

## IELTS Writing Task 2 Lesson #6

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

**Smoking in public places should be banned.**

**Do you agree or disagree?**

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

### **SAMPLE ANSWER**

Smoking in public places had become a widely disputed issue and many people believe that all public smoking should be banned. Others believe that people should have the right to smoke where and when they choose. I agree that smoking in public should be banned because second-hand smoke has been proven to be just as dangerous as first-hand smoke, so a smoker is not just risking his or her own health, but also all others who share a confined space.

In many countries, people have the freedom to make their own choices about their lifestyle, their diet and their daily routines. Therefore, when they are confronted with new rules which limit their choices, they object to the changed laws. If smoking were banned in public places, people used to smoking wherever they chose would feel that they were losing a piece of their freedom. In this case, that restriction is warranted, however because smoking in public places, they are causing a health risk not just to themselves but to everyone around them.

Smoking not only causes health problems for the smoker, but also for people who breathe the second-hand smoke. In fact, second-hand smoke has been proven to double the risk of lung cancer and emphysema for non-smokers if they are exposed to smoke in a confined space over a five-year period. Therefore, by smoking in public places, smokers are not just damaging their own health, but also causing significant risk to those around them.

In conclusion, I agree that smoke should be banned in all public places because second-hand smoke is almost as dangerous as first-hand smoke. People should have the right to maintain their health when they go to bars and restaurants, and should not be subjected to the health risks imposed by someone else's habit.