

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of working from home.

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

Write at least 250 words.

MODEL ANSWER

- 1 Over the last two or three decades, the way that business is done has changed
- 2 dramatically due to major advances in technology. As a result, a growing number of
- 3 people are now choosing to work from the comfort of their own home. However is this
- 4 development positive, or are there more drawbacks than advantages? In this essay, I
- 5 will explore the pros and cons of working from home and try to draw some conclusions.

- 6 I will start by looking at the advantages. One of the major plus points of working
- 7 remotely is the fact that you do not have to commute to work. Millions of people
- 8 worldwide have to deal with rush-hour traffic to make their way to the office.
- 9 Obviously, this is not necessary if you turn your home into your place of work.

- 10 Secondly, working at home gives you much more freedom to manage your working day.
- 11 For example, if you work in an office, you are often asked to attend meetings, and
- 12 your timetable is decided for you. This is not the case when you work in an office at
- 13 home.

- 14 On the other hand, it can be very easy to get distracted if you are in your home
- 15 environment. For instance, it is extremely tempting to turn on the television, go and
- 16 relax in the garden or make a personal phone call. Clearly, these distractions will
- 17 dramatically reduce how much work you produce. Another major disadvantage of

- 18 working from home is that people have much less contact with their colleagues. This can
19 make them feel cut-off, despite the extra freedom they have working from home.
20 What's more, daily contact with people at work is often how good friendships are made.
- 21 To conclude, there are both positives and negatives to this way of working. In spite of
22 the fact that it removes travel issues and gives us greater freedom, many people find it
23 difficult because of distractions at home and feeling isolated. Personally, I believe it is
24 important to keep work and home life separate to find the right work-life balance.

(345 words)