

IELTS Writing Test (Academic)

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people believe that it is best to accept a bad situation, such as an unsatisfactory job or shortage of money. Others argue that it is better to try and improve such situations.

Discuss both these views and give your opinion.

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

Write at least 250 words.

In every day life and during their personal career, people often face unexpected situations that can affect a person's in reaching his or her goals. But how do people behave in this case? Depending on their own attitude, people may have a more active or passive reaction through an unwanted circumstances.

First of all, in my opinion, passive people are those who believe that it is more convenient to accept a defeat when for instance they are not pay back at work because it does not fulfill and reward them. As far as I am concerned, it is a matter of not being able to exit their own comfort zone and change the circumstances in order to achieve personal success.

Then, there is the class of active people, those who never stop until they have achieved their own targets and objectives. Personally, I think that this can have both advantages and disadvantages. Indeed, it is true that is important to learn how to enhance ourselves but at the same time, it is also fundamental to understand our limitations. Not only will we have to spend our time in searching something more, but also we have to be able to content oneself. If we are not capable of doing so, we will risk to live a life without ever being satisfied. As I said before, it is a double-edged sword. Moreover, those people are often competitive and struggle in establishing strong relationships.

To conclude, whether you are more passive or active when you face a difficult situation, it is important to learn from it and act in a smart way, analyse it and understand if you can do better or if this is the case in which it is better satisfied with what has already been achieved.

Word count: 296

SHORT FEEDBACK - ESSAY

Concluding remarks

The following remarks, observations and corrections are based purely on the attached task and using public access IELTS Writing Band Descriptors for guidance.

See more: https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/2018-01/IELTS_task_2_Writing_band_descriptors.pdf

This is a good attempt at answering the IELTS writing task two. You address all three parts of the prompt: (i) people who accept bad situations; (ii) people who try to improve bad situations; and (iii) your position (regardless of whether you are an 'active' or 'passive' person, you should learn from bad situations). However, to attain a higher band score, I would advise you to give more supporting arguments for why 'passive people' accept a bad situation and less supporting arguments for why 'active people' try to improve such situations. This would result in a balanced argument that gives an even amount of 'coverage' to both sides of the argument.

The structure of your essay is logical and there is clear progression throughout. Paragraph one gives the background of the writing task, paragraph two argues for why passive people accept a bad situation, paragraph three argues for why active people try to improve a situation, and paragraph four gives your position. Each paragraph has one central topic and are linked logically to one another. This is a good strategy to attain higher IELTS band scores.

Regarding vocabulary you use a range of less common lexical items appropriately (e.g. 'comfort zone', 'double-edged' sword). However, occasional spelling mistakes (e.g. 'conent' in paragraph 3, line 6; and 'analyse' in paragraph 4 line 2) may lower the overall band score of this essay. Similarly, you use a wide range of complex sentences although with some grammatical inaccuracies (e.g. in paragraph: "affect a person in ..." NOT "affect a person's in"; "unwanted circumstances" NOT "a unwanted circumstances").

Thus, in order to improve your IELTS band score in future IELTS writing tasks, I would advise you to concentrate on (i) eliminating elementary grammatical errors; (ii) eliminating spelling mistakes, and (iii) answering all parts of the prompt evenly so that all sides of the arguments are given equal coverage.

Band Score Estimate: 6.5