

PTE Academic Offline Practice Test

Part 1: Writing



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Writing sections 3-6 contain a number of individually-timed items. Test takers are required to write two summaries and one essay OR three summaries and one essay OR two summaries and two essays.

Section	Item type	Time allowed
Sections 3-4	2 * Summarize written text	20 minutes
Section 5	Summarize written text OR Write essay	10 or 20 minutes
Section 6	Write essay	20 minutes

The practice items are on pages 2-5 and the Answer Key and sample written answers at B1, B2 and C1 levels are on pages 6-8.

This offline test does not have the same functionality as the online test so answers will need to be hand written. If doing the test under timed considerations, only approximations can be applied.

Summarize written text – Item 1

Read the passage below and summarize it using one sentence. Type your response in the box at the bottom of the screen. You have 10 minutes to finish this task. Your response will be judged on the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the key points in the passage.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has released a new report on anthropogenic climate change. The findings of the report include the following:

- The world's average surface temperature has increased by around 0.74°C over the past 100 years (1906 - 2005). A warming of about 0.2°C is projected for each of the next two decades.
- The best estimates for sea-level rise due to ocean expansion and glacier melt by the end of the century (compared to 1989 - 1999 levels) have narrowed to 28 - 58 cm, versus 9 - 88 cm in the 2001 report, due to improved understanding. However, larger values of up to 1 m by 2100 cannot be ruled out if ice sheets continue to melt as temperature rises.
- Sea ice is projected to shrink in both the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Large areas of the Arctic Ocean could lose year-round ice cover by the end of the 21st century if human emissions reach the higher end of current estimates. The extent of Arctic sea ice has already shrunk by about 2.7 per cent per decade since 1978, with the summer minimum declining by about 7.1 per cent per decade.
- Snow cover has decreased in most regions, especially in spring. The maximum extent of frozen ground in the winter/spring season decreased by about 7 per cent in the Northern Hemisphere over the latter half of the 20th century. The average freezing date for rivers and lakes in the Northern Hemisphere over the past 150 years has arrived later by some 5.8 days per century, while the average break-up date has arrived earlier by 6.5 days per century.
- It is "very likely" that precipitation will increase at high latitudes and "likely" it will decrease over most subtropical land regions. The pattern of these changes is similar to what has been observed during the 20th century.

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Write your answer in the box below (5-75 words):

Summarize written text – Item 2

Read the passage below and summarize it using one sentence. Type your response in the box at the bottom of the screen. You have 10 minutes to finish this task. Your response will be judged on the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the key points in the passage.

For millions of years, Mediterranean sea turtles have been coming to the shore of southern Lebanon to lay their eggs. Every summer, their babies hatch and literally run for their lives on the strip of sand that separates their nests from the sea. An endangered species, they had been largely ignored in this part of Lebanon until two women set out to protect them.

Mona Khalil was inspired by a walk on the beach during a visit to her homeland, when she first saw the turtles. Upon learning that they were close to disappearing from her country, Khalil decided to "come back and do something about them."

The next year, 2000, she returned and teamed up with Habiba Fayed, who shares her passion for the environment. They opened a bed-and-breakfast in the Khalil family home to finance their efforts. Guests could simply vacation or, in the spirit of ecotourism, they could help the owners protect the turtles' nests and keep the beach clean.

Female turtles travel to the exact spot where they were born to dig their nests in the sand, laying an average of 70 to 100 eggs. This is the moment when the women intervene. They protect the nests from predators by burying an iron grid in the sand above the eggs. The spaces on the grid are large enough to allow the baby turtles to emerge after a month and find their way to the sea... and to a chance at life.

