
AGREE OR DISAGREE

I. Template cho dạng "Do you agree or disagree?" – Mang tính tham khảo

Introduction: It is true that/ it is sometimes argued that ____ .Personally, i disagree/agree with_____, because i believe _____

Body 1: On the one hand, I agree that _____(support the statement)_____.

Body 2: Nevertheless/On the other hand, I believe that _____(give examples or arguments to point out that the statement is wrong)_____.

Conclusion: In conclusion, while____(restate the statement)____, I do not believe that _____(you reject the statement in some cases)_____.

Ví dụ áp dụng:

TOPIC: When choosing a job, the salary is the most important consideration. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

ANSWER:

Many people choose their jobs based on the size of the salary offered. Personally, I disagree with the idea that money is the key consideration when deciding on a career, because I believe that other factors are equally important.

On the one hand, I agree that money is necessary in order for people to meet their basic needs. For example, we all need money to pay for housing, food, bills, health care, and education. Most people consider it a priority to at least earn a salary that allows them to cover these needs and have a reasonable quality of life. If people chose their jobs based on enjoyment or other non-financial factors, they might find it difficult to support themselves. Artists and musicians, for instance, are known for choosing a career path that they love, but that does not always provide them with enough money to live comfortably and raise a family.

Nevertheless, I believe that other considerations are just as important as what we earn in our jobs. Firstly, personal relationships and the atmosphere in a workplace are extremely important when choosing a job. Having a good manager or friendly colleagues, for example, can make a huge difference to workers' levels of happiness and general quality of life. Secondly, many people's feelings of job satisfaction come from their professional achievements, the skills they learn, and the position they reach, rather than the money they earn. Finally, some people choose a career because they want to help others and contribute something positive to society.

In conclusion, while salaries certainly affect people's choice of profession, I do not believe that money outweighs all other motivators.

Dicussion Essay

I. Hướng dẫn cách thành lập

Discussion essay structure is in many ways the inverse of argument essay structure. To illustrate, look at the following table comparing the two:

I. Introduction paragraph:

1. Structure

- Paraphrase Sentence: background sentence
- Outline Statement: Statement of points of view to be

Question analysis

- Plan first: finding keywords, specific details, ways of answering the question
- Translate the plan into sentences
- Answer:

What is the topic? General idea of what question asking for

What is the question? Specific ideas what you need to choose

What is your opinion? Thesis statement

What are your reason? Give more general information for the thesis statement

Example:

One of the consequences of *improved medical care* is that the people are **living longer** and **life expectancy is increasing**. Do you think the **advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages**?

The keywords here are ‘*improved medical care*’. This is our general topic. It is important to know this, not for what we **should** write about but about what we **shouldn’t** write about. A common mistake is to highlight the main keywords, or main topic, and write about this very generally. If you do this, you have not answered the question.

We therefore need to think about things more specifically. They are ‘**living longer**’ and ‘**life expectancy is increasing**’. We therefore need to write about these and how improved medical care has increased life expectancy. But we can’t just write a general essay about this, we must look at the **instruction words** next.

The instruction words are ‘**Do you think the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?**’

Full model introduction paragraph:

Medical care is improved that will affect to our life a lot. One of the effective results is that people have improved longevity and the length of time people live is rising. This essay agrees that a quality improvement in medical care is beneficial to people. We will discuss benefits and drawbacks of this process for the rest of the report.

II. Supporting paragraphs:

1. Structure

- Draw the idea outline
- Topic sentence
- Explanation
- Example

2. Model Analysis

Most high-level positions in companies are filled by men even though the workforce in many developed countries is more than 50 percent female. Companies should be required to allocate a certain percentage of these positions to women. Do you agree?

So we have to think of reasons for and against allocating a certain percentage of positions in the workforce to women.

Making the idea outline with the agreement reasons:

- Fairness
- Equality
- Prevent discrimination
- Women outperform men in many jobs
- Women outperform men in many schools and university subjects

In this case, we agree with the question, so we are going to pick two of those reasons and write topic sentences for them. You should always pick the ideas you know most about, or in other words, can explain and support with examples.

Topic Sentence: Women should be allocated a certain percentage of roles because to not do so, discriminates against them because of their gender.

As you can see, all we have done is simply introduce the ideas in a very clear way. There is no need to use very advanced to do this, stating your position in simple language is all you need to do. 😊

Explaining the Ideas

Explaining ideas is a problem for most students, not because they can't do it, but because they don't see the point in doing it. They think that the examiner must be an educated person and explaining simple ideas to them is wasting their time.

Example 1– Women should be allocated a certain percentage of roles, because to not do so discriminates against them because of their gender. As a result, women will be denied jobs, not because of their intellect or skill, but simply because of their sex.

Example 2– Females should be given a bigger share of jobs, because women currently outperform males in most university subjects. That is to say those young women are just as qualified as men, if not more, and should therefore be given at least an equal share in the job market.

