

Changing neighbourhoods: describing maps and plans

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- describe location and change in maps.
- avoid irrelevant information.
- understand the Grammatical Range and Accuracy assessment criteria.
- use a range of language for describing change.



INTRODUCTION

1. **Talk about the place that you live in.**
 1. How has this place changed over the last 50 years?
 2. What things have remained the same?
 3. Do you think life here is better or worse than it was 50 years ago?



TASK FOCUS

2. Look at the IELTS task and answer the questions below

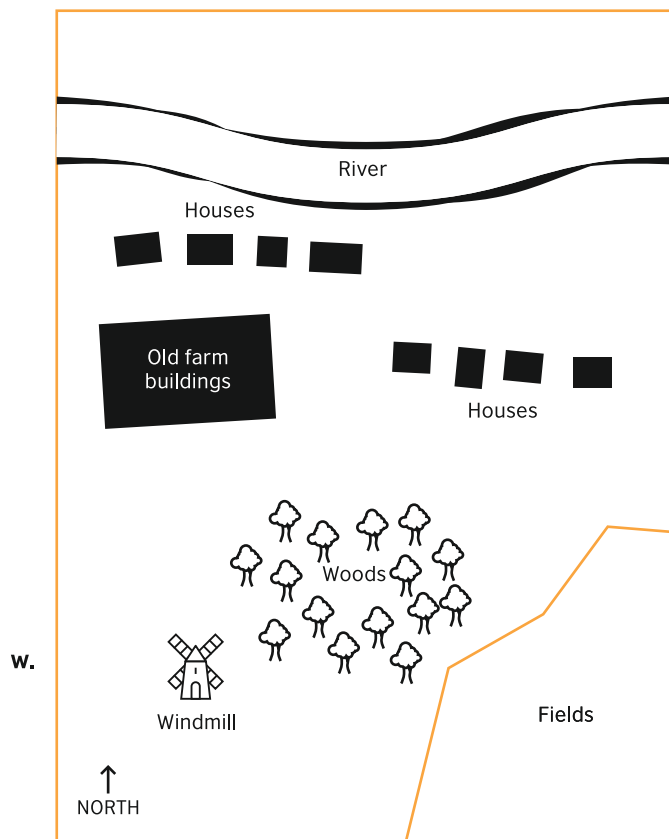
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The two maps show a town in 1996 and in 2016.

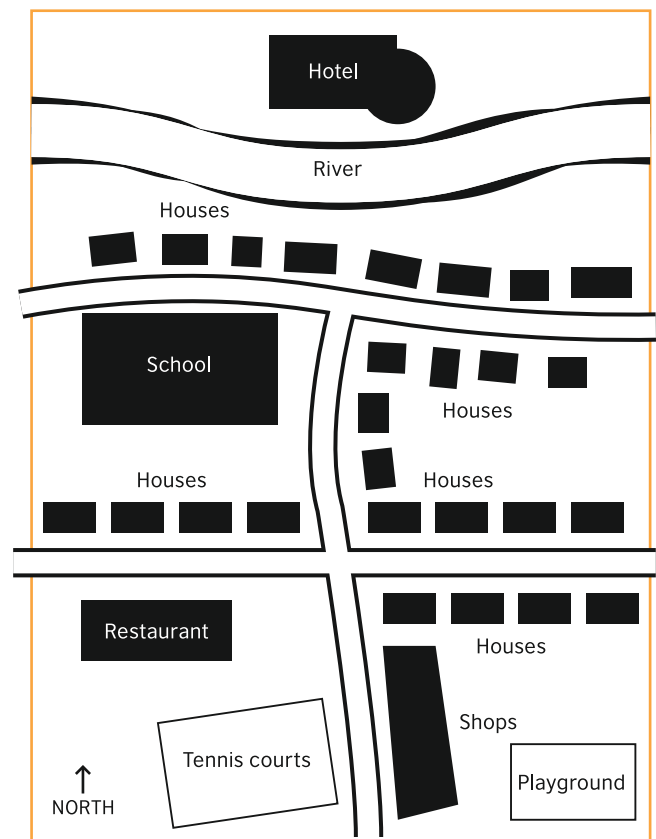
Summarise the information by selecting and reporting where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

1996



2016



the main features, and make comparisons

1. Identify the changes in the maps.
2. Which changes do you think are the most important?
3. Your writing will be clearer if you put changes into groups. Write the opposite of the changes below. The first one has been done for you.

