

IELTS

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**PRACTISE
3 TYPES OF WRITING
with
Answers & Model Essays**

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City Press

IELTS Writing

This module is different for academic and general training format. In the academic module, the candidate will have to explain a diagram in Task 1 and respond to an argument in Task 2. In the general training module, the candidate needs to write an article in Task 1 and write an essay in task 2. This section is for 60 minutes.

REFERENCES

Many thanks to the authours of the following books and websites

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Tips to write a good reference letter

Letters of recommendation are used to gather additional information about a candidate for employment, graduate study or other opportunity and should tell how well an applicant accomplished what is laid out in the applicant's résumé or CV. If a writer cannot think of supportive information to include in the **reference letter**, they should decline the applicant's request for a recommendation, be candid, be helpful, and suggest another writer (if possible).

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Content of a reference letter

The language of the **recommendation letter** should be formal and in the writer's best prose. It is always better to write a **letter of recommendation (LoR)** on a letterhead. It should give an overall picture of the candidate's:

- Personal characteristics
- Performance
- Experience
- Strengths
- Capabilities
- Professional promise

Recommendation letters must try to avoid vague statements and any statements of opinion should be clearly identified and explained. Faint prose and unflattering remarks about the applicant can have negative implication and may destroy the applicant ability to obtain the position/ award.

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Parts of recommendation letter

The **letter of recommendation** should be about one page in length and generally consist of three parts: opening, body, and closing.

In the opening of the **LoR** the writer should explain the relationship between himself/ herself and the candidate as well as why the letter is being written. For example: *Bill Jones completed his student teaching under my supervision. I am pleased to be able to provide a letter recommending him for a position as a teacher.*

The writer may want to describe the type of experience, length, and time period during which he/she worked with the candidate. He may also wish to describe any special assignments or responsibilities that the candidate completed.

The body of the recommendation should provide specific information about the candidate. Information may include:

1. Personal characteristics such as poise, confidence, dependability, patience, creativity, etc.
2. Teaching abilities such as knowledge of the subject area, problem solving abilities, ability to manage students, ability to work with colleagues and parents, curriculum development, etc.
3. Specific areas of strength or special experiences. The candidate may have some exceptional strengths such as a very high energy level or excellent communication skills. A candidate may also have a specific area of knowledge or experience such as a strong background in science, an undergraduate degree in another area or related work experience in education, a research project, coaching, extracurricular activities, etc.

The closing of the reference letter should briefly summarize previous points and clearly state that you recommend the candidate for the position, graduate program or opportunity they are seeking.

The recommendation letter should be written in language that is straightforward and to the point. Avoid using jargon or language that is too general or effusive.

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[Education Loan for Study abroad-Whom to approach](#)

Employer Letter of recommendation v/s Academic Letter of recommendation

Letters from employers should contain information such as the positions the applicant has held with the organization; a summary of the applicant's job responsibilities; the applicant's strengths, skills, talents, initiative, dedication, integrity, and/or reliability; the applicant's ability to work with a team; and the applicant's ability to work independently.

Recommendation letters from faculty should address the applicant's academic performance, honors and awards, initiative, dedication, integrity, willingness to follow school policy, ability to work with others, and/or ability to work independently

Sample of a recommendation letter:

I was Tom Smith's cooperating teacher during his student teaching assignment the Spring 2002 semester. Tom completed sixteen weeks of student teaching in seventh grade social studies under my supervision. I am pleased to be able to write a letter of recommendation for Tom.

During Tom's student teaching experience, he was highly motivated to learn as much as he could and perform to his best capacities. He frequently put in long hours to develop lesson plans and monitor student progress. He asked for feedback on a daily basis and accepted constructive criticism with maturity. He understood his limitations as an inexperienced teacher and observed experienced teachers closely in order to improve his own teaching abilities.

Tom has several strengths but his main strength, from my observations, is his ability to motivate students. He always seemed sincerely interested in their progress and presented new material in a way that captured their attention. For example, he had a group of students map out a "road-trip" across the United States. The students had to plan the trip to include a given number of state and national parks, major cities, and historic battle sites. The students really dived into the project. Tom consistently displayed this type of creativity in planning lessons and motivating students. He soon learned that the best way to manage a classroom is to keep students on-task with projects that were both interesting and challenging. He also did a good job of recognizing when a student needed special assistance or attention.

In summary, Tom displayed the qualities that make a teacher successful. He is dependable, motivated, and is in tune with the needs of his students. He works well with colleagues and administration and is able to learn from those around him. I highly recommend him for a teaching position.

IELTS Sample Charts (IELTS Writing Task 1)

The **Writing Task 1** of the **IELTS Academic test** requires you to write a summary of at least 150 words in response to a particular graph (bar, line or pie graph), table, chart, or process (how something works, how something is done). This task tests your ability to select and report the main features, to describe and compare data, identify significance and trends in factual information, or describe a process.



IELTS Writing Task 1 #85

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The table below shows the number of medals won by the top ten countries in the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

| London 2012 Olympic Games Medal Table | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|------|--------|--------|-------|
| Rank by Gold | Country | Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
| 1 |  United States | 46 | 29 | 29 | 104 |
| 2 |  China | 38 | 27 | 23 | 88 |
| 3 |  Great Britain | 29 | 17 | 19 | 65 |
| 4 |  Russia | 24 | 26 | 32 | 82 |
| 5 |  South Korea | 13 | 8 | 7 | 28 |
| 6 |  Germany | 11 | 19 | 14 | 44 |
| 7 |  France | 11 | 11 | 12 | 34 |
| 8 |  Italy | 8 | 9 | 11 | 28 |
| 9 |  Hungary | 8 | 4 | 5 | 17 |
| 10 |  Australia | 7 | 16 | 12 | 35 |

Source: <http://www.london2012.com/medals/medal-count/>

IELTS Writing Tip

When you write about a chart or table you will receive marks for organising and describing all the information. You will not receive marks for giving reasons for the information or giving your opinion about the information (but you will not lose marks if you do this). As you have limited time and number of words, write about the information only.

Model answer

The table shows the number of medals won by the top ten countries in the London 2012 Olympic Games. The USA won greatest number of medals overall with the total of 104. They won more gold medals than silver and more medals than any other country in both categories. China had the second number of medals at 88, and like the USA, China won fewer silver medals than gold medals.

While Russia's silver medal total was better than Great Britain's, they did not do as well as Great Britain in the gold medals, winning just 24. In fact Great Britain had a lower overall medal total than Russia but, as the table is based on the number of gold medals won, they were placed third. Similarly, Germany was significantly more successful at winning medals than South Korea, with a total of 44 compared to South Korea's 28, but because South Korea won two more gold medals than Germany they were ranked higher. Australia gave the worst performance in this group, winning only seven gold and sixteen silver medals.

(178 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #86

IELTS Tip

Always use the present tense to describe a table, unless it contains information about a time in the past or past dates, e.g. years, are used as categories.

Complete the description of the table using an appropriate word, words or number.

| reasons for shopping at ASDA supermarket | no. of men | no. of women |
|--|------------|--------------|
| close to home | 25 | 20 |
| good reputation | 17 | 22 |
| 24-hour shopping | 4 | 0 |
| parking facilities | 21 | 20 |
| friendly staff | 6 | 6 |
| competitive prices | 14 | 17 |

The table shows the main reasons why ASDA is a popular supermarket for shoppers. The top three reasons are its **location / closeness to home**, its reputation and its parking facilities. Of these, the most important reason why men shop at ASDA is that the shop is close to their home – **25** men rated this as an important factor. **Women**, however, prefer ASDA to other supermarkets mainly because **it has a good reputation / of its reputation**. They rated the location of the supermarket second. A significant number of both men and women also choose to shop at ASDA because **it has / of the / of its** good parking facilities.

The women **felt / said / thought / considered** this was as important as the location of the supermarket. On the other hand, the attitude of the staff does not seem to be an important

factor as only six women and six men rated this highly. Surprisingly, almost no one said they prefer to shop / shopping at ASDA because it is open 24 hours a day.

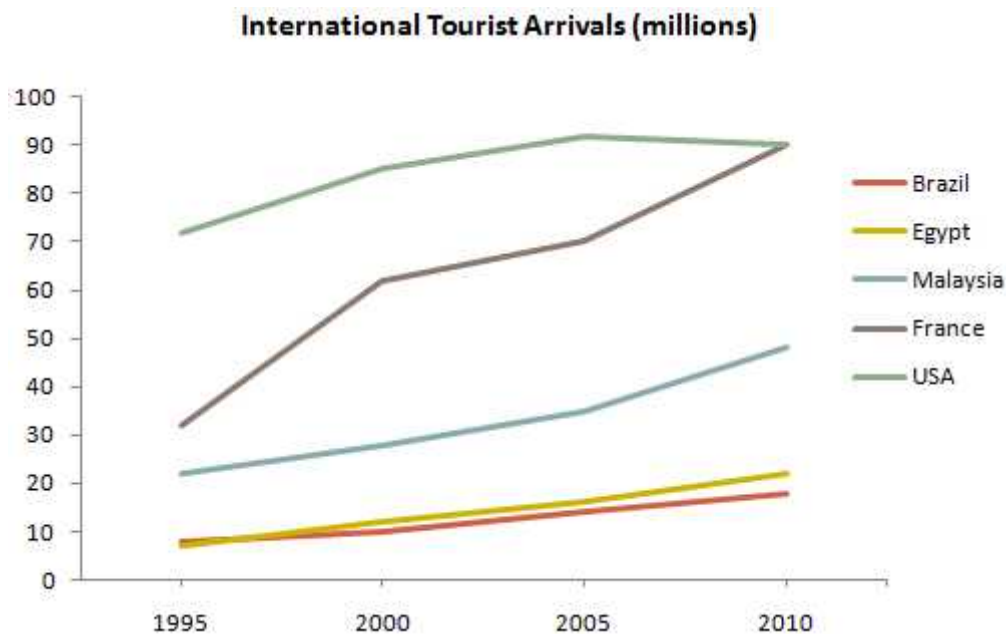
IELTS Writing Task 1 #87

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below gives information about international tourist arrivals in five countries.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Model answer

The graph shows the overall numbers of tourist arrivals in five countries between 1995 and 2010. In 1995 over 70 million tourists visited the United States, more than twice as many as the next most popular destination shown, France. However, between 2005 and 2010 there was a decrease of approximately 1,500,000 in the numbers going to the United States whereas there was an increase of nearly 20 million tourists visiting France. The result was that in 2010 the number of tourists arriving in the United States and France was almost equal at around 90 million each.

The number of tourists visiting Malaysia rose steadily over the whole period but by 2010 the total was still under 50 million. The countries with the fewest tourist arrivals were Brazil and Egypt. The number of tourists going there was similar between 1995 and 2000 but after that there was a greater increase in tourists going to Egypt than to Brazil.

(157 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #88

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the total number of minutes (in millions) of telephone calls in Finland, divided into three categories, from 1995 – 2004.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Model answer

The chart shows the time spent by Finland's residents on different types of telephone calls between 1995 and 2004.

Local landline calls were the highest throughout the period, rising from 12000 million minutes in 1995 to just under 17000 million in 2000. After peaking at 17000 million the following year, these calls had fallen back to the 1995 figure by 2004.

National and international landline calls grew steadily from 6000 million to 10500 million at the end of the period in question, though the growth slowed over the last two years.

There was a dramatic increase in mobile calls from 250 to 9800 million minutes. This rise was particularly noticeable between 2000 and 2004, during which time the use of mobile phones tripled.

To sum up, although local landline calls were still the most popular in 2004, the gap between the three categories had narrowed considerably over the second half of the period in question.

(155 words)

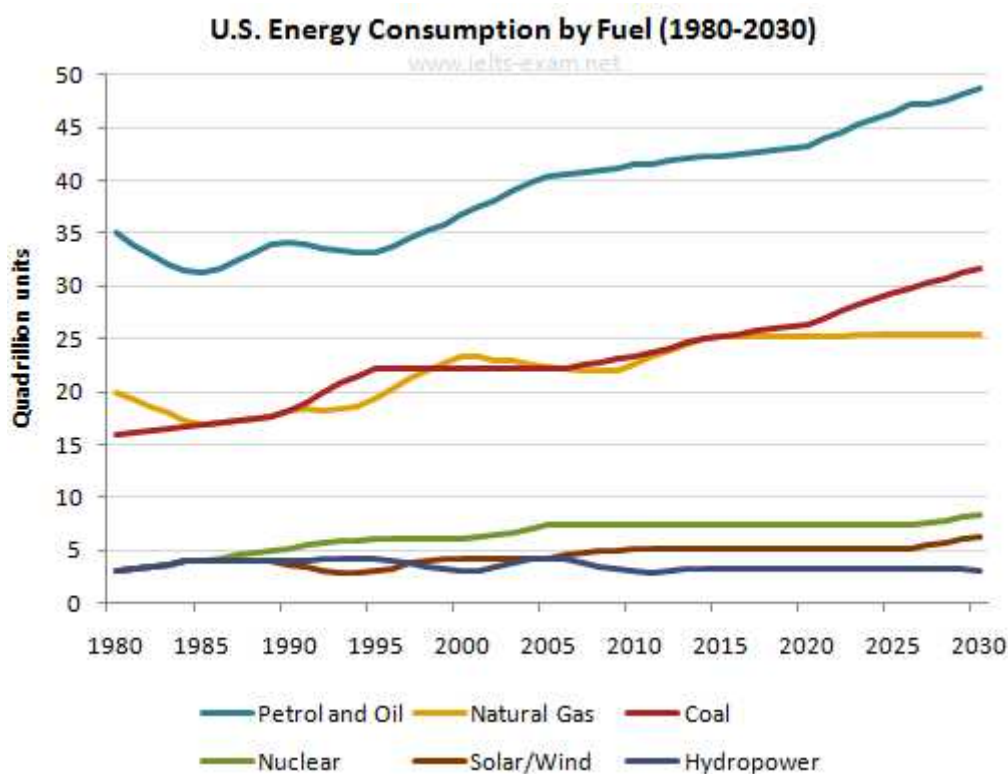
IELTS Writing Task 1 #89

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below gives information from Annual Energy Outlook 2008 about consumption of energy in the USA since 1980 with projection until 2030.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Source: [http://www.eia.gov/oiaf/aeo/pdf/0383\(2008\).pdf](http://www.eia.gov/oiaf/aeo/pdf/0383(2008).pdf)

Exam Tip

The verb Tell can be used to refer to a chart/graph: *The graph tells us how much energy was consumed.* However, it is better to use language that is more impersonal: *The graph shows how much energy was consumed.* You should not use Say to talk about charts/graphs: *From the graph I can say how much energy...*

Model answer

The graph shows consumption of energy in the U.S. since 1980 with projections through 2030.

The historical trends show Petrol and Oil as the major sources of fuel, rising from 35 quadrillion (35q) units used in 1980 to 42q in 2012. Despite some fluctuation between 1980 and 1995, there was a steady increase, which is expected to continue, reaching 47q in 2030.

Consumption of energy from natural gas and coal followed a similar pattern over the period. From 20q and 15q respectively in 1980, gas showed an initial fall and coal a gradual increase, with the two fuels equal between 1985 and 1990. Consumption has fluctuated since 1990 but both now provide 24q. Coal consumption is projected to rise to 31q in 2030, whereas after 2014, natural gas is forecast to remain stable at 25q.

In 1980, energy from solar/wind, nuclear, and hydropower was the least-used, with only 4q. Nuclear has risen by 3q, and solar/wind by 2. Since 2005, hydropower has fallen back to the 1980 figure. It is expected to remain approximately constant through 2030, while the others are projected to rise gradually after 2025.

Overall, fossil fuels will remain the chief energy source for the US, with a little bit of hydroelectric, nuclear and a smidgen of renewables like wind and solar.

(215 words)

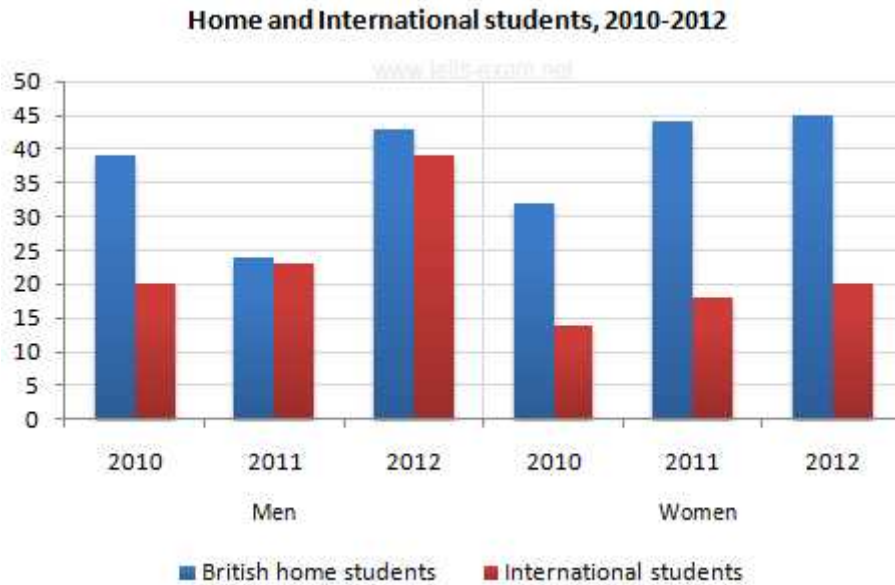
IELTS Writing Task 1 #90

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The bar chart below gives information about the number of students studying Computer Science at a UK university between 2010 and 2012.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Model answer

The bar chart illustrates the number of male and female students studying Computer Science at a UK university over three years. It also indicates whether they were home or international students. Compared to the number of home students, the number of international students was significantly smaller. Nevertheless, there was clear statistical growth in the latter group from 2010-2012. Furthermore, the number of female home students eventually overtook the number of males from the same group, reaching a high of 45 in 2012.

The year 2011 saw the most dramatic developments; the number of male home students fell from just below 40 to 24 and the number of females rose from 32 to 44. There was also significant growth in the number of male students from overseas, climbing from 20 in 2010 to 39 in 2012. Overall, we can see an upward trend in the number of students at the university.

(150 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #91

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

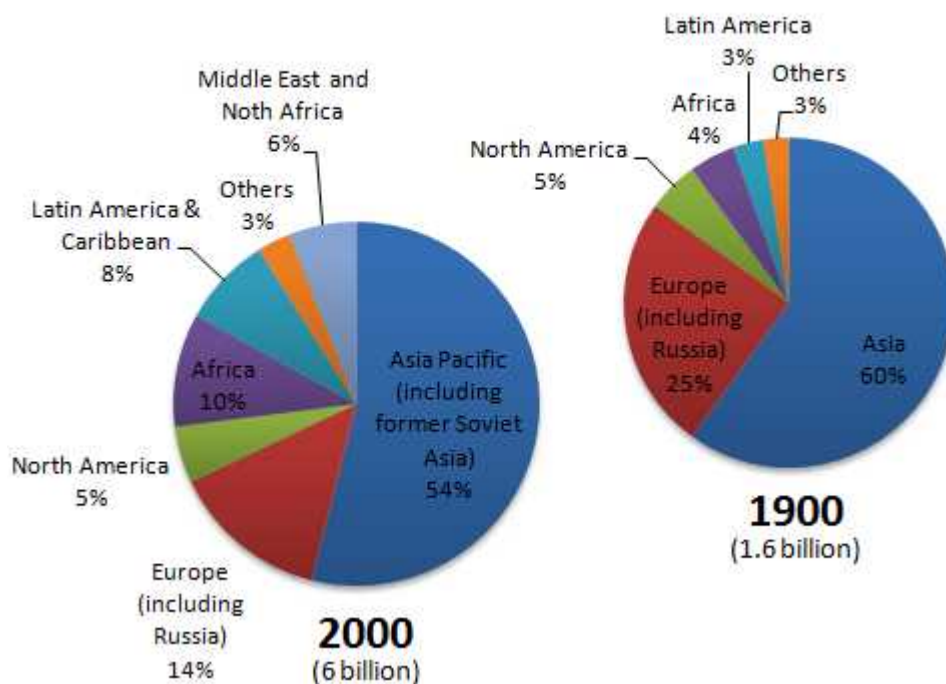
The pie charts below give information about world population in 1900 and 2000.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

World population by region, 1900 and 2000

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Writing Tip

We can use either present simple tense or past simple tense when describing data in pie charts.

