

[Note: This is a shortened extract from a Part 2 IELTS exam text about the risks of cigarette smoke.]

Type 3. Identifying Writers Claims (Yes/No/Not Given)

The Risks of Cigarette Smoke

In recent times, scientific research has been providing evidence that years of cigarette smoking vastly increases the risk of developing fatal medical conditions.

Smoking, it is believed, is responsible for 30 per cent of all deaths from cancer and clearly represents the most important preventable cause of cancer in countries like the United States today.

As an illustration of the health risks, in the case of a married couple where one partner is a smoker and one a non-smoker, the latter is believed to have a 30 per cent higher risk of death from heart disease because of passive smoking.

It has been calculated that 17 per cent of cases of lung cancer can be attributed to high levels of exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke during childhood and adolescence.

A more recent study by researchers at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) has shown that second-hand cigarette smoke does more harm to non-smokers than to smokers.

Questions 1 – 4

Do the following statements reflect the claims of the writer in the reading passage?

In boxes 1-4 on your answer sheet write

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| YES | <i>if the statement reflects the claims of the writer</i> |
| NO | <i>if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer</i> |
| NOT GIVEN | <i>if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this</i> |

- 1 Thirty per cent of deaths in the United States are caused by smoking-related diseases.
- 2 If one partner in a marriage smokes, the other is likely to take up smoking.
- 3 Teenagers whose parents smoke are at some risk of getting lung cancer at some time during their lives.
- 4 Opponents of smoking financed the UCSF study.