Discussion task:

Are public libraries common in your country?

How often do you use a library?

Are libraries important?

What do you think is the future of libraries?

Reading task:

Read this newspaper editorial about libraries in Britain.

Does the writer think libraries are important?

Image: https://pixabay.com/en/books-library-read-shelves-shelf-1617327/

The Guardian view on books for all: libraries give us power

There is something unique and uniquely valuable about the institution of a public library. Libraries in themselves are one of the foundations of civilisation. They enable the conversation between the living and the dead, which keeps a culture alive. We hear the voices of past authors and read back into their texts our own preoccupations; and others, when we're dead, will hold their own discussions about the books that have resulted. But for most of history a library was a private possession. Culture, in that deep sense, was cut off from every family who had no books of its own or very few. The public library, one of the Victorian age's great social inventions, changed that. Poverty or even narrowness of parental taste could no longer imprison the curiosity of children. Anyone could read almost anything. It was their right.

This vision still is kept alive in some countries, but is being choked in Britain. Public libraries have been remorselessly attacked as public finances shrink. They have lost books, staff, opening hours and whole branches. More than 400 libraries and a further 140-plus mobile libraries have been closed. The pragmatic justification is that local authorities no longer have the money to do anything right, and that social care or housing must be higher priorities. Others say that the internet has abolished much of the need for libraries. But it hasn't. If anything, it has made them – and librarians – even more useful than before. There must be millions baffled by the challenges of the online world and the demand to interact with the authorities through a screen; others understand how to navigate this realm, but cannot afford to do so. Even those with digital savvy and the money for their own books gain from communal life. All these need public libraries, and they need librarians.

Taken from *The Guardian*: 17th June, 2018:https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/17/the-guardian-view-on-books-for-all-libraries-give-us-power

Pattern identification task:

Fill in the table with examples from the text. The first one has been done for you.

	the	NOUN	of	noun group
Pattern 1.1 **N** *of* **n**	the	institution	of	a public library

Pattern production task

These are common nouns that fit this pattern. Fill in the final section with a suitable noun phrase. The first one has been done for you

	the	NOUN	of	noun phrase
Pattern 1.1 **N of n**	the	custom	of	people
	–	role	–	
	–	feeling	–	
	–	dream	–	
	–	idea	–	

Example sentences:

Here are some example sentences from a reference corpus. Write your own sentence using the same **first noun**. We have provided an example for the first sentence.

the	NOUN	of	noun phrase	predicate
The	custom	of	using chopsticks	is growing in the West.
The	custom	of	Thanksgiving	is important to me.
The	custom	of		

the	NOUN	of	noun phrase	predicate
The	role	of	women in the workplace	has changed dramatically.
The	role	of		

the	NOUN	of	noun phrase	predicate
The	feeling	of	finishing the marathon	was incomparable!
The	feeling	of		

the	NOUN	of	noun phrase	predicate
The	dream	of	home-ownership	is no longer as important.
The	dream	of		

the	NOUN	of	noun phrase	predicate
The	idea	of	people living to 200	is intriguing.
The	idea	of		