#### Education

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in Febuary 2015

Some students take a year off between school and university, to work or to travel. Do the

advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

It is true these days that many high school leavers choose to start their work or take a trip before going to university. While a gap year can bring some immediate drawbacks, I am convinced that it is more likely to have long-term benefits for their lives.

On the one hand, young students are very likely to encounter several difficulties when delaying their university study. One of these problems is the delay in academic progress caused by spending one year off school. It is understandably almost impossible for young people to enjoy their experiences in doing a job or travelling to a new place but still arrange a certain amount of time for revision. As a result, gap-year takers may have to face the challenge of becoming familiar with the knowledge at school again, receiving more pressure of catching up with their peers. Besides, the life out of university campus may prove to be mentally and physically overwhelming for inexperienced school leavers. They, for instance, may be at risk of being exploited in an exhausting job or face potential dangers on their trips to a new country. If not well prepared for such possible obstacles, young high school graduates can suffer from unintended consequences.

On the other hand, I would argue that these disadvantages are outweighed by the positive effects. A gap year is an ideal opportunity for students to learn about what is not taught at university. Working with other people who are experts in a particular field can give these newcomers not only understanding of the job but also valuable practical lessons to help them become more mature. When it comes to applying for a position in a company, employers tend to favourably consider applicants who possess extensive experience in life and the occupation. Furthermore, in terms of recreation, having a year to relax can be advantageous as students can have a chance to relieve stress in study. With a comfortable and willing attitude, undergraduates can acquire knowledge more effectively in comparison with those who go to university straightaway.

In conclusion, despite some negative aspects, it seems to me that the benefits of a gap year are more significant for the reasons mentioned.

# **Useful Vocabulary & Expressions:**

- Long-term (adj): continuing for a long time into the future Example: The longterm effect of education should not be neglected.
- To encounter sth (v): to experience something, especially something unpleasant *Example: Young graduates commonly have to encounter great difficulty in seeking employment.*
- **Progress** (n): movement to an improved or more developed state Example: By adequately rewarding the students who have made significant progress in study, the school administration can recognise the achievements of these diligent students to others, encouraging many more students to devote more effort to study to obtain similar rewards.
- Peer (n): a person who is the same age, or has the same social position or the same abilities as other people in a group.

Example: In some developing Asian countries such as Vietnam, baby girls are usually less appreciated than their peers due to the remnants of feudalism that favoured men more than women.

• Overwhelming (adj): too great or large for somebody

Example: High school students in Vietnam, ranging from primary to high school ones, are obliged to learn an overwhelming amount of knowledge at school, not to mention loads of homework and other extra classes.

• Inexperienced (adj): having little knowledge or experience

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20

Example: Many companies, for fear of arising expenses on training inexperienced new employees, tend to refuse the applicants who have just graduated.

• Extensive (adj): having a great range

Example: Society certainly benefits from the intellectual workforce who possess extensive knowledge in scientific areas.

• Occupation (n): a person's job

Example: On the other hand, manual occupations are of fundamental importance to society.

• Advantageous (adj): giving advantages or helping to make you more successful Example: The ability to speak foreign languages fluently can prove to be very advantageous for job seekers in the competitive job market.

Some people think that schools should reward students who show the best academic results, while others believe that it is more important to reward students who show improvements. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Giving encouragement is a necessary practice in every education system. In some countries, a form of awards is often given to those who achieve the highest level of academic attainment, but this is not the most desirable solution, as will now be discussed.

There are those who argue that students with the best academic results should be rewarded. The core of this argument is that this may encourage students to study hard for the best grade, and that those who excel at academic performances should be praised for their efforts. However, only some students who are very smart can be able to come top in formal exams while normal students may think that they are incapable of competing with more intelligent students at all. Therefore, slow students might feel reluctant to bury themselves in study to achieve higher scores.

