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IELTS Writing

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IELTS Writing Task 1 – Diagram

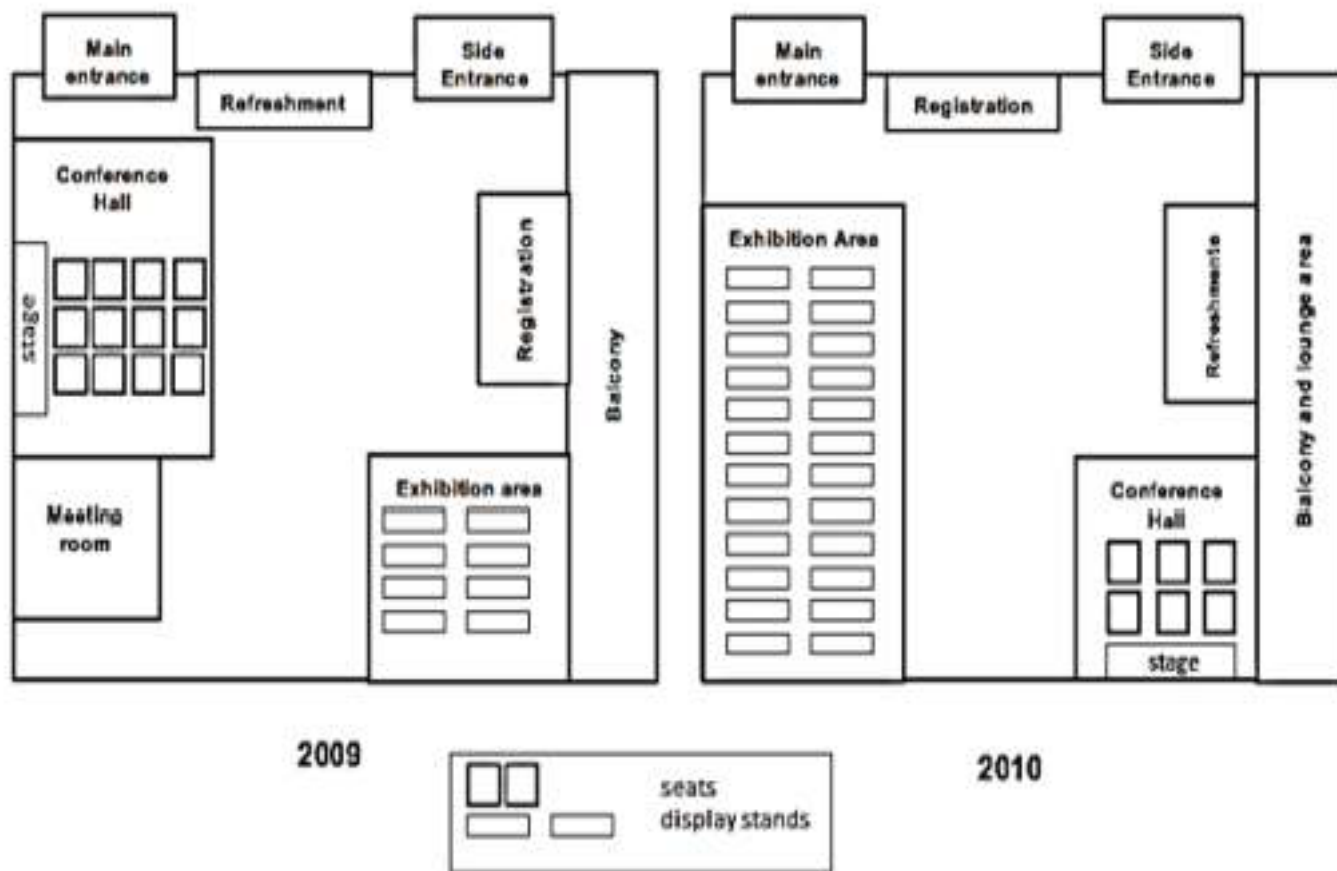
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend 20 minutes on this task

The diagram below shows the plans for designing a trade show floor from 2009 to 2010.

