

ROAD TO IELTS

IELTS preparation and practice



Writing

Academic module
Answer sheet 2

ACADEMIC MODULE WRITING TASK 1 – Model Answer

The bar chart shows how many tickets were sold to sports events, theme parks and movies in 2009 and the table reveals ticket prices to various venues in the same year. Going to the cinema was both the most popular and the cheapest form of entertainment in 2009.

Cinemas attracted more people than theme parks and sports combined. Whilst 1,050,000 people attended movies, only a third of that number visited theme parks, and a mere 150,000 went to sports games.

Movie tickets were far cheaper than other forms of entertainment. Attendance at a football game in 2009 cost around \$73, with little reduction for families. Basketball and cricket games cost less, at \$34 and \$24 respectively for a single admission. However, a family ticket to cricket, at \$80, showed considerable savings. Theme parks were only slightly less expensive than football matches at \$70 a single, but there was a significant reduction in the price of a family concession with four people gaining entry for the price of three. Movie tickets at \$15 for one, and \$55 for four, were the cheapest.

Overall, the cinema was the most affordable entertainment option.

190 words

ACADEMIC MODULE WRITING TASK 2 – Model Answer

Across the world there are many countries where people with advanced degrees are struggling to find employment. I think this is because full-time employment is no longer the cornerstone of modern economies. Universities need to re-structure study options in order to keep abreast of this development.

People often declare that there is no work around anymore. In fact, there is plenty of work. Casual, on-call, contract, part-time and temporary positions have proliferated in recent years. What is much rarer now is permanent employment, meaning positions with a long-term contract, benefits, stability, internal promotion and skills development organised by employers.

The problem is that the university education system was designed for an employment-centred economy. People would dedicate anything from five to seven years to diligent study in order to get a guaranteed career at the end of it. There is no guarantee anymore.

The solution is for university education to accommodate new working arrangements. Study options need to be broken down into shorter “booster” qualifications taken on an as-needed basis with more part-time, evening and distance options. A more realistic scenario now is for workers to balance two separate income streams while studying on the side – perhaps for the length of their working life – rather than studying full-time for six years and then working full-time until retirement.

The post-employment economy is only a problem for people who are not prepared for it. Unfortunately many of these people are highly-qualified graduates who are the product of an antiquated education system. Revamping university study should resolve this issue.

255 words