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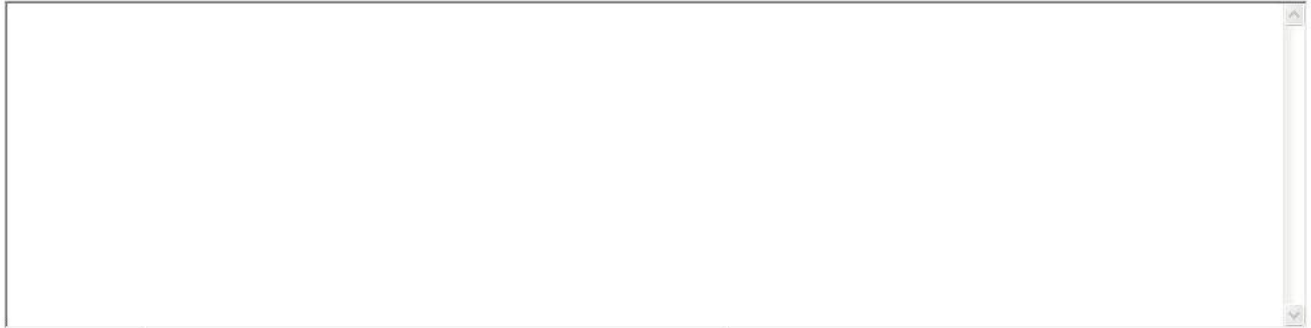
Write your answer in the box below (5-75 words):

Write essay – Item 1

You will have 20 minutes to plan, write and revise an essay about the topic below. Your response will be judged on how well you develop a position, organize your ideas, present supporting details, and control the elements of standard written English. You should write 200-300 words.

Tobacco, mainly in the form of cigarettes, is one of the most widely-used drugs in the world. Over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day. The long term health costs are high - for smokers themselves, and for the wider community in terms of health care costs and lost productivity.

Do governments have a legitimate role to legislate to protect citizens from the harmful effects of their own decisions to smoke, or are such decisions up to the individual?



