

Master IELTS Writing Task 2

IELTS Writing Task 2 Conclusions



FORMER IELTS EXAMINERS

Prepare for {**IELTS**}

Contents

Conclusions for essays with opinions

STRATEGY: stating your position

STRATEGY: hopes, wishes, worries, fears and predictions

- **OPINION essays**
- **DISCUSSION + OPINION essays**
- **EXPLANATION + OPINION essays**

STRATEGY: lifting

Conclusions for essays without opinions

STRATEGY: commenting on the question

STRATEGY: hopes, wishes, worries, fears and predictions

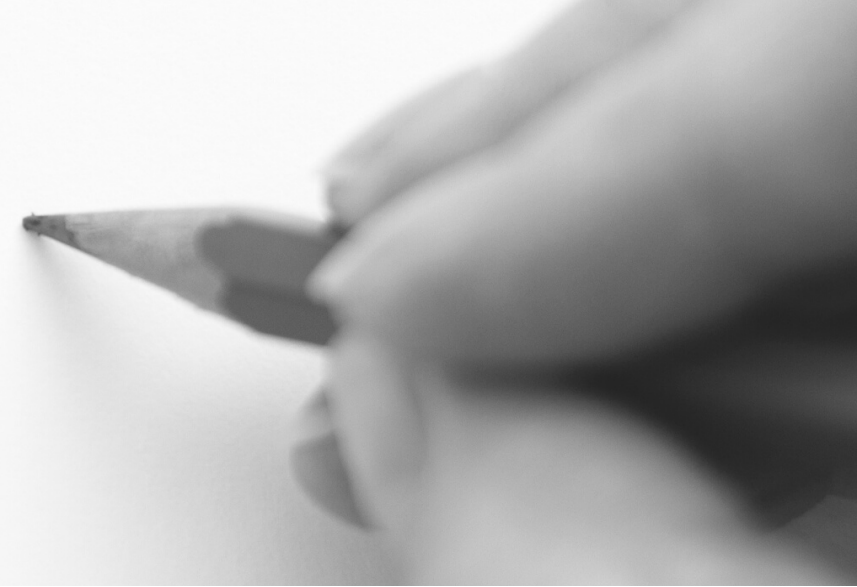
- **ADVANTAGES + DISADVANTAGES essays**
- **PROBLEMS + SOLUTIONS essays**
- **SOLUTIONS essays**

STRATEGY: lifting

Master IELTS Writing Task 2

IELTS Writing Task 2

Conclusions (essays with OPINIONS)



FORMER IELTS EXAMINERS

Prepare for {**IELTS**}

Conclusions which include an opinion

If the question asks for your opinion (**OPINION; DISCUSSION + OPINION; EXPLANATION + OPINION**), you should usually include or repeat it in the conclusion

You can:

- State (or restate) your opinion/position
- Explain your opinion (especially if this is the first time you have stated it)
- Restate your key supporting arguments (but try to avoid repeating language from the main body)
- Express a hope/wish/fear/worry/prediction for the future
- Write 2-4 sentences and 30-50 words

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Strategy:
**State your
position** in the
first sentence

In conclusion/summary, I am convinced that the advantages of studying in a classroom environment significantly outweigh the disadvantages.

To summarise/conclude/sum up, as I have demonstrated in the previous paragraphs, making all adults participate in regular physical exercise would be hugely beneficial from both an economic and a social standpoint.

After having carefully considered/weighed up the arguments, I have reached the conclusion that making young adults do military service is detrimental both to the individuals themselves and society in general.

Following my examination of the main points in this debate, I have come to the conclusion that the only way to deal with terrorism is to educate potential terrorists.

As I have suggested, it is problematic to agree with the notion that parents are responsible for the criminal activity of their children.

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Strategy:
hopes, wishes,
worries, fears
and predictions
in the last
sentence

It is my fervent/genuine hope that we as a species will grow to understand the futility of war and look for opportunities for peaceful co-existence.

I wholeheartedly/sincerely hope that support for the notion of animal welfare spreads around the world.

I wish that governments and individuals **would** wake up to the realisation that, as far as the environment is concerned, we are reaching a crisis point.

I wish that parents **would** make a greater effort to teach their children about the importance of helping others.

I am deeply concerned/worried that unless radical steps are taken, our oceans will become so polluted that most of the marine species on which we depend will die out.

