



LANGUAGECERT Academic

Writing tasks and
sample scripts with
examiner feedback




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The left side of the cover features a stylized graphic of a pen nib, rendered in white and a lighter shade of red, pointing towards the right. The rest of the cover is a solid, vibrant red color.

LANGUAGECERT **ACADEMIC** Writing

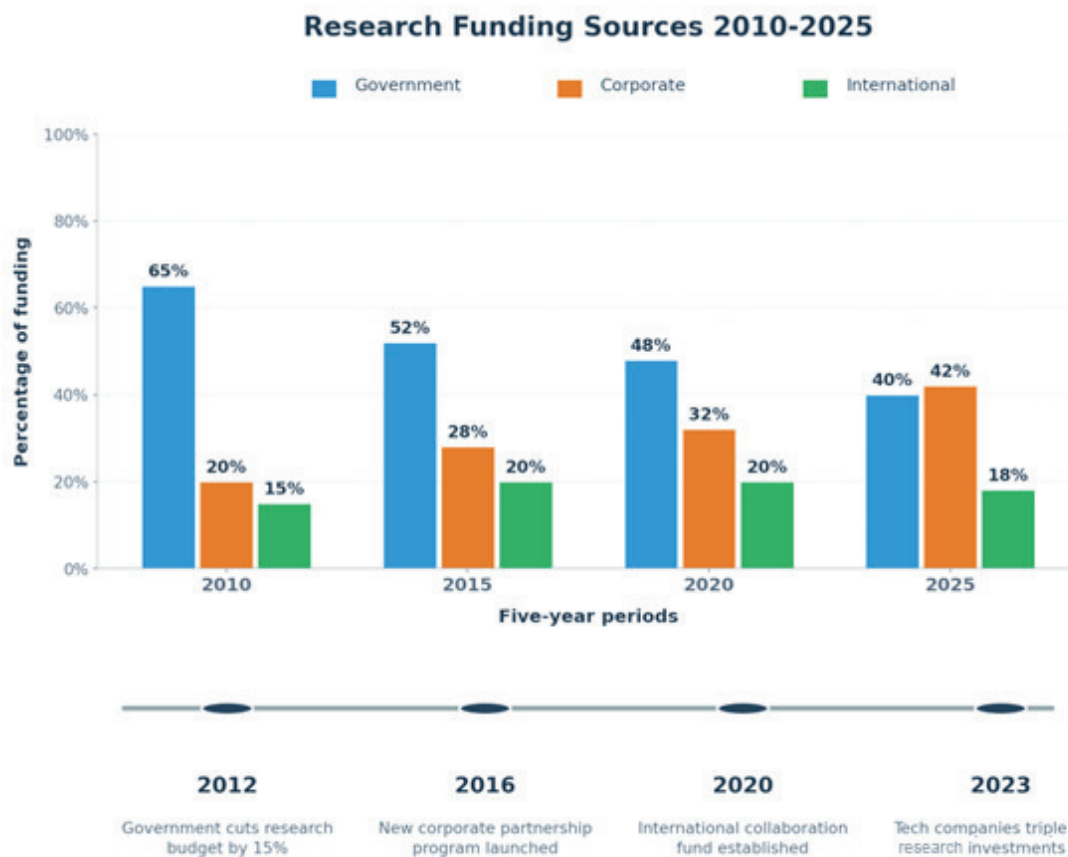
Part 1

Item 1

You are working on a higher education policy project. You need to write a report about where your university's research funding came from between 2010 and 2025.

You have a chart showing percentages of funding from different sources and a timeline showing important policy changes. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends in the chart
- › explain how policy changes affected research funding
- › predict what research funding might look like in 2030.



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

Between 2010 and 2025, research funding at our university has changed noticeably over the fifteen-year period. At the start, government funding was the largest source at 65%, while corporate funding stood at 20% and international funding accounted for only 15%.

When the government cuts research budget by 15% in 2012, universities had to find alternative funding sources. By 2015, government funding dropped to 52%, corporate funding rose to 28%, and international funding increased slightly to 20%. The launch of a new corporate partnership program in 2016 made industry collaboration more attractive.

The establishment of an international collaboration fund in 2020 brought some changes, but the impact was limited. By 2020, government funding fell to 48%, corporate reached 32%, and international stayed at 20%. After tech companies tripled research investments in 2023, corporate funding grew even further.

By 2025, government funding declined to 40%, while corporate funding climbed to 42% and international remained stable at 18%. If current trends continue, I predict that by 2030, corporate funding will dominate at over 50%, with government funding falling to around 30% and international possibly reaching 20%.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	5	The candidate writes coherently on the topic and addresses all three task requirements. Presents a clear view of the main points but not always fully extended. The main trends are described clearly and the influence of policy changes is considered. The prediction is reasonable though could include more detailed justification about future funding landscape.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	The candidate generally controls grammar to communicate effectively although errors occur when complex structures are attempted. Examples of errors: "government cuts research budget" (incorrect tense), "had to finding" (incorrect infinitive form), "corporate funding rised", "if current trends continues" (subject-verb agreement). Meaning is usually clear.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	4	The candidate uses vocabulary appropriate to the topic and purpose. Linking words are used to show relationships between ideas effectively. The range is adequate but could demonstrate more sophistication.
Organisation and Coherence	5	The candidate organises the text logically with clear chronological structure. Paragraphs are well-defined and cohesive devices link ideas appropriately throughout the response.
Total Score	18/32	

Second Sample Answer

The research funding landscape at my university has experienced a fundamental restructuring from 2010 to 2025. Initially, government funding commanded an overwhelming share at 65%, with corporate contributions comprising 20% and international sources accounting for a modest 15%.

The 15% government budget reduction in 2012 prompted a gradual diversification of income streams. By 2015, public funding had diminished to 52%, whereas corporate investment expanded to 28% and international funding advanced to 20%. The 2016 introduction of formal corporate partnership programmes lowered barriers to industry collaboration substantially.

The 2020 establishment of international collaboration funds yielded modest improvements. Government funding contracted to 48%, whilst corporate sources ascended to 32% and international remained static at 20%. The 2023 decision by tech companies to triple R&D investments accelerated private sector engagement dramatically.

Current 2025 figures reveal a striking rebalancing: government funding now accounts for 40%, corporate has surged to 42%, and international stabilised at 18%. This configuration demonstrates how policy interventions have fundamentally reconfigured university funding models.

Projecting toward 2030, one might anticipate corporate funding commanding approximately 55%, whilst government contributions may contract further to 25% and international partnerships could expand to 20% through enhanced global academic networks.

Examiner's Comments (C2)

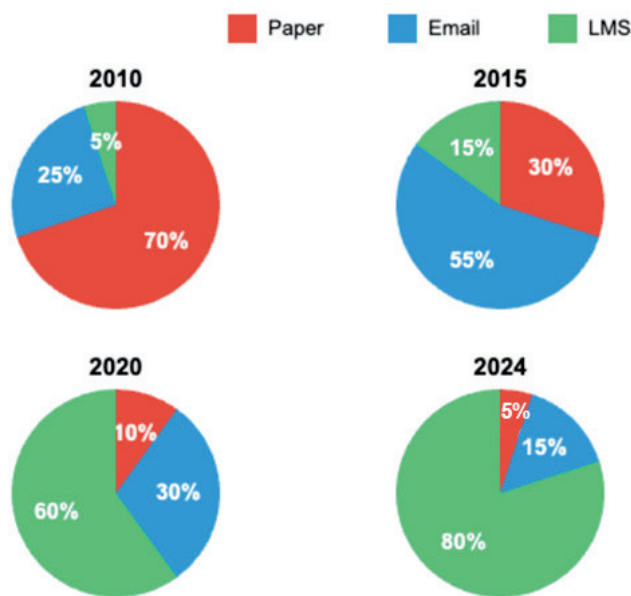
Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	8	The candidate produces a well-structured text that clearly addresses all task requirements. The analysis of how funding policy changes influenced the distribution of research support is sophisticated and insightful. The prediction section demonstrates creative thinking with plausible future scenarios. Target reader wholly informed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	The candidate demonstrates strong grammatical control with few errors across a range of complex structures. Minor observations: "had diminished to" (effective past perfect), "yielded modest improvements" (appropriate collocation), "one might anticipate" (sophisticated modal construction).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	8	The candidate employs a wide range of sophisticated vocabulary suitable for academic discourse. Lexical choices such as "restructuring", "diversification of income streams", and "reconfigured" are precise and varied, demonstrating strong command of formal register. Conveys precise meaning.
Organisation and Coherence	7	The candidate organises the text effectively with clear thematic progression. Cohesive devices and paragraph transitions create logical flow, though occasional variation in linking expressions would enhance the overall coherence.
Total Score	30/32	

Item 2

As part of an educational technology study, you need to write a report on how students submitted their assignments at your university from 2010 to 2024. You have a chart showing the percentage of assignments submitted through different methods, plus a timeline showing when technologies were introduced. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends shown in the chart
- › consider how technology affected the way students submitted
- › predict what assignment submission might look like in 2030.

Assignment Submission Methods 2010-2024



Note: In 2024, the percentage of LMS submissions includes also the ones from the mobile app version.



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

In the past fourteen years, we have seen a great change in how students submit their assignments at our university. Although in the beginning, 2010, it was mainly done by paper, we can have observed that paper submission is about to disappear. Not only we have seen paper submission being replaced by digital methods over the past decade, but we have also come to a place where the Learning Management System is dominating.

In the first few years, the percentage of paper submissions was the highest at 70%, with only 25% email and 5% LMS. After the adoption of email submission policy in 2013, either through email or LMS, the number of paper submissions has decreased significantly. When the LMS was made mandatory in 2017, digital submissions increased dramatically. Due to COVID in 2020, paper submissions was minimised and dropped to only 10%.