Whichever tense you choose, remember to be consistent throughout your whole answer.

Model answer

The pie charts illustrate changes in the population of different areas of the world between 1900 and 2000. The major regions are represented as percentages of the total world population.

From 1900 to 2000, the percentage of people living in Africa more than doubled from 4.5% to 10%, while Latin America's proportion almost tripled in the same period. On the other hand, the percentage of population in Europe and Asia decreased over the last century. Europe's percentage dropped from 25% to 14%, while Asia declined from 60% to 54%. North America's percentage however, remained constant at 5% in 1900 and 2000. The Middle East and North Africa, a new category in 2000, represented 6% of world population.

Overall, this represents a huge increase in the number of humans on the planet, from 1.6 billion to 6 billion in just one century. Most of this population growth has occurred in developing countries.

(151 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #92

IELTS Tip

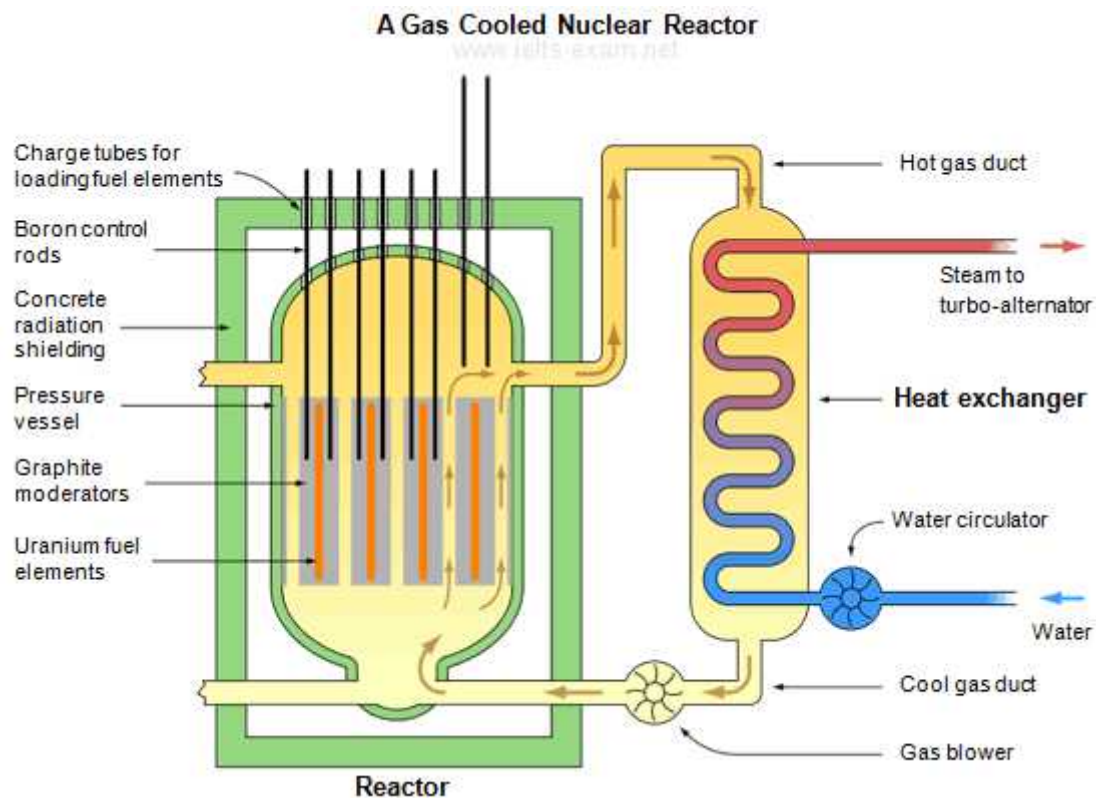
- 1) Look carefully at the diagram and make sure you understand what it is about.
- 2) Use your answer sheet to make notes on, but remember to cross them out when you have finished your answer.
- 3) Begin your answer by writing a summary sentence to introduce what the diagram or flow chart is about.
- 4) Note that the passive is often used in this task.
- 5) Count approximately how many words you write.
- 6) You should try not to write too much!

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows the production of steam using a gas cooled nuclear reactor.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Model answer

A gas-cooled nuclear reactor consists of the reactor itself and a heat exchanger. The reactor contains uranium fuel elements which are surrounded by graphite moderators and topped by charge tubes for loading fuel elements, and boron control rods. The whole reactor is contained in a pressure vessel

surrounded by a concrete shield.

From the reactor the hot gas flows through a duct into the heat exchanger which is outside the concrete radiation shielding. In the heat exchanger, steam is generated in a secondary loop. There a pipe brings in water which is heated to steam, and this then flows out to the turbo-alternator. Meanwhile the hot gas sinks to the bottom of the heat exchanger and passes through a gas blower which pushes it into a cool gas duct and back to the reactor.

As can be seen, this is a continuous cycle that keeps the reactor from overheating, while carrying away the heat and steam, which will power the turbines.

(161 words)

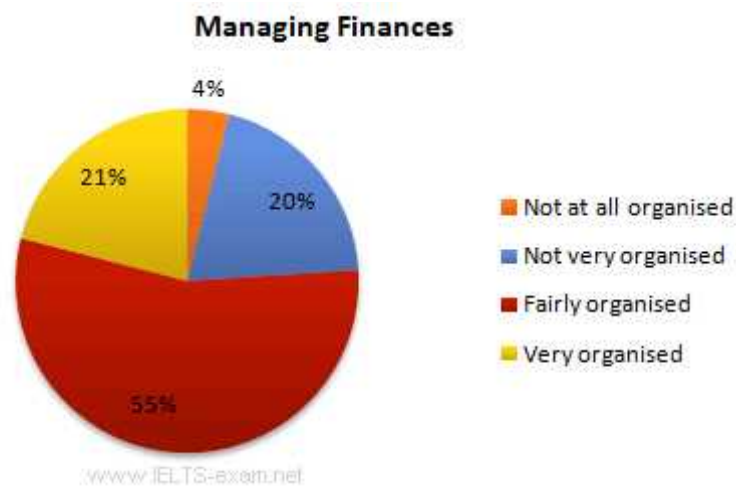
IELTS Writing Task 1 #93

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagrams below show UK students' responses to the question of to what extent would they describe themselves as financially organised.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



| | Very organised % |
|--------------------|------------------|
| All students | 21 |
| Age up to 22 years | 18 |
| Age 23-25 years | 26 |
| Age over 26 years | 35 |

Source: <http://www.unite-group.co.uk/binaries/MungoBlobs-1350377092294.pdf>

Test Tip

In IELTS Writing Task 1, you do not need to describe all the information given. To *summarise*, you must *select the main features* from what is shown. Information is often given in the form of a graph, a chart, or a table. Read any headings, key and sources for the data to understand what it relates to. The data may show differences or changes over time, between places, or between groups of people. Try to identify significant contrasts, similarities, or trends.

Model answer

The two diagrams show students' responses to the question of how good they are at managing their finances. The pie chart illustrates the ability of UK students to manage their finances and the table shows the proportion of students, by age, who think they are very organised at managing their finances.

More than three-quarters of students (76%) believe they are either 'very' or 'fairly' organised financially, while one in five (20%) say they are not very organised in this area. Only 4% of students rate themselves as 'not at all' competent.

The ability to manage one's finances well would seem to develop with age and experience as older students are almost twice as likely to say they are 'very' organised than younger ones (31% of students aged 26 or over compared to just 17% for those aged up to 22).

Overall, the findings suggest that students generally manage their finances well.

(151 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #94

Test Tip

You only have 20 minutes to do Writing Task 1, so make sure the points you include are:

Relevant – you will waste time and lose marks if you don't follow the instructions. Don't speculate or add your own opinions.

Not repetitive – don't say the same thing in different words, or write similar sentences about all the figures. Describe something different in every point. Make comparisons and describe trends rather than focus on individual numbers.

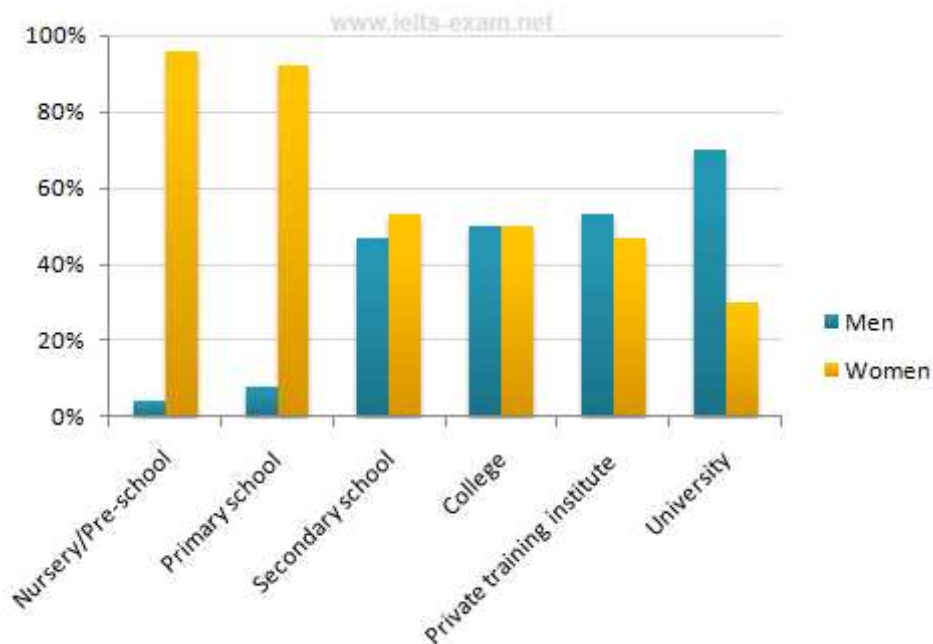
Accurate – giving the wrong information loses marks, so study the question carefully and interpret data or diagrams correctly.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the percentage of male and female teachers in six different types of educational setting in the UK in 2010.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Model answer

The bar chart gives information about the gender of teachers in six types of educational institutions in the UK in 2010. It shows what percentage of teachers was male and what percentage was female.

Women dominated the teaching profession in primary education, but less so at lower and upper secondary education. It was particularly true of nursery school, where the share of female teachers was above 95%. Similarly one-sided was the situation in primary school, where over 90% of teachers were also female.

At secondary and upper secondary level this pattern was less pronounced, where there were nearly equal proportions of male and female teachers. On the other hand, male teachers outnumbered female teachers in high-level education, where the proportion of men was twice that for women.

Overall, the higher the level of education, the more male teachers dominated, and the reverse occurred with respect to female teachers.

(150 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #95

Test Tip

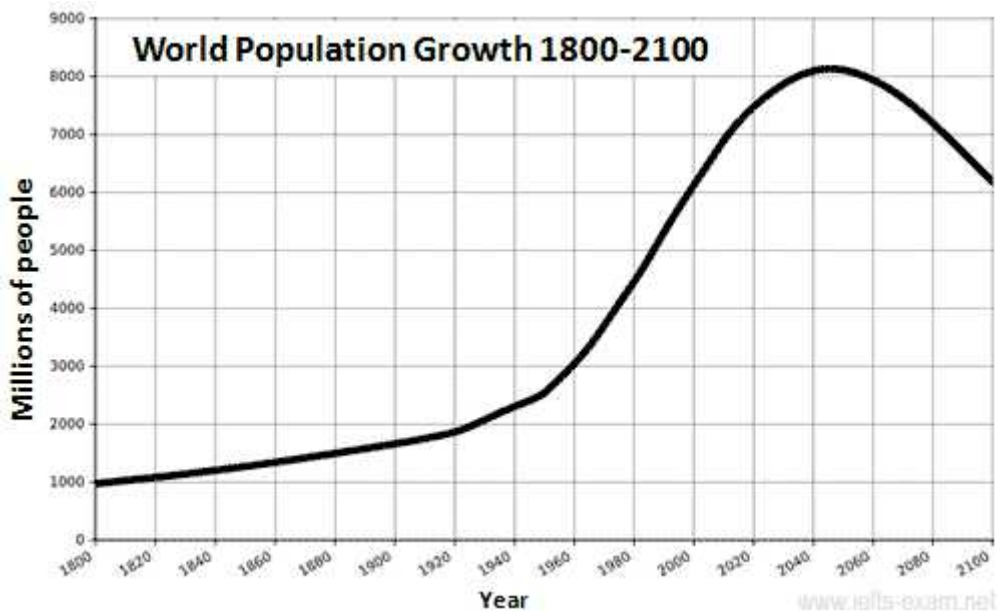
If there is more than one diagram, study any heading, key or source for each. Decide what the vertical and horizontal axes measure, and what the bars show. Look for similarities, differences, changes and trends.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

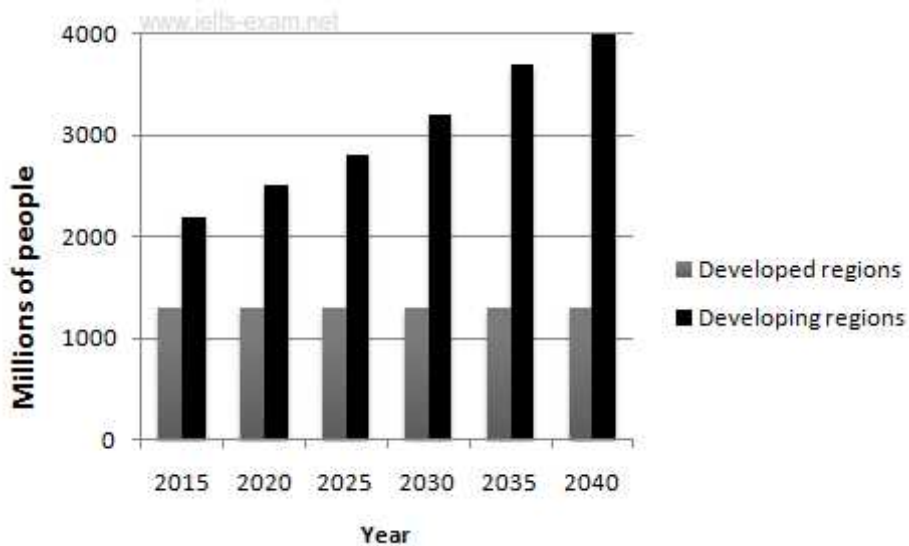
The graphs below provide information on global population figures and figures for urban populations in different world regions.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_population



Model answer

The first graph shows the trend in world population growth between 1800 and 2100, while the second graph gives predicted urban population figures for the next 25 years.

The world population has experienced continuous growth since 1800. Between 1800 and 1950, the population grew slowly from just under 1 billion to 2.5 billion people. After that, the growth rate increased and currently the figure is around 6.5 billion. Projections show a continued increase in population in the near future, but a steady decline in the population growth rate. The global population is expected to peak at 8.2 billion by 2050, and then decline to around 6.2 billion by 2100.

The predictions also show that almost all urban population growth in the next 25 years will occur in cities of developing countries. In developed regions, on the other hand, the urban population is expected to remain unchanged at about 1.3 billion people over the next two decades.

The graphs show that the global population increase will not occur evenly throughout the world, but will be greater in some areas than others.

(180 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #96

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The table below presents the number of children ever born to women aged 40-44 years in Australia for each year the information was collected since 1981.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Number of children ever born, Women aged 40–44 years

| <i>year</i> | <i>None</i> % | <i>One</i> <i>child</i> % | <i>Two</i> <i>children</i> % | <i>Three</i> <i>children</i> % | <i>Four or</i> <i>more</i> <i>children</i> % |
|-------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2006 | 15.9 | 13.2 | 38.3 | 21.5 | 11.0 |
| 1996 | 12.8 | 11.3 | 38.2 | 24.6 | 13.1 |
| 1986 | 9.7 | 8.7 | 35.6 | 27.0 | 18.9 |
| 1981 | 8.5 | 7.6 | 29.0 | 27.4 | 27.6 |

Source: ABS Births Australia 2001, 2006 (3301.0)

Test Tip

You should 'signpost' general statements, i.e. introduce them with expressions such as:

The table/pie chart/graph/etc. shows...

The most significant change...

Another noticeable trend...

Overall...

You must also support general statements with detailed information from the table/graph/etc.

Model answer

The table shows the number of children born to women aged 40–44 years in Australia in 1981, 1986, 1996 and 2001.

In 1981, women aged 40–44 years were only marginally more likely to have had two children than three children (29% vs 27.4%) or four or more children (27.6%). Similarly, by 1986, women of this age were considerably more likely to have given birth to two children than three children (35.6% vs 27%) or four or more children (18.9%).

In 1996 and 2006, the proportions of women aged 40–44 years who had given birth to two children were almost identical, though the proportions who had given birth to three children or to four or more children had decreased. In these more recent periods, women were more likely to have had two children than three or more children - a trend that was most marked in the most recent period (38.2% vs 24.6% in 1996; 38.3% vs 21.5% in 2006).

While two-child families now predominate, the number of women who had given birth to only one child increased progressively from 7.6% in 1981 to 13.2% in 2006.

In 1981, similar proportions of women aged in their early forties were childless or had given birth to only one child (8.5% and 7.6% respectively). By 2006, 15.9% of women were childless and 13.2% had given birth to only one child.

Overall, by age 40–44 years, the proportion of women who have had three or more children has fallen considerably since the 1980s, while the proportions who have had no children, or only one or two children has increased.

(266 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #97

Test Tip

Vocabulary: Do not confuse **ton** and **tonne**. A ton is the same as 1.016 tonnes. In American English a ton is 2000 pounds.

Grammar: Use adverbs to make your comparisons more exact.

To emphasise a difference, you can use: *many, much, far, and significantly.*
The amount of waste material being recycled in 2011 was much more than in 1985.

