

WRITING

WRITING TASK 1

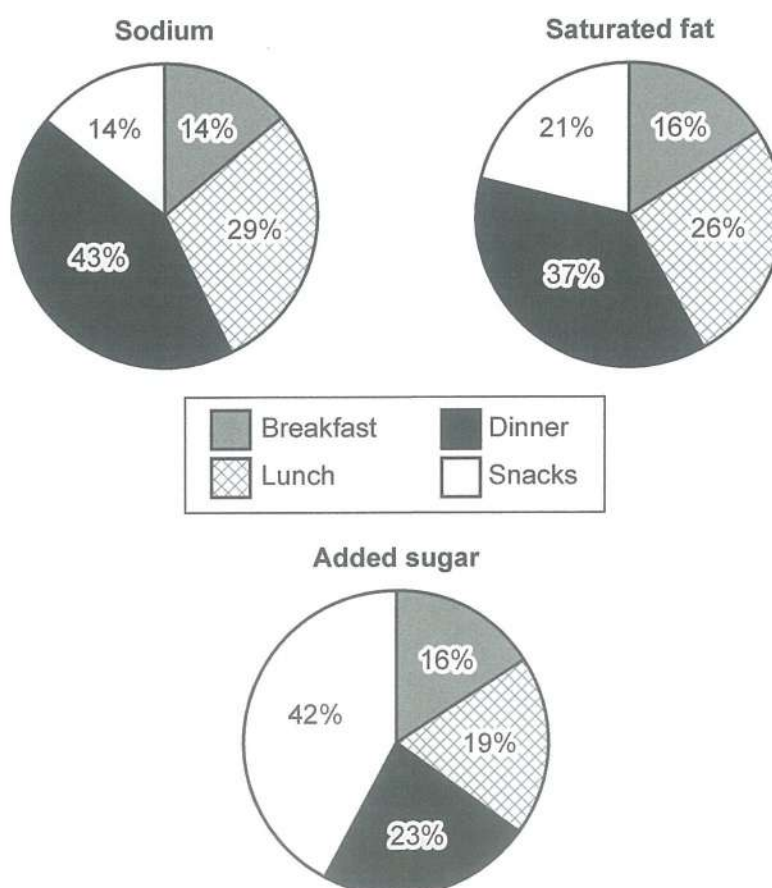
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The charts below show the average percentages in typical meals of three types of nutrients, all of which may be unhealthy if eaten too much.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Average percentages of sodium, saturated fats and added sugars in typical meals consumed in the USA



Test 1

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people believe that it is best to accept a bad situation, such as an unsatisfactory job or shortage of money. Others argue that it is better to try and improve such situations.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

WRITING

WRITING TASK 1

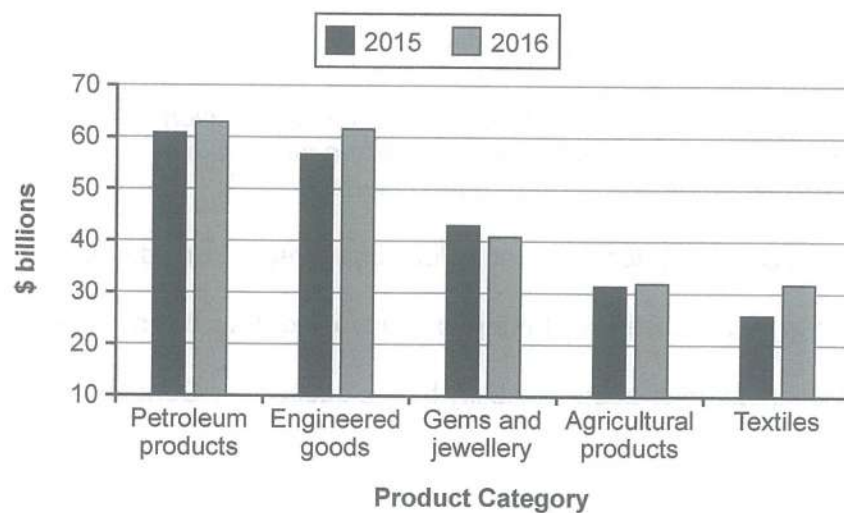
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below shows the value of one country's exports in various categories during 2015 and 2016. The table shows the percentage change in each category of exports in 2016 compared with 2015.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

Export Earnings (2015–2016)



