
IELTS Writing Tutor

Volume 1

Task2, Academic & General

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Preface

This book has been written in three volumes for teachers and students of IELTS preparation courses who have had trouble finding a textbook that they can easily teach or study. Too many books on today's market, according to these teachers and students, are still unnecessarily complex, dry, or too massive for the majority of students. Written simply, this three-volume textbook offers a step-by-step guide to writing a variety of 150- to 250-word essays for IELTS (Academic & General). The book, in essence, aims at the candidates who are seeking to prepare for Academic and General writing modules of IELTS. However, those who are interested in learning academic writing may also find it useful. (We further find the first five chapters – volume one – of the book useful for the candidates of the Writing Test of Paper-Based, Computer-Based, and Internet-Based TOEFL.)

The first volume of the book focuses on Writing Task2 in Academic and General Modules of IELTS as well as the development of different types of paragraphs. The focus of the second volume is on the academic practice for the Writing Task1, Academic Module. This part provides you with many examples, strategies, and interesting points about graphs, tables, and processes. The third volume is aimed at the Writing Task1, General Module. You will find many strategies and examples here that give you a deep insight into writing letters. In this volume, we have considered the advice offered by IELTS examiners' therefore, we recommend that you study chapters 8 and 9 very carefully, whether you are an Academic Module Candidate or a General Module Candidate.

In this book, we have addressed the need to learn to write paragraphs before beginning to write essays. We hope that candidates, through the exercises and step-by-step introduction to writing presented here, will develop the essential skills needed to write as well as possible.

The graphs (volume 2) are mainly created by the authors and the exceptions have their references written. The sources of the sample essays and letters, except for the ones written by the students of the authors' IELTS prep and writing courses, are also mentioned. No part of the book reflects the authors' views and all names and graphs are fictitious.

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Introduction

Administered jointly by the British Council, the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), and IELTS Australia in two different Modules, Academic and General, IELTS – International English Language Testing System – is comprised of four separate sections, namely Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. The focus of this book is the writing section of both Academic and General Modules.

The writing test in the IELTS exam lasts for 60 minutes. This writing test contains two compulsory tasks: Task1 and Task2. Task1 assesses the candidates' ability to analyze data objectively without giving an opinion. For this purpose, graphs, bar charts, pie charts, and diagrams are specially designed to be described by the candidates. Task 2, on the other hand, usually requires a subjective piece of writing on a fairly general topic. Moreover, as MacCarter (2003) mention "it is worth noting that the exam is not testing knowledge of English language but rather competence in using English.... In fact, awareness of this might reduce some of the problems that many candidates have in the IELTS exam."

In the exam, the minimum word limit for Task1 (Academic Module) is 150 words. Hence, the candidate is strongly advised to spend no more than 20 minutes on this part of the test. For Task2, on which the testee is advised to spend 40 minutes, the minimum limit is 250 words. There is no upper word limit in both Tasks, though.

This volume provides you with very practical strategies to develop paragraphs, essays and writing samples, and many useful exercises to help you practice what you have learned.

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