Demo School
IELTS Writing Centre

IELTS Writing Evaluation Report

Anonymous sample | Task 2 | Academic

TASK QUESTION

Some people think that the best way to reduce traffic congestion in cities is to increase the price of fuel. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

STUDENT'S RESPONSE

Traffic congestion has become a serious problem in most of the big cities around the world. Some people are of the opinion that raising the price of petrol is the most effective solution, I am of the belief that this measure alone will not solve the problem because people still need to travel and the real cause is the lack of alternatives.

On one hand, it is true that higher fuel prices can discourage some drivers. When petrol become more expensive, people think twice before using their car for short trips, and some of them start to share cars with their collegues. In one country , for example, when the goverment removed the fuel subsidy in a past year, the number of cars on the roads decreased a little in the first months. This example shows that price has an affect on the behaviour of drivers.

On the other hand, the majority of people drive because they have no other choice. In many cities the public transport is slow, crowded and unreliable, so a lot of workers can not depend on it to reach their jobs on time. If the fuel becomes more expensive, these people will simply pay more and continue driving, which means the traffic stays the same and families have less money for other things. Moreover, higher prices affect the poor people much more than the rich, who will not change their habits.

In conclusion, although increasing fuel prices may reduce traffic slightly, I believe it is unfair and not enough on its own. Governments should invest in a modern public transport system first, because only when people have a real alternative they will leave their cars at home.