



IELTS Academic Writing

Practice Test 2

In this document, you will find one full IELTS Writing section for the Academic version of the exam. Each question comes with a band 9 model essay. These example essays also come with notes from the scorer; all scores are calculated based on the following score guides: [IELTS Academic Writing Task 1 rubric](#), [IELTS Writing Task 2 rubric](#).

How to Use This PDF

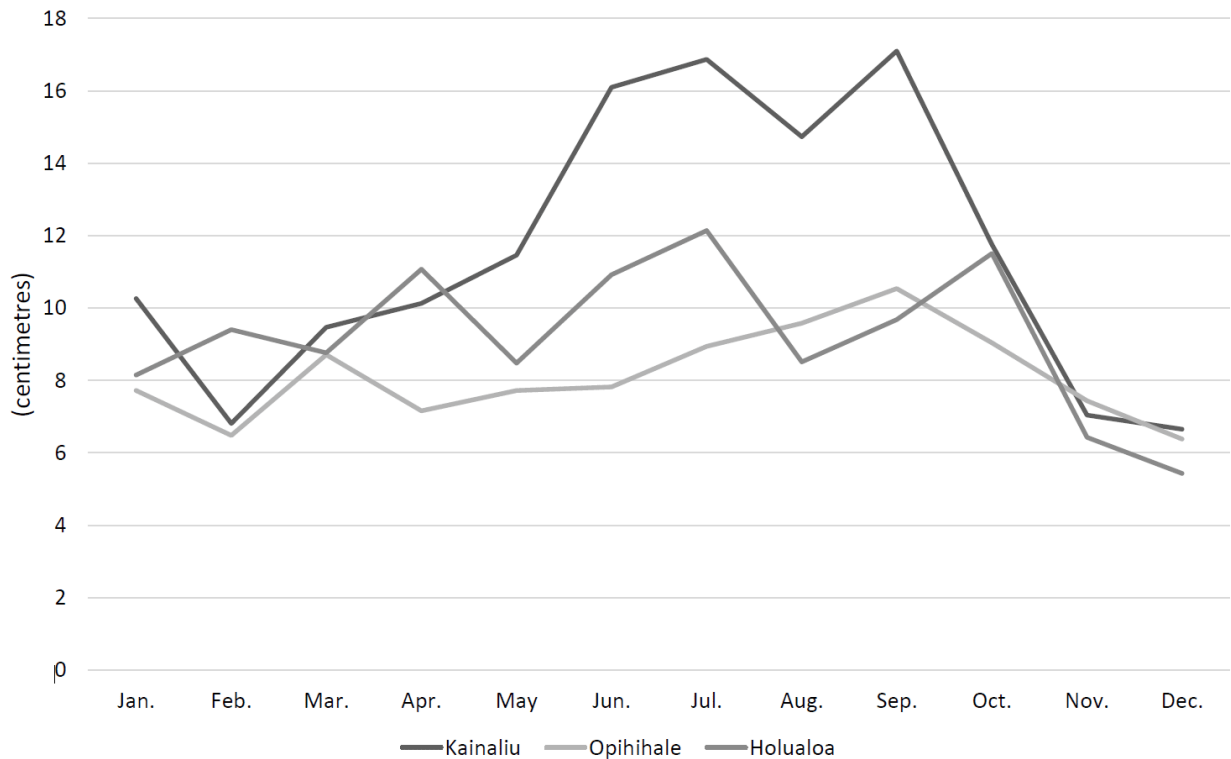
Each sample question is alone on its own page. Before you scroll down to the next page to see the model answer, you can try answering it yourself. Then, check the model essay and the scorer commentary. Comparing the example response and score explanation to your own writing can help you understand how you did!

If you find this PDF helpful, consider also signing up for the Magoosh [IELTS Essay Scoring Service!](#)

IELTS Academic Writing Task 1 Question

The graph and table below show the average monthly rainfalls and average annual rainfalls for three towns in the district of Kona in Hawaii for a 30-year period (1971-2000).

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.



TOWN	AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL (1971-2000)
Kainaliu	138.38
Opihiale	97.53
Holualoa	110.48

Model Essay (IELTS Academic Writing Task 1)

The chart and table show the average monthly and annual rainfall for the towns of Kainaliu, Opihihale, and Holualoa from 1971 to 2000.

