The following quotations are taken from ‘Sherpas: The invisible men of Everest’

*“Many outsiders use the word "sherpa" as slang for "porter," but in Nepal it more often signifies "shrewd businessman." Former climbing Sherpas now hire other ethnic groups to do much of the unskilled portering. They own hotels, trekking companies, airlines; Khumbu Sherpas today are among the wealthiest of Nepal's dozens of ethnic groups.”*

*“The sad fact is that over the years Sherpas and Nepali mountain workers have died so routinely—40 percent of all*[*Everest deaths*](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/04/140423-mount-everest-deaths-history-avalanche-sherpas-mountain/)*over the last century—that it's easy for Western tourists and guiding agencies, Nepali officials, and even some Sherpas themselves to gloss over the loss of any one particular life. Sincere condolences are offered. Inadequate insurance payments are made. Chortens are built, plaques affixed, pictures posted on blogs. And then all parties turn back to the mighty Everest cash machine and the*[*booming business*](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/04/140418-everest-avalanche-sherpas-killed-culture/)*of catering to thousands of foreigners paying small fortunes to stand on the top of the world.”*

**Overall, Everest’s increased popularity with climbers has had a positive impact on the lives of Sherpas.**

Write a speech for your class that addresses this statement. You could write in favour of this comment or you could oppose it.

10 marks will be awarded for communication and organisation

10 marks will be awarded for writing accurately

You should aim to write between 200-300 words.

You have 50 minutes to write your speech. You should allow up to 10 minutes planning and editing time.