However, I side with those who believe that schools should reward those who endeavour to study and make great improvements in the educational environment. For example, when I was a child, I often received a small gift from my parents once I scored higher than I did in the previous exam. I still remember that this did make significant contributions to my study and helped me to progress fast in the classroom. Thus, it is suggested that schools take the same action to encourage students to learn. For instance, teachers can simply pay a compliment as the recognition of the efforts that students make during the semester.

In conclusion, it seems to me that schools should reward those who make academic improvements rather than those who score highest in the exam.

# **Useful Vocabulary & Expressions:**

• Attainment: something that you achieved

Example: a young woman of impressive educational attainments.

• To excel at smth: to be very good at doing something Example: She has always excelled in foreign languages.

- $\cdot$  To be incapable of doing smth
- To endeavour: to try very hard to do something

Example: The buyer should always endeavour to negotiate terms.

 $\Box$  To pay a compliment

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in October 2015

In some countries, secondary schools aim to provide a general education across a range of subjects. In others, children focus on a narrow range of subjects related to a particular career. Which of these two systems is more appropriate in today's world?

Secondary school curriculum can be organised in a variety of ways. While several countries adopt the education system which orientates the students in a specific profession, I believe that the teenagers should have access to a comprehensive learning program with a wide range of subjects.

To begin with, a learning program providing knowledge of a major subject is beneficial in some ways. Being exposed to expertise and skills required by a certain specialty at the young age, the students would stand a great chance to not only have a well-defined career path, but also become competent workers in their later life. For example, with students having ambition to work as translators or applied language researchers in the future, it is a course of basic grammar and vocabulary at their secondary school that can realise the dream. In addition, current society of specialization tends to favour employees with a good grounding in a single field over those who have general knowledge but are not experts in a particular area. Therefore, it is absurd to say that such career-driven programs are not appropriate to today's world.

In stark contrast, however, it is better for the teenagers to have access to a curriculum containing basic knowledge of various fields. The final purpose of developing the comprehensive thinking of children should lie at the heart of any secondary school learning program, as they seem to be too young to decide on a specific occupation to follow at that age. An ideal job is one that provides enjoyment for the workers, and it is a well-rounded course that can help children seek for a major they are interested in and nurture the passion for it. To illustrate, secondary schools in the UK aim to teach children different subjects ranging from Math to Arts, and their educational philosophy is to put job orientation in the high school curriculum.

In final words, my opinions are on par with the idea that secondary schoolchildren should be supplied with knowledge in as many fields as possible.

# **Useful Vocabulary & Expressions:**

• Expertise: expert skill or knowledge in a particular field.

Example: Throughout four years learning university, he has deepened his technical expertise and now is receiving offers from numerous big firms.

• **Specialty**: a pursuit, area of study, or skill to which someone has devoted much time and effort and in which they are expert.

Example: His specialty was watercolors.

• **Specialization**: A method of production where a business or area focuses on the production of a limited scope of products or services in order to gain greater degrees of productive efficiency within the entire system of businesses or areas. Example: There is a wide choice of subject specializations at the highest levels of the school.

• Grounding: basic training or instruction in a subject.

Example: every child needs a good grounding in science and technology.

• **Expert**: a person who has a comprehensive and authoritative knowledge of or skill in a particular area.

Example: Most psychologists are experts in creating motivation and soothing negative feelings.

• Appropriate: suitable or proper in the circumstances.

Example: Exporting commodities to boost monetary benefits as well as enhance international reputation is a measure appropriate to the emerging economies.

• Comprehensive: complete; including all or nearly all elements or aspects of something.

Example: Buying technical products from this shop, customers have access to a comprehensive aftermarket support.

• Occupation: a job or profession.

Example: His prime occupation was as editor.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in October 2015

Students today can easily access information online, so libraries are no longer necessary. Do you agree or disagree?

Students are currently able to acquire information on the Internet in a much easier way than in the past. While I accept that online sources of information have advantages over traditional libraries, I would argue that there is still a great need for libraries in today's world.

