

Academic Writing test

Section 1: Academic English phrases

Part A: Gapfill – 10 minutes

Put one word into each gap below.

1. _____ spite of all this,...
2. _____ a direct result of...
3. _____ be more precise,...
4. _____ complete contrast,...
5. _____ though all that is true,...
6. ... is usually defined _____ ...
7. A simpler _____ less precise definition is...
8. An additional example _____ this is...
9. An example _____ I often use is...
10. An example from _____ own experience is...
11. As _____ clearly shown above...
12. As _____ general rule...
13. Because _____ all the reasons given above...
14. I can illustrate this point _____ an analogy.
15. It is thought _____ many that...
16. It will reach a new _____ of 100,000 dollars by the end of the year.
17. One of _____ best examples is...
18. The advantages easily _____ the disadvantages.
19. There are far more pros _____ cons.
20. You could also _____ this to mean...

[Points:

/20]

Part B: Brainstorming of suitable phrases – 20 minutes

Put four words or expressions into each of the lists below in order, putting them next to other words or phrases if they have exactly the same meaning. You will get one mark for each word or expression which is in the right place and bonus marks for language which is particularly high level, e.g. phrases which were new to most students when they were presented during the course.

1. Exactly the same/ _____

Completely different/ _____

[Points:]
[Bonus points:]

2. By far the greatest positive point/ _____

A significant positive aspect/ _____

[Points:]
[Bonus points:]

3. Will definitely/ _____

Almost certainly won't/ _____

[Points:]
[Bonus points:]

4. Almost always/ _____

Hardly ever/ _____

[Points:]
[Bonus points:]

5. Almost all/ _____

A tiny minority (of...)/ _____

[Points:]
[Bonus points:]

6. Explode/ _____

Decline dramatically/ _____

[Points:]
[Bonus points:]

Decide on two different structures for an answer to the task below, dividing it into paragraphs and explaining the topics of the paragraphs in those two structures with between one and five words on each of the lines below. You don't have to use all five paragraphs. Then write just the introduction to one of those two versions of the essay in the space given.

Possible plan/ structure/ organisation Version 1

Possible plan/ structure/ organisation Version 2

Introduction to version 1/ version 2 *(please circle)*

[illegible]

Section 3: Writing – 30 minutes

Write at least 180 words on the data given below, summarising and comparing the figures, then speculating on possible reasons for them and ways that they could change in the future. Make sure that you have a suitable plan/ structure/ organisation, then start with the introduction below.

[illegible]

[illegible]