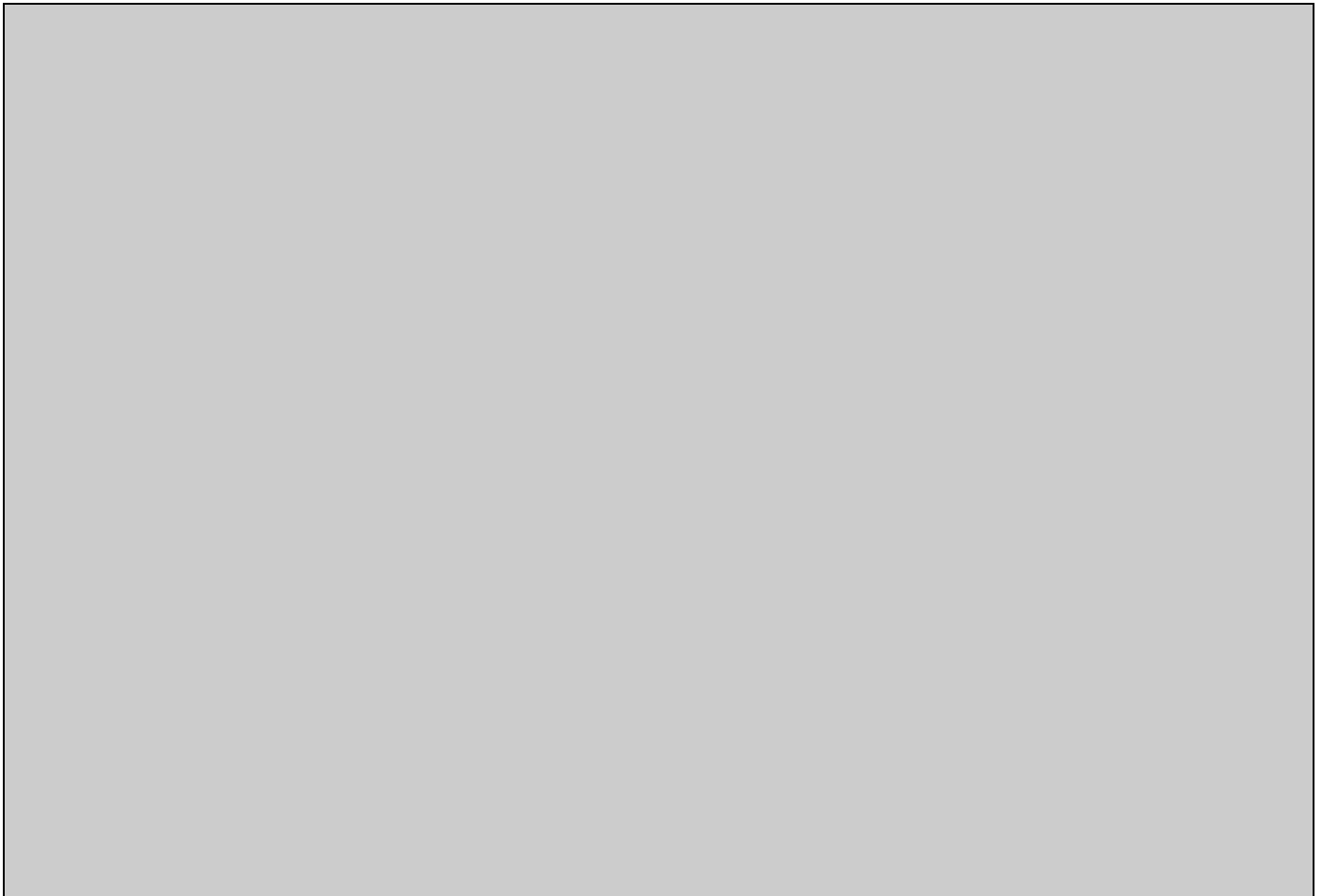
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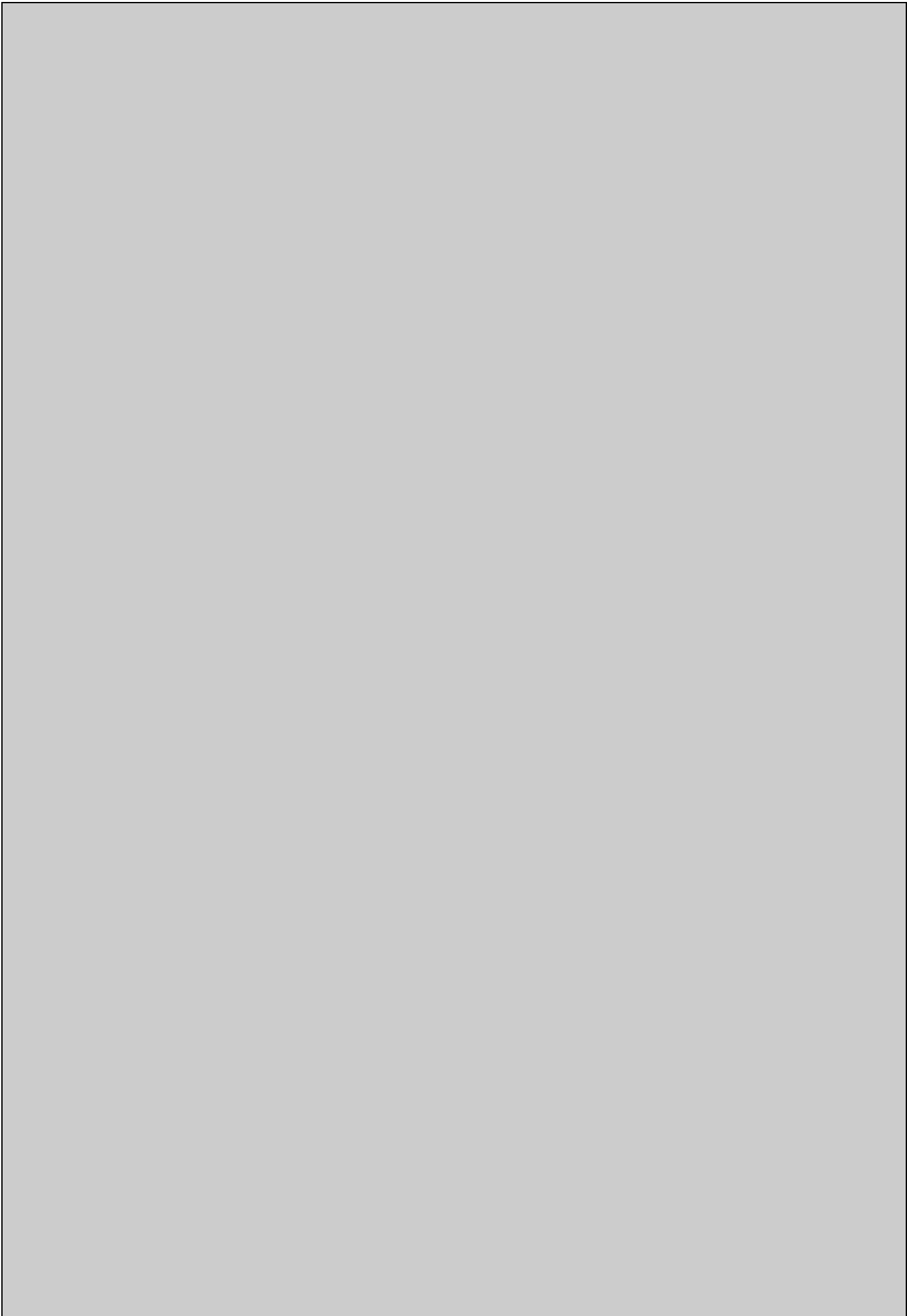
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Write your answer in the box below (200-300 words):