It is true that accessing information online has several clear benefits. The first one is that online sources can store a huge amount of information that is greater than any physical library. This allows researchers to easily get the information they need without having to travel to a local library. Furthermore, students can look for information on the Internet whenever they want, while most libraries can only be visited during several hours per day. As a result, it might be better for those who are busy to utilise online information sources.

However, I believe that physical libraries still have special features that online sources can never replace. Firstly, libraries usually provide quiet areas, which is a great environment for students to learn and research since they are less likely to be distracted by things around them. For example, some of my university friends claim that they can only concentrate when they are in a quiet study area in my university library. Secondly, since everyone can easily write and post information on the Internet, these online sources are not always reliable for research. Therefore, we need libraries whose staff members have the responsibility to select and provide readers with the most credible materials.

In conclusion, while I agree that there are great benefits of getting information on the Internet, I disagree with the idea that traditional libraries are no longer important.

# **Useful Vocabulary & Expressions:**

• distract: to take sb's attention away from what they are trying to do Example: You're distracting me from my work.

• credible: that can be believed or trusted

Example: a credible explanation

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in November 2015

Too much emphasis is placed on going university for academic study. People should be encouraged to do vocational training, because there is a lack of qualified tradespeople such as electricians or plumbers. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It goes without saying that society always needs a skilled workforce to function. Employees of different professions contribute differently to the thriving of the community, and therefore I disagree with the statement that vocational courses should be given any more weight than before.

The fact that many people deem it more important to take tertiary education than a vocational training program has resulted in a shortage of qualified workers. It is universally accepted that knowledge and qualifications gained from university can help one to have a head start over other candidates when it comes to job hunting. In Vietnam, for instance, a majority of high school graduates are content to spend four to five years more studying at a university with the hope for a bright career ahead. This results in a lack of skilled manual workers such as plumbers and electricians in society.

However, if we encourage more people to become blue-collar workers, then there will be a shortage of while-collar workers who may otherwise create more wealth for society. For example, fewer engineers would mean lower productivity; a dearth of scientists may inhibit scientific discoveries which can provide us with a better life in the future. In contrast, those doing blue-collar jobs may face redundancy when too many applicants compete for the same position. An unbalanced workforce might, therefore, hold society back from development in the long term.

In conclusion, the workforce will adjust itself to cater for the need of the community, so there is no need to direct young people to follow a particular career path.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in May 2015

Many people argue that in order to improve educational quality, high school students are encouraged to make comments or even criticism on their teachers. Others think it will lead to loss of respect and discipline in the classroom. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Finding ways to improve educational quality is often one of the top priorities in every education system. In some cultures, high school students are encouraged to give their opinions about teachers, but I believe that this can also give rise to lack of respect and discipline in the classroom.

On the one hand, it is true that feedback from learners may contribute to an improvement in educational quality. In many cases, the level of comprehension of students relies very much not on the content of the lesson but on the way teachers conduct it. If, for example, the class is slow, it will be ineffective for teachers to teach too fast so that most students

fail to retain the information. Without the comments of students, it would be difficult to know whether the speed of the lesson is appropriate for the class, which may eventually impair the quality of the lesson.

However, there are several drawbacks of allowing students to make comments and criticism on their teachers. Firstly, teachers can be vulnerable to the negative words of students. Many will feel that their efforts in delivering the lesson deserve praise rather than criticism or any form of feedback. This idea is commonly shared by teachers in the education systems of many Asian countries. Secondly, the classroom may be in chaos due to massive numbers of comments. Opinions vary from students to students, and it would be impractical for teachers to work out a way of teaching that can satisfy all students.

In conclusion, it seems to me that encouraging high school students to comment about their teachers does not necessarily mean an improvement in education quality.

