

IELTS writing

The IELTS writing test is 60 minutes long and is divided into two parts. Doctors will be asked to write two texts.

IELTS Writing Task 1

In the first part, doctors will be given a task based on some information, presented in graphic and diagrammatic form. Doctors are expected to write a descriptive report of at least 150 words on the information provided.

IELTS Writing Task 2

In the second task, Doctors are assessed on their ability to produce a clear and logical argument on a given topic. Most of the topics are of general interest to and easily understood by students at undergraduate or postgraduate level. Doctors will have to write at least 250 words. Because task 2 is longer than task 1, it is suggested that about 40 minutes is spent on this task and 20 minutes on the first task.

Marking

Your writing will be assessed on:

Task Achievement (in task 1): This assesses how accurately, relevantly and appropriately your answers meets the requirements of this task.

Task Response (in task 2): This assesses your ability to formulate and develop a position in response to the prompts given in the task.

Coherence: This assesses whether your writing makes logical sense and whether the different parts of your writing are connected to each other correctly.

Lexical Resource: This assesses your ability to use different vocabulary appropriately.

Grammatical Range and Accuracy: This assesses your ability to use different grammatical structures appropriately and accurately.

The overall result is translated into a score on the **IELTS nine-band score**.



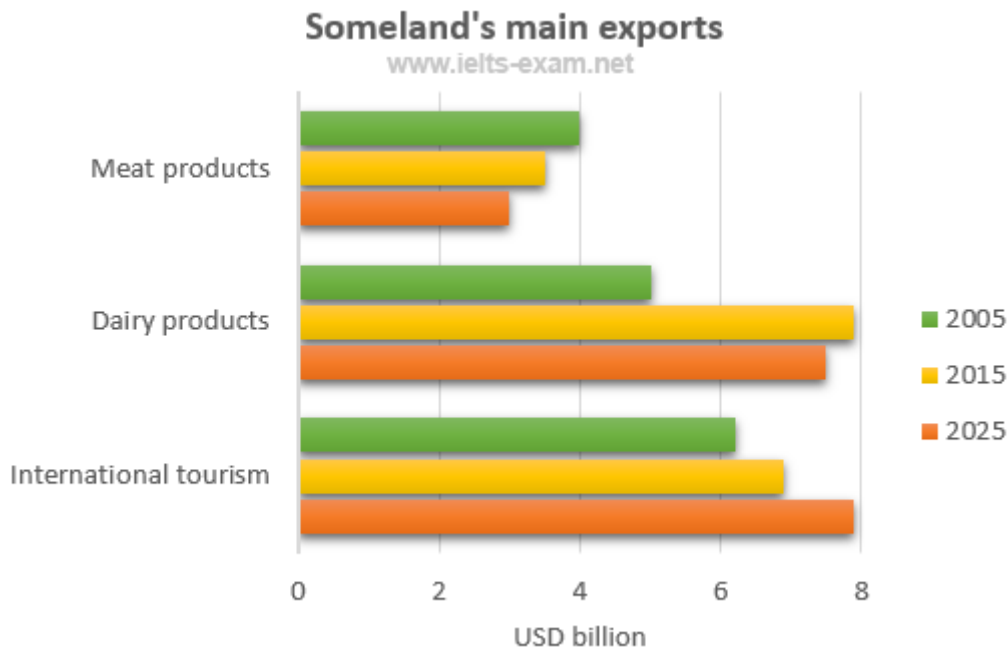
Task 1

This will have a number of different parts including Bar Charts, Line graphs, Tables, Pie Charts. I have put an example below for you. You are expected to write a descriptive report of at least 150 words on the information provided.

Test Tip

When writing a Task 1 answer, it is important to describe numbers and data in different ways to avoid repetition. You will be given credit for doing this, as it will show you have a wider range of vocabulary. You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The chart below gives information about Someland's main exports in 2005, 2015, and future projections for 2025. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.



Model answer

This bar chart illustrates the performance of Someland's primary exports in 2005 and 2015. It also indicates future projections for 2025. According to the data, it seems likely that international tourism will become the dominant industry, although dairy exports will remain strong. In 2005, we can see that tourism was the greatest exports earner of the three industries, with revenue standing at just over \$6 billion.

This figure has increased slightly, so that now, in 2015, it has reached almost \$7 billion. It is estimated that international tourism will continue to grow, so that by 2025, it will be earning around \$8 billion for the country. In 2000, dairy exports were worth around \$5 billion, but since then there has been a dramatic increase, and sales for this year are approximately \$8 billion. Experts are predicting that exports in this area may fall slightly, so a figure of \$7.5 billion is expected for 2025. Meat products are the third key industry in Someland, but sales have dropped since 2000 and now stand at \$3.5 billion. It is expected that sales will continue to decrease in the future.

(187 words)

IELTS Writing Task 2

IELTS Sample essays (IELTS Writing Task 2)

The Writing Task 2 of the IELTS test requires you to write at least 250 words. You will be presented with a topic and will be tested on your ability to respond by giving and justifying an opinion, discussing the topic, summarizing details, outlining problems, identifying possible solutions and supporting what you write with reasons, arguments and relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

The assessment of Task 2 carries more weight in marking than Task 1. Writing scripts are marked by trained and certificated IELTS examiners, who all hold relevant teaching qualifications and are recruited as examiners by the test centres and approved by British Council or IDP: IELTS Australia.

What can I do to improve my performance at the Writing test?

- Make sure you answer everything that is asked in the question. Ensure that you have written the number of words required. Remember you do not lose marks for writing more but you do lose for writing fewer words than required.
- This is not a test of your knowledge. You can state your opinions, provided you are able to give evidence to support them.
- Don't go off topic. Underline key words in the questions to help you know exactly what is required in the answers.
- Support the points you make with examples (from your own experiences if possible) or data.
- Write neatly and clearly and check for mistakes before you submit your answers.
- Write in complete sentences. Do not use bullet points and do not use short forms of words.
- Do not repeat the same ideas just to reach the word count needed.
- Task 2 - Make sure you present a balanced point of view giving both the pros and cons of the statement you are asked to discuss.
- Spend more time on Task 2 – you have to write at least 250 words for this. Plan your answer, giving an introduction, conclusion and writing each new idea in a new paragraph. You may want to do a brief rough draft before you begin your answer.
- Do not use memorised answers. They probably won't be relevant to the question asked and examiners can recognise them easily.
- Do not begin by copying the questions – especially in Task1 where you may have the description of data or bullet points for your letter. This is a waste of time as these parts are not included in your word count.
- Make sure the tone you adopt is consistent and relevant to the task.
- Use linking words to ensure that your ideas flow smoothly.

Avoid common mistakes:

This is something that most doctors can fail on, please take note of everything stated below as it will help you.

- Spelling (English is often not written the same way it is spoken)
- Punctuation (e.g. basic errors with using capital letters and full stops)
- Not using enough paragraphs and not clearly dividing them.