Part 1 Writing: Answer Key

Summarize written text – Item 1

Sample responses

B1

United intergovernmental panel on climate change report that climatic changes in northern hemisphere will cause drastick change in sea current and will raise the sea level.

Explanation: While the response includes one key detail, other information from the passage is omitted or misinterpreted. The response does not receive full credit for grammar because of missing or incorrect use of prepositions and verbs. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. There are three spelling errors. Although weakly constructed, the response is one complete sentence. The word count is 26 words.

B2

Due to the latest report of IPCC about the wordwide climate, Green House Effect has affected the earth severely on various aspects.

Explanation: The summary does not include any supporting points or key details. A minor grammatical mistake prevents this response from receiving full credit for grammar, although the intended meaning of the sentence is clear. The use of "due to" instead of "according to" makes it seem that the IPCC report caused the greenhouse effect. There is one spelling error. The response is one complete sentence of 22 words.

C1

A new UN report finds that increasing surface temperatures around the world are causing rising sea levels, shrinking sea ice and snow cover, and changes in precipitation.

Explanation: The topic has been accurately discussed and the supporting points are included. The vocabulary used is precise. All words are spelled correctly. The response is one complete sentence of 27 words.

Summarize written text – Item 2

Sample responses

B1

For the millions of years the turtles were coming laying their eggs in summer and the babies run seperates their nests, ignoring in war torn until two women set out to protect them and mona khalil saw the turtles and decided to do something so in the end the baby turtle to emerge after a month.

Explanation: While the response includes some main points, other key information from the passage is omitted and information not in the passage is present. This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. The vocabulary is basic. There is one spelling mistake. The response is one sentence of 56 words.

B2

Mediterranean sea turtles which is an endangered species lay their 70 to 100 eggs at the shore of southern Lebanon but now Mona Khalil with her team protecting turtle's egg from dameging or from pradators by buring iron grid in the sand above the nests.

Explanation: The topic has been accurately discussed and the supporting points are included. This response does not receive full credit for grammar because of missing or incorrect use of prepositions and verbs. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. There are three spelling errors. The response is one complete sentence of 45 words.

C1

After millions of years of being endangered in war-torn coast of southern Lebanon, Mediterranean sea turtles were finally protected by two women, Mona Khalil and Habiba Fayed, who opened a bed-and-breakfast and with the help of the guests, protected turtles' eggs by burying an iron grid in the sand above the eggs.

Explanation: The topic has been accurately discussed and the supporting points are included. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with very few grammatical errors. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. All words are spelled correctly and the response is one complete sentence of 52 words.

Write essay – Item 1

Sample responses

B1

Cigarettes is one kind of tobacco which actually is one of the most widely-used drugs in the world. It is common in our everyday lives for that there are so many people smoking. However, nowadays more and more people pay much attention to their healthes, so the concept of "Smoking is unhealthy" is accepted by most people who reject in smoking. But there are still over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day that will costs a lot both for smokers themselves and for the wider community in terms of health care costs and lost productivity. Do governments have a legitimate role to legislate to protect citizens from the harmful effects of smoking? The answer will be yes for most of people. The first, smoking will do harm for smokers' health. The second, somking will do harm for people who are around smokers such as families. And smoking is always a lead of a fire desaster. There are many reasons to restrict smoking. The point is how to do this. We know that every policy will make a consequence. If government shut down the tobacco facotories, it will definitely increase the price of cigarettes which will affect smokers—over a billion people—heavily because they won't change their habit just because there are fewer cigarettes. So I think the government should guide these people not t

Explanation: This essay minimally answers the question on the topic. The details and examples do not follow a well-developed logic that supports the test taker's position on the topic. The essay does not have a good organizational pattern. The introduction rephrases the topic, the body contains minimal supporting points and the conclusion is unfinished. This essay does not receive full credit for grammar usage and spelling because of missing or incorrect use of verbs and nouns. The vocabulary is limited and imprecise. Some words are not appropriate for the context. Spelling errors are numerous. The word count is 227 words.