Average monthly rainfalls are usually higher from June to September and tend to be lower between October and May. However, rainfall can differ a good deal between towns, and these differences add up to distinctly different annual numbers.

Opihihale usually has the least rainfall but has slightly more (less than 2 cm difference) rainfall than the other towns around August and November. In contrast, Kainaliu's monthly rainfall is often the highest, 7-9 cm greater than Opihihale and 5-7 cm greater than Holualoa at the height of the summer and fall rainy periods.

The larger differences during the higher rainfall periods add up over the course of the year. In the table, Kainaliu clearly has the most annual rainfall, Opihihale has the least by far, and Holualoa sits between these two extremes, somewhat closer to Opihihale than to Kainaliu.

Scorer Commentary (IELTS Academic Writing Task 1, Band 9)

Overall Band Score: 9

CATEGORY	Task Achievement	Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical Resource	Grammatical Range and Accuracy
SCORE	9	9	9	9

What was done well in the essay:

- This essay has 161 words, more than the 150 minimum. Always make sure you exceed that 150 mark, so you can avoid the IELTS Writing word count penalty.
- The essay covers all the major details seen in the two infographics, describing the overall trends that apply to all three towns. It also covers month-to-month and annual differences, as well as differences between the towns.
- The paragraphs are neatly divided by topic, with a first paragraph overview, followed by a paragraph on overall trends, followed by a paragraph on monthly averages and a paragraph on annual rainfall.
- Great use of transitional phrases such as “however” and “in contrast,” as well as referential phrasing like “these differences” and “in the table.” This clearly illustrates the relationship between different ideas and different pieces of data.
- The vocabulary and grammar works well here. There are no serious errors, and there is a good variety of word choice and sentence structure so that nothing feels repetitive.

IELTS Writing Task 2 Question

With modern transportation, workers and students are increasingly mobile, and have more and more opportunities to study and work abroad.

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this development. Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Model Essay (IELTS Writing Task 2)

Nowadays, both work and study can easily take a person out of their home country. This can be good because people can explore new cultures now more than ever. At the same time, world travelers may become disconnected from their own home countries. In this essay, I will take a closer look at the aforementioned key advantage and key disadvantage.

To be sure, ordinary people now have unprecedented access to life abroad. It is easier than ever to work or study in a foreign land for months and even years. Many large international corporations offer overseas work to their employees, just as nearly all universities provide study abroad options at partner campuses overseas. Ultimately, nearly any adult anywhere in the world can potentially immerse themselves in another language or culture, with support from their bosses or teachers.

The problem is that international workers and students sometimes become unconcerned with the affairs in the nations they are from. This kind of apathy can prevent people from doing their civic duty. As one example, people from countries with compulsory military service may spend years abroad and even renounce their citizenship to avoid protecting their homeland. Even more commonly, people who go abroad may choose not to vote in elections back home, failing to make their voice heard on important matters. So modern mobility can undermine one's ability or desire to make a difference back home.

Learning about other cultures by actually living abroad is a powerful tool for better intercultural understanding. However, as valuable as this is, sometimes going abroad can cause people to ignore the importance of their own culture and country. Not all students and workers should go abroad, and the ones that do should not forget their role in their country of origin.

Scorer Commentary (IELTS Writing Task 2, Band 9)

Overall Band Score: 9

CATEGORY	Task Achievement	Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical Resource	Grammatical Range and Accuracy
SCORE	9	9	9	9

What was done well in the essay:

- This essay has over 250 words. This is a small but important way to avoid needlessly losing points due to [the IELTS Writing word count penalty](#).
- The essay does a good job of covering both the advantages and disadvantages. The advantage of easy access to foreign experiences is explored in the first body paragraph. The disadvantages of becoming too distant from one's home community is similarly explored in the second paragraph.
- Each paragraph has a clear topic sentence, followed by supporting details, examples, and a concluding sentence that wraps things up nicely.
- Transitional phrases such as "to be sure" and "even more commonly" are used to clearly link ideas between paragraphs and within paragraphs.
- Vocabulary and grammar are used very fluently; this essay is free of any serious errors in this aspect of English.