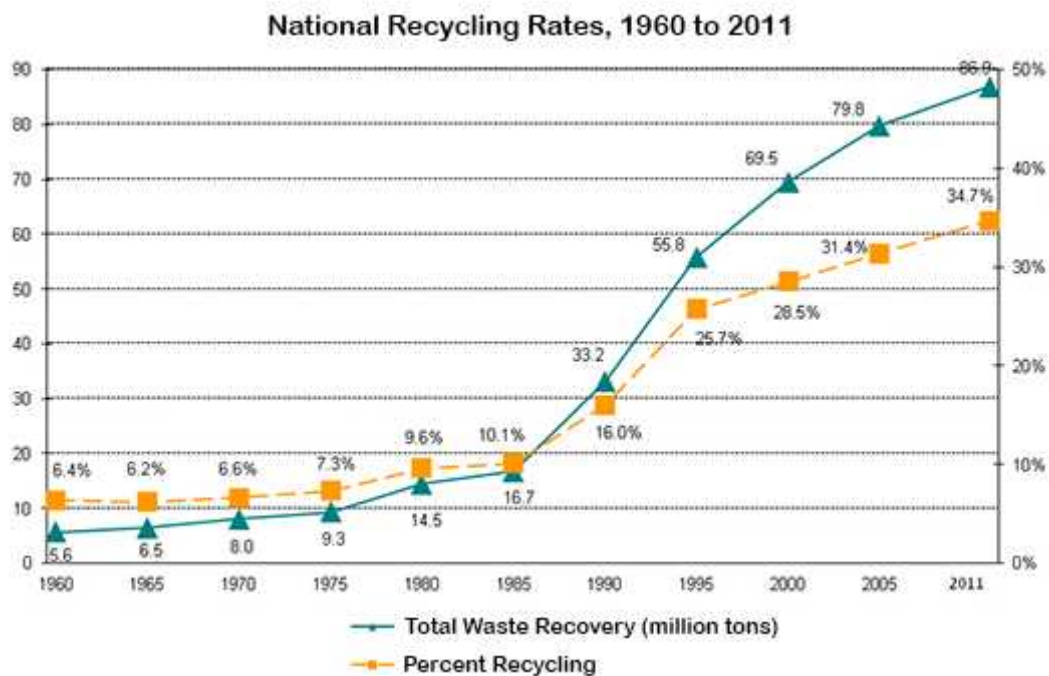
For small differences you can use: *slightly or nearly as ... as.*
The percentage of garbage being recycled in 1970 was slightly higher than in 1960.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows waste recycling rates in the U.S. from 1960 to 2011.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Source: <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/facts-text.htm#chart3>

Read the following sample answer. Complete the answer by filling the gaps with the correct form of the words in the box. Some words can be used more than once.

- | | | |
|-------|---------|-------------|
| sharp | triple | peak |
| reach | steady | from |
| rise | compare | significant |

The graph depicts waste recycling rates in the U.S. **from** 1960 to 2011, in both percentage and tons.

Between 1960 and 1970, the percentage of garbage being recycled annually remained relatively **steady** at just over 6%. It then **rose** slightly over the next 15 years to 10.1% in 1985.

On the other hand, the amount of garbage being recycled **tripled** during the same period, from 5.6 million tons in 1960 to 16.7 million tons in 1985. Following this **sharp** increase, the amount of waste material being recycled has risen **significantly** between 1985 and 2011 when it **peaked** at 86.9 million tons.

Similarly, the recycling rate continued to grow **sharply** from 1985 to 1995, and then at a slower rate over the next 15 years until it **reached** a peak of 34.7% in 2011. However, this figure is still disappointing **compared** to the total amount of waste being recycled each year.

(150 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #98

Test Tip

Do not copy information from the question paper, use your own words. Make sure that you describe the most important information and that your figures are accurate.

When describing trends in the IELTS test it is best to use:

- the simple past to talk about 'finished' time, e.g. in 1950, last year.
- the present perfect to talk about 'unfinished' time, e.g. since 1950, ever, this year
- a future tense to talk about future time, e.g. in 2030, next year

We often use the following expression when talking about future or predicted data, because the simple future is a little too certain:

are/is (un)likely
are/is predicted to
are/is expected to

For example: *Between 1950 and 2030, the proportion of the world's population is expected to double.*

OR we use a verb such as predict and a future tense.

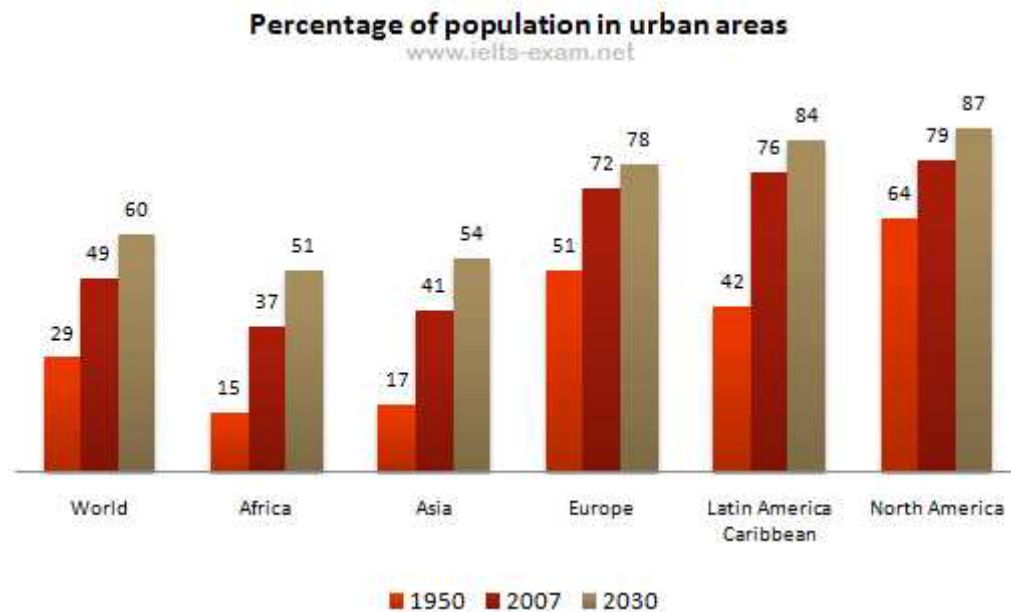
For example: *It is predicted that the proportion of the world's population will double by 2030.*

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The bar chart below gives information about the percentage of the population living in urban areas in the world and in different continents.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Source: UN, World Urbanization Prospects: The 2005 Revision (2006) and Carl Haub, 2007 World Population Data Sheet.

Read the following sample answer. Complete the answer by filling the gaps with the words in the box.

by contrast in spite of compares smaller
shows marked double highest

The bar chart **shows** the urbanization percentage of the world in 1950 and **compares** this with the percentage in 2007 and the projected percentage for 2030.

Between 1950 and 2030, the proportion of the world's population residing in cities is expected to **double**, growing from 29% to 60%. However, this rate is less **marked** in some continents than others.

For example, 64% of the population of North America was urban in 1950, increasing to 79% by 2007. **By contrast**, just 15% of the African population was urban in 1950, but this rose to 37% by 2007. This represents one of the **highest** urbanization rates in the world, even though the percentage of Africans in urban areas is still **smaller** than the world average.

It is also clear from the graph that, urbanization in Latin America is projected to be higher than Europe in 2030, **in spite of** being lower in 1950.

IELTS Writing Task 1 #99

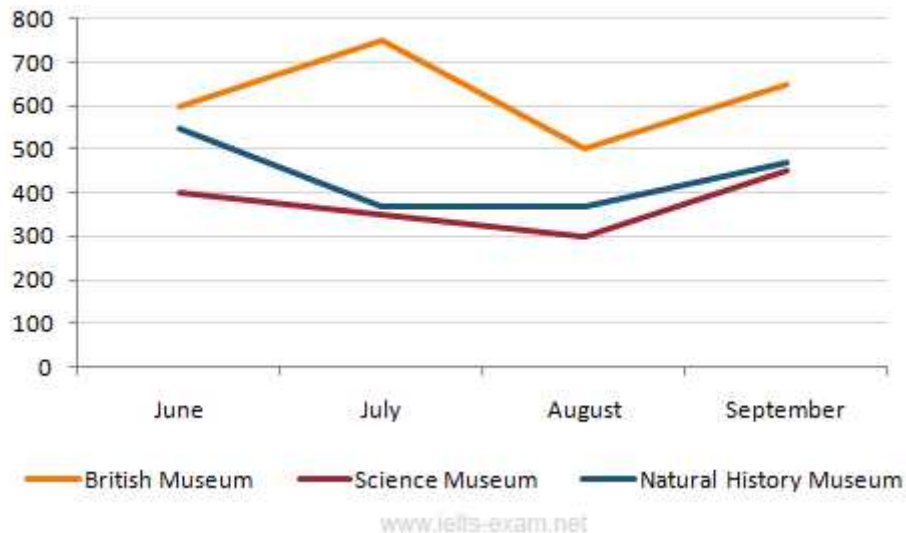
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The line graph below gives information about the number of visitors to three London museums between June and September 2013.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Number of visitors per month in summer, 2013 (in thousands)



Test Tip

Check the horizontal axis to find whether the graph refers to past, present, future or all three.

We use the present simple to describe the graph: *The graph shows* , *We can see*

If the graph refers to past period of time, we use the past simple, and if the graph includes future times, we use *will* or *it is predicted that*.

Look at the line graph and complete the text with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets and the correct prepositions.

The graph **shows** (show) how many people **visited** (visit) three London museums in the summer of 2013. Most visitors **went** (go) to the British museum **between** June and September. The number **fluctuated** (fluctuate) between 500 and 750. By contrast, the Science Museum and the Natural History Museum **received** (receive) fewer visitors. The number of people who visited the Science Museum **dropped** (drop) gradually from 400 thousand to 300 from June to August then **rose** (rise) to 450 thousand **in** September. We can **see** (see) that the trend for the Natural History Museum **was**(be) similar. There was a sharp drop in visitors from June to July. The number **remained stable**(remain stable) in August and then **increased** (increase) steadily in September.

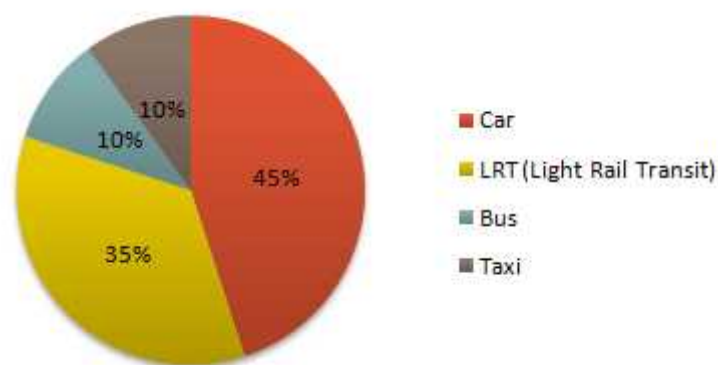
IELTS Writing Task 1 #100

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagrams below give information on transport and car use in Edmonton.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



People's reasons for using the car in city

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Commute to work | 55% |
| Shopping | 15% |
| Leisure activities | 15% |
| Taking children to school | 40% |
| Business | 45% |

Test Tip

In IELTS Writing Task 1, when you must describe two figures, ask yourself the following:

- 1) What do both figures relate to?
- 2) What kind of relationship is evident? (a similarity, a difference, a cause and effect relationship or some other type of relationship)
- 3) Which aspects of each figure should be highlighted?
- 4) Should I describe the figures in separate paragraphs, or should I compare different aspects of the figures within a series of paragraphs?

Model answer

The table shows the reason why people in Edmonton use their cars in the city and the pie chart explains what type of transport people prefer to use most of the time.

Looking at the pie chart first, it is clear that the car is the most popular means of transport in this city.

45% of the people say that they prefer to commute by car. The second most popular form of transport is the LRT, while busses and taxis are the main means of transport for the rest of the people.

The table gives more detailed information about why people use their cars. Surprisingly, 55% of the people need to commute to work by car. Cars are also used a lot for taking children to school or business purposes. Only 15% of drivers are doing their shopping and, similarly, 15% need to travel by car for leisure.

Overall, people in Edmonton make good use of alternative methods of transport but there is a heavy dependence on cars for work.

(170 words)

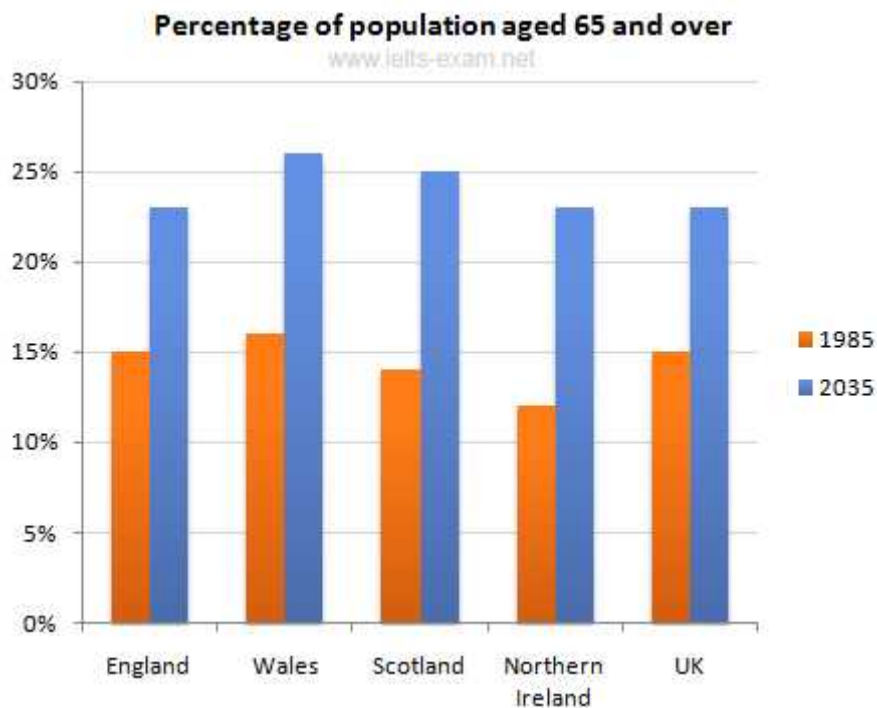
IELTS Writing Task 1 #101

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below gives information about the UK's ageing population in 1985 and makes predictions for 2035.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Source: Office for National Statistics, National Records of Scotland, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Exam Tip

In Writing Task 1, it is essential to understand what the graph or chart is representing. Look closely at the information in the instructions as well as all details of the graph or chart.

The graph in this task shows the percentage of over 65s in each country of the UK. The following are **incorrect** statements:

- Wales had more over 65s than England. (The graph is in percentages, not numbers)
- Northern Ireland had 12% of over 65s in 1985. (The countries do not add up to 100% so Northern Ireland did not have 12% of all over 65s. The graph shows that 12% of the population of Northern Ireland was over 65.)

Model answer

The graph shows how the size and distribution of the UK's ageing population is likely to change over a 50-year period.

Overall, the proportions are predicted to increase in all UK countries. In 1985, 15 per cent of the UK population was over 65, but by 2035, this will account for 23 per cent of the total population.

A closer look at the data reveals that the ageing population is expected to rise more in some parts of the UK than in other. In 1985, Wales had the highest percentage of people aged 65 and over, at 16 per cent. The second-largest group could be found in England and the third in Scotland. Northern Ireland had lowest proportion, with 12 per cent aged 65 and over.

By 2035, Wales is still going to have by far the greatest percentage of over 65s, with figures likely to reach 26 per cent. However, the biggest increases in this age group, relative to the rest of the population, are predicted to occur in Northern Ireland and Scotland. In Northern Ireland, for example, this figure will increase almost double to 23 per cent.

(189 words)

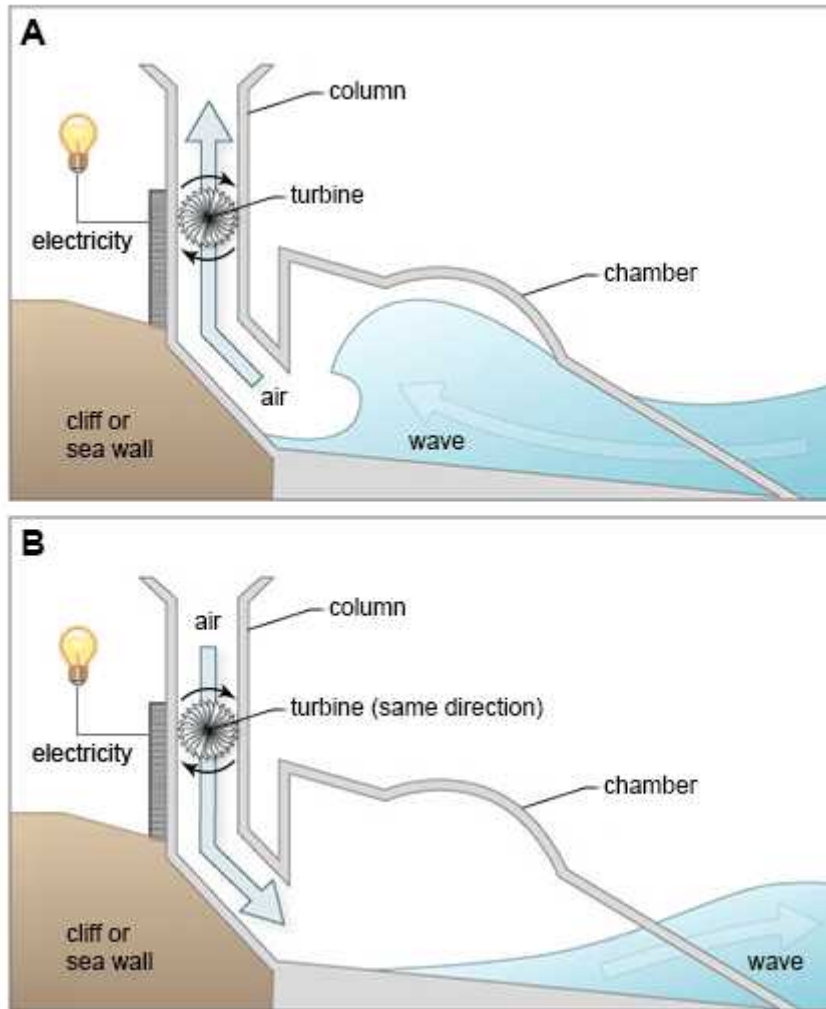
IELTS Writing Task 1 #102

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagrams show a structure that is used to generate electricity from wave power.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Test Tip

- 1) Describe key stages in the process in a logical order, making comparisons where appropriate.
- 2) Use suitable words and phrases to structure and link the process clearly.
- 3) Remember to include an overview summarising the main features of the process.
- 4) Vary your vocabulary and use your own words as far as possible.

Model answer

The two diagrams show how electricity can be generated from the rise and fall of water caused by sea waves.

The process involves a structure which is mounted on the side of a cliff or sea wall. This structure consists of a large chamber. One end is open to the sea, and the other leads into a vertical column, which is open to the atmosphere. A turbine is installed inside this column and this is used to generate the electricity in two phases.

The first diagram indicates that when a wave approaches the device, water is forced into the

chamber, applying pressure on the air within the column. This air escapes to atmosphere through the turbine, thereby producing electricity.

The second diagram illustrates the next part of the process when wave retreats. As the water level falls, the air from outside the column is sucked back in through the turbine. As a result, electricity continues to be generated. The turbine rotates only in one direction, regardless of the direction of the air flow.

In conclusion, we can see that this structure is useful as electricity is generated in both phases: entering and retreating of water.

