

PTE Writing Practice test 2

Question 1: Summarize Written Text

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.

American English:

American English is, without doubt, the most influential and powerful variety of English in the world today. There are many reasons for this. First, the United States is, at present, the most powerful nation on earth and such power always brings with it influence. Indeed, the distinction between a dialect and a language has frequently been made by reference to power. As has been said, a language is a dialect with an army. Second, America's political influence is extended through American popular culture, in particular through the international reach of American films (movies, of course) and music. As Kahuna has pointed out, the internationally dominant position of a culture results in a forceful expansion of its language... the expansion of language contributes... to the prestige of the culture behind it. Third, the international prominence of American English is closely associated with the extraordinarily quick development of communications technology. Microsoft is owned by an American, Bill Gates. This means a computer's default setting for language is American English, although of course this can be changed to suit one's own circumstances. In short, the increased influence of American English is caused by political power and the resultant diffusion of American culture and media, technological advance, and the rapid development of communications technology.

Question 2: Write Essay

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 your position, organize your ideas, present supporting details, and control the elements of standard written English. You should write 200 - 300 words.

Tourism is good for some less developed countries, but also has some disadvantages. Discuss.

Sample Answers

Question 1: Summarize Written Text

American English is, without doubt, the most influential and powerful variety of English in the world today. Power has frequently been used to distinguish a dialect from a language. The rapid development of communications technology has been linked to the international predominance of American English. An American, Bill Gates, owns Microsoft, one of the most popular software in communication technology. This means that the computer's default setting for language is American English, though this can be modified to suit one's needs. In short, political power and the transmission of American culture and media, technological advancement, and the rapid development of communications technology contribute to the rising influence of American English.

Question 2: Write Essay

Many believe that tourism has aided and influenced developing countries simultaneously. Over time, many tourists can erode a tourist destination's beauty, distinctiveness, character, environment, resources, and social cohesion. So, while tourism helps developing nations grow their economies, it also has drawbacks that cannot be overlooked. Hence, I shall examine both

the benefits and drawbacks of tourism for developing countries and reach a conclusion.

The primary advantage of tourism is that it encourages the influx of financial resources. The revenue earned can account for a sizable private, municipal, and national income. Apart from that, it employs locals in various industries, including hotels, bars, transportation, activities, stores, and restaurants. Furthermore, it creates international ties, leading to more significant long-term business and cultural cooperation. Additionally, cross-cultural awareness is fostered for locals and visitors and builds bridges of understanding between cultures.

However, tourism has the potential to harm the environment by causing erosion, pollution, the loss of natural ecosystems, and forest fires. Even if visitors act ethically, their sheer numbers might become a problem. Ancient structures, monuments, and temples frequently struggle to keep up with rising traffic and suffer wear and tear. Local customs with a rich cultural past have been reduced to mimics as visitors don costumes and perform in exchange for money.

To sum up, economic benefits, jobs, investment, improvements to transport infrastructure, and a rise in a location's international profile and stature can be attributed to tourism. Over-reliance on tourism might lead to several issues, including cultural site damage and wear, seasonal local employment, and increased social problems.