Strategy:
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I am extremely saddened by the fact that inner-city crime rates are so high **and I would urge** social scientists to investigate the causes and search for solutions.

I predict that as technology becomes more widespread, it will become even easier to communicate with our fellow-humans.

It is extremely likely that unless we reduce the number of cars on our roads, the consequences will be dreadful.

I am genuinely optimistic about the situation: I feel that awareness about the issues surrounding obesity will increase and we will find strategies to tackle this massive issue.

I am rather pessimistic about the future: I can envisage a situation in which affluent parents pay to have their children genetically-modified so that they are physically or mentally superior.

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Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

All school-children should be taught a foreign language.
Do you agree?

All in all, I wholeheartedly believe that the advantages connected with teaching school-children a second language are significant and that the drawbacks are insignificant. Children benefit educationally, economically and socially when they are able to communicate in a foreign tongue. I fervently hope that educators and policy-makers will begin to appreciate this fact and bring in a curriculum with a strong focus on language learning.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

**Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
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Repeat opinion

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Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

All schoolchildren should be taught to paint, dance, sculpt and sing. It is essential that young people develop their abilities as artists.

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Overall, I wholeheartedly believe that it is vital for the young to develop their artistic talent. This can have significant social and economic benefits and can be of great personal value to the pupils themselves. I genuinely hope that political leaders, policy-makers and experts in the field of education come to realise how wonderfully enjoyable and beneficial the arts can be for students in both primary and secondary schools.

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OPINION

Men and women should be treated equally in all areas, including employment. All jobs should be open to male and female applicants. What is your opinion about this idea?

As I have previously stated, I am generally in agreement with this proposal. Although there may be a couple of specific areas in which only one gender should be allowed to work, such as midwifery, in the majority of cases, it is healthier for society if there is no sex discrimination in the workplace. I would love to see the day when all companies and businesses embrace this ethos because it would make the world a far better and fairer place.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

Medical experts often say that preventing an illness is far better than curing it. They believe that we should invest more money in preventing disease and less money in looking for ways to cure illnesses. What do you think about this approach?

Analysing this question has led me to see why the powers-that-be tend to concentrate on curing illness instead of ensuring that it does not occur. Economically and politically it is a reasonable policy. However, I wish that societies would heed doctors and medical experts and focus more on the number of lives which could be saved by preventative strategies.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

Major sporting events such as the football World Cup and The Olympic Games are a wonderful opportunity to develop mutual understanding, peace and love between different nations. Do you agree?

In conclusion, I would like to say that large international football and athletics competitions can have both a positive and a negative impact. They can certainly enable people from various parts of our planet to understand each other, but can also lead to too much national pride, racism and jingoism. Although I fervently hope that these events will continue to take place in the future, I also wish the organisers would make greater efforts to bring participants and spectators from different cultures together in a harmonious way.

Repeat opinion
Support opinion
Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

Some people suggest that the government should spend money on offering education to the elderly. Do you think this would be a good idea?

Overall, the notion of educating the elderly seems like a wonderful idea. I can think of no genuine reasons why governments should not implement this proposal as it would reduce loneliness and probably pay for itself. I fervently hope that governments will adopt this approach and thereby improve the quality of life for millions of their older citizens.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

The death penalty is never the answer to crime. It has a negative effect on society and does not reduce crime. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

After having considered this matter in depth, I fervently believe that the death penalty should be abolished in all cases. I feel it is inhumane and immoral, and that it does not work. I hope that the use of capital punishment will soon become a thing of the past as governments around the world recognise its futility.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

Governments should not waste valuable money exploring space. To what extent do you agree?

Having weighed up the arguments, I am entirely convinced of the merits of journeying into our solar system. There are undoubted economic and social benefits. I fervently hope that in the future, an increasing number of governments will recognise the importance of this field and invest huge amounts of money in it.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

All school-children should be taught to play team-sports like football and basketball as part of their primary school education. This would have a huge range of benefits. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Having outlined the main points of this debate, I feel, it is fair to say that the advantages of youngsters regularly participating in team-sports are huge and that the drawbacks, if there are any, are negligible. Children benefit in terms of their personality, health and social development. It is my fervent hope that educators and policy-makers will begin to realise the tremendously positive impact which putting team sports on the timetable could have.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

It is often said that change is better for people than things staying the same. Do you think that the advantages of change outweigh the disadvantages?