(195 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #103

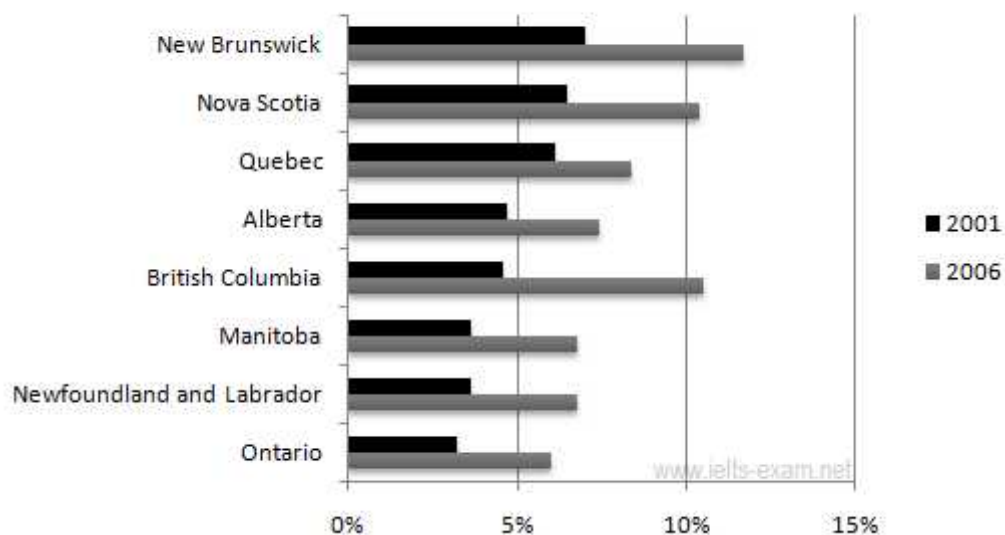
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the percentage change in the share of international students among university graduates in different Canadian provinces between 2001 and 2006.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

International graduates, Canadian universities, 2001 and 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Postsecondary Student Information System

Test Tip

In Task 1 of the IELTS Writing modules, you may be asked to describe a graph which shows changes over a period of time. To do this you need to use language expressing change and appropriate

tenses. In the exam, make sure you leave time to edit your written answer. You will lose marks if you make too many mistakes in grammar and vocabulary.

Model answer

The chart shows changes in the share of international students who graduated from universities in different Canadian provinces over a period of 5 years.

In 2001, this share had a relatively narrow range, from 3% in Ontario to 7.0% in New Brunswick. Nova Scotia had the second highest proportion at 6.5%. Five years later, the figures for most provinces had risen, with the exception of Alberta. There, the figures fell by 1% to just over 4%.

By 2006, some parts of Canada experienced a considerable increase in their share of international graduates. Growth in this share was especially strong in the case of New Brunswick, where the figures rose from 7% to 12%. The largest growth occurred in British Columbia, where it more than doubled to 11%.

Over this five-year period, changes in the proportion of international graduates have been very uneven across the provinces of Canada. However, New Brunswick remained the province with the highest percentage overall.

(158 words)

IELTS Writing Task 1 #104

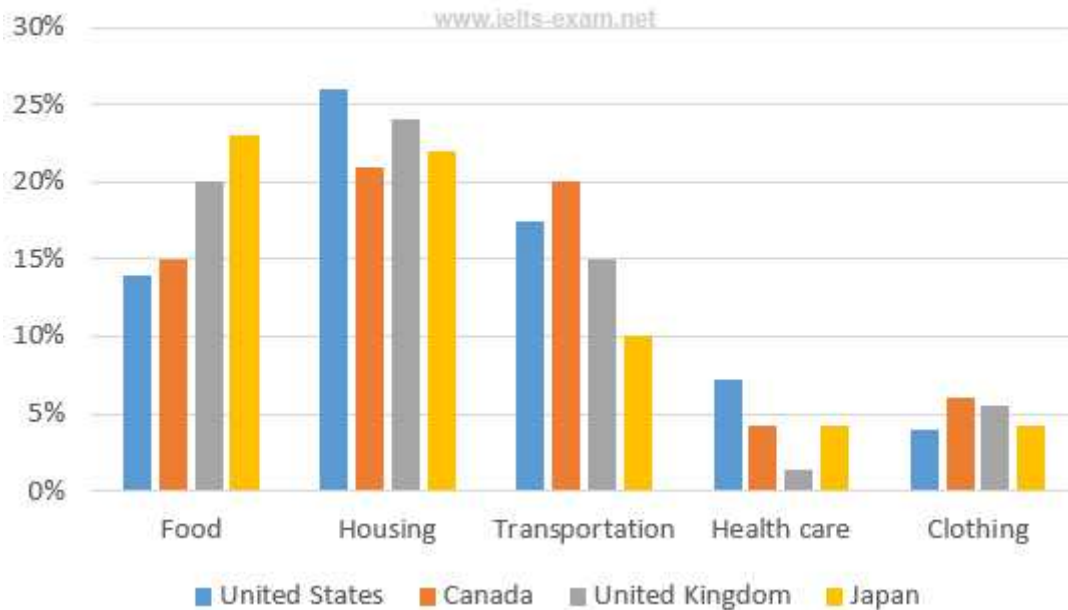
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The bar chart below shows shares of expenditures for five major categories in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Japan in the year 2009.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information below.

Write at least 150 words.

Shares of expenditures for selected categories,
United States, Canada, United Kingdom, and Japan, 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Test Tip

In Writing Task 1, it is a good idea to end your answer by summarizing the main information shown by the diagram. You are not required to explain this information.

Read the following sample answer. Complete the answer by filling the gaps with the words in the box.

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|----------|
| by contrast | indicates | lowest | compares |
| overall | whereas | except | higher |
| highest | however | largest | among |

The bar chart **compares** how consumers in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Japan allocated different shares of total spending to categories such as food, housing, and transportation in 2009.

We can see that the United States had the **highest** housing expenditure share, 26% of total expenditures in 2009. The United Kingdom and Japan followed, with 24% and 22%, respectively. Canada had the **lowest** housing share at 21%. Housing was the **largest** expenditure component in all countries **except** Japan.

By contrast, Canada had the largest transportation share of all four countries at 20%. The United States and the United Kingdom had the next-highest transportation shares, 17% and 15%, respectively. Japan had the lowest, at 10%.

However, in Japan, consumers spent 23% of their total expenditures on food in 2009. The United Kingdom had the second-highest share at 20%. Canada, with 15%, and the United States, with 14% had the lowest food expenditure shares among the countries studied.

Overall, the data **indicates** that housing and health care shares of total expenditures were **higher** in the United States than in Canada, the United Kingdom, and Japan in 2009, **whereas** Americans had the lowest clothing share. Canada had the highest clothing and transportation shares, and Japan had the highest food share, **among** the countries compared.

(214 words)

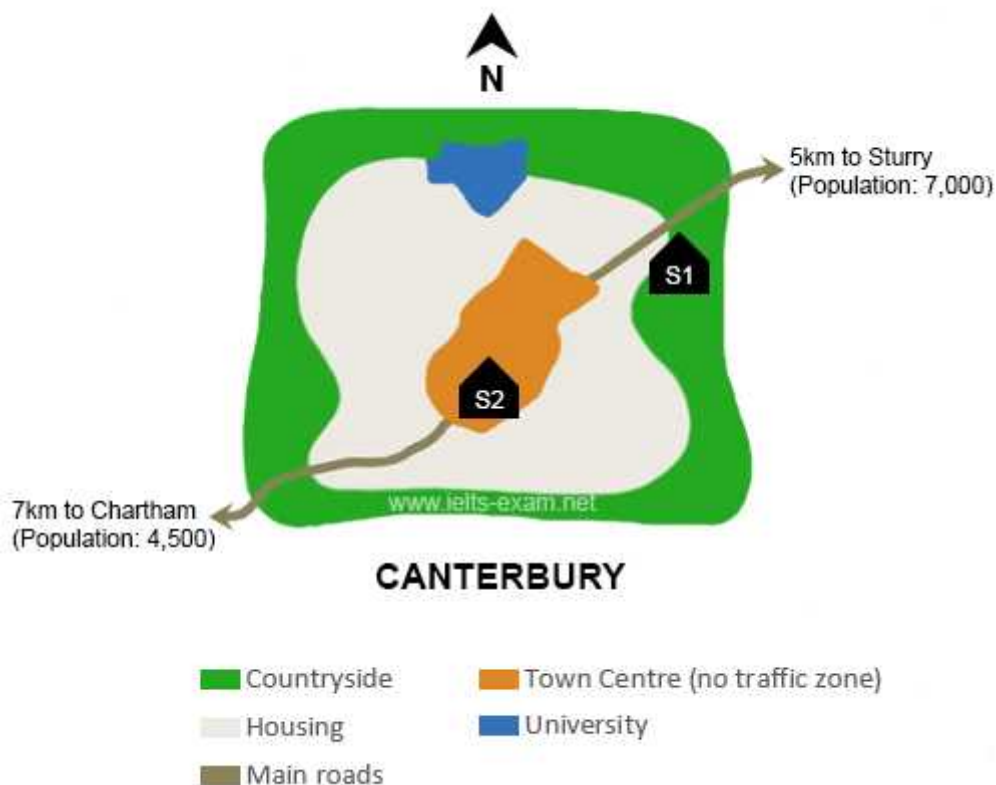
IELTS Writing Task 1 #105

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The map below is of the town of Canterbury. A new school (S) is planned for the area. The map shows two possible sites for the school.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



IELTS Tip

It is important to use paragraphs in your Writing Task 1 answer. Paragraphs show that your answer is well organised.

Model answer

The map shows two proposed sites for a new school for the town of Canterbury and the surrounding area.

The first site (S1) is situated in the countryside, to the north-east of the town centre. It is just outside the main housing area of the town and not far from the main road that links Sturry with Canterbury. It would therefore probably be in an ideal location for students coming from Sturry, which is only 5 kilometres away, and those who live on the east side of Canterbury. If there are students coming from Chartham, which is 7 kilometres to the south-west, they would be able to reach the school by taking the main road that runs south-west of Canterbury.

The second site (S2) is located in the town centre itself. There are advantages of this: it makes it practically equidistant for students coming from either Sturry or Chartham. Moreover, it would presumably be relatively easy for students who live in the housing area around the town centre to reach the school. However, because of the no traffic zone in the town centre, no parent would be able to drive their child all the way to school. This may make travel arrangements difficult for some parents.

(206 words)

IELTS Sample essays (IELTS Writing Task 2)

The **Writing Task 2** of the **IELTS test** requires you to write at least 250 words. You will be presented with a topic and will be tested on your ability to respond by giving and justifying an opinion, discussing the topic, summarizing details, outlining problems, identifying possible solutions and supporting what you write with reasons, arguments and relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

IELTS Writing Sample #135

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are the best teachers.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

Throughout my life, I have been lucky enough to have a very good relationship with my parents. They have supported me, given me necessary criticism, and taught me a great deal about how to live my life. Parents can be very important teachers in our lives; however, they are not always the best teachers.

Parents may be too close to their children emotionally. Sometimes they can only see their children through the eyes of a protector. For example, they may limit a child's freedom in the name of safety. A teacher might see a trip to a big city as a valuable new experience. However, it might seem too dangerous to a parent.

Another problem is that parents may expect their children's interests to be similar to their own. They can't seem to separate from their children in their mind. If they love science, they may try to force their child to love science too. But what if their child's true love is art, or writing, or car repair?

Parents are usually eager to pass on their value to their children. But should children always believe what their parents do? Maybe different generations need different ways of thinking. When children are young, they believe that their parents are always rights. But when they get older, they realize there are other views. Sometimes parents, especially older ones, can't keep up with rapid social or technology changes. A student who has friends of all different races and backgrounds at school may find that her parents don't really understand or value the digital revolution. Sometimes kids have to find their own ways to what they believe in.

The most important thing to realize is that we all have many teachers in our lives. Our parents teach us, our teachers teach us, and our peers teach us. Books and newspapers and television also teach us. All of them are valuable.

(316 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #136

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Nowadays, food has become easier to prepare. Has this change improved the way people live?

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

The twentieth century has brought with it many advances. With those advances, human lives have changed dramatically. In some ways life is worse, but mostly it is better. Changes in food preparation methods, for example, have improved our lives greatly.

The convenience of preparing food today is amazing. Even stoves have gotten too slow for us. Microwave cooking is much easier. We can press a few buttons and a meal is completely cooked in just a short time. People used to spend hours preparing an oven-cooked meal, and now they can use that time for other, better things. Plus, there are all kinds of portable, prepackaged foods we can buy. Heat them in the office microwave, and lunch at work is quick and easy.

Food preparation today allows for more variety. With refrigerators and freezers, we can preserve a lot of different foods in our homes. Since technology makes cooking so much faster, people are willing to make several dishes for even a small meal. Parents are more likely to let children be picky, now that they can easily heat them up some prepackaged macaroni and cheese on the side. Needless to say, adults living in the same house may have very different eating habits as well. If they don't want to cook a lot of different dishes, it's common now to eat out at restaurants several times a week.

Healthful eating is also easier than ever now. When people cook, they use new fat substitutes and cooking sprays to cut fat and calories. This reduces the risk of heart disease and high cholesterol. Additionally, we can buy fruits and vegetable fresh, frozen or canned. They are easy to prepare, so many of us eat more of those nutritious items daily. A hundred years ago, you couldn't imagine the

process of taking some frozen fruit and ice from the freezer, adding some low-fat yogurt from a plastic cup and some juice from a can in the refrigerator, and whipping up a low-fat smoothie in the blender!

Our lifestyle is fast, but people still like good food. What new food preparation technology has given us is more choices. Today, we can prepare food that is more convenient, healthier, and of greater variety than ever before in history.

(376 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #137

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

It has been said, “Not every thing that is learned is contained in books.”

Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. In your opinion, which source is more important? Why?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

“Experience is the best teacher” is an old cliché, but I agree with it. The most important, and sometimes the hardest, lessons we learn in life come from our participation in situations. You can’t learn everything from a book.

Of course, learning from books in a formal educational setting is also valuable. It’s in schools that we learn the information we need to function in our society. We learn how to speak and write and understand mathematical equations. This is all information that we need to live in our communities and earn a living.

Nevertheless, I think that the most important lessons can’t be taught; they have to be experienced. No one can teach us how to get along with others or how to have self-respect. As we grow from children into teenagers, no one can teach us how to deal with peer pressure. As we leave adolescence behind and enter adult life, no one can teach us how to fall in love and get married.

This shouldn’t stop us from looking for guidelines along the way. Teachers and parents are valuable sources of advice when we’re young. As we enter into new stages in our lives, the advice we receive from them is very helpful because they have already had similar experiences. But experiencing our own triumphs and disasters is really the only way to learn how to deal with life.

(232 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #138

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

A company has announced that it wishes to build a large factory near your community.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this new influence on your community. Do you support or oppose the factory? Explain your position.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

New factories often bring many good things to a community, such as jobs and increased prosperity. However, in my opinion, the benefits of having a factory are outweighed by the risks. That is why I oppose the plan to build a factory near my community.

I believe that this city would be harmed by a large factory. In particular, a factory would destroy the quality of the air and water in town. Factories bring smog and pollution. In the long run, the environment will be hurt and people's health will be affected. Having a factory is not worth that rise.

Of course, more jobs will be created by the factory. Our population will grow. To accommodate more workers, more homes and stores will be needed. Do we really want this much growth, so fast? If our town is going in growth, I would prefer slow growth with good planning. I don't want to see rows of cheaply constructed townhouses. Our quality of life must be considered.

I believe that this growth will change our city too much. I love my hometown because it is a safe, small town. It is also easy to travel here. If we must expand to hold new citizens, the small-town feel will be gone. I would miss that greatly.

A factory would be helpful in some ways. However, I feel that the dangers are greater than the benefits. I cannot support a plan to build a factory here, and hope that others feel the same way.

(251 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #139

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

If you could change one important thing about your hometown, what would you change?

Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

If I could change one thing about my hometown, I think it would be the fact that there's no sense of community here. People don't feel connected, they don't look out for each other, and they don't get to know their neighbors.

People come and go a lot here. They change jobs frequently and move on. This means that they don't put down roots in the community. They don't join community organizations and they're not willing to get involved in trying to improve the quality of life. If someone has a petition to put in a new street light, she has a very hard time getting a lot of people to sign. They don't feel it has anything to do with them. They don't get involved in improving the schools because they don't think the quality of education is important to their lives. They don't see the connection between themselves and the rest of their community.

People don't try to support others around them. They don't keep a friendly eye on their children, or check in on older folks if they don't see them for a few days. They're not aware when people around them may be going through a hard time. For example, they may not know if a neighbor loses a loved one. There's not a lot of community support for individuals.

Neighbors don't get to know each other. Again, this is because people come and go within a few years. So when neighbors go on vacation, no one is keeping an eye on their house. No one is making sure nothing suspicious is going on there, like lights in the middle of the night. When neighbors' children are cutting across someone's lawn on their bikes, there's no friendly way of casually mentioning the problem. People immediately act as if it's a major property disagreement.

My hometown is a nice place to live in many ways, but it would be much nice if we had that sense of community.

(331 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #140

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In today's competitive world, many families find it necessary for both parents to go out to work. While some say the children in these families benefit from the additional income, others feel they lack support because of their parents' absence.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

In the past a typical family consisted of a father who went out to work and a mother who stayed at home and looked after the children. Nowadays, it is the norm for both parents to work. This situation can affect children both positively and negatively.

Some people think that the children of working parents are in an advantageous position where their parents are able to afford mere luxuries such as new clothes, video games or mobile phones. Proponents of this view argue that children are able to enjoy and experience more from life due to their parents' extra wealth, for example, by going on foreign holidays.

On the other hand, however, there are those who claim that when both parents work, their children do not get enough support and attention, meaning that the children might not do as well at school because there is no one at home to provide support with such things as homework or exam revision. The absence of a parent at home could make it easier for children to get involved in such things as drugs or undertake drinking.

When I was growing up, both my parents worked and I was always well provided for. On the other hand, I think that it would sometimes have been better if I could have seen more of my parents.

In conclusion, I believe that we cannot change the fact that both parents have to work nowadays. It is not an ideal situation, but if parents make time for their children in the evenings and at the weekends, then the children will not suffer in any way. It must be stated that the extra income generated by both parents working, makes for a much higher standard of living which benefits the whole family.

(295 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #141

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Using a computer every day can have more negative than positive effects on your children.

Do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

I tend to agree that young children can be negatively affected by too much time spent on the computer every day. This is partly because sitting in front of a screen for too long can be damaging to both the eyes and the physical posture of a young child, regardless of what they are using the computer for.

However, the main concern is about the type of computer activities that attract children. These are often electronic games that tend to be very intense and rather violent. The player is usually the 'hero' of the game and too much exposure can encourage children to be self-centred and insensitive to others.

Even when children use a computer for other purposes, such as getting information or emailing friends, it is no substitute for human interaction. Spending time with other children and sharing nonvirtual experiences is an important part of a child's development that cannot be provided by a computer.

In spite of this, the obvious benefits of computer skills for young children cannot be denied. Their adult world will be changing constantly in terms of technology and the Internet is the key to all the knowledge and information available in the world today. Therefore it is important that children learn at an early age to use the equipment enthusiastically and with confidence as they will need these skills throughout their studies and working lives.

I think the main point is to make sure that young children do not overuse computers. Parents must ensure that their children learn to enjoy other kinds of activity and not simply sit at home, learning to live in a virtual world.

(273 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #142

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Illiteracy has traditionally been viewed as largely a third world problem. However it is becoming apparent that in countries such as the USA and Australia, illiteracy is on the increase.

Discuss possible causes for this and its effect on society.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

It is true that illiteracy is becoming a serious problem in industrialised nations. This is surprising as most people think that this is a problem only in under-developed nations such as in parts of Africa and India. Illiteracy is related to many other problems such as poverty, over-population and governmental corruption. Let us take a more detailed look at the causes of this growing problem in many Western nations.