The last point I will make about explanations is they should relate specifically to the question. They should not generally explain what the idea is; they should explain how the idea answers the question. Make sure you read the question again before you write a topic sentence or explanation.

Giving the specific exam to support your explanation:

Example 1– For example, many business women in Asia find it difficult to get jobs as CEOs, despite having the same qualifications as men.

Example 2– For example, in 2014 it was reported in The Straits Times that only 9 of Singapore's top 100 companies have female CEOs, despite making up 50% of the total workforce.

Let's find out these above examples to see the differences:

Example 1 is much better but again 'business women in Asia' is very general and does not really support our argument because of this.

Example 2 is a very good example because it used an actual newspaper to report specific statistics (9%), from a specific place (Singapore) at a specific time (2014).

Linking phrases:

There are certain phrases we can use to explain our ideas such as:

- That is to say.... (linking)
- In other words... (linking)
- This is because... (giving reasons)
- The reason is.... (giving reasons)
- As a result.... (describing result)
- As a consequence.... (describing result)
- Therefore.... (describing result)

Use one of these phrases to explain what your topic sentence means, the reason why, or the result of your topic sentence. You don't need to do all three, just one. Make sure that anyone with no knowledge of the subject can understand what your main point is.

III. Conclusion paragraph:

1. Structure

- Summarize
- Restate the main ideas in the whole essay
- Give the prediction/recommendation (if have)

2. Linking phrase:

First you should start with a linking phrase, but some are better than others . Here are some examples:

- Finally
- In a nutshell
- In general
- In conclusion
- To conclude

Finally isn't really suitable because it indicates that you are making a final point and therefore a new idea. Finally belongs in the main body of your essay, not the conclusion.

In a nutshell is too informal and we should never use it in IELTS conclusions.

In general tells the reader you are going to talk generally about a topic. This is not what we are going to do in our conclusion and we should therefore not use it.

In conclusion and **to conclude** are the only two linking phrases you should use to start your conclusion.

They tell the reader exactly what the paragraph is about and they are formal.

Example:

In conclusion, this essay supports the idea that teenagers ought to be taught functional subjects like financial planning because it helps them in adulthood and a lack of education related to these topics can have serious consequences.

OR

In conclusion, this essay acknowledges that technological progress does jeopardize the planet, but cutting-edge discoveries can actually halt and even heal this destruction. It is predicted that climate change will be successfully tackled with such inventions.

IELTS Conclusion Quick Tips

- 1. Never write any new ideas in your conclusion.** A conclusion should always simply restate the ideas you have in the rest of the essay. New ideas should be in the main body and not in the conclusion.
- 2. Make sure you answer the question in the conclusion.** The conclusion should state what you think about the question and make it clear how you feel about the issue.
- 3. Vary your language.** Just because you are restating the ideas you have in the rest of your essay, doesn't mean you use the same language. Instead you show the examiner you have a wide vocabulary by paraphrasing.
- 4. Don't try to include everything.** You are not required to go into detail, you have already done that in your main body paragraphs. Instead you will just summarise your main points.
- 5. Always write one .** It is very difficult to get a good score in task 2 if you haven't finished your essay with a conclusion. Even if you are running out of time, make sure you write one.
- 6. Two sentences are enough.**

II. Luyện tập

Try writing a discussion essay in response to this essay question:

Some believe museums should entertain people, while others believe their purpose is to educate. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

(Answers)

Some believe museums should entertain people, while others believe their purpose is to educate. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Museums often represent different things to different people. On the one hand, many people feel a museum's primary purpose is to entertain. However, others feel they function to spread understanding. The merits of both arguments will be analyzed before a conclusion is decided upon.

Firstly, some argue a museum's main purpose is to amuse. For example, the Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa minimizes the written descriptions normally found next to exhibits in an effort to provide visitors with a demonstrational experience to illustrate a scientific or historical point. Although this setup leaves their museum visitors stimulated, it does little to provide them with a deeper understanding of the scientific, historical or cultural topics the museum houses. Thus, the merits of this opinion are hard to support.

However, many other people see museums as powerful educational resources. For example, the British Museum in London, England is arranged to provide its visitors with a very informed look at the roots of humanity. Patrons leave this museum with a much richer understanding of historical topics, and this understanding is something they can apply to their everyday endeavors. Thus, the heightened benefits of this opinion regarding the role of museums can clearly be seen.

After looking at these two opposing points of view, it is felt that museums better serve the public when they are established to educate as opposed to entertain. Thus, it is hoped that the museums of the future are arranged primarily for this purpose.'

Computers are being used more and more in education. Some people say that this is a positive trend, while others argue that it is leading to negative consequences. Discuss both sides of this argument and then give your own opinion.

(Answers)

There is an ever increasing use of technology, such as tablets and laptops, in the classroom. It is often argued that this is a positive development, whilst others disagree and think it will lead to adverse ramifications. This essay agrees that an increase in technology is beneficial to students and teachers. This essay will discuss both points of view.

