



Examiner's Report

IELTS Task 2

Topic: Education

Overall Score: Band 7.5

Task Achievement	Cohesion & Coherence	Vocabulary	Grammar	Overall Score (Task 1)
6	8	8	8	7.5

Some people think that children should begin their formal education at a very early age. Some think they should begin at least 7 years old. Discuss both views give opinions.
335 words

The question of whether the compulsory starting age for education should be 7 or younger has always been heated. While it is true that younger children may benefit from early formal education, I firmly believe that 7-years-old is the optimal age for children to embark on education.

Comment [G1]: Good accurate paraphrasing of the topic

Comment [G2]: Clear opinion, no mistakes

On the one hand, it is understandable why children should commence ~~their education~~ learning at 5-6 years old. Since schools encourage children to be inquisitive and interested in discovering new things at a young age, their attention spans will likely ~~be~~ improve within a structured setting. ~~In fact,~~ Moreover learning to deal with challenges at a young age helps children to be more ~~resiliant~~ resilient in times of difficulty. Receiving a quality early education will then equip children with opportunities to learn how to concentrate and listen in order to resolve problems, which are vital skills for their later life.

Comment [G3]: Paraphrase a bit more

Comment [G4]: I don't see a relationship between encouraging children to discover and be inquisitive and attention span...

Comment [G5]: How? This is a claim without any support? I could also say that staying home helps children to be more resilient in times of difficulty.

On the other hand, I would maintain that it is much more beneficial for children to delay their formal education until they turn 7 years old. It must first be recognized that when children are not under the pressure of school and homework when they are ~~too young~~ in the early development stages, they are likely to perform better academically. Evidence of this comes from ~~is~~ Finnish children, who do not start formal, full-scale education until they are 7, always rank higher than those from England, ~~starting who start~~ school at 5 years old, in terms of mathematics and literature. In addition to this, as preschools with play-based learning programs have prepared children from 3-6 years old with social skills and given them the opportunities to mature, they will be mentally and physically ready to adapt to primary school and thus reap the benefits of education faster.

Comment [G6]: Ok, not bad, but would have been better to focus on attention spans or resilience and have a clear example. For example, contrast the kind of free play they would do at home with the structure of school and how that would impact them (could be socially, attention span, etc.) or even better would be to have a main idea that it 'helps them to develop socially/have a better attention span/etc.' and then detail how that happens in school in more detail.

Comment [G7]: Too many clauses in this sentence make it too complex.

Comment [G8]: This is a bit iffy – isn't preschool part of formal education?

Comment [G9]: It is ok to mention preschools as long as you clearly define them as separate from formal education which you kind of do here.

In conclusion, while both views certainly hold some validity, it is my belief that children should not commence their formal education until 7 years old. It is thus advisable that educators prioritize providing children with high quality pre-schooling from 3 to 6 years old in order to lay the foundations for them to succeed in a formalized school environment.

Comment [G10]: Great conclusion!

Examiner's Summary

Task Achievement: Band 6

Examiner's Report:

The question of whether the compulsory starting age for education should be 7 or younger has always been heated. While it is true that younger children may benefit from early formal education, I firmly believe that 7-year-old is the optimal age for children to embark on education. On the one hand, it is understandable why children should commence their education at 5-6 years old. Since schools encourage children to be inquisitive and interested in discovering new things at a young age, their attention spans will likely be improved. In fact, learning to deal with challenges at a young age helps children to be more resilient in times of difficulty. Receiving a quality early education will then equip children with opportunities to learn how to concentrate and listen in order to resolve problems, which are vital skills for their later life. On the other hand, I would maintain that it is much more beneficial for children to delay their formal education until they turn 7 years old. It must first be recognized that when children are not under the pressure of school and homework when they are too young, they are likely to perform better academically. Evidence is Finnish children, who do not start formal, full-scale education until they are 7, always rank higher than those from England, starting school at 5 years old, in terms of mathematics and literature. In addition to this, as preschools with play-based learning programs have prepared children from 3-6 years old with social skills and given them the opportunities to mature, they will be mentally and physically ready to adapt to primary school and thus reap the benefits of education faster. In conclusion, while both views certainly hold some validity, it is my belief that children should not commence their formal education until 7 years old. It is thus advisable that educators prioritize providing children with high quality pre-schooling from 3 to 6 years old in order to lay the foundations for them to succeed in a formalized school environment.

Comment [G11]: Clear opinion from the beginning – good!

Comment [G12]: Focus on 1 main idea!