To conclude, it seems that change is generally positive, forcing us to adapt and become more mature and resilient. Even though many of us intensely dislike it, and would prefer to remain unchallenged within our comfort zone. As the forces of technology and globalisation become increasingly fundamental in our world, it appears likely that rapid change will affect us more and more, and that those of us who struggle with change will have to learn to deal with it.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

The main cause of crime is poverty. People usually only steal from others or hurt others because they are poor. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Having considered this issue in some depth, I have reached the conclusion that an individual's economic situation is a major factor in whether that person is likely to offend. Yet other factors such as personality, education and circumstances also play a key role. Obviously we should aim to help impoverished citizens and deter them from breaking the law. I wish governments the world over would carry out research to determine how best to reduce criminality and poverty.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

OPINION

Many people spend a huge amount of time on social media. They communicate online far more than in the real world. Is it a good thing or a bad thing that so much of our social lives take place online?

To sum up, the advantages of new and innovative interactive technologies are enormous. However, there are insidious dangers related to the omnipresence of social media. It is a tool which must be used with great caution. Above all, we must ensure that younger generations have the opportunity to get to know others in the real world, and not just through a smartphone screen.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

**Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.**

OPINION

As mass communication and transport continue to grow, societies are becoming more and more alike, leading to a phenomenon known as globalization. Some people fear that globalization will inevitably lead to the total loss of cultural identity. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

As I have hopefully demonstrated in the preceding paragraphs, globalisation poses a significant threat to cultural diversity. There are immense pressures on all of us to behave in similar ways and to conform to social norms. I find this extremely concerning, and worry that the precious characteristics which make us human may one day be entirely obliterated.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

**Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.**

OPINION

In some parts of the world, the number of people who get married is falling. Fewer and fewer people believe in the idea of having a husband or wife for the rest of their life. Do you think that marriage is a good thing?

Having examined the issues, I strongly believe that for most adults, getting married is a positive step. Strenuous attempts should be made to educate unmarried couples about the benefits of wedlock. This approach might increase the number of successful marriages and bring lasting benefits to individuals and societies.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

**Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.**

OPINION

Computers and interactive technology have made it possible for office workers to do much of their work from home instead of working in offices every day. Working from home should be encouraged as it is good for workers and employers. Do you agree or disagree?

In conclusion, I would argue that doing your job from the comfort of your own home can be effective, efficient and enjoyable. However, as I hope I have demonstrated, it should only be an option in certain circumstances, and there are occasions when it would be inappropriate.

Having said that, I am convinced that a large number of employers who currently refuse to let staff work from home would benefit if they sometimes allowed employees to work in their own space.

Repeat opinion

Support opinion

**Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.**

OPINION

Nowadays many students have the opportunity to study for part or all of their courses in foreign countries. Do you think this is a good idea?

To conclude, I would like to reiterate my view that some students benefit hugely from being allowed to continue their education abroad whilst for others deciding to study in a foreign land makes no sense and may be harmful to their development. I would love to see a situation in which those who would clearly thrive abroad have the opportunity and in which those who would struggle are not put under any pressure to leave their own country.

Repeat opinion
(including both
sides)

Support opinion

Express a hope

DISCUSSION +
OPINION

Some believe that children under the age of five should be brought up at home by their parents. Others believe that young children should go to nurseries where they can learn to get on with other small children. Discuss both of these views and explain which is the better option.

In summary, it seems obvious that some toddlers and pre-school children will benefit from spending more quality time with relatives, whilst others will benefit from increased social interaction with those their own age. The individual child's personality is likely to be a decisive factor, and most parents will intuitively know which is the better alternative for their son or daughter. It is vital that the authorities provide funding and support, allowing families to choose the right option for their child.

Repeat opinion
(including both
sides)

Support opinion

Express a hope

DISCUSSION +
OPINION

Some people think that there are things individuals can do to help prevent global climate change. Others believe that action by individuals is irrelevant, and that only governments and large businesses can make a difference. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Having examined the issue in some detail, it seems completely clear that both the authorities and members of the public have the ability and the responsibility to act. Powerful politicians can implement strategies which tackle climate change, but ordinary people can make small but decisive changes in their everyday lives to help save the planet. It is essential that everyone plays a role if we are to deal with the looming ecological crisis.

Repeat opinion
(including both
sides)

Support opinion

Express a wish

DISCUSSION +
OPINION

Some people believe that getting a good qualification from university is the best way to guarantee a good job. Others suggest that getting a job straight after leaving school and gaining relevant experience is a better strategy. Discuss both options and give your opinion.

