

IELTS Prep

Writing Session 3



Writing Session 3

Activity 1: Linking Words

whereas / although / because / unless / if / while / until / despite the fact that / in order to / as

1. Global warming will not be solved _____ all governments take immediate action.
2. China has a high level of outward migration, _____ Japan's is quite low.
3. _____ the government has tried to reduce people's sugar intake, it has not been successful.
4. Fewer and fewer people will attend university _____ the government does not provide student funding.
5. People are continuing to get sick in cities _____ there is so much pollution produced by cars.
6. _____ the number of people eating hamburgers rose, the number eating pizzas decreased.
7. Unemployment is increasing _____ the economy is doing well.
8. Healthy eating should be encouraged _____ avoid obesity.
9. The sales of CDs continued to fall _____ they levelled off in June.
10. Road accidents are rising _____ there are too many cars on the roads.



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Activity 2: Paraphrasing

‘Another problem that needs to be considered is that a lack of exercise contributes to obesity. As a result of leading a busy life and pressures at work, many people are just too tired to go to the gym or join a sports club. For example, after a hard day at work, many people prefer to just come home and sit in front of the TV and on weekends go out with friends. When people do have time off or a vacation they tend to relax and recover.’

being overweight / laze / hectic / an additional / free time / holiday

take it easy / due to / issue / activity / fat / thought about / adds to

should be / tough / as opposed to / citizens / taken into consideration / recreation club

non stop / would rather / not enough / exhausted / take part in / responsibilities



Writing Test 3

Activity 2: Paraphrasing Answer

'An **additional issue** that **should be taken into consideration** is that lack of exercise **adds to being overweight**. **Due to** leading a busy life and **responsibilities** at work, many people are just too **exhausted** to go to the gym or **take part in** a sports club. For example, after a hard day at work, many people **would rather** just come home and sit in front of the TV and on weekends go out with friends. When people do have **free time** or a **holiday**, they tend to **take it easy** and recover **as opposed to** going to a gym....'



Writing Session 3

Activity 3: Grammar

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. All the music in those albums _____ by famous artists.
 - a. was composed and produced
 - b. were composed and produced
2. Someone _____ my passport and gave it to the security guard.
 - a. was found
 - b. had found
3. A lot of people _____ since the start of the outbreak.
 - a. are fired
 - b. have been fired



Writing Session 3

Activity 3: Grammar

4. My classmates and I believe that a lot of time _____ on reviewing the same vocabulary over and over.
- a. is wasted
 - b. has wasted
5. They said the book _____ by the end of the year.
- a. has been published
 - b. will be published



Writing Session 3

Activity 4: Improving the Paragraph

Improve the following paragraph by changing sentences into the passive voice where appropriate.

Keep in mind that the passive is more frequently used in writing. In IELTS, it's likely that you will use the passive voice more often in Writing Task 1, especially if you're asked to describe a diagram.

The diagram illustrates the way in which people produce olive oil. Initially, farmers harvest the olives from trees and take them to a washing machine where they rinse the olives in cold water. A conveyor belt then transfers the olives to a grinding machine. During this stage, the grinding machine removes the olive stones so that it can safely grind the olives into a paste.



Writing Session 3

Activity 4: Improving the Paragraph Answer

The diagram illustrates the way in which people produce olive oil. Initially, farmers harvest the olives from trees and take them to a washing machine where they rinse the olives in cold water. A conveyor belt then transfers the olives to a grinding machine. During this stage, the grinding machine removes the olive stones so that it can safely ground the olives into a paste.

The diagram illustrates the way in which olive oil **is produced**. Initially, the olives **are harvested** from trees by farmers and **taken** to a washing machine where they **are rinsed** in cold water. The olives **are then transferred** to a grinding machine via a conveyor belt. During this stage, the olive stones **are removed** so that the olives **can be safely ground** into a paste.



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Importance of Complex Sentences: They indicate to the examiner that you can use a wide range of error-free structures. This adds to a higher band score.

A complex sentence

It is a sentence that contains an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. An independent clause can stand alone as a sentence, but a dependent clause even though it has a subject and a verb cannot stand alone.

Examples

1. Because I had to catch the train, and as we were short on time, I forgot to pack my toothbrush for our vacation.
2. As she was bright and ambitious, she became a manager in no time.



Writing Session 3

Activity 5: Simple to complex sentences

1. He confessed his crime.
2. He bought his uncle's factory.
3. He worked hard to pass the test.
4. Only Hindus can enter this temple.
5. In his childhood, Lincoln did not go to school.
6. On seeing the lion, the hunter climbed up a tree.
7. In spite of inflation, the standard of living has gone up.



