

PTE Practice Test

English with Confidence



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PTE® Preparation Test

Reading Practice

Section 1 – Summarise Written Text

Write a single sentence summarising the main point of each text.

1. **Passage 1**

Hybrid working—where employees split their time between home and the office—has surged in popularity since 2020. Proponents say it boosts work–life balance and reduces commuting stress, while critics warn it can weaken team cohesion and make spontaneous collaboration harder.

2. **Passage 2**

Vertical farming uses stacked layers of crops in controlled indoor environments to maximise yield per square metre. Although start-up and energy costs are high, proponents argue it offers a sustainable solution to urban food security and cuts transportation emissions.

3. **Passage 3**

Streaming services now account for the majority of global music consumption, eclipsing both downloads and physical sales. While this model gives consumers vast libraries at low cost, many artists report that per-stream royalties remain too low to sustain careers.

Section 2 – Essay

Write an essay on each prompt.

4. **“Governments should prioritise funding for renewable energy over fossil-fuel infrastructure.”**

Discuss advantages and disadvantages, and give your own view.

5. **“Social media does more harm than good.”**

To what extent do you agree or disagree? Provide reasons and examples.

Section 3 – Multiple Choice, Single Answer

Choose the one best answer.

6. **Passage A**

Electric scooters are becoming the go-to for short urban trips. Cities that have embraced them report lower car traffic and improved air quality—but also a rise in sidewalk clutter and occasional safety concerns.

Question 6: What is the main downside of e-scooter adoption mentioned?

- a) Overly expensive rentals
- b) Sidewalk clutter and safety issues
- c) Insufficient battery life
- d) Lack of user education

7. **Passage B**

Telehealth consultations surged during the pandemic, offering patients remote access to medical advice. Many patients appreciate the convenience and reduced travel time, though some worry about the quality of care without a physical exam.

Question 7: Which benefit of telehealth is highlighted?

- a) Improved diagnostic accuracy
- b) Reduced need for prescriptions
- c) Convenience and less travel
- d) Lower technology costs

8. Passage C

Biodegradable packaging materials—made from plant starches or algae—promise to cut plastic waste. However, high production costs and limited composting infrastructure have slowed widespread adoption.

Question 8: Why hasn't biodegradable packaging become mainstream?

- a) It isn't actually compostable
 - b) Customers dislike its appearance
 - c) Production costs and infrastructure gaps
 - d) It damages recycling plants
-

Section 4 – Multiple Choice, Multiple Answers

Choose **two** correct answers.

9. Passage D

Urban cycling infrastructure—bike lanes, secure parking, and traffic-calming measures—can transform city travel. Studies show that well-designed bike networks reduce congestion, lower emissions and improve public health.

Question 9: According to the passage, good cycling infrastructure can:

- A. Reduce road traffic congestion
- B. Increase the cost of car ownership
- C. Lower urban air pollution
- D. Discourage public transport use
- E. Boost citizens' physical fitness

10. Passage E

Remote internships have grown in popularity, allowing students worldwide to gain real-world experience without relocating. Employers value the diverse perspectives, but managing time-zones and ensuring meaningful mentorship remain challenges.

Question 10: Which TWO benefits of remote internships are mentioned?

- A. Global talent pool access
- B. Guaranteed full-time offers
- C. Diverse student perspectives
- D. Uniform working hours
- E. Lower stipend requirements

11. Passage F

Wearable health trackers can monitor heart rate, sleep and activity levels. When linked to smartphone apps, they provide personalised insights, goal-setting reminders and community challenges to keep users motivated.

Question 11: Which TWO features do trackers offer?

- A. Live video coaching
 - B. Personalised activity insights
 - C. Sleep pattern monitoring
 - D. 24/7 medical diagnosis
 - E. Community challenges
-

Section 5 – Re-order Paragraphs

The sentences below have been jumbled. Write the correct order (e.g. 2-4-1-3).

12.

- (1) The app automatically tracks steps and suggests daily goals.
- (2) After launch, user feedback led to improvements in the interface.
- (3) In beta testing, participants reported the interface was confusing.
- (4) Today it boasts over one million downloads worldwide.

13.

- (1) Organic cotton farming uses 91% less water on average than conventional methods.
- (2) Critics point out that yield per hectare can be lower without synthetic fertilisers.
- (3) Many brands now label their T-shirts as “organic” to appeal to eco-conscious shoppers.
- (4) Supporters argue the environmental benefits outweigh the cost premium.

14.

- (1) Blockchain technology underpins most cryptocurrencies by creating tamper-proof ledgers.
- (2) Enthusiasts claim it can revolutionise supply-chain transparency across industries.
- (3) Detractors warn of high energy consumption from the mining process.
- (4) Major corporations are exploring private blockchains for secure data sharing.

Section 6 – Fill in the Blanks (Reading)

Complete each gap with one word.

Passage G

Many coastal cities are exploring **(15)** barriers and restored wetlands to defend against rising sea levels. These nature-based solutions not only absorb storm surges but also create habitats for **(16)** species. Unlike concrete walls, they can **(17)** and adapt over time, offering a more **(18)** and cost-effective approach. Funding remains a **(19)**, however, as initial restoration costs can be high.

Section 7 – Fill in the Blanks (Reading & Writing)

Use one word per gap from the box.

Word bank: facilitate generate interact process unified visualise

Passage H

Modern data dashboards allow teams to **(20)** complex metrics in real time. By pulling from multiple sources into a **(21)** interface, they **(22)** decision-makers to spot trends quickly. Built-in analytics **(23)** alerts when anomalies occur, and integrated chats let users **(24)** without switching apps. Ultimately, these platforms aim to **(25)** faster, data-driven actions.

Answer Key

Section 1 – Summaries

1. Online/offline work balance improves employee wellbeing but can weaken team cohesion without in-person contact.
2. Vertical farming stacks controlled-environment crops to boost urban yield but has high start-up and energy expenses.
3. Streaming dominates music distribution yet pays artists low per-stream royalties.

Section 3 – MC Single

6. b
7. c
8. c

Section 4 – MC Multiple

9. A, C
10. A, C
11. B, C

Section 5 – Re-order

12. 3 – 1 – 2 – 4
13. 3 – 1 – 4 – 2
14. 1 – 3 – 4 – 2

Section 6 – Blanks (Reading)

15. natural
16. native
17. evolve
18. resilient
19. barrier (or “challenge” – accept either if context fits)

Section 7 – Blanks (Reading & Writing)

20. visualise
21. unified
22. facilitate
23. generate
24. interact
25. process