

IELTS WRITING TASK 2

(Academic)

**7 WAYS TO IMMEDIATELY
INCREASE YOUR IELTS
WRITING SCORE!**

TIM DICKESON

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7 Ways To Immediately Increase Your IELTS Writing Score!

By Tim Dickeson

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About The Author



Tim Dickeson

Hello, my name is Tim Dickeson and I have put this book together to help people like you who need advice from an IELTS teacher.

There are so many people who have taken the IELTS many times, spending hundreds and sometimes thousands of dollars. However, I do not want this to be you!

So I have written this guide together to explain the things that make the biggest improvement to your writing score instantly!

I urge you to read my tips and take the information as a guide from someone who has experienced the IELTS and learnt what is necessary to succeed.

I have written several best-selling IELTS preparation books which are based on the strategies I teach my students every day which helps them achieve scores of 7, 8 and even 9 in the writing section.

My wife is also an IELTS teacher so we know everything about the IELTS and what works and what doesn't work.

I hope you get lots of value from this book!

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Who This Book Is For

This book is for anyone who is about to take the IELTS exam (Academic test mode) and wants to know the important things that will increase their score immediately.

Did you know that most people fail the IELTS because of the writing section?

Make sure this doesn't happen to you, by learning the key things that will help you achieve a high score.

This book is perfect for you if:

- You have taken the IELTS before and didn't get the score you wanted
- You need a high score for work or immigration
- You have never taken the IELTS and you are really nervous about the writing section
- You don't know what you should be focusing on in your preparation and you want to know what the evaluators will be looking for
- Your IELTS exam is very soon and you want direct information that is proven

IELTS Introduction

Before I go into the things you must know to increase your writing score, it is important to understand exactly what the writing section is.

The IELTS writing section evaluates your ability to write well-organised answers using correct sentence structures, correct and varied grammar, and correct and varied vocabulary.

There are two IELTS test modes and the test mode that you need to take will depend on your own circumstances.

The two test modes are Academic and General Training.

Academic – Assesses your English language proficiency primarily for university and tertiary purposes.

E.g. – University, Academic institutions, TAFE

General Training – Assesses your English language proficiency primarily for work and immigration purposes.

E.g. – Employment, Visas

****This book is specifically for the Academic test mode****

| | General Training | Academic |
|--------|--|---|
| Task 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum 150 words• Writing a letter in response to a situation – informal, semi-formal, or formal | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum 150 words• Interpreting, describing, or comparing information presented in graphic form - a diagram, bar chart, line graph, pie chart or table |
| Task 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum 250 words• Writing a more personal essay – possible informal style | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum 250 words• Writing an essay on a general academic topic – formal style |

Important Information About The Writing Section

- There are two tasks (Task 1 & Task 2) and you must complete both.
- You have 60 minutes to complete both task 1 and 2.
- You must write your answers on the sheet given to you.

- Writing in bullet points or notes in any part of your answer will not be accepted.
- Task 1 is worth half the marks of Task 2, and each task is scored independently.

IELTS Writing Tips

Tip No. 1 – Answer The Actual Question

Have you ever asked a person a question and they have given you an answer that does not directly answer the question and goes off topic?

Well, this is one of the most important things you must **NOT** do when writing your IELTS answers.

When the IELTS evaluator is reviewing your essay, they must be able to identify your exact position in regards to the question (i.e. do you agree or disagree? What is your opinion?).

Your essay must clearly answer the question so there is no misunderstanding.

In Task 2, you must clearly state your answer to the question, so that anybody reading your introduction knows exactly what you think.

It is important to not only clearly state your answer to the question in the introduction but also re-confirm this in the conclusion.

This is also relevant to your supporting paragraphs used to expand on your ideas. If you start going off topic and discussing things that are not relevant to the question, this will result in a lower score.

A good way to do this is by thinking of your essay as a “circle”, whereby your introduction starts your essays and progresses through the supporting paragraphs and then closes back where you started with the conclusion.

Introduction – Clearly state your position and what will be discussed (directly linked to the question)

Supporting Paragraph 1 – Expands on an idea to help support your position (directly linked to your introduction)

Supporting Paragraph 2 – Expands on a second idea to help support your position (directly linked to your introduction and also relates to your first supporting paragraph)

Conclusion – Summarizes your ideas and restates your position (directly linked to your introduction and supporting paragraphs).

Action Task – *The next time you write a practice essay, ask someone you know to read the question and then your introduction. If they can't clearly identify what your answer to the question is, then you need to make it clearer.*

Tip No. 2 – Make Sure Your Answer Is In Unity

Another reason why people don't achieve a high score in the IELTS writing section is that their answer lacks unity.

So, what does unity mean exactly?

Unity is where your answer flows and each paragraph is well linked to the previous paragraphs. Coherence and cohesion are two words that IELTS evaluators commonly use to reference this tip.

This means when you read your answer it must flow in a logical order.

How should you make sure your answer is in unity?

- 1. Make sure you use a clear structure that is appropriate for the question type.**
- 2. Make sure your supporting (middle) paragraphs expand on the ideas which you mention in your Introduction.**
- 3. Structure your paragraphs correctly**

Action Task – *The next time you write a practice essay, plan your essay with the paragraph structure and what you will write in each paragraph. When you do this, the first thing to identify is your answer to the question. From there, think of two or three ideas to support your answer. These ideas will become your supporting middle paragraphs.*

Tip No. 3 – Know The Correct Structure To Use

IELTS evaluators love essays that use a clear structure with separating paragraphs. Not only will this help your score, but it also helps with your planning of the essay to make sure your ideas are clearly separated from each other and your introduction and conclusion.

