



ENGLISH WITH KEV!



IELTS Task 2 Essay Structures

With Complete sample essays!

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Hello and welcome, in this booklet you will find structures that you can use for the five essay q types

The idea is that you study these and use them when writing your essays,

I hope you find them useful, I will be issuing other volumes in the future.

Good luck with the test.

Kevin. A. Dean

Why structures are important....

As you probably know, I get essays sent to me by students every day and apart from the English part of writing (grammar, syntax, punctuation, vocab, etc) one of the main reasons that students get a low score is that they fall down on Task Response and Cohesion and Coherence.

That is to say, they don't address the question properly, and often use an incorrect structure when writing. They may write about both views when the question asks them to give an opinion, or they might be too general or not directly answer the question as clearly as possible.

For a Band 9.0, the criteria says

"All parts of the prompt are appropriately addressed"...and "A clear and fully developed position is presented which directly answers the question"

Also, many students don't know how to start writing their introduction and the rest of the essay, this booklet aims to correct that uncertainty. By following these structures, you will write faster, and easier than before.

One more thing, these structures are guidelines, not rules, there are many ways to write a high scoring essay. As long as you answer the question directly and give good reasons and examples, you will be fine, but these structures work. Our students tell us so..and the results speak for themselves.....

So, happy writing...

Kevin

Essay structure.

Paragraph 1: introduction

Sentence 1: paraphrase question/restate topic.

Sentence 2: Thesis/opinion statement.

Sentence 3: outline statement/main idea 1 (for paragraph 2), and main idea 2 (for paragraph 3).

Body paragraph 1.

Sentence 1: topic sentence (main idea 1).

Sentence 2: explain/expand on main idea 1.

Sentence 3: example (the more specific the better).

Sentence 4: option 1(concession sentence)/option 2 (reinforce/reiterate example/main idea).

Body paragraph 2.

Sentence 1: topic sentence (main idea 2).

Sentence 2: explain/expand on main idea 2.

Sentence 3: example (the more specific the better).

Sentence 4: option 1(concession sentence)/option 2 (reinforce/reiterate example/main idea).

Conclusion.

Sentence 1: summary (restate question/topic + main idea 1 and 2).

Sentence 2: reinforcement/recommendation (depends on how the question is worded).

The first car appeared on British roads in 1888. By the year 2000 there may be as many as 29 million vehicles on British roads.

Alternative forms of transport should be encouraged and international laws introduced to control car ownership and use.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

The number of cars on UK roads is forecast to rise to an estimated 29 million by 2000, which has prompted the suggestion that alternative means of transport as well as international legislation be introduced to curb car usage. I disagree with this suggestion. This essay will argue that given the selfish nature of individuals, most people will not choose alternative transport, and that introducing new legal instruments will require more political will than most current governments possess.

The main selling point of the private car is privacy and convenience. Many people do not want to use public transport despite being aware of the benefits it provides, as the ease and convenience of personal transport takes precedence. For example, a recent survey by the University of Edinburgh shows that 90% of private car owners still intend to use their cars despite knowing they cause congestion, pollution, etc. This research indicates that even if alternatives were available, human selfishness would discourage many drivers from making use of them.

Despite the obvious advantages of leaving cars at home, it seems stronger measures would be needed. However, even if legislation were possible, any government who proposed such restrictions of the drivers “right” of ownership would soon find themselves voted out of office. For example, UK Dept of Transport research showed that over 75% of current car owners would vote against the political party who tried to introduce any anti-car laws. This would suggest that any governing power who tried such a move would face certain electoral suicide.

In conclusion, despite the number of cars on UK roads currently, in my opinion, attempts to reduce them by encouraging the use of alternatives and by legislation are doomed to failure. This is due to personal selfishness, and the perceived “right” of the individual to drive as they wish.

Discuss both views and give your opinion essay structure

Introduction

Sentence 1: paraphrase question and /or state both views.