It is clear that the internet has provided students with access to more information than ever before. Moreover, learners have the ability to research and learn about any subject at the touch of a button. It is therefore agreed that technology is a very worthwhile tool for education. Wikipedia is a prime example, where students can simply type in any keyword and gain access to in-depth knowledge quickly and easily.

However, many disagree and feel that technology deprives people of real human interaction. Human interaction teaches people valuable skills such as discourse, debate and empathy. Despite this, human interaction is still possible through the internet and this essay disagrees technology should be dismissed for this reason. For instance, Skype and Facebook make it possible for people to interact in ways that were never before possible.

While the benefits of technology, particularly the internet, allow students to tap in to limitless sources of information, some still feel that people should be wary of this new phenomena and not allow it to curb face to face interaction. However, as long as we are careful to keep in mind the importance of human interaction in education, the educational benefits are clearly positive.

Writing advantages and disadvantages

A common question students ask is how to respond if an IELTS Task 2 description requests the exam taker look at the **advantages and disadvantages** of a topic. Although applying an entirely different essay structure is often suggested, this is not actually necessary. An accurate response can be written using argument or discussion essay structure.

To begin, look at example action words that commonly accompany advantage and disadvantage type questions:

1. Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of this and form an opinion.

or

2. In your opinion, what are the advantages and disadvantages of this topic?

or

3. Do you feel this topic has more advantages than disadvantages?

All three of the above groupings of action words state that an examination of the advantages and disadvantages needs to take place in the student's essay. However, they qualify this examination differently.

In the first example, the student is asked to analyze both the advantages and disadvantages of a topic. Naturally, this would call for a discussion style of essay. The student would use one of their supporting paragraphs to analyze the advantages and the other supporting paragraph to analyze the disadvantages. The student's final opinion would be declared in the conclusion paragraph.

The second example is very similar to the first in that both supporting paragraphs would look at the advantages and disadvantages in turn. But here the student could comfortably share their opinion as a thesis at the beginning of the essay or as a statement of position at the end of the essay. Thus, these action words allow for either essay style.

The third example, however, changes things completely. Here the student is being asked to comment directly on whether the topic has more advantages than disadvantages. Thus, to directly answer the essay question, the student would need to write a concise thesis that states a position on whether the topic indeed 'has more advantages'. The supporting paragraphs would provide evidence proving this thesis by exemplifying the advantages and belittling the disadvantages.

To illustrate how to respond to questions similar to the first and second examples, look at this mock IELTS question and answer:

The advent of the Internet has made it possible for people to work from home. Write an essay looking at the advantages and disadvantages of this professional arrangement. Share personal examples in your essay.

The Internet has revolutionized the world in many different ways. Among these, it has made it possible for people to work from home. This essay will analyze the advantages and disadvantages that arise when a person lives and works in the same place. Following this look, a reasoned conclusion will be shared.

On the one hand, working from home gives people the flexibility to set their own hours, which can allow for the arranging of a schedule that makes a person more productive. For example, a friend of mine freelances as a programmer from home and has discovered he is most productive when he works late at night. As such a schedule would not be possible at a normal 9 to 5 desk job, the positive effects his home office arrangement have on his productivity can be seen. Examples like this clearly show the advantages that can derive from working at home.

However, working from one's abode can often be the cause of mental anguish. For instance, I recall once collaborating with an online team from the comforts of my apartment. Although this arrangement allowed me to make my own schedule, it also meant that I had to constantly be on call, as my co-workers contacted me day and night with their work-related problems. Thus, some jobs done from home may make it difficult for a person to detach themselves from their professional commitments.

The above look illustrates that certain jobs and certain people may be more fitted for the home office arrangement. It is thus recommended that prospective home office workers weigh the pros and cons before engaging such a commitment.

Notice the manner in which this essay fulfills the Task 2 description. Both an advantage and disadvantage are shared and a comment is made on what course of action a person should take regarding this topic.

Task 2-Advantage & Disadvantage

Đề ngày 29/1/2015:

It is now possible for scientists and tourists to travel to remote natural environment, such as South Pole. Do the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?

Đề ngày 4/7/2015

Some people think that young people should be required to do unpaid work helping people in the community. Are disadvantages of this requirement greater than the benefits for the community and individuals?

Many elderly people are no longer looked after by their families but are put in care homes or nursing homes. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this trend?

Nếu theo dõi phần tổng hợp đề thi thật của mình, các bạn sẽ thấy đây là dạng bài phổ biến thứ 3 (sau dạng Opinion và Discussion). Vì thế, khả năng các bạn bị “đính” dạng câu hỏi này cũng không phải là ít.

Nhìn chung dạng Advantage and Disadvantage này khá dễ “xoi”, các bạn chỉ cần (1) phân tích kỹ đề và (2) sử dụng đúng dàn bài là mọi thứ sẽ ok thôi. (Mình chưa nhắc gì tới Grammar và Vocabulary cho từng chủ đề, vì mình sẽ tập trung vào việc phân tích và đưa bạn structure chuẩn thôi)

Phân tích đề

Cũng giống với các dạng khác, các bạn (1) đọc và highlight yêu cầu của bài (thuộc dạng Advantage and Disadvantage), (2) xác định “mặt hại” và “mặt lợi” của vấn đề,

brand storm mặt hại và mặt lợi, và cuối cùng là (3) trả lời “do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?”