# **Useful Vocabulary & Expressions:**

- to retain smth: to keep something; to continue to have something *Example: She has a good memory and finds it easy to retain facts.*
- **To impair smth**: to damage something or make something worse. *Example: His age impaired his chances of finding a new job.*
- To be vulnerable to smth: weak and easily hurt physically or emotionally *Example: Old people are particularly vulnerable to the flu.*
- chaos: a state of complete confusion and lack of order *Example: The house was in chaos after the party.*

Children are facing more pressures nowadays from academic, social and commercial perspectives. What are the causes of these pressures and what measures should be taken to reduce these pressures?

There is a current distressing situation that the external life has burdened the youth with a wide range of pressures. In this essay, I would discuss several precursors to this issue, before some viable measures are drawn.

The fact that children are coerced into pressures and responsibilities stems from a number of root reasons. As far as the academic burden is concerned, it is the escalating competitiveness of the job market accompanied with the parental over-expectation that is to blame. The organisations' demand of a qualified workforce pours into the parents' mind a thought that their children have to be successful at school, and many youths today take studying as an obligation. In addition, some children, mostly those who have special talents or are born in famous families, may find their personal life in the public interest. The appearance on the media at such a young age may deprive the junior citizens of an innocent and carefree childhood. Regarding the commercial pressure children have to encounter, fast food chains or sweetshops have made them the target customers; and they are dragged into a chaotic influx of information by both the online and offline advertising campaigns.

In order to reverse such pressures on children, I would like to propose a number of drastic remedies. Firstly, parents should create a mentally and physically healthy domestic environment, involving a balance between learning and relaxing. Cooling-down activities such as sports, drawing or traveling, which are normally affordable, can release the stress of children brought on by both academic and social burdens. In addition, business morality has to be emphasised and penetrated by all firms. They should keep their online advertisements inaccessible to the youth by putting age restrictions on their websites.

In final words, it is unfair for the children to bear any kind of pressure, and every part of society should exert effort to provide them with a happy youth life.

# **Useful Vocabulary & Expressions:**

• Viable: capable of working successfully; feasible.

Example: the proposed investment was economically viable

• Coerce: persuade (an unwilling person) to do something by using force or threats.

Example: they were coerced into silence

• Escalate: increase rapidly.

Example: the price of tickets escalated

• **Competitiveness**: The quality of being as good as or better than others of a comparable nature

Example: High-protein soybean varieties may improve competitiveness of livestock producers.

• Deprive: deny (a person or place) the possession or use of something.

Example: the city was deprived of its water supplies.

• **Drastic**: Likely to have a strong or far-reaching effect; radical and extreme

Example: This is likely to mean a drastic reduction of overheads and also of headcount.

• **Emphasise**: give special importance or prominence to (something) in speaking or writing

Example: he jabbed a finger into the tabletop to emphasize his point.

• Penetrate: succeed in forcing a way into or through

Example: the shrapnel had penetrated his head and chest.

• Inaccessible: unable to be reached

Example: We continue to sign collective agreements that are generally written in complex and inaccessible language.)

• Restriction: a limiting condition or measure, especially a legal one. .

Example: The company is now planning restrictions on commercial development.

• Exert: make a physical or mental effort.

Example: He needs to exert himself to try to find an answer

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in January 2016

It is more important for schoolchildren to learn about local history than world history. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Teaching history for schoolchildren has been a heated topic constantly. There is a common belief that local history is more important to children than world history. However, I disagree with this belief. I believe the notion that local history is more valuable than world history should be rejected.

Some people may claim that the insights into the local historical values are completely enough for one to live. Their argument could be true a few decades ago when most interpersonal communications were between people of the same race and origin. However, this view is now outdated, as the world has become globalised and international business and migrant workers have made any community a global village. In this context, an understanding of a foreign country's history would enable future local workers to reinforce the relationship between them and the expatriates from that country.

