

IELTS Writing Task 1 & 2 Example Answers

Read the following questions and answers. Then copy the answers onto the lines that follow.

General IELTS – Task 1 example question

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

An Australian friend recently sent you a present by post. You want to thank him/her.

Write a letter to your friend. In your letter:

- ***say how you felt when you received it***
- ***explain what you like about it***
- ***explain how you will use the present***

Write at least 150 words.

You do NOT need to write any addresses.

Begin your letter as follows: Dear _____,

Dear Billy,

I was so surprised when I received a package from Australia the other day. The postman brought it last Tuesday and I was delighted to see it was sent from you. Then when I opened it and saw that it contained a shirt from Sydney I was really pleased. Thank you so much!

You obviously remember that during my stay in Sydney I was a big fan of the Sydney Opera House. I think the architecture is amazing, so to have that on the t-shirt is really special for me. It looks like a high quality t-shirt as well, so I'm sure I'll get plenty of wear out of it.

Next month I'm going to see a few bands play at a music festival in my city, including a band from Australia. I think that will be the perfect time to wear it and show my Aussie connections!

So thank you once again. I'll write to you again soon and tell you about the concert.

Best wishes,
Jeremy

(166 words)

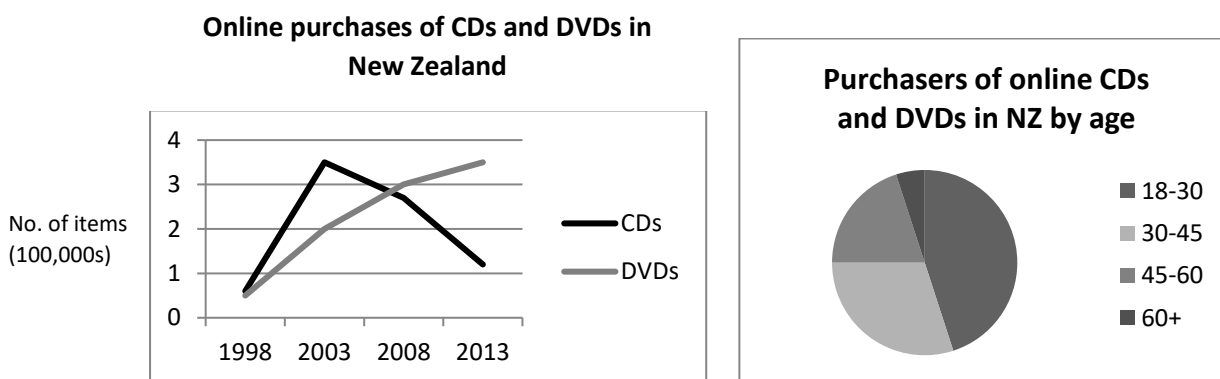
Academic IELTS – Task 1 example question

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The line graph below shows online purchases of CDs and DVDs in New Zealand in four different years, and the pie chart shows the ages of people who purchase CDs and DVDs online in New Zealand.

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

Write at least 150 words



Academic IELTS – Task 1 example answer

The line graph compares the number of CDs and DVDs bought online in New Zealand between 1998 and 2013, while the pie chart shows the different age groups of those who buy them. Overall, it can be seen that DVD purchases outstripped CDs over the period, and that 18 to 30-year-olds are the biggest buyers of these products.

The number of CDs and DVDs bought online was very low in 1998, at around 50,000. However, the sales of CDs then rose dramatically, peaking at around 350,000 in 2003, while DVD sales showed more moderate growth, rising to 200,000. From that time, the number of CDs bought online decreased steadily, whereas DVD purchases continued to grow steadily to around 350,000, three times higher than CDs in 2013.

Regarding age, those under 30 account for the bulk of internet CD and DVD purchases, at around 45%, followed by 30 to 45-year-olds (30%). Those aged over 60 buy very few, accounting for only around 5% of all online purchases of these items.

(169 words)

General & Academic IELTS – Task 2 example question

It is often argued that professional sportspeople nowadays are overpaid compared to other members of society. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

General & Academic IELTS – Task 2 example answer

Many professional sportspeople today earn enormous salaries, in some cases greater than \$5 million a year. While some people feel that athletes should not be paid so much more than those in more useful occupations, I personally believe that their salaries are fully deserved.

On the one hand, those who argue against athletes receiving high salaries point out that they do not make great contributions to the development of society in the same way that scientists, doctors, teachers and even politicians do. For example, sportspeople do not cure diseases, fight poverty, or educate the next generation; they simply play sports.

However, it can also be argued that the high salaries of sportspeople today are well-deserved, for two main reasons. Firstly, they provide entertainment which many people are happy to pay for, in the same way we do for movie stars or pop singers. They generate income, often for sports corporations and TV broadcasters, and are entitled to a fair percentage of that income. Secondly, athletes work extremely hard throughout their youth and their short career to achieve that level of athletic excellence in a job that may be cut short by injury. Therefore, the high salaries are necessary to compensate for the risky and fleeting nature of pro-sports careers.

To sum up, although the extreme salaries of some professional athletes can lead to the knee-jerk reaction that all sportspeople are grossly overpaid, I believe that most of them in fact deserve the remuneration they receive for embarking on short and often risky careers, and for providing great entertainment to the public.

(261 words)