A. Changes north of the river

Changes south of the river

B. Changes to commercial building

C. Changes to natural areas



GET TO KNOW IELTS

- 3. Read the extracts from the Grammatical Range and Accuracy assessment criteria for IELTS level 5 and 6. Then read the extracts from two candidates' descriptions of the maps, in activity 2. What level do you think the candidates are for Grammatical Range and Accuracy?**

IELTS level 6 candidates ...
use a mix of simple and complex sentence forms.

IELTS level 5 candidates ...
attempt complex sentences but these tend to be less accurate than simple sentences.

Candidate A

In 1996 it was a village. Now it is a small town. The area is probably richer now. There are more houses. There is now a hotel in the north. There were old farm buildings although these are now a school.

Candidate B

Although the area was once a village, it is now a small town. There have been a number of changes, such as the extra housing in the area. Where there was once an old farm building, there is now a school to the west of the city. In the north, a new hotel has been constructed. Residents are probably happier because they have more facilities than in the past.

- 4. Look at the candidates' answers in activity 3 again and underline the complex sentences.**



IELTS SKILLS

- 5. One sentence in each of the candidates' answers in activity 3 is not relevant to the task. Identify these sentences and explain to your partner why they are not relevant.**
- 6. Which three of the following sentences would be relevant in a response to the task in activity 2?**
1. The population of the settlement has grown.
 2. Building houses close to the river could be dangerous.
 3. The settlement now has facilities for its inhabitants.
 4. The settlement has become less attractive.
 5. Some natural features of the village have been lost.
 6. These changes are typical of modern towns.
- 7. Which sentence from Candidate B's answer in activity 3 summarises the changes in the maps?**



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

8. Match the words to the definitions.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. construct (verb) | A. To make longer |
| 2. cut down (phrasal verb) | B. To make bigger |
| 3. develop (verb) | C. To put something in a place |
| 4. expand (verb) | D. To remove trees |
| 5. extend (verb) | E. To change one thing for another |
| 6. demolish (verb) | F. To destroy a building |
| 7. locate (verb) | G. To grow or become more advanced |
| 8. replace (verb) | H. To build |

9. Look at the maps from activity 2 and complete the sentences below with words from activity 8. Change the form of the verb if necessary. The first one has been done for you.

1. The trees have been cut down to make room for a new road.
2. The road has been _____ to the south.
3. The space used for housing has _____ throughout the area.
4. The old farm buildings have been _____ with a school.
5. The windmill has been _____ and there are now tennis courts where it used to be.
6. Shops have been _____ in the south east of the town.
7. There is now a playground _____ in the south east.
8. The area has been _____ and modernised.



IELTS PRACTICE

10. Look at the IELTS task below and plan your response.

You should ...