According to the chart, by 2024, LMS submissions reached 80% while email dropped to 15% and paper to just 5%. Should the technology continue developing, by 2030, I predict that LMS will become the only method of submission, and new features like AI-assisted uploading might emerge.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	4	A clear, connected text. Appropriate presentation of most of the relevant points of the task with supporting detail. Generally, satisfies the demands of the task. However, it is felt that a more detailed analysis of the trends and the changes was needed, and the candidate should have described the chart by comparing and contrasting the data to a further extent.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	Generally, a good control of grammar. Communicates effectively although errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. The candidate generally employs some complex structures encountered at B2 level. Examples of errors: "we can have observed", "Not only we have seen", "paper submissions was minimised".
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	4	The use of vocabulary and expressions are generally to the topic and purpose of writing. The candidate generally uses a range of linking words effectively to show the relationship between ideas. The candidate generally uses some complex lexical structures, and they adapt register effectively and appropriately according to purpose in most contexts. However, there are some misspelled words such as "significantly", "dramaticaly", and "completly".
Organisation and Coherence	4	Can synthesise the information provided with a simple flow or progression of ideas. It is felt that the text should have been organised more effectively to reflect the structure of the ideas expressed. Paragraphing is generally appropriate. The candidate generally uses punctuation marks accurately.
Total Score	16/32	

Second Sample Answer

The assignment submission methods at my university have undergone a remarkable transformation over the last fourteen years. In 2010, paper submission dominated the landscape at 70%, while email accounted for 25% and the Learning Management System merely 5%.

Following the introduction of the campus-wide email submission policy in 2013, there was a notable shift in student behaviour. By 2015, email submissions had risen substantially to 55%, whereas paper submissions declined to 30%. The LMS usage also increased to 15%. Due to this transition, students began embracing digital alternatives more readily.

The implementation of mandatory LMS usage in 2017 proved to be a turning point. By 2020, when paper submissions were minimised owing to the COVID pandemic, LMS usage surged dramatically to 60%, with email at 30% and paper reduced to merely 10%. The launch of the mobile app submission feature in 2022 further accelerated this trend.

By 2024, LMS submissions had reached an unprecedented 80%, while email dropped to 15% and paper to a negligible 5%. It seemed to not completely eliminate traditional methods, yet the trajectory is clear.

Looking ahead to 2030, we might predict that LMS submissions will become virtually universal, potentially incorporating AI-powered plagiarism detection and automated feedback systems.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate successfully writes a well-structured text clearly communicating the purpose of the text. The candidate covers all task points, and their descriptions generally vary in style. Presents a clear view of the main points but not always fully extended. They should have elaborated more by comparing and contrasting the data to a greater extent when covering the task points.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	Mostly accurate use of grammar with occasional errors which don't interrupt meaning. The candidate generally controls grammar to communicate effectively. They generally employ some complex structures encountered at C1 level. Examples of errors: "owing to the COVID pandemic" (minor stylistic issue), "It seemed to not completely eliminate", "we might predict" (acceptable but could be more sophisticated).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	A wide range of vocabulary, suitable for purpose is used and they generally use idiomatic expressions appropriately and naturally with accurate spelling. The candidate generally uses some complex structures, and they adapt register effectively and appropriately according to purpose in most contexts. Conveys precise meaning.
Organisation and Coherence	7	Clear and well structured text. Fully appropriate paragraphing and a logical flow of ideas. The text is organised effectively to reflect the structure of the ideas expressed. The candidate generally links and organises ideas using linking words and cohesive devices although some errors occur when doing so. No punctuation errors, punctuation marks are used accurately and effectively.
Total Score	28/32	

Item 3

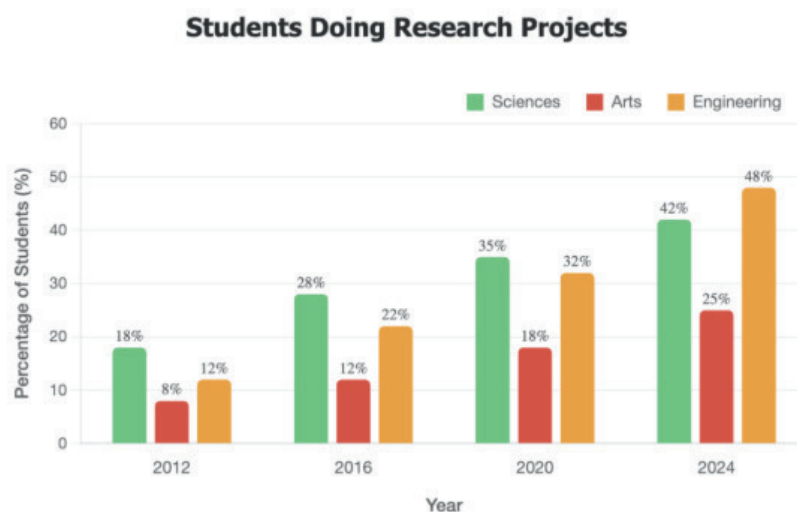
As part of a short course in English, you need to write a report about how many students complete research projects at your university. You have been given the following information for the period 2012 to 2024: a chart showing the percentage of students doing research in different subjects (Sciences, Arts, Engineering) and some comments from students about their research experience. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends shown in the chart
- › suggest reasons for these trends
- › predict how student research is likely to change in the next five-year period.

"Doing research helped me understand my subject better."
— Sarah, Sciences

"I didn't know students could do research until my second year."
— Tom, Arts

"The money from the university made it possible for me to join a research project."
— Lisa, Engineering



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

The chart illustrates the percentage of students doing research projects across three subjects at a university between 2012 and 2024.

In 2012, Sciences had the highest participation at 18%, followed by Engineering at 12%, while Arts lagged behind at only 8%. Over the twelve-year period, all three subjects showed significant growth. By 2024, Engineering led at 48%, Sciences reached 42%, and Arts climbed to 25%.

Several factors may explain these trends. As one student commented, research helped her understand her subject better, suggesting academic benefits motivate participation. Another student mentioned he didn't know about research opportunities until his second year, indicating that better awareness could increase involvement. Additionally, financial support from the university made it possible for some students to join projects.

Looking ahead to the next five years, it is likely that participation will continue to rise. If the university maintains its support and improves awareness programs, research involvement could exceed 50% across all subjects.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	4	The candidate generally addresses the requirements of the task, presenting the main trends with some supporting detail. The response is usually appropriate and the target reader is generally informed. However, a more detailed comparison and contrast of the data across subjects would strengthen the response.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	Generally good grammatical control with only a few errors. Uses some complex forms accurately, though meaning is occasionally affected by errors. Examples of errors: "didn't knew" (incorrect tense), "could exceeding" (incorrect verb form).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	5	Uses vocabulary that is generally appropriate and meaning is usually clear. Most simple spellings are accurate. Uses an adequate range of vocabulary for the task.
Organisation and Coherence	4	Text is mainly coherent, using basic linking devices correctly. Can synthesise information provided with simple flow of ideas. Paragraphing is generally appropriate and punctuation is usually correct. Some repetition of basic linking words.
Total Score	17/32	

Second Sample Answer

The chart depicts undergraduate research participation across Sciences, Arts, and Engineering from 2012 to 2024.

Initially, Sciences attracted 18% of students, Engineering 12%, and Arts merely 8%. Over the subsequent twelve years, all disciplines demonstrated substantial growth. By 2024, Engineering had surged to 48%, overtaking Sciences at 42%, whilst Arts reached 25%.

These upward trends can be attributed to several factors. Student testimonials reveal that research enhances subject comprehension, as one Sciences student noted. Furthermore, limited awareness appears to have constrained earlier participation, with one Arts student discovering opportunities only in his second year. Financial assistance from the university has also proved instrumental in enabling student involvement.

Projecting forward, participation is anticipated to continue its upward trajectory. Should the university sustain its funding initiatives and enhance promotional efforts, all subjects could potentially exceed 55% participation within the next five-year period, with Engineering likely maintaining its leading position.

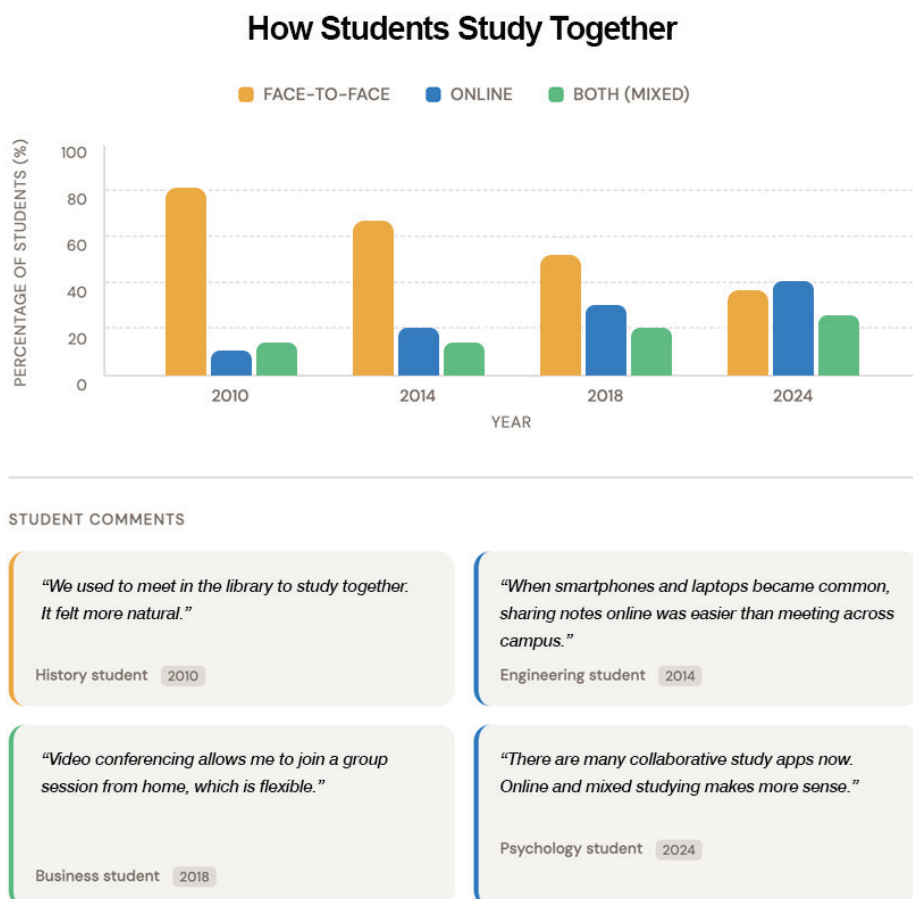
Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate provides a developed response covering all required aspects. Presents a clear view of the main points with appropriate supporting detail from the student comments. Response is almost always fully appropriate and the target reader is well-informed. Could expand further on comparisons between subjects.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	6	Mostly accurate use of grammar, with occasional errors which don't interrupt meaning. Uses a wide range of structures including passive voice, conditional forms, and complex sentence patterns effectively.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	Mostly accurate use of vocabulary and occasional idiomatic language with mostly accurate spelling. Uses sophisticated lexis such as "trajectory," "instrumental," and "constrained" appropriately. Meaning is always clear.
Organisation and Coherence	6	Clear, well-structured text with fully appropriate linking devices. Appropriate paragraphing and logical flow from description to explanation to prediction. Very few punctuation errors.
Total Score	26/32	

Item 4

As part of a short course in English, you need to write a report on how students study together. You have been given the following information for the period 2010 to 2024: a chart showing the percentage of students forming study groups and some student comments. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends
- › give reasons for these trends
- › predict how students are likely to study together in the next five-year period.



