

Academic Writing Sample Task – 2A

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Children who are brought up in families that do not have large amounts of money are better prepared to deal with the problems of adult life than children brought up by wealthy parents.

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.

Academic Writing Sample Task – 2B

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

International tourism has brought enormous benefit to many places. At the same time, there is concern about its impact on local inhabitants and the environment.

Do the disadvantages of international tourism outweigh the advantages?

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

Write at least 250 words.

Academic Writing Sample Task – 2A – Sample Script B

I greatly support the idea about children who are brought up in families that do not have large amounts of money are better prepared to deal with the problems of adult life than children brought up by wealthy parents. I support it, because of the following reason.

Children who are brought up in families that do not have large amounts of money are wise in a certain psychological values. Such as the value of hardworking, discipline, they are used to be in the condition where money doesn't come easily. They have to earn it, work for it. Opposite to it, a child who comes from a wealthy family is used to have money all the time. Whenever they want something, the money is easily given to them as if everyday are their birthday.

Children who are brought up in families that do not have large amounts of money are well-trained to face adulthood. They are well-prepared to see the fact that the world is a very tough place. They watched their parent everyday worked very hard just to put the food on the table. They have the advantage to see the reality and embrace it, set their mind that they too have work hard for their future, their own dreams, their authentic self. A child that come from a wealthy family doesn't always have this advantage. This is because their eyes are blinded by the power of money, that their parent has. They also have a disadvantage of a family love life. Commonly

wealthy parents express love by money. They love their children, so they bought them cars, expensive clothes, toys, but they are never home when their children needs them. The basic necessity of compassion isn't fulfilled in this kind of family. The impact to a child is that they will grow up and think that money is everything, that the source of happiness is money. They don't care about other people, they only care about money. The problem is they don't know how to get it, they've been spoiled all the time, so doesn't have the time to ~~discover~~ discovered the art of money making, only money spending. On the contrary children from families that do not have large amount of money will grow up with the sense of respect for money, they know how to get it and use it well. They know how to face adult life problems because they've been watching since they were a child. But a wealthy child is always too busy with himself to know that.

Examiner comment

Band 6.5

The arguments in this response are generally well developed, ideas are appropriate and there is a clear position. (It is a shame that the first paragraph, and beginning of the second are mainly copied from the rubric.) Better use of paragraphing would have allowed a clearer focus to some of the supporting points and prevented the lapse into generalisation towards the end. Nevertheless, there is a generally clear progression with a good arrangement of opposing arguments. Referencing is usually accurate and effective, but better use of linkers would have improved the cohesion. Vocabulary is varied and used with some flexibility. The choice is not always precise but the test taker can evidently incorporate less common/idiomatic phrases into the argument and there is a good range that is generally accurate. The repetition of language from the rubric, while integrated, reveals a lack of ability to paraphrase. Regular errors detract from the use of a range of structures, although they do not detract from overall clarity. This is a generally good response to the task, but the weaknesses in organisation and grammatical control limit the rating to Band 6.5.

Academic Writing Sample Task – 2A – Sample Script C

I do agree to the statement that 'children brought up in poor families are better prepared to deal with the problems of adult life than children brought up by wealthy parents.'

Children of poor parents are prematurely exposed to the problems of adult life eg. ~~earning a living~~ learning to survive on a low family income ^{and} sacrificing luxuries for essential items. These children begin to see the 'realities' of life in their home or social environment. Their parents' own struggles serve as an example to them.

These children are taught necessary skills for survival as an adult from a very early age. Many children eg work in the weekends or holidays to either collect some pocket money or even contribute to their families' income. A good example is the many children who accompany their parents to sell produce at the market. They are making a direct contribution to their families in terms of labor or income.

Children of poor families also are highly motivated. They tend to set high goals to improve their ^{economic & social} situation. A relevant example would be Mr Bill Gates (founder of Microsoft Corporation) He had an impoverished background but he used his talent and motivation to set up the world's largest computer organisation.

However, there are some problems that children from poor backgrounds do encounter. Many of these children who are 'robbed' of their childhood ~~by~~ while working, may feel cheated. They often turn to crime ~~to~~ This however, is a small group.

In summing up, children with impoverished backgrounds are able to deal with problems of adult life because of early exposure, family role models and sheer motivation.

Examiner comment

Band 8.5

The topic is very well addressed and explored in depth. The position is clear throughout and directly answers the question. The ideas presented are relevant and very well supported, apart from some over-generalisation in the penultimate paragraph. However, there is no mention of how well children from 'wealthy parents' deal with problems. Although this is not a requirement, it could be added to further improve the response. The ideas and information are very well organised and paragraphing is used appropriately throughout. The answer can be read with ease due to the sophisticated handling of cohesive devices, with only minimal lapses (for example, the use of 'e.g.'). The writer uses a wide and very natural range of vocabulary with full flexibility. There are many examples of appropriate modification, collocation and precise vocabulary choice. Syntax is equally varied and sophisticated. There are only occasional errors in an otherwise very accurate answer. Overall this is a very strong performance and a good example of Band 8.5.