One of the most obvious reasons for the increase in illiteracy is the advent of television. Children no longer have to read to obtain information. Neither do they have to read to relax. Today children get home from school and go straight to "the box" to watch their favorite program. Watching television is much easier and more exciting than reading.

Another reason for the increase in illiteracy is the fact that so many women work. This means that children are often alone at home and so they are unsupervised. When parents get home they are often too tired to spend quality time with their children.

It is also true that many people blame schools for the decline in illiteracy. In many countries there has been a move away from teaching basic skills such as reading and writing.

There are many effects of this growing illiteracy rate. The most obvious is unemployment. This may in turn lead to alcohol and drug abuse. Ultimately the economy of the country begins to suffer and there is a drop in living standards.

To address this problem, parents need to become more aware of their responsibilities and schools need to consider a change in their teaching methods. If this worsening trend is not reversed, the problem of illiteracy will become very serious.

(286 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #143

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In a recent survey conducted in this country, it was found that up to 20% of twelve year-olds in some schools were showing early signs of nicotine addiction.

In the eighteen to twenty year age bracket the percentage was as high as 70%. A large contributing factor to this high level of addiction is attributed to the uncensored TV advertising of cigarettes.

For this reason all cigarette advertising should be banned.

Discuss.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

The issue of cigarette advertising is an important one, especially in this country where so many young adolescents smoke. One of the main causes of this problem is peer pressure. Another cause is advertising, especially TV advertising. Smoking, as we all know, leads to a number of health problems such as cancer and heart disease. Many people think that cigarette advertising should not be banned since this would limit our free choice in this matter. However there is growing evidence that this serious problem is getting out of control. Let us examine the facts more closely.

The most important reason why cigarette advertising should be banned is that cigarette is bad for our health. Smoking causes lung cancer and heart disease. Many people also suffer from slow and painful death from a disease called emphysema.

Another important reason why cigarette advertising should be banned is that it costs the tax payer money. People who become sick from smoking have to be cared for in expensive hospitals. In addition their deaths often results in financial problem for their families.

Finally cigarette smoking may lead to another problem namely drug addiction. Although there is not conclusive evidence that this often happens, many experts in this area feel that there is a connection between the two.

Perhaps a solution to this problem is the education of young children concerning the dangers of taking up this habit. Also a heavy tax could be placed on cigarettes so that youngsters would not be able to afford them. In any case, it seems beyond any reasonable doubt that cigarette advertising should be banned.

(267 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #144

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Counties such as China, India and Japan have unsustainable population growths. In fact many experts are of the opinion that the population 'explosion' which is now a very worrying concern, is the most serious threat to life on this planet.

Give some suggestions to address this problem.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

It is true that the population 'explosion' which has taken place over the last century, is a very serious problem. One of the main reasons for this unacceptable population growth is a lack of understanding about the environment. Over-population is the major reason for water, soil and air pollution. It is also often the cause of starvation and even wars. Experts have put forward many suggestions to address this problem. The following are just a few of these.

The most important weapon we have to fight population growth is education. This should start at a very early age i.e. before children even go to school. TV cartoons and children's programs can be used to educate the very young. At high school level, students can be taught about the problem more directly. At university level, scholarships should be made available to students who wish to study further in this field. International exchange groups may also help to increase awareness.

Another important means of controlling population growth is to disadvantage people who have more than one or two children. This can be done, as it is in China, by means of a higher tax. Although it is controversial, persons who come forward to be sterilized could be given a sum of money. It may also be possible to make it advantageous for people to have only one child by giving such couples a special tax deduction.

It should also be possible to make contraception devices free to the public and easily obtainable.

This problem is a very difficult one to address but we should make every effort to do so. There are many other problems which are related to over-population such as increasing crime, illiteracy and pollution. So by addressing one problem we would be addressing the others as well.

(298 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #145

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

**Governments should make more effort to promote alternative sources of energy.
To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?**

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

It has been known for some time now that a move towards sources of energy which are not carbon-based is urgently required to stop the effects of global warming. In my view, there are too few governments who seem to be promoting the use of other types of energy such as wind, wave, solar and nuclear sources of energy.

Governments at present are too reliant on coal, oil and gas. Although some governments are doing research into the use of alternative energy sources, many are not. Energy from the wind, the sea and the sun does not pollute the environment and is an everlasting source of power. Nuclear power is clean, and although it is not totally unproblematic, it would provide a large amount of energy and dramatically improve the environment. Countries such as France have made good use of nuclear power.

My feeling is that more use could be made of wind power. In some countries, there has been a reluctance to use wind turbines, even in areas which are not densely populated, as some people believe they are eyesores. Personally, I believe they are not only useful, but beautiful as well. Governments should spend more time and effort promoting the benefits of this source of energy and trying to make the public understand the reason for change.

In conclusion, I believe that, if governments forced everyone to have a wind turbine and solar panels on the building they live in, made more use of wave power and built more nuclear power stations, then they would manage to avert the dangers that are seriously threatening the Earth.

(268 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #146

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

School children are becoming far too dependent on computers. This is having an alarming effect on reading and writing skills. Teachers need to avoid using computers in the classroom at all costs and go back to teaching basic study skills.

Do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

Nowadays modern technology has totally changed our approach to study. In many countries students no longer have to copy notes by hand from the blackboard; instead the teacher gives them a photocopy. Rather than messy ink and pen, students present a typed-up copy of their assignments. Their computer even checks their spelling as they go. In fact, some people believe that modern technology does a lot of our thinking for us and, as a result, we are going to lose our ability to think for ourselves.

In my opinion, spelling skills have definitely deteriorated in recent years. So many young people use mobile phones to send text messages where speed and conciseness are more important than spelling or grammar. Some teachers complain that these students take the same attitude toward their assignments.

On the other hand, typed assignments are much easier to read and are much neater. Frankly, I find some notes or texts which are handwritten almost impossible to read. Doctors, for example, have a reputation for illegible handwriting, which could lead to disastrous medical mistakes. Perhaps it is time we focused not on handwriting but on presenting information as accurately as possible.

One advantage of computers is that access to the Internet has opened up a new world of learning for us. We no longer have to wait for a book that has already been borrowed from the library before we do our research. In fact, the Internet can clearly be used to research information in the same way as a library but more conveniently.

On the whole, rather than holding students back, I believe modern technology has actually improved standards of education considerably.

(276 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #147

IELTS Tip

In task 2, can I give both positive and negative views or should I stick to only one view?

This depends on the type of question being asked, so you must read it carefully. For example, if the

question asks you to 'Discuss both sides' then of course you must give both points of view. It's also important that your own views are clear. You can express your own point of view in the introduction or the conclusion, or refer to it throughout the answer.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Successful sports professionals can earn a great deal more money than people in other important professions.

Some people think this is fully justified while others think it is unfair.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Model answer

As a result of constant media attention, sports professionals in my country have become stars and celebrities, and those at the top are paid huge salaries. Just like movie stars, they live extravagant lifestyles with huge houses and cars.

Many people find their rewards unfair, especially when comparing these super salaries with those of top surgeons or research scientists, or even leading politicians who have the responsibility of governing the country. However, sports salaries are not determined by considering the contribution to society a person makes, or the level of responsibility he or she holds. Instead, they reflect the public popularity of sport in general and the level of public support that successful stars can generate. So the notion of 'fairness' is not the issue.

Those who feel that sports stars' salaries are justified might argue that the number of professionals with real talent are very few, and the money is a recognition of the skills and dedication a person needs to be successful. Competition is constant and a player is tested every time they perform in their relatively short career. The pressure from the media is intense and there is little privacy out of the spotlight. So all of these factors may justify the huge earnings.

Personally, I think that the amount of money such sports stars make is more justified than the huge earnings of movie stars, but at the same time, it indicates that our society places more value on sport than on more essential professions and achievements.

(251 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #148

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people say that advertising encourages us to buy things that we really do not need. Others say that advertisements tell us about new products that may improve our lives.

Which viewpoint do you agree with?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

model answer:

The purpose of advertising is to tell the consumer about any new product or service or any new promotion on the existing product and service. We need it so we can make good decisions when we go shopping. Advertising tells us when new and improved products become available and lets us know which ones have the best price.

Through advertising we learn about new products. For example, many grocery stores now sell prepackaged lunches. These are very convenient for busy parents. They can give these lunches to their children to take to school. Busy parents don't have time to look at every item on the store shelf, so without advertising they might not know about such a convenient new product.

Even products we are familiar with may be improved, and advertising lets us know about this. Most people use cell phones, but new types of cell phone service become available all the time. There are different plans that give you more hours to talk on the phone, you can send text messages and photos, and next week probably some even newer type of service will be available. By watching advertisements on TV it is easy to find out about new improvements to all kinds of products.

Advertisements keep us informed about prices. Prices change all the time, but everyone can look at the ads in the newspaper and see what the latest prices are. Advertisements also inform us about sales. In fact, some people buy the newspaper only in order to check the prices and plan their weekly shopping.

Advertisements improve our lives by keeping us informed about the latest products developments and the best prices. Advertisements serve a useful purpose.

(281 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #149

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

In some countries young people are encouraged to work or travel for a year between finishing high school and starting university studies.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages for young people who decide to do this.

You should write at least 250 words.

Writing Tip

When you have described the advantages and disadvantages of a situation/argument, you can say which side has the strongest case in your opinion.

Model answer

It is quite common these days for young people in many countries to have a break from studying after graduating from high school. This trend is not restricted to rich students who have the money to travel, but is also evident among poorer students who choose to work and become economically independent for a period of time.

The reasons for this trend may involve the recognition that a young adult who passes directly from school to university is rather restricted in terms of general knowledge and experience of the world. By contrast, those who have spent some time earning a living or traveling to other places have a broader view of life and better personal resources to draw on. They tend to be more independent, which is a very important factor in academic study and research, as well as giving them an advantage in terms of coping with the challenges of student life.

However, there are certainly dangers in taking time off at that important age. Young adults may end up never returning to their studies or finding it difficult to readapt to an academic environment. They may think that it is better to continue in a particular job, or to do something completely different from a university course. But overall, I think this is less likely today, when academic qualifications are essential for getting a reasonable career.

My view is that young people should be encouraged to broaden their horizons. That is the best way for them to get a clear perspective of what they are hoping to do with their lives and why. Students with such a perspective are usually the most effective and motivated ones and taking a year off may be the best way to gain this.

(291 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #150

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Scientists and the news media are presenting ever more evidence of climate change. Governmnets cannot be expected to solve this problem. It is the responsibility of individuals

to change their lifestyle to prevent further damage.

What are your views?

You should write at least 250 words.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

model answer:

Recently scientists worried about climate change have urged governments to introduce measures to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are seen as its main cause. Simultaneously, politicians and environmentalists have urged individuals to make changes to their lifestyle. I shall argue that governments and individuals should take joint responsibility for this problem.

Firstly, industry accounts for a large proportion of the greenhouse gas emissions, and this can only be controlled by government action. Measures could be taken to discourage pollution, such as limiting or taxing the use of fossil fuels. Alternatively, subsidies could be offered to industries to clean up their production processes. If these ideas were adopted, I believe that businesses would regard pollution as a financial issue.

Secondly, only discussion between governments can ensure that solutions are successful. The Kyoto agreement, for example, tried to reach global agreement on how to address the problem. Without such co-operating, it seems to me that efforts to reduce fuel consumption are unlikely to be effective.

However, national and international policies will only succeed if individuals also change their lifestyle. For example, people could think more carefully about how they use energy in their homes. By using less electricity, installing energy-efficient light bulbs and electrical appliances, or investing in solar panels, individuals can make a real difference.

In addition, I think individual attitudes to transport need to change. Instead of making short trips by car, people could choose to walk, cycle, or take a bus. Since cars are a major source of the problem, changing our behaviour in this area would have a major impact.

In conclusion, I would maintain that only a combination of international agreement, national policies, and changes in individual behaviour will succeed in preventing further damage to the environment.

(291 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #151

IELTS Tip: Articles

One of the most common errors is that of article use. Often it is difficult to correct because the rules of article use in English are complex. Most mistakes can be avoided by following a few basic guidelines:

- No article is used to make generalizations with plural count nouns: *Bananas are yellow.*
- Single countable nouns generally require an article.
 - Use *a* if you mean one or any: *Can we go to a restaurant?*
 - Use *the* if you mean a specific one: *I think of you whenever I go to the restaurant where we used to eat.*
- Use *the* with:
 - Ordinals: *The first Australian I ever met ...*
 - Superlatives: *The tallest boy in the class ...*
 - Words such as *sole*, *same*, or *only*: *The only animal living on the farm ...*
 - Adjectives like *wealthy*, *poor*, *elderly* to talk about groups of people: *I think the wealthy should pay more taxes.*

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In some countries young people have little leisure time and are under a lot of pressure to work hard in their studies.

What do you think are the causes of this?

What solutions can you suggest?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Model answer

Some young people find themselves with very little leisure time. I believe there are two main causes of this situation. The first is parental pressure and the second is competition for university places.

Every parent wants to see his or her child do well in school and go on to have a successful career. This means that they exert pressure on their children to spend hours each day studying at home. Some even arrange extra tuition for their children. In my own country, it is not uncommon for young people to spend another three hours at small private schools after their usual day at state school is over. As a consequence, their leisure time is extremely limited and the pressure on them is considerable.

The second cause is related to the higher education system. Each year, there are many times more applicants to university than there are university places. The result of this is that only those students with very high grades manage to obtain a place. This contributes to the pressure on teenagers since they must work long hours to have any chance of success.

One solution to the problem is for parents to be made aware of the effects of the pressure they put on

their children. Schools should inform parents that too much pressure can lead to anxiety, stress and depression. They should be shown ways in which they can help their children lead more balanced lives with a reasonable amount of leisure time.

Another effective measure would be for the government to invest in the creation of more university places. This could be done by expanding existing universities or by building new ones. This would have the effect of easing competition for places giving teenagers some of their precious free time back.

(296 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #152

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

As mass communication and transport continue to grow, societies are becoming more and more alike leading to a phenomenon known as globalization. Some people fear that globalization will inevitably lead to the total loss of cultural identity.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Writing Tip

Don't forget to include examples relevant to your experience. Remember you are not expected to be an expert on the topic. Personal experience counts!

Model answer

Globalization means that in some ways people around the world are becoming more and more similar. We often eat the same food, watch the same TV programmes, listen to the same music and we wear the same clothes. Some of this at least can be blamed on the spread of multinational brands available all over the world.

On the surface, it may appear as if the global diversity of cultural identities is being lost. If the argument goes, people in Tokyo and London look and dress the same, then that must mean that cultural differences are disappearing. However, I would argue that this is a very narrow definition of culture and that in fact cultural differences are as present as ever.

Cultural Identity is built on far more than just the films we watch or the jeans we wear. The foundation of cultural identity is shared values. When you look in detail at different cultures, you realize that the things that are important to one culture can be very different from the things valued by another culture.

Take my own culture, India, as an example and compare it to a very different culture, Japan. Although I have never visited Japan personally, I believe that it is a culture which places a lot of value on hard work and that people often work very long hours. The Indian people, in contrast, greatly value their leisure time and strive to spend as much time with their family as they possibly can. Even if we consume the same products, I would argue that there are still some very deep-rooted differences.

To summarize, I do not accept that that total loss of cultural identity is inevitable, despite the influence of large companies and their products around the globe.

(294 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #153

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Nowadays many students have the opportunity to study for part or all of their courses in foreign countries.

While studying abroad brings many benefits to individual students, it also has a number of disadvantages.

Do you agree or disagree?

Write at least 250 words.

Which of these things should you include in your answer to this question?

Write YES, NO OR MAYBE next to each question.

- 1 What problems students may have studying abroad and what is good about it.
- 2 What countries gain and lose from people going abroad to study.
- 3 Whether governments should subsidise students' studies abroad.
- 4 Your personal experience of studying abroad, or the experience of people you know.....
- 5 What is wrong with your country's education system.

[Show Answers](#) - [Hide Answers](#)

Read the following sample answer. Complete the answer by filling the gaps with a word or phrase from the box below.

| | | | |
|---------------|---------|-------------|----------|
| although | because | finally | firstly |
| in my opinion | such as | for example | moreover |

secondly furthermore what is more therefore
in contrast due to on the other hand

In recent years there has been a vast increase in the number of students choosing to study abroad. This is partly **because** people are more affluent and partly **due to** the variety of grants and scholarships which are available for overseas students nowadays. **Although** foreign study is not something which every student would choose, it is an attractive option for many people.

Studying overseas has a number of advantages. **Firstly/For example**, it may give students access to knowledge and facilities **such as** laboratories and libraries which are not available in their home country. **Furthermore/Moreover/What is more/Secondly**, by looking abroad students may find a wider range of courses than those offered in their country's universities, and **therefore** one which fits more closely to their particular requirements.

on the other hand, studying abroad has a number of drawbacks. These may be divided into personal and professional. **Firstly** students have to leave their family and friends for a long period. **Furthermore/Moreover/What is more/Secondly** studying abroad is almost always more expensive than studying in one's local university. **Finally/Furthermore/Moreover/What is more**, students often have to study in a foreign language, which may limit their performance and mean they do not attain their true level.

In my opinion/On the other hand, however, the disadvantages of studying abroad are usually temporary in nature. Students who study abroad generally become proficient in the language quite soon and they are only away from their family and friends for a year or two. **Furthermore/What is more**, many of the benefits last students all their lives and make them highly desirable to prospective employers.

IELTS Writing Sample #154

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Computers and modems have made it possible for office workers to do much of their work from home instead of working in offices every day. Working from home should be encouraged as it is good for workers and employers.

Do you agree or disagree?

Write at least 250 words.

Model answer

Read the following sample answer. Complete the answer by filling the gaps with a word or phrase from the box below.

Also because The first is that For Example
Secondly Finally In conclusion since

such as while On the other hand

A further point is that

In recent years the vast expansion of information and communications technology has made teleworking much more practical. Although in many cases office workers could be made geographically independent by using modems, faxes and cell phones, few companies or employees take full advantage of this possibility.

There are a number of strong arguments in favor of allowing workers to work from home. Firstly costs for employers would be reduced **because** businesses would require less office space, which is often situated in the center of large cities. **Secondly**, worker's lives would be improved in a variety of ways. **For example**, they would not need to travel to get to work, which would give them more free time.

Also, they could combine their work with their family life, which is a major advantage if they are parents of young children or they have old people to look after. **On the other hand**, traveling to a centralized workplace also has a number of points in its favor. **The first is that** many employees would miss the social aspect of work **such as** seeing colleagues and meeting customers. **A further point is that** employers would need to be able to trust their workers to work at a high standard and finish their work on time, **since** supervising teleworkers is even more complicated than supervising workers in the same office.

Finally, working from home might inhibit teamwork and creative work and so perhaps so only really suitable for people doing routine office work.

In conclusion, I believe that **while** many workers welcome the opportunity to go out to work, others would find the chance to work from home very convenient. Where possible, I think workers should be offered the choice, but not forced to work from home unless they wish to.

Writing Tip

Be careful with punctuation. You must use a **comma** after the following words and phrases when they are used at the start of a sentence: *Also, Secondly, For example, On the other hand, Finally, However, In my opinion, Similarly, Furthermore, Unfortunately, To summarise, Therefore, To sum up, In conclusion*, e.g. *In conclusion, I believe that while many workers welcome the opportunity to go out to work, others would find the chance to work from home very convenient.* **NOT** *In conclusion I believe that...*

IELTS Writing Sample #155

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

More and more qualified people are moving from poor to rich countries to fill vacancies in specialist areas like engineering, computing and medicine.
Some people believe that by encouraging the movement of such people, rich countries are

stealing from poor countries. Others feel that this is only part of the natural movement of workers around the world.