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

The way students form study groups at our university has changed a lot over the past fourteen years. In 2010, most students preferred face-to-face meetings, which accounted for 80%. Online groups were used by only 8% of students, and mixed methods was at just 12%.

By 2014, face-to-face study groups declined to 65%, while online methods rose to 18% and mixed reached 17%. This was probably because more students started using smartphones and laptops for studying.

The trend continued in 2018. Face-to-face dropped to 50%, online increased to 30%, and mixed methods grew to 20%. Better internet and more online tools made it easier for students to study together without meeting in person.

By 2024, face-to-face fell to 35%, while online climbed to 40% and mixed reached 25%. Students now have many apps and websites that help them work together from different places.

Looking ahead to the next five years, I believe online and mixed methods will become even more popular. Face-to-face might drop to 25% as technology continues to improve.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	4	The candidate generally addresses the requirements of the task with appropriate presentation of significant points. The response covers all three task requirements but tends to focus on describing details rather than drawing conclusions. The target reader is generally informed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	Generally good grammatical control with only a few errors. Uses some complex forms accurately, though meaning is occasionally affected. Examples of errors: "mixed methods was" (subject-verb agreement issue).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	4	Use of vocabulary is generally appropriate and meaning is usually clear. Uses an adequate range of vocabulary for the task. Most simple spellings are accurate but the range could be broader.
Organisation and Coherence	4	Text is mainly coherent, using basic linking devices correctly. Can synthesise information provided with simple flow of ideas. Paragraphing is generally appropriate and punctuation is usually correct.
Total Score	16/32	

Second Sample Answer

The formation of study groups at my university has undergone significant transformation between 2010 and 2024. Initially, face-to-face meetings dominated at 80%, with online methods comprising merely 8% and mixed approaches accounting for 12%.

By 2014, traditional in-person study had decreased to 65%, whilst online collaboration expanded to 18% and mixed methods rose to 17%. The increasing availability of smartphones and social media platforms contributed to this gradual shift.

This pattern accelerated through 2018, when face-to-face participation fell to 50%, online engagement reached 30%, and mixed methods grew to 20%. The development of video conferencing tools and collaborative software made remote studying increasingly practical.

Current 2024 figures demonstrate a remarkable rebalancing: face-to-face now stands at 35%, online has climbed to 40%, and mixed methods have reached 25%. This reflects students' growing preference for flexible learning arrangements.

Projecting toward the next five-year period, one might anticipate online and mixed methods commanding approximately 75% of study group formation, as technological advances continue to reshape collaborative learning practices.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

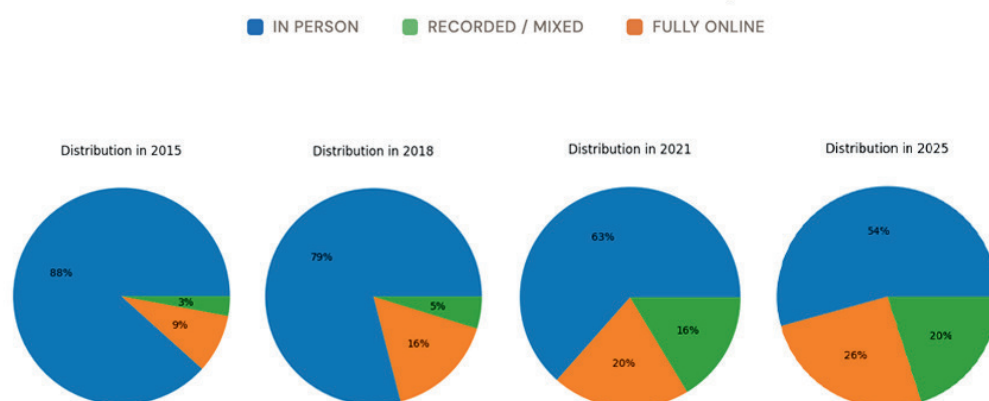
Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The candidate provides a developed response covering all required aspects. Presents a clear view of the main points with supporting detail. Response is almost always fully appropriate and the target reader is well-informed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	6	Mostly accurate use of grammar, with occasional errors which don't interrupt meaning. Uses a wide range of structures including passive constructions and complex sentence patterns effectively.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	Mostly accurate use of vocabulary and occasional idiomatic language with mostly accurate spelling. Uses sophisticated lexis such as "transformation," "collaborative," and "commanding." Meaning is always clear.
Organisation and Coherence	6	Clear, well-structured text with fully appropriate linking devices. Appropriate paragraphing and logical flow from description through explanation to prediction. Very few punctuation errors.
Total Score	24/32	

Item 5

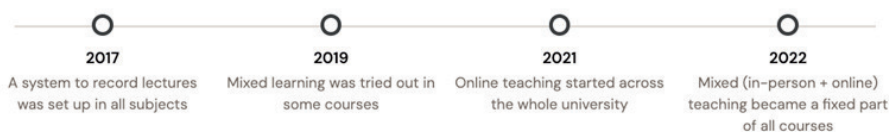
As part of your course, you need to write a report on how lectures at your university were delivered between 2015 to 2025. You have been given with the following information: a chart showing the percentage of lectures delivered in different ways, plus a timeline of important changes. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends shown in the chart
- › consider how new technology and university decisions have changed the way teachers give lectures
- › predict how lecture are likely to be given in the next five-year period.

How Lectures Were Given at the University, 2015-2025



IMPORTANT CHANGES



What is mixed learning?

Students watch recorded lectures at home on their own, then come to class to talk about ideas, work on problems, and do activities with their teacher's help.

Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

The methods of delivering lectures at our university has undergone remarkable changes between 2015 and 2025. Initially, in-person live lectures dominated completely at 90%, while recorded/mixed content accounted for only 8% and fully online was merely 2%.

After the lecture recording system was installed in 2017, things started to shift gradually. By 2018, in-person lectures remained high at 82%, but recorded content grew to 15% and online reached 3%. The introduction of mixed learning in 2019 encouraged more teachers to adopt new approaches.

The most dramatic change occurred in 2021 due to campus closure when everything went online. In-person dropped sharply to 65%, recorded content increased to 20%, and fully online jumped significantly to 15%. This was a turning point for how lectures were being delivered.

By 2025, after hybrid teaching was made permanent in 2022, in-person lectures fell to 55%, recorded/mixed rose to 25%, and online stabilised at 20%. If technology keeps improving, I predict that by 2030, in-person lectures will account for only 40%, with recorded and online methods sharing the remaining 60%.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	4	Generally addresses the requirements of the task. Appropriate and effective linking of ideas. Appropriate presentation of most of the relevant points. Target reader is generally informed. However, it is felt that the candidate should have analysed the impact of COVID-19 and technology in greater depth.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	Generally good grammatical control and communicates effectively although errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. The candidate generally employs some complex structures encountered at B2 level. Examples of errors: "methods of delivering lectures has undergone", "recorded content growed", "lectures was being delivered" (acceptable but overused passive).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	4	The candidate generally uses words and expressions appropriate to the topic and purpose of writing. Uses adequate range for the task. However, there are misspelled words such as "completly", "occured", and "significantly".
Organisation and Coherence	4	Text is coherent with a simple flow of ideas. The candidate uses linking words effectively to show relationships between ideas, though the text could have been structured more effectively to highlight the contrast between pre and post-pandemic periods.
Total Score	16/32	

Second Sample Answer

Lecture delivery methodologies at my university have witnessed a transformative decade spanning 2015 to 2025. At the commencement of this period, traditional in-person lectures held an overwhelming monopoly at 90%, with recorded/mixed formats comprising 8% and fully online a mere 2%.

The installation of lecture recording infrastructure in 2017 laid the groundwork for subsequent changes. By 2018, whilst in-person delivery persisted at 82%, recorded content had expanded to 15%. The inception of mixed learning initiatives in 2019 further accelerated this diversification.

The pandemic-induced campus closure in 2020 catalysed unprecedented transformation. By 2021, in-person lectures had contracted substantially to 65%, whereas recorded formats ascended to 20% and online delivery quintupled to 15%. This period demonstrated that effective learning could transcend physical boundaries.

The 2022 decision to institutionalise hybrid teaching cemented these changes permanently. Current 2025 figures indicate in-person at 55%, recorded/mixed at 25%, and online at 20%. This distribution reflects a fundamental reconceptualisation of pedagogical delivery.

Extrapolating to 2030, it seems plausible that blended approaches will constitute approximately 70% of all lectures, with AI-enhanced personalised content and immersive virtual classrooms becoming increasingly prevalent.