Academic Writing Sample Task – 2B – Sample Script A

International tourism has brought enormous benefit to many places. At the same time there is concern about its impact on local inhabitants and the environment.

Do the disadvantages of international tourism outweigh the advantages?

In my opinion advantages outweigh the disadvantages. Firstly, many countries like Egypt or Iceland live from tourism. Lots of people work there as seafarers or tourist guides. These countries without support of tourists wouldn't be able to function properly.

Secondly, in countries visited by tourists are plenty of places where people just can't pass because of rare animals or plants.

Another thing is that people like traveling and seeing new ^{exotic} places. They like to lie on the beach or swim in ocean.

But on the other hand, tourism is now more growing industry helping thousands of people. There are making new places to work and to have fun.

But on the other hand, people often forget that they aren't the only beings on the planet.

Many tourists are leaving garbage just anywhere. Some of them want an exotic souvenir so they pay for illegal things like dead ^{or live} animals or some sculpture.

To sum up I think ~~international~~ international traveling is a good thing but people must realize that there is something else besides them. They need to know that flora and fauna needs to be protected. People have to enjoy their holidays but also protect environment.

Examiner comment

Band 5.5

The first five lines of this response are directly copied rubric; no credit is given for copied rubric. The topic is addressed and a relevant position is expressed, although there are patches (as in the fourth paragraph) where the development is unclear. Other ideas are more evidently relevant, but are sometimes insufficiently developed. In spite of this, ideas are clearly organised and there is an overall progression within the response. There is some effective use of a range of cohesive devices, including referencing, but there is also some mechanical use of linkers in places. Paragraphs are sometimes rather too short and inappropriate. A range of vocabulary is attempted and this is adequate for a good response to the task. However, control is weak and there are frequent spelling errors that can cause some difficulties for the reader, thus keeping the rating down for the lexical criterion. The test taker uses a mix of simple and complex structures with frequent subordinate clauses. Control of complex structures is variable, and although errors are noticeable they only rarely impede communication. Although there are some features of a higher band in this response, flaws in the paragraphing and the errors in vocabulary limit this rating to Band 5.5.

Academic Writing Sample Task – 2B – Sample Script B

'Tourism' – friend or foe?

Tourism is a very big industry in the modern time and is growing quite rapidly. Thousands ~~and~~ people travel everywhere to various destinations every year. Arguments have come up regarding the benefits and negative impacts of tourism in places and on its local inhabitants and environment; however, I believe there are more advantages than disadvantages of international tourism.

People travel for various reasons; they we travel for business purpose, holidays, visit friends and relatives etc. Travelling is mostly seen as ^a recreational activity. Tourism has many advantages. Tourism can play a tremendous part in a country's economy, the more tourists visit a country and spend money there the better it is for the country; in that way more money is circulated within the country and even the stability of their currency rate of exchange persists if not improve. Vendors and shops get to sell more goods and ~~tourists~~ make an income. Tourism also has its non-monetary advantages; it brings cultures and people closer. People from all around the world get to share their culture with each other and even learn more. This is a good opportunity in education.

Tourism seems to have some disadvantages too; However, I believe the problems caused by tourism ~~are~~ are not something that cannot be solved or prevented.

A lot of people believe that tourism can destroy or deviate culture and causes quite an impact ~~on~~ on visited locations. such as pollution and littering.

People can ~~not~~ adhere to their own beliefs and way of life if they want to; no one can really forcefully influence someone to change from their morals and ethics. Pollution can be avoided by increasing usage of environmental friendly vehicles used for tours and rents, Warnings and visual education on littering and smoking, Specific times can be allocated for tours to certain areas, such as peak times where

Local inhabitants feel uncomfortable due to too many foreigners.

Where there are problems there can always be solutions. Tourism brings great amount of advantages for any place in many ways and is a 'win-win' exchange process. The very ^{few} problems caused can always be avoided or taken care of. I believe tourism should be highly promoted, specially in ~~more~~ traditional and poor countries with natural beauty such as Bangladesh.

Examiner comment

Band 7.5

The test taker addresses both aspects of the task and presents a clear position throughout the response. Ideas are relevant, well extended and supported, although there are occasional lapses in content (as in the opening of paragraph 2 and the tendency to 'present solutions to the disadvantages' in paragraph 3). However, ideas are logically organised and there is a clear progression. A range of cohesive devices is used effectively, but some under-use of connectives and substitution and some lapses in the use of referencing are noticeable. A wide range of vocabulary is used flexibly. The test taker can convey precise meanings, and although awkward expressions or inappropriacies in word choice occur, these are only occasional and do not limit the rating for this criterion. Likewise, a good range of sentence structures is used with a high level of accuracy resulting in frequent error-free sentences. Minor systematic errors persist, however, and punctuation is unhelpful at times. The strength of the appropriate response to the task, and the lexical resource in particular, mean overall this response is a good example of Band 7.5.