

HKBU LANG 0036 Learning Session Report

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Section: 1

Course Information and Student Background

Course Information: Course: LANG 0036 - English for Academic Purposes Level: Intermediate to Advanced Focus: Academic writing and critical thinking Assessment: Essay writing with rubric-based evaluation

Student Background: Academic Level: University student Language: English as additional language Goals: Improve academic writing skills Challenges: Structure, vocabulary, critical analysis

Rubric:

Assessment Task: Writing (20%) Part 1: Point-of-view Essay (10%)

Criteria: Content and Ideas 1 (Limited): Ideas are irrelevant or minimally related to the topic. Lacks awareness of the issue concerned. No clear viewpoint. 2 (Basic): Ideas are somewhat related but vague. Minimal awareness of the issue concerned. Viewpoint unclear. 3 (Developing): Ideas are relevant but basic. Some awareness of the issue concerned. Viewpoint present but weakly developed. 4 (Proficient): Ideas are relevant and solid. Good awareness of the issue concerned. Clear viewpoint with some depth. 5 (Excellent): Ideas are insightful and highly relevant. Strong awareness of the issue concerned. Well-developed, compelling viewpoint.

Criteria: Organisation and Logical Progression 1 (Limited): No clear structure. Ideas are disjointed with no development or progression. 2 (Basic): Basic structure with unclear paragraphing. Ideas are listed with little development. 3 (Developing): Clear structure with some paragraphing. Ideas are developed but lack depth or logical flow. 4 (Proficient): Well-organized with clear paragraphs. Ideas are developed logically with good flow and support. 5 (Excellent): Highly organized with effective paragraphing. Ideas are thoroughly developed with seamless, logical progression.

Criteria: Vocabulary 1 (Limited): Vocabulary is limited, repetitive, or inaccurate. Lacks topic-specific terms. 2 (Basic): Basic vocabulary with some repetition. Minimal use of topic-specific terms. 3 (Developing): Adequate vocabulary with some variety. Includes some topic-specific terms but with occasional errors. 4 (Proficient): Varied and precise vocabulary. Effective use of topic-specific terms. Minor errors. 5 (Excellent): Rich, precise vocabulary. Masterful use of topic-specific terms. Almost error-free and sophisticated.

Criteria: Grammar and Sentence Structure 1 (Limited): Frequent grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are incomplete or confusing. 2 (Basic): Several grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are simple and often flawed. 3 (Developing): Some grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are mostly correct but lack variety. 4 (Proficient): Minor grammatical and spelling errors. Sentences are varied and mostly accurate. 5 (Excellent): Virtually error-free grammar and spelling. Sentences are complex, varied, and accurately constructed.

Part 2: AI-Assisted Review Skills (10%) A. In-Depth Conversation with AI 1 (Limited): No exchanges or chat history; no questions asked. 2 (Basic): Sparse conversation; one or two simple questions. 3 (Developing): Adequate exchanges; some relevant questions. 4 (Proficient): Robust interaction; detailed, relevant questions across levels. 5 (Excellent): Extensive, well-documented chat history; insightful, multi-level questioning.

B. Critical Review of AI Suggestions 1 (Limited): All AI suggestions accepted blindly. 2 (Basic): Most accepted; little analysis. 3 (Developing): Some evaluated; partial justification. 4 (Proficient): Most critically reviewed with clear justification. 5 (Excellent): All evaluated thoroughly with strong, evidence-based reasoning.

C. Refining Process 1 (Limited): No revisions made. 2 (Basic): Minimal revisions; no iteration. 3 (Developing): Some revisions with limited iteration. 4 (Proficient): Clear iterative process with multiple revisions. 5 (Excellent): Extensive refinement with iterative improvements.

(Additional important information:, I am a first-year university student, and I wrote this essay during an exam. I would now like to understand what strengths my essay has, as well as what areas can be improved — including grammar, rhetoric, sentence structure, overall organization, and content development.)

Contribution Analysis

Thanks for sharing your full chat history and the assessment report! It looks like you engaged well with the AI assistant, asking focused, relevant questions about thesis previewing, replacing vague language, strengthening reasons, and adding evidence.

