

6 Question Types for IELTS Writing Task 2

1. (To what extent) do you agree or disagree?
2. Discuss both views and give your opinion.
3. Do (you think) the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?
4. Is this a positive or negative development?
5. Discuss the benefits and drawbacks.
6. What are the causes of this and what actions can be taken to solve this problem?

1. *Foreign visitors should pay more than local visitors for cultural and historical attractions. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*
2. *Some people believe that studying at university or college is the best route to a successful career, while others believe that it is better to get a job straight after school. Discuss both views and give your opinion.*
3. *E-mail has had a huge impact on professional and social communication, but this impact has been negative as well as positive. Do the disadvantages of using e-mail outweigh the advantages?*
4. *Nowadays the way many people interact with each other has changed because of technology. In what ways has technology affected the types of relationships that people make? Has this been a positive or negative development?*
5. *Many parents send their children abroad to study. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages about the phenomenon.*
6. *In cities and towns all over the world the high volume of traffic is a problem. What are the causes of this and what actions can be taken to solve this problem?*

1. *Foreign visitors should pay more than local visitors for cultural and historical attractions. To what extent do you agree or disagree?*

2. *Some people believe that studying at university or college is the best route to a successful career, while others believe that it is better to get a job straight after school. Discuss both views and give your opinion.*

Introduction

(It is true that _____.) While some people tend towards the viewpoint that _____, I would have to support the idea that _____.

Body 1

On the one hand, there are clear arguments that _____. One of the main reasons can be that _____. This means that _____. Another reason can be that _____. For example, _____.

Body 2

On the other hand, I agree with the viewpoint that _____. Firstly, I believe that _____. This is because (For example,) _____. Secondly, I also feel that _____.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it seems to me that _____.

Discuss both views and give your opinion

Introduction

One of the most controversial issues today relates to In this essay, I am going to examine this question from both points of view.

Body 1

On one side of the argument there are people who argue that the benefits ofconsiderably outweigh its disadvantages. The main reason for believing this is that It is also possible to say thatOne good illustration of this is

Body 2

On the other hand, it is also possible to make the opposing case. It is often argued that in fact People often have this opinion because A second point is thatA particularly good example here is.....

Conclusion

As we have seen, there are no easy answers to this question. On balance, however, I tend to believe that

3. *E-mail has had a huge impact on professional and social communication, but this impact has been negative as well as positive. Do the disadvantages of using e-mail outweigh the advantages?*
4. *Nowadays the way many people interact with each other has changed because of technology. In what ways has technology affected the types of relationships that people make? Has this been a positive or negative development?*

Introduction

It is certainly true that _____. It is my belief that the positive effects of this innovation (phenomenon) could certainly offset its disadvantages.

Body 1

There are several drawbacks of _____. A common criticism of _____ is that _____ . This is because _____ .

Another negative aspect can be that _____ .

Body 2

In spite of these negative effects, however, _____ has brought important benefits as well. One obvious advantage of _____ is that _____. Another positive effect is that _____ .

Conclusion

To sum up, it seems to me that _____ has brought us more benefits than disadvantages.

97 words

5. *Many parents send their children abroad to study. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages about the phenomenon.*

Introduction

It is certainly true that _____. However, not all the effects of this innovation (phenomenon) have been positive, although there are certainly some advantages.

Body 1

There are several drawbacks of _____. A common criticism of _____ is that _____. This is because _____. The other negative aspect can be that _____.

Body 2

In spite of these negative effects, however, _____ has brought important benefits as well. One such advantage of _____ is that _____. Another positive effect is that _____.

Conclusion

To sum up, while there are some obvious drawbacks to _____, _____ has brought us many benefits at the same time.

99 words

6. *In cities and towns all over the world the high volume of traffic is a problem. What are the causes of this and what actions can be taken to solve this problem?*

Introduction

It is undoubtedly the case that urban areas around the world increasingly suffer from _____. (or _____ is becoming more widespread in many parts of the developed world.) There are several reasons for this problem, and various measures could be taken by governments and individuals to improve the situation.

Body 1

There are a variety of different factors that have led to _____. One of the major causes can be that _____. The second reason is that _____.
The third reason is that _____.

Body 2

Despite some obvious reasons described above, there are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems. Firstly, a simple solution would be to _____. The second measure would be for governments to _____. Finally, _____.

Conclusion

In conclusion, despite some obvious reasons, various measures can be taken to tackle the problem of _____.

