**Form 1A**

**Passage I: US Smoking Rate Declines, but Poor Remains at High Risk**

Smoking, the leading cause of \_\_\_1\_\_\_death in the United States, continued to \_\_\_2\_\_\_ last year, federal health authorities \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_ Thursday, with the share of American adults who smoke dropping to 16.8 percent, down from 17.8 percent in 2013.

Smoking has been one of the \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_ public health successes of recent history. Nearly half of all Americans smoked in the 1960s, but a broad push against the \_\_\_\_5\_\_\_, starting with the surgeon general’s \_\_\_\_6\_\_\_ in 1964, helped bring rates \_\_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_. The rate has dropped by about a fifth since 2005, when it was 21 percent.

But the national numbers \_\_\_8\_\_\_ deep trouble spots within the American population. About 43 percent of less \_\_\_9\_\_\_\_Americans smoked in 2014, compared with just 5 percent of those with a graduate degree. About a third of Americans insured by [Medicaid](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/health/diseasesconditionsandhealthtopics/medicaid/index.html?inline=nyt-classifier), the [health insurance](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/health/diseasesconditionsandhealthtopics/health_insurance_and_managed_care/index.html?inline=nyt-classifier) program for the poor, \_\_\_10\_\_\_, compared with 13 percent of Americans with private insurance.

1. A. premature 5. A. campaign 9. A. healthy

B. preventable B. event B. obese

C. accidental C. habit C. active

D. tragic D. belief D. educated

1. A. thrive 6. A. statement 10. A. smoked

B. suffer B. report B. quit

C. decline C. warning C. died

D. grow D. endorsement D. recovered

1. A. promoted 7. A. even

B. examined B. steady

C. warned C. surge

D. reported D. down

4. A. brightest 8. A. show

B. popular B. bring

C. false C. mask

D. remaining D. create

# Passage II: School vs. Society in American’s Failing Students

The perennial debate about the \_\_1\_\_\_ of public education starts with a single, seemingly \_\_\_2\_\_\_ fact. American students sorely \_\_3\_\_\_ their peers in other rich nations and even measure up \_\_\_4\_\_\_ compared with students in some less \_\_5\_\_ countries.

[Americans \_\_6\_\_\_](http://www.oecd.org/pisa/keyfindings/PISA-2012-results-US.pdf)more than halfway down from the top in the last round of the so-called PISA standardized tests in math, \_\_\_7\_\_\_in 2012 by the [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/organizations/o/organization_for_economic_cooperation_and_development/index.html?inline=nyt-org) to 15-year-olds in about 60 countries. They scored about a third of the way down in reading and almost halfway down in science.

The \_\_\_8\_\_\_ performance has \_\_\_9\_\_ a belief that American public education — the principals and teachers, the \_\_10\_\_\_ and procedures — is just not up to scratch. There must be something wrong when the system in the United States falls short where many others succeed.

1. A. state 5. A. advanced 9. A. delivered

B. investment B. hardworking B. reinforced

C. population C. populated C. won

D. merit D. known D. dismissed

1. A. unassailable 6. A. succeeded 10. A. tests

B. appalling B. knew B. schools

C. hesitating C. scored C. methods

D. amendable D. tested D. students

1. A. accelerate 7. A. graded

B. measure B. administered

C. lag C. passed

D. fail D. proved

1. A. slowly 8. A. exuberant

B. carefully B. impressive

C. recently C. incomprehensible

D. poorly D. lackluster