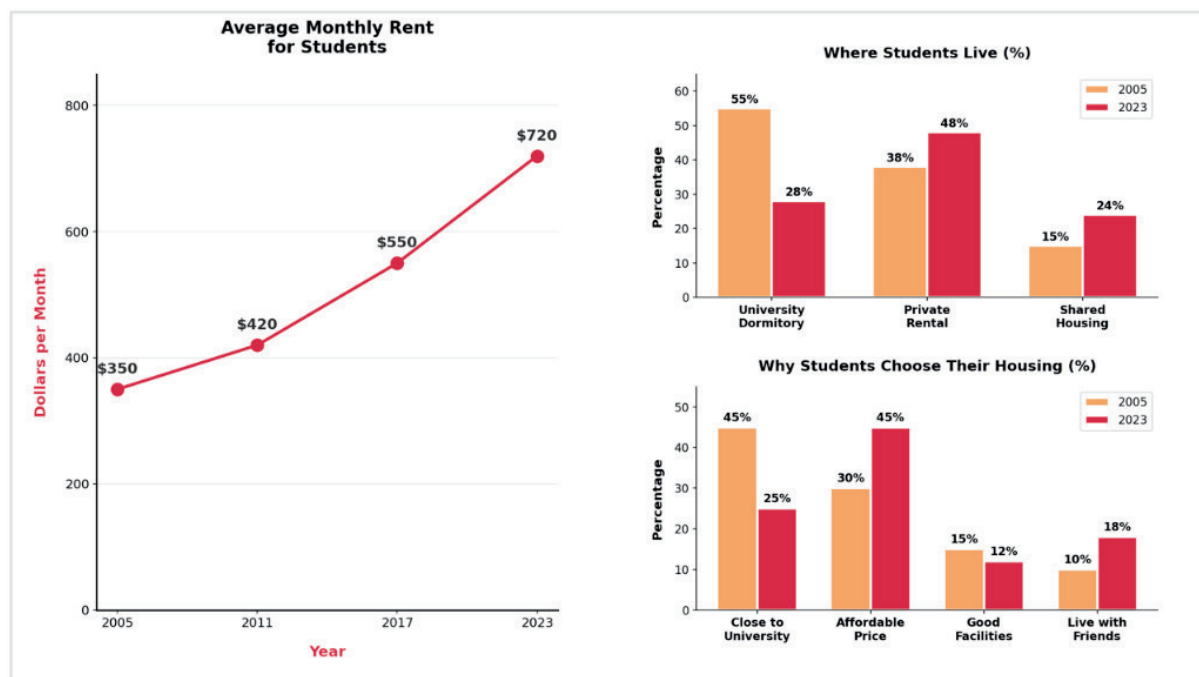
Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate successfully writes a well-structured text clearly communicating the purpose. The candidate covers all task points effectively, demonstrating good understanding of how external factors influenced teaching delivery. The prediction section is well-reasoned though could include more specific details.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	The candidate controls grammar effectively with few errors and employs a range of complex structures at C1 level. Minor issues: "further accelerated this diversification" (acceptable), "quintupled to" (bold choice, effective), "a fundamental reconceptualisation" (sophisticated but slightly dense).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	8	A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary suitable for academic purposes is used to convey precise meaning. Idiomatic expressions and technical terminology are used appropriately and naturally. The register is consistently formal and appropriate throughout.
Organisation and Coherence	6	Overall effective organisation of text with coherence, though transitions between some paragraphs could be smoother. Cohesive devices are used appropriately but with occasional repetition of structures.
Total Score	28/32	

Item 6

As part of a short course in English, you need to write a report on where students live. You have been given the following information for the period 2012 to 2024: a chart showing how rent prices have changed over time, a chart showing reason why the students live in dormitory, private rental, shared housing and a chart showing why students choose their housing. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends shown in the charts
- › give reasons for these trends
- › predict how student housing is likely to change in the next five-year period.



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

Student accommodation preferences at our university has shifted considerably from 2005 to 2023. At the start, university dormitory was the most popular option with 55% of students choosing it, followed by private rental at 38% and shared housing at just 15%. At that time, average monthly rent was only \$350.

By 2011, dormitory usage dropped slightly to 48%, while private rental stayed similar at 35% and shared housing increased to 17%. Rent had increased to \$420 per month. When looking at why students chose their housing, 45% said being close to university was most important, while only 30% cared about affordable price.

The situation changed a lot by 2017 when rent reached \$550. Dormitory fell to 38%, private rental rose to 42%, and shared housing remained steady at 20%. More students started caring about price - 45% now said affordable price was their main reason.

By 2023, rent had doubled to \$720 per month. Dormitory dropped to 28%, private rental climbed to 48%, and shared housing reached 24%. Only 25% of students now live close to university because they cannot afford it.

By 2028, I expect shared housing will grow to 35% as students seek cheaper options because rent will keep increasing.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	5	Presents a clear view of the main points but not always fully extended with a presentation of the most relevant points from all three charts and addresses all three task requirements. The analysis could have been explored in more depth. Target reader generally informed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	A good grammatical control and communication is achieved effectively although errors occur with complex structures. Examples of errors: "preferences has shifted" (subject-verb agreement), "rent had doubled" (acceptable but simple). Meaning is usually clear.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	4	The candidate uses words and expressions generally appropriate to the topic and meaning is clear. The vocabulary range is adequate but could demonstrate more variety.
Organisation and Coherence	5	The candidate links and organises ideas using cohesive devices appropriately. The chronological structure is clear and integrates data from multiple charts effectively.
Total Score	18/32	

Second Sample Answer

Undergraduate accommodation patterns at my university have experienced a notable metamorphosis between 2005 and 2023, driven largely by escalating rental costs. Initially, when average monthly rent stood at merely \$350, university dormitories constituted the predominant choice at 55%, with private rentals attracting 38% and shared housing accommodating merely 15%.

By 2011, as rent climbed to \$420, dormitory occupancy had moderated to 48%, whilst private rentals stabilised at 35% and shared arrangements edged upward to 17%. Significantly, proximity to university remained the primary consideration for 45% of students, with affordability concerning only 30%.

The trajectory shifted markedly by 2017 when rent reached \$550. Dormitory residence diminished to 38%, whereas private rentals ascended to 42%. Crucially, affordable price had become the dominant factor at 45%, surpassing location considerations which fell to 25%.

Current 2023 data reveals rent has doubled to \$720 monthly. Dormitories now accommodate just 28%, private rentals dominate at 48%, and shared housing has risen to 24%. The prioritisation of affordability reflects students' response to economic pressures.

Projecting toward 2028, one might anticipate shared housing expanding to approximately 40% as cost-conscious students embrace co-living arrangements, particularly if rental inflation continues at current rates.

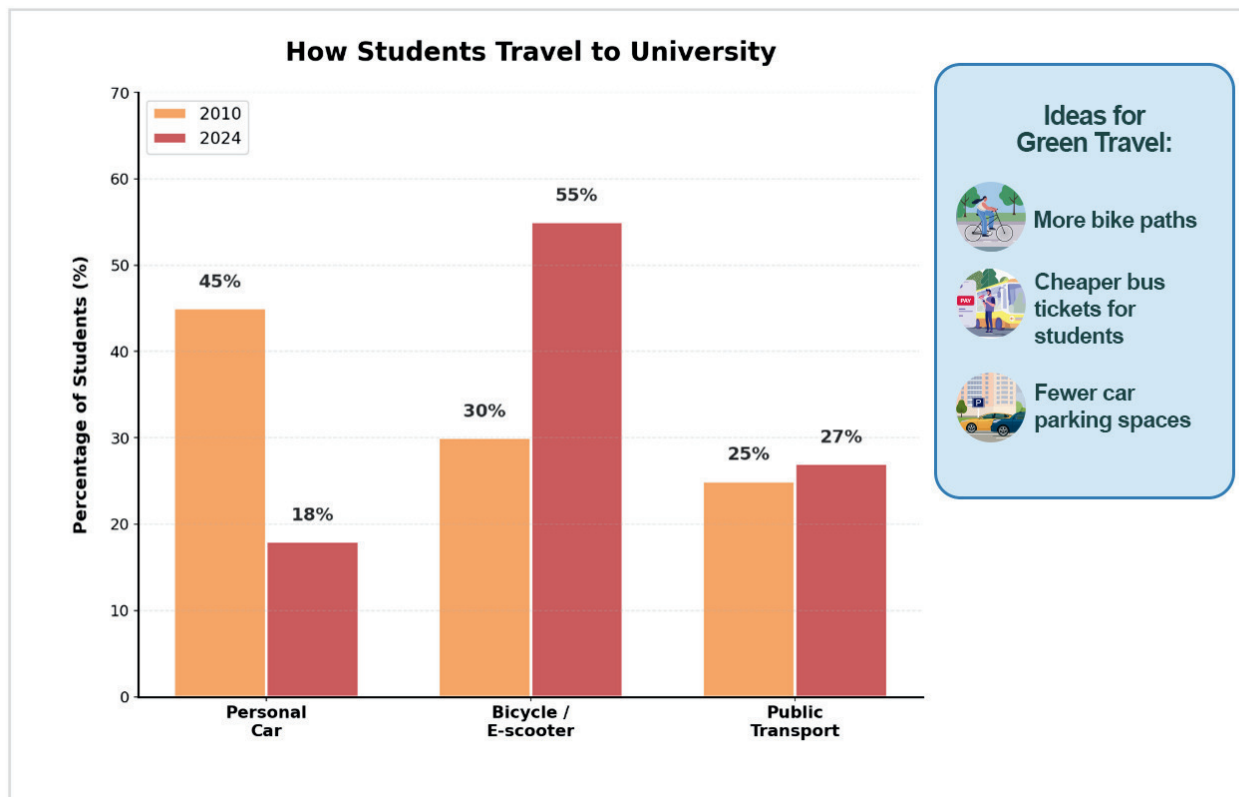
Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	Provides a developed response clearly communicating the purpose and covering all required aspects. All three charts are integrated effectively, demonstrating sophisticated analysis of how rising rent influenced both housing choices and decision-making priorities.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	The candidate controls grammar effectively with few errors and employs a wide range of complex structures. Minor observations: "driven largely by" (effective passive), "trajectory shifted markedly" (sophisticated expression).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	A wide range of vocabulary is used suitable for academic purposes. Sophisticated lexical choices such as "escalating rental costs", "prioritisation of affordability" enhance the text's quality.
Organisation and Coherence	7	Text is well organised and effective, weaving together data from all three charts chronologically. Cohesive devices create logical flow throughout the response.
Total Score	28/32	

Item 7

As part of a short course in English, you need to write a report on how students travel to university. You have been given the following information for the period 2010 to 2024: a chart showing the different ways students got to campus and some ideas for environmentally-friendly travel. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends shown in the chart
- › give reasons for these trends
- › predict how students are likely to travel to university in the next five-year period.



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

The transportation habits of students at our university have changed a lot between 2010 and 2024. In the beginning, personal car usage was quite common at 45%, bicycle/e-scooter stood at 30%, and public transport was chosen by 25% of students.

