

Let's debate

1 Read the article and answer the following questions.

Anonymous writing on the Internet should be prohibited.

Introduction

The question of whether anonymous writing on the Internet should be banned has caused much debate. People on both sides of the **argument** have strong reasons, each with **practical** examples. This essay will look at two reasons for and two reasons against banning anonymous writing.

In favor of banning

First, (a) . For example, during the Paris 2024 Olympics, many athletes received **abusive** comments on social media. Some of these comments came from anonymous users, making it difficult to hold them responsible. The anonymity of the Internet often makes people feel that they can say **hurtful** things without **risking consequences**. Banning anonymous posting would make it easier to find and deal with people who behave badly, making the online space safer.

Second, (b) . For example, many celebrities have been the target of damaging **rumors** spread by anonymous people. These rumors can quickly damage their **reputations** and mental health. Without the protection of anonymity, people might think twice before posting **unconfirmed** or harmful information, knowing that they could be held legally responsible. This could lead to more respectful and careful communication online.

Against the ban

On the other hand, (c) . In some countries, people can face danger or **punishment** for sharing their opinions, especially if those opinions are **critical** of the government or **social norms**. For example, in **authoritarian regimes**, anonymous writing is often the only way people can safely express their thoughts. Banning anonymity could **silence** those voices and limit the exchange of ideas.

Second, (d) . For example, survivors of **sensitive issues** such as domestic violence or sexual **assault** may want to share their stories anonymously. This anonymity can make them feel safe and encourage others to come out of the closet. If we remove the ability to be anonymous, it may **discourage** these people from sharing their experiences, which are important for society to hear.

Conclusion

In conclusion, (e) . While banning anonymity could reduce online harassment and protect public figures, it could also **suppress** free speech and discourage the sharing of important experiences. Finding a middle ground is important to creating a healthy and inclusive online environment.

☆Answer the following questions.

Q1. 本文中の (a) ~ (e) に入るのに最も適切なものを下の①～⑧の中からそれぞれ選んで線で結びなさい。

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|---------|--|
| (a) . | • ① anonymity has been a strategy of a company to make greater profit. |
| (b) . | • ② some argue that anonymity is important to protect freedom of expression against an authority. |
| (c) . | • ③ the ban of anonymity can help the government collect the data of people posting comments on social media. |
| (d) . | • ④ anonymity can protect people's privacy and prevent unwanted exposure to share their stories. |
| (e) . | • ⑤ banning anonymity can help stop online bullying and harassment. |
| | • ⑥ the debate over banning anonymous writing on the Internet is about finding a balance between responsibility and safety, and privacy and freedom of speech. |
| | • ⑦ anonymity should definitely be banned. |
| | • ⑧ banning anonymous posting can protect public figures, such as celebrities, from false accusations and damaging |

2 Prepare for your debate!

Anonymous writing on the Internet should be prohibited.

<Vocabulary List>

argument	N	主張、議論	exposure	N	さらされること
practical	Adj	実際のな、実用的な	punishment	N	罰
abusive	Adj	ののしるような、虐待的な	social norm		社会規範
hurtful	Adj	傷つくような	authoritarian regime		独裁政権
risk consequences		危険を冒す	silence	N	～をだまらせる
bullying	N	いじめ	sensitive issue		扱いが微妙な問題
public figures		公の人物	assault	N	暴行
rumor	N	うわさ	discourage	V	～するのをためらわせる
reputation	N	評判	responsibility	N	責任
unconfirmed	Adj	確証のない	suppress	V	～を抑制する