In addition, I am strongly convinced that children would benefit the most only when the learning of local history is placed parallel to that of world history. To understand a local historical event, children should put the regional and sometimes even world context in that historical era into consideration. For example, children should acknowledge that the event that Vietnam regained its independence after defeating the Japanese troops in Indochina in 1945 only happened after a series of relevant events in the World War II, one of which is the surrender of Japan to the Allies. In this way of learning, children would understand history more deeply and thoroughly.

All the existing data has provided a concrete foundation that the study of local history should always be parallel to that of world history. This practice would guarantee that children learn history more comprehensively and be able to tighten the bond with migrant workers in their country.

# **Useful words and phrases:**

• Notion: A notion is an idea or belief about something.

Example: *I reject absolutely* 

the notion that privatisation of our industry is now inevitable...

• **Insight**: If you gain **insight** or an **insight into** a complex situation or problem, you gain an accurate and deep understanding of it.

Example: The project would give

scientists new insights into what is happening to the earth's atmosphere...

- **Interpersonal**: **Interpersonal** means relating to relationships between people. Example: *Training in interpersonal skills is essential*.
- Globalise: When industry globalizes or is globalized, companies from one country link with companies from another country in order to do business with them.

As the world becomes more complex, some things do, of course, standardize and globalize...

- Global village: People sometimes refer to the world as a global village when they want to emphasize that all the different parts of the world form one community linked together by electronic communications, especially the Internet. Example: Now that we are all part of the global village, everyone becomes a neighbour.
- **Reinforce**: If something **reinforces** a feeling, situation, or process, it makes it stronger or more intense.

Example: A stronger European Parliament would, they fear, only reinforce the power of the larger countries...

• Expatriate: An expatriate is someone who is living in a country which is not their own. ..

.British expatriates in Spain.

• Context: The context of an idea or event is the general situation that relates to it, and which helps it to be understood.

Example: We are doing this work in the context of reforms in the economic, social and cultural spheres.

• Era: You can refer to a period of history or a long period of time as an era when you want to draw attention to a particular feature or quality that it has

Example:...the

nuclear era...

- **Concrete**: You use **concrete** to indicate that something is definite and specific. Example: *He had no concrete evidence...*
- Parallel (a): Parallel events or situations happen at the same time as one another, or are similar to one another.

Example:...parallel talks between the two countries' Foreign Ministers

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in May 2016

It is observed that in many countries not enough students are choosing to study science subject. What are causes? And what will be effects on society?

In several parts of the world, there is currently a lack of students choosing to study science in universities and colleges. This problem happens due to some reasons, and it can have some adverse impacts on society.

There are several reasons why fewer university students are choosing science as their major. Firstly, these subjects are usually more difficult and demanding, which requires students to put much effort into their study. For example, my friend who is doing a course in Biology said that he had to conduct too many experiments and complete numerous projects, which prevented him from having any free time. As a result, science subjects seem to be less attractive to students compared to economics or business-related subjects. Secondly, as there are currently fewer employment opportunities available for graduates in science fields, learners are less likely to decide to select these majors. Instead, they tend to choose other subjects which allow them to find jobs more easily.

A shortage of learners in science fields can result in some negative effects. The first impact is that when fewer students decide to learn about science, there would be a serious shortage of employees working in these fields. This would lead to fewer technological developments, which would also prevent improvements in people's life quality. For instance, it would be difficult for humans to produce newer smart phones with better functions. Additionally, while a significantly increasing number of students are choosing economics and business to study, the number of job vacancies in these areas is limited. Therefore, many university graduates would have to face unemployment, which increases burden on society.

In conclusion, the shortage of students choosing science subjects is caused by several factors, and this problem might bring about serious impacts.