By 2024, these patterns had shifted dramatically. Car usage dropped significantly to just 18%, while bicycles and e-scooters grew to become the most popular option at 55%. Public transport remained quite stable, rising only slightly from 25% to 27%.

These changes can be explained by environmental concerns and university policies. For example, fewer car parking spaces may have discouraged students from driving, while more bike paths were built across campus, making cycling more attractive. In addition, cheaper bus tickets could explain why public transport usage grew slightly interestingly.

If universities continue promoting green transport, I believe by 2029 over 70% of students will use bicycles or e-scooters. The data clearly shows how environmental policies can change transportation habits effectively.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	4	Generally addresses the requirements of the task. Most relevant points are presented clearly with supporting detail. However, the analysis of how sustainability initiatives influenced transport choices could have been more thorough, and the prediction, while plausible, lacks specific supporting reasoning. Target reader is generally informed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	The candidate generally controls grammar to communicate effectively although errors occur when complex structures are attempted. Examples of errors: "have changed alot", "was choosed by", "bicycles growed", "more bike paths was built".
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	5	The candidate uses words and expressions appropriate to the topic and purpose. Linking words effectively show relationships between ideas. The vocabulary demonstrates adequate range with some sophisticated choices. Minor spelling errors include "alot" and "interestly".
Organisation and Coherence	4	The candidate organises ideas using cohesive devices, though the transitions between paragraphs could be smoother and the development of ideas more varied.
Total Score	17/32	

Second Sample Answer

Student transportation preferences at my university have undergone a remarkable green transition from 2010 to 2024. At the outset, personal vehicles represented the dominant mode at 45%, with bicycle/e-scooter comprising 30% and public transport accounting for 25%.

By 2024, a dramatic modal shift had occurred. Car dependency plummeted to a mere 18%, whilst bicycle/e-scooter usage soared to 55%, becoming the predominant choice. Public transport demonstrated modest yet consistent growth, advancing from 25% to 27%.

Several factors may account for this transformation. University sustainability policies — such as reducing car parking spaces and expanding cycling infrastructure — served as significant deterrents to car dependency and incentivised sustainable commuting alternatives. Furthermore, the introduction of cheaper bus tickets for students likely underpinned the incremental yet steady rise in public transport adoption.

Forecasting 2029, it appears probable that micro-mobility solutions will constitute approximately 70% of campus transportation, with enhanced cycling infrastructure supplementing traditional transport options. This trajectory exemplifies the successful implementation of sustainability-oriented transport policy.

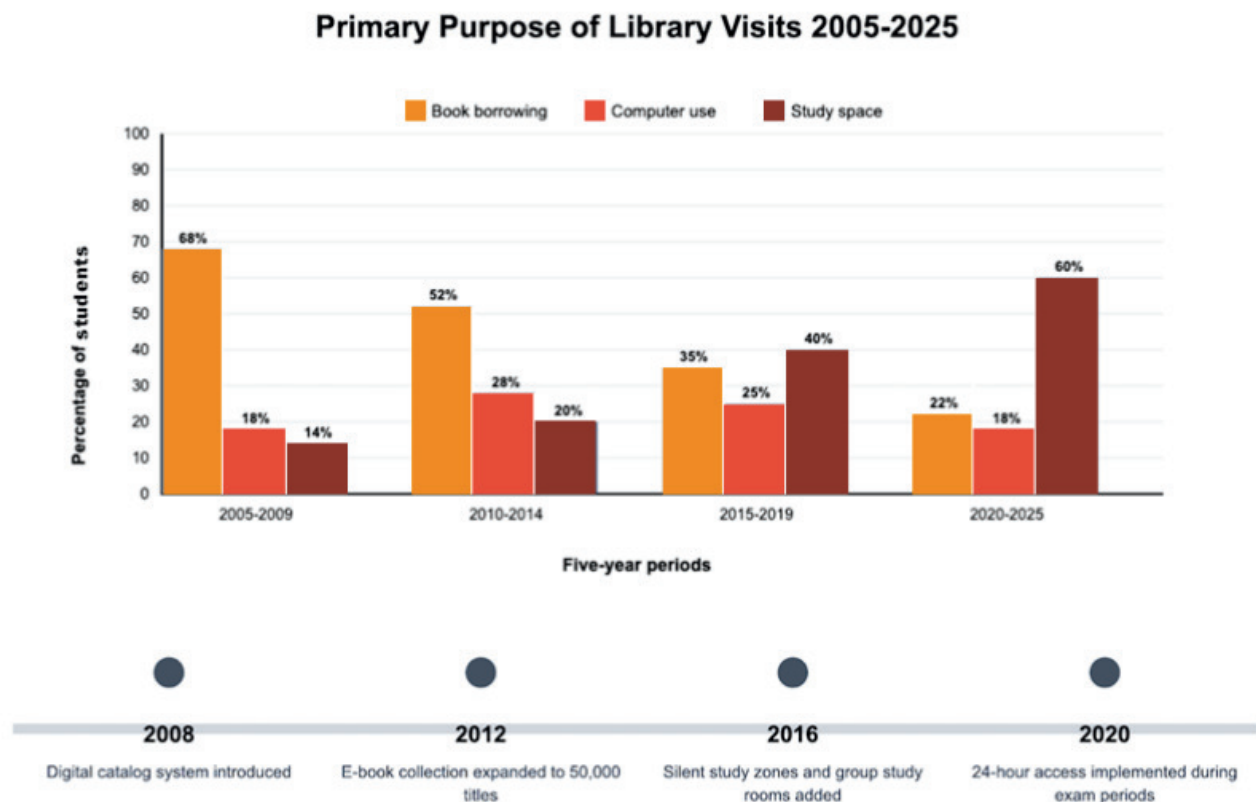
Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate writes a well-structured text clearly communicating the purpose. All task points are addressed effectively with good analysis of how sustainability initiatives influenced transport choices. The prediction section offers innovative yet plausible possibilities, though further elaboration on specific mechanisms of change would strengthen the response.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	The candidate demonstrates consistent grammatical control with minimal errors even when employing complex structures. A wide range of sentence structures is used effectively. Punctuation is accurate throughout. Minor observations: "further incentivised" (correct British spelling), "gained traction" (idiomatic), "policy implementation" (appropriate nominalisation).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	8	The candidate uses a wide range of sophisticated vocabulary suitable for academic writing. Technical terms related to transportation and sustainability are employed naturally. The register remains consistently formal. Some expressions could show greater variety.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The candidate organises the text effectively with clear thematic progression. Cohesive devices link ideas appropriately, though some paragraph transitions could be more varied to enhance overall flow.
Total Score	28/32	

Item 8

As part of an academic writing course, you have to write a report on the main purpose of library visits. You have been given a chart showing the main reasons students visit the library and a timeline showing important changes that affected library use. In your report, you should:

- › describe the main trends
- › give reasons for these trends
- › predict how library use may change over the next five years.



Write between 150 and 200 words.

First Sample Answer

The chart shows how the main reasons students visited the university library changed between 2005 and 2025. Overall, book borrowing declined steadily, while using the library as a study space became increasingly popular.

In 2005–2009, book borrowing was the main purpose of library visits, accounting for 68%. Computer use represented 18%, while only 14% of students used the library mainly as a study space. After the digital catalogue was introduced in 2008 and the e-book collection expanded in 2012, borrowing books fell to 52% in 2010–2014 and then to 35% in 2015–2019.

At the same time, study space use increased significantly. It rose from 20% in 2010–2014 to 40% in 2015–2019, following the addition of silent study zones and group study rooms in 2016. By 2020–2025, study space had become the dominant purpose at 60%, while book borrowing dropped further to 22%. Computer use remained relatively stable overall.

Looking ahead, library visits are likely to focus even more on study space, especially if extended opening hours continue and digital resources reduce the need for physical books.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The candidate addresses all parts of the task and clearly describes the main trends using relevant data from the chart. Key changes are explained with reference to timeline events, and a reasonable prediction is included. However, the response remains mostly descriptive and could develop comparisons in more depth
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	6	Grammar is generally accurate, with a mix of simple and some complex structures. Control is good overall, though sentence patterns are somewhat repetitive.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	Vocabulary is appropriate and clearly conveys meaning. Specific terms are used accurately, but the lexical range is predictable for this level.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The text is logically organised with clear paragraphing and chronological progression. Linking devices are effective but formulaic.
Total Score	24/32	

Second Sample Answer

The chart illustrates a substantial shift in the primary purpose of library visits from 2005 to 2025, highlighting a transition from traditional book borrowing to study-focused use of library facilities.

In 2005–2009, book borrowing clearly dominated, accounting for 68% of visits, whereas computer use and study space represented just 18% and 14% respectively. However, this pattern began to change following the introduction of the digital catalogue in 2008 and the expansion of the e-book collection in 2012. By 2010–2014, borrowing had fallen to 52%, while computer use and study space rose to 28% and 20%.

The most notable change occurred after 2016, when silent study zones and group study rooms were added. During 2015–2019, study space usage doubled to 40%, overtaking both borrowing (35%) and computer use (25%). This trend intensified further in 2020–2025, when 24-hour access during exam periods was introduced. Study space visits surged to 60%, while book borrowing declined sharply to just 22%.

Looking forward, it is reasonable to predict that the library will continue to function primarily as a learning environment rather than a lending facility, with physical borrowing playing a progressively smaller role.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate fully addresses the task, accurately selecting and interpreting data from the chart. Changes over time are clearly explained with reference to institutional developments, and the prediction is well grounded. Further critical evaluation would be needed for the highest score.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide range of grammatical structures is used accurately and confidently, including passive forms, complex clauses, and varied sentence patterns. Control is strong throughout, with no noticeable errors affecting clarity or meaning.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	The candidate uses a varied and precise range of academic vocabulary, including expressions such as “substantial shift,” “transition,” and “intensified further.” Lexical choices are appropriate and support nuanced meaning, though the response stops short of highly sophisticated or idiomatic usage.
Organisation and Coherence	7	The text is well organised, moving smoothly from description to interpretation and prediction. Cohesion is handled naturally and effectively. The conclusion effectively synthesises the main points.
Total Score	28/32	

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LANGUAGECERT **ACADEMIC** Writing

Part 2

Item 1

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some people say digital notes are more efficient because they are easy to organise and access. Others believe that writing notes by hand helps people remember information better. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> **First Sample Answer**

In today's academic environment, students have many options for taking notes. Some people prefer digital notes because they can be organised quickly and found easily. Others think writing by hand is better because it helps with memory. Both methods have advantages and disadvantages.