Foreign visitors should pay more than local visitors for cultural and historical attractions. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

Introduction

It is sometimes argued that tourists from overseas should be charged more than local residents to visit important sites and monuments. **I completely disagree with this idea.**

Conclusion

In conclusion, I believe that every effort should be made to attract tourists from overseas, and it would be counterproductive to make them pay more than local residents.

Paragraph – 1

1. **Cultural or historical attractions** often depend on **state subsidies**.
2. The **resident population** already pays money to these sites through the **tax system**.
3. **However**, foreign tourists **contribute to the economy of the host country**.
4. Governments and inhabitants of every country should be happy to **subsidise** important tourist sites.

Paragraph – 2

1. **If** travellers realised that they would have to pay more to visit **historical and cultural attractions** in a particular nation, they **would** perhaps decide not to go to that country on holiday.
2. The **tourism industry** and many **related jobs** rely on visitors.
3. **Tourist sites** charge the same price **regardless of** nationality.
4. This helps to promote the **nation's cultural heritage**.
5. **If** overseas tourists stopped coming due to higher prices, there **would** be a risk of insufficient funding for the maintenance of these important buildings.

Foreign visitors should pay more than local visitors for cultural and historical attractions. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

Sample Answer

It is sometimes argued that tourists from overseas should be charged more than local residents to visit important sites and monuments. **I completely disagree with this idea.**

The argument in favour of higher prices for foreign tourists **would be that cultural or historical attractions** often depend on **state subsidies** to keep them going, **which means that** the resident population already pays money to these sites **through the tax system.** **However, I believe this to be a very shortsighted view.** Foreign tourists contribute to **the economy of the host country** with the money they spend on **a wide range of goods and services, including food, souvenirs, accommodation and travel.** **Governments and inhabitants of every country** should be happy to **subsidise** important tourist sites and encourage **people from the rest of the world** to visit them.

If travellers realised that they would have to pay more to visit **historical and cultural attractions** in a particular nation, they would perhaps decide not to go to that country on holiday. **To take** the UK **as an example, the tourism industry and many related jobs** rely on visitors coming to the country to see places like Windsor Castle or Saint Paul's Cathedral. These two sites charge the same price **regardless of** nationality, and this helps to promote **the nation's cultural heritage.** If **overseas tourists** stopped coming **due to** higher prices, there would be **a risk of insufficient funding** for **the maintenance of** these important buildings.

In conclusion, I believe that every effort should be made to attract tourists from overseas, and it would be **counterproductive** to make them pay more than local residents.

(269 words, band 9)

Some people believe that studying at university or college is the best route to a successful career, while others believe that it is better to get a job straight after school. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Paragraph 1: benefits of getting a job

The option to start work straight after school is attractive for several reasons.

(IDEAS: start earning money, become independent, gain experience, learn skills, get promotions, settle down earlier, afford a house, have a family)

1. Many young people want to **start earning money**.
2. They can **become independent** and **afford their own house** or **start a family**.
3. Young people who decide to find work may **progress** more quickly.
4. They will **gain real experience** and **learn practical skills**.
5. This may **lead to promotions** and **a successful career**.

Paragraph 2: benefits of higher education (my opinion)

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial for students to continue their studies.

(IDEAS: some jobs require academic qualifications, better job opportunities, higher salaries, the job market is very competitive, gain knowledge, become a useful member of society)

1. **Academic qualifications** are required in many **professions**.
2. A doctor, teacher or lawyer requires **relevant degrees**.
3. **University graduates** **have access to** more and **better job opportunities**.
4. They **tend to** earn **higher salaries** than **those with fewer qualifications**.
5. **The job market** is becoming **increasingly competitive**.
6. Young people who do not have **qualifications from a university or college** will not **be able to compete**.

Some people believe that studying at university or college is the best route to a successful career, while others believe that it is better to get a job straight after school. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

When they finish school, teenagers face the dilemma of whether to get a job or continue their education. While there are benefits to getting a job straight after school, I would argue that it is better to go to college or university.

The option to start work straight after school is attractive for several reasons. Many young people want to start earning money as soon as possible. In this way, they can become independent, and they will be able to afford their own house or start a family. In terms of their career, young people who decide to find work, rather than continue their studies, may progress more quickly. They will have the chance to gain real experience and learn practical skills related to their chosen profession. This may lead to promotions and a successful career.