Percentage change in values (2015–2016)	
Petroleum products	↑ 3%
Engineered goods	↑ 8.5%
Gems and jewellery	↓ 5.18%
Agricultural products	↑ 0.81%
Textiles	↑ 15.24%

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people say that the main environmental problem of our time is the loss of particular species of plants and animals. Others say that there are more important environmental problems.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

WRITING

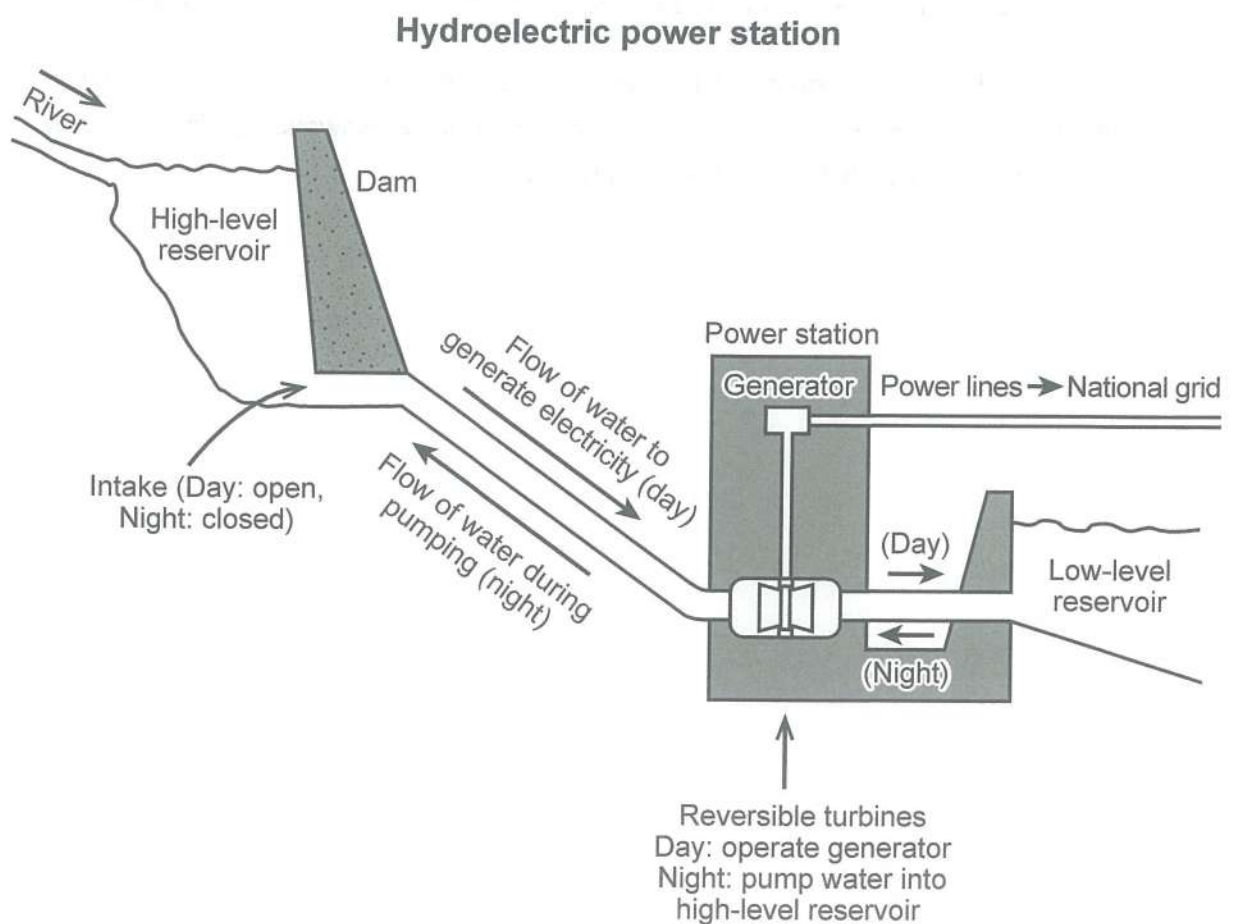
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows how electricity is generated in a hydroelectric power station.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people say that music is a good way of bringing people of different cultures and ages together.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