After having discussed the two alternatives, I have come to the conclusion that both approaches can be extremely successful. In areas where specialist theoretical knowledge is required, gaining an academic qualification might be essential. However, in jobs where the necessary skills are harder to teach, higher education could be superfluous. I would advise some employers to drop their insistence on applicants having a Degree as this is not always as essential as they may think.

**Repeat opinion
(including both
sides)**

Support opinion

Express a hope

**DISCUSSION +
OPINION**

Some individuals feel that physical exercise is the key to good health. Others feel that having a balanced diet is more important. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

As has been made clear by my earlier comments, I am of the opinion that eating the right food and doing strenuous physical activity are both fundamental to health, as are several other factors such as having a good social network, behaving ethically and receiving enough mental stimulation. We should all concentrate on each of these areas, as being healthy is fundamentally important to our happiness.

Question 1
(explanation)

Question 2
(opinion)

Support opinion

EXPLANATION +
OPINION

These days, more and more people seem to care about business and science, and fewer people are interested in art. What are the causes of these changing social attitudes? Do you think these changes should worry us?

The radical changes in our world can be connected to globalisation and developments in technology. Although a focus on science and business can have benefits, its overall effect is probably negative, particularly as it makes us all less creative and less empathic. I consider that the modern world would be enriched by a renewed understanding of the importance of art.

Question 1
(explanation)

Question 2
(opinion)

Support opinion

EXPLANATION +
OPINION

Many people around the world give money to charities which support older or weaker members of society. Why do people choose to give money to charities? Would it be better if governments increased taxes to pay for the elderly and vulnerable instead of relying on charities?

Those who donate to charities clearly have various motivations: some of them are genuinely altruistic whilst others are probably more self-interested. Giving the authorities responsibility for deciding which good causes should be funded probably makes a lot of sense. It might make sense for experts rather than the uneducated public to decide how to support the weak and vulnerable.

Strategy: Lifting

The government should make it compulsory for all children and adults to do physical exercise at least three times every week. This would have benefits for individuals and for society as a whole. To what extent do you agree with this proposal?

In conclusion, it is fair to say that this is a contentious topic. Obviously, there are two sides to every coin. There are significant advantages and major disadvantages. In the future, I fervently hope that we will all take this issue very seriously and that a solution will be found which works for everybody.

Strategy: Lifting

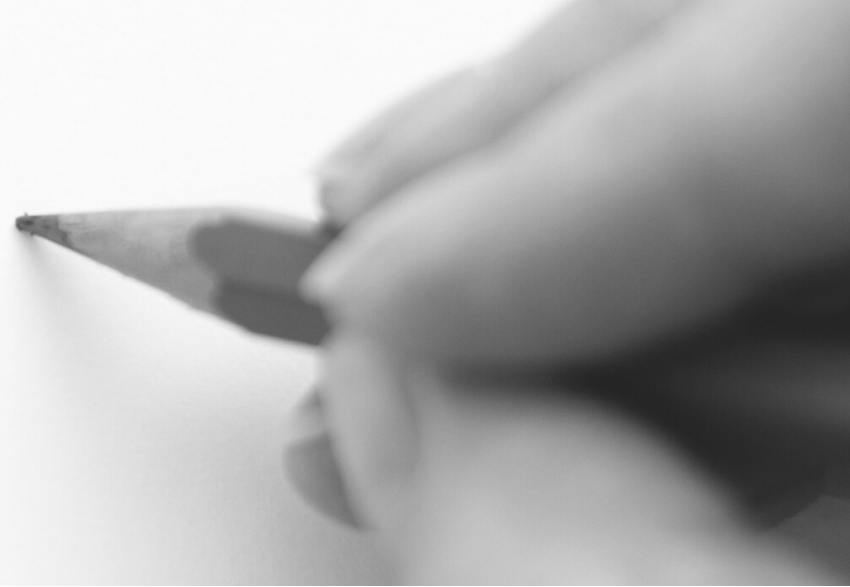
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In conclusion, it is fair to say that **whether and how to make the general public get physically fitter** is quite a contentious issue. Obviously, **supporters see economic, social and health benefits** whilst opponents remind us about **individual freedoms, and point out some practical difficulties**. Forcing people to be healthier certainly has massive advantages and major disadvantages. In the future, I fervently hope that we will all take this issue **of our physical wellbeing** far more seriously, and that a solution **which makes everybody healthier** will be found to the current dilemma of **poor health and disgraceful levels of physical fitness**.