Mình sẽ chia và ghi rõ ra từng bước ra để các bạn có thể thấy những bước mình sẽ áp dụng cho dạng bài này.

Ví dụ 1:

Some people think that young people should be required to do unpaid work helping people in the community. Are disadvantages of this requirement greater than the benefits for the community and individuals?

Step 1: Xác định yêu cầu của bài

Are disadvantages of this requirement greater than the benefits for the community and individuals?

Đề bài hỏi là “mặt hại của việc gì đó có lớn hơn mặt lợi của nó đến cá nhân và cả cộng đồng không”
=> chúng ta xác định đây là dạng Advantage and Disadvantage.

Step 2: Xác định “mặt hại” và “mặt lợi” của vấn đề

Some people think that young people should be required to do unpaid work helping people in the community.

Các bạn thấy những phần highlighted lên chính là những keywords, yêu cầu chính của bài.
Chỉ cần đọc những từ này bạn đã xác định được vấn đề. “Người trẻ nên bị bắt làm các công việc không công để giúp người khác” – đây chính là vấn đề.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Giúp được nhiều người- Giảm được sự quá tải ở các public services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Quá tải, không thể tiếp thu kiến thức ở trường- Vì còn thiếu kinh nghiệm và khả năng, nhiều nơi (public service like hospitals) sẽ bị giảm chất lượng khi có youngster làm.

Step 3: Trả lời “do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?”

Bạn nên nhấn mạnh Opinion của bạn là “bạn tin vấn đề này có nhiều mặt lợi hơn” HOẶC “bạn tin vấn đề này có nhiều mặt hại hơn”. Bạn nên chắc chắn là Opinion của bạn phải “clear và relevant”.

Dàn bài (essay structure)

Dàn bài giúp cho các bạn (1) sắp xếp ideas một cách logical và (2) present ideas của mình một cách clear.

Note:

- Những gì đề cập đến trong đề, bạn phải nhắc đến trong essay
- Bạn phải viết rõ idea của mình, trả lời là “I personally believe...”
- Ý nào bạn chọn, hãy viết ở body 2

Một số ví dụ khác

Vi Dữ 2:

Some people think that young people should be required to do unpaid work helping people in the community. Are disadvantages of this requirement greater than the benefits for the community and individuals?

Introduction

It is argued that it should be made compulsory for youngsters to take part in volunteering work to help people. While this suggestion has some drawbacks, it is my opinion that its benefits are much greater.

Body 1

Admittedly, this practice could possess several harmful impacts to both the junior and their community.

- Youngsters may feel distressed when being forced to participate in unpaid work.
- This practice could lead to the poor performance in some public services where the young required to attend.

Body 2

However, I believe that the disadvantages of making community service mandatory are outweighed by the advantages.

- These community jobs help the junior understand the value of labor work and appreciate every single dollar they earn.
- A great number of old and poor people will receive aids, resulting in a decrease of overloaded public services such as hospitals.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it seems to me that the pros of imposing unpaid work on young people far outweigh its cons as mentioned. \

Vi Dữ 3:

It is now possible for scientists and tourists to travel to remote natural environment, such as South Pole. Do the advantages of this development outweigh the disadvantages?

Introduction

It is true that human race can reach faraway places like the South Pole owing to the development of technology. While I accept that this revolution possesses several potential benefits, it is my opinion that its drawbacks are certainly greater.

Body 1

On the one hand, this improvement would bring some benefits to human life.

- It would be a new type of recreational activity.
- Travelling to untouchable habitats helps people, especially scientists, acquire knowledge and conduct research about the nature.

Body 2

On the other hand, I believe that the advantages of being able to travel to remote areas are greater than its benefits mentioned.

- Tourists and scientists can cause serious environmental damage to the isolated places that I go to.
- Visiting those undiscovered areas requires a huge amount of money which could be spent on other more essential sectors.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it seems to me that the positive consequences of being able to visit remote natural environment are outweighed its negative ones.

Try it yourself! (Answers)

The advent of the Internet has made it possible for people to work from home. Do you feel this working arrangement has more advantages or disadvantages? Share personal examples in your essay.

The Internet has revolutionized the world in many different ways. Among these, it has made it possible for people to work from home. Despite the many advantages that may derive from this arrangement, it is felt that working from home is predominantly disadvantageous to the professional. This will be proven by looking at how the home sets professionals up to be both distracted and unable to detach themselves from work.

For one, although working from home may be effective for many, most people are likely to get distracted under these conditions. For example, a former manager of mine once delegated a writing task to me and instructed me to complete it at home. When I went to engage the project, I found it difficult to stay focused in an environment I traditionally relaxed in, and as a result the quality of my work suffered. My experience clearly shows that for people like myself, working from home is disadvantageous to productivity.

