

Master IELTS Writing Task 2

IELTS Writing Task 2

Cohesion



FORMER IELTS EXAMINERS

Prepare for {**IELTS**}

CONTENTS

Using pronouns

Using **this** to refer back to earlier ideas

Using **this** in longer phrases

Using **that** to refer back to earlier ideas

Using **that** to refer back to phrases with **of**

Using **these** with plurals

Using **these** in longer phrases

Using **those** to refer back to earlier ideas

Using **those** to refer to people

Using other ways of referring back to people

Using **one/ones** to avoid repeating a noun

Using pronouns

When **a company** spends a huge amount of money on an advertising campaign, **it** usually hopes to see **its** profits rise.

Parents do everything **they** can to make sure that **their** children prosper.

When **humans** face disaster, **we** often try to blame other people.

Using **this** to refer back to earlier ideas

Many zoos remain open. **This (fact/situation)** annoys animal rights campaigners.

More boys than girls study physics. **This (fact/situation)** obviously worries educators.

Public sector workers have seen pay freezes and even pay cuts recently. **This (situation)** has led to protests, high levels of worker dissatisfaction, a reduction in productivity and low morale. This, in turn, has provoked the government into making some state-sector employees redundant.

Records suggest that **the temperature of our planet has already gone up quite considerably.** Because of **this (fact/situation)**, scientists are urging politicians to take action.

Using **this** in
longer
phrases

Literally tonnes of **plastic** is thrown away each day.
Practically/Almost/Nearly/Virtually all of this/it could be recycled.

We get a lot of our **information from the internet**. **A significant amount of this/it** is either incorrect or misleading.

Lawyers give their clients a lot of **advice about how to behave in court**. **Hardly/Barely/Scarcely any of this/it** is taken.

People in economically-advanced countries eat a large amount of **fish**. **Some/Most of this/it** is caught locally, but a great deal is imported from poorer countries.

Using **that** to refer back to earlier ideas

Landing humans on **Mars** would be almost impossible. Even building the spaceship to take astronauts to **that planet** is probably beyond our capabilities. (= in a distant place)

In the tenth century, life expectancy was short. At **that time**, understanding of disease was limited. (= at a distant time)

Unless we take action, **our planet could be uninhabitable within a century**. **That prospect/possibility** is a terrifying one. (= unlikely; currently untrue)

Some educators advocate **allowing children to learn whatever they want**. **That** would certainly be a revolutionary change. (= unlikely; currently untrue)

Allowing people to continue working after they reach the age of retirement might mean that **young people would struggle to get a job**. **That/This** would probably outrage them. (= unlikely; currently untrue)

Using **that** to refer back to phrases with **of**

The standard of living of those in developed countries is on the rise. **That of** citizens of developing countries does not always show the same improvement.

The price of coffee has risen whilst **that of** tea has remained relatively constant.

The cost of living in the countryside has actually fallen, while **that of** living in a city has shot up.

Using **these**
with plurals

Overcrowding and a lack of decent amenities make life in the city stressful for many. **These problems/issued/difficulties** should be addressed by the authorities.

Scientists have recently discovered **a number of planets outside our solar system with similar conditions to those on Earth**. **These planets/bodies** will be investigated further, as it is conceivable that life may have developed there.

Using **these** in
longer
phrases

Teachers use **many strategies**.

Nearly/Almost/Practically/Virtually all of these (approaches) work in some situations, but not in others.

Governments have **many policies aimed at cutting unemployment**. **Most of these (strategies)** are related to increasing demand in the economy.

We currently rely heavily on **coal and oil**. **Neither of these (forms of energy)** is/are sustainable in the long term.

We currently have access to **various renewable energy sources**. However, **none of these (forms of energy)** can provide the answer on their own. We will require a combination of them to tackle climate change.

The figures show that **many universities** decided to stop teaching foreign languages during the 1990s. **A few of these (institutions)** reversed this decision in the following decade.

Using **those**
to refer back
to earlier
ideas

Temperatures in summer tend to be extremely high.

Those in winter are obviously considerably lower.

Houses constructed from stone are more expensive than **those** made of brick.

Bananas imported from South America are cheaper than **those** shipped from other parts of the world.

Cities which are located near the sea obviously find it easier to trade and export than **those** situated inland.

Using **those**
to refer to
people

Those (soldiers and civilians) who were killed in the war should be remembered at annual ceremonies. (= **relative clause**)

Those with serious mental health issues should be given all the support they need. In the long-run, this approach is both humane and cost-effective. (= **prepositional phrases**)

Those (residents) living near nuclear power plants fear an accident or an explosion. (= **participle clause**)

Those willing to work hard are admirable. (= **adjective phrase/clause**)

Other ways of referring to people

Some (people) live long lives, whereas **others** die young.

The majority (of students) complete their driving test successfully, but **several/one or two (students)** actually fail.

Few (people) have the skills necessary to be a fighter-pilot.

Most (people) remember to pay their taxes on time, but **a few (people)** forget.

Most (shoppers/people) are looking for a bargain.

Many (voters/people) refuse to take part in elections. They see no point.

Using
one/ones to
avoid
repeating a
noun

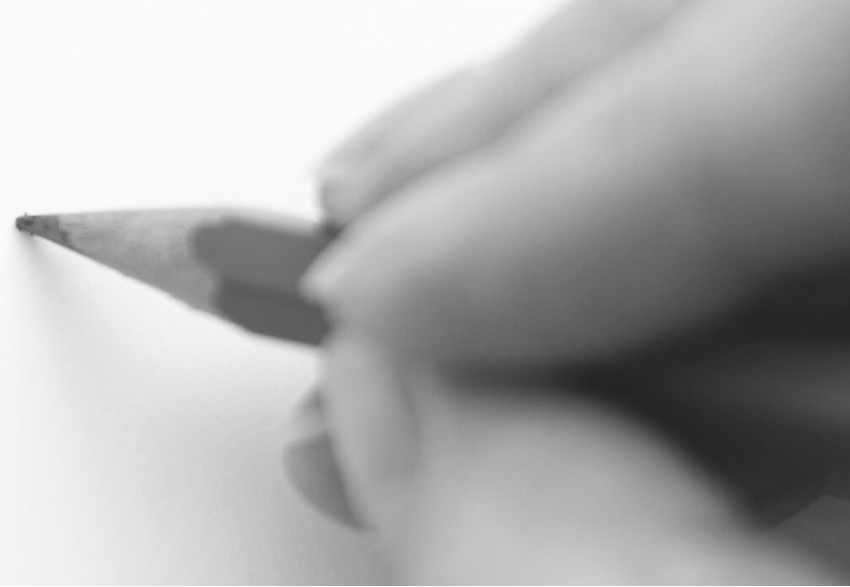
Several strategies have been proposed. **The ones** put forward in the past were generally too expensive and so not practical; **the ones** put forward more recently need to be considered carefully.

People who do not have **a pet** often fail to see why anyone would want to share their home with an animal. Those who have **one** are convinced that a dog or cat can vastly improve your quality of life.

The **decision** to relocate to a major city is often a difficult **one**.

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Thanks for watching!



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