On the other hand, I believe that it is more beneficial for students to continue their studies. Firstly, academic qualifications are required in many professions. For example, it is impossible to become a doctor, teacher or lawyer without having the relevant degree. As a result, university graduates have access to more and better job opportunities, and they tend to earn higher salaries than those with fewer qualifications. Secondly, the job market is becoming increasingly competitive, and sometimes there are hundreds of applicants for one position in a company. Young people who do not have qualifications from a university or college will not be able to compete.

For the reasons mentioned above, it seems to me that students are more likely to be successful in their careers if they continue their studies beyond school level.

E-mail has had a huge impact on professional and social communication, but this impact has been negative as well as positive. Do the disadvantages of using e-mail outweigh the advantages?

It is certainly true that the use of e-mail has greatly changed the way we communicate with each other at work as well as socially. However, it is my belief that not all the effects of this innovation have been positive, although there are certainly some advantages.

There are several drawbacks of using e-mail. A common criticism of e-mail in the workplace is that it causes extra work and stress. This is because employees receive more messages than they can answer every day and since e-mail writers expect a quick response, this further increases pressure on employees. Other negative aspects are that e-mail for both social and professional users include the way it encourages people to spend even longer at their computers and also the danger of incoming messages allowing viruses into your computer system.

In spite of these negative effects, however, e-mail has brought important benefits as well. One obvious advantage of using e-mail is that it is a fast and easy way to communicate with family, friends and work colleagues wherever they are in the world. Another positive effect is that it not only allows people to stay in touch with each other, but it also allows them to send all kinds of information (such as pictures, photos, diagrams, texts, etc.) very quickly, cheaply. This is a huge advance on earlier communication systems, and the low cost of e-mail means it is very widely used.

To sum up, while there are some obvious drawbacks to using e-mail, this fast and ever-friendly technology has greatly improved our ability to communicate both professionally and socially. It seems to me that e-mail has brought us more benefits than disadvantages.

In cities and towns all over the world the high volume of traffic is a problem. What are the causes of this and what actions can be taken to solve this problem?

Sample Essay

It is undoubtedly the case that urban areas around the world increasingly suffer from traffic congestion. **There are several reasons for this problem, and various measures could be taken by governments and individuals to improve the situation.**

There are two main factors that have led to the rise in traffic in towns and cities. **One of the major causes is that** the ownership of cars have been increasing in many societies, which means the vehicles become more affordable for the average people and they are no longer a luxury item, but something that most families expect to own. **The second reason is that** public transport has become increasingly unreliable and uncomfortable because many bus and train services are often delayed and not frequent. **As a result,** there has been a rise in the use of private cars, leading to the high volume of traffic, especially in rush hours.

There are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems described above. Firstly, a simple solution would be to improve the reliability of public transport to encourage people to take the bus or the train rather than driving their own car. **The second measure would be for governments to** discourage people from driving to work by imposing special tariffs on using the roads, especially during peak periods. **A successful example of this** is the congestion fee in London which has certainly reduced the level of traffic in the city centre.

In conclusion, despite some obvious reasons, various measures can be taken to tackle the problem of rising levels of traffic in urban areas. **While** it may not be possible to find a complete solution, any action should probably involve encouraging greater use of public transport and making it more expensive for people to drive in urban areas.

298 words

Alternative Conclusions

1. Opinion

For the reasons mentioned above, I believe that... (+ repeat your opinion).

2. Discussion (+ Opinion)

In conclusion, there are convincing arguments both for and against... (topic), but I believe that... (if the question asks for your opinion).

3. Advantages and Disadvantages

In conclusion, I would argue that the benefits of... (topic) outweigh the drawbacks.

4. Causes and Solution

In conclusion, it is clear that there are various reasons for... (topic), and steps need to be taken to tackle this problem.

Positive and Negative comments

1. **The first advantage of** international tourism **is that** it brings in foreign currency.
 2. **The benefits of** computer use in education **are** compelling.
 3. **One of the advantages of** cheap public transport **is** a reduction in traffic congestion.
 4. **The main benefit of** access to the Internet **is** fast access to information.
 5. **Another positive result of** increasing visitor numbers **is that** tourist attractions can be developed.
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- A. **One of the disadvantages of** radio **is that** it is only an audio source.
 - B. **The negative aspect of** the freedom to express your own ideas **is the fact that** some people abuse this privilege.
 - C. **The first disadvantage of** working for a large company **is** the impersonal atmosphere.
 - D. **The negative aspect of** living in a village **is that** everyone knows your business.
 - E. **Another negative result of** globalization **is** environmental damages.
 - F. **A major drawback of** large families **is** the lack of privacy.