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

Write at least 150 words.



The first map illustrates the layout of a trade show floor in 2009, and the second one shows several changes in its design in 2010.

In general, the configurations of the trade show looked more space-effective after one year. The main difference is the expansion and relocation of several facilities and rooms, while two gate entrances remained intact.

By 2010, the refreshment room had been between the main and side entrances, which experienced no change over the given period. The registration booth had been situated in the right side, attached to the balcony. However, in 2010, the positions of the refreshment and registration areas were swapped. Likewise, the conference hall and the exhibition zone also interchanged their locations, with the former decreasing and the latter increasing in size. Regarding seating in these two areas, exhibition corner utilized display strands, while visitors can take seats to see the stage when coming to the conference hall.

Another striking feature is the elimination of the meeting room near the bottom left corner, which made room for the expansion of the exhibition area with much more display stands. In addition, a lounge was installed in the balcony which remained its position in the left-handed side of the floor.

IELTS Writing Task 2

The responsibility for the protection of the environment is by a transnational organization or every country?

Band 7.5 Sample

Due to its devastating impacts, **halting environment degradation** has been one of the **top priorities** around the world. It is widely believed that such responsibility belongs to transnational organizations. While I do agree with the opinion, I suppose that local authorities should also join hands in such effort.

It is undeniable that national governments **hold the power to take concrete actions** to protect the environment. The primary reason is that only the local authority of each country can **have an insight into** its own problems and the authority to **devise feasible measures**. For example, only government officers know exactly which part of the nation has its environment heavily damaged thus

offer practical schemes to fix the situation. Therefore, governments, but not any other entity, should assume the duty to **prevent their own environment from degrading**.

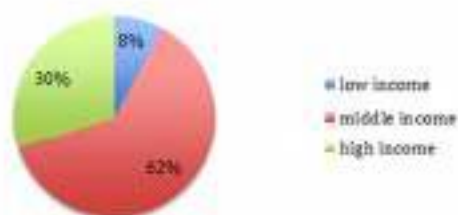
However, I am convinced that transnational organizations also **play a crucial role** in protecting the environment. International institutions could enable multi-national cooperation **on a large scale**. As a result, more global actions could be taken with the participation of different countries. This, in fact, could guarantee sustainable and drastic impacts on our surroundings since environmental problems usually cross borders and beyond the capability of any single nation to solve. For example, countries along the Mekong River, such as Vietnam, Laos, China, and Cambodia, have **reached an agreement** to establish a **transnational entity** named Mekong Committee with certain power to tackle issues related to the shared waters. The organization has successfully stopped plans to build hydro-power dams in China or Laos to **prevent foreseeable detriments to** water conditions in the lower Mekong countries. This case has illustrated the indispensable role of international entities in making vital environmental protection decisions in the context that nations are divided by their interests.

In conclusion, each country's authorities should **bear the duty** of keeping their countries from being **environmentally degraded**. However, it is the transnational organizations that **play the deciding role** with larger scale impacts.

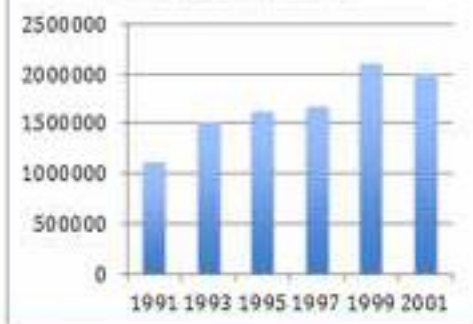
IELTS Writing task 1 Graph

TASK 01 (26/08/2017): The given charts give information about the number of students at university in the UK from 1991 to 2001, government spending and the types of family economic background they came from in 1991.