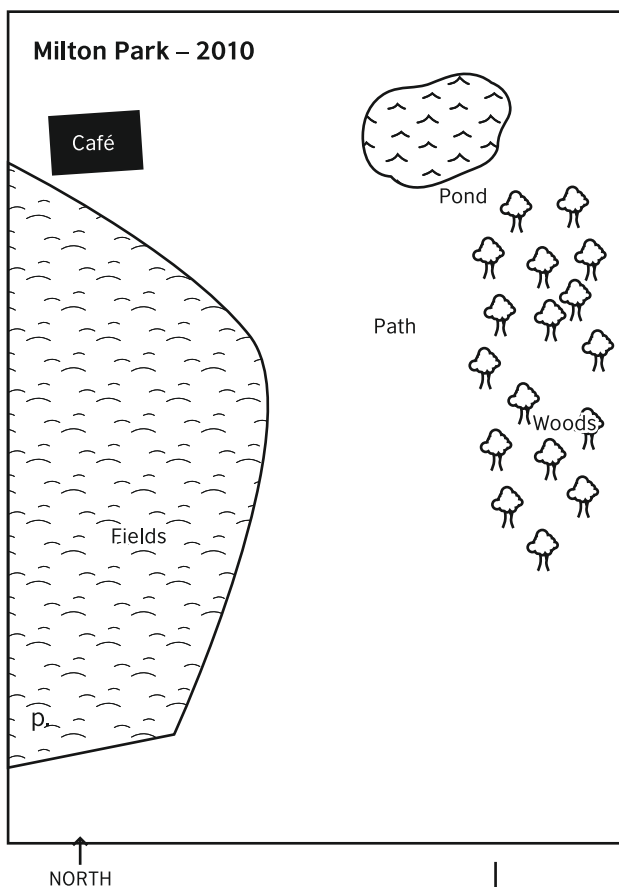
- make notes on the main changes
- write down verbs you can use to describe the changes
- think of words that describe the locations of features on the map.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

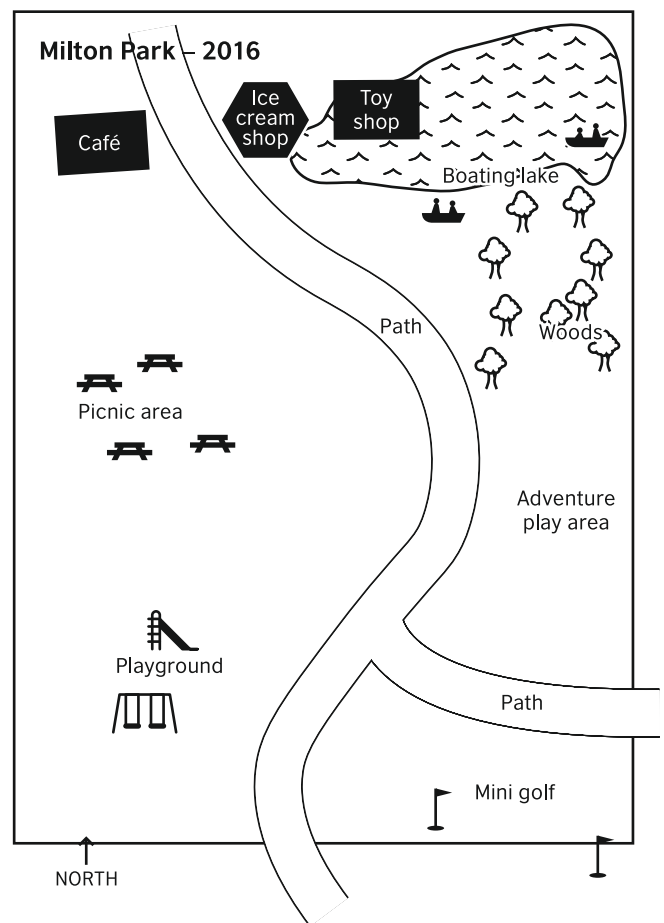
The two maps show a park in 2010 and in 2016.

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

Write at least 150 words.



features, and make comparisons



11. Compare the plan you made in activity 10 with a partner. Try to find ideas in your partner's plan that you can also use.
12. Write your full response to the task in activity 10.



SELF-STUDY

Watch the tips in this video about Writing Task 1 and make a note of any advice that you find useful.

<http://tinyurl.com/ll2539z>

Industry: adapting language in prompts

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- understand the requirements of the Lexical Resource assessment criteria.
- describe a process.
- adapt language in prompts and use it in written work.
- use passive structures and sequence markers effectively.



INTRODUCTION



A. Agriculture



B. Construction



C. Manufacturing



D. Oil and gas

1. Look at the pictures and answer the questions below.

1. What kind of industries are there near where you live?
2. Would you like to work in any of these industries?
3. Which industries in your town rely on modern technology the most?