One benefit of digital notes is that they are easy to store and search. Students can type quickly and edit their notes without making a mess. Also, digital tools like folders and tags make it simple to organise many subjects in one place. This can save time and reduce the need to carry notebooks. Additionally, digital notes can be backed up and shared with others, which is useful for group work.

On the other hand, writing notes by hand can help students remember information better. Research shows that when we write by hand, we think more about what we are writing. This helps us understand and remember ideas more deeply. Also, some people find it easier to focus without a screen, especially during lectures.

In my opinion, both methods can be effective, but writing by hand is more useful for learning and understanding. Even though digital notes are more convenient, handwriting forces you to slow down and think carefully. For me, this leads to better results, especially in difficult subjects.

To conclude, students should choose the method that works best for them, but they should also consider how each method affects learning and memory.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The task is addressed clearly and both views are presented with relevant examples. However, the argument is mostly descriptive, and the opinion is not deeply analysed. The candidate misses opportunities to explore implications, compare perspectives more critically, or offer nuanced reasoning.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	5	A mix of simple and some complex structures is used with generally good control. However, the sentence patterns are often repetitive and safe. There is limited evidence of more flexible or embedded constructions that would show higher-level control.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	The vocabulary is appropriate and topic-relevant (e.g. organise, convenient, backed up), but largely predictable. The candidate uses safe phrasing and avoids more precise or idiomatic expressions. A wider range of lexical items and more academic phrasing would improve the score.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The essay is clearly structured with logical paragraphing and coherent flow. Transitions are handled well, though some linking is formulaic ("on the other hand," "to conclude"). Strong overall cohesion.
Total Score	23/32	

Second Sample Answer

Note-taking is a key academic skill, and students today often choose between digital and handwritten methods. While some argue that digital notes are more practical due to ease of organisation and accessibility, others believe handwritten notes enhance understanding and memory retention. Both perspectives have valid points.

Supporters of digital note-taking highlight its efficiency. Notes can be typed quickly, edited effortlessly, and stored in an organised way using folders or cloud systems. Search functions allow users to locate information instantly, and syncing across devices makes studying more flexible. For students handling multiple subjects or managing tight schedules, this method can be highly convenient.

In contrast, handwritten notes are often linked with stronger cognitive benefits. Writing by hand is slower, but this can be an advantage. It encourages students to process and summarise information rather than simply copying it. This deeper engagement can improve comprehension and recall. Moreover, handwriting reduces the temptation to multitask during lectures, which can help with focus.

Personally, I prefer a blended approach. For fast-paced lectures or when I need to capture large amounts of information, I use digital tools. However, for subjects that require deeper thinking, such as essay planning or exam revision, I rely on handwritten notes. This combination allows me to benefit from both efficiency and improved memory.

Overall, the best method depends on individual learning styles and goals. Understanding the strengths of each can help students choose the most effective approach for their academic success.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate clearly and thoroughly addresses the task, presenting both perspectives with a well-developed argument. The response is clearly structured, informative, and the opinion is integrated naturally and convincingly. While the ideas are well supported, slightly more critical evaluation or original insight would be required for a top score.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	The grammar is accurate and confidently used throughout, with a mix of complex and simple structures (e.g. relative clauses, conditionals, concessive clauses). There is evidence of control and flexibility, with no errors that impede meaning. A wider variety of sentence structures would be needed for the highest score.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	The candidate demonstrates a strong range of topic-appropriate vocabulary (e.g. "multitask," "comprehension," "cognitive benefits," "deeper engagement"). Word choice is precise and used naturally. There is some use of less common items, though not yet at the level of highly sophisticated or idiomatic vocabulary.
Organisation and Coherence	8	The text is very well structured, with logical paragraphing and a smooth progression of ideas. Cohesive devices are used flexibly and naturally (e.g. "in contrast," "moreover," "personally," "overall"), and the conclusion effectively summarises the argument. Punctuation is consistently accurate. This is a well-organised and coherent academic response.
Total Score	29/32	

Item 2

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Many people believe attending lectures in person is more effective than studying online. Others argue that online learning is more flexible and equally useful. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

First Sample Answer

Some students prefer going to lectures at university, while others like studying online. Both ways have good points, and people choose what works best for them.

Attending lectures in person can help students focus more. In the classroom, there is a teacher who can explain the topic clearly. Students can ask questions and talk with other students. It is also easier to follow the lesson because there are no distractions like at home. Many students feel more motivated when they go to class.

On the other hand, online learning is more flexible. Students can study when they want, which is good for people who have jobs or families. They can also watch videos again if they don't understand something the first time. Online lessons are helpful for students who live far from the university or have health problems. It can also save time and money.

In my opinion, both methods are useful, but I prefer in-person classes. I feel more focused when I'm in a classroom, and I learn better when I can ask questions directly. I also like meeting other students and learning together.

To sum up, some people learn better in lectures, and others like online study. Both can be good ways to learn, depending on the person and the situation. The best choice depends on the student's needs and learning style.

Examiner's Comments (B1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	4	The response clearly presents both views and gives a relevant opinion. The line of argument is mostly clear and appropriate for B1 level. However, ideas are explained in simple terms and only partially developed. There is little expansion or evaluation. Overall, it generally satisfies the demands of the task.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	4	The grammar is mostly accurate with control over simple forms. There is some success with more complex structures (e.g. "if they don't understand...", "when I need to..."), though variety is limited. Errors are minor and do not impede understanding.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	4	The vocabulary is sufficient and relevant ("distractions," "flexible," "health problems"), but usage is often basic and lacks precision. Some repetition is present. There is attempted range, but not at a level that meets B2 descriptors.
Organisation and Coherence	4	The text is organised and coherent using basic cohesive devices that are generally effective. Paragraphing is appropriate. However, the linking is repetitive and often follows a predictable pattern. While accurate, cohesion lacks flexibility or sophistication.
Total Score	16/32	

Second Sample Answer

As universities adapt to evolving educational needs, the debate over the effectiveness of traditional in-person lectures versus online learning continues to grow. While face-to-face teaching is often seen as more engaging and structured, online learning is praised for its flexibility and accessibility. Both approaches offer distinct benefits.

Attending lectures in person fosters direct interaction with instructors and peers. Students benefit from spontaneous discussion, immediate clarification of doubts, and a shared academic atmosphere that can boost motivation. The physical environment of a classroom helps minimise distractions, encourages accountability, and can improve focus for many learners.

In contrast, online learning offers significant advantages in terms of accessibility. Students can learn at their own pace, revisit recorded materials, and fit study time around work or family commitments. This mode is especially beneficial for those in remote areas or with health limitations. Furthermore, online platforms often include interactive elements—such as quizzes, forums, and digital collaboration tools—that can enhance learning when used effectively.

In my view, neither method is universally superior. The choice depends largely on the learner's personal preferences, lifestyle, and the nature of the course. Personally, I value the depth of discussion in physical classrooms but appreciate the convenience of online platforms for revision and asynchronous learning. A blended approach may be the most effective solution in modern education.

In conclusion, both in-person and online learning environments have strengths. The most effective learning happens when students choose the method, or combination, that best supports their academic goals.

Examiner's Comments (C2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	8	The task is fully and appropriately addressed. Both views are clearly and analytically discussed, with a well-integrated and well-supported opinion. The response is comprehensive and highly relevant. The target reader is wholly informed, and the style is academic and appropriate.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide and sophisticated range of complex grammatical structures is used with full control. The candidate demonstrates assured use of subordination, passives, and abstract structures. There are no noticeable errors.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	8	Vocabulary is precise, advanced, and flexible. There is clear evidence of academic register and topic-specific language ("spontaneous discussion," "cognitive engagement," "accountability," "asynchronous learning"). Control is consistent and fluent.
Organisation and Coherence	7	The text is structured and flows logically throughout. Paragraphing is skilful and cohesive devices are used flexibly and accurately. Transitions are smooth and elegant.
Total Score	30/32	

Item 3

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some believe that reading printed books helps students concentrate better. Others feel that digital books are more convenient and environmentally friendly. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> First Sample Answer

Many students now use digital books for studying, but printed books are still popular. Some people think printed books help students focus more, while others believe digital books are easier to use and better for the environment.

One reason people prefer printed books is that they don't involve screens, which can be distracting. When reading on paper, students don't receive notifications or feel the need to multitask. Also, some students remember information better when they read and highlight it in a physical book. Printed books can help with concentration during long or difficult reading tasks.

On the other hand, digital books are very convenient. Students can carry many books on a single device, which is useful when travelling or studying in different places. Features like search tools, adjustable font sizes, and built-in dictionaries make studying easier and faster. In addition, digital books don't require paper, which makes them a more environmentally friendly option.

In my opinion, both types of books are useful, depending on the situation. I prefer printed books when I need to focus or study something in detail. However, I often use digital books when I want to quickly review something or read while commuting.

To conclude, both printed and digital books have advantages. Students should choose the format that helps them learn best. A combination of both may be the most effective approach.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The candidate presents both views clearly and offers a personal opinion. The argument is relevant and generally well developed, though the discussion remains somewhat general. More specific examples or deeper reasoning would improve the strength of the argument.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	6	A mix of simple and some complex structures is used effectively (e.g. conditionals, relative clauses). Grammar is generally accurate, with few errors, though sentence structures are often predictable and lack variety.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	Vocabulary is appropriate and relevant to the topic (e.g. concentrate, multitask, notifications, environmentally friendly). However, the range is limited, and some expressions are repetitive or safe. More precise or academic phrasing would push the score higher.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The response is well structured with a logical flow of ideas. Paragraphing is clear, and cohesive devices are used appropriately (e.g. "on the other hand," "in my opinion," "to conclude"). Transitions are smooth, though not particularly varied.
Total Score	24/32	

Second Sample Answer

The choice between printed and digital books has become increasingly important in academic settings. While some argue that printed books allow students to concentrate more effectively, others believe digital books are more convenient and environmentally responsible. Each perspective offers clear benefits.

