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## Analysis of Answers for GP Paper 2 Exercise #24 (‘Convenience’)

1. *The author uses the word ‘trumping’ to show that* convenience appears to be determining our choices, surpassing our real desires.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

2. *The writer means that* a person who rejects making convenient choices is frequently regarded in society as someone who is weird and radical.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

3. *The phrase ‘natural bedfellows’ refers to things that are closely linked, and in this context,* it suggests that it is inevitable that convenience and monopoly share a close relationship **due to** how human behaviour allows popular companies to amass huge market power.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

4. *This is because* making things easier usually allows for options which are less challenging to undertake, particularly for the most disadvantaged members within society.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

5. *Technology does this by* making it simpler for us to convey our identities, personalities and ideas.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

6. The paradox is that **on one hand**, technology currently allows for personalization according to one's preferences, **yet at the same time**, because everyone is doing the same thing, we end up becoming less distinctive from everyone else.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

7. **Just as** a cult attracts the blind devotion of followers and is ultimately detrimental to one's well-being, **similarly**, convenience has become a practice that we are no longer conscious of or question, and this will eventually lead to detrimental outcomes.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

8. The author means that convenience makes us focus primarily on the end result **instead of** the process of getting the result, **which is actually more important because** it is an integral part of being human.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

9. The conclusion is effective because it serves as a reminder for us not to be consumed by convenience **and** to make us realize that making inconvenient choices can actually bring us pleasure.

*\*Useful points to take note of:*

## 10. Summary Question (ANSWERS)

#	Points from the Passage	Paraphrased Points
1	for it has a <b>complex</b> relationship with other <b>ideals</b> we hold dear (l.23–24)	<b>its complicated / difficult / multifaceted links with other values / principles we value / cherish</b>
2	Though understood and promoted as an instrument of <b>liberation</b> , convenience has a <b>dark side</b> (l.24-25)	<b>While we regard convenience as something that free us / brings about emancipation, it can be sinister / ominous / disturbing / troubling</b>
3	With its <b>promise</b> of smooth, effortless <b>efficiency</b> , it <b>threatens</b> to <b>erase</b> the sort of	<b>Even as convenience assures us of / guarantees us productivity / proffers to be fuss-free and easy, it risks eliminating / removing the</b>

	<b>struggles and challenges</b> that help give <b>meaning</b> to life (l.25-27)	<b>dilemmas / obstacles / difficulties</b> that are <b>essential</b> for giving purpose to living
4	... it can become a <b>constraint</b> on what we are <b>willing</b> to do... (l.27)	It <b>represses / restrains / limits / restricts</b> us from doing what we are prepared / ready to do
5	it can <b>enslave</b> us. (l.28)	It <b>oppresses / traps / incapacitates</b> us
6	...when we let convenience <b>decide everything</b> , we <b>surrender</b> too much (l.29–30)	In allowing convenience to rule over / dominate / control us, we give up all our personal freedom / relinquish our autonomy
7	By <b>saving time</b> (l.32)	By making work efficient / productive / allowing tasks to be finished quickly,
8	and <b>eliminating drudgery</b> , (l.32)	and getting rid of monotonous / boring labour
9	it would create the possibility of <b>leisure</b> (l.32)	convenience results in free time / opportunities for relaxation / recreation
10	With leisure comes the possibility of <b>devoting</b> time to learning, hobbies or whatever else might really matter to us (l.32–34)	People can immerse themselves in / dedicate themselves to acquiring skills / pursuing/ developing their interests / other important / significant activities
11	Convenience would make available to the <b>general population</b> the kind of <b>freedom for self-cultivation</b> once available only to the <b>aristocracy</b> (l.34–35) <u>Or</u> Convenience would also be the great <b>leveller</b> (l.36)	allowing the masses to acquire knowledge / develop their inner being / educate themselves which was previously / formerly exclusive to the elite / nobles / upper class <u>Or</u> ensuring social mobility / putting everyone on par with one another / making everybody equal
12	They resist...also because they see a <b>threat</b> to their <b>sense of who they are</b> , (l.42–43)	Some regard / recognise convenience as a danger / menace to identity / what makes us human
13	to their feeling of <b>control</b> over things that <b>matter to them</b> (l.43)	<b>Losing their autonomy</b> over significant / important aspects of their lives
14	Convenience meant <b>conformity</b> (l.45–46)	Convenience makes people compliant / conventional / the same as others
15	The counterculture was about people's need to <b>express themselves</b> (l.46)	It prevents people from articulating / conveying their individual thoughts / ideas / identity
16	to fulfil their <b>individual potential</b> (l.47)	and from achieving the best results / outcomes in life

17	to live in <b>harmony</b> with nature (I.47)	<b>(flipped)</b> Instead of seeking balance / being at peace with the surroundings / environment,
18	rather than constantly seeking to <b>overcome its nuisances</b> (I.47–48)	<b>(flipped)</b> convenience leads to people regularly focusing on getting rid of / battling annoyances in nature

### Sample Summary Answer

One problem which convenience brings is [its complicated links with other values we cherish]<sup>1</sup>. [**While** we regard convenience as something that frees us, it can be troubling]<sup>2</sup> **because** [it risks eliminating the obstacles that are essential for giving purpose to living]<sup>3</sup>. [**In** allowing convenience to control us, we relinquish our autonomy]<sup>6</sup>. **Yet**, [**by** making work efficient]<sup>7</sup> and [getting rid of monotonous labour]<sup>8</sup>, [convenience results in opportunities for relaxation]<sup>9</sup>. **Additionally**, [people can dedicate themselves to pursuing their interests]<sup>10</sup> and [acquire knowledge which was previously exclusive to the elite]<sup>11</sup>. **Nonetheless**, [convenience can be a menace to identity]<sup>12</sup> **as** it [makes people compliant]<sup>14</sup>, [preventing them from articulating their individual thoughts]<sup>15</sup>. **Finally**, [instead of being at peace with the environment,]<sup>17</sup> [convenience leads to people focussing on battling annoyances in nature]<sup>18</sup>.

(120 words)

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