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Activity 5: Simple to complex sentences Answers

1. He confessed his crime. (Simple sentence)

1. He confessed **that he was guilty.** OR He confessed **that he had committed a crime.**

2. He bought his uncle's factory. (Simple sentence)

2. He bought the factory **that belonged to his uncle.**

3. He worked hard to pass the test. (Simple sentence)

3. He worked hard **that he might pass the test.** (Complex sentence)

4. Only Hindus can enter this temple. (Simple sentence)

4. **If you are not a Hindu,** you cannot enter this temple. (Complex sentence)



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Activity 5: Simple to complex sentences Answers

5. In his childhood, Lincoln did not go to school. (Simple sentence)
5. **When he was a child,** Lincoln did not go to school. (Complex sentence)

6. On seeing the lion, the hunter climbed up a tree. (Simple sentence)
6. **When he saw the lion,** the hunter climbed up a tree. (Complex sentence)

7. In spite of the inflation, the standard of living has gone up. (Simple sentence)
7. **Although there is inflation,** the standard of living has gone up. (Complex sentence)



Writing Session 3

Rules for Formal Writing

- **Vocabulary:** You must use the right vocabulary. It need not be complex or flowery. It needs to be lucid and contextually appropriate.
- **Punctuation:** You must use appropriate punctuation: commas, dashes, and hyphens, exclamation marks, full stops, question marks, colons, semi-colons.
- **Structure:** You must write in sentences. Never write in bullet points.
- **The impersonal writer:** You would be expected to write in the first person singular (using the word "I") for task 2.
- **Passive Voice:** Use passive voice only when the goal is to present a set of arguments in an unbiased way. In most cases, use Active Voice. You should aim to write impersonally for academic task 1.



Writing Session 3

- **Typing and spelling:** All work for submission should be spell-checked and proofread again.
- **Abbreviations & contractions:** Abbreviations are not used in formal English. They give the impression of a style that is chatty and too informal. "e.g.", "i.e.", "etc.", "can't", "I'm".
- **Capitals:** Proper nouns, names of civic holidays, geographical names, public thoroughfares, important events, trade names, journal titles, and the first letter (only) of book titles.
- Your writing should be **formal and not chatty**. Use appropriate conjunctions and linking words. Instead of "also" or "besides", use "furthermore" or "in addition to". "However" is better than "But".



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- **Avoid "journalese":** Make sure that you have not written work in an exaggerated or sensational style.
- **Avoid jargon:** Use the jargon of your subject area with accuracy and constraint. Take special care with terms that have specialized meanings in your subject area.
- **Avoid redundancy:** Contains unnecessary words and is considered grammatically wrong. Example: surrounded on all sides, revert back, postpone until later, etc.
- **Avoid filler words:** They pad up a sentence without adding meaning. Example: actually, basically, I mean, you know, etc.



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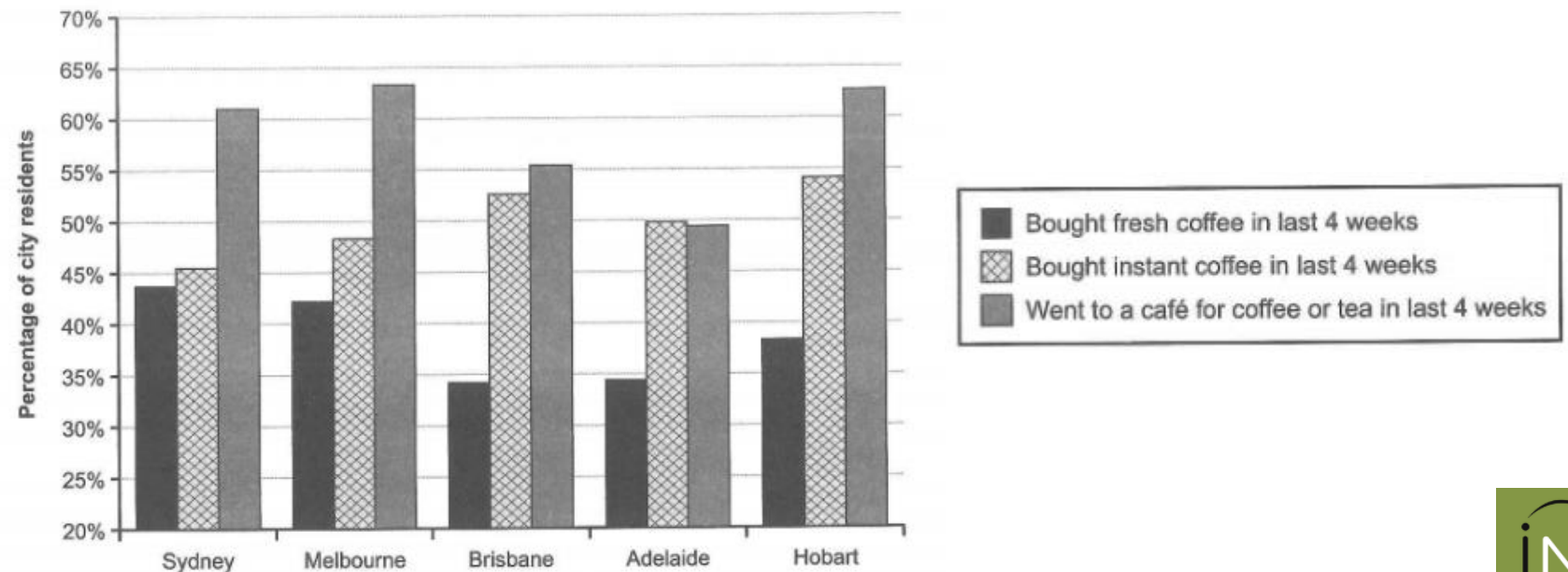
Academic Writing Task 1: Practice Question 1