TASK FOCUS

2. Look at the diagram in activity 4 and find these features.

1. A delivery centre
2. A drone
3. A van
4. A forklift truck
5. A warehouse

3. Study the diagram in activity 4 and choose the best title from the options below.

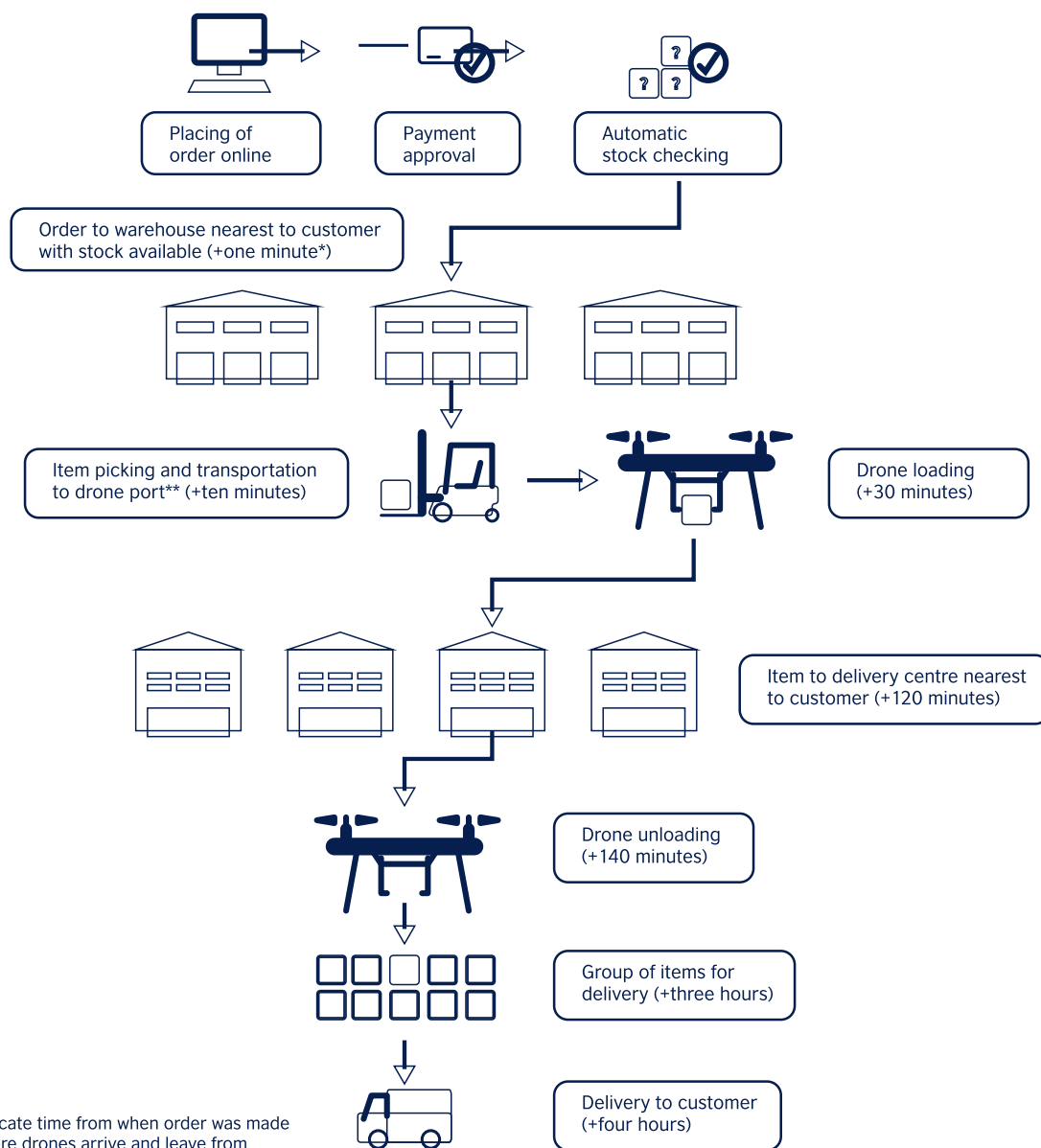
1. A modern delivery system
2. How drones are made
3. How factories are designed

4. Look at the IELTS task and answer the question below.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows how goods could be delivered to online customers in the future. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Which of the options below would make the best overview (summary) of the information in the diagram?

