

SOME SUGGESTED ANSWERS

PARAPHRASING

1) a label thrown around a lot at the moment.

A term which is very often used frequently but also casually/ inappropriately

2) a person who believes their status as a unique individual means they are destined for great success.

someone who believes they are special/distinctive/unlike anyone else/ and therefore certain to succeed in life /have a successful life/career

3) young people are over-sensitive and quicker to take offence than previous generations of students.

Thin-skinned high school and university students seem to be more easily offended than those in the past.

4) the lengths that snowflakes go to silence debate.

Collins writes that the Snowflake Generation will stop at nothing to prevent discussion of controversial/difficult topics/subjects

(5) apt to cause offence

Likely to be considered offensive

SUMMARY: A SELECTION OF POINTS TO INCLUDE

Students should mention 1+2 and select of points 3-7 but need to mention both sides of the argument.

1. ATTRIBUTION- Bhunjun in Metro

2. DEFINITION- Collins Dictionary

(ALTERNATIVE DEFINITION – IS NOT RELEVANT)

3. MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

4. UNIVERSITIES

Started in USA with warnings to students of upsetting material in course books etc. has now spread to the UK

5. COLLINS /PETERSON

Collins cites the recent example of Jordan Peterson who believes it is unfair to ask him to use the personal pronoun people prefer if they can't choose their sexuality

Collins also claims many young people find this a totally unacceptable / non-negotiable and that they are looking for insults where none are intended.

6. COUNTER ARGUMENT- BHUNJUN

Another example of older commentators trying to stop the fight against inequality by harshly attacking more progressive thinking younger ones

7. UK GOVERNMENT RESISTS SNOWFLAKE DEMANDS

UK university minister's 'blacklist' of those who try to prevent discussion, upholding the right to reasonable

ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

To be or not to be a 'snowflake'. What would **your** stance be?

Argumentative title: The Oxford Student presents the case against while The Conversation and McQuade argue in defence of snowflakes.

OXFORD STUDENT	THE CONVERSATION	McQuade
De Maricourt	Haslam-Ormerod	
Live in unreal, over-safe environment (trigger warnings, no platforming policies), no preparation for real life.	Unfair label. Attacked because of the importance they give to mental well-being which is, in any case, important	Students are resilient as can cope with difficult + unanswerable questions. They are aware of the all pervasive presence of fake news and can look below the surface.
Constructive criticism builds character, it should not be taken as a personal attack, this shows a lack of resilience	They are resilient. They take fewer drugs + less alcohol than previous generations, vote more and fight injustice	Use trigger warnings not to be kept in cotton wool but as a guide or hook to explore difficult subjects further.

Your essay must be structured to try to demonstrate your point of view based on your own ideas and the opinions expressed in the 3 excerpts summarised above.