Master IELTS Writing Task 2

IELTS Writing Task 2

Conclusions (essays without OPINIONS)



FORMER IELTS EXAMINERS

Prepare for {**IELTS**}

**Conclusions
which do not
include an
opinion**

If the question does not ask for your opinion (**ADVANTAGES + DISADVANTAGES; PROBLEMS + SOLUTIONS**), there are several possibilities for your solution.

You can:

- **Comment on the question/questions**
- **Give an opinion**
- **Support/expand your comment or opinion**
- **Express a hope/wish/fear/worry/prediction for the future**
- **Write 2-4 sentences and 30-50 words**

Strategy:

Commenting on the question in the first sentence

Having outlined the main arguments related to this issue, I have to **conclude that** whether a person will be happier living alone or with family members depends almost entirely on the individual herself or himself.

Having discussed the issue of free healthcare **in the preceding paragraphs, I have come to the conclusion that** introducing it has both benefits and drawbacks.

All in all, the questions of how to define and achieve happiness **are complex and perplexing ones.**

Overall, it seems reasonable to conclude that the issue of migration remains a contentious one.

I have come to the realisation that, although scientists probably still do not fully understand the notion of selfishness, it is clearly a very complex and intricate one.

Overall, it seems that the question of whether to make military service obligatory **is a very complex one.**

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Repeat position
Support position
Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

ADVANTAGES +
DISADVANTAGES

Many elderly people are no longer looked after by their families. Instead, they live in nursing homes or special homes for the elderly. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this trend?

As mentioned earlier in this essay, I firmly believe that the personality and circumstances of each individual elderly person will best determine whether living with family members or moving into a residential care-home is the right option. Clearly, some retired people thrive in care-homes whilst others find the prospect of living there utterly appalling. My hope is that societies treat those in their later years with gratitude and respect, making sure each one is as contented as possible.

Repeat position

Support position

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
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Refer to question
Refer to position 1
Refer to position 2
Give opinion

ADVANTAGES +
DISADVANTAGES

Many sports players advertise sports-related products.
What are the advantages and disadvantages of this?

Obviously, this practice can have both positive and negative consequences. This practice might have the benefit of incentivising youngsters to participate in sport. However, it may also lead to already rich sports-stars getting even more money which could be invested in sports at the grass roots. Overall, I am quite wary of this practice and with governments would take steps to curtail it.

Refer to question
Refer to position 1
Refer to position 2
Give opinion

ADVANTAGES +
DISADVANTAGES

Some people feel that the responsibility for providing education should be borne only by the government and that private education should be banned.

The question of whether wealthier parents should have the option to send their children to superior private schools is a contentious one. Some might argue that market forces should decide, while others would maintain the fairness should be our guiding principle. I strongly believe that society should be as equal as possible and that it is morally wrong to give some youngsters a better education than others.

Repeat position 1
Support position 1
Repeat position 2
Support position 2

ADVANTAGES + DISADVANTAGES

It is sometimes said that everyone on the planet should learn one 'super-language' such as Arabic, Mandarin or English so that we can all communicate with each other. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of making everyone learn a single language?

Having looked at this question in some depth, I have reached the conclusion that, on balance, a global language would be beneficial. It would be convenient and would make international communication, trade and diplomacy easier. However, it should certainly remain a second language as it is essential to protect the languages of ethnic groups and nationalities and the cultures associated with them.

Repeat position 1
Support position 1
Repeat position 2
Express hope (or
suggestion)

ADVANTAGES +
DISADVANTAGES

With the rise of e-books, paper books are becoming less popular. Some people see this as a step forward, whilst others do not. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this trend?

As has been explained in the above paragraphs, e-books enjoy tremendous advantages over conventional ones. They are more easily accessible, more convenient and often cheaper. Old-fashioned paper books do, however, fulfil a purpose and are especially popular amongst the elderly and traditionalists. It would therefore seem sensible to ensure that both options are available to the book-buying public so that avid readers can opt for their preferred alternative.

Repeat position 1
Repeat position 2
Express a hope (or
suggestion)

ADVANTAGES +
DISADVANTAGES

Working patterns have changed a lot. Now many people work online from home. What are the advantages and disadvantage of this way of working?