In addition to this, the stay-at-home worker often finds it challenging to distance themselves from their work, and this can be mentally exhausting. For instance, a colleague of mine started his own business from home. Within the first few months, he was receiving telephone calls, emails and faxes at all times of the day and night. In the end, he felt forced to migrate this professional pursuit to a rented office apartment simply because it was taking over his life. As this story illustrates, the disadvantages of a home-based job are numerous.

To conclude, despite advantages of lower overhead and independence, working from home has many more drawbacks than favourable points. It is thus hoped that professionals everywhere think carefully before settling on this working arrangement.

As the above essay illustrates, there are occasions when advantage/disadvantage essay questions must be responded to in more of an argument than discussion essay structure. Note the manner in which a thesis is used. Also note the instances of concession that are shared (but not thoroughly discussed) in the essay, which can be a balancing factor in the advantage/disadvantage essay style.

III. Template cho dạng bài "Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?" -

It is true that __ (giới thiệu topic) __. While I accept that ___ can sometimes have a positive effect on the user, I believe that they are more likely to have a harmful impact.

On the one hand, ___ is beneficial in some ways.

However, I would argue that these benefits are outweighed by the drawbacks.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential dangers of ___ are more significant than the possible benefits.

Ví dụ áp dụng:

TOPIC: Some people regard video games as harmless fun, or even as a useful educational tool. Others, however, believe that video games are having an adverse effect on the people who play them. In your opinion, do the drawbacks of video games outweigh the benefits?

ANSWER:

It is true that many people, and children in particular, enjoy playing computer games. While I accept that these games can sometimes have a positive effect on the user, I believe that they are more likely to have a harmful impact.

On the one hand, video games can be both entertaining and educational. Users, or gamers, are transported into virtual worlds which are often more exciting and engaging than real-life pastimes. From an educational perspective, these games encourage imagination and creativity, as well as concentration, logical thinking and problem solving, all of which are useful skills outside the gaming context. Furthermore, it has been shown that computer simulation games can improve users' motor skills and help to prepare them for real-world tasks, such as flying a plane.

However, I would argue that these benefits are outweighed by the drawbacks. Gaming can be highly addictive because users are constantly given scores, new targets and frequent rewards to keep them playing. Many children now spend hours each day trying to progress through the levels of a game or to get a higher score than their friends. This type of addiction can have effects ranging from lack of sleep to problems at school, when homework is sacrificed for a few more hours on the computer or console. The rise in obesity in recent years has also been linked in part to the sedentary lifestyle and lack of exercise that often accompany gaming addiction.

In conclusion, it seems to me that the potential dangers of video games are more significant than the possible benefits.

Causes and effects

Some IELTS Task 2 descriptions will request the student outline the causes and effects of a certain subject. In most cases, the cause and effect essay question is responded to using a discussion essay structure. This essay structure allows the student to objectively look at the causes of a certain subject in the first supporting paragraph and the effects of the same subject in the second supporting paragraph.

Structure of an cause and effect essay

Type 1	Type 2
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction2. Causes3. Effects4. Conclusion : give solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Introduction6. Cause + effect 17. Cause + effect 28. Conclusion : give solutions

The world's air pollution levels are rising year on year. Discuss what you feel are the causes and effects of this disturbing trend.

The growing level of airborne pollutants has proven to be a major obstacle for humanity in the 21st century. To address this issue, encouraging popular understanding is a paramount first step. This essay will examine the major causes and effects of atmospheric pollution.

Firstly, the greatest causes of airborne pollution growth today come as a result of both progression in the developing world and wastage in the developed world. For example, as the affluence of over 2 billion Indian and Chinese people continues to grow, sales of pollution-causing vehicles will move in tandem. As this phenomenon compounds with the tremendous levels of pollution already coming out of the developed world, a recipe for unshrinking levels of air pollution can be seen. Thus, demand for petrol vehicles in the developing world and resource wastage in the developed world can be concluded today's greatest causes of airborne pollutants.

The effects of these airborne pollutants tend to manifest themselves as health issues. For instance, it is estimated that a larger percentage of children have asthma today than ever before in human history. To make matters worse, scientists are now finding air pollution can cause abnormal foodstuffs growth among farming populations the world over, and consumption of these foods has been linked to cancer. Thus, growing asthma and cancer rates are the most chilling effects of the world's rising air pollution.

Following this look, unfortunate trends in the developed and developing worlds are inciting swelling numbers of asthma and cancer sufferers. These are considered to be the most significant causes and effects of the planet's air pollution levels. Thus, controlling byproducts of human activity has to become central to humanity's collective strategy for the 21st century.

In this essay response, the first supporting paragraph is dedicated to describing the causes. The second supporting paragraph is dedicated to the effects. Although several different causes and effects can be shared in each paragraph, it is recommended that students try to shape each paragraph by a theme, as this curbs the chance of the student making structural or grammatical errors. The themes that appear in this essay are (1) lifestyle trends in the developed and developing world and (2) the health issues that result from airborne pollution.

