

Task 1: Map

Subject: The maps below show a town centre in 1990 and the same town centre today. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Town Centre - 1990



Town Centre - Now



Answer #1

Response:

The maps illustrate the development of the town center from 1990 to the present day. Overall, the town center has undergone significant changes, with a notable increase in pedestrian areas, the conversion of houses into apartment blocks to accommodate a growing population, and the replacement of small local shops with a large shopping mall.

In 1990, the northern side of the town center was home to several small retail shops, including newsagents, grocers, bakers, butchers, cafes, and a childcare center. Across Smith Street, there was a park, a library, and a town hall. Smith Street itself was open to vehicular traffic, with no dedicated pedestrian zones. Similarly, Oldfield Street and Green Street also lacked pedestrian paths.

Today, many of the small retail shops have been replaced by a large shopping mall, which now dominates the northern part of the town center. Vehicular access to Smith Street has been restricted, and two zebra zones have been introduced on Oldfield Street and Green Street to improve walkability. Furthermore, the houses that once occupied the southern side of the town center have been replaced by apartment blocks to accommodate the rising population. Meanwhile, the park, library, and town hall have remained largely unchanged.

In conclusion, the town center has evolved significantly over the past three decades, with an emphasis on modernizing the area to accommodate both commercial and residential growth. The increase in pedestrian spaces and the shift towards apartment living reflect the town's response to changing social and economic needs.

Scores:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response: 9 - Excellent response to the task. All key features are accurately described and compared.

Coherence & Cohesion: 9 - The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The flow of information is natural and logical.

Lexical Resource: 8.5 - A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately. The language is precise and effective.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy: 9 - The grammar is flawless. A wide range of grammatical structures is used with complete accuracy and fluency.

Answer #2

Response:

The layouts illustrate the differences between the town center in 1990 and today. Overall, it seems that only a few things have changed over this period. The buildings and areas that remain the same include the banks, the childcare center, the library, the town hall, and finally, the park.

Although it may appear that there are more cars on the roads nowadays, the maps of this town indicate that there are actually fewer cars in the town center today than there were in 1990. For instance, Smith Street is now a pedestrian-only street where cars are not allowed. Additionally, zebra crossings have been added on Green Street and Oldfield Street.

Another significant change in the area is that while houses were more common in 1990, in 2024, apartment blocks have taken their place. Moreover, many businesses that used to exist in the northwestern part of the town have been replaced by a massive shopping mall over the years. In conclusion, although the town center may seem similar to how it was 30 years ago, it has experienced several changes that can be attributed to the increase in population.

Scores:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response: 9 - Excellent overview of the changes shown in the maps. All key features are accurately described and compared.

Coherence & Cohesion: 9 - The report flows smoothly and logically. Paragraphing is effective, and the comparisons are well-integrated.

Lexical Resource: 9 - A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used precisely and appropriately. The language is natural and fluent.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy: 9 - The grammar is accurate and varied throughout. Sentence structures are complex and used effectively.