Here's a concise summary of your successful collaboration and key next steps based on the AI guidance and instructor notes:

What You Did Well

- **Clear focus on thesis clarity and reason preview:** You understood how to write a thesis that previews 2–3 strong, logical reasons and actively tried to apply the assistant's templates.
- **Engaged critically with suggestions:** You questioned the strength of your reasons, asked about evidence needs, and sought ways to improve wording precision.
- **Followed a stepwise revision plan:** You implemented the assistant's three-step process (revise thesis, improve topic sentence, rewrite paragraph).
- **Improved vocabulary and organization:** You took in vocabulary replacements and reorganized paragraphs to better develop evidence and analysis.

Areas to Keep Improving

- **Add concrete evidence:** Incorporate at least one specific statistic, case study, or named report per main paragraph to strengthen your claims (e.g., % of migrant domestic workers in Hong Kong, documented abuse cases from reputable NGOs).

- **Make in-chat revisions visible:** Next time, try pasting your draft thesis or paragraph sentences back into the chat as you revise, so the iterative development and editing process is clearer and can earn you more credit for refining with AI help.
- **Tighten language and reduce repetition:** After structural edits, do a focused final pass to remove recurring ideas and unnecessary words, especially in the paragraph about international reputation.

Quick Tips for Adding Evidence

- **Use brief, accurate templates:**
 - “According to [source], around X% of domestic workers in Hong Kong are migrants, making their protection crucial for economic stability.”
 - “Human Rights Watch documented cases where migrant workers were required to work over 10 hours daily without proper pay.”
- **Follow with a sentence explaining why this matters**, linking back to your thesis about the need for stronger laws.
- **If exact data aren’t available, use careful wording:** “Many reports show...” or “Numerous case studies indicate...”

Suggested Next Steps

1. Choose one body paragraph and paste its current draft here. I can help you insert a natural, contextual sentence with a statistic or case study to develop your evidence/development score.
2. Try rewriting your thesis statement here (if you want) to preview your refined reasons, and I'll give targeted feedback to sharpen it further.
3. Do a final clean-up pass on your revised essay to reduce repetition and tighten phrasing — I can help identify and fix any verbose or redundant sentences.

Feel free to share any part of your essay or ask for help on these next steps! Your willingness to question, revise, and engage with AI advice shows great writing improvement potential. Let's keep building on that!

Grading Result (Hidden from students)

Tasks status check: - Revised the thesis statement: completed (see revised essay opening paragraph). - Revised one of the topic sentences: completed (see revised paragraph 2 topic sentence). - Revised one of the body paragraphs: completed (see revised paragraphs expanding evidence and analysis).

STUDENT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Course: LANG 0036 - Enhancing English through Global Citizenship

Module: AI for Revising Essays

ESSAY WRITING ASSESSMENT

Original Essay Scores:

- Content and Ideas: 17/25 - The draft contains relevant ideas (migrant worker exploitation, economic contribution, reputation) but these are unevenly developed and often unclear. Example: "they meet exploitation" is vague and lacks connected evidence.
- Organization: 15/25 - A basic structure (intro, body, conclusion) exists, but paragraph topic sentences and logical progression are weak or off-topic (e.g., the opening body sentence focuses on "labour cost" confusingly).
- Vocabulary: 15/25 - Frequent vague or incorrect expressions (e.g., "supportive from foreign neighbourhood," "Elderly rising issue") reduce precision and academic tone.
- Grammar: 13/25 - Recurrent grammatical errors and awkward constructions impede clarity (subject-verb agreement, word order, article use).
- **Original Essay Total: 60/100**

Revised Essay Scores:

- Content and Ideas: 22/25 - The revised essay states a clear position and develops three reasons (economic contribution, exploitation, international reputation) with improved explanations and an external reference to Human Rights Watch. Example: the thesis now previews reasons and body paragraphs explain causal links.

- Organization: 23/25 - Paragraphs follow a logical order; topic sentences are explicit and paragraphs follow a clear topic-evidence-analysis mini-structure. Transitions and paragraph purpose are stronger.
- Vocabulary: 22/25 - Word choice is more precise and topic-appropriate (e.g., "labour protections," "exploitative conditions," "international reputation"). Some occasional repetition and slightly formalized phrasing remain.
- Grammar: 21/25 - Sentences are largely grammatically accurate and more complex. Minor stylistic verbosity and a few places where phrasing could be tightened remain.
- **Revised Essay Total: 88/100**

Essay Improvement Analysis:

- **Overall Improvement: +28 points**
- **Key Improvements Made:**
 - Thesis clarity and preview: The thesis now reads as a single confident roadmap: "The government should strengthen labour laws to protect migrant workers because they are essential to Hong Kong's economy, they endure exploitative conditions such as long hours and low wages, and improved protections would enhance Hong Kong's international reputation." This replaces the unclear original thesis.
 - Stronger topic sentence and paragraph focus: Example paragraph topic sentence: "Migrant workers frequently endure exploitative conditions, including long working hours, low pay, and inadequate contracts, which highlight the urgent need for stronger labour protections." This is a clear, focused topic sentence that previews the paragraph.
 - Better development and evidence usage: The revised essay includes clearer causal links and cites an external source ("Human Rights Watch") to support the reputation argument, and it explains how policy measures (minimum wage, inspections) would address abuses.
- **Missed Opportunities:**
 - Use of specific data/case studies: The essay would be stronger with one concrete statistic or named case per key paragraph (e.g., % of domestic workers who are migrants, or a specific documented abuse case).
 - More varied and concrete evidence sources: Reliance on general descriptions and a single named report could be supplemented with government statistics, NGO reports, or a short news example.
 - Tighter language in some places: A few sentences are slightly wordy or repetitive (e.g., repeated references to reputation or protections could be consolidated for concision).

HUMAN-AI INTERACTION ASSESSMENT

Chat History Analysis:

- **Total Exchanges: 12 messages** (assistant and user back-and-forth across 12 entries in the provided chat history).
- **Conversation Quality:** The chat shows purposeful, structured guidance from the assistant (three-step revision plan: thesis, topic sentence, paragraph revision) and active questioning from the student on thesis previewing, vagueness, and evidence. The student asked targeted, relevant follow-up questions about thesis structure, vocabulary, and evidence needs.

Interaction Scores:

- **In-Depth Conversation:** 3/5 - Developing. Evidence: The chat contains a focused sequence of questions and guidance (12 exchanges) covering thesis, topic sentences, vocabulary, and evidence. However, it falls short of the extended iterative depth (15+ exchanges or multiple clear revision cycles in-chat) described in the "Excellent" level.
- Example: Assistant provided multiple templates and guidance; student asked follow-ups such as "How can I make my thesis statement preview the main reasons...?" and "Do I need more specific data or case studies...?"
- **Critical Review of AI Suggestions:** 4/5 - Proficient. Evidence: The student asked evaluative questions about the strength of the three reasons and whether more data were needed, demonstrating critical engagement with AI suggestions rather than blind acceptance. The chat shows the student probing how to improve claims and evidence, though there are no many explicit accept/reject statements recorded.
- Example: User asked "Are my three reasons strong, need more development?" and "Do I need more specific data or case studies...?" which shows appraisal of the AI's suggestions.
- **Refining Process:** 4/5 - Proficient. Evidence: The assistant proposed a clear multi-step revision workflow (thesis → topic sentence → paragraph). The conversation covers those steps with targeted questions and strategies for vocabulary and evidence. The chat indicates iteration in planning and strategy, although direct in-chat re-writes by the student are not shown (student appears to apply the guidance to produce the revised essay externally).
- Example: Assistant provided templates for thesis revision and concrete phrase replacements; the revised essay reflects these changes (thesis and paragraph rewrites).
- **Human-AI Interaction Total: 11/15**

OVERALL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Strengths Demonstrated:

- Clear adoption of AI guidance: The revised thesis and topic sentences closely reflect the assistant's templates and advice (evidence: the thesis follows the suggested "Governments should [action] ... because [reason 1], [reason 2], [reason 3]" structure).
- Improved organization and paragraph-level focus: Topic sentences and paragraph development now follow a clearer mini-structure (topic → evidence/example → explanation → tie-back).
- Critical questioning and evidence-awareness: The student repeatedly asked about evidence needs and how to strengthen claims, showing an understanding of what would make the essay persuasive.

Areas for Improvement:

- Add specific, cited evidence: Insert 1–2 concrete facts or a short named case per main paragraph to increase credibility and content score (e.g., a statistic from Hong Kong Labour Department or a cited NGO report).
- Show more explicit iterative critique in the chat: When working with AI, paste drafts and respond to suggestions in-chat to demonstrate critical acceptance or revision steps visibly.
- Tighten phrasing and reduce minor repetition: Edit for concision in a final pass to remove repeated ideas (particularly in the reputation-related paragraph).