Do you agree or disagree?

Write at least 250 words.

Exam Tip

Writing Task 2 is a discursive essay. You will be given a topic to write about. You should write a plan so that your ideas are organised logically and coherently. Try to use a wide variety of vocabulary and don't copy words from the question paper. Try not to repeat the same words or ideas. When you have finished, check your spelling and make sure you have written at least 250 words.

Model answer

The so-called 'brain drain' from poor to rich countries is now robbing poorer countries of essential personnel like doctors, nurses, engineers, and the trend is set to continue, if not to get worse.

Some people say this movement of people around the world is not a new phenomenon. Migrant workers have always been attracted by the wider choice of employment and greater opportunity in major cities in their own countries and abroad. Recently, as the technological age has advanced and as richer countries find themselves with not enough workers to feed their development, they have had to run to other parts of the world to find the necessary manpower. Many richer European countries, for example, are now trying to attract skilled IT workers from my home country India by offering higher salaries than they could hope to earn at home. With the globalisation of the world economy, many people feel that the process cannot be stopped.

Others, myself included, are of the opinion that measures should be taken to address the problem, by compensating poorer countries financially for the loss of investment in the people they have trained, like doctors and nurses. Admittedly, this may be cumbersome to administer, but an attempt could be made to get it off the ground. Another step, which in part has already begun to happen, is to use the forces of globalization itself. Western countries could encourage people to stay in their own countries by direct investment in projects like computer factories or by sending patients abroad for treatment, as is already happening.

It is obviously difficult to restrict the movement of people around the world and it is probably foolish to try to stop it, but attempts should be made to redress the imbalance.

(291 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #156

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In most countries multinational companies and their products are becoming more and more important.

This trend is seriously damaging our quality of life.

Do you agree or disagree?

Write at least 250 words.

Writing Tip

In IELTS Writing Task 2, you might want to talk about a common opinion or fact. For example, you might say, *Many people say that multinational companies and globalisation are making societies more open.* However, if you want to be more formal, it is good to use the structure It + passive + clause: *It is said that multinational companies and globalisation are making societies more open.*

Verbs which are often used in this way are: **say, agree, suppose, know, think, believe, expect, feel, report, estimate**

Model answer

The writer has tried to avoid repeating the same words too often in the answer.

Read the sample again and find synonyms or phrases later in the answer with similar meanings to the underlined words.

Multinational companies nowadays find it easy both to market their products all over the world and set up factories wherever they find it convenient. In my opinion this has had a harmful effect on our quality of life in three main areas.

The first area is their products. Supporters of globalization would argue that multinational companies make high-quality goods available to more people. While this may be true to some extent, it also means that we have less choice of products to buy. When powerful multinational companies invade local markets with their goods, they often force local companies with fewer resources to go out of business. In consequence, we are obliged to buy multinational products whether we like them or not.

This brings me to my second point. It is sometimes said that multinational companies and globalisation are making societies more open. This may be true. However, I would argue that as a result the human race is losing its cultural diversity. If we consumed different products, societies all over the world would be more varied. This can be seen by the fact that we all shop in similar multinational supermarkets and buy identical products wherever we live.

Thirdly, defenders of multinational companies often point out that they provide employment. Although this is undoubtedly true, it also means that we have become more dependent on them, which in turn makes us more vulnerable to their decisions. When, for example, a multinational decides to move its production facilities to another country, this has an adverse effect on its workers who lose their jobs.

All in all, I believe that if we as voters pressured our governments to make multinational companies

more responsible and to protect local producers from outside competition, we could have the benefits of globalisation without its disadvantages.

IELTS Writing Sample #157

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Modern lifestyles mean that many parents have little time for their children. Many children suffer because they do not get as much attention from their parents as children did in the past.

Do you agree or disagree?

Write at least 250 words.

Writing Tip

In IELTS Writing Task 2, you might be asked to read a statement and state whether you agree or disagree with the opinion. Of course, you may only partly agree with it. You must explain your point of view and give reasons for it.

Model answer

Look at the words or phrases in capitals. Choose the word or phrase which sounds more formal. Rewrite the final paragraph in a more formal style.

People who **ARGUE** that nowadays parents give less attention to their children than in the past are **FREQUENTLY** looking back to a **BRIEF** period of time in the twentieth century when **MOTHERS** in middle-class families **REMAINED** at home to look after their children. What these people are **SUGGESTING** is that women nowadays should not go out to work.

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT in **THE MAJORITY OF** families in the past both parents worked **MUCH LONGER HOURS** than they do nowadays. What has changed is that now in most countries their children **ATTEND** school rather than also working themselves. In that sense they may **HAVE LESS CONTACT WITH** their parents.

Nowadays, as a result of **ACQUIRING AN EDUCATION**, children come into contact with teachers who **NATURALLY** have to explain why some of their students are failing. What teachers come up with are **FREQUENT** stories of parents who are **SIMPLY** too busy for their **CHILDREN**. And **IF CHILDREN ARE NOT SUPERVISED BY THEIR PARENTS**, they will often **UNDERPERFORM** at school. However, **ACADEMIC FAILURE** is nothing new even when one or both parents are at home. If children **ARE NEGLECTED** by their parents, they will suffer.

I guess children probably had more problems in the past when they and their parents had to work non-stop just to get by. These days, the law looks after children and they can go to school, so children have lots more chances than they ever had before.

In my opinion, children probably suffered more in the past when the whole family was obliged to work long hours just to survive. Nowadays children are protected by the law. Moreover access to education means that they have greater opportunities than ever before.

IELTS Writing Sample #158

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people consider computers to be more of a hindrance than a help. Others believe that they have greatly increased human potential.

How could computers be considered a hindrance?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Model answer

Look at the words or phrases in capitals. Correct your version where necessary.

It is easy to understand why some people **believe that** computers are more of a hindrance than a help. **Operations such as obtaining a refund** or changing a ticket **tend to be fairly straightforward without the aid of a computer**, yet once one is involved, the process can become time-consuming, complex and prone to errors. **In an office environment**, it can sometimes seem that for every hour saved by computers, at least set of problems caused by **a system malfunction**.

Another consideration is that, over-enthusiastic use of computers in the home has the potential to divert large amounts of free time away from activities such as socialising, tasking exercise or having dinner with your family. Spending a lot of leisure time looking at a computer monitor screen could perhaps achieving other goals in life, such as being healthy and socially integrated.

However, it would be simplistic to assert that computers have a generally negative impact. There have been enormous advances in communications, medicine, design, education and numerous fields of human endeavour. Nowadays, virtually the entire sum of human knowledge is as far away as the nearest internet point. Computers have brought about a profound change in the way most people in the developed world live. (Although it should not be forgotten that the majority of the inhabitants of this planet have never so much as touched a computer keyboard.)

The benefits of computers undoubtedly outweigh the disadvantages. The question is not whether computers help or hinder, but whether people always use their huge potential in a sensible and responsible way?

IELTS Writing Sample #159

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people feel that certain workers like nurses, doctors and teachers are undervalued and should be paid more, especially when other people like film actors or company bosses are paid huge sums of money that are out of proportion to the importance of the work that they do.

-How far do you agree?

-What criteria should be used to decide how much people are paid?

You should use your own ideas, knowledge and experience and support your arguments with examples and relevant evidence.

Write at least 250 words.

IELTS Tips

1) It is essential that you plan your essay before actually beginning to write your answer. Some students may want to begin writing immediately as they are afraid that they will run out of time. This will not allow them to produce a well-organised essay.

2) There is more weight to Task 2 when calculating your overall writing score, so time management is important.

3) You should introduce the issue in your introduction, but avoid copying directly from the prompt. Rather, you should paraphrase the question using your own words.

4) If you write less than 250 words for Task 2, you will be penalized in the Task Response criteria.

Model answer

Nobody can deny that there are certain professionals like nurses, doctors and teachers who are essential to the fabric of society, and who should therefore be rewarded accordingly. However, this is seldom the case. When we look at the salaries and fees commanded by certain film stars and actresses and people who run large companies, this does not seem fair.

First of all, not all film stars earn huge sums of money. In fact, at any one time in the UK, for example, roughly 80 per cent of actors are out of work and on top of that the number who are paid so-called 'telephone number fees' is even smaller. One must also remember that the career of many actors is very short and that therefore the money they earn has to be spread over many years. The same applies to company bosses.

Stating a set of criteria as to how much people should be paid is not easy. The idea of performance-related pay is very much in vogue at the moment. Rewarding people according to qualifications has long been used as a yardstick for paying people, but it is not a consistently good measure. Another is years of relevant experience, but there are many cases where a younger person can perform a task better than someone with lots of experience.

Whatever criteria are used to assess salaries, an on-going cycle will develop. This will create pressure in other areas. This considered, generally I feel that certain key professionals should have their salaries assessed by independent review bodies on an on-going basis so that they do not fall behind.

(269 words)

IELTS Writing Sample #160

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Many newspapers and magazines feature stories about the private lives of famous people. We know what they eat, where they buy their clothes and who they love. We also often see pictures of them in private situations.

Is it appropriate for a magazine or newspaper to give this kind of private information about people?

Give reasons for your answer.

Write at least 250 words.

Writing Tip

Structuring an essay is an important part of writing for IELTS. For a Task 2 essay, use a standard essay structure consisting of separate paragraphs: an **introduction** (one paragraph), followed by the main **body** of the essay (two or three paragraphs), then a **conclusion** (one paragraph).

Model answer

Generally, people read newspapers to find out about world current affairs and they read magazines to be entertained. Therefore, one would expect to find articles that feature the private lives of famous people in magazines rather than newspapers. However, nowadays, more and more newspapers include stories like these which are neither informative nor useful.

In my opinion, this type of gossip about people's private lives should not be in newspapers for several reasons. Firstly, for example, the fact that Princess Diana is going out with a sportsman is not important news. Secondly, if newspapers want to publish articles about famous people they should focus on their public events and achievements. In other words, if there is an article about Princess Diana it should be about her works of charity, which will increase public awareness of important problems. In addition, journalists should make sure that they write about the facts only, not rumours. One should be able to rely on newspapers for the actual truth.

Magazines, on the other hand, focus on social news. But I feel it is more acceptable for them to contain some features about famous personalities. In addition to being popular reading, these stories often benefit the stars by giving free publicity to them, thereby helping their careers. However, I also believe that magazine stories should not mention things that are too embarrassing or untrue just to attract people to buy the magazine. Sensational stories, such as these, cause great unhappiness to the people concerned.

In conclusion, I think newspapers should concentrate on real news but magazines can feature some articles on people's private lives.

(268 words)

Task 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You live in a room in college which you share with another student. However, there are many problems with this arrangement and you find it very difficult to work.

Write a letter to the accommodation officer at the college. In the letter,

- ***describe the situation***
- ***explain your problems and why it is difficult to work***
- ***say what kind of accommodation you would prefer***

Write at least 150 words.

You do **NOT** need to write any addresses.

Begin your letter as follows:

Dear Sir or Madam,

Task 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In Britain, when someone gets old they often go to live in a home with other old people where there are nurses to look after them. Sometimes the government has to pay for this care.

Who do you think should pay for this care, the government or the family?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You live in a room in college which you share with another student. However, there are many problems with this arrangement and you find it very difficult to work.

Write a letter to the accommodation officer at the college. In the letter

- *describe the situation*
- *explain your problems and why it is difficult to work*
- *say what kind of accommodation you would prefer*

You should write at least 150 words.

You do **NOT** need to write your own address.

Begin your letter as follows:

Dear Sir or Madam,

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In Britain, when someone gets old they often go to live in a home with other old people where there are nurses to look after them. Sometimes the government has to pay for this care.

Who do you think should pay for this care, the government or the family?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your experience.

You should write at least 250 words.

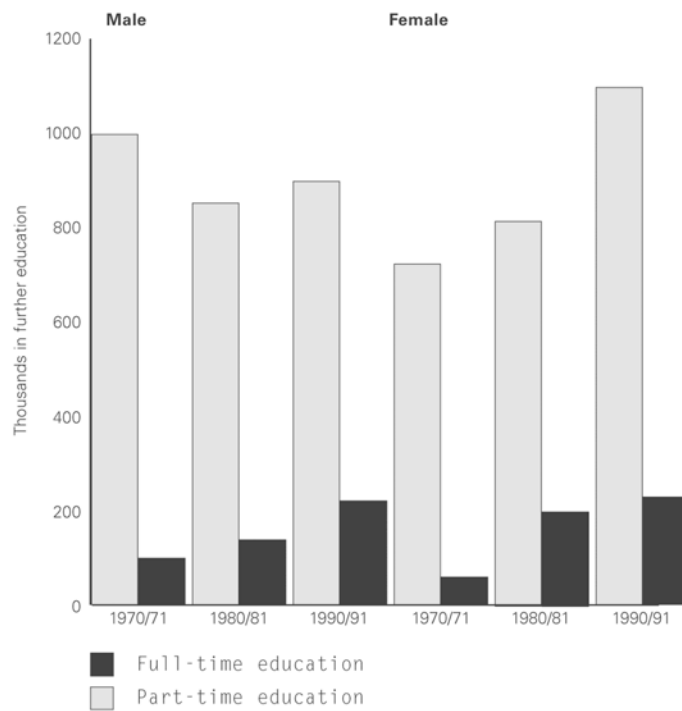
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the number of men and women in further education in Britain in three periods and whether they were studying full-time or part-time.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information shown below.

You should write at least 150 words.



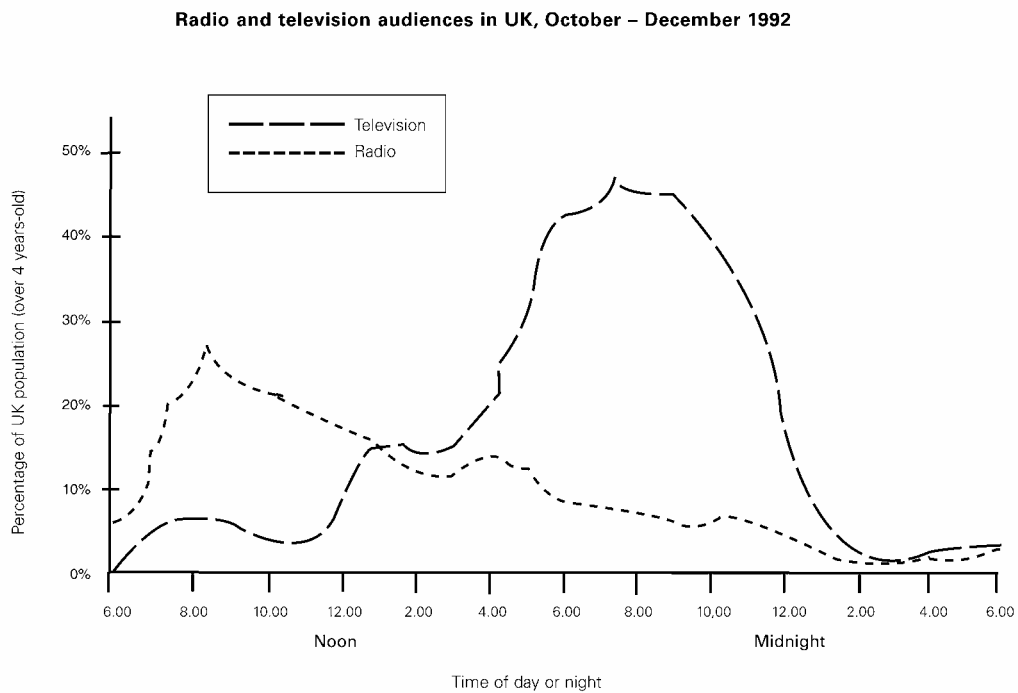
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows radio and television audiences throughout the day in 1992.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information shown below.

You should write at least 150 words.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Present a written argument or case to an educated reader with no specialist knowledge of the following topic.

The first car appeared on British roads in 1888. By the year 2000 there may be as many as 29 million vehicles on British roads.

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

What are your views?

You should use your own ideas, knowledge and experience and support your arguments with examples and relevant evidence.

You should write at least 250 words.

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Present a written argument or case to an educated reader with no specialist knowledge of the following topic.

The threat of nuclear weapons maintains world peace. Nuclear power provides cheap and clean energy.

The benefits of nuclear technology far outweigh the disadvantages.

Do you agree or disagree?

You should use your own ideas, knowledge and experience and support your arguments with examples and relevant evidence.

You should write at least 250 words.

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In some societies it is increasingly common to try to achieve good health and fitness through physically demanding sports, special diets, or preventative medicine conventional or alternative. Some people, however, believe that the best way to stay fit and healthy is simply to lead a normal life.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Sample Answer

This answer would probably receive a **Band 5**.

These days, a lots of people try to exercise for good health. They regularly go to gym or enjoy running or take a preventative medicine. On the other hand, some people believe that the best way to stay fit and healthy is simply.

When I watch the television, I find a lots of diet or exercise program. I'm also interested in special diet and physical exercise. So, I do Yoga third a week, and I take a preventative medicine everyday. When my feeling is getting worse, I do Yoga. Yoga don't need to hard physical activity. After finished the Yoga, I was very tired but my feeling is getting better than before. Preventative medicine also very important. Although we eat vegetable and fruit, we can't absorb every nutrition.

If you extrimely exercise very hard, it's a problem. You can gain the musle but you can't relaxing to maintain your musle. And if you take a various of medicine, you'll become depend.

However I prefer physical exercise and take a preventative medicine. If you want to improve in your life, I recommend some physical exercise and take a some vitamin medicine. It helps maintain your good health.



Task Achievement

The writer's approach to the task is slightly indirect. Rather than dealing with the argument outlined in the rubric, the writer focuses on his/her own strategies and preferences for maintaining health. Examples are provided, as appropriate, and the writer does suggest arguments for and against taking dietary supplements, and against strenuous exercise. Overall, the focus of the answer in relation to this task is inappropriate, being more oriented to personal preferences than issues.

At 196 words, the response is under length.

Coherence and Cohesion

The text is suitably divided into paragraphs, and the writer uses some organising expressions, for example, *On the other hand and However*. The answer would have benefited from a greater use of these, as well as other devices for achieving text cohesion. For instance, the sentence *When I watch the television, I find a lots of diet or exercise program is followed by I'm also interested in special diet and physical exercise*. The link between the two could have been made overt by the use of pronouns or the avoidance of repetition. The underlying logic of the response is also slightly unclear. The writer concludes with the opinion that special exercise and preventative medicine are beneficial, but the preceding text does not lead seamlessly to this conclusion. If paragraph 2 and paragraph 3 had been in reverse order, the reader would have been better informed.

Lexical Resource

The writer generally uses words suitable for the task, though the range of words is not wide, and several words/phrases are repeated throughout.

Spelling is mainly correct.

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

There are a number of errors throughout the response, but these only occasionally cause a communication breakdown, as in *You can gain the muscle, but you can't relaxing to maintain your muscle*. Often the correct word is used, but in the wrong form, for example, *the best way to stay fit is ... simply or If you take a various of medicine ... you'll become depend*. Sometimes there are errors in simple sentences, such as *Preventative medicine also very important*, but at other times more complex structures are attempted successfully, for example, *It helps maintain your good health*.

Punctuation is largely correct.

