

Premium B2 Lesson 31

Focus on Writing



Can you remember the last three?

141 I don't know why Jane left in such a hurry.

CAUSED I don't know in such a hurry.

142 Lyn never pays attention to the signs when she drives.

NOTICE Lyn never the signs when she drives.

143 I don't find mathematics at all interesting.

IN I have mathematics at all.

1 Clothing costs the same as it did last year.

CHANGED Clothing prices last year.

2 Steve could only go on holiday because his best mate gave him the money.

ABLE If Steve's best mate hadn't given him the money, he
to go on holiday.

3 "Yes, I gave away your secret," she said to me.

GIVING She secret.

4 We have never met anyone as famous as he is.

MOST He we have ever met.

5 It's three weeks since I last went out.

BEEN I three weeks.

Extra help

- 1 Clothing costs the same as it did last year.

CHANGED Clothing prices **changed** last year.

- 2 Steve could only go on holiday because his best mate gave him the money.

ABLE If Steve's best mate hadn't given him the money, he **able** to go on holiday.

- 3 "Yes, I gave away your secret," she said to me.

GIVING She **giving** secret.

- 4 We have never met anyone as famous as he is.

MOST He **most** we have ever met.

- 5 It's three weeks since I last went out.

BEEN I **been** three weeks.

Answers

- 1 Clothing costs the same as it did last year.
CHANGED Clothing prices **have not changed since** last year.
- 2 Steve could only go on holiday because his best mate gave him the money.
ABLE If Steve's best mate hadn't given him the money, he **would not have been able** to go on holiday.
- 3 "Yes, I gave away your secret," she said to me.
GIVING She **admitted to giving away my** secret.
- 4 We have never met anyone as famous as he is.
MOST He **is the most famous person** we have ever met.
- 5 It's three weeks since I last went out.
BEEN I **have not been out for** three weeks.

Focus on writing



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*.

Complete the sentences about First Writing Part 1 with the correct alternatives. [Answers](#)

1. In Part 1, you have to write *an essay* about a particular topic.
2. The task gives two *points* you must discuss in your essay.
3. You *must*, *add* your own ideas as well.
4. You should write between 140 and *190* words.
5. It is *important* to write the correct number of words, or you may get a lower mark.
6. You *should* *discuss* different opinions and points of view on the topic.
7. Your essay should be organised into clear *paragraphs*.
8. Your essay should end with *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

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

1 to make the first point

2 to make more points

3 to make the last point

4 to introduce the conclusion

First of all
Firstly,

in addition
Moreover
Secondly,
Additionally,

A final point would be that,
Finally,
A third point is

In conclusion,
To conclude
To sum up

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

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

also as well as that besides furthermore in addition

Remember the capital letter and comma

In addition,

Look at this Writing Part 1 exam task and answer the questions.

- 1 What is the topic of the essay? 2 Which two points must you discuss?

In your English class you have been talking about the problems of 21st-century urban living. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay.

Write an essay using all the notes and give reasons for your point of view.

Cars should be banned from city centres.

Notes

Write about:

- 1 noise and pollution
- 2 transport
- 3 (your own idea)

Think of a third point with your partner

Read the essay -Did you predict the third point?

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.

Now add the missing words

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.

Answers

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)**First of all**....., 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)**In addition**....., the sounds of engines and car horns destroys the peace of our neighbourhoods, even at night.*

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

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

*(8)**In conclusion**....., 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.*

These are the scales examiners use to mark your work

You need to show control over simple forms!

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 nicely 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 of music. She hates cooking so I won't have to worry about having a messy kitchen!

One drawback is that, when she has 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 of 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

What type of text is this?

Is it formal or informal?

Is it part 1 or part 2?

Spelling and grammatical control are vital at B2 level.

There are 20 in this text! Find them!

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 nicely 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 of music. She hates cooking so I won't have to worry about having a messy kitchen!

One drawback is that, when she has 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 of 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

What type of text is this? a letter/email

Is it formal or informal? informal

Is it part 1 or part 2? part 2

Spelling and grammatical control are vital at B2 level.

There are 20 in this text! Find them!

Extra help!

Dear Jody,

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

One drawback is that, when she **has** 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 **quite**, so we'll have to see. Anyway, I haven't noticed **of** any bad habits yet! You must **to** 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