Sentence 2: thesis statement

Sentence 3: outline sentence

Body paragraph 1

Sentence 1: state first viewpoint

Sentence 2: discuss/explain first viewpoint (include opinion)

Sentence 3: example to support your viewpoint

Sentence 4: conclusion/ extend example

Body paragraph 2

Sentence 1: state second viewpoint

Sentence 2: discuss/explain second viewpoint (include opinion)

Sentence 3: example to support your viewpoint

Sentence 4: conclusion/extend example

Conclusion

Sentence 1: summarise/restate main ideas

Sentence 2: restate opinion

Some people believe that it is good to share as much information as possible in scientific research, business and the academic world. Others believe that some information is too important or valuable to be shared freely.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

According to some, the sharing of information in business, academia, and science is beneficial and positive, whereas others believe that certain kinds of information should be not be shared due to its value and importance. In my view, the dissemination of some types of knowledge is a positive step for society. This essay will discuss, how medical research can be advanced by shared knowledge, and why some business details should be kept secret.

The widespread dissemination of scientific knowledge is a goal that all society should welcome. I believe the benefits of sharing medical research needs to be encouraged as a failure to do so may cost lives. For example, one reason why scientists attend conferences is to present new research and findings into common problems, such as Cancer, and other diseases. By sharing, scientists can come up with cures much faster together than working apart.

However, not all data ought to be shared as it may prove too costly to do so, such as business details, in trade, and share prices, etc. For this reason, I would agree that certain types of information should not be widespread. For example, if a speculator had advance warning of stock prices they could manipulate the market and cause the company to go bankrupt, costing people their jobs, and possibly their savings also. The danger then is that having such detailed economic information freely available may be used by some people to profit at the expense of others.

In conclusion, whether the sharing of information is a positive or negative step is debatable, in my opinion some knowledge should be shared freely, such as for scientific studies. That being said, I would agree also that other more sensitive data, in the financial area, need not be so widespread for fear of causing economic instability.

301 words

What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Introduction

Sentence 1- Paraphrase question

Sentence 2- Outline sentence

Body Paragraph 1: advantages

Sentence 1- Topic sentence (Advantage 1)

Sentence 2- Explain/expand on how this is an advantage

Sentence 3- Example

Sentence 4- reinforce with second example.

Body Paragraph 2: disadvantages

Sentence 1- Topic sentence (Disadvantage 1)

Sentence 2- Explain/expand on how this is a disadvantage

Sentence 3- Example

Sentence 4-reinforce with second example.

Conclusion

Sentence 1- restatement of main points

Due to technological advances, many people now have the opportunity to work remotely via the internet. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this.

Advances in technology such as the internet mean that many people are able to work away from the traditional office whether at home or abroad. This essay will argue that freedom from office life, and being able to choose your location, are the benefits this way of working brings, while a lack of self-motivation, and social contact in the office are possible downsides.

Working remotely is undoubtedly a dream for many people. There are many workers around the world who would love to be free from having to live the daily grind of the 9-5 typical office life and the restrictions it brings. For example, a recent survey by the Confederation of Office Workers in the UK suggested that 85% of their members would take advantage of home working if their company were to introduce it. Also, working online means you don't even have to be in the same country as your employers, so you could work on a tropical beach if you wanted to.

However, if working away from a structured environment, such as an office, a person might tend to waste time and procrastinate. Some people work best under supervision and being free from this might make it hard for them to get sufficiently motivated to perform their work efficiently and effectively. For example, a survey last year by Nomadlist.com showed that a lack of motivation was the number one problem for 90% of so-called “digital nomads” working remotely. Additionally, for many single people, the office is their main form of social interaction so working independently might not suit them.

In conclusion, although working remotely may bring freedom to many and could well seem attractive to typical office workers, possible drawbacks to this may be a tendency to procrastinate, and a feeling of social isolation.

297 words

Introduction

Sentence 1: paraphrase question

Sentence 2: thesis statement (your opinion) advantages

Sentence 3: possible disadvantages

Body Paragraph 1: advantages

Sentence 1: topic sentence

Sentence 2: explain/expand..

Sentence 3: example

Sentence 4: second example

Body Paragraph 2: disadvantages

Sentence 1: topic sentence

Sentence 2: explain/expand

Sentence 3: example

Sentence 4: second example

Conclusion

Sentence 1: summary of main points

These days, more and more people are moving to other countries either to find a job or to study. There are clearly many benefits to doing this, but people who live abroad can also face some difficulties.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of living and working abroad in a foreign country and give your opinion.

