

## WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

***These days, in many countries, fewer and fewer people want to become teachers, particularly in secondary schools.***

***What are the reasons for this, and how could the problem be solved?***

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

Write at least 250 words.

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### MODEL ANSWER

1 A generation ago, teaching in a high school was considered an extremely well-respected  
2 and popular job, and in some countries this is still true. However, in many parts of the  
3 world, there has been a sharp drop in the number of young people who want to become  
4 high-school teachers. This essay will look at the reasons for this and propose some  
5 solutions.

6 One of the main causes of the problem is that teachers' salaries are lower than many  
7 other jobs. Teachers' pay has not kept pace with that of other professions, such as  
8 law or medicine. In Taiwan, for example, a doctor with five years' experience will earn  
9 far more than a teacher with the same experience. The solution is for the government to  
10 raise teachers' pay significantly, which would attract more people into the profession.

11 Another problem is that many children do not behave well in class. That is to say,  
12 teachers often have to deal with pupils who disobey them, which often causes them to  
13 give up teaching. This tends to put off potential teachers as well. To tackle this issue,  
14 parents must give their children a sense of respect for teachers, in order to make  
15 children behave better in class.

16 A third cause of the problem is that teachers often have too much work to do. Most  
17 teachers are snowed under with marking and paperwork, which means that they have to  
18 stay late at school and work at home in the evening. As a result, many teachers are  
19 tired and stressed, and their job has a negative effect on their family life. The way  
20 forward could be to cut teachers' hours, and to take on more teaching assistants,  
21 which would make teaching an easier job.

22 To sum up, teaching has become a much less popular job in many countries, due to  
23 reasons such as the salary, the working hours and pupils' behaviour. This is a serious  
24 problem, and unless we can get more talented young people to become teachers, the  
25 education of our children will suffer. My view is that the main responsibility for solving  
26 the problem lies with parents and the government.

(356 words)