Bài tập:

Give this cause and effect essay an attempt:

All over the world, the number of overweight people is growing. What do you feel are the main causes of this? What are the effects?

Try it yourself! (Answers)

All over the world, the number of overweight people is growing. What do you feel are the main causes of this? What are the effects?

Global obesity rates have been swelling for several decades now. This is a trend that is having devastating effects on populations everywhere. Although often debated, it is felt the food a person eats and the lifestyle they live are the base precursors to this problem. In this essay, a look at these causes and their effects will be made.

Firstly, diet and lifestyle are the two most major catalysts of obesity. Evidence of this can be seen in any developing country. For example, in China, growing affluence has led people to consume more fast food and live more sedentary lifestyles. This trend moves in tandem with a steady growth in the number of overweight people. Thus, as this makes clear, changing dietary practices and levels of activity are at the root of swelling waistlines.

The major effects of this are entirely negative. As evidenced in the United States, growing obesity rates lead to growing rates of diabetes, heart disease and high blood pressure. This has led to the first generation of Americans ever with shorter life expectancies than their parents. Thus, it is clear that these effects need to be countered to enhance the quality of life for future generations.

Following this look at the causes and effects of obesity, it is felt that education is the single most important counter to this problem. Thus, it is hoped schools everywhere encourage children to eat a nourishing diet and practice a healthy lifestyle in an effort to change this disturbing global health trend.

Template viết dạng bài "What are the effects? What are the solutions"

Template:

Introduction: It is true that (giới thiệu topic). Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, XXX can take steps to mitigate these potential problems.

Body 1: As ___(something happens)___, several related problems can be anticipated. The main issue is that ____. Furthermore, _____

Body 2: There are several actions that XXX could take to solve the problems described above. Firstly. Secondly. Finally.

Conclusion: In conclusion, various measures can be taken to tackle the problems that are certain to arise as ___(something happens)___.

Ví dụ:

TOPIC: In the developed world, average life expectancy is increasing. What problems will this cause for individuals and society? Suggest some measures that could be taken to reduce the impact of ageing populations.

ANSWER:

It is true that people in industrialised nations can expect to live longer than ever before. Although there will undoubtedly be some negative consequences of this trend, societies can take steps to mitigate these potential problems.

As people live longer and the populations of developed countries grow older, several related problems can be anticipated. The main issue is that there will obviously be more people of retirement age who will be eligible to receive a pension. The proportion of younger, working adults will be smaller, and governments will therefore receive less money in taxes in relation to the size of the population. In other words, an ageing population will mean a greater tax burden for working adults. Further pressures will include a rise in the demand for healthcare, and the fact young adults will increasingly have to look after their elderly relatives.

There are several actions that governments could take to solve the problems described above. Firstly, a simple solution would be to increase the retirement age for working adults, perhaps from 65 to 70. Nowadays, people of this age tend to be healthy enough to continue a productive working life. A second measure would be for governments to encourage immigration in order to increase the number of working adults who pay taxes. Finally, money from national budgets will need to be taken from other areas and spent on vital healthcare, accommodation and transport facilities for the rising numbers of older citizens.

In conclusion, various measures can be taken to tackle the problems that are certain to arise as the populations of countries grow older.

Language

Cause:

- Since/Because
- Because of/Owing to/Due to (the fact that)
- The reason that.../why.../for... is that...
- This matter/problem... | can be attributed to .../ is resulted from
- ... lead to this prolem...

Effect:

- Thus/Therefore/Consequently.
- As a result/consequence,...
- The result of ... is/would be/could be...
- ... would/could result in

Solutions:

- One possible/notable way to solve/overcome/deal with/mitigate the problem would be/is ...
- People/Goverment/The society/Individuals/ Each individual should focus his/their attention on + Ving.

Example: Each individual should focus his attention on protecting the enviroment.

DOUBLE ACTION QUESTIONS

In double action questions, the student is being instructed to do more than one thing in their response. As there is no set formula for these sorts of questions, it is important the student recognizes that they will need to tailor their essay structure to match what their question is asking.

Structure

1. Introduction:
 - Give the general idea of the topic
 - Answer the 2 questions
2. Body paragraphs
 - Paragraph 1: Support the question 1
 - Describe main idea/opinion
 - Give example to prove
 - Paragraph 2: Support the question 2
 - Describe main ideas/opinions
 - Give example to prove
3. Conclusion
 - Restate the opinions at beginning
 - Give prediction/recommendation/expectation

Typically, one of the two calls to action will ask the student for their opinion on something and this is answerable in a single sentence. This can be done in either the introduction or conclusion paragraphs of the essay, depending on what kind of essay the student is required to write. In these cases, the second call to action can be focused on in the supporting paragraphs. To illustrate this, please refer to the following task description:

In order to improve a country's education system, young students should be allowed to openly criticize their teachers during class time. What is your opinion? What are some other ways education systems could be improved?