1. It is clear that time is saved by using warehouses and delivery centres close to customers.
2. Generally, we can see it is a very quick process that involves a lot of technology.
3. The process involves nine stages.



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

5. The words in bold in this extract from a sample answer show a passive form of a verb. Choose the correct options to complete the information about passive forms given below.

The diagram shows how products might be supplied to customers using a modern delivery system. The process, involving nine steps from placing the order to delivery, can take as little as four hours. The first few stages involve online technology. Firstly, **the order is placed** via the customer's computer and payment is approved online. Once the order has been accepted, stock will be checked automatically at the main warehouses. Then the order is sent to the closest warehouse to the customer that has the required product.

Passive sentences

We can use passive forms to describe what happens to objects. Passive sentences are important when we describe processes. To write them, add a form of the verb 1. **to be/to have** and then add the past participle of the verb, normally by adding 2. **-ed/-ing**.

6. Underline five more passive forms in the sample answer in activity 5.
7. Complete the rest of the sample answer by putting the verbs into the passive form. The first one has been done for you.

Next, the item 1. is carried (carry) to the drone port in just ten minutes. Then, the drone 2. _____ (load), which adds a further twenty minutes. The item 3. _____ (fly) to a delivery centre close to the customer. After the drone 4. _____ (unload), several items 5. _____ (group) together for delivery. Finally, within four hours of the order being placed, the item 6. _____ (deliver).

8. Notice how sentences from the extracts in activities 5 and 7 are linked together with sequence markers like *Firstly*. Identify six other sequence markers in the extracts.



GET TO KNOW IELTS

9. In these three extracts candidates describe the third stage of the diagram in activity 4. In which extract has the candidate ...

1. adapted (changed) words from the diagram, but made a spelling mistake?
2. used their own vocabulary but failed to express the idea precisely?
3. copied words from the diagram?

Candidate A. The third stage is automatic stock checking. _____

Candidate B. In the third stage, people look for stuff. _____

Candidate C. In the third stage, stock is checked automaticly. _____

10. Which extract in activity 9 shows the best use of vocabulary (lexical resource), in your opinion?



11. This table shows how words from the diagram in activity 4 were adapted in the sample answer. Fill the gaps in the table.

Words from the diagram	Words from the sample answer extracts
placing (verb)	placed
approval (noun)	approved
1. _____ (verb)	checked
2. _____ (noun)	delivered

12. Look at the diagram in activity 13, which explains how bricks are made. Change the first six nouns and *-ing* words into past participles. The first one has been done for you.

