

## TEST A, WRITING TASK 1 (GENERAL TRAINING)

### 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 Sally,

My departure date for New Zealand is drawing near, and I am busy with preparations. I have enrolled at an institution called 'ABC English' in Wellington, for a six-month Advanced course, full-time. It is quite expensive but I am hopeful of improving my pronunciation, especially.

To assist in covering the costs of my study, I aim to find a part-time job. Not only are the college fees rather high, but also I know that rental accommodation in the capital city will not be cheap, to say nothing of food and heating expenses! So I would very much like to arrange some temporary employment before I arrive.

I was wondering if you could ask around among your friends and colleagues to see if anyone wants a house-cleaner, gardener, or nanny for their children. I know you have a wide social network in Wellington which you could canvas for me, if you wouldn't mind. I'd be so grateful.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Best wishes,

Margot

## TEST A, WRITING TASK 2 (GENERAL TRAINING)

### SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 5** score. Here is the examiner's comment:

Both parts of the prompt are addressed, although the main ideas and the writer's position could be better developed. No clear conclusions are drawn so there is a lack of overall progression. Organisation is evident but not always logical, and the sentences are not fluently linked to each other, while each paragraph lacks a clear topic. The vocabulary is limited but minimally adequate, with not much variation in expression, and the frequent spelling errors are noticeable and cause some difficulty for the reader. The range of sentence types is limited and rather repetitive. Complex sentences are attempted but tend to be faulty, and there are a number of basic errors. Punctuation is poorly controlled, with underuse of capital letters and fullstops.

I am going to write about how the amount of crime is increasing in many countries and why.

Nowdays there are many countries has increasing on the amount of crime and I think the problem is that most of the crim has done by the young people which is under 18 and from the age you can see and you can understand what is going on but in my openion I think the main causes is the family and the school, the family I mean the mum an dad they have to look after theire tenagers until they grow up and do not let them watch films which has a fight or blod, the school is the same as the second house for the tenagers and they have to teach them how to grow up in good way and teach them how to respect the old people.

For example I have been told from my oldest brother that in the UK 2 years ago a boy from Qatar he is 16 years old has killed by graube of tenagers in Haisting and they killed him without any reasons and when the Police asked them why did you do that they said we want to show of we are the best. So you can say they learn from the action movies.

Finally I hope all the people can help the tenagers to give them advice and to let them know what will happen after the crime. Also in schools they must teach them how to avoied the bad movies and to grow up in safe way.

## TEST B, WRITING TASK 1 (GENERAL TRAINING)

### SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 8** score. Here is the examiner's comment:

The response addresses all the bullet points very naturally, and expands fully on two of them. The reason for the celebration is covered at the beginning and the end, but could be more fully developed. The message is easy to follow, ideas are logically sequenced and all aspects of cohesion are well managed. The paragraphing is sufficient but could be improved: the three short, single-sentence paragraphs would be better combined into one. A wide range of vocabulary is fluently used to convey precise meanings. There are several spelling errors which do not reduce the communicative effect. A wide range of grammatical structures is accurately used, with full flexibility and control. Punctuation and grammar are appropriate throughout, with no errors.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you to express my delight with the excellent service and high quality of food that your restaurant provided us last Saturday night, on the occasion of my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We were a party of twelve, which included my family, close friends and colleagues from work. Your staff went out of their way to provide seating arrangements that were easily accessible, and did not interfere with other diners. I find that this is unusual in many restaurants these days. The waiters were extremely professional and polite, and were obviously experienced as they did not encroach too much on the proceedings.

Your current menu offers a great deal of choice, as does your wine list, and everything was available. There were no complaints about the quality or quantity of the dishes served, and the presentation of each dish was akin to the dishes produced in shows such as 'Master Chef'.

I ordered the rack of pork ribs, which was deliciously succulent and, if anything, maybe slightly too large. Nevertheless, I managed to finish it!

I was similarly impressed with the large variety of local and International wines available. The wine that was ordered arrived at the correct temperature that each wine should be consumed at. The waiters were familiar with the etiquette of drinking and enjoying fine wines; and the service was paramount.

All-in-all, our group enjoyed a delicious meal at your establishment, and I had a very happy birthday.

Congratulations once again.

Yours sincerely

## TEST B, WRITING TASK 2 (GENERAL TRAINING)

### 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.

It is true that many parents purchase a multitude of playthings for their offspring. Whether or not this is a good thing for the child, is a moot point. On the face of it the advantages seem most apparent, but could there be a downside to this phenomenon of devoted parenting as well?

Most people would consider children who have many toys to be the fortunate ones. Interesting things to play with stimulate many positives in the young boy or girl, such as optimum brain development, hand-eye coordination and colour recognition, apart from the simple joy of playing. Modern toys are designed to be educational as well as fun, and concerned parents carefully select products which might speed their child's acquisition of numbers or the alphabet.

Is it possible that owning multiple toys could be in any way detrimental to a child? This is an unusual question, but there are some hidden pitfalls. For one, wealthy parents might spoil their son or daughter by showering him/her with toys, resulting in a negative effect on the child's character. For another, a growing child's concentration span may suffer if they are constantly surrounded by too many tempting objects, so that they become unable to focus on any one game for a decent length of time before being distracted. On the social side, older children may become targets of envy from classmates, if they are perceived as having far more possessions than their peers. Finally, the majority of toys today are made of plastic which commonly contains the chemical BPA, proven to be dangerous for infants to suck on or ingest.

It is clear then that this situation is not as straightforward as it first appears. It would seem that one of the many duties of parents is to make an informed choice about how many toys they buy for their young ones.