WRITING

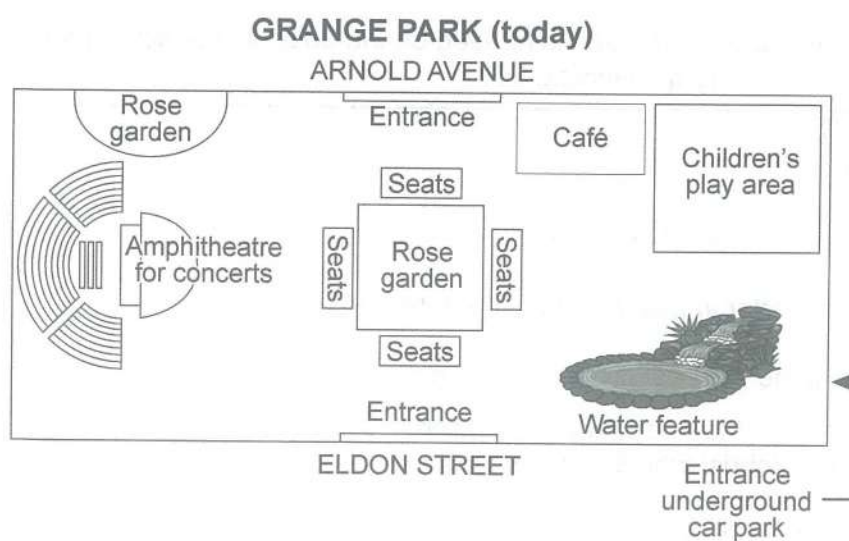
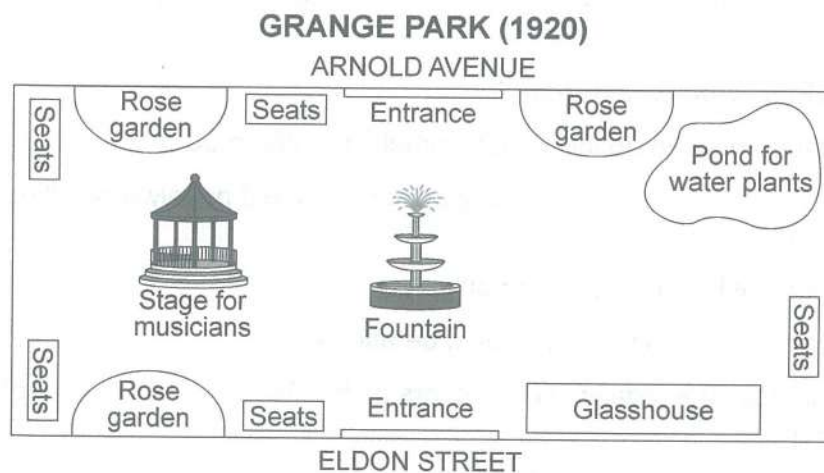
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The plans below show a public park when it first opened in 1920 and the same park today.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Nowadays many people choose to be self-employed, rather than to work for a company or organisation.

Why might this be the case?

What could be the disadvantages of being self-employed?

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Sample answers for Writing tasks

TEST 1, WRITING TASK 1

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 6.5** score.

The diagrams illustrate the average proportions of three types of nutrients in typical meals, which can be unhealthy if consumed too much. The three types include sodium, saturated fats and added sugar. The data is taken from the United States of America.

The first chart shows the average percentages of sodium. Dinner contains the most sodium (43%). Breakfast and snacks include an equal proportion of sodium consumed, with each of them adding up 14% of sodium. Through eating lunch, 29% sodium is consumed. The second chart shows the percentages of saturated fat in meals. By eating dinner, 31% saturated fat is consumed. Lunch contributes to a consumption of 26% saturated fat, followed by snacks with 21% and breakfast with 16%. The last chart illustrates the proportions of added sugar. Snacks contain the highest amount of added sugar (42%). Dinner includes 23%. A typical dinner includes 23% added sugar, while lunch contains 19% and breakfast includes 16%.

All in all, the diagrams show that every typical meal consumed in the USA contains a percentage of at least 14% of nutrients that can be unhealthy if eaten too much.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The candidate has accurately reported the data for each chart and has presented a summary of the information, but could achieve a higher score by making comparisons across the charts, e.g. breakfast contains the lowest amounts of sodium, saturated fats and added sugar. The information is logically organised and there is a clear progression throughout the script. The main points are clearly signalled [*The first chart | The second chart | All in all*] and there are examples of other cohesive devices [*each of them*]. The range of vocabulary is varied [*data | contains | an equal proportion of | consumed | consumption | illustrates*]. Minor errors do not cause misunderstanding [*adding up 14% of sodium*]. There is a mix of simple and complex sentence structures, using active, passive and modal verb forms and there is also subordination through the use of participles [*Through eating lunch | By eating dinner | followed by*]. More variety in grammatical structures would perhaps achieve a higher score.

