

Writing workout 2: Structuring an essay

General Training and Academic Writing Task 2

- 1 Look at this Task 2 and think about how you might answer it.

Below are five popular jobs. State which three you consider to be the most important to society today.

doctor
teacher
engineer
computer programmer
journalist

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

Write at least 250 words.



- 2 Read the following two essays. Which one do you think would achieve higher marks? Think about:

- 1 how well the question is answered
- 2 how the essay is organised
- 3 if there are relevant examples of personal experience/knowledge
- 4 the range of vocabulary used
- 5 if there are examples of complex sentences.

A

Which jobs are the most important to our society today? I believe that of the five jobs mentioned, these three are of the utmost importance: a doctor, a teacher and a journalist.

First of all, I would like to say that just one doctor can make a big difference to the well-being of the inhabitants of a village or town. Let me give you an example. In the past, people were reliant on witch doctors or wise women. Nowadays, thanks to doctors, we all have access to better diagnosis and treatment.

Teachers are also important to our society. If there is no access to education, then a society will remain in the dark ages. People need to learn and understand about themselves and the way that the Earth works. One example is the education of women. It is a well-known fact that when women are educated, the whole of society benefits, as the women will pass their knowledge down to their children.

Finally, I am going to consider the role of journalists in society. A good journalist will find out as much as possible about things which may affect society – for good or bad. Without the journalists who investigated the Watergate affair, for example, we would never have found out about what Nixon had been doing. Consequently, I believe that journalists are important to society.

To sum up, out of the five professions, I believe that doctors, teachers and journalists are more important to society than engineers or computer programmers.

(250 words)



B

In our society today, most jobs require workers to be computer literate, since businesses are now practically run by computers in order to ensure a faster and more efficient output. Technology is developing and the use of computers is increasing. If one does not know how to work with or even use a computer, it will be very difficult for society. That's why I think that computer programmers are essential to society today.

Secondly, in our society, different jobs provide different experiences. Being a doctor is more important than being a teacher, for example. I know this from my experience. My brother is a doctor in a large hospital in my city and he works very hard and has more money and more respect from society than a teacher. Having respect from society is very important, because if your job is valued, then you feel yourself to be valued as well.

Thirdly, engineers and journalists are quite important but not as important as doctors and computer programmers. In fact, they are often not respected professionals. In many countries, journalists lie and often have to go to jail; consequently, this profession would not be essential to society.

In conclusion, I should add that I would like to be a computer programmer and that is why I think like I do. I will be able to help society with the work I do. The company I am going to work for helps people all over the world to have a much better life.

(251 words)

3 What should the writing plan be for this task?

- Introduction
- Paragraph 1
- Paragraph 2
- Paragraph 3
- Conclusion

4 Look at the following words and phrases taken from both essays and try to think of other ways you can say them. (See Writing Folders 3 and 8 in the Student's Book.)

- 1 First of all, I would like to say that ...
- 2 I believe that ...
- 3 Secondly, ...
- 4 One example is ...
- 5 In conclusion, ...
- 6 important

5 Read this example of an IELTS Task 2 answer and punctuate it (add paragraphing, capital letters, full stops, commas and dashes).

should children be allowed to work that is a good question i believe it depends on the age of the child and the type of work that it is asked to do broadly speaking i think that children under the age of 14 should not be allowed to work but from that age on it is permissible if it is regulated first of all children need to learn about the workplace and the pressures that they will face when they finish school secondly children need to understand the relationship between work and money at a fairly young age unless they are from a very rich family they will need to work one way that many children are introduced to work in my country is by way of a newspaper round or a saturday job another example of how children can be introduced to the world of work is by having work experience weeks at their school this can be a very valuable experience as they need to get up early travel to work deal with people and possibly endure total boredom finally although i believe that children should find out about work when they are teenagers i am totally against children younger than 12 working children need to go to school and they also need to have time to play and grow to sum up i believe that when children reach a certain age it is important that they get a job it is part of growing up of learning to be a responsible adult

6 Write about the following topic. You should make a plan first of all.

To get a good job today, it is more important for children to study mathematics and foreign languages than art and music.

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.

- Introduction
- Paragraph 1
- Paragraph 2/3
- Conclusion

Writing workout 3: Graphs and tables

Academic Training Writing Task 1

1 Which of these are important for a good chart/graph/table task? Tick the boxes which apply.

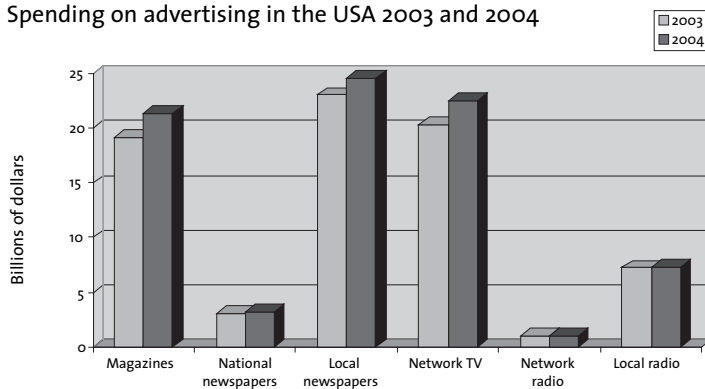
- 1 at least 150 words in length
- 2 mention of all the data
- 3 well-organised paragraphs grouping data
- 4 a comparison, if asked for
- 5 a repetition of the question
- 6 a variety of vocabulary and structure
- 7 reasons for any change in the data
- 8 accurate figures (possibly approximate)

2 Look at the task below and the sentences on the right. Decide whether or not each sentence is appropriate in an answer to the question. If it is not, say why.