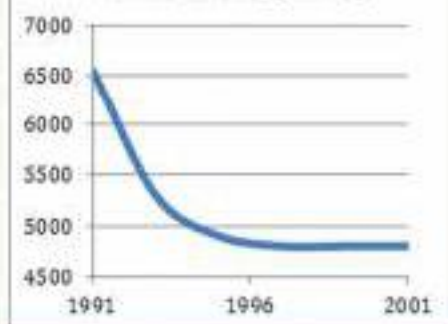
Percentage of students by family economic background in 1991



Total number of students at university in the UK



Government spending on each student (pound)



IPP IELTS

IELTS WRITING TASK 01

Band 8.0 MODEL ANSWER

The given charts give information about the number of students at university in the UK from 1991 to 2001, government spending and the types of family economic background they came from in 1991. The bar chart and the line graph illustrate the number of students and financial support each received from the government in the UK between 1991 and 2001, and the pie chart shows their family financial situations in 1991.

Overall, while there were increasingly more university students in the UK over the given period, they received dramatically less governmental support, with a sudden

subsidy cut between 1993 and 1995. In 1991, a majority of UK students came from middle-income families.

Of the total student numbers in the UK, in 1991 there were about 1.1 million people pursuing college education in the UK. This figure then rose significantly by 400,000 in 1993, followed by a slight increase to around 1,6 million in 1995 and 1,65 million in 1997 before peaking at 2,1 million in the next two years. By 2001, the number had registered a minimal fall to 2 million. In contrast, experiencing a reverse trend, student grants offered by the government plummeted from more than 6,500 pounds in the first surveyed year to around 4,900 pounds in 1995. Since then, each student was provided with an unchanged amount of 4,800 pounds annually till 2001.

As far as family's financial background of students in 1991 is concerned, the proportion of students belonging to the middle-income class was 62%, being nearly eightfold that of those living in low-income households and twofold that of those hailing from wealthy families.

IELTS WRITING TASK 2

In some countries, children are becoming overweight and unhealthy. Some people think that the government should be responsible for solving this problem. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

BAND 8.0 MODEL ANSWER

It is true that children in some parts of the world are becoming obese and unhealthy. I agree with the role of the government in resolving this **vexing issue**. However, I also believe that the role of **parenting and school settings** should also be emphasized.

Childhood obesity and children's health problems should be partly blamed to the authority. We cannot deny the fact that overweight children are **of high chance to be vulnerable to** numerous serious diseases such as diabetes and **hypertension**, which **poses a dire threat to** the national growth of any

country as they are the future's human resources. As a result, the authority should be **accountable for mitigating this problem**. Take China as a good example, the **governing body** has been **taking action to lower obesity rate** among children by organizing **boot camps** where children are **physically trained to lose weight and take up daily healthy habit**. This is because China's political activists are scared of the scenario that these overweight children will not be able to **meet the physical demand** to join the army.

Besides the governmental role, parents and schools are also **liable for** their children's good health. Regarding the former, **working parents** nowadays tend to **devote virtually their whole time to working** in order to ensure material well-being, which means that they may spend less time carefully taking care of their children's diet. Therefore, without supervision, children might eat unhealthy food or **lead a sedentary lifestyle**. This explains why close parental care and control is crucial in **ensuring children's balanced diet and healthy life**. In terms of the role of education in teaching children about health living, some schools inclined to **place emphasis on** theoretical subjects as math and literature, and **neglect the importance** of physical education, which reduces their students' workout frequency. School efforts to **promote healthy diet** and **engage students in physical exercises** are irreplaceable in tackling the problem of child obesity.

In conclusion, the government, parents and schools should all **shoulder the responsibility for** protecting their children from obesity and unhealthy lifestyles.

Writing, reading, maths are the three recognized traditional subjects. Computer skills should be the fourth largest branch. Agree or disagree?

