

The Key to IELTS Writing Worksheets Lessons 16 to 20

Lesson 16

Test Practice 4 – Academic writing task 2 – To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Notes and key ideas:

16.1 Timing

16.2 Making your position clear throughout

Listening exercise

Listen once to the model answer and identify my position. How did I make this clear throughout?

Thesis statements

Which sentence more accurately reflects my position? Which ones would make my position unclear?

Print off a planner and listen again. Make notes on the planner to try to recreate my plan. You can try to write all or part of my essay too if you want.

Language focus 1

Use the verbs in the box and the words in brackets to fill in the gaps:

Many community services rely on people to volunteer their time and effort. Some people think that forcing high school students to take part in programmes like this is a good idea. Doing so ¹ _____ repercussions for all concerned.

Firstly, creating a programme that is compulsory ² _____ (certainly) an impact on the community and the children involved. Not all teenagers are mature enough for work like this. As a result, if they are expected to help the elderly, work on renovation projects, or teach younger children, the programme ³ _____ more problems than it ⁴ _____. The charities ⁵ _____ (also) extra work in supervising these students. In addition, high school students have a great deal of academic pressure, so adding more to their timetable ⁶ _____ (not) possible, especially for any with high academic ambitions. Thus, establishing this type of programme ⁷ _____ difficult.

Nevertheless, there ⁸ _____ (also) clear benefits. It is easy for teenagers to become focused only on their studies or their personal interests, and many would not normally choose to become involved in this type of community work. Thus, if it is made part of the standard curriculum, the students ⁹ _____ the opportunity to try something new. Furthermore, while it is true that many lack maturity, work of this nature ¹⁰ _____ them to develop a sense of responsibility, and teach them real-world skills that ¹¹ _____ very useful in their future career. Teaching teenagers to be more community-minded ¹² _____ (also) that older volunteers ¹³ _____ (eventually) less, or even retire. Therefore, even though both groups ¹⁴ _____ adapt, everyone taking part ¹⁵ _____ (more; likely) from the experience.

In conclusion, I ¹⁶ _____ (completely) this proposal. Although the idea of compulsory community service ¹⁷ _____ (initially) difficult to implement, and some ¹⁸ _____ the idea, its long-term benefits ¹⁹ _____ (surely) any short-term problems.

Listen again to check your answers before looking at the model answer.

Language focus 2

Which words and phrases from the model essay mean the same as the words in the list?

1. to do something willingly without payment or being forced	10. to benefit
2. negative effects	11. thinking about the community
3. you must do it; obligatory	12. to change
4. watching to make sure an activity is done safely or well	13. suggestion
5. normal, ordinary, typical	14. to put into operation / carry out
6. the subjects studied in school	15. to fight against something
7. (this) type (of work) – (work of this) _____	16. lasting a long time
8. something that applies to normal life	17. lasting a short time
9. participating	18. compensate for

Make a note of any language you would like to learn.

16.3 Problems and solutions

Notes and key ideas:

Write one or two of the body paragraphs using my plan.

Extra practice

Make a note of any new language you would like to learn from the 2 model essays in this lesson

Lesson 17	Test practice 5 – Academic task 3 – Dealing with more complex test questions
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Notes and key ideas

17.1 Thinking and planning

17.2 The language of cause and effect

Match the extracts to the correct part of the text. Write your answers here.

17.3 A positive or a negative development

Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words in the list:

- 1) containing lots of sugar
- 2) there is a lot of it
- 3) the part of your tongue that detects flavour
- 4) a strong feeling of wanting something (usually food, but it is also used with 'attention')
- 5) people who do not earn very much are _____
- 6) needing the support of something or someone
- 7) the main food eaten (usually within a country or region)
- 8) eating or use
- 9) chemicals added to food and drink (often to add taste)
- 10) nourishment; food (as a means of fuelling the body)
- 11) a country's system for taking care of medical problems
- 12) not going away

Extra practice

Language notes from the model answers:

Lesson 18	Test Practice 6 – Academic writing task 4 – Dealing with more abstract topics
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Notes and Key ideas

18.1 More abstract topics

18.2 My Model

- 1) Can you change the last sentence in my introduction to produce a clear thesis statement for my essay?

2) Language focus: Grammar- Change the verbs in brackets to the correct tense.

In some parts of the world, native languages ¹ _____ (lose) as the world ² _____ (develop) and ³ _____ (evolve). Some believe that this is unimportant and even see it as an advantage. This essay will discuss whether the loss of languages should be cause for concern.

Certain aspects of everyday life ⁴ _____ (make) through sharing a common language. First and foremost, business transactions are much simpler when the two parties concerned can understand each other well. Travel problems can also ⁵ _____ (deal with) much faster when there is mutual understanding. Thanks to globalization, these types of communication ⁶ _____ (increase), and could ⁷ _____ (see) as largely responsible for the disappearance of languages in more remote areas. If people in those areas ⁸ _____ (want) to do business with others, to avoid frustrations, they ⁹ _____ (adopt) the more widely used languages of the world. Thus, with each new generation, their native tongue becomes both less useful and less used. Thus, sadly, the need to make life simpler makes the loss of some languages inevitable.