TEST 1, WRITING TASK 2

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7.0** score:

Some people believe that it is best to accept a bad situation, such as an unsatisfactory job or shortage of money. Others argue that it is better to try and improve such situations.

Based on my knowledge, some people choose to accept the fate that they have to undergo the bad situation as they believe that good things might come out of it. Their solution is simply to just go with the flow because they think that they will learn something new along the journey. For example, a student received a grade B for his Physics examination. However, he only needs one more mark to get an A. If a student requires to receive a mark percentage of 70% to get an A, this student got a 69% on his paper. As the teacher looked through the questions with the whole class, he notices that the teacher accidentally marked his correct answer to wrong. So, realistically, he should get an A. However, he chooses to leave his grade as a B because he believes that his current grade will be a motivation for him to improve and work harder to get a better grade in the next examination. Hence, this explains why some people chooses to accept the bad situation.

Besides that, it is also mentioned that others argue that is better to try and improve such situations. I believe the reason they act that way is because they feel a bit paranoid that the situation will become worse if they do not do so. For instance, a person had to undergo a shortage of money. Logically, they will feel a little paranoid that at one point, they might have to experience an empty pocket and had to live in the streets. Regarding that matter, they figured out a solution to improvise such situations by getting an extra or part-time job. This solution will help them to gain extra money to pay their daily expenses such as water and electricity bills. This means that their problems are solved and they are now worry-free.

In my honest opinion, I strongly suggest that one can choose to act in both situations according to situations. When facing a problem, think of the best solution to solve it. If the situation requires you to simply ignore it, then just do so. There is a no need in figuring out a way to improve those situations as it will take up your time and cause stress. However, if the situation requires you to take action quickly, by all means do so as you might not know what are the consequences if you ignore the problem.

In a conclusion, the main important thing when facing bad situations is to analyze the problem, then only you can react to them. Not all bad situations needs to be ignored and not all needs to be improved. Think wisely to get the best solution for all of your problems.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The candidate has addressed all parts of the task and shows a clear position throughout the response. Ideas are presented, extended and supported. The response is logically organised and there is a clear progression throughout,

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 1

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 6.0** score:

The value of a country's exports may vary in various categories in different years. Usually, the percentage of changes of exports earning will differ by year and category. Here is some information about a country's exports earning based on the year 2015 and 2016.

First, I will start with the country's most money-making export which is petroleum products. By the year 2016, the country gained 3% more in the category than the year 2015. However, for gems and jewellery, the percentage of the export earning decreased by 5.18% by the year 2016.

Next, engineered goods earnings also follow the foot steps of petroleum product earnings by gaining more than 8% on 2016 than 2015. The value increases from more than 50 billions to more than 60 billions in just a year. This statistic also conclude that the engineers in the country have gained more by the year 2016.

Besides that, agricultural products and textiles also earned more with 0.81% and 15.24% respectively. Even though, agricultural products does not gain more than 1%, it stills conclude that the products are still wanted by many people as it earned about more than 30 billions for both years.

While for textures, it is seen that it gains it popularity in the year 2016. This is proved, when the statistic states that the earning was increased by more than 15.24% in the year 2016 based on the year 2015. Textiles products earned about more than 25 billions in 2015 and earned more than 30 billions in the next year.

In conclusion, we can see that this country has overall succeed in the year 2016 than the year 2015. The country managed to gain about more than 22% in the year 2016. Even though gems and jewellery had a decreasing of earnings by 5.18%, it is still the third money-making export product from the country.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The response covers all the key features and presents an overview in the final paragraph. However, the rating could be improved by providing data in \$ billions for earnings for each product (not just engineered goods and textiles). One of the comments is debatable [*This statistic also conclude that the engineers in the country have gained more by the year 2016*]. Organisation follows the order of the bar chart, providing an overall progression, and there is some use of cohesive devices to signal a change of topic. The vocabulary used provides some variety of expression [*differ* | *gained* | *decreased*], even if it is not always appropriate [*money-making* / *profitable* | *textures* / *textiles*]. Errors occur [*earning(s)* | *foot step* / *footstep* | *stills*], but the intended meaning is clear. The candidate uses both simple and complex sentence forms, but better control of both grammar and punctuation might result in a higher rating here.