Did you notice the two sets of action words? They are:

1. *What is your opinion?*
2. *What are some other ways education systems could be improved?*

The 'do you agree or disagree' portion of the question is asking for the student's position on the subject, and this can be answered in a single sentence.

The ‘what are some other ways education systems could be improved’ question requires a more in-depth response.

In the following example essay, blue and green text has been used to indicate precisely where the essay addresses each of the task’s questions:

In order to improve a country’s education system, young students should be allowed to openly criticize their teachers during class time. What is your opinion? What are some other ways education systems could be improved?

Arguments over how to best improve education systems have been going on since the practice of teaching began. The idea that young students should be allowed to openly criticize their teachers in an effort to better an education system is considered preposterous. The alternatives of altered school scheduling and teacher monitoring through video will be analyzed for viability.

Firstly, modified school scheduling would promote educational benefits in a way that openly criticizing could not. For example, many Scandinavian school boards run education systems that take periodic three-week breaks throughout the academic year instead of an extended two-month break at summertime. Overall, students have just as much holiday time as their peers in traditional school arrangements, but there is not such a long, education-detering break at summer, and this allows students to mentally retain more of their studies. This example is clearly a more plausible alternative to the argument that students should be allowed to criticize their teachers.

In addition to this, schools should consider videotaping classes to both monitor teacher performance and student conduct. For instance, I once taught at a school with this arrangement and this made it easy for the students’ parents to stay attune to both their children’s lessons and conduct during class time. This sort of educational adjustment would do more for improving a child’s education than open student criticism of instructors. Thus, the plausibility of this alternative is clear.

It can be concluded that both scheduling and class transparency would be more positive alterations to the current education system than a system of public ridicule. It is thus hoped these changes gain support in the foreseeable future.

As can be seen, both of the tasks are addressed in the essay, albeit in different sections. The first question is responded to in the thesis, which is amplified in the concluding sentences of each supporting paragraph and the restatement in the concluding paragraph. The second question is answered in the supporting paragraphs.

Try it yourself!

Try responding to this double action question yourself:

The world is heavily dependent on oil for energy, which is unsustainable due to global warming. What future resource do you think will take oil's place? Why do you think this?

Try it yourself! (Answers)

The world is heavily dependent on oil for energy, which is unsustainable due to global warming. What future resource do you think will take oil's place? Why do you think this?

Most would agree that oil will not remain the world's main energy source indefinitely. With major breakthroughs in humanity's ability to harvest power from the sun, it is argued that solar power will one day become a cheaper and healthier alternative to petrol. This will be shown viable by looking at how the price of solar energy per watt has almost decreased to that of oil and how companies producing solar technology have specialized their skill.

Firstly, the power of energy produced by oil is almost equal to that of energy produced by solar wafers. For example, a recent study published in Scientific America magazine predicted that the rising price of oil energy and the falling price of solar energy would meet in 2020. What this means is that from 2020 onwards, it would be more economical for a person to fuel their car using solar energy than it would using oil. As people are driven by price, it is clear how solar energy will take the place of oil as humanity's next major energy resource.

Secondly, as solar technology develops it is becoming a much more versatile energy producer. For instance, traditional solar panels were large, square boards that had to be facing the sun directly to produce energy. Today, solar collectors come in all shapes and can be contoured to fit a range of product designs, from the rounded exterior of a car to the back of an iPhone. This flexibility is yet another reason that illustrates why solar energy is fit to take over oil as the world's top energy source.

After looking at both its increasingly competitive price and versatility, it is clear why solar power will replace oil. For the sake of the world's health, it is hoped this transfer happens sooner rather than later.

Template để viết bài IELTS Writing task 2, dạng "discuss both views and give your opinion".

Introduction: It is true that ...(giới thiệu topic)... While it can be argued that ...(view A)..., I believe that ...(view B)....

Body 1: There are several reasons why (view A)... Firstly. Secondly. Finally.

Despite the above arguments, I believe that ... (view B)...

In conclusion, ...(view A)..., but ...(view B).

Lưu ý:

- Body nào bạn đồng ý thì để sau.
- Cần kỹ năng paraphrase câu hỏi để thể vào những chỗ view A, view B phía trên.

Ví dụ áp dụng:

TOPIC: Several languages are in danger of extinction because they are spoken by very small numbers of people. Some people say that governments should spend public money on saving these languages, while others believe that would be a waste of money. Discuss both these views and give your opinion.

ANSWER:

It is true that some minority languages may disappear in the near future. Although it can be argued that governments could save money by allowing this to happen, I believe that these languages should be protected and preserved.

There are several reasons why saving minority languages could be seen as a waste of money. Firstly, if a language is only spoken by a small number of people, expensive education programmes will be needed to make sure that more people learn it, and the state will have to pay for facilities, teachers and marketing. This money might be better spent on other public services. Secondly, it would be much cheaper and more efficient for countries to have just one language. Governments could cut all kinds of costs related to communicating with each minority group.

