

Two Issues on Government Intervention

English Effective Communication

PROCEDURE

Divide the class into pairs. Give each student a copy of either the A or B reading sheets. The students read the short articles silently by themselves and use a dictionary or consult the teacher if they don't understand a word or phrase. After the students have read and understood the articles, the teacher takes the articles away. Then student A will communicate what was in A's article to student B, and student B will communicate what was in B's article to A. Then all of the students take a test to see how much information they were able to communicate.

Too Fat for Our Own Good

One of the biggest health issues of the last 100 years is obesity. Everywhere around the world, people are weighing more than in the past. An important question is whether or not the government should intervene and help people to be thinner.

Some people argue that the government shouldn't intervene. What people eat is a matter of personal choice. It is none of the government's business.

But obesity does cost the government and so other people argue that *it is* the government's business. Obesity is the main

Addicted to Death

One of the biggest health issues of the last 100 years is smoking. Everywhere around the world, people are addicted to tobacco. An important question is whether or not the government should intervene and force people to quit smoking.

Most smokers recognize that a ban on smoking in public places is fair because smoking can harm other people. However, they feel that smoking in the privacy of their own homes is nobody's business but their own. They don't want the government to intervene.

cause of heart disease, which kills more people than aids and war combined. Treating these people costs the government lots of money in health care.

One way the government can intervene is through taxation.

The government can put a tax on foods that are high in sugar or fat. Higher prices on fast food and junk food will discourage people from eating it. And the tax money the government gets can be used for health care and public awareness campaigns.

Another way the government can reduce obesity is to ban junk food in schools. If people eat less junk food as children then they

But smoking does cost the government and so other people argue that it is the government's business. Smoking causes cancer and heart disease. Treating these diseases costs the government lots of money in health care.

One way the government can intervene is through taxation. The government can put a tax on cigarettes. Higher prices on cigarettes will discourage people from smoking. And the tax money the government gets can be used for health care or for public awareness campaigns.

Another way the government can intervene is to ban smoking. Some people think this limits our

are less likely to eat junk food as adults.

freedom too much, and so the ban on smoking in most places is only for children. Many governments also ban any advertising for cigarettes.

Too Fat for Our Own Good

What is the title of the article?

What is one of the biggest health concerns of the last 100 years?

What is an important question?

What do some people argue?

What do other people argue?

What problem does obesity cause?

What does heart disease kill more people than?

What are two ways the government can reduce obesity?

Addicted to Death

What is the title of the article?

What is one of the biggest health concerns of the last 100 years?

What is an important question?

How do smokers usually feel?

What do other people argue?

What two diseases does the article mention?

(a)

(b)

(a)

(b)

What can the government use the tax money for?

Why is it important to stop children from eating junk food?

What is one way that the government can reduce smoking?

What can the government use the tax money for?

What are two kinds of bans that many governments use to reduce smoking?

(a)

(b)