Marks

This answer would probably receive a **Band 5**.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Many children are forced to stay at school and study subjects that will be of little value to them in the future. These children may disrupt the education of the majority and should be allowed to leave school early to find themselves a job.

What are your views?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Sample Answer

This answer would probably receive a **Band 7**.

It is often said that students should study at school for some certain subjects and this will be good for their future. Another point is that those kids may interrupt their school work and be allowed to get a work early when they leave school. The view of point that students have to be forced to have the class at school is valid.

One reason for this is that schools provide a plenty of academic knowledge to students and it is possible to enlarge students' knowledge background when they are young and it is also a good method to force students to focus on their school work and this conditions might avoid students to spend their time to do bad thing. In Addition, some educations at school are useful for their life such as students might learn professional skills or knowledge that they may have more opportunities to find a job in their future. For example, employee prefer to hire a employer who had a good degree and owns a lot of professional skills and knowledge in Taiwan.

On the other hand, it can be argued that children should leave school early to get a job because they can be sure their interesting and learn social skills through having a job. Furthermore they can get much experience of the society which experience can't obtain at school and it is possible to encourage children how to manage the money that they've earned and try to independent.

Even though there are some advantages of leaving school early to find a job, I would say that kids should study the certain subjects at school since the disadvantages are pointed out and because so many ways can train children to learn independant and social skills.



Task Achievement

In general, the writer addresses the task appropriately, although two elements of the argument proposed in the rubric are ignored, namely the suggestion that some school subjects may not be useful, and the suggestion that enforced schooling can lead to disruption.

Coherence and Cohesion

The text is suitably paragraphed, and ideas are clearly and logically organised. The first paragraph contains an introduction, the second puts forward arguments for compulsory schooling, the third puts forward arguments against compulsory schooling, and the fourth summarises the writer's views.

A range of organising expressions are used and most are correct. Only *Another point* is misleading, as the writer clearly intends *An alternative point*. The final paragraph would also have benefited from a suitable introductory expression. Although some excessive repetition of noun phrases damages cohesion, for example, *students* in the second paragraph, pronouns are generally used to good effect.

Lexical Resource

The writer's use of vocabulary is fairly wide and generally appropriate. The reader is only occasionally aware of inadequacies, such as *view of point* and the reversal in meaning of *employee* and *employer*. Spelling is flawless.

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

The writer uses a range of grammatical structures, including subordinate clauses, as in the final sentence. Some less frequent structures are used very appropriately, such as *It is often said that or it can be argued that*. Although errors do occur, these are generally minor, and never impede communication. Verb tenses are controlled very well. Some sentences are overly long, such as the first sentence in the second paragraph. Punctuation is highly accurate.

Marks

This answer would probably receive a **Band 7**.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Modern technology now allows rapid and uncontrolled access to and exchange of information. Far from being beneficial, this is a danger to our societies.

What are your views?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Sample Answer

This answer would probably receive a **Band 6**.

In last few years, the modern technology has been developed very fast. People getting used to use the rapid and uncontrolled technology instead of (some people believe that) manpower. On the other hand, it brings problems to our societies. I will consider these different points of views in favour to support the modern technology.

It has been argued that too much modern technology cause people losing their job. Nowadays, many factories are using automatic technology instead manpower, in order to increase their business. However, It brings a huge problem of unemployment, furthermore, it would increasing on the crimes rate. Similiy, modern technology speeds up our life. people feel stressful about their jobs, families, and societies.

It is no doubt that modern technology deveoloped our life more convenient than before. For example, we could keeping in touch with our friends which live far away from us pass through the internet. Moreover, companies could contact with their customer by the internet. It's much cheaper than calling the long-distance phone. Besides, the technology development could help medicine inventing.



Task Achievement

The writer does not address the proposition contained in the task rubric. Instead of discussing issues to do with the accessibility of electronic information, he/she deals with the general pros and cons of technology.

At 175 words, the response is considerably under length.

Coherence and Cohesion

The response is clearly structured: it contains three paragraphs, each of which has a distinct function. To that extent, the response is coherent.

However, in certain ways the presentation of the argument is counter to expectations, and so causes a degree of miscommunication. The first paragraph is an introduction, which outlines opposing views about technology, and states the writer's opinion. The second and third paragraphs then illustrate the two views in more detail. The absence of any concluding paragraph, where writers summarise arguments and explain opinions, means it is unclear why one particular view is supported in preference to the other. Though if the link between the second and third paragraphs had been made more overt, perhaps by introducing the third with *On the other hand*, any doubts might have been reduced.

Elsewhere organising expressions are used to very good effect.

Lexical Resource

The writer demonstrates a reasonably wide range of vocabulary, including less frequent items such as *crime(s) rate*, *manpower* and *speeds up*. These are usually used correctly, although uncontrolled is used inappropriately, and has possibly been misunderstood.

Apart from the use of *morden*, repeated several times, and *Similiy*, spelling is accurate.

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

The writer uses a wide range of structures, including complex ones. Although errors occur throughout, comprehension is rarely if ever impeded, and the reader has the overall impression of fluency.

Punctuation is largely accurate, and sentence divisions are appropriate.

Marks

This answer would probably receive a **Band 6**.



WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You and your family are living in rented accommodation in an English speaking country. You are not satisfied with the condition of some of the furniture.

Write a letter to the landlord. In your letter

- *introduce yourself*
- *explain what is wrong with the furniture*
- *say what action you would like the landlord to take*

Write at least 150 words.

You do **NOT** need to write an address.

Begin your letter as follows:

Dear,



Model answer

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

Dear Mr Smith,

I am your tenant from Flat 3 on Riverside Street. We met each other when I signed the rental agreement in your office.

I have lived here for 6 months now and I am writing to complain about some of the furniture. As you may remember, the dining table is in very poor condition and has uneven legs. It also does not match the dining chairs as these are too low to be comfortable for a table of that height. When I first pointed this out to you, you agreed to provide a brand new dining set. However, you have not done so and I would really like to resolve this matter as soon as possible.

If it is more convenient for you, perhaps you could simply replace the table by finding one of a suitable height for the chairs. This would solve the problems without too much cost, so I hope you agree to this proposed solution.

Looking forward to hearing from you, Yours sincerely,

M.M. Egil



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Using a computer every day can have more negative than positive effects on your children.

Do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Model answer

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

I tend to agree that young children can be negatively affected by too much time spent on the computer every day. This is partly because sitting in front of a screen for too long can be damaging to both the eyes and the physical posture of a young child, regardless of what they are using the computer for.

However, the main concern is about the type of computer activities that attract children. These are often electronic games that tend to be very intense and rather violent. The player is usually the 'hero' of the game and too much exposure can encourage children to be self-centred and insensitive to others.

Even when children use a computer for other purposes, such as getting information or emailing friends, it is no substitute for human interaction. Spending time with other children and sharing non-virtual experiences is an important part of a child's development that cannot be provided by a computer.

In spite of this, the obvious benefits of computer skills for young children cannot be denied. Their adult world will be changing constantly in terms of technology and the Internet is the key to all the knowledge and information available in the world today. Therefore it is important that children learn at an early age to use the equipment enthusiastically and with confidence as they will need these skills throughout their studies and working lives.

I think the main point is to make sure that young children do not overuse computers. Parents must ensure that their children learn to enjoy other kinds of activity and not simply sit at home, learning to live in a virtual world.



WRITING

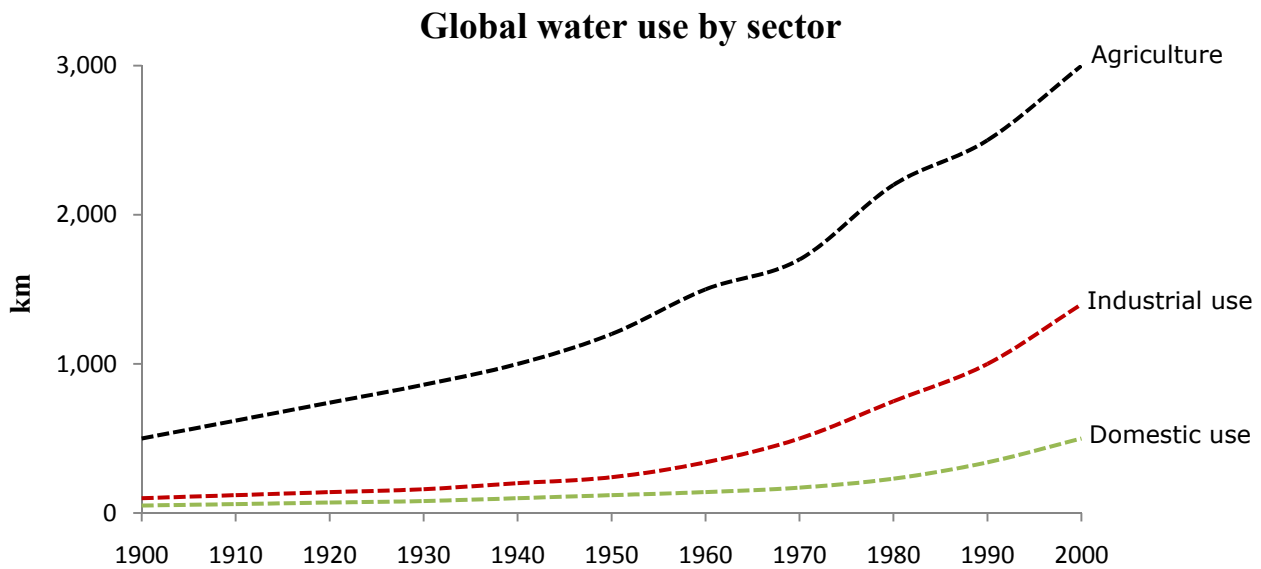
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph and table below give information about water use worldwide and water consumption in two different countries.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Water consumption in Brazil and Congo in 2000

| Country | Population | Irrigated land | Water consumption per person |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Brazil | 176 million | 26,500 km ² | 359 m ³ |
| Democratic Republic of Congo | 5.2 million | 100 km ² | 8 m ³ |



Model answer

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

The graph shows how the amount of water used worldwide changed between 1900 and 2000.

Throughout the century, the largest quantity of water was used for agricultural purposes, and this increased dramatically from about 500 km³ to around 3,000 km³ in the year 2000. Water used in the industrial and domestic sectors also increased, but consumption was minimal until mid-century. From 1950 onwards, industrial use grew steadily to just over 1,000 km³, while domestic use rose more slowly to only 300 km³, both far below the levels of consumption by agriculture.

The table illustrates the differences in agriculture consumption in some areas of the world by contrasting the amount of irrigated land in Brazil (26,500 km²) with that in the D.R.C. (100 km²). This means that a huge amount of water is used in agriculture in Brazil, and this is reflected in the figures for water consumption per person: 359 m³ compared with only 8 m³ in the Congo. With a population of 176 million, the figures for Brazil indicate how high agriculture water consumption can be in some countries.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Successful sports professionals can earn a great deal more money than people in other important professions. Some people think this is fully justified while others think it is unfair.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Model answer

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

As a result of constant media attention, sports professionals in my country have become stars and celebrities, and those at the top are paid huge salaries. Just like movie stars, they live extravagant lifestyles with huge houses and cars.

Many people find their rewards unfair, especially when comparing these super salaries with those of top surgeons or research scientists, or even leading politicians who have the responsibility of governing the country. However, sports salaries are not determined by considering the contribution to society a person makes, or the level of responsibility he or she holds. Instead, they reflect the public popularity of sport in general and the level of public support that successful stars can generate. So the notion of 'fairness' is not the issue.

Those who feel that sports stars' salaries are justified might argue that the number of professionals with real talent are very few, and the money is a recognition of the skills and dedication a person needs to be successful. Competition is constant and a player is tested every time they perform in their relatively short career. The pressure from the media is intense and there is little privacy out of the spotlight. So all of these factors may justify the huge earnings.

Personally, I think that the amount of money such sports stars make is more justified than the huge earnings of movie stars, but at the same time, it indicates that our society places more value on sport than on more essential professions and achievements.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people prefer to spend their lives doing the same things and avoiding change. Others, however, think that change is always a good thing.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Model answer

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

Over the last half century the pace of change in the life of human beings has increased beyond our wildest expectations. This has been driven by technological and scientific breakthroughs that are changing the whole way we view the world on an almost daily basis. This means that change is not always a personal option, but an inescapable fact of life, and we need to constantly adapt to keep pace with it.

Those people who believe they have achieved some security by doing the same, familiar things are living in denial. Even when people believe they are resisting change themselves, they cannot stop the world around them from changing. Sooner or later they will find that the familiar jobs no longer exist, or that the 'safe' patterns of behaviour are no longer appropriate.

However, reaching the conclusion that change is inevitable is not the same as assuming that 'change is always for the better'. Unfortunately, it is not always the case that new things are promoted because they have good impacts for the majority of people. A lot of innovations are made with the aim of making money for a few. This is because it is the rich and powerful people in our society who are able to impose changes (such as in working conditions or property developments) that are in their own interests.

In conclusion, I would say that change can be stimulating and energising for individuals when they pursue it themselves, but that all change, including that which is imposed on people, does not necessarily have good outcomes.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

There is evidence that inhaling cigarette smoke causes health problems not only for smokers but for non-smokers who inhale other people's smoke.

In view of this, smoking should be banned in all public places, even though this would restrict some people's freedom of action.

What are your views?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.



Sample Answer

This answer would probably receive a **Band 5**.

In recent years, the health problem has already attracted notice it, because a lot of died for smoking or passive smoking. Therefore some people suggested that the Government should be banned in all public places. For example, such as restaurants, pubs, coffee shops and offices. It is worth being thought and discussed carefully.

To start with, when governments thought this problem, have some thing should be concerned. For instance, such as people's freedom and right. Furthermore, health education should be teach people since they were study in primary school or high school. For example, in my case, I know smoking will damage my health, because cigarette including nikotin and chemical material, so I never smoking.

Moreover, how would affect the business and cause many people will fire, it is often say that the economy will getting worst. For example, the restaurant will not have a lot of people spend money there, because they lose their freedom. Nevertheless, governments thought some problem should solve in the face of difficulty. Just as such as some restaurants and shops can arranged smoker area and non-smoker area.

Overall, I believe health more important than money or anything. Therefore, some knowledges tell me smoking not only killer for health. For instance, such as drugs and drinking alcohol. I think governments should divert purpose or money basic education, if people got enough health knowledge, they would give up or never touch it.



Task Achievement

The task is only partially completed. The writer does not really address the dilemma posed in the rubric (banning smoking in public places), but rather seems to answer a slightly different question about smoking. For example, he/she makes suggestions about how to discourage smoking, but does not discuss issues connected with regulation at all. At 236 words, the answer is slightly under length.

Coherence and Cohesion

The text is carefully paragraphed, and although devices such as the use of pronouns or substitution to weave connections are lacking, there are several sequence links, and these are generally used appropriately. However, despite the presence of these overt markers to link ideas, it is difficult to recognise the logic of the underlying argument put forward by the writer. In other words, the text lacks coherence.

Lexical Resource

The writer demonstrates awareness of vocabulary connected to the topic of smoking and health, and uses it appropriately. More abstract concepts are not dealt with, but it is unclear whether this is due to deficiencies in the writer's lexicon, or a misunderstanding of the task itself (see **Task Achievement**). Spelling is very good.

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

There are errors throughout this response, and at times these cause a breakdown in communication. This is particularly the case when more complex structures are attempted, for example, *the Government should be banned in all public places or When governments thought this problem, have some thing should be concerned*. Verb forms are not controlled, even in simple clauses, for example, *so I never smoking or some restaurants and shops can arranged smoker area*. Sentence divisions are not always properly marked, and commas are overused.

Marks

This answer would probably receive a **Band 5**.



Candidate Number

Candidate Name _____

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM**General Training Writing****PRACTICE TEST**

1 hour

Time 1 hour**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page.

Read the instructions for each task carefully.

Answer both of the tasks.

Write at least 150 words for Task 1.

Write at least 250 words for Task 2.

Write your answers in the answer booklet.

Write clearly in pen or pencil. You may make alterations, but make sure your work is easy to read.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer booklet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

There are **two** tasks on this question paper.

Task 2 contributes twice as much as Task 1 to the Writing score.

WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

A friend has agreed to look after your house and pet while you are on holiday.

Write a letter to your friend. In your letter

- **give contact details for when you are away**
- **give instructions about how to care for your pet**
- **describe other household duties**

Write at least 150 words.

You do **NOT** need to write any addresses.

Begin your letter as follows:

Dear

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people believe that teaching children at home is best for a child's development while others think that it is important for children to go to school. Discuss the advantages of both methods and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM

General Training Writing – Model Answers

WRITING TASK 1 – Model Answer

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for agreeing to house-sit for me. If you need to contact me during my holiday, I'll be staying at the Imperial Hotel in Bundaberg. If it's urgent, however, please ring my mobile phone, which I'll keep with me at all times. I've written the numbers on a sticky note which I've left on the fridge.

My cat needs to be fed twice daily so each morning and evening put a handful of cat biscuits in his dish. You will find these in the kitchen pantry. Also, please check throughout the day to make sure he has fresh water. You can give him a small bowl of milk in the evening.

I would like you to water my plants, too. The indoor ones in the lounge only need water once every few days but the plants on the balcony need to be watered daily unless there has been heavy rain. Finally, for security, please clear my mail box every day and keep the outside lights on at night.

I look forward to seeing you on my return.

Yours,

Katie

WRITING TASK 2 – Model Answer

The argument over whether learning at home or at school is better for children has not been settled yet. Whereas home education offers better protection with individual learning and opportunities for families to bond, schools have a superior range of material and human resources. Ultimately, I think the school experience is best for children.

There are several advantages for children who learn at home. Firstly, they can spend more time with their parents and siblings. Many social problems are associated with families not spending enough quality time together. Teaching children at home also provides them with an individualised learning environment. Instruction is custom-designed and moves at the child's own pace and in accordance with his or her individual learning style. Finally, home schooling protects children from bullies and others who might be a bad influence.

On the other hand, the school environment also offers advantages for children. Schools encourage children to socialise with their peers and learn how to cope with gossip, bullying and peer pressure. In addition, children will receive better tuition across a range of disciplines, as schools have teachers who are trained in special subjects. What is more, schools provide better access to physical resources such as sports equipment, musical instruments and library books.

I believe that children are better off in a school environment. Although family time and individual learning are important, the range of expertise and resources that schools offer cannot be matched in the home. School environments may present difficult social situations, but so too does the real world and children must learn to navigate these on their own.

Candidate Name _____

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM

Academic Writing

Practice Test

1 hour**Time** 1 hour

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page.

Read the instructions for each task carefully.

Answer both of the tasks.

Write at least 150 words for Task 1.

Write at least 250 words for Task 2.

Write your answers in the answer booklet.

Write clearly in pen or pencil. You may make alterations, but make sure your work is easy to read.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer booklet.

Information for candidates

There are two tasks on this question paper.

Task 2 contributes twice as much as Task 1 to the Writing score.