Essay plan:

Introduction: Refer to topic, agree completely

Paragraph 2: Reason 1: work – computer skills essential – promotion career prospects, so schools must prepare students with these skills for work

Paragraph 3: Reason 2: study – to enter higher education, do vocational courses.
Example: using online materials. Advantage for distance learning

Paragraph 4: Reason 3: social life/ leisure. Example: Facebook/ chat rooms.
Dating/ chatting/ downloading

Conclusion: Computer skills as important as numeracy/ literacy as school subject

Sample Answer:

The digital revolution has transformed the lives of billions of people across the world. It has changed the way that people work, learn and communicate. Therefore, I agree completely that computer skills should be one of the core subjects in the school curriculum, alongside reading, writing and mathematics.

Firstly, in today's employment market, **computer literacy** is essential for most well-paid jobs or simply routine desk jobs. In order to **pursue a successful career**, to have better **job prospects**, promotion opportunities and to move up the **career ladder**, employees of all ages must be able to **apply computer skills to** many of the tasks which they have to perform. Schools must ensure that students **have a good grasp of** computer skills as an essential preparation for the world of work.

Secondly, computer skills are demanded of all students wishing to enter higher education or even to **pursue most vocational courses**. For example, an enormous amount of research has been published on the internet across the whole spectrum of disciplines. If students lack the necessary skills to access these materials online, they will probably fail to make the grade and complete their studies. Students with computer skills can also **take advantage of** opportunities for **distance learning**, through **video conferencing** and the **college intranet**.

Finally, in terms of leisure and social life, computer skills enable people to join **social networking** sites, such as Facebook or chat rooms, or to **maintain contact** through Skype. Whether it is internet dating, chatting, downloading podcasts or music, social interaction is almost unimaginable without the possession of some computer skills.

In conclusion, **socio-economic changes** have revolutionised the daily lives of people, and it is essential that computer skills should be taught alongside numeracy and literacy in order to equip youngsters to face the modern world.

Written by Ngoc Bach – 297 words

Anybody can use a mobile phone to answer the work and personal calls at any time or 7 days a week. Does this development have more positive or negative effects on both individuals and society?

MODEL ANSWER

Rising ownership of mobile phones **facilitates** interaction for work and personal purposes **regardless of time constraint**. This revolution in communications **exerts several benefits on** both individuals and society, but I believe that **these merits are overshadowed by its demerits**.

As argued, the possibility of answering work-related or personal calls at any time is **of immense benefit**. Firstly, this practice **strengthens people-to-people bonds** as it is more convenient and speedier to stay in touch **irrespective of geographical barriers**. For instance, international students can give their parents back home a call to **ask after** their health, which means **the feeling of loneliness or homesickness is somewhat relieved**, keeping them **emotionally attached**. Secondly, society can **benefit from the diminished demand** for public or private transport besides the **work productivity** achieved. Staff, for example, can communicate with their **line manager** or clients without frequent **face-to-face meetings** as everything can be accomplished with a brief telephone conversation. The roads then could be less congested and the **traffic flow will be smooth**.

I am **of the opinion** that the **detrimental effects** of the availability of mobile phone all the time overweigh its positive ones. The first **repercussion** is its undesirable ability to manipulate owners and **deprive them of personal freedom and privacy**. At night, their co-workers can happen to contact them for work-related discussions, hence, they are inevitably **swept into the maelstrom of work**. This

development is also **attributed to the loss of a sense of community**. Rather than **communicating face-to-face with peers** at school or colleagues in the same office, they **rivet their ears onto** their phones and **isolate themselves from the real life**. For example, sitting together in a coffee shop, two friends may fail to talk to each other because they are all **preoccupied with** answering their own calls. The final consequence is that mobile phone usage can also **result in** the deterioration of our health. Cell phones have **electromagnetic waves**, which **adversely affects our organs, resulting in fatal risks** such as **brain deficiency** or decreased men's **reproductive health**.

In conclusion, **albeit** advantageous to some extent, that people can make and receive calls every time makes them isolated and unhealthy. I strongly believe that those negative effects are more acute than the positive ones.