AI Collaboration Skills Assessment:

- Context Provision: Good - The student provided the essay and repeatedly asked targeted questions about thesis, vocabulary, and evidence, giving the assistant clear focus.
- Strategic Planning: Good - The student and assistant followed a clear stepwise revision plan (thesis → topic sentence → paragraph development).
- Critical Evaluation: Good/Proficient - The student questioned the strength of reasons and the need for data, showing evaluative thinking, though more explicit accept/reject comments in-chat would strengthen the record.
- Independent Editing: Good - The revised essay indicates that the student applied suggestions independently (edits appear in the revised file rather than only in chat), but in-chat revision traces were limited.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

1. Add precise evidence: For each body paragraph, include one statistic or a named report/case and then explain how that evidence supports the claim. Template: "According to X, Y% of [sector] are migrant workers; this matters because..."
2. Document iterative decisions in-chat: When using AI, paste draft sentences and revised versions during the session so the revision process and critical decisions are visible and can be awarded more interaction-refinement credit.
3. Final proofreading pass: After structural edits, do a focused language pass to remove repetition, tighten sentences, and ensure concision across paragraphs.

INSTRUCTOR NOTES

- The student has clearly followed the AI assistant's three-step process and produced measurable improvements in thesis clarity, paragraph topic sentences, and paragraph development.
- To maximize both essay quality and evidence of rigorous AI collaboration, encourage the student to paste revision drafts into the chat during the session and to add one concrete statistic or short case study in each major paragraph.
- Overall performance indicates growing competence in AI-assisted revision and strengthened essay-writing skills; with added specific evidence and slightly tighter prose, the essay can reach an excellent standard.

■■■ Student Feedback ■ **Rating:** 4/5 ■ **Comment:** After using this AI, I feel like I've discovered a whole new world. Previously, my teacher mentioned using AI to get feedback on my essays, and I think this one is the most useful. Most of my questions can be answered. The only thing I don't really like is that the chat box is too small, which makes me feel a bit dizzy when reading.

Current Mode:assessment

Complete Conversation

Assistant:

Original:

Hong Kong is the most famous international financial center in the world with massive amounts of resources and business opportunities. Not only does it attract foreign investors stay in Hong Kong to start various business, but it also provide many job opportunities for the labours. Although the cost of living in Hong Kong is rising year by year, many migrant workers come to this place. However, due to less regulations, long working hours and unfair wage payment, they meet exploitation. I strongly recommend governments ought to enforce stricter laws to maintain and safeguard their rights since migrant workers become the vital sources of labour and represent the supportive from foreign neighbourhood. First and foremost, one of the essential sources of labour cost is coming from migrant workers. Nowadays, Elderly rising issue in Hong Kong

become more severe undoubtedly, while the teenagers achieve high-level education and find a better job inside the office. Moreover, families in Hong Kong focus their attention on mainland and foreign countries to meet development. As a result, migrant workers are being encouraged to take more job.

However, since their education level may not as high as native born population, their company implement some policies that underscore the higher workloads for but low payments for them, result in low living standards of migrant workers. For instance, a newspaper mentioned a case, the average migrant workers needed to work for more than 10 hours a day, but they got the least salaries. Thus, it is important for the government release out some laws or protect their rights.

Moreover, the more migrants workers come to Hong Kong, the more reputation Hong Kong can receive. Just a few months ago, a research figured out some foreign governments encouraged their workers to find opportunities in Hong Kong because of the sophisticated technologies, gorgeous land location and the best exportation, so that the number of migrant workers increase stably. Which means that Hong Kong is highly recognized by the nation around the world. If we provide a better workplace and welfare for the migrant workers, it will transparently respond to their acclaim. As a result, government should consider how about how the working and living standards can be improved by ordering the companies to regulate the workers, avoid discrimination on them and promise not to endure them with long working hours.

To sum up, migrant workers is the / crucial part of Hong Kong labour and they should obtain their rights. So the government / ought to consider about the law on safeguarding their rights and approve their existence.

Revised:

Hong Kong is one of the world's leading financial centers with abundant investment capital and business opportunities. It attracts foreign investors to establish new companies and provides numerous jobs in finance, hospitality, construction, and domestic services. Although the cost of living in Hong Kong is rising year by year, many migrant workers continue to come. However, due to weak labour protection, long working hours, and low wages, they often face exploitation. The government should strengthen labour laws to protect migrant workers because they are essential to Hong Kong's economy, they endure exploitative conditions such as long hours and low wages, and improved protections would enhance Hong Kong's international reputation.

