IELTS Writing Task Two tasks on education

Quickly read through the tasks below to find one you have a strong opinion, think is easy to speak about, think is interesting, want to hear other opinions on, etc. Starting with that task, discuss your opinions on the topics below with one or two other students. Don't think about how you would write an answer yet, but do try to stick closely to answering the questions that are there.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people believe that a university education should be preparation for young people's future working life. Others disagree and think that university should be for intellectual stimulation without needing to think about practical uses for the knowledge and skills gained.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Universities should be easier to enter for people from disadvantaged groups such as racial minorities and people from poor backgrounds.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

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

Write at least 250 words.

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You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In some countries young people are encouraged to combine work with studies through internships, sandwich courses, etc.

Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In many countries students are less and less motivated to study hard in school.

What do you think are the causes of this?

What solutions can you suggest?

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

Write at least 250 words.

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You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

The media and governments seem to pay more and more attention to international comparisons of test results such as PISA rankings.

Why might this be the case?

Do you think this is a positive or negative development?

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some countries pay for young native speakers to come to their country to help the local teachers teach their languages to local children.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this system?

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

Write at least 250 words.

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You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Compare the advantages and disadvantages of three of the following as ways of making classes more interesting for students. State which you consider to be the most effective.

- **video**
- **case studies**
- **students teaching each other**
- **short, instant quizzes throughout the class**
- **students doing internet research**
- **students voting (for example on what they believe or what they want to study)**

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some researchers believe that teachers can only have a small influence on the children they teach because family background has much more influence.

Which do you consider to be the major influence?

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

Write at least 250 words.

When your teacher stops you, ask about any questions above which you couldn't understand, couldn't answer, etc, discuss your opinions and how to write answers as a class each time.

Plan some of the writing above by splitting the task into two (or perhaps occasionally three) body paragraphs.

Choose one of the plans and write an introduction for it.

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Extra task for (timed) writing practice

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people think that only a small minority of young people really benefit from university and the rest should get more practical training and/ or start work. Others, however, think that as many people should take a university education as possible.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

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

Write at least 250 words.

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