Comment [G13]: Again, focus on 1 main idea so that you can fully develop it.

Comment [G14]: Great example!

Comment [G15]: This is a little bit questionable and would have been better to explain and talk about preschools the whole paragraphs or forget about it and talk about home.

Comment [G16]: Perfect conclusion!

Strengths: Your opinion is clear and nuanced, you have specific examples to support relevant main ideas and a final concluding thought.

Weaknesses: There are some issues with the support in the second paragraph (attention span isn't well developed and neither is resilience), the third paragraph's mention of preschool could be a problem as well.

Action: Make sure that your support is very relevant and you focus on a single main idea, fully developed for each paragraph. Do that and you can get 8 for this band

SCORE.

Cohesion & Coherence: Band 8

Examiner's Report:

The question of whether the compulsory starting age for education should be 7 or younger has always been heated. While it is true that younger children may benefit from early formal education, I firmly believe that 7-year-old is the optimal age for children to embark on education.

On the one hand, it is understandable why children should commence their education at 5-6 years old. Since schools encourage children to be inquisitive and interested in discovering new things at a young age, ~~their attention spans will likely be improved~~ this will likely improve their attention spans in the long term. In fact, learning to deal with challenges at a young age helps children to be more resilient in times of difficulty. Receiving ~~a~~ this quality early education will then equip children with opportunities to learn how to concentrate and listen in order to resolve problems, which are vital skills for ~~their~~ later in life.

On the other hand, I would maintain that it is much more beneficial for children to delay their formal education until they turn 7 years old. It must first be recognized that when children are not under the pressure of school and homework ~~when they are too young~~ at a young age, they are likely to perform better academically. Evidence ~~of this comes from~~ is Finnish children, who do not start formal, full-scale education until they are 7, ~~and yet~~ always rank higher than those from England ~~(who start school at 4)~~ d, starting school at 5 years old, in terms of mathematics and literature. In addition to this, as preschools with play-based learning programs have prepared children from 3-6 years old with social skills and given them ~~the~~ opportunities to mature, they will be mentally and physically ready to adapt to primary school and thus reap the benefits of education faster.

In conclusion, while both views certainly hold some validity, it is my belief that children should not commence their formal education until 7 years old. It is thus advisable that educators prioritize providing children with high quality pre-schooling from 3 to 6 years old in order to lay the foundations for ~~them to succeed~~ success in a formalized school environment.

Strengths: Clear paragraphs, referencing was good, lots of linking within and between sentences.

Weaknesses: Some small issues throughout and one confusing sentence in the third paragraph with too many clauses.

Action: Keep it up! Reduce and simplify to provide clarity when possible.

Vocabulary: Band 8

The question of whether the compulsory starting age for education should be 7 or younger has always been heated. While it is true that younger children may benefit from early formal education, I firmly believe that 7-year-old is the optimal age for children to embark on education.

On the one hand, it is understandable why children should commence their education at 5-6 years old. Since schools encourage children to be inquisitive and ~~interested in discovering new things~~ investigate their interests ~~at from~~ a young age, their attention spans will likely be improved. In fact, learning to deal with challenges at a young age helps children to be more ~~resiliant~~ resilient in times of difficulty. Receiving a quality early education will ~~then thus~~ equip children with opportunities to learn how to concentrate and listen in order to resolve problems, which are vital skills for ~~their~~ later in life.

On the other hand, I would maintain that it is much more beneficial for children to delay their formal education until they turn 7 years old. It must first be recognized that when children are not under the pressure of school and homework when they are too young, they are likely to perform better academically. Evidence is Finnish children, who do not start formal, full-scale education until they are 7, always rank higher than those from England, starting school at 5 years old, in terms of mathematics and literature. In addition to this, as preschools with play-based learning programs have prepared children from 3-6 years old with social skills and given them ~~the~~ opportunities to mature, they will be mentally and physically ~~ready~~ primed to adapt to primary school and thus reap the benefits of education faster.

In conclusion, while both views certainly hold some validity, it is my belief that children should not commence their formal education until 7 years old. It is thus advisable that educators prioritize providing children with high quality pre-schooling from 3 to 6 years old in order to lay the foundations for them to succeed in a formalized school environment.

Examiner's Report:

Strengths: Vocabulary was good enough to talk in detail about your main ideas and examples, you paraphrased at times, there were very few mistakes.

Weaknesses: Some small mistakes, could be some more paraphrasing and some words could be better to get at more specific, clearer meanings. One spelling mistake.