1. Mining Mined
2. Storage _____
3. Reduction _____
4. Addition _____
5. Forming _____
6. Cutting _____



IELTS PRACTICE

13. Write a response to the Task 1 question below. Make sure you do the following things.

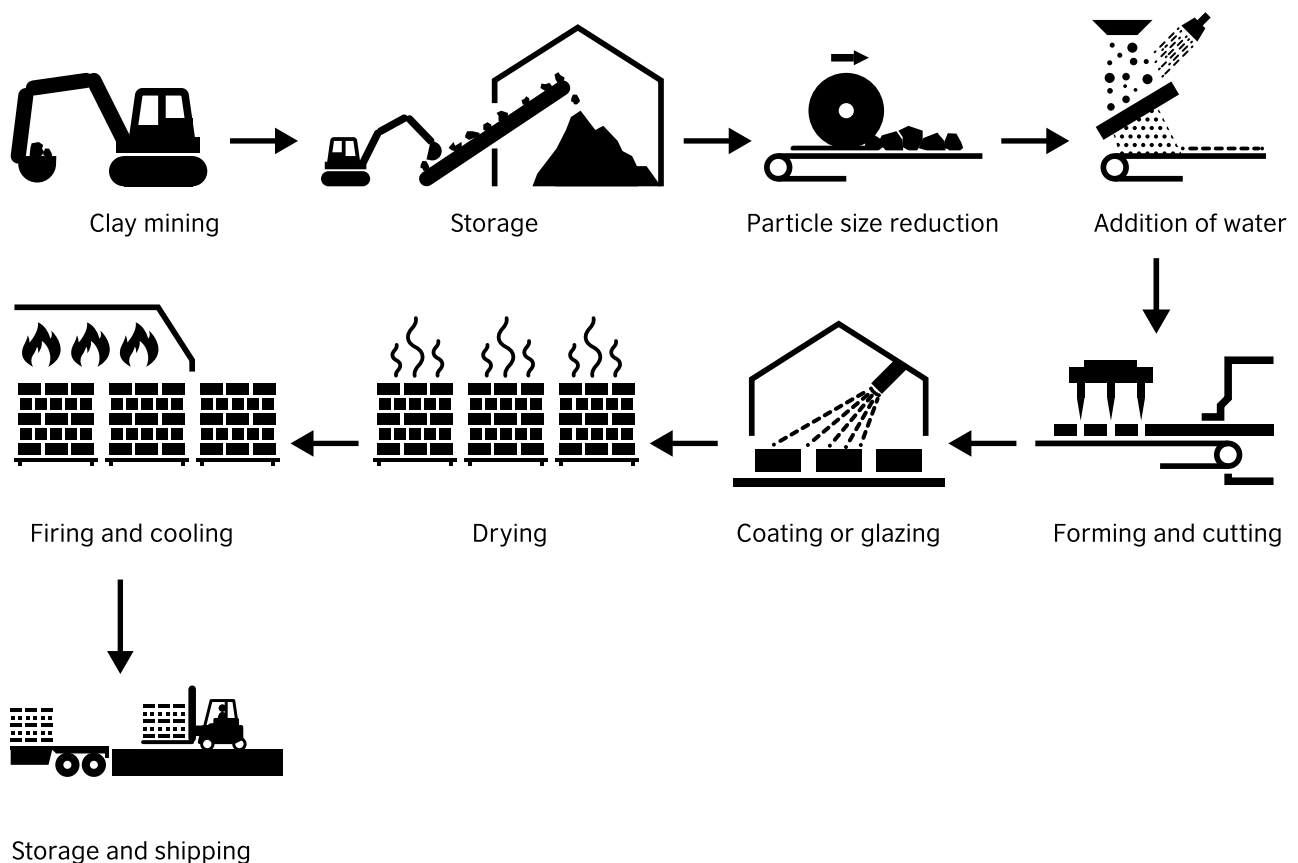
1. Include an overview.
2. Use the passive form of the verbs.
3. Adapt words from the diagram – don't just copy words.
4. Use sequence markers, e.g. *first*, *then*, *next*.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows how bricks are made.

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

Write at least 150 words.



SELF-STUDY

Watch this video and make a note of the tips for improving your vocabulary.

<http://tinyurl.com/k5lxptb>

Advertising: following task instructions

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- follow the instructions for Task 2 essay questions.
- organise and write an opinion essay.
- use linking words to organise my writing.



GET TO KNOW IELTS

1. For Task 2 of the Writing paper you will write one essay related to a given topic. Read the essay task and answer the questions below.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In recent times, many people have focused on the negative effects advertising has on children's health, behaviour and family relationships. Advertising to children should be banned.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

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

Write at least 250 words.

1. What is the minimum number of words you should write?
 2. How long should you spend on the task? As well as writing, what other things do you think you should do in this time?
 3. What should you include in your essay to support your opinion?
2. Read the IELTS task from activity 1 again and say which is the best description of what you have to do (1, 2 or 3).
 1. I have to present different views.
 2. I have to give my personal opinion and support it.
 3. I have to describe and explain a situation.