Below is the best structure to use for the Task 2 essay:

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Paragraph 1 | Introduction | Introduce the topic of the essay and you MUST answer the question here as well |
| Paragraph 2 | Supporting Paragraph | One key reason/justification/argument to be developed in this paragraph |
| Paragraph 3 | Supporting Paragraph | One key reason/justification/argument to be developed in this paragraph |
| Paragraph 4 | Conclusion | Conclude the essay by summarizing the answer to the question and key reasons and points you have used to discuss the question. DO NOT introduce new information here. Keep it short and sweet. |

Action Task – *The next time you write a practice essay, use the structure above.*

Tip No. 4 – Use More Advanced Grammar & Vocabulary

Did you know that grammar and vocabulary together make up 50% of your overall writing score?

This means that you not only must minimise the number errors, but you must also use more complex grammar structures and vocabulary.

If you use only simple grammar structures and vocabulary, the IELTS evaluator reading your essay will only assume that your writing level and knowledge of the English language is medium, which equates to a 5 or 6 score.

In order to achieve a 7, 8 or 9 you must use at least one more complex grammar structure and more academic vocabulary.

Key things to remember:

- Don't only use simple grammar and vocabulary
- Don't use the same grammar structures throughout your whole essay, vary the grammar you use
- Don't use the same vocabulary throughout your whole essay, vary the vocabulary you use.

Action Task – *Start learning some more academic words and more complex grammar structures. If you can use some of these in your answer and use them correctly, this will significantly help to increase your score.*

Tip No. 5 – Know The IELTS Evaluation Scoring Criteria

The IELTS evaluators use a specific set of criteria to score you, in order to standardise the testing across all people taking the test and to make sure that the correct elements are being analysed to reach your writing score level.

Below are the 4 key criteria that are used to score your essay:

Task Achievement

- Has the essay answered all parts of the question?
- Is there a clear position (that the evaluator can easily identify)?
- Is there sufficient development to support the position (supporting paragraphs)?

Coherence and Cohesion

- Is the information written in a logical order?
- Are transition phrases used to link sentences and paragraphs?
- Are paragraphs used correctly?

Lexical Resource

- Is a wide range of vocabulary used and is it used accurately?

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

- Is a wide range of grammar used and is it used accurately?

Action Task – *The next time you write a practice essay, keep the scoring criteria in mind and make sure you are achieving each of the 4 criteria.*

Tip No. 6 – Use Only Formal Writing (Not Informal)

The IELTS writing section (Academic test mode) is evaluating your ability to write formal answers which are similar to the academic setting, i.e. university.

Therefore, you must only use formal writing in your Task 2 essay.

If you use informal expressions or words, you will get a lower score.

Note the following example expressions to use and what not to use:

| | |
|---|---|
| X | He'd, don't, it's, gonna, she's |
| ✓ | He would, do not, it is, going to, she is |
| X | I'm going to talk about... |
| ✓ | This essay will discuss... |

Action Task – *The next time you write a practice essay, try to focus on using formal language, not colloquial or informal language.*

Tip No. 7 – Practice Using A High Score Checklist

When you are writing practice essays, how do you know if you have included everything you need to get a high score?

Checklists are a great way for students to practice and then review their answer using a set of questions. This makes students realise what they must include in their answer to get a maximum score possible.

It is important to also note that vocabulary and grammar make up 25% each, which means 50% of your entire writing score.

It is easy to make simple spelling or grammar errors when you are writing quickly. I suggest allowing 3-5 minutes at the end of your essay to check your answer and correct any errors which you have made.

Action Task – *When you next write a practice essay, when you have finished, use the checklist questions below to confirm whether you have done everything you must to get a high score.*

| Task Response | Yes/No |
|--|--------|
| Have I written between 250 and 300 words? | |
| Do I clearly identify the task in the introduction? | |
| Do I state my position in the introduction and conclusion? | |
| Does each paragraph relate to the task? | |

| Coherence and Cohesion | Yes/No |
|--|---------------|
| Have I used paragraphs? | |
| Is there a clear introduction, main argument and conclusion? | |
| Have I used examples and reasons? | |
| Do my sentences link together? | |
| Have I used punctuation? | |
| Have I used transition/connecting phrases? | |

| Lexical Resource | Yes/No |
|---|---------------|
| Have I repeated the wording of the question? | |
| Are there any words I repeat consistently? | |
| Have I used some academic vocabulary? | |
| Have I used vocabulary specific to the topic of the question? | |

| Grammatical Range and Accuracy | Yes/No |
|--|---------------|
| Have I checked spelling? | |
| Have I checked my verb tenses? | |
| Are my sentences between 15 and 25 words long? | |

Learn How An IELTS Teacher Writes High Scoring Task 2 Essays!

Are you frustrated because you can't seem to get a high enough score in the IELTS writing section?

Are you unsure how to increase your score?

Would you like to see exactly how an IELTS teacher writes high scoring answers in a step-by-step way?

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“IELTS Writing Academic – How To Achieve A Target 8 Score” is an online course which provides targeted learning to save you time and money and help you learn faster.

You'll learn:

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- What the different question types are
- How to develop strong supporting paragraphs
- Tips and simple things that will help to increase your score

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2. Use the discount coupon code → **DISCOUNT50**

I hope to see you there!

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