Written by IELTS Corner

In some countries, children are becoming overweight and unhealthy. Some people think that it is the responsibility of governments to solve the problem. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Sample Answer

Increasing numbers of health issues are **prevalent in** young children in recent times. It is believed by some people that governments are liable to resolve this issue. I agree with this belief to some extent as in my opinion, this situation is the responsibility of both the government, the society and individuals.

As the government is responsible for maintaining and improving the **economic growth** of its country, it must ensure steps in managing and enhancing the health of its youth. Unhealthy children would mean an unhealthy future generation of a nation, which would **result in a slowdown of the economy** as a whole. For example, an adult suffering from diabetes at an early age would not be able to consistently work efficiently as he would constantly suffer from **lethargy and mental weakness**.

However, health management targeting children is also the duty of society and its individuals. Health issues among children would get worse with age and might result in other severe diseases such as **heart disorders** and **high blood pressure**. These ailments might then be **passed through generations** and **create a pool of unhealthy individuals** in the community. As a result, parents as well as other adults need to **instill the importance of lifestyle and health management** among young children in order to **equip them with long-term health consciousness**. For instance, a family that **follows a healthy routine and fitness regimen** would **cultivate these good habits in their offspring** and other kids, and prevent these young children **succumbing to health problems**.

In conclusion, I agree to some extent that governments are responsible for solving the problem of unhealthy and overweight children. But, society and its individuals also **play a critical role in** overcoming this situation.

285 words by IELTS corner

IELTS Writing Task 2

In some parts of the world, it is increasingly popular to research the history of one's own family. Why do people want to do this? Is it a positive or negative development?

Band 8 Sample

The study of family history or **genealogy** has **gained enormous popularity**, particularly after the coming of the internet. People are **indulging themselves into** this study for various reasons which I shall highlight in the following paragraphs. I believe that this trend has both positives and negatives.

The most popular reason for **tracing the roots** of one's family history is that it can just be **plain fascinating**. It is considered by most to be the **fastest-growing** hobby in North America, with many surveys and media sources proclaiming that it has **surpassed** quilting, stamp collecting and even gardening **in popularity**. Another

reason is the potential to trace living relatives. This then **opens up** the possibility of finding out about and regaining contact with long-lost cousins or relatives. The ability to trace living relatives can also be important in **tracing an heir or beneficiary**.

Finally, the most significant reason is that studying family history is an important tool in **maintaining good physical health**. Studying family history helps to predict risk for a range of **health concerns** and diseases, including **heart disease, osteoporosis, type 2 diabetes** and some forms of cancer. Once a person's family medical history has been established, it is far easier for physicians to **advise patients on how to keep healthy**.

On the other hand, there are some disadvantages of **tracking family history**. Genealogy which begins as a curiosity, a hobby may become an obsession. Then people waste too much time and money on it. One should not forget that it is the present which influences the future more and not the past. Often knowledge of family history is disastrous, leading people to **keep old enmities alive**. It may also reveal unpleasant facts that one would regret knowing.

In conclusion, it can be said that there are many motivations for studying family history, from developing a **sense of belonging** to **maintaining good health**. However, one should not develop an obsession for it and squander too much time and money on it.

IELTS Corner

Writing, Writing Task 2 October , 2017

IELTS Writing Task 2

The increase in people's life expectancy means that they have to work older to pay for their retirement. One alternative is that people start to work at a younger age. Is this alternative a positive or negative development?

Sample Answer

As people's life expectancy is becoming higher every day, older citizens have to devote more of their time to work. However, some decide to work at a younger age. From my own perspective, this trend is positive.

Entering the workforce at an earlier age can be a good choice for people's better financial circumstances when they become old. The younger a person is, the more energetic and persistent he or she is in their job. Without a shadow of a doubt, youths can perform most office-related tasks with their zeal and the best degree of their productivity. They are less absent-minded and would make fewer blunders and work while being capable of multi-tasking. Given this, promotion prospects are promising and they are likely to climb up the career ladder within some years. As a consequence, their income could be colossal enough to well afford them for the future retirement life.

