

PTE Writing Practice test 8

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.

The Internet:

By 1984, the internet had grown to include 1,000 host computers. The National Science Foundation was one of the first outside institutions hoping to connect to this body of information. Other government, non-profit, and educational institutions followed. Initial attempts to catalogue this rapidly expanding system of networks were simple. Among the first was Archie, a list of FTP information created by Peter Deutsch at McGill University in Montreal. However, the greatest innovation in the Internet was still to come, brewing in an MIT laboratory in Cambridge, Mass. The World Wide Web, or the Web, is often confused with the Internet. In fact, it is just one part of the Internet, along with email, video conferencing, and streaming audio channels. In 1989, Tim Berners-Lee, now a scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, introduced a new system of communication on the Internet which used hyperlinks and a user-friendly graphical interface. His slice of the Internet pie came to be known as the World Wide Web. Berners-Lee says, "The Web is an abstract (imaginary) space of information. On the Net, you find computers –on the Web, you find documents, sounds, videos, information. On the Net, the connections are cables between computers; on the web, connections are hypertext links. The Web exists because of programs which communicate between computers on the Net. The Web could not be without the Net. The Web made the Net useful because people are really interested in information (not to mention knowledge and wisdom!) and don't really want to know about computers and cables."

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.

Some people claim that digital age has made us lazier, others claim it has made us more knowledgeable. Discuss both opinions, use your own experience to support.

Sample Answers

Question 1: Summarize Written Text

By 1984, the Internet had grown to 1,000 host computers. The National Science Foundation was one of the first institutions connected to this body of information. Archie, a list of FTP information produced by Peter Deutsch at McGill University in Montreal, was one of the earliest. The World Wide Web (also known as the Web) and the Internet are frequently confused. In fact, it is just one part of the Internet, along with email, video conferencing, and streaming audio channels. In 1989, Tim Berners-Lee introduced a new communication system on the Internet: the Web. It exists as a result of programs that allow computers on the Internet to connect to the Net. While on the Net, one can find computers, on the Web, one will locate documents, sounds, videos, information.

Question 2: Write Essay

Digital technology has influenced or modified nearly every aspect of our daily life. Contemporary technology makes most people's lives easier and more dignified. However, we cannot deny that technological advancements have significantly impacted the lifestyle of people in numerous ways. In the following paragraphs, I shall discuss both sides of the argument and reach a conclusion.

Primarily, modern technology plays a vital role in improving the quality of our lives. The constant evolution of technology lies at the heart of our civilization. Technology has even allowed students worldwide to acquire education online while keeping their career and family routines intact. It cannot be denied that the internet has proven beneficial for students of all levels when it comes to research and extra studies. Additionally, people have also benefited from new and better machinery since it has made their lives simpler.

Another factor to consider is that today's youth are entirely reliant on technology. People used to refer to a lot of books to improve their knowledge. Unfortunately, now, if we ask someone a topic that is too far outside of their profession, they always have an answer on Google or Wikipedia. Also, today's generation is growing far more sedentary than previous generations. Men's strength has been diminished, causing them to become lazy and reliant on them.

To sum up, though the digital age has a significant influence, and all of these gadgets and technology are increasing people's knowledge and making their lives simpler, it may also have a detrimental effect on their general growth and make them lazier.