It has been argued that living abroad either for work or study has many benefits as well as drawbacks. In my view, living abroad is something that everyone should experience in their life as you can learn a new language and experience a new culture. However, “culture shock” and social isolation may be the downsides to this.

Firstly, living in another country from your own can be highly beneficial in terms of personal development. That is to say, exposure to a new language and way of life can indeed as the saying goes “broaden your horizons”. For example, to consider study, over 90% of Erasmus students interviewed by their home universities in 2019 said that living and studying abroad expanded their minds and made them “see life through another lens”. Also, the fact of having to learn a new language in its native environment was another bonus for many students.

However, there may be downsides for some people who might be overwhelmed by the strangeness of their new environment and experience “culture shock”. This phenomenon often takes the form of anxiety caused by the “newness” and perceived “strangeness” of the people/language/way of life, etc. For example, a survey by the British Council in 2016 of native teachers in China showed that more than 70% of those interviewed felt “out of place” and “unable to function” in a foreign environment. Additionally, for some, those language and cultural differences may make it hard for them for them to make new new friends and leave them socially isolated and alone.

In conclusion, although for many the chance to live abroad is exciting and full of opportunities for personal growth and enrichment, there is always the possibility that some may be overwhelmed by the experience and suffer some unwelcome psychological side effects.

298 words

Introduction

Sentence 1: paraphrase question

Sentence 2: thesis: say which outweighs the other

Sentence 3: outline sentence

Body Paragraph 1: stronger side

Sentence 1: topic Sentence/main idea

Sentence 2: explain/expand on why it is strong

Sentence 3: example

Sentence 4: topic Sentence/main idea

Sentence 5: explain why it is strong

Sentence 6: example

Body Paragraph 2: weaker side

Sentence 10: topic Sentence

Sentence 11: explain/expand why it is not strong

Sentence 12: example

Conclusion

Sentence 13: summary of main points and restate position

Some people decide to start their own business instead of working for a company or organization. Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

For some, working for themselves and starting their own business is a better option than working for someone else. This essay believes that the benefits of being self-employed, such as freedom of hours and being your own boss, do outweigh the disadvantages of having an unstable income and business uncertainty.

Being in charge of your own business and making decisions for yourself is an important reason why some people choose to be self-employed. This also includes choosing your hours of work to suit your lifestyle. For example, if you want to go to the gym in the morning then work until the evening, or get your work done in the morning then sit on a beach in the afternoon, you are free to do so. Another excellent plus point is that you no longer have to do what someone else tells you to do. For example, a survey by the Economist magazine reported that 80% of entrepreneurs started their own company in dissatisfaction with oppressive office hierarchies, in other words they were sick of being told what to do.

However, despite these advantages there is always one significant downside to having your own business, a lack of stable income. This is especially true at the start, when your company is brand new, it may take some time to build up a client list, take orders, turn a profit, etc. For example, the number one reason, according to Forbes magazine, for new start-ups to fail is an inconsistent income stream.

In conclusion, working for yourself is undoubtedly exciting and has several plus points in its favour, such as freedom to chose your hours of work, and making decisions for yourself. That being said, there is a possible downside which is not being profitable initially and not having a regular, reliable cash flow.

302 words

Problems/causes and Solutions Essay Structure

Introduction

Sentence 1: paraphrase question.

Sentence 2: outline sentence (answer both qs in brief)

Body Paragraph 1: problem/cause

Sentence 1: state problem/cause

Sentence 2: explain what problem/cause is exactly

Sentence 3: example of why this is a problem/cause

Sentence 4: reinforce example/conclusion to main idea

Body Paragraph 2: solution

Sentence 1: state solution

Sentence 2: explain how solution will solve problem

Sentence 3: example

Sentence 4: reinforce example/conclusion to main idea

Conclusion

Sentence 1: summary of main points

Sentence 2: recommendation for the future

Paying with a credit card is a common habit nowadays. Credit cards make it easy to buy now and pay later.

What are some problems caused by credit card overuse and what can be done about these problems?