Besides, unlike the old citizens who might choose to start work late or fail to make headway in their career progression, the proactive young individuals would have been wise if they opt for this alternative of working early. There is more time to sample different work environments, learn new skills and meet people from diverse backgrounds without having to concern themselves about the low salary or missed opportunities triggered by job hopping. They can do this as long as they like since the youth age permits experience and gives them plenty of freedom to pursue their dreams. The salary then still accumulates in value, but the youths have job satisfaction and live their life to the fullest.

By way of conclusion, I would contend that the contemporary situation in which young people start making a living earlier than in the past is a positive development.

293 words by IELTS Corner

Solving environment problems should be the responsibility of an international organization rather than each national government. Do you agree or disagree?

MODEL ANSWER

There is no doubt that environment-related issues ought to be held responsible for by an international organization instead of individual countries. I disagree with this statement for some reasons.

There are numerous environmental issues such as climate change, melting glaciers and intensifying greenhouse effect happening on a global scale. As the argument goes, an international organization would act as a leader, issuing principles for all member countries to conform to or it will have sufficient financial capabilities to support the improvement of the environment. Cited cases are the Kyoto protocol has contributed to the slowing down of climate change on the earth, or the United Nations' support for Third World countries have helped improve the air quality there. This argument, however, fails to take into consideration the fact that compulsion often backfires if an individual nation has no intention to cooperate, or the incentives provided can make recipient countries over reliant and avoid coming up with innovative ideas to resolve their country's environmental situation. This in the long term exerts a negative overall global effect.

I side with those who think that each governmental body should take responsibility for addressing domestic environmental problems. Firstly, this practice would have a chain effect, benefiting not only the host country but also neighboring nations. For instance, if China diminishes its emissions by downsizing its industrial activities to a certain acceptable level, the air contamination in Hanoi would be reduced as a consequence. Secondly, the root of a complete resolution of environmental issues comes at grassroots level, only achieved by the efforts of a country's government. If walking or cycling are promoted amongst those with an inclination to use private vehicles, this can help diminish the colossal volumes of exhaust gas, and ameliorate the communal air quality. Or, if people are encouraged to participate in the international Earth Hour when everyone is asked to turn their lights off in sixty minutes, huge amounts of power can be minimized.

Enacting such events which are aimed at creating a mindset shift in the public regarding environmental protection and promoting a simple lifestyle can only be conducted by a country's government.

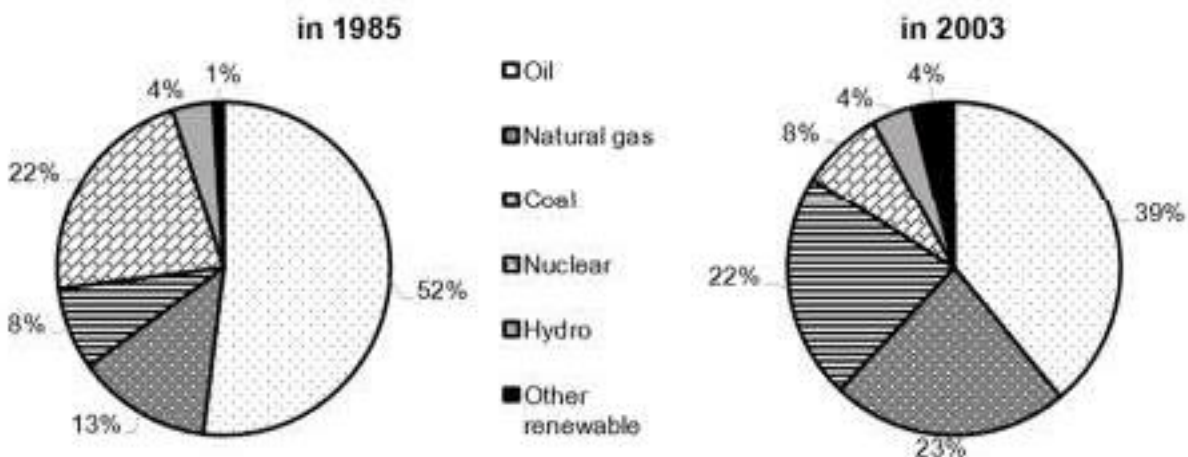
In conclusion, uprooting environment problems should be the responsibility of each national government rather than an international organization.