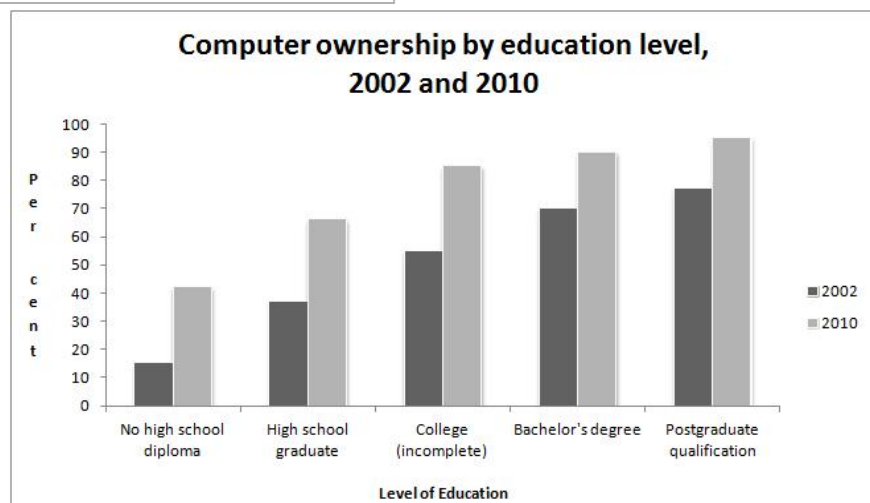
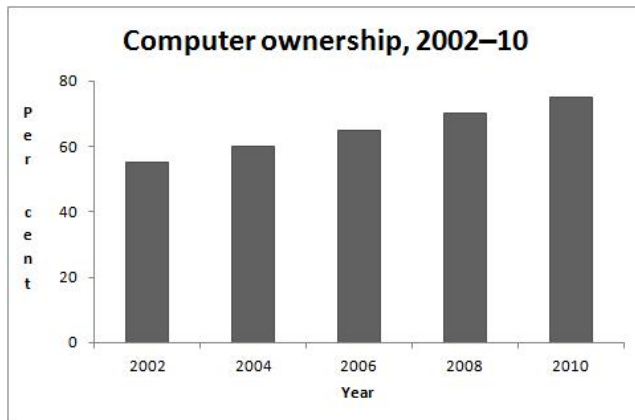
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graphs below give information about computer ownership as a percentage of the population between 2002 and 2010, and by level of education for the years 2002 and 2010.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

A person's worth nowadays seems to be judged according to social status and material possessions. Old-fashioned values, such as honour, kindness and trust, no longer seem important.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM

IELTS Academic Writing Practice Test

WRITING TASK 1 – Model Answer

The bar charts show data about computer ownership, with a further classification by level of education, from 2002 to 2010.

A steady but significant rise can be seen in the percentage of the population that owned a computer over the period. Just over half the population owned computers in 2002, whereas by 2010 three out of four people had a home computer.

An analysis of the data by level of education shows that higher levels of education correspond to higher levels of computer ownership in both of those years. In 2002, only around 15% of those who did not finish high school had a computer but this figure had trebled by 2010. There were also considerable increases, of approximately 30 percentage points, for those with a high school diploma or an unfinished college education (reaching 65% and 85% respectively in 2010). However, graduates and postgraduates proved to have the greatest level of ownership in 2010, at 90% and 95% respectively, 20 percentage points higher than in 2002.

The last decade has seen a substantial growth in computer ownership in general, and across all educational levels.

WRITING TASK 2 – Model Answer

Given the power and influence of the super rich, it might seem as if social status and material possessions are the new symbols of personal worth, but in everyday life I do not think this is true.

It is apparent that most celebrities today are admired or envied solely for their material wealth or position in various social hierarchies. Many of these people are known to turn their backs on friends, cheat on their spouses or spend their evenings over-indulging in alcohol and/or drugs. Things like owning a mansion, driving an expensive car and getting into A-list parties are exalted above old-fashioned values. Ultimately, though, it is the many readers of gossip magazines and celebrity blogs who reinforce these ideas.

Nevertheless, I do believe that in their day-to-day lives most people still believe in values such as honour, kindness and trust. In some way most of us want to form loving families, raise our children to be good citizens, stand up for the downtrodden and protect our communities from harm. We still form friendships, romances and business partnerships based on old-fashioned criteria. When our trust is abused or we are unfairly treated, we see that as a major violation of our relationship and we judge the wrongdoer accordingly.

In conclusion, I believe there is some truth to the notion that status and possessions have superseded old-fashioned values as a measure of a person's worth. Looking beyond the tabloids, however, it is apparent that most ordinary people have still preserved an old-fashioned conscience.

ACADEMIC WRITING SAMPLE TASK 2B

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

The threat of nuclear weapons maintains world peace. Nuclear power provides cheap and clean energy.

The benefits of nuclear technology far outweigh the disadvantages.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Academic Writing Sample Task 1A

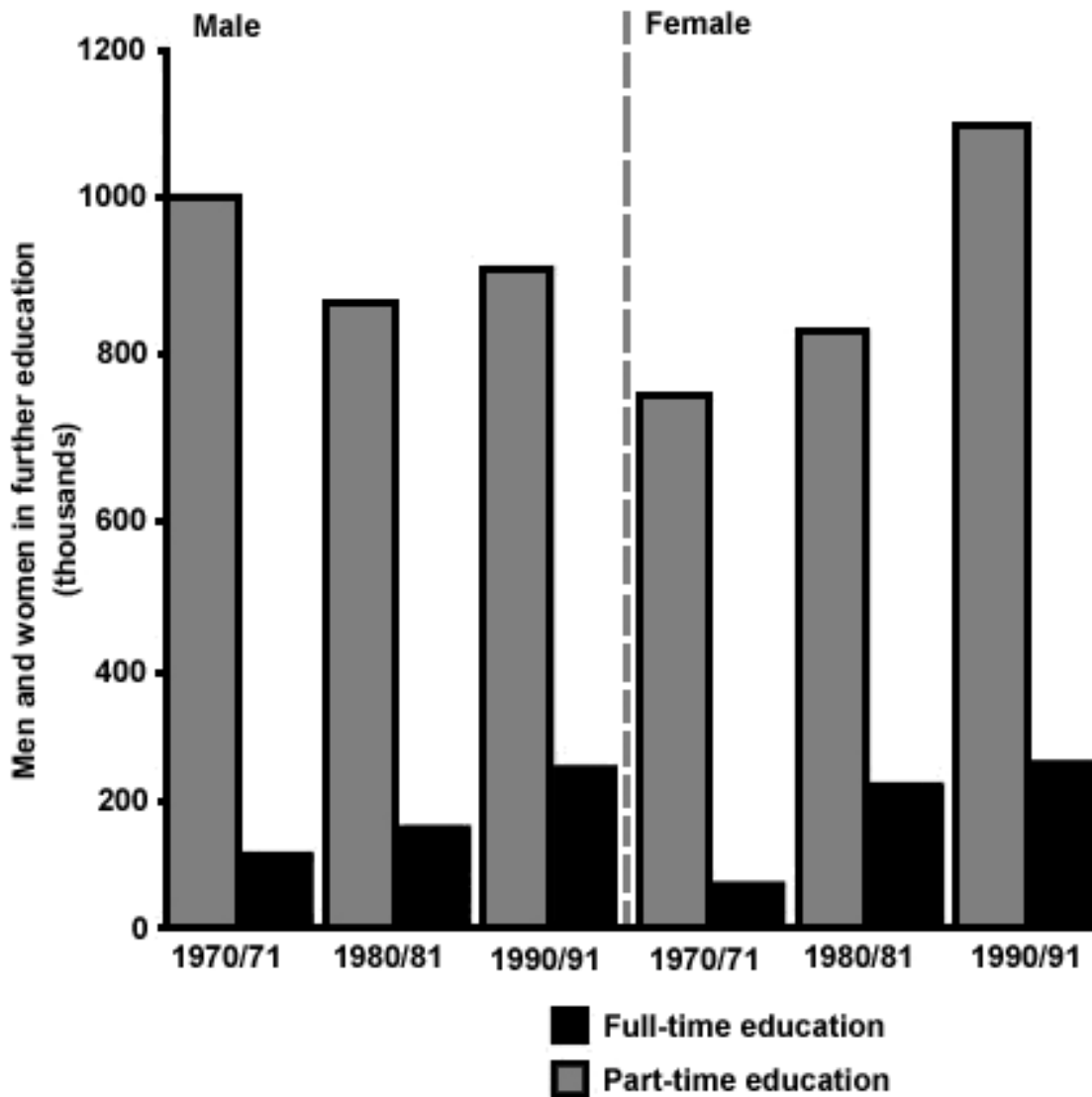
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the number of men and women in further education in Britain in three periods and whether they were studying full-time or part-time.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Academic Writing Sample Task 1A

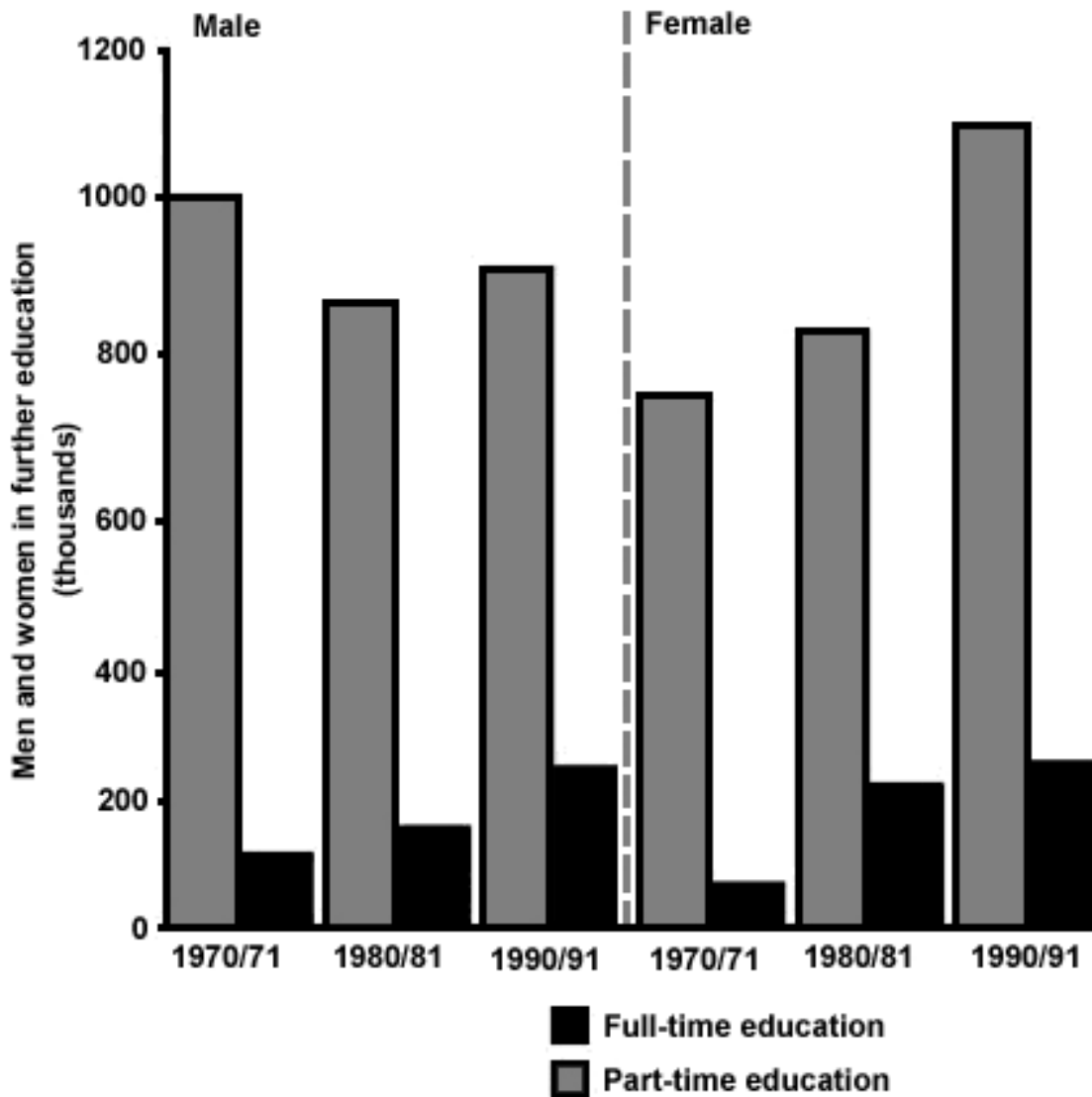
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Academic Writing Sample Task 1B

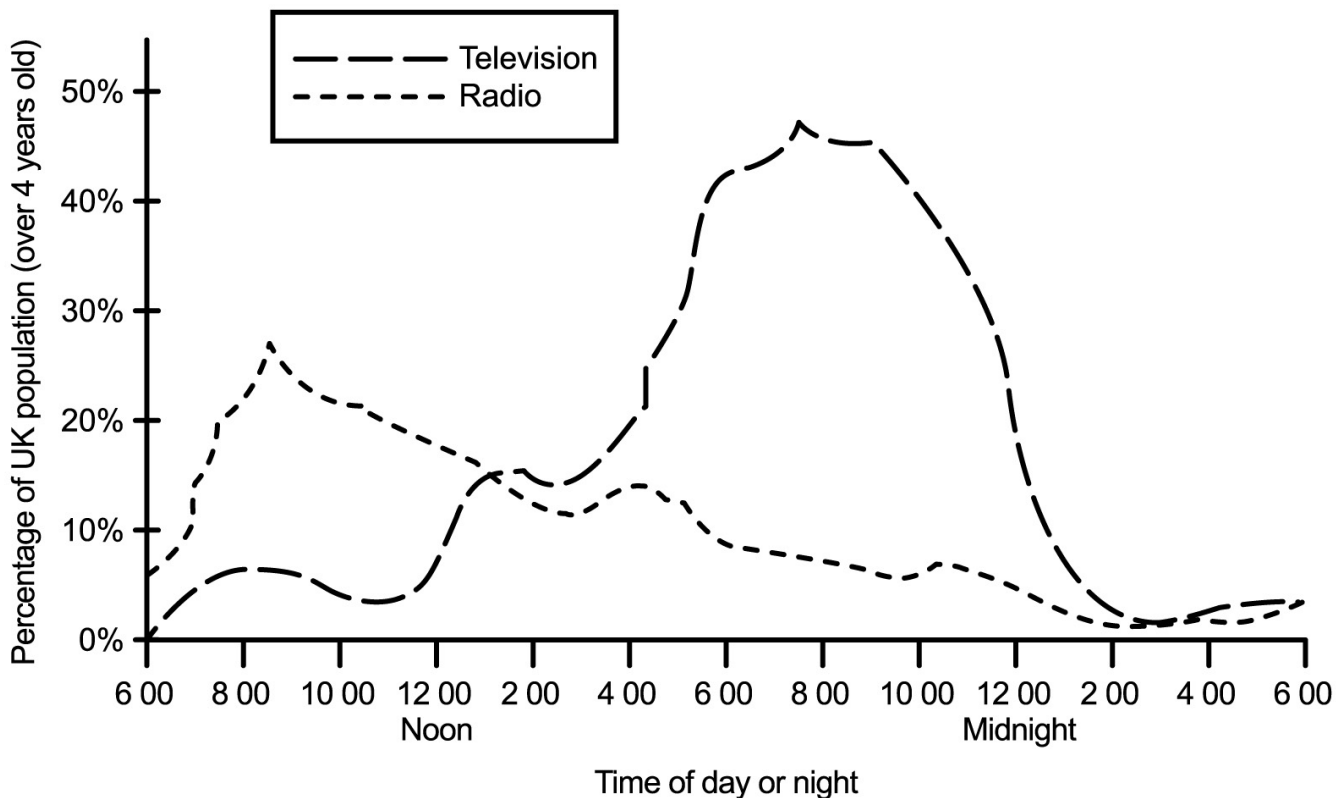
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows radio and television audiences throughout the day in 1992. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Radio and television audiences in UK, October – December 1992



Academic Writing Sample Task 1B

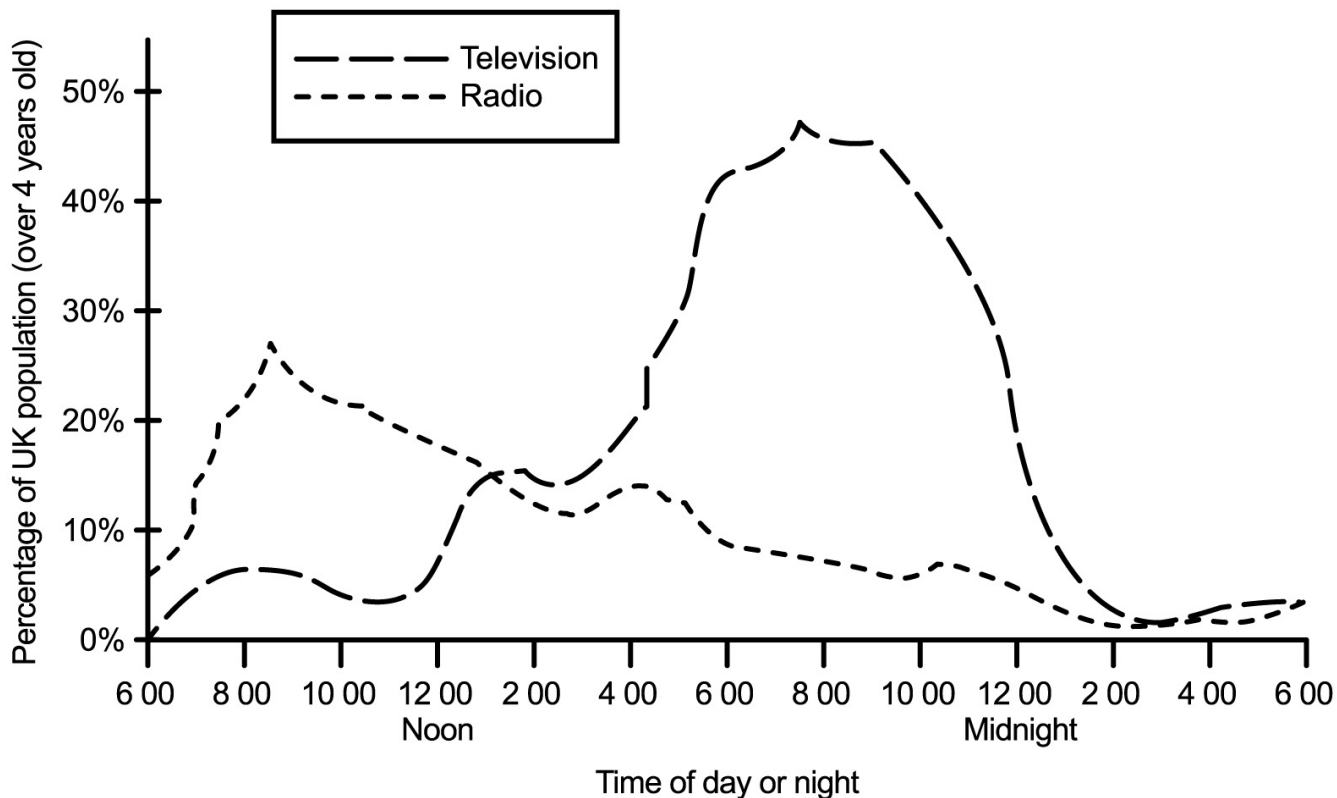
WRITING TASK 1

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Write at least 150 words.

Radio and television audiences in UK, October – December 1992



ACADEMIC WRITING SAMPLE TASK 2A

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

The first car appeared on British roads in 1888. By the year 2000 there may be as many as 29 million vehicles on British roads.

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

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

ACADEMIC WRITING SAMPLE TASK 2B

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

The threat of nuclear weapons maintains world peace. Nuclear power provides cheap and clean energy.

The benefits of nuclear technology far outweigh the disadvantages.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.