Many people make purchases with credit cards nowadays as it is easy to buy now and pay later for goods or services. The main problem with this is that it can lead to high levels of personal debt, however a possible solution might be for banks to make rigorous checks on customer finances before issuing these cards.

Having easy access to credit can lead to a person owing a lot of money. This ready finance can lead to some people spending irresponsibly as they often pay off one card by taking out another from a different bank, thus adding to their debt. For example, a survey by The Bank of England in 2015 showed that out of 10,000 bank customers, over 75% admitted to having two or more credit cards and having personal debts of several thousand pounds. This shows then that credit cards need to be used carefully or issued cautiously.

To solve this problem, banks should have a joint database of all customers to show who has applied for a card and they should also set a strict limit on the amount of credit for each person. This sharing of information will stop people having multiple cards which they cannot afford. For example, in some countries (China, Russia, and Turkey) strict checks are made on citizens' finances with a minimum amount of money needed in an account before a card could be issued and only one card per citizen is authorised. By taking these steps, personal debt and credit misuse should be avoided.

In conclusion, although easy credit is blamed for rising debt levels, this is a relatively easy problem to solve if stricter banking regulations were enforced. If all banks shared customer data and agreed to cooperate with each other when issuing credit cards, this could well solve this issue.

302 words

Two Part Essay Questions

Two part question essay structure

Introduction

Sentence 1: paraphrase/restate question

Sentence 2: answer both questions (in brief)

Main body paragraph 1

Sentence 1: answer first question

Sentence 2: Explain/expand

Sentence 3: Develop/extend explanation

Sentence 4: give example that supports your answer

Main body paragraph 2

Sentence 1: answer second question

Sentence 2: Explain/expand

Sentence 3: Develop/extend explanation

Sentence 4: give example that supports your answer

Conclusion

Sentence 1: restate topic + give summary of main ideas

Two Part Essay Questions Example

It is often said, "when in Rome, do as the Romans do".

**Do you think people should adopt/accept the culture of the country they visit?
Do you think it is possible to learn a new culture without learning the language?**

The well-known expression “When in Rome” means that a person should respect and adapt to local customs when visiting a new place. In my view, tourists should research such customs before travelling to avoid any cultural misunderstandings. I also believe that only a superficial understanding of any culture is possible without knowing the language.

When travelling, tourists should remember they are guests in that country and they need to find out what is acceptable in the places they visit. As is common knowledge, many Westerners like to drink alcohol while on holiday and to dress in revealing garments especially in hot countries. However, in some Asian countries this behaviour would be perceived as inappropriate and possibly insulting to the host population. For example, a survey by hotel owners in Thailand in 2019 said that over consumption of alcohol and guests wearing unsuitable clothing were the number one causes of complaint against by locals against tourists.

As well as respecting cultural sensitivities, another question is can an outsider really understand a new culture without also speaking the language? The answer is that without language, only a shallow superficial knowledge of any culture is possible. For many tourists, this is perfectly fine as they are only passing through rushing from one tourist hotspot to another. For example, however, as opposed to travellers, many ex-pats and long-term residents choose to learn at least some of the local language as they want a real “authentic” cultural experience beyond the surface comprehension experienced by visitors.

In conclusion, respecting the cultural practices of the host country is very important, it is recommended that visitors should research what these are before travelling. Also, at least attempting to master some of the language is a must to truly appreciate another culture and its traditions.

297 words

So, there you are. In this booklet, you have seen the five different IELTS Task 2 Essay types, a structure you can use for each of them, along with an example of how that structure might be used.

I hope you find this useful.

Happy writing, and good luck in your test!....

About the author

I have been working as a teacher since 2009 and have lived in Turkey, China, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and now Slovakia.

I specialize in IELTS/PTE/OET/TOEFL and other exams but I can also help with general English, conversation, grammar, and vocabulary development.

My background is in History and Politics, and I hold BA and MA/MRes degrees in both those subjects as well as in Applied Linguistics. I also hold several teaching certificates for TEFL, etc.

I also have a YouTube channel with many videos which you might find useful, link below
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTblrPMw6rjdBEHeVrcrn1w>