Writing, Writing Task 1, Writing Task 2 October, 2017

IELTS Writing Task 1

The charts below show changes in the proportion of the energy produced from different resources in a country in 1985 and 2003.

Topic: *The charts below show changes in the proportion of the energy produced from different resources in a country in 1985 and 2003.*



Sample Answer

The two pie charts compare the percentages of energy generated from six different sources in a country in 1985 and 2004.

Overall, after 17 years, oil was still the dominant source for energy production despite a significant decrease in its proportion. Conversely, this country became more dependent on natural gas, coal and renewable sources. In 1985, over half of energy was produced from oil — the most popular source, and this figure exactly quadrupled that of natural gas with only 13%. Meanwhile, nuclear power was the second most used source, providing nearly a quarter of the total energy volume. However, after nearly two decades, while the use of two major sources in 1985 decreased markedly to 39% for oil and a modest 8% for nuclear power, that of natural gas saw a 10% increase.

Regarding other sources, the amount energy produced from coal accounted for a negligible percentage of 8% in 1985, and then experienced a nearly threefold rise to 22%, making coal the third largest source in 2003. Renewable sources and hydro power each contributed an insignificant 4% to the total power generation in 2003, after a fourfold rise and a stability in the uses of the former and the later respectively compared to the initial figures.

IELTS Writing Task 2

Some people think that the increasing business and cultural contact between countries bring many positive developments. Others say it can cause the loss of national identities. Discuss both views and give your own opinions.

People have different views about the impacts of globalization. Although this development could exert positive influences on national economy, I am of great concern that the preservation of national identities would be deterred.

On the one hand, it is argued by many that cross-border economic and cultural cooperation could be the major drive of national growth. Firstly, increased international trade could create conditions for an economy to grow by leveraging

their competitive advantages and boosting their export earnings. The benefit is best shown through robust economic development of net exporters like X country. With the elimination of economic barriers between countries, X country, a hub of agricultural products, has earned a huge flow of foreign exchange by emerging as the second largest rice exporter worldwide. Improvement in people's spiritual lives would also accompany. Besides that, borderless cultural contact means that people have chances to get exposed to foreign cultures, whose diversity could enable them to enrich their knowledge and have more choices of entertainment. The popularity of Korean and US – UK music products in Y country could exemplify this point.

On the other hand, I am more of the belief that the uniqueness of individual countries could be under threat as a consequence of growing international cooperation. Multinational corporations could put them in a position to influence local cultural values and promote Western ones in nations having their presence. This is because these Western ideologies could be easily assimilated into local cultures when Western-standard products are marketed and consumers familiarize themselves with new lifestyles these goods create. This might, in the long run, result in a homogeneous set of beliefs and values adopted and the erosion of cultural diversity worldwide.

In conclusion, it is irrefutable that globalization has backed economic and social developments in many countries. However, the danger of losing national identities is also obvious. To avoid such a consequence, I believe that nations need to take actions to preserve their cultural identity through proper education and bolstered social cohesion.

By IPP IELTS

[Academic Writing Tests](#), [Practice Tests](#), [Writing November, 2017](#)

It is true that an increasing number of people in urban areas are living in houses with cramped space and few or no outdoor areas. I think this is a negative development for some reasons below.

Firstly, stuffy living conditions can affect people's moods. When there is little space for us to move around the house, we just lose our temper and get irritated being surrounded by four brick walls. Worse still, some space outside at the porch such as a garden with beautifully grown flowers can be a good remedy for people's stress and anxieties. Without such spaces, the tension level just rises dramatically as when taking a look outside, what we can see is the bumper-to-bumper traffic with cars honking and dust drifting everywhere in the air, making house owners moody all day.