Action: Keep pushing yourself to use new vocabulary. You struck the right balance between showing off and not showing off too much with this writing.

Grammar: Band 8

The question of whether the compulsory starting age for education should be 7 or younger has always been heated. While it is true that younger children may benefit from early formal education, I firmly believe that 7-year-old is the optimal age for children to embark on education.

On the one hand, it is understandable why children should commence their education at 5-6 years old. Since schools encourage children to be inquisitive and interested in discovering new things at a young age, their attention spans will likely be improved. In fact, learning to deal with challenges at a young age helps children to be more resilient in times of difficulty. Receiving a quality early education will then equip children with opportunities to learn how to concentrate and listen in order to resolve problems, which are vital skills for their later life.

On the other hand, I would maintain that it is much more beneficial for children to delay their formal education until they turn 7 years old. It must first be recognized that when children are not under the pressure of school and homework when they are too young, they are likely to perform better academically. Evidence of this is from Finnish children, who do not start formal, full-scale education until they are 7, always rank higher than those from England, starting school at 5 years old, in terms of mathematics and literature. In addition to this, as preschools with play-based learning programs have prepared children from 3-6 years old with social skills and given them the opportunities to mature, they will be mentally and physically ready to adapt to primary school and thus reap the benefits of education faster.

Comment [G17]: Evidence for this can be gleaned from Finnish children who do not start formal education until the age of 7 and always rank higher in mathematics and literature than those from England, who typically begin school at 5.

In conclusion, while both views certainly hold some validity, it is my belief that children should not commence their formal education until 7 years old. It is thus advisable that educators prioritize providing children with high quality pre-schooling from 3 to 6 years old in order to lay the foundations for them to succeed in a formalized school environment.

Examiner's Report:

Strengths: Lots of complex sentences throughout, almost entirely accurate grammar. Close to a 9.

Weaknesses: A couple of mistakes and couple of awkward constructions in the third paragraph.

Action: Try to avoid clause heavy paragraphs with tons of commas as in the third paragraph.

Overall Score: Band 7.5

Examiner's Summary:

Strengths: Very strong writing in terms of structure, ideas, and language. Very few mistakes and great nuance due to your high level of grammar, vocabulary, and cohesion. Great!

Weaknesses: Small issues with task achievement and fully developing your ideas and small mistakes with language. With some fixes to TA would be an easy 8 and grammar is close to a 9.

IELTS TASK 2 Writing band descriptors (public version)

Band	Task Achievement	Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical Resource	Grammatical Range and Accuracy
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fully addresses all parts of the task presents a fully developed position in answer to the question with relevant, fully extended and well supported ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses cohesion in such a way that it attracts no attention skillfully manages paragraphing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of vocabulary with very natural and sophisticated control of lexical features; rare minor errors occur only as 'slips' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of structures with full flexibility and accuracy; rare minor errors occur only as 'slips'
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sufficiently addresses all parts of the task presents a well-developed response to the question with relevant, extended and supported ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sequences information and ideas logically manages all aspects of cohesion well uses paragraphing sufficiently and appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of vocabulary fluently and flexibly to convey precise meanings skillfully uses uncommon lexical items but there may be occasional inaccuracies in word choice and collocation produces rare errors in spelling and/or word formation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of structures the majority of sentences are error-free makes only very occasional errors or inappropriacies
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> addresses all parts of the task presents a clear position throughout the response presents, extends and supports main ideas, but there may be a tendency to overgeneralise and/or supporting ideas may lack focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> logically organises information and ideas; there is clear progression throughout uses a range of cohesive devices appropriately although there may be some under-/over-use presents a clear central topic within each paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a sufficient range of vocabulary to allow some flexibility and precision uses less common lexical items with some awareness of style and collocation may produce occasional errors in word choice, spelling and/or word formation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a variety of complex structures produces frequent error-free sentences has good control of grammar and punctuation but may make a few errors
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> addresses all parts of the task although some parts may be more fully covered than others presents a relevant position although the conclusions may become unclear or repetitive presents relevant main ideas but some may be inadequately developed/unclear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> arranges information and ideas coherently and there is a clear overall progression uses cohesive devices effectively, but cohesion within and/or between sentences may be faulty or mechanical may not always use referencing clearly or appropriately uses paragraphing, but not always logically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses an adequate range of vocabulary for the task attempts to use less common vocabulary but with some inaccuracy makes some errors in spelling and/or word formation, but they do not impede communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a mix of simple and complex sentence forms makes some errors in grammar and punctuation but they rarely reduce communication