It is indisputable that, for certain types of employees, working from home can be a productive and satisfying experience. Nevertheless, anyone considering this option needs to be aware that it can harm an individual's social life in particular. It perhaps makes sense for businesses and other organisations to offer staff the chance to work from home for a couple of days each week and to spend the rest of their working hours on the company's premises. In this way, those employed can hopefully get the best of both worlds.

Repeat position 1
Support position 1
Repeat position 2
Support position 2
Express a hope

ADVANTAGES +
DISADVANTAGES

In some schools, children are expected to wear a uniform. In others, pupils can wear what they want. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having school uniforms?

In general, I am in favour of educational institutions obliging their students to wear uniforms. It promotes equality and a sense of community and belonging. Obviously, this is at the expense of the individual's right of self-expression and schools need to ensure that youngsters have other ways to express their individuality. I think it would be a positive step if all children below the age of sixteen were made to attend their classes in uniform.

Refer to problem
Expand problem
Refer to solution
(who should act)

PROBLEMS +
SOLUTIONS

In some countries young people have little leisure time and are under a lot of pressure to work hard in their studies. What do you think are the causes of this? What solutions can you suggest?

Having looked at the issue of free-time amongst school-children, I feel it is a serious matter which needs addressing. Youngsters need time and space to develop their imagination and creativity and to work out their identity. It is clearly the job of teachers to ensure that children have the opportunities to develop in every way, and not just academically.

Refer to problem
Refer to solutions
Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

PROBLEMS +
SOLUTIONS

Many people would say that men and women are not treated equally at work. Why are men and women not treated in the same way? What can be done to make sure that there is equality between male and female workers?

In summary, it needs to be said that discrimination and gender inequality are major and pervasive issues, which should be tackled as a matter of priority. Although the possible solutions outlined in this essay would require commitment and investment, we as a society would reap huge rewards from making the workplace and the world a fairer place. I sincerely hope that urgent steps will be taken to deal with this pressing matter.

Refer to problem

Refer to solution

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

PROBLEMS +
SOLUTIONS

The media is full of images of young, thin and attractive people. These people are portrayed as beautiful and successful. Many young people see these images and are influenced by them. Why is this a problem? What can be done to tackle this issue?

Overall, there seems little doubt that the prevalence of images of beautiful young people can be damaging.

Equally, nobody would deny the fact that tackling this state of affairs could take a great deal of effort and may actually be impossible. We can only hope that those with expertise in this area are able to come up with policies and approaches which reduce the harm that these images can cause.

Refer to problem

Refer to solution

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

PROBLEMS +
SOLUTIONS

Consumers are faced with an increasing amount of advertising from competing companies. To what extent do you think consumers are influenced by advertisements? What measures could be taken to protect them?

In the modern world we are bombarded with advertising and it is difficult to avoid being influenced by it. Although individuals can take some steps to protect themselves, it is surely the role of government to intervene by passing legislation to restrict the power of adverts. I hope that forward-thinking politicians will soon bring in new laws to improve the situation.

Refer to problem

Refer to solution

Express a hope,
wish, worry, fear,
prediction etc.

SOLUTIONS

Tourism has led to many beautiful or historically significant places being damaged beyond repair. What should be done to make sure that this does not happen in the future?

All in all, it is impossible to deny that some of the globe's most awe-inspiring areas are in great need of help.

However, the authorities and voluntary bodies have a range of possible responses. We should not lose hope. Given political will and financial support, much of the damage caused to the planet's beauty spots and cultural heritage can be undone.

Strategy: Lifting

Homelessness is a major problem in many parts of the world. What are the main causes of homelessness? What can be done to help reduce this problem?

In conclusion, it is fair to say that this is a contentious topic with several key causes and a range of possible solutions. Obviously, governments need to play a major role in alleviating this problem, and it is my fervent hope that steps will soon be taken to improve the situation.

Strategy: Lifting

Homelessness is a major problem in many parts of the world. What are the main causes of homelessness? What can be done to help reduce this problem?

In conclusion, it is fair to say that **the fact that so many vulnerable people find themselves sleeping on the streets** is utterly intolerable. The causes include **poverty, illness and unemployment as well as family breakdowns**. A number of approaches - **such as offering temporary accommodation – have been tried with varying degrees of success**. I earnestly hope that government ministers will **prioritise the issue of homelessness to ensure that we have fewer people sleeping rough in the future**.

Master IELTS Writing Task 2

Thanks for watching!



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