Should cities offer free public Wi-Fi?

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English Composition

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Outline

THESIS: With the progress of the times, the Internet has become an indispensable

means of providing information; therefore, cities should offer free public

Wi-Fi to create a more convenient and modern society for the public.

I.   Free public Wi-Fi can improve work efficiency and vary learning

method.

A.   With Internet, officers can not only work at office, but at cafeteria,

home or any other comfortable atmosphere.

B.   Internet provides a great deal of information, and this considers

very useful especially for students in school.

C.   The citizens can acquire abundant information at any moment.

II. Free public Internet access is beneficial to the society in many ways.

A.   It definitely promotes city's tourism industry.

B.   The emergent events can be spread rapidly and the public can be

notified right away.

C.   It brings the world closer, and we are able to explore other

cultures.

III. Although many critics doubt the free Internet is dangerous and it may isolate people, it is still a need in human world, and we just ought to utilize it in a right way.

    A. The government should practice stricter laws to stop any crime on the Net.

    B. The depression is not caused from the Internet itself, but from the false use of it.

Everything in the universe is in continual change, and human demand is getting

greater within this changing process. In many countries, government offers free

internet section in the cities. Yet this service has not been offered throughout Taiwan

area. In some cities, it is still very inconvenient and even difficult to obtain the

internet services. With the progress of the times, the Internet become an indispensable

means of providing information; therefore, cities should offer free public Wi-Fi to

create a more convenient and modern society for the public.

Free public Wi-Fi can improve work efficiency and vary learning method. Scott

Fox, an American financial author and founder of ClickMillionaires.com, mentioned

in his book:

> The biggest current contributor to improved efficiency is the Internet. By
>
> linking people worldwide in an inexpensive, round-the-clock
>
> communications network, the Internet has greatly increased the availability
>
> of information and the speed of business transaction (Fox).

With Internet, working staff can not only work at office, but at cafeteria, home or any

other comfortable atmosphere. The fast and reliable internet will definitely improve

the way people work, for the officers do not need to commute to a far place to do their

job. This will lessen traffic jam in cities, allowing workers to have content atmosphere

to finish their daily work. Next, Internet provides a great deal of information, and this considers very useful especially for students in school. "In the field of education, Internet is used not only to supplement classroom teaching, but also an increasingly popular medium for delivery of online education courses (Khosrowpour)." Indeed, it is said that information is power. Internet has positive impact on education by broadening learning method. With such service, students will be available to go through tremendous and various information resources in a very short time.

Furthermore, the citizens can acquire abundant information at any moment. Pakhare pointed out that Internet provides knowledge on any topic under the sun rapidly:

> Search engines make information accessible on various subject matters such as, government law and services, trade fairs and conferences, market information, new innovations and technical support, and even dispense advice on love and relationships matters (Pakhare).

It becomes a useful tool in human life, and has been popular with people ever since its invention. Free public Wi-Fi helps citizens catch the latest news at any time, and thus people can seek assistance through the Net whenever in need.

Free public Internet access is beneficial to the society in many ways. To take

tourism as an example, it will definitely promote city's tourism industry. "Woodstock

was one of the first towns in Vermont to create its own wireless zone throughout its

downtown area (Lovegrove)." Lovegrove mentioned that after having its wireless

zone, Woodstock has become a destination town, instead of a pretty place to drive

through (Lovergrove). Every positive comment stated online will be the motivation

which makes tourists be willing to stop and explore more about the spot. In addition,

not only does Internet promote tourism industry, but the emergent events can be

spread rapidly and the public can be notified right away. "The Internet became the

delivery platform of choice. It was easier and faster, and people liked it better than the

paper－or hard copy－version (Baehr)." Free public Wi-Fi allows people to obtain the

information and emergent event notification through the connection via their laptops

or via a handheld device such as smartphone. Apart from contacting friends or

families on the way to the destination, free Wi-Fi system also brings much more

convenience into our life: We are able to book the ticket for a movie, transfer fund,

and pay utility bills or taxes without having to leave our homes or offices (Pakhare).

Not only that, it also brings the world closer, and people are able to explore other

cultures. There are so many chatrooms and applications allow people to meet new

friends on the Net. Moreover, it is easy to find a long-lost friend with internet services. A fast, free and reliable internet service can hold the world together, making people connect to one another.

Although many critics doubt the free Internet is dangerous and it may isolate people, it is still a need in the modern society, and people just ought to utilize it in a right way. Many people are against free public Wi-Fi because it has many crimes, such as fraud, viruses and theft of personal information, been committed through Internet (O'Donnell). However, the problem is not the universality of the Net itself, but the security system being unsafe (O'Donnell). Thus government practices stricter laws to stop the crime on the Net. In 2012, Taiwan government passed the new Personal Data Protection Law which protects individuals, companies and groups (Law & Regulations Database of The Republic of China). Hence, a simple safeguard is provided by Kurt M. Saunders:

> Install devices such as highly secure firewalls, password protection systems, and access use and monitoring software to protect databases containing confidential, sensitive, or proprietary data, as well as information or materials that are protected by copyright or trade secret (Saunders).

If there are some evidences of the crime, people should "immediately contact the law

enforcement authorities and cooperate fully with them to investigate the intrusion or

misconduct (Saunders).

Also, many parents argue that free internet causes huge harms to their children.

Sometimes teenagers become too addicted to the Internet (Young). To avoid these bad

effects, they should divert their interest to other fields of life. That is to say, they

should

pursue various hobbies, and not stay in front of the screen all the day (Young). The

depression and isolation are not caused from the Internet itself, but from the false use

of it (Weyers). Brent Weyers stated in his essay that the internet is beneficial within

our society when considering the internet's effect to intelligence:

> It is actually proven to increase our own intelligence as a society. In Steve
>
> Johnson's national bestseller *Everything Bad Is Good For You*, Johnson
>
> argues that the internet and our popular culture today is making us more
>
> intelligent due our means of obtaining, interpreting, and processing
>
> information. The fast paced and complicated nature of our lifestyle with the
>
> internet is making our brains evolve to become more intelligent (Weyers).

Internet touches every part of our life, and plays a crucial role in modern society.

Free public Wi-Fi enhances learning and working circumstances in cities. Besides

that, it improves human life quality in many extremely positive ways. This service

brings not merely convenience but also newly intelligence upon human brain. It is the

decent use of the Net that matters. Therefore, we must have public Wi-Fi section and

beware of its potential influence, and then make good use of it in order to benefit our

life.

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