Dear Jody, **Answers**

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

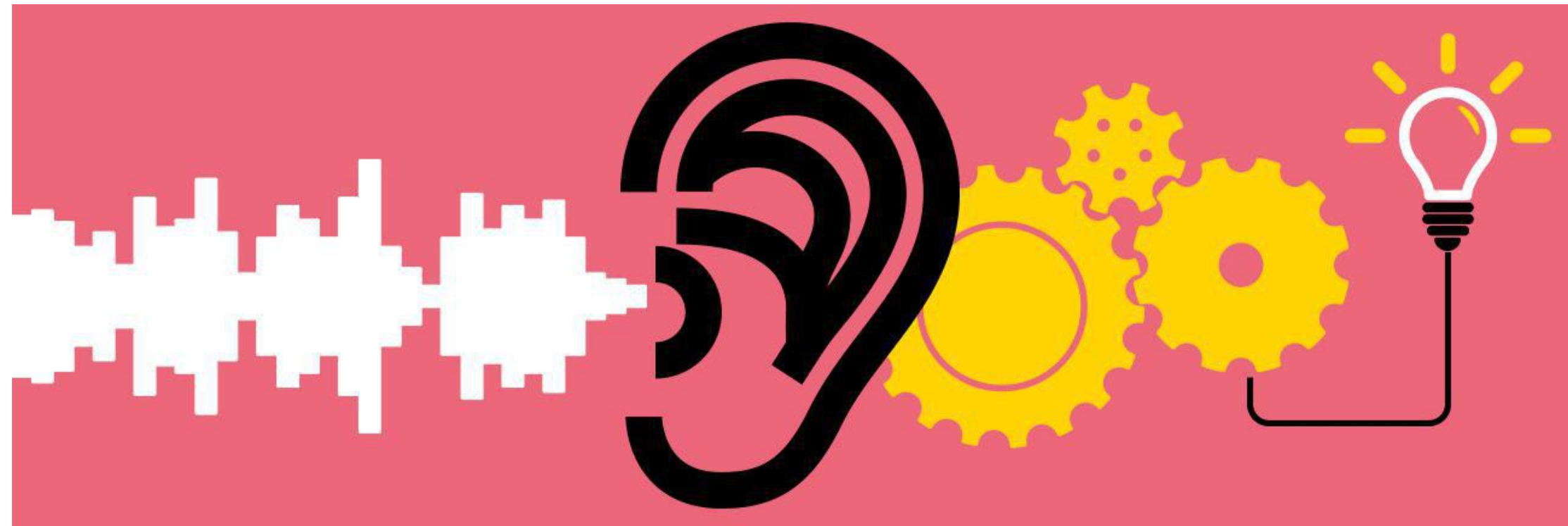
One drawback is that, when she **has** making a movie, she needs **getting** up really early, about 4.30 in the morning, to go to the set to get her make-up and costume sorted out. She says she'll be really **quite**, so we'll have to see. Anyway, I haven't noticed **of** any bad habits yet! You must **to** 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

hear
to know
share
she's an actress
saw
nice
let me tell you
height
looks
lively
in
in
cooking
worry
is
to get up
quiet
noticed any
must meet
Saturday

Listening part 2



 02 You will hear a student called Giorgio telling a class about his project on the spice called cinnamon. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

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)

 02 You will hear a student called Giorgio telling a class about his project on the spice called cinnamon. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Cinnamon

Cinnamon has been used as a spice for at least (9)4000..... years.

The Roman historian Pliny wrote about cinnamon being imported to Rome in boats that were powered only by (10)(the) wind.....

In Roman times a third of a kilo of cinnamon cost the equivalent of wages for (11)10 months..... of work.

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

In the Middle Ages many people in the West thought that cinnamon came from the (13)sea.....

Cinnamon is still used in medicines that treat (14)indigestion.....

Cinnamon oil is thought to keep (15)mosquitoes..... away.

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

Giorgio was surprised to learn that people use cinnamon in the preparation of (17)meat..... dishes.

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

Look at this statement? Do you agree with it?

Teachers need more than just a good knowledge of their subject

What else do teachers need to know?

What do teachers need to provide students with?

What did you talk about with your partner? Did you mention the points below? Can you think of a third point?

1 In your English class you have been talking about education. Now, your English teacher has asked you to write an essay.

Write an essay using all the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

'Teachers need more than just a good knowledge of their subject.'

What do you think?

Notes

Write about:

1. patience
2. friendliness
3. ...(your own idea)

Now write your plan and
your essay

Depending on time

Homework

Give your teacher this full writing exam in the next lesson. Do it under timed conditions!

You will find the questions on the platform in lesson 31

1 In your English class you have been talking about education. Now, your English teacher has asked you to write an essay.

Write an essay using **all** the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

‘Teachers need more than just a good knowledge of their subject.’
What do you think?

Notes

Write about:

1. patience
2. friendliness
3. ... (your own idea)

Write an answer to **one** of the questions 2–4 in this part. Write your answer in **140–190** words in an appropriate style **on the separate answer sheet**. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

2 You have received an email from your English-speaking friend, Robert:

Hi!

My parents are both 50 next month and I want to do something special for them – I can't decide whether to organise a surprise birthday party or take them away to a hotel for the weekend. What do you think I should do?

Write your **email**.

3 You recently saw this notice on an English-language website called TV Watch:

Reviews wanted!

Is there a TV series which you watch regularly?
Write a review of the series explaining what it is about, why you like it and who you would recommend it to.

TV series

Write your **review**.

4 You see this advertisement on your college noticeboard:

Wanted: English-speaking guide

A group of English students is coming to your town for a week. The tourist office is looking for a guide to show the students the town. Write a letter of application to the organizer of the tour, Mrs Isobel Parks, explaining:

- Which places you would take the students to visit
- Why you would be the best person for the job