

# IELTS Academic Writing Task 2 Explained

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# Writing Task 2 - Overview

- You are presented with a point of view, argument or problem and asked to write an essay in response
- Spend about 40 minutes on the task
- Write an essay
- Write 250 words

# Writing Task 2 - Types of Questions

- Ask your opinion about something
- Ask you to discuss to different points of view
- Ask you to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of something
- Ask you to discuss the causes/problems and solutions of something

## Task 2 - Organization

1. Understand the question
2. Plan your answer
3. Write an introduction
4. Write the main body paragraphs
5. Write a conclusion

# Task 2 - Organization

## 1. Understand the question

- Be sure you understand the question
- Answer the question fully

# Task 2 - Organization

## 2. Plan Your Answer

- Take 5-10 minutes to plan how you will answer
- This helps you to organize your ideas and structure your essay before you write it

# Task 2 - Organization

## 3. Write an Introduction

- The introduction should tell the examiner what the rest of the essay is about and also answer the question directly
- Write a **Thesis Statement**



## Task 2 - Organization

### 4. Write the main body paragraphs

- State your main points and support these with explanations and examples
- Write clear topic sentences

## Task 2 - Organization

### 5. Write a conclusion

- Provide a summary of what you already said in the rest of your essay.

# **WARNING! - Timing is Important**

- Some students spend too long on Task 1 and then don't have enough time for Task 2
- You should practice writing Task 1 in 20 minutes
- If you spend too long on Task 1, you won't have enough time to answer part 2 adequately

## **WARNING! - Don't Show Off**

- If you try to use advanced vocabulary and grammar structures, but use them incorrectly, you will actually get a lower score
- It is much better to use a simpler structure you are 100% sure is correct

# Task 2 - Tips #1

- Make your opinions very clear

- ❑ I believe that....
- ❑ It is agreed that...
- ❑ It is disagreed that...
- ❑ This essays agrees that....
- ❑ This essay does not agree that.....

## Task 2 - Tips #2

- Paraphrase
- Use synonyms

## Task 2 - Tips #3

- Never memorize an answer

## Task 2 - Tips #4

- Use a lot of cohesive devices
  - ❑ Comparison - Also, Equally, Similarly, Compared with
  - ❑ Addition - And, Also, Furthermore, Too
  - ❑ Sequencing - First, Second, Third, Next, Then, After
  - ❑ Exemplification - For example, For instance, Such as
  - ❑ Result - So, Therefore, As a result, Thus, Because
  - ❑ Contrast - In comparison, In contrast, Instead, Conversely
  - ❑ Etc...



## Task 2 - Tips #5

- Don't overuse words
- Use multiple cohesive devices

## Task 2 - Tips #6

- The Examiners do not care about your opinion
- Just write the easiest opinion

## Task 2 - Tips #7

- Keep it simple

☐ Just show them in a simple way that you have understood the question and you can express yourself in English. That's it.

## Task 1 Sample Question

Some people think that spending a lot on holding wedding parties, birthday parties and other celebrations is just a waste of money. Others, however, think that these are necessary for individuals and the society. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

# Task 2 Sample Answer - 285 Words

In the modern world, throwing parties can be challenging for its organizers. However, there is an opinion that it can create a new society, which is more organized and cheerful. Personally, I reckon that celebrations' number should be limited in order to make a conscious society.

It is widely known that ordinary people spend the significant amount of money on the celebrations of parties, such as weddings, birthdays and graduation. Consequently, they can face with shortage of money after the celebrations. A good illustration of this is weddings in Central Asia, where citizens take loans and credits in order to celebrate parties. Furthermore, parties can lead to an unhealthy lifestyle. That is to say, not controlling your diet can lead to the deterioration of well-being. To illustrate, many party animals are suffering from diseases relating to their digestion.

On the other hand, such kinds of events can be beneficial for the individuals as well as for the society. First of all, it can create a new community. It is widely accepted that if individuals spend their time at the parties, they can communicate with other people. As a result, they can develop their soft skills. For instance, the community can get a benefit from these communications, because it can lead to the prosperity. Secondly, the parties can leave good memories. The important thing is that individuals get various emotions and enjoyment. For example, many people can feel sadness, when they are graduated from the universities or schools.

To conclude, although celebrations of events can bring various emotions and amusement, personally, I believe that their number should be regulated, because people can waste their money. In addition, it can create some minor problems for the health.

# Homework

1. I will put a Task 2 Question in the video description
2. You write a Task 2 sample **introduction**
3. Post your Task 2 **introduction** in the comments section
4. I will give some feedback