



General instructions:

- Answer the following five questions in ENGLISH after carefully reading the text: 1) True/False; 2) Comprehension questions and written production; 3) Vocabulary; 4) Communicative use of language; and 5) Writing task.
- The questions or sections that offer choices are as follows: *Question 2*: Three options are provided (you must choose two), *Question 3*: Four items are provided (you must choose three), *Question 5*: Two options are provided (you must choose one).
- If you answer more options than required, only the first ones will be corrected, and the rest will be disregarded.
- The use of a dictionary or any other educational resource is not allowed to answer questions related to the given text.
- DURATION OF THE TEST: 90 minutes; MAXIMUM SCORE: 10 points.

Character.AI and Google agree to settle lawsuits over teen mental health harms and suicides

Character.AI, a platform that allows users to have in-depth conversations with artificial intelligence chatbots, has agreed to settle multiple lawsuits claiming that its chatbots contributed to mental health crises and suicides among young people. One of the cases was brought by Megan Garcia, a mother from Florida. The settlement, announced last week, signals the end of some of the first and most high-profile lawsuits related to the alleged harms to young people from AI chatbots. Nearly a week after the agreement was announced, *Character.AI* and the Social Media Victims Law Center, which represented the families involved, released a joint statement saying they would continue working together to promote youth safety. In the statement, they said: "These families are working to raise public awareness of the importance of safety in AI design and will continue their education and support efforts on these critical issues".

Megan Garcia raised alarms around the safety of AI chatbots for teens and children when she filed her lawsuit in October 2024. Her son, Sewell Setzer III, had died seven months earlier by suicide after developing a deep relationship with *Character.AI* bots. The lawsuit claimed that *Character.AI* failed to implement proper safety measures to prevent her son from developing an inappropriate relationship with a chatbot that caused him to withdraw from his family. It also argued that the platform did not adequately respond when Setzer began expressing thoughts of self-harm. "There were no suicide pop-up boxes that said, 'If you need help, please call the suicide crisis hotline'. None of that", she said. "I don't understand how a product could allow that, where a bot is not only continuing a conversation about self-harm but also prompting it and kind of directing it". The lawsuit claimed that seconds before Setzer's death, he exchanged a final set of messages with the bot. "Please come home to me as soon as possible, my love", the bot said, according to a screenshot included in the complaint.

A wave of other lawsuits against *Character.AI* followed, stating that its chatbots contributed to mental health issues among teens, exposed them to sexually explicit material and lacked adequate safeguards. *OpenAI* has also faced lawsuits asserting that *ChatGPT* contributed to young people's suicides. Since then, both companies have implemented a series of new safety measures. Last autumn, *Character.AI* said it would no longer allow users under the age of 18 to have back-and-forth conversations with its chatbots. Still, nearly a third of US teenagers say they use chatbots daily, according to a Pew Research Center study published in December. Concerns around the use of chatbots are not limited to children. Users and mental health experts began warning last year of AI tools contributing to delusions or isolation among adults, too.

Adapted from an article by Clare Duffy, CNN, 13 January 2026.

1. Indicate whether each of the following statements is TRUE or FALSE. Justify your answer by quoting directly from the text. NO marks will be awarded for answers that only state TRUE or FALSE. *Ellipses (...) must not be used in any part of the sentence.* Answer ALL the questions (a–d). (2 points)

a) The *Character.AI* chatbot encouraged Sewell Setzer III to contact the suicide crisis hotline. (0.5)

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b) Users under 18 are now prevented from having extended conversations with *Character.AI* chatbots. (0.5)

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c) Other lawsuits against *Character.AI* accused the platform of exposing teenagers to inappropriate content. (0.5)

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d) Adults' mental health is not influenced by AI chatbots. (0.5)

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2. In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, answer TWO of the following three questions (a, b, or c). NO marks are given for *personal opinions* or *responses copied directly* from the text. (2 points)

a) Why did Megan Garcia become concerned about the safety of AI chatbots for children and teenagers?

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b) How does the text show that concerns about AI chatbots are not limited to children and teenagers?

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c) What measures have AI companies taken in response to the lawsuits mentioned in the article?

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3. Find words or phrases in the text that have the same meaning as the ones below. Choose THREE out of the four items provided (from a to d). In the case of verbs, *ONLY infinitive forms* will be accepted (1.5 points):

a) The act of hurting yourself because you have emotional problems or are mentally ill.

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b) To isolate oneself or stop interacting with others.

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c) Shared by or belonging to two or more people.

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d) To encourage or to make someone decide to do something.

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4. Choose the correct or most suitable option (A, B, C, or D) for each question. Indicate your choice clearly by circling the corresponding letter (A, B, C, or D). Answer ALL the questions (4.1-4.3). (1.5 points).

4.1) Two colleagues at work are talking about social media trends. A says: 'Many teenagers are obsessed with trying to be trendy'. B responds:

- A) 'I agree, they shy away from hard work'.
- B) 'Right, they make the most of their time'.
- C) 'Yes, they want to keep up with all the latest fashions and apps'.
- D) 'Yes, they think it's up to date'.

4.2) Discussing AI chatbots, A says: 'These bots can sometimes give a response that's out of line'. B responds:

- A) 'Yes, sometimes they act inappropriately'.
- B) 'Exactly, they always store data'.
- C) 'Right, they play music automatically'.
- D) 'Yes, they sometimes send encouraging messages'.

4.3) Two friends are talking. A says: 'I'm feeling a bit under the weather'. B responds:

- A) 'You should go home if you are embarrassed'.
- B) 'Oh, are you feeling ill?'
- C) 'Why don't you put on some warmer clothes?'
- D) 'You shouldn't have bought that big boat'.

5. Write a composition of 140-160 words on ONE of the following two options (a or b). (3 points):

a) Do you think AI chatbots can affect young people's mental health? How do you usually seek help or advice when you have a problem? Discuss.

b) Write an email reply to the following message from a student on your school's advice column, giving advice and support. In your email, you should acknowledge how the student feels, suggest ways to deal with isolation, and encourage them to seek help safely. Use a friendly and supportive tone suitable for a peer or advice column.

IMPORTANT NOTE: For this exercise, imagine the student is either Lucas or Sofia. Remember not to include your name or any identifying information in your email.

"Hi, I often feel very alone at school. I don't really talk to anyone and I spend a lot of time on my own. Sometimes I even feel like I'm losing interest in things I used to enjoy. I don't know what to do, and I feel too embarrassed to talk to my teachers or friends. Can you help me?"

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Assessment criteria:

Task fulfilment:	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Organisation:	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Cohesion and coherence:	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Grammatical range:	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Vocabulary:	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Spelling and punctuation:	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
TOTAL:						

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