Advocates of printed books often emphasise their positive effect on concentration. Reading from paper reduces exposure to screen-related distractions such as notifications and multitasking. In addition, many students find that physically turning pages and annotating texts helps them process and remember information more effectively. This can be particularly beneficial when studying demanding or theoretical subjects.

In contrast, digital books are valued for their practicality. A single device can store hundreds of texts, making it easier for students to access materials wherever they are. Digital formats also include useful features such as search tools, adjustable text size, and built-in dictionaries. From an environmental perspective, digital books reduce paper use and printing, which may lower the overall impact on natural resources.

Personally, I believe that both formats have a role in academic study. Digital books are ideal for convenience and quick reference, especially when travelling or revising. However, for focused reading and detailed analysis, printed books remain more effective. A balanced approach allows students to benefit from the strengths of each format.

In conclusion, the choice between printed and digital books depends on individual learning preferences and study goals. A flexible approach, using both formats as needed, may offer the most effective learning experience.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The response fully addresses the task, presenting both perspectives in a balanced and well-developed way. The opinion is clearly stated and supported. Ideas are relevant and appropriately expanded. To achieve the top score, slightly more critical evaluation or originality of insight would be required.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide range of complex grammatical structures is used accurately and confidently. Sentence forms are varied and well controlled. There are no noticeable errors that affect meaning. Greater structural sophistication would be needed for the highest mark.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	Vocabulary is varied, precise, and appropriate to an academic context (e.g. “annotating,” “screen-related distractions,” “theoretical subjects”). Lexical choice is accurate and natural. The range is strong but not fully sophisticated or idiomatic.
Organisation and Coherence	8	The response is very well organised, with clear paragraphing and a smooth logical progression of ideas. Cohesive devices are used flexibly and accurately. The conclusion effectively synthesises the argument. Punctuation is consistently accurate.
Total Score	29/32	

Item 4

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some students prefer to study alone because it allows them to focus better. Others think group study helps them understand ideas by discussing them with others. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> **First Sample Answer**

Some students like to study alone because they can concentrate better. Others think group study is more helpful because they can talk about the subject and learn with others. Both ideas have advantages.

Studying alone can be good because there are no distractions. Students can choose their own time and go at their own speed. They can also take breaks when they want. For difficult subjects like maths, it can be easier to understand when it's quiet. Some people focus better when they are alone.

However, studying in a group can also help. If someone doesn't understand something, another student can explain it in a different way. Group study is good for asking questions and sharing notes or ideas. It can also make studying more interesting and less stressful.

In my opinion, it depends on the subject and the person. For example, I like studying alone when I have to learn something new. But for group projects or reviewing for a test, I prefer studying with classmates. Both ways are useful in different situations.

To sum up, students should choose the method that works best for them. Some people learn better alone, and others do better in a group. The important thing is to find the way that helps you focus and understand the topic.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	5	The task is understood and both views are presented. The candidate gives a personal opinion and covers the topic clearly. However, ideas are explained in a simple way with little development. Examples are basic, and argumentation is limited.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	5	The candidate uses mostly simple structures (present simple, modals, basic conditionals). Grammar is generally accurate, but there's little variety and few complex forms. Sentences are short and often follow the same pattern.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	5	Vocabulary is appropriate but limited. There is repetition ("study," "better," "understand"), and phrasing is basic. The candidate avoids more specific or academic terms. Meaning is generally clear despite some limitations.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The text is logically organised and easy to follow. Paragraphing is correct and basic linkers like "however," "for example," "to sum up" are used effectively. Transitions are clear but repetitive.
Total Score	21/32	

Second Sample Answer

When it comes to studying, students have different preferences. Some feel that working alone allows for greater focus and efficiency, while others believe that studying in groups helps deepen understanding through discussion. Each approach has its strengths.

Those who choose to study alone often appreciate the ability to control their environment and study pace. They can avoid distractions, set personal goals, and focus on specific areas of difficulty. Independent study also encourages self-discipline and critical thinking, both of which are essential for academic success.

In contrast, group study offers social and intellectual benefits. Engaging in discussions with peers can lead to new perspectives and a clearer understanding of complex ideas. Additionally, explaining a topic to someone else is a great way to reinforce one's own knowledge. Group study can also provide motivation and reduce the stress that often comes with preparing for exams alone.

Personally, I find that a combination of both methods works best. I like to start by studying on my own to understand the material, then meet with a group to exchange ideas and review. This way, I benefit from focused concentration as well as collaborative learning.

In conclusion, there is no single best way to study. Whether alone or in a group, students should choose the method that suits their learning style and the subject matter. A flexible approach often leads to the best results.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The response addresses the task fully, presenting both sides of the issue clearly and developing ideas with thoughtful support. The opinion is well integrated, and the candidate maintains a clear position throughout. The reader is well informed, and the writing is relevant and well developed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A good range of structures is used confidently and with control, including complex sentence forms (“while others believe...,” “which are essential...”). There are no errors, and the grammar supports the clarity and fluency of the argument.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	The vocabulary is varied and precise, including topic-specific terms such as “critical thinking,” “collaborative learning,” “complex ideas,” “study pace.” Language is consistently appropriate, though not fully at the level of sophisticated or idiomatic usage.
Organisation and Coherence	8	The essay is excellently structured, with seamless transitions and strong paragraphing. Cohesive devices are used flexibly and naturally. Ideas are logically connected, and the conclusion effectively summarises the position without repetition.
Total Score	29/32	

Item 5

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some believe that taking frequent short breaks helps students study more effectively. Others think long periods of uninterrupted study lead to better results. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> First Sample Answer

Some students prefer to take short breaks while studying, while others think it's better to study for a long time without stopping. Both of these ideas have advantages, depending on the person and the subject.

Taking frequent breaks can help students feel less tired. When someone studies for a long time, they may lose focus and stop learning effectively. Short breaks, like five or ten minutes, give the brain time to rest. After a break, students can return to their work with more energy. Also, moving around or getting a snack can reduce stress and help students feel more relaxed.

On the other hand, uninterrupted study time is useful for subjects that require deep concentration. When students are focused, stopping may make it harder to continue. Some people find that they learn better when they are "in the zone," and a break can interrupt their flow. This method is often helpful for writing essays or solving difficult problems.

In my opinion, both methods can be effective, depending on the situation. I like to take breaks when reviewing notes or reading, but I try to study for longer when I'm working on a big project or writing something important. It's important to listen to your body and find out what works best for you.

To sum up, there is no single best way to study. Students should try different techniques and choose the one that helps them concentrate and learn more successfully.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The response clearly addresses the task by presenting both views and a personal opinion. The argument is relevant and appropriately structured. However, the discussion remains mostly general and would benefit from more detailed support or further development of ideas to fully meet the demands of the task at a higher level.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	5	Grammar is mostly accurate and includes a mix of simple and basic complex forms. However, sentence structures are repetitive and predictable. There is little evidence of flexibility or control over more advanced constructions.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	5	Vocabulary is topic-appropriate and mostly accurate, but limited in range. The writing is clear, but lexical choices are basic and frequently repeated. More precise or academic phrasing is needed to reach a higher level.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The response is clearly organised with logical paragraphing and good cohesion. Linking devices are accurate but basic. The text flows well, but lacks the subtlety or variety seen at higher levels.
Total Score	22/32	

Second Sample Answer

When it comes to study techniques, opinions differ on whether short, frequent breaks or long periods of uninterrupted focus lead to better academic performance. Each method has advantages, depending on the nature of the task and the individual's learning style.

Supporters of short breaks argue that the brain can only concentrate for a limited amount of time. After around 30 to 45 minutes, mental energy begins to decrease. Taking brief breaks can help students recharge, avoid burnout, and return to their work with greater focus. This method is also said to improve memory and reduce stress during long study sessions.

On the other hand, some believe that continuous study without interruption allows students to stay fully involved in the task. Once they are fully focused, stopping can break their concentration and slow down progress. In subjects that require problem-solving or deep analysis, uninterrupted time may be necessary to maintain complex thought processes.

In my view, a balanced approach is the best. For general reading or reviewing notes, I prefer to take regular breaks. However, when working on a writing task or solving complex problems, I often lose focus if I stop too soon. Therefore, I try to match my study method to the activity.

In conclusion, there is no one-size-fits-all strategy. The key is for students to experiment with different techniques and find a rhythm that supports both their concentration and well-being.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate presents a well-developed and balanced discussion of both views and provides a clearly stated personal opinion. Arguments are relevant and appropriate, but the evaluation remains somewhat general. A more critical or nuanced exploration of why certain techniques work (e.g. referencing types of learners or tasks in more depth) would have raised this to a top score.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide range of structures is used with good control. Complex sentences (e.g. concessives, conditionals, passive forms) are handled confidently. However, the grammatical range is somewhat standard, and the syntax remains mostly safe and expected. More flexibility and variety in clause structure would elevate it to C2.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	Vocabulary is appropriate, accurate, and topic-relevant ("burnout," "recharge," "concentration"). However, lexical choices are functional rather than stylistically refined. There is limited use of advanced collocation or figurative phrasing, which restricts the overall impact.
Organisation and Coherence	7	The structure is clear and effective. Paragraph devices ("on the other hand," "therefore," "in conclusion") are used well. The text flows naturally. Some variation in linking devices could provide a more polished, academic tone.
Total Score	27/32	

Item 6

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some people think students should specialise in one subject early in their studies. Others believe it is better to explore a range of subjects first. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> First Sample Answer

Some people say it is better for students to focus on one subject early. Others think students should learn many subjects before they decide. I think both ideas have good points.

Specialising early can help students who already know what they want to do. For example, if someone wants to be a doctor or an engineer, they can spend more time on the subject they need. This can help them become an expert and find a job more easily in the future.

On the other hand, not all students know what they want to study. If they try different subjects first, they can discover what they enjoy. They can also learn many skills like writing, thinking, and solving problems. These skills are useful in all kinds of jobs.

In my opinion, it is better to study a few different subjects at first. Students are still young and need more time to decide. A broad education can help them learn more about the world and choose the best subject for them later.

To conclude, some students prefer to choose one subject early, while others want to try different ones. I believe both ways can work, but students should not feel rushed to decide too soon.