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 2

MODEL ANSWER

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

Some people consider that the loss of individual species of plants and animals is the main environmental problem of our time. Attempts to preserve rare or dying species are carried out in zoos or other specialist plant and animal facilities, through breeding programmes, preservation orders and other forms of protection and there was genuine sadness among many when the last surviving white rhino died earlier this year.

Survival of the fittest is nature's way of ruthlessly allowing weaker specimens to die out, although mankind has also contributed to falling animal numbers through hunting and poaching. However, whether saving individual species should be the main focus of environmental protection is debatable. Climate change and excessive use of plastic are just two other major problems that deserve our attention.

The evidence of climate change is there for us all to see: rising sea levels and associated flooding with the loss of homes at low land levels are becoming more frequent. Many countries and island communities are now calling for urgent action to delay, halt or even reverse the process, although if we believe the experts, reversal is impossible. Habitable areas are gradually shrinking, often for some of the poorest groups of people, but there seems to be little obvious action taking place. If the major contributors to climate change will not support the reduction of greenhouse gases, there is little hope for the future.

Naturalists have also begun to expose the serious problems arising from discarded plastic waste. Birds and animals can die gruesome deaths through being trapped or caught up in plastic bags or ropes, while the long process required for these plastics to decay means that they remain a threat for many years to come. Worse, there is now beginning to be evidence of sea creatures ingesting smaller globules of disintegrating plastic, which harms them and all the other creatures in their particular food chain.

The loss of particular species, both flora and fauna, is cause for regret, but I do not agree that they are the most important environmental problems these days. If climate change and damage from plastic continue, there will be less land and less food for everyone, including plants and animals.

TEST 3, WRITING TASK 1

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 6.0** score:

A hydroelectric power station can generate electric power by using the energy of water flowing from high level to low level. It works different functions in day and night.

In the day time, water in the high-level reservoir go through the intake under the dam which is only open in day time. Then the water flow into the power station in which there is a generator. The generator is operated by a reversible turbines that can transfer the water flowing force to the mechanical force which is the power of the generator. The generated electricity then goes to the national grid through the power lines.

On the other hand in the night time, the power station works in a reversed way. It pumps water from the low-level reservoir to high-level reservoir to provide the enough water for day time's work. The water is pumped by the same reversible turbines from low-level reservoir. So the power station actually consumes energy at night. But that is in order to generate more power in the day time.

In a conclusion, a hydroelectric power station can generate power is based on the differce heighth of water level. In day time, it uses the natural water energy. Meanwhile in the night, it transfers the water to create and store the energy for the next day.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The answer covers the key features of the process and provides an overview of this process in the final paragraph. The detail is not always clear, but the key features are adequately highlighted. Information is arranged coherently and there is a clear overall progression. Cohesive devices are used to signal different stages of the process [*Then* | *On the other hand* | *So* | *In a conclusion* | *Meanwhile*], and there is some use of pronouns for reference [*It* | *which* | *that*]. The range of vocabulary is adequate for the task [*energy* | *operated by* | *transfer* | *mechanical*], in spite of some errors in word form [*a reversed way*] and spelling [*differce heighth*]. There is a mix of simple and complex sentence forms and grammatical control is generally adequate, though there are some errors in the use of articles.

TEST 3, WRITING TASK 2

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 5.5** score:

I agree with this topic. In my opinion I think that music can join anypeople who has different culture together. Music can make a relationship between people all around the world. Although it has different rhytum but when the people who listen to music, their feeling will be better. For the example the woman who will be mom in the future she can use music to join between mom and her baby. I have known about how to make the patients feel better and some cases of the patients in the hospital, the doctors will use music for them. When they patients listen to music (solf music) it makes them feel better. And now we don't use music only human we can use it with animals and plants too.

Music can make us feel better, although we are different ages, nationalities and culture. when we like the same kind of music. We can join and listen together. One more example I have friend and he is the foreigner. He is around 25 years old. He likes to go anywhere with me and he likes to listen Thai song, especially song for life. He tries to practice to sing Thai song and he can do it. Now he can sing many Thai songs.

