

Band Scores & Examiner Summary

Writing Task 2 (Family)

| TASK ACHIEVEMENT | | VOCABULARY | GRAMMAR | OVERALL SCORE |
|---------------------|---|------------|---------|---------------|
| 7 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7.5 |

EXAMINER'S SUMMARY (BAND 7.5)

STRENGTHS: You answered the question fully with a strong, clear opinion and enough support. The errors are minimal and I could read it very easily.

KEEP WORKING ON:

- 1. There is an over-reliance on linking words and the ideas don't always link as well (paragraph 2 where the ideas jump around too much).
- 2. The body paragraphs are too repetitive and it would be better if the first one was ONLY focused on people being too busy to pay attention (no mention of other areas to invest in) and the second paragraph was about the other, better areas to invest in with a really well-developed example. Missed opportunity.
- 3. Some grammar issues with articles.

Be sure to read the comments on the side! (You may have to open it on your desktop/laptop)

Nowadays, a social trend that fathers stay at home and look after children while mothers go out to work has become increasingly popular. I personally believe that this takes roots from two main reasons, which I will discuss below, and it has several positive effects on both families and the society.

There exist two fundamental causes for this trend. The first one is that recent years have seen a considerable rise in the number of students with poor academic performances and even more alarming increases in the rates of youth violence and crimes. This has been forcing many parents to pay closer attention to their kids and even stay at home to take care of them. In many cases, fathers have proved to be more efficient in leading their children to a healthy development. Fathers tend to be stricter whereas mothers are often more indulgent. With mischievous youngsters, strictness, not indulgence, certainly works. Besides, men seem better than women at being role models who often live with goals for careers and personal improvements, from which the children can learn and set their own ones accordingly. (A friend of mine, for instance, a physician of traditional medicine, has spent quite huge and a large amount of time helping his son overcome his rebellious teenage years. The boy now excels at school and has set a dream of being a doctor like his father). The second cause is preferred choices of lifestyles. Some men are more reserved and prefer to have some space of their own. They choose to work from home rather than go to offices. By contrast, some women are more sociable and enjoy working with others. They find it hard to stay at home day after day. This present trend is thus an indicator of modern living choices.

In my opinion, this change has several undeniable advantages. For one, the young people properly guided by their fathers will likely become constructive members of the future society. In comparison with those unattended children, they are likely to progress further in education and will form a more productive workforce. Secondly, todays adults are surely happier with their married life than people in the past when it was considered a norm that men had to be out to seek work and women were supposed to take domestic responsibilities. They would have been happier if they had been as free in choosing their prefered lifestyles as todays people are.

In conclusion, the phenomenon is the consequence of some social issues discussed above. This not only solves a present problem and bring more happiness to families but also will potentially benefit the society in the future.

Words: 290

| Band | | | | |
|-------|---|---|--|---|
| Score | Task Achievement (Opinion and ideas) | Cohesion and Coherence (Organisation and linking of ideas) | Lexical Resource (Vocabulary and spelling) | Grammar: Range & Accuracy (Grammar and punctuation) |
| 9 | Fully answers all parts of the question. Overall opinion - very clear, consistent and fully explained throughout the essay. Ideas - well-supported, very suitable and very relevant. | Organisation - very clear and very easy to follow throughout. Linking of ideas - very good throughout. Paragraphing - very natural. | Wide range of vocabulary, used very naturally and very flexibly Mistakes are very rare and similar to a native-speaker | Wide range of grammar, used very naturally and flexibly Mistakes are very rare and similar to a native-speaker |
| 8 | Answers all parts of the question very well. Overall opinion - clear, consistent, and well-explained throughout the essay Ideas - well-supported, suitable and relevant. | Organisation - very clear and logical throughout. Linking of ideas – good throughout. Paragraphing - very good. | Wide range of vocabulary, used naturally and flexibly to explain exact meanings Rare mistakes with incorrect words and collocations Rare mistakes with spelling and incorrect form of words | Wide range of grammar. Mistakes are very rare – most sentences are 100% correct. |
| 7 | Answers all parts of the question well. Overall opinion - clear, consistent and supported throughout the essay. Main ideas - relevant and clearly supported. Supporting ideas - some are too general or less | Organisation - clear and logical throughout. Linking of ideas – overall good but occasionally linking phrases are repeated or missing. Paragraphing – good, with one clear topic for each | Good range of vocabulary, sometimes used naturally and flexibly to explain exact meanings. Some good use of more natural collocations. Rare mistakes with incorrect words, spelling and/or incorrect form of words | Good range of complex grammar. Many sentences are 100% correct. Rare mistakes with punctuation. |

| | relevant. | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| 6 | Some parts of the question are not answered fully. Overall opinion – relevant and supported but may be unclear, inconsistent or repetitive. Main ideas - relevant but not always clearly supported. | Organisation – clear and logical overall but not throughout Linking phrases – some good use but some are incorrect or robotic. Referencing - may be unclear or incorrect. Paragraphing – not always logical. | OK range of topic vocabulary. Tries to use less common and more natural vocabulary, sometimes successfully. Some mistakes with incorrect words, spelling and/or incorrect form of words but meaning is always clear. | A good range of complex and simple grammar. Some mistakes but meaning is nearly always clear. Some mistakes with punctuation. |
| 5 | Format – not always suitable. Only partly answers the question. Overall opinion - relevant but conclusions are unclear or repeated. Main ideas – not clearly explained and supported Supporting ideas - some details don't relate to the question | Organisation – not clear and logical overall. Linking phrases – may be often incorrect, repeated or missing Repeated words because of poor referencing or paraphrasing. Paragraphing – may be missing or poor | Limited range of suitable vocabulary. Frequent mistakes with incorrect words, spelling and/or incorrect form of words, making the meaning unclear. | Mainly uses simple sentences, mostly without mistakes. Tries to use complex sentences but often with mistakes. Overall, a lot of mistakes with grammar, making the meaning unclear. Often mistakes with punctuation. |
| 4 | Format – not suitable. Only slightly answers the question. Overall opinion – unclear Main ideas – difficult to find and may be repeated, not related to the question or not clearly supported. | Organisation – not very clear and logical. Linking phrases – some basic ones, but may be often incorrect or repeated Paragraphing – may be missing or unclear | Limited range of basic vocabulary. Words may be repeated or unsuitable. Frequent mistakes with incorrect words, spelling and/or incorrect form of words, making the meaning very unclear. | Nearly all sentences are simple, with very few complex sentences. Most sentences have mistakes. Many mistakes with punctuation. Mistakes may make the meaning very unclear. |
| 3 | Doesn't clearly answer any of the question. No clear overall opinion. Main ideas – not clearly explained or relate to the question. | Organisation – not logical at all Linking of ideas – very limited and unclear | Very limited range of basic vocabulary. Very frequent mistakes with incorrect words, spelling and/or incorrect form of words, making the meaning very, very unclear. | Tries to use grammar and punctuation but nearly always makes mistakes. Mistakes may make the meaning very, very unclear. |
| 2 | Doesn't write about any of the question. No clear overall opinion. One or two ideas – not explained at all. | Organisation – very limited | Very, very limited range of basic vocabulary. Almost no correct use of vocabulary | Can't use grammar except for memorised phrases. |
| 1 | Doesn't write anything related to the task. | Organisation – ideas cannot be understood | Can only use a few basic words. | Can't use grammar at all. |