

Premium B2 lesson 31



Think about it

First Writing Part 1

Complete the sentences about First Writing Part 1 with the correct alternatives.

1. In Part 1, you have to write *a story / an essay* about a particular topic.
2. The task gives *two / three* points you must discuss in your essay.
3. You *must / don't have to* add your own ideas as well.
4. You should write between 140 and 160 / 190 words.
5. It *is / isn't* important to write the correct number of words, or you may get a lower mark.
6. You *should / mustn't* discuss different opinions and points of view on the topic.
7. Your essay should be organised into clear *paragraphs / numbered sections*.
8. Your essay should end with *a conclusion / a conclusion and your opinion*.

With your partner, if you have one, think of two linking expressions for each of 1-4.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 to make the first point | 3 to make the last point |
| 2 to make more points | 4 to introduce the conclusion |

Which of these linking expressions can be used at the beginning of a sentence, followed by a comma? Which cannot?

also as well as well as that besides furthermore in addition too

In cities everywhere, there is growing concern about the effect of motor vehicles on the inhabitants' quality of life. Some people want to prohibit cars from urban areas, and to a great extent I agree.

(1) , these vehicles poison the air with their exhaust fumes, contributing to the clouds of smog that hang over many cities, especially in sunny weather. (2) , the sounds of engines and car horns destroys the peace of our neighbourhoods, even at night.

(3) , the huge amount of traffic nowadays makes cities less pleasant places to live. For instance, crossing busy roads often takes ages. (4) , they can be dangerous, especially for children, and for old or disabled people, (5)

(6) , there are often alternatives to travelling by car, such as the tube, buses or trams. (7) , if there were no cars, far more people would cycle to work, or they could walk there in the fresh air.

(8) , urban areas without cars would be much better places to live. As long as other means of transport are available, therefore, I believe our cities should become totally car-free.

B2	Content	Communicative Achievement	Organisation	Language
5	All content is relevant to the task. Target reader is fully informed.	Uses the conventions of the communicative task effectively to hold the target reader's attention and communicate straightforward and complex ideas, as appropriate.	Text is well organised and coherent, using a variety of cohesive devices and organisational patterns to generally good effect.	Uses a range of vocabulary, including less common lexis, appropriately. Uses a range of simple and complex grammatical forms with control and flexibility. Occasional errors may be present but do not impede communication.
4	<i>Performance shares features of Bands 3 and 5.</i>			
3	Minor irrelevances and/or omissions may be present. Target reader is on the whole informed.	Uses the conventions of the communicative task to hold the target reader's attention and communicate straightforward ideas.	Text is generally well organised and coherent, using a variety of linking words and cohesive devices.	Uses a range of everyday vocabulary appropriately, with occasional inappropriate use of less common lexis. Uses a range of simple and some complex grammatical forms with a good degree of control. Errors do not impede communication.
2	<i>Performance shares features of Bands 1 and 3.</i>			
1	Irrelevances and misinterpretation of task may be present. Target reader is minimally informed.	Uses the conventions of the communicative task in generally appropriate ways to communicate straightforward ideas.	Text is connected and coherent, using basic linking words and a limited number of cohesive devices.	Uses everyday vocabulary generally appropriately, while occasionally overusing certain lexis. Uses simple grammatical forms with a good degree of control. While errors are noticeable, meaning can still be determined.
0	Content is totally irrelevant. Target reader is not informed.	<i>Performance below Band 1.</i>		

Dear Jody,

Thanks for your letter; it was good to hear from you. You'll be pleased knowing that I've found someone to share the flat with. She's called Elena Richmann and she's an actress from Canada. I interviewed about 20 people before I seen her. She's very nice and we really get on well together. Let me say you a bit about her. She's about 1m 50cm in height and has short, black, curly hair; in fact she looks a bit like your sister! She's incredibly alive so she should be fun to have around. We're both interested in the same type of films and we seem to have similar tastes in music. She hates to cook so I won't have to worry about having a messy kitchen!

One drawback is that, when she's making a movie, she needs getting up really early, about 4.30 in the morning, to go to the set to get her make-up and costume sorted out. She says she'll be really quiet, so we'll have to see. Anyway, I haven't noticed any bad habits yet! You must meet her – why don't you come over to the flat next Saturday and we can have a meal together? Drop me a line to let me know.

Love,

Tanya

Cinnamon

Cinnamon has been used as a spice for at least (9) years.

The Roman historian Pliny wrote about cinnamon being imported to Rome in boats that were powered only by

(10)

In Roman times a third of a kilo of cinnamon cost the equivalent of wages for

(11) of work.

In Roman times cinnamon was added to dishes containing (12)

In the Middle Ages many people in the West thought that cinnamon came from the

(13)

Cinnamon is still used in medicines that treat (14)

Cinnamon oil is thought to keep (15) away.

Today (16) is one of the main countries importing cinnamon.

Giorgio was surprised to learn that people use cinnamon in the preparation of

(17) dishes.

Giorgio's favourite use of cinnamon is in (18)

Write your essay in this box. Make sure you use 5 paragraphs