

Discuss with a partner:

Alternative forms of transport should be encouraged and international laws introduced to control car ownership and use.

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Writing Skills:

Paragraphs

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1. Divide the report into paragraphs.

2. Highlight the topic sentence of each paragraph.

Since the introduction of the car over 100 years ago, the number of vehicles on the road has increased year after year. This has provided people with an independent form of transport, but now there are just too many cars in cities around the world. As a result, most major international cities have problems with traffic congestion and air pollution. Two possible solutions to these problems are developing alternative forms of transport and introducing international laws to restrict car ownership and use. Governments should encourage people to use public transport to reduce traffic and pollution in cities. Local councils could subsidise buses and trains so that more commuters will use them. If they did this, fewer people would drive to work and this would improve both traffic flow and air quality. National governments also have a role to play. By increasing the taxes on cars and petrol, they can discourage people from buying or overusing cars. International laws may offer additional solutions to the problem of car pollution. In the 1990s, most countries signed the Kyoto Protocol, which was an agreement to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Although this agreement was not legally binding, it was an important step towards reducing the quantity of greenhouse gases in the air. Last year's release of the movie "An Inconvenient Truth" was another positive step. This movie warned people of the dangers of global warming and put pressure on politicians around the world to introduce environmentally friendly laws. In conclusion, the number of cars on the road causes serious traffic and pollution problems. However, we can solve these problems by encouraging people to use public transport and by co-operating with other countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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Paragraph 1: Background information Topic sentence: alternative transport & International laws Paragraph 2: alternative transport Paragraph 3: International laws Paragraph 4: Problem: Alternative transport & International laws	Since the introduction of the car over 100 years ago, the number of vehicles on the road has increased year after year. This has provided people with an independent form of transport, but now there are just too many cars in cities around the world. As a result, most major international cities have problems with traffic congestion and air pollution. Two possible solutions to these problems are developing alternative forms of transport and introducing international laws to restrict car ownership and use. Governments should encourage people to use public transport to reduce traffic and pollution in cities. Local councils could subsidise buses and trains so that more commuters will use them. If they did this, fewer people would drive to work and this would improve both traffic flow and air quality. National governments also have a role to play. By increasing the taxes on cars and petrol, they can discourage people from buying or overusing cars. International laws may offer additional solutions to the problem of car pollution. In the 1990s, most countries signed the Kyoto Protocol, which was an agreement to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Although this agreement was not legally binding, it was an important step towards reducing the quantity of greenhouse gases in the air. Last year's release of the movie "An Inconvenient Truth" was another positive step. This movie warned people of the dangers of global warming and put pressure on politicians around the world to introduce environmentally friendly laws. In conclusion, the number of cars on the road causes serious traffic and pollution problems. However, we can solve these problems by encouraging people to use public transport and by co-operating with other countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
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Word Count: 283