# Useful words and phrases:

- adverse: negative and unpleasant. EX: adverse effects/impacts
- **demanding:** needing a lot of skill, patience, effort... . EX: the work is physically demanding
- numerous: existing in large numbers. EX: He has been late on numerous occasions
- vacancy: a job that is available

In developing countries, children in rural communities have less access to education. Some people believe that the problem can be solved by providing more schools and teachers, while others think that the problem can be solved by providing computers and Internet access. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

It is true that a **proper education** is still **out of reach** for the children born in rural parts of developing countries. While some people suggest building more schools and sending more teachers to these areas, others would propose the provision of computers and Internet access. In my personal view, the latter seems more feasible.

On the one hand, schools and teachers are still **fundamental** to the objective of making education accessible to countryside students. Firstly, schools serve a number of purposes other than providing places for classes. More importantly, schools also function as meeting places for students to learn the importance of **collaborating** and **socialising with** other people, provide an **ideal learning environment** for further study and maintain the discipline of students through regular attendance. Secondly, **owing to** poor access to a systematic and constant education in the first place, students in remote areas are unlikely to study by themselves effectively. In other words, teachers are required in the **learning process** because they can acknowledge these students' **deficiencies** and help them to solve their problems by repeating the same explanation, giving suitable exercises or even tutoring them privately.

On the other hand, I believe there are good reasons to supply these rural students with computers and Internet connection. The first reason is that these devices enable the students to pursue study programs despite the fact that these students live in distant areas. For example, students can use the computer and the Internet to participate in **webinars** from universities or work with the teachers through emails. This idea would seem more feasible than sending teachers to **remote regions** to teach. Another reason is that the computer can be a useful learning tool with educational software. There are many computer programs which contain a **comprehensive course** of self-study these days, so that the students can use these **software applications** without travelling out of their hometowns.

In conclusion, as people have their own views in how to provide education for rural

students, I think that technology would offer a more <b>plausible solution</b> for the reasons mentioned.

#### IELTS Writing Task 2 in September 2016

Some people think studying from the past offers no benefits to today's life, while others believe that history is a valuable source of information for us. Discuss both views and give our own opinion.

There has been considerable debate about the values of studying history. While it is argued that there are no advantages of learning history, I believe that history can bring more benefits.

It is claimed that it is not beneficial to learn from the past. At various schools, students may put exam-based learning methods into practice to satisfy the requirements of exams and tests. Consequently, they are obliged to make every effort to memorize historical developments and events. In several cases, they get stressful and overloaded with history related knowledge which does not provide foundations for their doing research into scientific fields like engineering or medicine. For example, in my hometown, most school students apply test-oriented approaches in historical lessons, causing students to be bombarded with historical knowledge, which is not beneficial in supplying background knowledge for them to realize their dream to major in computer engineering or medical sciences at university.

Nonetheless, from my viewpoint, history should become a more precious informative source. Thanks to history classes or museum artifacts related to past wars, there is every likelihood of young generations accumulating a profound knowledge of the sacrifice and contributions of their ancestors in the resistance war against foreign invaders, followed by cultivating their national pride and patriotism. As a result, they may have a tendency to be supplied with motivation and inspiration to put almost every effort into perfecting themselves and making contributions to national development. Another explanation may be that no sooner are students exposed to history lectures than they could enhance their understanding of valuable lessons about successes and failures in the process of predecessors' national construction and defense. Hence, they might reach higher maturity and greater confidence in avoiding the same mistakes and making wise decisions for their future careers and life.

In conclusion, although people think history lessons can be of no importance, I am of the opinion that there are more benefits of studying history as a huge reservoir of knowledge.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in January 2017

Some universities offer online courses as an alternative to classes delivered on campus. Do you think this a positive or negative development?

The idea of providing distance education of numerous universities has become quite fashionable. Whilst I believe online courses to have great benefits in several cases, I presume that this trend may give rise to some downsides.

On the one hand, it is my belief that this tendency is likely to be profitable. One noticeable advantage is an increase in academic chance for social members. The adoption of videoconferencing technology and free-to-use group chats in Internet-bases courses may serve to facilitate the study of busy workers without leaving their current jobs. Furthermore, students could get access to academic lectures by prominent professors from World-famous universities via e-learning classes. Another point in favor is convenience. Online distance education enables students not only take the initiative to plan their study schedule but also review lectures, discussion, comments or share notes with each other on demand.