The bar chart below shows the amount spent on different types of advertising in the USA in 2003 and 2004. The table shows the six sectors which spent most on advertising in the USA in 2003 and 2004.

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

Spending on advertising in the USA 2003 and 2004



Ranked spending on advertising in the USA in 2003 and 2004

Sector	Rank 2003	Rank 2004
Automotive	1	1
Retail	2	2
Telecom/Internet	3	3
Medicine	4	4
Financial services	6	5
Food, beverages	5	6

- 1 The charts show the amount of money spent by the automotive industry in 2003 and 2004.
- 2 Food and beverages rose in popularity in 2004 because of the increased power of supermarket advertising.
- 3 There was an increase in spending on advertising in local newspapers in 2004.
- 4 I think that local newspapers are the best way to advertise.
- 5 Although there was a rise in the amount spent on advertising in magazines, there was very little increase in advertising on local radio.
- 6 There was a dramatic fall in the amount spent on advertising in national newspapers in 2004.
- 7 The bar chart shows the amount spent on different types of advertising in the USA in 2003 and 2004.
- 8 The amount spent on advertising in 2004 was just over \$20 billion in magazines, under \$5 billion in national newspapers, just under \$25 billion in local newspapers, around \$22 billion on network TV, \$1–2 billion on network radio and finally, \$6 billion on local radio.

3 Look at the sample answer to the task in exercise 2. Complete the spaces with one of the words from the box.

accounted change fell followed
 least ~~overall~~ period reaching
 rose showed whereas

According to the bar chart, there was an 0 overall increase in spending on advertising in the USA in the 1 2003 to 2004. Advertisements in magazines, local newspapers and on network TV 2 for the largest increases, 3 advertising in national newspapers, network radio and local radio only 4 a slight increase. The most favoured forms of advertising were in local newspapers, with the amount spent 5 almost \$25 billion in 2004, 6 by network TV at \$23 billion. Network radio was the 7 favoured form of advertising at \$2 billion in 2004.

There was no 8 from 2003 in the top four business sectors when it came to spending on advertising in 2004. The automotive industry ranked number 1, followed by the retail industry. Financial services 9 to fifth place in the rankings, taking the place of food and beverages, which 10 to sixth place.

(160 words)

4 Correct the mistakes below made by IELTS candidates.

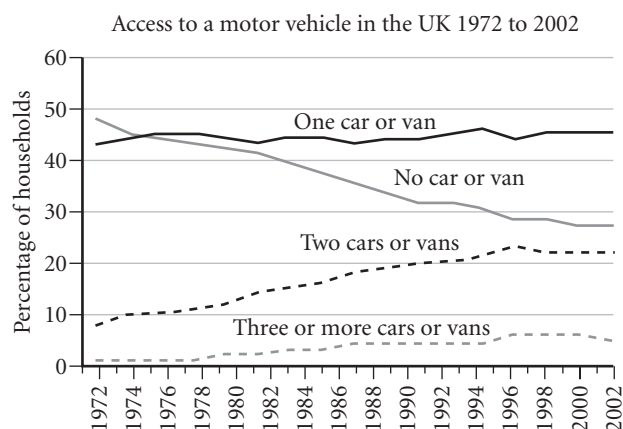
- 1 From this charts, we can find out about the difference in spending between the UK and the USA.
- 2 The middle chart it show us the increase in money spent in developing countries.
- 3 The chart describes the amount spend.
- 4 Britain spent the highest amount in consumer goods.
- 5 The third most popular goods was toys.
- 6 Personal stereos were spent nearly the same amount as TVs.
- 7 The highest popular consumer item was the camera and the lowest was the personal stereo.
- 8 Majority of people spent most on films.
- 9 The graph show that electricity use in winter are much greater than in summer.
- 10 The use of electricity is shown at a pie chart.
- 11 The number of units decrease sharply.
- 12 Several figures is increasing.
- 13 The demand of electricity then decline until 0800.
- 14 There is a different of 5.2 between the figures.
- 15 It's clear that unemployment have decreased.

5 Do this Task 1.

The line graph shows changes in car ownership between 1972 and 2002 in the UK. The table shows the main method of travel to work in the UK in 2002.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information in the graph and table.

Write at least 150 words.



Main method of travel to work in the UK, 2002 (% of people)

Country	Car or van	Motorbike or scooter	Bicycle	Bus or coach	Train	Foot	Other
England	70.6	1.3	3	7.5	6.8	10.3	0.5
Wales	80.4	-	1.3	4.5	1.1	11.5	-
Scotland	69.6	-	1.7	11.4	2.9	12.5	1.1
Northern Ireland	79.9	-	-	5.0	-	11.4	1.6