Despite the above arguments, I believe that governments should try to preserve languages that are less widely spoken. A language is much more than simply a means of communication; it has a vital connection with the cultural identity of the people who speak it. If a language disappears, a whole way of life will disappear with it, and we will lose the rich cultural diversity that makes societies more interesting. By spending money to protect minority languages, governments can also preserve traditions, customs and behaviours that are part of a country's history.

In conclusion, it may save money in the short term if we allow minority languages to disappear, but in the long term this would have an extremely negative impact on our cultural heritage.

HARDER EXAMPLE:

In order to improve a country's education system, young students should be allowed to openly criticize their teachers during class time. What is your opinion? What are some other ways education systems could be improved?

1. *What is your opinion?*
2. *What are some other ways education systems could be improved?*

The 'do you agree or disagree' portion of the question is asking for the student's position on the subject, and this can be answered in a single sentence. The 'what are some other ways education systems could be improved' question requires a more in-depth response.

In the following example essay, blue and green text has been used to indicate precisely where the essay addresses each of the task's questions:

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Firstly, modified school scheduling would promote educational benefits in a way that openly criticizing could not. For example, many Scandinavian school boards run education systems that take periodic three-week breaks throughout the academic year instead of an extended two-month break at summertime. Overall, students have just as much holiday time as their peers in traditional school arrangements, but there is not such a long, education-detering break at summer, and this allows students to mentally retain more of their studies. This example is clearly a more plausible alternative to the argument that students should be allowed to criticize their teachers.

In addition to this, schools should consider videotaping classes to both monitor teacher performance and student conduct. For instance, I once taught at a school with this arrangement and this made it easy for the students' parents to stay attune to both their children's lessons and conduct during class time. This sort of educational adjustment would do more for improving a child's education than open student criticism of instructors. Thus, the plausibility of this alternative is clear.

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TỔNG KẾT

I. frequently asked questions

Should I indent the paragraphs in my essay?

Indenting is optional on the IELTS exam. Students should, however, skip lines between paragraphs to clearly indicate where one paragraph ends and another begins.

Can I score band 9 with only 250 words in my essay?

Yes. Many students make the mistake of thinking that essays have to be long to impress an IELTS examiner. If you fulfill all sections of your examiner's marking rubric at a band 9 level and you write an essay 250 words or more in length, you will receive band 9.

I have trouble thinking of examples. What should I do?

If you cannot think of a worthy example, make one up. Ensure the example is relevant and delivered in a convincing and grammatically accurate manner. Your examiner is more interested in the quality of your writing than the factualness of your examples.

Can I use personal pronouns in my essay?

This is again a matter of style. Overuse of personal pronouns in your essay will make your writing sound too personalized, and this will cause the style of your essay to suffer. It is best to avoid using personal pronouns unless sharing an example that requires them.

II. Review what you have learned in this book (Answers)

Paragraph 1 – Introduction

Sentence 1 – **Background sentence**

Sentence 2 – Conclusion sentence

Paragraph 2 – First supporting paragraph

Sentence 1 – Topic sentence

Sentence 2 - **Example**

Sentence 3 - **Discussion**

Sentence 4 – Conclusion

Paragraph 3 – Second supporting paragraph

Sentence 1 – Topic sentence

Sentence 2 - **Example**

Sentence 3 - **Discussion**

Sentence 4 - Conclusion

Paragraph 4 – Conclusion

Sentence 1 - **Summary**

Sentence 2 – **Predication or recommendation**

Write an essay in response to this essay question:

Describe some of the problems overreliance on cars can cause and suggest a possible solution.

In the modern world, humanity's reliance on motorized vehicles has reached levels never seen before in history. With the rise of the developing world, these numbers are only going to continue to swell. It is felt that pollution and the draining of world resources are the most serious problems caused by this trend. Carpooling will be argued a feasible response to these challenges.

Firstly, pollution and the reduction of natural resources are major problems caused by human overreliance on cars. For example, the world's collective car exhaust has now dissolved the ozone and raised temperatures so much that certain island nations like the Kiribati may cease to exist. In addition to this, a statistic was recently released stating that there simply is not enough steel in the world to build cars for all of China and India's adults. As these examples show, if humanity's consumption of cars is not curbed, it will have extreme repercussions on both pollution and natural resource levels. Thus, something must be done to stop this development.

A suggested solution to the above is carpooling. In many Western countries, for example, reserved lanes make the practice of carpooling attractive, and this has had substantial effects on the levels of exhaust pumped into the atmosphere every day. Thanks to carpooling, it is estimated that car fumes are almost 10% lower today than 5 years ago in countries like the UK and Canada. As this shows, carpooling could be a plausible solution to humanity's overdependence on motorized vehicles.

Following this look at the challenges and potential solutions to this topic, it is clear that something has to be done in order to reduce the world's reliance on motor vehicles. It is thus hoped carpooling lanes are introduced in all big cities the world over.