3. Read some other questions you may see in Task 2 of the Writing paper. Match them to the sentences in activity 2 that say what you have to do. Write 1, 2 or 3.

- A. _____ Do you agree or disagree?
Present an argument for ...
To what extent do you agree or disagree?
- B. _____ What can be done about ...?
What are the reasons for ...?
- C. _____ What are the positive and negative ...?
What are the advantages and disadvantages ...?



IELTS SKILLS

4. Read another IELTS essay task and answer the questions below.

Technology has changed modern life significantly. However, it has had a negative impact on relationships. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

1. What do you have to do?
2. What is the topic?
3. What is the issue?

5. Read some more essay tasks. Underline the topic and circle the issue.

1. *In many developed countries, fast food is cheap and widely available. Many people tend to choose unhealthy options.*
Why do many people tend to choose unhealthy options? What can governments do to solve this problem?

2. *Education has become more and more about tests and results, and less about becoming a good citizen. This is a negative development.*
To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

3. *Environmental problems in cities can mainly be solved by improving public transport.*
Discuss the arguments for and against this opinion. And give your own opinion.

4. *In recent times, many people have focused on the negative effects advertising has on children's health, behaviour and family relationships. Advertising to children should be banned.*
To what extent do you agree or disagree?



TASK FOCUS

6. Look at the sample answer for a Task 2 essay task and answer the questions.

1. Which question from activity 5 has the candidate answered?
2. What two areas has the candidate chosen to discuss?
3. What reasons are given for choosing these areas?
4. How does the candidate support the ideas presented in the essay?

Sample answer

Advertising has been blamed, to some degree, for many of the issues society faces. In particular, numerous people are concerned with the negative impact advertising can have on children and their health. Obesity is a growing concern and at the same time many producers of unhealthy products specifically target younger consumers, who consequently place pressure on their parents.

A number of factors contribute to the obesity problems of children, such as an increase in the use of computer games and busy working parents; however, it cannot be denied that advertising plays a role. Firstly, there are issues with the quality of the products that are targeted at young people, which by and large are unhealthy, but it is also the manner in which companies choose to promote their products. Associating a product with a sport or athlete may give children the impression that the product is healthy, although clearly it may not be.

Not only are there concerns with what is sold and how, but there is also growing concern about the influence children have over household spending. Advertising can result in increased pressure on parents to buy everything their child wants. In order to combat this problem, some countries have banned advertising to young children completely, and in other countries, such as Greece, they control the channels and times when products for children can be advertised.

My own view is that the physical health of children is a major concern facing society and advertising is making it worse. While communities are faced with such challenges, governments need to take more control. Therefore, advertising to young children should be banned or at least strongly controlled by the government.

7. Read the sample answer again and underline the following:

1. the sentence that presents the main argument of the essay (thesis statement)
2. two sentences that give the principal ideas of the paragraph (topic sentences)
3. the main concluding sentence



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

8. Read the sample answer again. Find and circle any useful linking words and expressions used by the writer to organise ideas.
9. Complete the table using linking words and expressions you identified in activity 8.

Giving examples	Ordering ideas	Adding ideas	Contrasting ideas	Explaining results/ concluding
for example	f_____	a_____	a_____	c_____
in p_____	secondly	a_____	but	in conclusion
s_____ as	finally	n_____	h_____	t_____
		_____, ...	o_____	
		but also		



IELTS PRACTICE

10. Analyse the following essay question. Plan and write your answer. Use some of the linking words and expressions from activity 9.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Unemployment is a serious issue throughout the world. A number of changes need to be made to reduce the problem.

What are the reasons for unemployment? What should governments do to solve this issue?

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

Write at least 250 words.



SELF-STUDY

Watch this video and make a note of the tips for improving your IELTS score for grammatical range and accuracy.

<https://tinyurl.com/yclrluqo>