Including I think music has some power to make human's mind. And it can make good relationship between people who has different ages, cultures and nationalities.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The response shows a clear position that is relevant to the task, with examples to support the main ideas. There is a clear overall progression, with effective use of cohesive devices [*this | them | it*] in spite of some errors [*For the example | they patients | Including / In conclusion?*]. Paragraphing is adequate. Vocabulary is generally adequate, but control over spelling and word choice is weak [*anypeople | rhytum | solf / soft? | anywhere / everywhere? | song for life?*], sometimes causing difficulty for the reader. There are attempts at complex sentences, but these usually contain errors [*people who has | Although ... but when*], and punctuation is sometimes faulty (incorrect capitalisation, misuse of commas and full stops). Better control over spelling, grammar and punctuation might improve the overall score.

TEST 4, WRITING TASK 1

MODEL ANSWER

This model has been prepared by an examiner as an example of a very good answer. However, please note that this is just one example out of many possible approaches.

Grange Park was opened in 1920, a rectangular area with access from Arnold Avenue on the north side and from Eldon Street on the south side. There was a fountain in the centre, with a stage for musicians situated centre left, a glasshouse to the right of the Eldon Street entrance and a pond for water plants in the north east corner opposite. Around the edges of the park there were rose gardens, with seats nearby for people to smell the flowers and listen to music.

The park has altered considerably since then. Now there is one large-ish rose garden, occupying the central area where the fountain stood, and with seats all around it. One of the smaller rose gardens remains on the north side of the park. The bandstand (stage for musicians) has also been replaced, by an amphitheatre for concerts and associated seating. The glasshouse has gone and in its place is a water feature; similarly, where the pond for water plants stood there is now a children's play area with a café nearby. Access to the park is still via the two original entrances, but there is now a third entrance near the water feature from an underground car park.

Despite the apparently significant changes, the park retains the basic elements of flowers, water, seating and music, with the addition of a café and a children's play area.

TEST 4, WRITING TASK 2

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7.5** score:

Most contemporary economies allow such a model of employment as being self-employed, which appears very tempting for many. However, still the vast majority of people opt for being employed in a company and not to set up their own business. This essay will attempt to look into the key factors as to why people may prefer entrepreneurship and major drawbacks to it.

To start with, in many modern societies, including Russian, entrepreneurship is greatly encouraged with lots of business seminars and workshops advertised. These may range from slightly fraudulent to genuinely educational and supportive, and generally any information on setting up a company is easily accessible for those who are willing. And willing they are, as being a business person, the image itself has a certain feel of luxury, respectability and success. People are being told that they have no limits and can easily become as wealthy as a Steve Jobs is they wish it.

This first reason is linked to the second, which is relevant for Russia and some other countries. Bank loans are accessible too, and they are largely eagerly granted. If a future business person truly knows their business, it poses no threat. Nevertheless, easy access to setting up a company for someone inexperienced or insensible may cause a range of problems.

Apparently, the first issue that may perplex an unskilled entrepreneur is the necessity to be a jack of all trades (if the company is very small). Having taken the responsibilities of an accountant, PR or HR manager at the same time can be a burden and make the person wish they had never done it at all. If they hire other people to perform these tasks, they must pay more tax and provide their employees with decent working conditions. At the same time, business is usually a risky matter and in our competitive reality many of them go bankrupt. And last, but not least – self-employed people are the only people responsible for their own vacations, sick or maternity leaves or any job perks.

So, in a nutshell, being your own master has many downsides, that is why many people decide to play it safe.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The candidate has produced a well-developed response to the task. Further ideas could be included, e.g. wanting to develop own ideas, wanting to work more flexibly than employment allows for. There is a clear progression throughout the response, with information and ideas organised logically. There is a range of cohesive devices [*To start with* | *These* | *The first ... the second* | *Apparently* | *last but not least*] and each paragraph has a clear central topic. There is a wide range of vocabulary, including less common items and showing evidence of style and collocation [*contemporary* | *tempting* | *vast majority* | *opt for* | *entrepreneurship* | *fraudulent* |

image | luxury | perplex | jack of all trades], with only rare examples of inaccuracy [*insensible*]. There is a variety of complex structures, used flexibly and accurately. Grammar and punctuation are well controlled and there are frequent error-free sentences. A few errors persist [*still the vast majority of people opt for (word order) | (the) major drawbacks*] but the message is still clear.

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