

Master IELTS Writing Task 2

IELTS Writing Task 2

Grammar



FORMER IELTS EXAMINERS

Prepare for {**IELTS**}

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**Complex
sentences:
subordinate
clauses**

Although there are advantages to being an only child, those with siblings often develop social skills more quickly than those without.

Even though flights have become significantly cheaper, prices on some routes - especially those popular with business passengers - have remained high.

Even though increasing the price of airline tickets would be very unpopular, this strategy could help tackle global warming.

Whilst some drivers reduce their speed in poor weather, others appear to take no notice of treacherous driving conditions.

As soon as politicians are elected, they forget all the promises they made to the electorate.

Our cities will not be clean **until** local people and tourists realise that throwing litter on the streets is wrong.

Before the smartphone was invented, communication was limited.

As long as nobody cares, nothing will change.

Provided that students agree, the changes will work.

**Complex
sentences:
relative
clauses**

Children **who commit crimes** should never be sent to prison.

Schoolchildren **who have to wear a uniform** usually have to ask family members, whose income is limited, to buy it for them.

Parents **whose children commit crimes** should also be held responsible.

Schools **which make pupils wear a uniform** usually have better discipline and higher attendance levels.

Classrooms **where there are hardly any teaching resources** are unlikely to inspire children to learn.

People have rights, **which should be defended**, and responsibilities, **which they must take seriously**.

Junk food, **which seems to become more popular by the day**, is responsible for a lot of the obesity and ill-health we have to deal with.

Many arguments have been put forward in support of this notion, none of **which I agree with**.

Sentences with wh-clauses

Before we can work out how to treat them, we need to understand **why eating disorders occur**.

There is debate about **when children should start primary school**.

Students with learning difficulties often do not know **where to go for help** and have no idea **who to talk to** for advice.

Teachers can sometimes become frustrated with students who do not know **how to express themselves well in a written form**.

International organisations like The United Nations need to decide **which is the best way to deal with aggressive states**.

What is needed is a completely new approach to dealing with juvenile delinquents.

What concerns me most is that politicians do not seem to care.

The question of **whether to send young offenders to prison** has been hotly debated.

Sentences with that-clauses

It is important to note **that** the number of dangerous viruses is on the rise.

It is worth mentioning **that** many teachers avoid the use of technology in the classroom.

It is evident/clear/obvious **that** our climate is changing in ways we cannot really predict.

Many experts are of the opinion **that** AI will soon be out of control.

It is often claimed **that** women are better communicators than men.

It is generally acknowledged **that** investment in science leads to economic growth.

There is no doubt **that** the surge in population will put stresses and strains on the way we live.

Those in favour of compulsory military service focus on the fact **that** it helps to build young people's characters.

I agree **that** those who earn the most should pay higher tax.

I sincerely hope **that** governments will take this matter seriously.

Perfect tenses

Over recent years, the number of smokers **has fallen** slightly.

For the last few decades, temperatures **have risen**.

There have been subtle changes in attitudes towards smoking.

Technology **has begun** to play a significant role in many aspects of our lives.

Many people still **have not realised** how much they depend on technology.

Since the discovery of penicillin, literally millions of lives **have been saved**.

The situation **has been getting** worse for generations.

If you **have been working** for the same company for many years, you deserve protection against being dismissed.

It is incredible to think that before 1881 nobody **had seen** a motorcar.

It is estimated that by 2050 most of the polar ice **will have melted**.

Conditional tenses

If we **run out** of clean drinking water, we **will not be able to** survive.

Unless we **begin** to tackle this issue soon, future generations **will** certainly **struggle**.

As long as children **eat** nutritious food most of the time, they **should be allowed** to have the occasional unhealthy treat.

Provided that there **is** some adult supervision, I believe young children **should be allowed** to use the internet.

If young people **cared** more about the elderly, the world **would be** a more harmonious place.

If new laws **were passed** guaranteeing freedom of speech, newspapers and websites **would be** willing to publish controversial articles.

Even if plane travel **became** expensive, some **would choose** to fly.

If only we **had taken** the environmental threat seriously a decade ago, we **would have been able to avoid** the worst excesses of climate change / we **would be** in a better situation now.

Passive forms

Environmentalists often claim that our planet **is** gradually **being destroyed** by greedy humans: its trees **are being chopped down**, its rivers **are being polluted** and its non-renewable resources **are being used up**.

In the past, schoolchildren who behaved badly **were** often **caned** by their teacher. If their behaviour was exceptionally bad, they **were** sometimes **expelled**.

Very few cars **were sold** during the pandemic.

Children **are being taught** by teachers who **may not have been trained** properly themselves.

The public **ought to be told** exactly how much money **has been spent** on weapons by the government.

Money **needs to be invested** so that vital infrastructure **can be built**.

Several suggestions to deal with this issue **have been put forward** and **are being considered**.

Verb structures with infinitives

Anyone who **aims/wants/intends to qualify** as a doctor **ought to work** exceedingly hard.

Young people **have/need to work** hard to get a place at university.

If you **expect/hope to succeed** in life, it is important that you have aims which are clear and achievable.

It is difficult to know why some people **decide/choose to emigrate**.

Many people enjoy volunteering: they **offer to help** those who are less fortunate or more vulnerable.

It is said that if you **fail to plan**, you **plan to fail**.

Many people **cannot afford to rent** properties in urban areas.

It **seems/appears to be** getting harder for unskilled workers to make ends meet. They often cannot **manage to pay** the bills.

If you **are able to save** money, it makes sense to.

People who **tend to go** to bed early are often healthier.