On the other hand, there appear to be potential shortcomings stemming from this trend. One disadvantage is the lack of interaction with the instructors and fellow classmates in the light of the internet disconnect. This procrastination may discourage learners from meeting their deadlines and completing their assignments. Students' plagiarism and dishonesty are areas of concern as well. Some critics feel that it is easier to plagiarize or share answers owing to reduced surveillance and increase connectivity. Consequently, this copyright infringement could drive them to the verge of being expelled from the course of study.

Overall, based on what have been discussed above, it seems to me that learning activities through the medium of the internet has both the desired and adverse effects.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in January 2017

In schools and universities, girls tend to choose arts while boys like science. What are the reasons for this trend and do you think this tendency should be changed?

It is undeniable that scientific domains of study seem to be preferred by schoolboys whilst schoolgirls are inclined to show fancy for ones related to arts. From my perspective, several reasons could explain this tendency and it should undergo a change.

There are two main causes responsible for the difference in subject selections between boys and girls. First and foremost, it derives from natural strengths of each gender. It is an inescapable fact various male students are better at rational and logical thinking in science; hence, they reveal preference for mathematical and physical realms while the other sex may be more emotional and sensitive to have advantages in perceiving arts or languages. Equally importantly, the traditional belief is another contributing factor deciding that divergence. In fact, a number of parents orientate their girls towards the choice of artistic fields to become elegant and their sons to pursue science subjects for their future career.

I believe that there is a necessity to change the aforementioned trend. Both male and female children should be encouraged to find the right balance between arts and science subjects. Several scientific studies prove that learning arts could boost children's creativity and imagination power, enabling them to get insight into scientific subjects with greater efficiency; meanwhile, majors namely maths or physics also generate opportunities for female learners to develop their left brain and enhance problemsolving competences. Furthermore, as regards numerous female students who have a flair for maths and engineering, forcing them to specialize in artistic scopes may produce counterproductive outcomes. This compulsion is likely to cause resentment and negative attitudes towards their study, followed by low levels of academic performance.

To conclude, that girls prefer arts but boys tend to choose science subjects for education could be justified for several above-mentioned reasons. Nonetheless, I argue for a change of this situation.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 in February 2017

It is better for college students to live far away from home than live at home with their parents. Do you agree or disagree?

Student accommodation wields direct influences in their life and academic performance. I uphold the conviction that it is more necessary for student life to be spent a long distance from their parents.

Life on campus may be more advantageous for university students. It is undeniable that with the absence of parental care, students seem to have a chance to shoulder almost all the blame for their private life, ranging from doing household chores to managing personal finance, meticulously preparing certain life skills for their later life. Additionally, thanks to their shared accommodation, students might learn how to live and work in harmony with others, giving rise to improvements in social skills. Finally, students can accomplish higher academic outcomes by dint of mutual aid and support from friends by sharing learning materials or developing proper study strategies for each other, facilitating their study when sharing the room.

However, although living with parents during student life may bring several benefits ranging from parental care to feeling of safety, this lifestyle can be more detrimental. In fact, commuting to universities from home daily may deprive various students of a remarkable time which should have been allocated for participating in recreational and extracurricular activities or sports events with a view to enhancing their physical health and develop their teamwork skills or communication competences. This physical stamina and these soft skills are prerequisites for paving the way for academic as well as professional success. In other words, were it not for these soft skills which appear easier to be developed in a self-reliant life, students would be at a disadvantage in the process of accumulating academic knowledge and professional qualifications for future employment.

In conclusion, based on the aforementioned explanations, it seems to me that, enjoying campus life far from their parents is a more sensible decision than living under the same roof with their parents.