

IELTS writing (Level 2 - Level 4)

Topic

Write 250 words on the following topic

Drugs are becoming more and more common in many countries. What are some of the problems associated with drug abuse, and what are some of the possible solutions?

Layout

Intro 3 sentences
Problems 7 sentences
Solutions 7 sentences
Conclusion 3 sentences

Total: 20 sentences

Intro	Present situation 1-2 sentences This essay will look at
Problems	Topic Problem 1 Example Problem 2 Example Problem 3 Example Summary
Solutions	Topic Solution 1 More Info Solution 2 More Info Solution 3 More Info
Conclusion	Summary sentence(s) Future

Ideas

Write them down - don't organize yet.

Problems

- Effect on parents, distress, pain
- Effect on family (brothers, sisters, wives, husbands, children)
- Effect on work, productivity, punctuality, career
- Criminal problems, theft, police resources, smuggling, mafia, underworld, gangs
- Medical problems, addiction, death, overdose, driving, irrational decisions or behavior, hospitalization, medical resources, treatment, clinics, detoxification, counselling

Solutions

- Education, schools, awareness, campaigns, choices, advertising
- Counselling, treatment, advice, confidential, helpline
- Communication between parents and children, meals, non-judgmental, firm, close, open communication
- Close family relationships: brothers, sisters, parents
- Employment, meaningful activity, activities in evenings,
- Good environment, leisure, sports, friends
- Expectations

Vocabulary

Spend a minute or two making alternatives and finding synonyms or related words for words in the instructions

- Drug abuse = drug addiction
- Drugs: heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, narcotics, hallucinogenics, marijuana, cannabis, ecstasy, prescription drugs, hard drugs, soft drugs
- Drug user = addict = victims of drug abuse = users
- Drugs = illegal substances
- Smuggling = trafficking
- Dealing = selling
- Dealer = pusher
- Common = widespread, rife, prevalent, ubiquitous
- Solution = solve
- Country = societies, nation, communities

Introduction

Present situation: definition / problems	Drug abuse is rife in many countries. Billions of dollars are spent internationally preventing drug use, treating addicts, and fighting drug-related crime.
Present situation: solutions	Although drugs threaten many societies, their effects can also be combated successfully.
This essay will (Essay outline)	This essay looks at some of the effects of drug use on society, and suggests some solutions to the problem.

Paragraph 2: Problems

Topic Sentence	Drug abuse causes multiple problems for countries and communities.
Medical effects	The medical and psychological effects are very obvious.
Medical Examples 1-2	Addicts cannot function as normal members of society. They neglect or abuse their families, and eventually require expensive treatment or hospitalization.
Crime	The second effect is on crime.
Crime Examples 1-2	Huge police resources are needed to fight smuggling and dealing. Criminal gangs and mafia underworlds develop with the money from drugs.

Paragraph 3: Solutions

Topic Sentence	However, the menace of drugs can be fought..
Education	Education is the first battle.
Education Examples 1-2	Children need to be told at home and in school about drugs. People need to be aware of the effects so that they can make avoid this problem
Police Example 1	A second approach is to increase police manpower and powers to stop dealers and to enforce the law.
User	However the main target should be the user.
User example 1 Example 2	Families and counselors need to talk to children and people at risk. Parents need to look at their children and help them to become responsible. Jobs are needed to give people a role in society.

Conclusion

Topic Sentence	In conclusion,
Summary of essay: problem: solution	although the problem of drugs may seem impossible to eliminate, there are concrete steps that can be taken to weaken the hold of drugs on society.
Future statement	The danger from drugs is too great to ignore.

Final Essay

Drug abuse is rife in many countries. Billions of dollars are spent internationally preventing drug use, treating addicts, and fighting drug-related crime. Although drugs threaten many societies, their effects can also be combated successfully. This essay looks at some of the effects of drug use on society, and suggests some solutions to the problem.

Drug abuse causes multiple problems for countries and communities. The medical and psychological effects are very obvious. Addicts cannot function as normal members of society. They neglect or abuse their families, and eventually require expensive treatment or hospitalization. The second effect is on crime. Huge police resources are needed to fight smuggling and dealing. Criminal gangs and mafia underworlds develop with the money from drugs.

Despite these problems, the menace of drugs can be fought. Education is the first battle. Children need to be told at home and in school about drugs. People need to be aware of the effects so that they can make avoid this problem. A second approach is to increase police manpower and powers to stop dealers and to enforce the law. However the main target should be the user. Families and counselors need to talk to children and people at risk. Parents need to look at their children and help them to Jobs are needed to give people a role in society.

In conclusion, although the problem of drugs may seem impossible to eliminate, there are concrete steps that can be taken to weaken the hold of drugs on society. The danger from drugs is too great to ignore.

256 words