

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 Dave,

I am writing to let you know that at last we have moved to a bigger house! We just couldn't go on living in the two-bedroom bungalow now that the twins are growing up and the new baby has arrived. So we started looking – and one thing led to another and finally here we are in our new home.

I'm sure you'll like it. We have three bedrooms now, and a very modern bathroom and kitchen. The kids are happy because there is much more space with the big living room and the garden outside. But Michel is the happiest of all because he doesn't need to do much decorating.

Why don't you come round this weekend and see what you think of our new place? We would all love to see you and if the weather is good we can have a barbecue in the garden.

Our new address and phone number are below, so give us a call and let us know when to expect you.

Lots of love,

Françoise

TEST A, WRITING TASK 2 (GENERAL TRAINING)

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7** score. Here is the examiner's comment:

This script is from a very high-level candidate who does not read the task carefully and who loses marks for this and for a lack of paragraphing.

This answer is a sophisticated response to the first question in the task. Reasons for increases in both long-distance and local travel are analysed and argued. However, the second question on the benefits for the traveller is not addressed at all, so the task is only partially answered and this limits the rating. Although the answer is logically organised and ideas are well linked, unfortunately there is no attempt at paragraphing. This makes it more difficult for the reader to identify the main points in the argument. A wide range of language is used naturally and accurately. There are no noticeable mistakes in the use of vocabulary or grammar and only rare lapses in the use of punctuation and spelling. Otherwise, the writer has full control of the language used.

Today more people are travelling than ever before. The reasons for this increase are many and varied. On a simplistic level, there are larger numbers of means of transportation - there are more cars, buses and trains in operation. However, the sheer number of transportation means is not enough to explain this increase. The cost of travelling; even though it is at present increasing due to an economic slow-down globally; is still relatively affordable to many people. This affordability is further enhanced by the use of credit cards and loans in order to fund travel, especially for holiday purposes. An increase of travel companies in competition with each other has also helped bring package prices down, while an increase in the number of operating flights globally has also increased, giving rise to falling air-fare prices. In addition, people now have more leisure time and disposable incomes. The combination of these two variables with unrelenting advertising campaigns from travel companies and cruise ship operators arguably leads to an increase in the number of people travelling, in this case for holiday purposes. Another reason why people travel is going to work. More than ever before, people are travelling greater distances to get to work. Large industrial sites for both service and production industries are tending to be located outside city areas. This invariably leads to increases in the number of people travelling locally. In conclusion, there are many reasons why more people are travelling both internationally and locally, for business and for leisure. What is sure is that this increase is likely to continue until travelling at current rates is no longer economically viable.

TEST B, WRITING TASK 1 (GENERAL TRAINING)

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 4.5** score. Here is the examiner's comment:

The answer addresses the task and, although the response to bullet two is limited and not wholly focused on the prompt, the letter has a clear purpose. The points are organised but do not flow well because the progression is not always signalled clearly. Ideas can be linked, but there is only limited use of connectives, and these are not always accurate. Vocabulary is also limited, with mistakes in even basic words so the reader has to make some effort to follow the meaning. Similarly, control of sentence structure and grammar is weak, and punctuation is not used accurately. There are some correct structures, but errors are very frequent and are confusing for the reader.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this Letter to explain my problem which recently I bought dish From your shops, then it is broke.

Last week I bought a small piece of dish For my kitchen and I got warranty for that, when I current it to my home suddenly when I walking on the street I heared something is broke, then, I opened my bag, unfortunately my dish is broke and I think It was changed because that piece Like old and not that piece which I saw in first time. I call your shop several times, but, unfortunately no answer from your shop.

I would be grateful If you returen my money or changed this piece, Allso, I like to talk with that man who changed my dish and I would Like from you to stoped hem for short time for his Job.

faithfully

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.

Some countries have single-sex education models, while in others both single sex and mixed schools co-exist and it is up to the parents or the children to decide which model is preferable.

Some educationalists think it is more effective to educate boys and girls in single-sex schools because they believe this environment reduces distractions and encourages pupils to concentrate on their studies. This is probably true to some extent. It also allows more equality among pupils and gives more opportunity to all those at the school to choose subjects more freely without gender prejudice. For example, a much higher proportion of girls study science to a high level when they attend girls' schools than their counterparts in mixed schools do. Similarly, boys in single-sex schools are more likely to take cookery classes and to study languages, which are often thought of as traditional subjects for girls.

On the other hand, some experts would argue that mixed schools prepare their pupils better for their future lives. Girls and boys learn to live and work together from an early age and are consequently not emotionally underdeveloped in their relations with the opposite sex. They are also able to learn from each other, and to experience different types of skill and talent than might be evident in a single gender environment.

Personally, I think that there are advantages to both systems. I went to a mixed school, but feel that I myself missed the opportunity to specialise in science because it was seen as the natural domain and career path for boys when I was a girl. So because of that, I would have preferred to go to a girls' school. But hopefully times have changed, and both genders of student can have equal chances to study what they want to in whichever type of school they attend.