B2

These days, statistics have shown that all around the world, over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day. Also, these numbers are expected to increase if nothing is done. It takes two to stop the numbers arising and therefore, the government and the smokers have to cooperate to make the country smoke-free.

The government should control the amount of smokers as the rising numbers could cause lost productivity and an increase in the crime rate. Campaigns should be created and advertisements using the mass media can actually help the smokers realize the disadvantages of smoking.

Besides that, smokers should also learn the gruesome facts on smoking. They should also realize that there's more to life than just smoking and that people near and dear to them could be affected from their habit. Studies have shown that people who have family members who are smokers can actually contract diseases such as cancer and other lung diseases.

Moreover, the increase in the number of smokers can actually mean that there would probably be an increase in crime rates as well. Smoking would then lead to other dangerous issues like drugs, prostitution, theft and even murder. Therefore, the government should act immediately to avoid further damage to society.

Certain smokers who want to quit can find it hard to do so and this is when the government's help can come in handy. That is by increasing the age limit for adolescents to smoke, increasing tax on tobacco products to make it a lot more expensive and also to provide support groups for smokers who wish to quit.

In a nutshell, smoking is indeed a problem to the nation and it takes two to work it out. The government and the smokers themselves should work side by side to solve this issue.

Explanation: This essay answers the question on the topic and is well organized. There is a clear introduction, body and conclusion. In the body, the main ideas and details relate to the main point of the essay. However, some main ideas are not well supported with details, examples or explanations. There are obvious grammatical errors in sentences with complex structures. However, most grammatical errors do not hinder communication. Imprecise vocabulary prevents the response from receiving full credit for general linguistic range. The vocabulary range is good and clichés are used sparingly. There are no significant spelling errors. The word count is 299 words.

C1

Tobacco is one of the most widely-used drugs of the world. Over a billion adults legally smoke tobacco every day. Tobacco is slowing taking a billion people in the world towards doom. The long term health costs are high for smokers, who suffer from various heart and lung diseases, reduced concentration and continually diminishing immunity.

Non-smokers, accompanying smokers or those who are in their close vicinity, also become "Passive" smokers and bear the toll of various inevitable diseases as they inhale the smoke which has an ill-effect on their respiratory systems. Thus, the health costs are high—for smokers themselves, and for wider community in terms of health care costs and lost productivity.

There has been awareness among people from many years, about the ill-effects of smoking and various campaigns run by the government, NGOs and local bodies to encourage people to quit smoking but the result have not been impressive. The solution is to nip the problem in the bud. School authorities and parents should keep a close eye so that children don't start to smoke because they think it is "cool". They should be made aware about the harmful effects of smoking.

Government could play a vital role too. Smoking should not be high-hand in advertisements and movie commercials which have a huge impact on people. It could levy high taxes on tobacco products to keep people away from its reach. Rules for checking children buying such products should be made stringent.

The onus to protect from such products also lie on individuals as will-power always does the trick. The knowledge of importance of being healthy has to be realized from within. It goes a long way to check the problem. Thus, the solution requires both legitimate action of Government and strong individual decisions to eliminate the problem.

Explanation: This essay answers the question on the topic. The roles of the government and the individual are well explained and supporting details are provided. There is good development of ideas and a logical structure. The main ideas are introduced in the first paragraph and the test taker's answer to the question is restated in the conclusion. General linguistic range and vocabulary range are excellent. The vocabulary is precise and expresses subtleties and nuances. Idioms are also used appropriately. Minor grammatical errors prevent this response from receiving full credit for grammar usage and mechanics, although the intended meaning of the sentences is clear. Spelling is excellent. The word count is 300 words.

