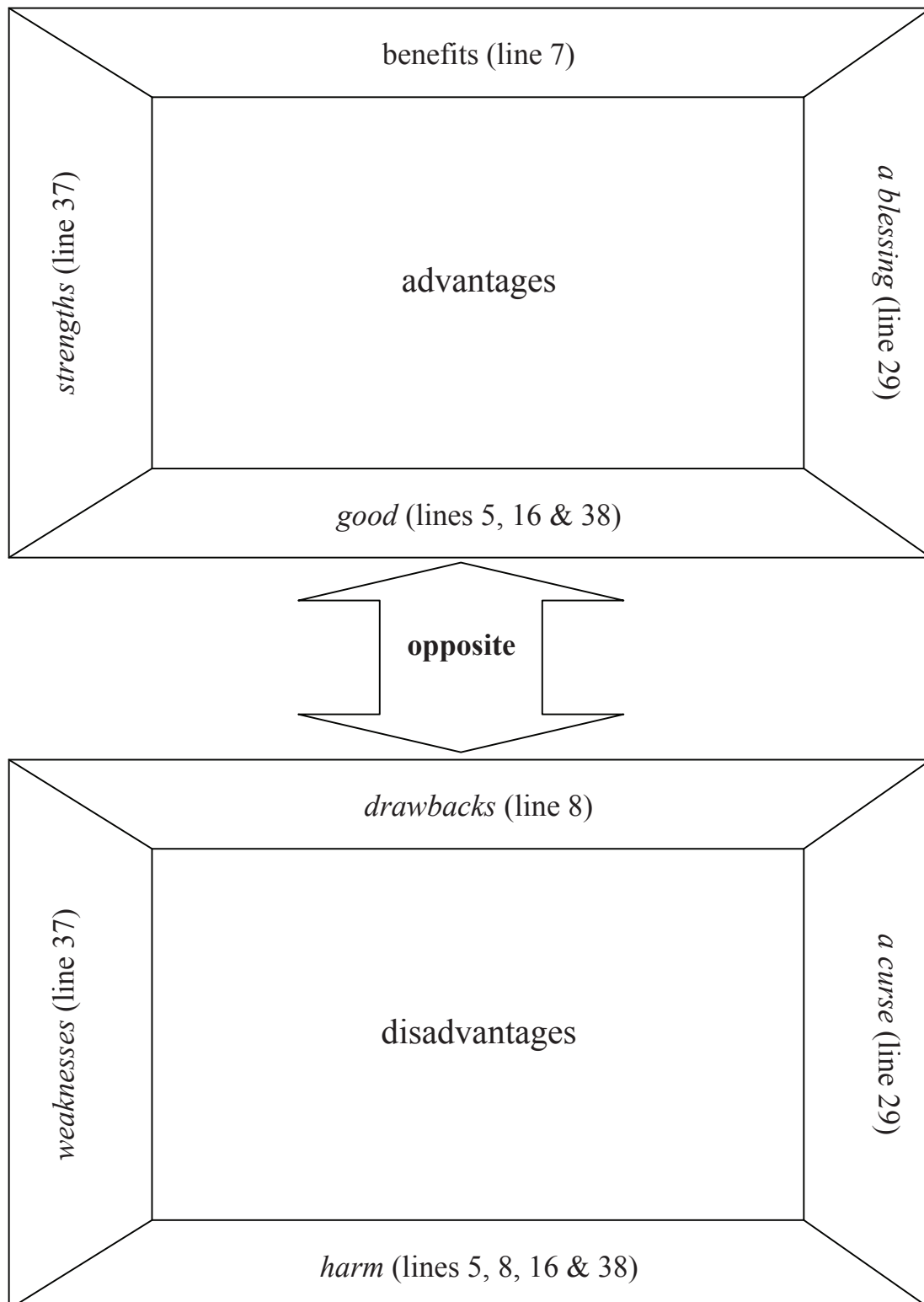
disadvantages

A.





B.



A. Intensifiers are adverbs which add force to the words they modify. English speakers often use these words in everyday conversational English to put emphasis on a point or an argument. The following are some of the intensifiers used in the forum entries:

- I completely disagree that the Internet does more good than harm. (line 16)
- I greatly appreciate the ease of life that the Internet has brought to me. (lines 35 & 36)
- So, you are surely taking your own risks using the Internet. (lines 47 & 48)

B. Read the forum entries again and identify more intensifiers. Put them in the spaces below.

completely	greatly	surely

C. Imagine the government is planning to regulate Internet activities and websites and suggests that all computers should have an Internet filtering software pre-installed before they are sold. With the use of this filtering software, websites containing pornographic and violence materials as well as those for illegal downloading of copyrighted materials will be blocked. Moreover, this software also allows parents or business owners to track and record all Internet activities.

Now, you are participating in the ‘City Forum’ organised by the RTHK and would like to express your views on the debate whether the government’s proposal should be supported or not. Form groups of four and choose a role to play from the following role cards. Think about the arguments that support your views as stated in the role card. Then, draft a two-minute speech on the note card provided, and deliver your speech to your group members. Think about how you would use intensifiers to add force to your arguments, and the Internet-related vocabulary in your speech.

Role Cards

Mr/Ms So (Teacher) You are a Liberal Studies teacher. You believe that: · the Internet filtering software violates the freedom of press and hinders students’ learning · the Internet is a treasure of knowledge · students should be given a choice to decide which websites to visit and to express their opinions on the Internet · students should learn to discriminate the good websites from the bad ones · students should learn to see things from various perspectives through visiting different websites	Mr/Ms Chris Pang (Film Producer) You are a film producer. You believe that: · the Internet filtering software can help stop illegal downloading of films, which has badly affected the box office and the sale of VCDs and DVDs · the software may violate the freedom of press and speech and hinder the development of creativity because all Internet activities can be tracked
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Mr/Mrs Yung (Parent) You are a working parent of a 13-year-old child. You believe that: · the Internet filtering software can help monitor whether your child spends too much time on the Internet · the software can protect your child from being exposed to undesirable materials or meeting bad friends on the Internet · you can understand your child better by knowing how he/she uses the Internet through the tracking function	Joey Wong (Student) You are a 15-year-old teenager. You believe that: · the Internet filtering software causes a lot of inconvenience because filtering by keywords may block some websites which are useful · you will not feel comfortable chatting online as all conversations can be tracked and recorded · the Internet provides different forms of free entertainment, such as online games, free movies and songs, and this saves you a lot of money
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Note Card

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B.

completely	greatly	surely
<i>entirely</i>	<i>strongly</i>	<i>absolutely</i>
<i>certainly</i>	<i>totally</i>	<i>much</i>
<i>definitely</i>		