Nevertheless, language has a multitude of uses that go far beyond tourism and business communication. Firstly, our native tongue ¹⁰ _____ (use) to express our deepest feelings and emotions. These are much more difficult to convey when using a second language. Language also ¹¹ _____ (play) an important part in our culture and identity, uniting us as a community. Thus, when a language is lost, part of the community and culture also ¹² _____ (disappear). This must be an enormous loss for the people concerned. Clearly, some people ¹³ _____ (affect) far more than others by the disappearance of a language.

In conclusion, while it is true that having fewer languages ¹⁴ _____ (benefit) the world of business, and ¹⁵ _____ (make) transactions easier, I completely disagree with the view that the continued loss of languages is unimportant. The variety of native languages is what makes the world a richer place, and any loss of this kind should not ¹⁶ _____ (dismiss) lightly.

3) Language focus: Vocabulary

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

- 1) a reason to be worried
 - 2) understanding each other
 - 3) places that are far away
 - 4) accept or start to use something new
 - 5) the language you learn from birth
 - 6) cannot be avoided
 - 7) a large number of
 - 8) to communicate or express
 - 9) bringing people together
 - 10) buying or selling something
 - 11) not important
 - 12) to decide that something is not important
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18.3 More abstract themes

Model essay 2

Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below (NB they are in the same order as the text)

1. admire or respect
 2. have an effect on someone or something
 3. limits
 4. encourage
 5. unwanted
 6. holding a position or job
 7. (be) seen in the media
 8. stupid, likely to cause problems
 9. the way you live
 10. the ability to make good decisions
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Extra practice

Make a note of any vocabulary you want to learn to help you write about abstract topics and ideas.

Lesson 19	Overview and Review
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Notes and Key ideas

19.1 Planning

Thinking strategies

Planning strategies

Writing strategies

Checking strategies

19.2 Timed test practice advice

19.3 Reviewing

Extra practice

Lesson 20	Timed test practice
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20.1 Test questions 1 and 2

Model answer 1 Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

1. who a person is, the qualities that make them different
 2. natural; a talent or quality you were born with
 3. a desire to be like everyone else in a group
 4. to admire
 5. to behave in an acceptable way - the same as everyone else
 6. to act in a way that does not follow the accepted rules
 7. to be noticeable; to be different to everyone else
 8. different to what is expected
 9. to create problems
 10. to make bad decisions
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MY NOTES:

Model answer 2 Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

1. inside
 2. perfect
 3. to be without (something)
 4. the ability to control your own behaviour
 5. having no desire to do something
 6. not thinking or worrying about the results of effects of something
 7. small jobs at home
 8. using good judgment
 9. having varied life experiences
 10. an equal amount of time relaxing and working
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MY NOTES:

20.2 Test questions 3 and 4

Model answer 3 Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

1. the mark or name of a company
 2. money given by a company to support someone
 3. to give your support to; promote
 4. to fail to notice (a problem)
 5. managing several different elements at once
 6. something that can bring in a lot of money
 7. to change something completely (for the better)
 8. to grow and develop in a very successful way
 9. official rules and controls
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MY NOTES:

Model answer 4 Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

1. becoming involved
2. there are now more people trying to get or do the same thing
3. to strongly persuade someone to do something they don't want to do
4. to say you will not do something
5. the belief that something will happen
6. to take care of (a problem)
7. to increase the range of something
8. extremely tired
9. to assess or calculate
10. able to produce a lot
11. to achieve your goals
12. (doing something) for or in the place of (someone else)

MY NOTES:

20.3 Test questions 5 and 6

Model answer 5 Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

1. the growth of a city
 2. the natural areas where animals live
 3. people who illegally hunt and kill animals
 4. in danger
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5. types of animals that may die out or disappear

6. very important form of help (a way of saving someone)

7. to copy or doing something again in the same way

8. unable to move freely; not free

9. to show

10. synonyms for animals:

11. synonyms for zoos:

MY NOTES:

Model answer 6 Language focus

Find a word or phrase in the model answer that means the same as the words below.

1. option

2. the part of a city or town where the key local shops are

3. the old people

4. to have a quick and simple way of getting to something

5. deliveries from the business direct to your home

6. to change something slightly (often to suit a situation or purpose)

7. a shop found on a street (not online)

8. thinking about or considering the environment

9. working together to achieve something

MY NOTES:

Pauline's Essay planner

Introduction		Themes:
General topic:		
Focus:		
Issue to discuss:		
My initial position:		
Side A:	Side B:	
Main topic of this paragraph:	Main topic of this paragraph:	
What did I show or prove? Link to the question?	What did I show or prove? Link to the question?	
Conclusion - Summary of my main points:		
Question to answer:		
My Final position:		
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