The chart below shows the results of a survey about people's coffee and tea buying and drinking habits in five Australian cities.

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

Write at least 150 words.

Coffee and tea buying and drinking habits in five cities in Australia



Writing Session 3

Academic Writing Task 1: Practice Question 2

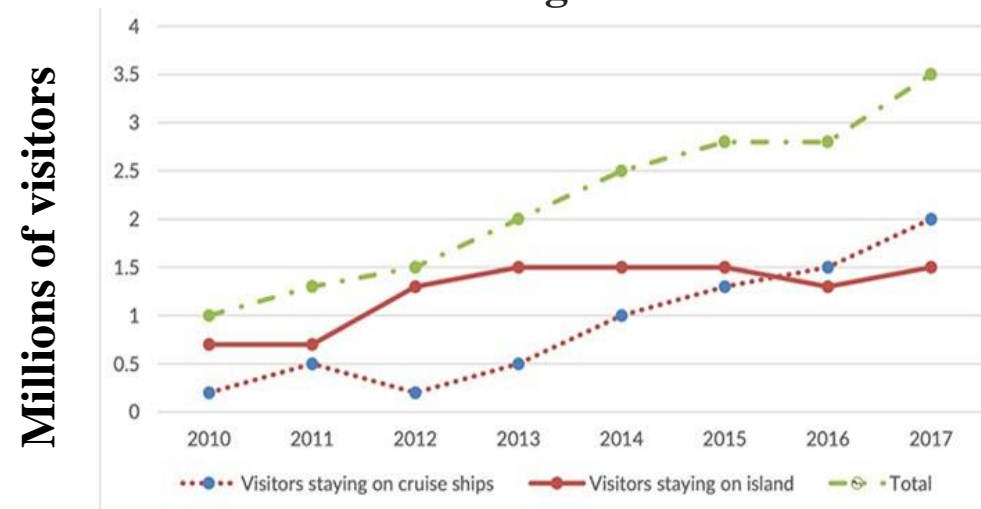
You could spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows the number of tourists visiting a particular Caribbean island between 2010 and 2017.

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

Write at least 150 words.

Number of tourists visiting a Caribbean island (2010 – 2017)



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General Writing Task 1: Practice Question 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You are renting a flat from an agency. Your contract was for one year but you need to leave the flat two months early.

Write a letter to the agency. In your letter

- introduce yourself
- ask to leave the flat before the contract finishes
- explain why you need to break the contract.

Write at least 150 words.



Writing Session 3

General Writing Task 1: Practice Question 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

You recently bought a camera while travelling overseas. When you got to your destination, you discovered that some important items were missing from the box.

Write a letter to the local representative of the company. In your letter

- give details of the camera and where you bought it
- explain what has happened
- say what you want him/her to do about it

Write at least 150 words.



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Writing Task 2: Practice Question 1

You should spend about **40** minutes on this task.

In some countries, owning a home rather than renting one is very important for people. Why is this the case?

Do you think this is a positive or negative situation?

Use your own ideas, knowledge and experience and support your arguments with examples and with relevant evidence.

You should write at least **250** words.



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Writing Task 2: Practice Question 2

You should spend about **40** minutes on this task.

In the future, nobody will buy printed newspapers or books because they will be able to read everything they want online without paying.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with that statement?

Use your own ideas, knowledge and experience and support your arguments with examples and with relevant evidence.

You should write at least **250** words.



Writing Session 3

Writing Task 2: Practice Question 3

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In the past, most people used to travel to their place of work. With increased use of computers, the internet and smart phones, more and more people are starting to work from home.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this development?

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

Write at least 250 words.



Writing Session 3

Writing Task 2: Practice Question 4

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In the modern world, the image (photograph or film) is becoming a more powerful way of communicating than the written word.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

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

Write at least 250 words.





Thank you