Examiner's Comments (B1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	5	The response covers both views and includes a personal opinion. Ideas are clearly expressed, but development is basic. Explanations are limited to surface-level reasoning and examples.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	5	The candidate uses simple sentence forms accurately. There is some attempt at complex structures (e.g. "if someone wants to..."), but most sentences follow a basic pattern. Control is good, but range is limited.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	5	Vocabulary is generally appropriate ("expert," "decide," "skills"), but repetitive and simple. The candidate avoids more precise academic language. Phrasing is mostly clear but lacks variation.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The structure is logical, with clear paragraphing and effective yet simple cohesive devices ("on the other hand," "for example," "to conclude"). The writing flows, but transitions are quite basic.
Total Score	21/32	

Second Sample Answer

There is ongoing debate about whether students should specialise early or explore multiple subjects before choosing a specific academic path. Each approach offers distinct benefits depending on the student's goals and circumstances.

Supporters of early specialisation argue that it provides students with a head start in their chosen field. By focusing on one area, they can build advanced knowledge and experience, which may improve their academic and career prospects. This is particularly relevant in professions such as medicine, law, or engineering, where deep subject expertise is essential.

In contrast, those who favour a broader academic experience believe that students benefit from being exposed to different subjects. Exploring various disciplines can help them discover interests and talents they may not have considered before. It also fosters critical thinking and interdisciplinary skills, which are increasingly valuable in today's complex world.

Personally, I believe students should have the opportunity to explore a wide range of subjects before committing to a specific field. At an early stage, many students are still developing their interests and may change their minds about what they want to pursue. A broad foundation not only gives them flexibility but also prepares them to deal with a range of academic and real-world challenges.

In conclusion, while early specialisation may suit certain career paths, a diverse academic experience supports personal growth and informed decision-making.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate presents a balanced and well-developed discussion with a clearly stated personal opinion. The arguments are relevant and show some depth. To achieve a top mark, more critical engagement or nuance would be needed.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide range of structures is used with control and flexibility (e.g. "may improve their prospects," "helps them discover interests"). Errors are rare. More syntactic sophistication would push the score to 8.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	Lexical choices are appropriate, varied, and academic in tone (e.g. "academic path," "interdisciplinary skills," "informed decision-making"). The vocabulary is controlled and precise but not idiomatic or striking enough for full marks.
Organisation and Coherence	8	The response is logically and effectively organised, with a clear progression of ideas. Paragraphing is excellent and cohesion is managed with flexibility and accuracy. The conclusion is strong and neatly synthesises the discussion.
Total Score	29/32	

Item 7

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some people believe that part-time work helps students develop useful skills and become more responsible. Others say it distracts them from their academic goals. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> First Sample Answer

Many students take part-time jobs while studying. Some people say this helps them gain skills and learn responsibility. Others think working takes time away from studying and affects academic performance. Both opinions are important.

Having a part-time job can teach students time management and communication skills. They also learn to be independent and responsible. For example, working in a shop or restaurant helps students deal with customers and solve problems. These experiences can be useful in their future careers.

However, part-time jobs can also be stressful. If students work too many hours, they may feel tired and have less time for homework or revision. This can lead to lower grades. Some students also find it difficult to balance work and study, especially during exam periods.

In my opinion, part-time work is beneficial if it is well managed. I think students should be careful not to work too many hours and should always put their studies first. A small job, like working on weekends, can help them earn money and gain experience without hurting their education.

To conclude, part-time jobs can be useful, but students need to find the right balance to succeed in both work and study.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The response clearly addresses both sides of the topic and includes a well-expressed opinion. Ideas are relevant and examples are used to support arguments. The candidate meets the requirements of the task. Slightly more depth or variety of reasoning would strengthen the response further.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	5	There is accurate and appropriate use of simple and some complex sentence forms (e.g. conditionals, relative clauses). However, structures are often basic and repetitive. There's limited experimentation with more advanced forms or varied sentence types.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	The vocabulary is appropriate and varied (e.g. "time management," "earn money," "balance work and study"). Some collocations are used well, but the range is limited, and phrasing is safe. Vocabulary could be expanded with more academic or topic-specific language.
Organisation and Coherence	7	The structure is logical and clear. Paragraphing is effective and cohesive devices (e.g. "however," "for example," "to conclude") are used appropriately. The response flows well but some transitions are a little mechanical. Strong conclusion of the argument.
Total Score	24/32	

Second Sample Answer

The value of part-time work for students is widely debated. While some argue that it builds essential life skills and promotes responsibility, others believe it can interfere with academic progress. Both perspectives have valid points.

Supporters of part-time work highlight the practical benefits it offers. Students learn to manage their time, communicate effectively, and take responsibility for tasks. These skills are transferable and can support future employment. Earning money also allows students to become more financially independent and may reduce the pressure on their families.

However, critics argue that part-time jobs can negatively impact academic performance. Long working hours may leave students exhausted, reducing their ability to concentrate on studies. Deadlines may be missed, and exam preparation can suffer, especially if students prioritise work over coursework.

Personally, I believe that part-time work can be valuable, but only if carefully balanced. Students should limit their working hours and choose flexible jobs that do not interfere with their studies. When managed wisely, work can enhance personal growth without compromising academic goals.

In summary, part-time work has both advantages and risks. The key is for students to manage their time effectively and remain focused on their education.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	7	The candidate provides a well-balanced and well-developed response. Both views are explained in detail, with a strong personal opinion. The argument is thoughtful and clearly linked to the task. Slightly more critical reflection or nuance could push the response to the top level.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide range of sentence structures is used confidently and accurately. Grammar is flexible and supports clear, fluent communication. Complex forms are handled well (e.g. concessive and conditional structures).
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	The vocabulary is varied and appropriate throughout, including academic and topic-specific items such as “transferable,” “financially independent,” “prioritise,” and “enhance personal growth.” While precise, the response lacks the level of sophistication needed for a full 8.
Organisation and Coherence	8	The response is excellently structured, with clear paragraphing and strong cohesion. Ideas develop logically, and cohesive devices are used flexibly and naturally. The summary provides an effective close to a well-organised piece.
Total Score	29/32	

Item 8

Read the following statement and write about the topic.

Some believe that university students should take part in voluntary work as part of their education. Others feel that academic learning should remain the main focus. Discuss both of these views and give your own opinion.

Write about 250 words.

> **First Sample Answer**

Some people think that volunteering should be part of a university student's education, while others say academic learning is more important. Both opinions have their reasons.

On the one hand, volunteering gives students the chance to gain real-life experience outside the classroom. They can learn how to work with different people, manage time, and deal with problems. These are all important skills for future jobs. Also, helping others can make students feel more connected to their community and improve their confidence.

On the other hand, university is already a big commitment. Students often have lots of assignments, exams, and part-time jobs. Adding voluntary work might create more stress and take away time from studying. Some subjects, like medicine or engineering, are very demanding, and students may not have the energy or time to do anything else.

In my opinion, voluntary work is very valuable, but it shouldn't be forced. It's great if students choose to get involved, especially if the experience connects to their future career. For example, someone studying education could volunteer at a school. But making it a requirement might not work for everyone.

To sum up, volunteering can teach students useful skills and give them a chance to grow personally, but academic learning should stay the main focus at university. If students have the time and interest, they should be encouraged—not required—to take part in voluntary work.

Examiner's Comments (B2)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	6	The task is clearly understood and addressed. Both views are explained and the opinion is developed with relevant support. A good balance is maintained. While the response is well-structured, some points could be further elaborated or developed more critically.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	5	A mix of simple and some complex structures is used (e.g. "while others say...", "if students have the time..."). Errors are minimal and do not affect meaning, but variety and control are slightly limited. More ambitious grammatical range would lift the score.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	6	The vocabulary is appropriate, with some variety ("real-life experience," "confidence," "requirement"). There is an attempt to avoid repetition, and phrasing is mostly natural. Some collocations are safe or predictable, but accurate.
Organisation and Coherence	6	The essay is well organised and paragraphs are clearly structured. Cohesive devices such as "on the one hand," "to sum up," "in my opinion" are used effectively and appropriately. The tone is consistent and clear.
Total Score	23/32	

Second Sample Answer

The question of whether university students should participate in voluntary work as part of their education is a complex one. While some view it as an opportunity for personal and professional development, others argue that the primary aim of university is academic growth, and that should remain the central focus.

Supporters of volunteering point out that it offers practical experience that can't always be gained in the classroom. It helps students develop soft skills like communication, teamwork, and empathy—all of which are valuable in any career. Beyond that, contributing to the community can help students grow as individuals and gain a broader perspective on the world around them.

On the other hand, university life is already demanding. Between lectures, coursework, exams, and sometimes part-time jobs, many students are stretched thin. Forcing them to take on extra responsibilities, however noble, could be counterproductive. Not all students will benefit equally from volunteering, especially if it becomes a box-ticking exercise rather than a meaningful choice.

In my view, voluntary work can be an excellent complement to academic learning, but only if students choose it freely. Some may gain just as much from a well-run internship or a research project. Universities should encourage civic engagement, but not at the cost of academic depth or student wellbeing.

Ultimately, volunteering should be an option, not an obligation. When students are given space to choose how they engage with the world, they're more likely to do so with genuine interest. And that's where the real value lies.

Examiner's Comments (C1)

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
Task Fulfilment	8	The candidate fully and insightfully addresses the task, presenting both views with balance and depth. The personal opinion is well integrated and thoughtful. The argument is well-developed and highly relevant throughout.
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	7	A wide range of complex grammatical forms is used with sophistication and precision. Control is complete and assured, with elegant use of clauses, modals, and passive forms. The grammar supports clarity and nuance throughout.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	7	The vocabulary is advanced and appropriate ("box-ticking exercise," "civic engagement," "soft skills," "complement to academic learning"), but not quite idiomatic or striking enough to push it to 8. Slightly more idiomatic flair or register-sensitive variation would raise the mark.
Organisation and Coherence	7	The text is expertly structured with logical flow and natural paragraphing. Cohesive devices are used subtly and flexibly. The conclusion provides a nuanced and satisfying end to the discussion. Tone and register are fully appropriate throughout.
Total Score	29/32	

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languagecert.org | info@languagecert.org

