

Entrance Examination Guidance: Writing

Examination Overview

- The Writing Examination will consist of a short reading passage with a follow-up question. The reading passage and question below are only a sample. The actual examination will have a similar format to the sample. Applicants must answer the provided question in a short essay format during the examination.
- The essay must be written in English.
- The essay will have a word range of 550-800 words.
- Applicants should give their essay a title, use full sentences, and proper essay format, including paragraphs.

Sample Reading Passage and Essay Question #1

Reading Passage:

Today, many adults and students carry a cell phone, and these cell phones allow the location of the user to be tracked using a GPS navigator built into the phone. The GPS location trackers in cell phones offer various advantages for the user, but they also have some significant downsides. According to the website *Opposing Views*:

"One of the major advantages of having a tracking device in your cell phone is that it allows responders to locate you easily in an emergency. If you dial emergency services on a phone with a GPS tracker the device can provide your location to within several meters, allowing rescue personnel to pinpoint your location and send help quickly. In addition, a tracking device in your phone serves as a way to get a stolen phone back. Finally, GPS-enabled phones allow you to take advantage of location-based social networking in order to provide information about friends in the area, allowing you locate each other and meet up.

However, tracking devices in phones also have their downsides. Companies can take advantage of location-based technology to send ads to your device. Strangers can also use this type of technology to track you. Finally, if you are not careful with your privacy settings, thieves may be able to see where you are when you "check in" at locations and to know when your house is empty."*

Essay Question

Making reference to both the reading above and using your own ideas and experience, address the following questions in a well organized essay of 550-800 words. Explain your answer in detail within the word limit.

Imagine that you own a cell phone and have an option to turn the GPS location tracker on or off. Which setting would you choose and why?

* Adapted from <http://science.opposingviews.com/pros-cons-personal-tracking-devices-cellular-phones-18013.html>