

# PTE Writing Practice Test 19

## 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.

### Question 1

Humankind has an innate desire to liberate from the restriction of mundane existence. Some people follow the paths of spirituality, prayer, meditation while other people follow the paths of art, music, sexual passion, or intoxicating substances to experience a temporarily altered state of consciousness. Since the advent of civilization (Neolithic age), alcohol as an intoxicating substance is being used by Homosapien for fantasies. Liminality is the quality of ambiguity that occurs in the middle stage of rituals (transition) when participants no longer hold their pre-ritual original status and do not reach the final post ritual status. Liminality is associated with tension and danger. Similarly, as human beings, we are also passing thru life-cycle, lifestyle, and habitual transition in our lives. The life-cycle events involve major transformation, a source of anxiety and fear for the human. Alcohol drinking provides a liminal period (a way of passing from the ordered regulation of one form of social context to the less-ordered form of another one) borderline interval segregated from everyday mundane existence.

These ceremonial events (life-cycle, lifestyle, and habitual transition) with their accompanying drinking patterns provide relief to drinkers from the daily boredom and frustrations of life and ease of social tensions. Dissolving hierarchical social classes and gender differences on ceremonial occasions, alcohol is associated with recreation, festivity, and spontaneity. Alcohol is used in life-cycle transitions, lifestyle transitions, and habitual transitions by humankind. Drinking, as a symbolic punctuation mark in our lives, differentiates one social context from another from the cradle to the grave. Drinks define significant transitions in our lives through their symbolic, psychological, and social functions of transition rituals. The type of brand served for drink defines the nature of the event; builds the social relationship and interaction among drinkers.

### Question 2

Though the term Business Intelligence was used sporadically since the 1860s, Howard Dresdner, a Gartner Group analyst, proposed it in 1989. Business Intelligence (BI) is a technology-driven process for analyzing data and presenting actionable information to decision-makers.

BI consists of tools, applications, and methodologies that collect (structured and unstructured raw) data from internal systems and external sources, analyze it, develop and run queries against the data, and prepare reports, dashboards, and data visualizations. Business intelligence consists of data analysis applications, advanced analytics, online analytical

processing (OLAP), cloud and software as a service, BI and location intelligence. BI technology includes data visualization software, which designs infographics and tools to build BI dashboards and performance scorecards for displaying visualized data on business metrics and key performance indicators in it. BI data include historical information and new data generated from source systems. Business intelligence data are stored in a data warehouse or smaller data marts. For unstructured data, log files and sensor data, and other types of data, Hadoop systems are being used within BI architectures as storage for BI and analytics data. By using data integration and data quality tools, raw data from different source systems are integrated, merged and cleansed using in BI applications. Due to the availability of self-service BI and data discovery tools, data analysts, IT professionals, business executives use BI software. BI is used widely in larger business corporations, governments, and NGOs. Business intelligence programs improve decision-making, optimize internal business processes, enhance operational efficiency, and provide competitive advantages over business rivals, and show market trends and business problems that need to be solved.

### **Question 3**

In recent years India is facing a health crisis due to vector-borne diseases like dengue, chikungunya and malaria. Due to similar symptoms like fever, severe body pain, pain behind the eyes and decreased urine output doctors face difficulties in diagnosing them. Both chikungunya and dengue are caused by bites of female Aedes mosquitoes during nights.

Chikungunya affects muscle cells of the body thus causes swelling, excessive joints pain and rashes on the body. Compare to dengue, joint pain is more severe in chikungunya. Dengue occurs when the Aedes mosquito transmits disease from one infected human to another.

In both cases of chikungunya and dengue, patients are administered drugs to subside fever but not painkillers as they are fatal in the initial period.

Malaria a life-threatening disease is transmitted through the bite of an infected Anopheles mosquito which carries the Plasmodium parasite. When this mosquito bites any human, the parasite is released into his/her bloodstream and continues to infect red blood cells.

Moderate to severe chills, high fever, profuse sweating, headache, nausea, and muscle pain are common symptoms of malaria.

Doctors advise patients who suffer from vector-borne diseases to take lots of fluids to prevent dehydration, wear full clothes to cover the body, apply mosquito repellent lotion during sleep, and disallow water stagnation to keep hygienic surroundings near residential areas.

### **Question 4**

Diesel engines have several advantages over petrol engines: Due to the engine's higher temperature of combustion and greater expansion ratio, it has higher fuel efficiency than petrol and turbine engines. Since the diesel engine uses less fuel than the petrol engine per km, it produces less carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per km.

In an absence of coils and spark plug wires, a source of radiofrequency emissions, which can interfere with navigation and communication equipment, the diesel engine is more suitable for marine and aircraft applications.

The low vapor pressure of diesel makes diesel engines immune to vapor lock thus ideal for marine applications. The lack of an electrical ignition system enhances reliability. Compare to petrol engines overbuilt nature of diesel engines imparts durability to the diesel engine.

As diesel is a better lubricant than petrol, it is less harmful to the oil film on piston rings and cylinder bores which occur in petrol-powered engines.

Diesel engines can withstand turbocharging pressure while petrol engines suffer detonation at higher pressure.

Synthetic diesel (biodiesel) can run smoothly in many diesel engines without any modification while synthetic gasoline (ethanol) runs on a modified gasoline engine or use as additives. The only drawback of the diesel engine is unburned hydrocarbons during the combustion which leads to the emission of carcinogenic into the atmosphere.

### **Question 5**

We have everything now a mobile, T.V., Car, Bike, planes, house, and MacDonald's, and much more. But, it was not earlier. The facilities we now were not there. All lived the same lives as animals. There were many trees, roads without traffic, nature without pollution, pleasant sounds, water which was not contaminated and air which was clean. Human beings lived differently. Early human beings were different from us. Their head sloped backward above the eyes and he had a very small forehead. Although they walked on their feet, they were bent forward. Their body was covered with thick hair. They wandered here and there in search for food, they ate the raw flesh of animals and wild fruits. He lived in the open or caves. He did not wear any clothes. However, the two characteristics that distinguished a human being from other animals were their larger brain and their ability to make use of tools with his hands. They made tools and weapons of stone for his protection and to hunt animals. The first tool used by early human beings was merely stone. With their intelligence and nimble hands, they could make effective use of this stone. They then began to sharpen the stone and carried it everywhere with them as a weapon. Remains of the earliest human beings tell us that early human beings did not have only one place of origin. They were living at the same time in many parts of the world. Scientists have divided according to the quality of stone implements used by human beings. They are The New stone age and The Old stone age.

## **Essay Writing**

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.

1. The environment we are living in is in danger due to various problems...so who do you think should be responsible for solving it? Is it the governments, organizations, or each individual?

2. Do you think the consumer should avoid over-packed products or it is the responsibility of the producer to avoid extra packaging of products?" Give your views or any relevant example with your own experience.

3. Large shopping malls are replacing small shops. What is your opinion about this? Discuss with appropriate examples.

4. Communication has changed significantly in the last 10 years. Discuss the positive and negative impacts of this change.

5. People pursue dangerous activities like skydiving, motorcycle sports, white-water river rafting, etc. Do you support it? If yes, why, and if not, why?