Secondly, convenience and productivity also suffer as a consequence. Families with many generations living under the same roof would often complain about the lack of privacy when their houses are too small and narrow. The kids will feel humiliated and ashamed if they plan to invite their friends over for playing, or the father may have to abandon his hobby of playing saxophone so as to save others the nuisance of loud noises from his instrument. As for me, sometimes I cannot concentrate on my schoolwork, seeing others walk back and forth in the house. This just makes me get distracted and I often have to wait others to sleep and then do my homework.

In conclusion, from what I think and from my personal experience, living in a small house is too disadvantageous, so this is definitely a negative development on the whole.

279 words – IELTS Corner

IELTS Writing Test

It is difficult for people in the cities to get enough physical exercise. What are the causes and solutions?

Model Answer

It is true that people in urban regions are being prone to being couch potatoes and lazy sloths due to their lack of regular exercise. This can be explained by some reasons, and solutions can be taken to eliminate the problem.

Two reasons are to blame for this trend. Firstly, the hectic schedule that many people are having pressurizes them into the maelstrom of work/study and depriving them of time for sufficient exercise. Children have to occupy themselves with school assignments and examinations while employees have to attend frequent meetings with customers to secure contracts. These activities detach modern people from non-work/study activities and they tend to less prioritize physical activities. Secondly, people in the cities would lack the facilities to practice sports or other healthy activities. There are few parks, and if there are any, there are only some horizontal bars or parallel bars, which are not adequate to accommodate the needs of every citizen.

Some measures should be taken to address the issue, and schools/companies and government should provide education or hold social campaigns to yield desirable outcomes. As for schools, they should be responsible for instilling in children a sense of health awareness and necessary background health-related knowledge. For instance, children should be motivated to be proactive in keeping fit and staying healthy by the inclusion of more physical education classes. Besides, companies should give their staff more flexi time or sponsor gym membership for them. As for the governments, they can run some social campaigns to encourage the citizens to maintain health via TV programmes, banners on the street. As well as this, more funds should be allocated to the construction of more sports facilities in the cities.

In conclusion, people have a tendency to do sport or other physical activities less; however, efforts can be taken by both schools and governments to deal with this situation.

300 words.

Academic IELTS Writing Task 2

People are living longer. Some people think that it causes big problems. Others, however, think the aging population has many advantages for business, government and for society in general. Discuss both views & give your own opinion

MODEL ANSWER

There is little room for doubt that there has been a staggering growth in the proportion of elderly people in many countries. In my opinion, I believe that this trend brings both advantages and disadvantages to society as a whole.

On one hand, it is inevitable that the remarkable increase in life expectancy has some negative consequences for some reasons. Firstly, the aging population can impose a heavy pressure on the economy and the healthcare system as the more people retire, the heavier the pension burden the state has to carry. Hospitals will be flooded with frail and infirm elderly citizens searching for medical treatments while the labor force also suffers due to the shortage of productive workers who often make the biggest contribution to society. Secondly, more old people would pose a burden to families as parents would have to take care of older family members, and no doubt aged citizens tend to be meddlesome and stubborn, causing frequent conflicts probably.

On the positive side, the benefits of this development should not be underestimated. First, they are able to contribute to some sectors such as teaching, management, scientific research and politics thanks to their extensive experience. We often see top executives in their 50s doing consultation sessions and help companies function more efficiently, or old teachers coaching students for contests because of their vast knowledge and hands-on experience. Second, as most people in modern times are busy with tasks at the workplace, elderly members like grandparents can do the babysitting, relieving parents' worries of their children lacking in moral support or leisure activities.

In conclusion, for the reasons I have mentioned above, it seems to me that an aging population has both merits and drawbacks on society, largely depending on how we react to it.

290 words – IELTS Corner