We all believe that we **deserve to get** a pay rise.

Verb structures: with -ing

Some people **love exercising** whereas others **hate doing** sport.
We need to **start taking** our planet's health seriously.
Teachers should **avoid giving** their pupils too much homework.
The percentage of adults who own their own home is expected to **keep/carry on/continue falling** during the coming years.
Many poorer people have **thought about emigrating**.
Many students do not **worry about being** late for class.
Many addicts would love to **give up smoking** cigarettes.
Most of us would **benefit from cutting down** on fatty foods.
We should all **insist on being respected** by others.
Tourists are told to **guard against being robbed** in the street.
I **disapprove of** young children **staying up** late.
I **object to** people **playing** loud music at night.
Legislation could be passed which **prevents/stops/deters** pupils from **accessing** certain parts of the internet.

-ing forms

Most of us **will** still **be working** when we reach the age of seventy.

Working from home is easier than **going** into an office every day.

Before finishing their degree, many students **start applying** for jobs.

By working hard, you can achieve your goals and make your dreams come true.

Health services have been privatised, **meaning** that poorer people no longer have access to them.

Hard-working individuals are often upset about the taxes they have to pay.

Most people are proud **of having graduated** from university.

After having discussed both sides of the debate, I feel that it makes sense for us, as a society, to try to compromise.

Having discussed the merits and demerits of eco-tourism in detail, I have come to the conclusion that it does more harm than good.

Participle clauses

The number of people **living** in poverty has risen.

Entrepreneurs **starting** new businesses should receive support from the government.

People **working** in the financial sector tend to earn far more than those who are employed in agriculture or hospitality.

Many youngsters misbehave in class, **making** it difficult for their teachers to help them.

Tourists from abroad get drunk and start behaving inappropriately, **causing** significant problems for local police officers.

Vegetables **grown** in poorer tropical regions are exported to wealthier parts of the world.

There are millions of people **addicted** to painkillers in the western world.

People **found** guilty of dropping litter should be fined.

Verb + object
+ infinitive

We should **permit those aged sixteen and over to leave** school and **look for** a full-time job if that is what they want to do.

Some argue that we should **allow athletes to take** as many performance-enhancing drugs as they want.

Cities should be designed to **enable wheelchair-users to access** all public buildings and amenities.

The government would like to **encourage farmers to switch** from arable to dairy farming wherever possible.

Some governments **compel young adults to complete** a period of military service.

When officers **command soldiers to kill** prisoners, they should refuse, as this is an offence under The Geneva Convention.

Many companies **instruct their staff not to make** private phone-calls whilst at work.

Employers who **order their staff to do** things are usually less popular than managers with a gentler and more flexible approach.

Complex noun phrases

Each and every / Every single **child** deserves a decent education.
Hard-working and determined **schoolchildren** usually succeed academically.

Badly-behaved and poorly-disciplined **schoolchildren** often respond well to one-to-one mentoring.

Company **bosses working hard** are prone to stress.

Small and medium-sized **businesses unsupported by the government** are likely to go bankrupt.

Global **brands with a presence on every major high-street around the world** are loved by millions.

Children with learning difficulties and problems paying attention should be supported.

Managers of major, world-famous companies such as Google or Unilever need to accept lower salaries.

Undervalued and underpaid **teachers who are often blamed for the poor standard of education in our country** actually need support.

Nominalisation

The probable **disappearance** of many animal species within the next century is worrying.

Inventions and **innovations** are key to scientific **development**.

Observation of this process can lead to greater **understanding** of it.

Distributing wealth more equally would increase **the amount of fairness** in society.

Discussion of this issue should lead to **agreement**.

The **probability/likelihood** of many animal species disappearing within the next century is significant.

The **enormity** of that problem means that a solution cannot be found.

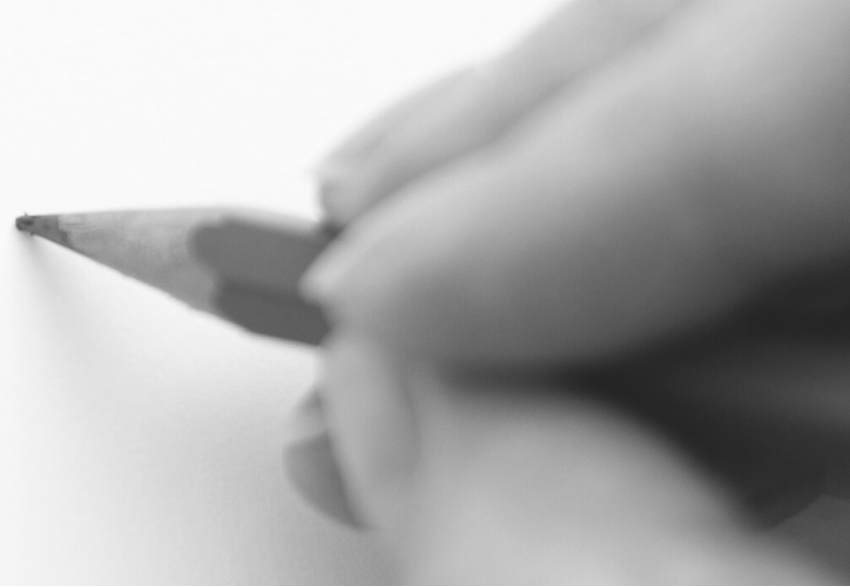
The **validity** of this **argument** needs to be recognized.

The **vulnerability** of many elderly people needs to be taken into consideration.

The **possibility** that traffic congestion could be cut by increasing the cost of petrol certainly exists.

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Thanks for watching!



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