Migrant workers frequently endure exploitative conditions, including long working hours, low pay, and inadequate contracts, which highlight the urgent need for stronger labour protections. Reports from NGOs and media outlets describe cases where workers are required to work more than 10 hours a day yet receive wages below the legal minimum. Some also experience workplace abuse or deductions from their salaries. Stronger labour laws such as enforcing minimum wage standards, limiting maximum working hours, and conducting regular inspections would directly reduce these abuses. Therefore, stricter enforcement is essential to protect migrant workers from exploitation and ensure fair treatment.

Migrant workers form a vital part of Hong Kong's labour force, particularly in domestic services, elderly care, construction, and hospitality, making their protection an economic necessity. For example, a significant proportion of domestic helpers in Hong Kong are migrants, and many families rely on them for childcare and eldercare. Without their contribution, households and public services would face serious disruptions. Protecting these workers through legislation is not only a matter of fairness but also an economic necessity, since the loss or mistreatment of migrant labour would increase costs for employers and weaken Hong Kong's service industries.

Enhancing labour protections for migrant workers would also strengthen Hong Kong's international reputation by demonstrating fairness and responsibility to the global community. Human Rights Watch has criticized Hong Kong in past reports for failing to adequately protect migrant workers, noting that poor labour conditions damage the city's global image. Studies have shown that countries with better labour standards attract more foreign investment and talent, while poor conditions often lead to international criticism. If Hong Kong improves workplace protections and welfare for migrant workers, it will be seen as a fair and responsible global city. This would strengthen investor confidence, improve diplomatic relations, and encourage more skilled workers to seek opportunities in Hong Kong. Thus, safeguarding migrant workers' rights is not only a domestic issue but also a way to reinforce Hong Kong's global standing.

To sum up, migrant workers are a crucial part of Hong Kong's labour force and they deserve protection. Stronger labour laws would reduce exploitation, safeguard their economic contribution, and enhance Hong Kong's international reputation. Therefore, the government should enact laws to protect their rights and recognize their essential role in society.

Assistant:

Hi there! ■ I'm your English writing coach, here to help you strengthen your essay through clear, focused revision. Before we dive in, we'll take a moment to set some goals together.

Here's how our session will work:

Negotiate your targets — We'll start by discussing what you want to improve most in your essay.

Get a quick diagnosis — I'll give you feedback on your essay based on key writing rubrics (like thesis, organization, evidence, and language).

Choose what to focus on — You'll decide which issues you'd like to work on first.

Then we'll move through a structured, three-step revision process:

Step 1: Revise your thesis statement.

Step 2: Choose one body paragraph and refine its topic sentence.

Step 3: Revise the rest of that paragraph for clarity and coherence.

My role is to guide you with questions, feedback, and examples—but you'll always lead the revisions yourself. ■

You:

let's revise this statement

Assistant:

Great — thanks for asking. Before we revise the thesis, let's do a quick setup so our work is focused and useful.

1) Negotiate targets

- What do you most want to improve in this session? (Choose up to two: clarity of argument, thesis strength/preview, paragraph/topic-sentence linkage, grammar/sentence accuracy, vocabulary/word choice, evidence/development.)
- If you're not sure, tell me what you feel is most frustrating about your essay right now.

2) Quick diagnostic feedback (based on the rubric)

Strengths

- Clear stance: your essay takes a pro-stricter-laws position, which is important.
- Relevant ideas: you mention concrete problems (long hours, low pay) and possible benefits of protecting migrant workers.
- Structure exists: there is a clear introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.

Areas to improve (prioritize these when you choose targets)

- Thesis & Argument (Developing → Proficient): Your thesis states a position but is unclear and grammatically awkward. It doesn't clearly preview the main reasons you will use to support the claim.
- Organisation & Logical Progression (Developing): Paragraphs are present but topic sentences and transitions are weak; some sentences are off-topic or confusing.
- Grammar & Sentence Structure (Basic): Many grammatical errors and awkward phrasing make meaning unclear in places.
- Vocabulary (Basic–Developing): Repetitive words and some incorrect collocations ("supportive from foreign neighbourhood") reduce precision.
- Evidence & Development: Examples are general and need clearer connection to your claims and stronger explanation.

3) Student priority selection

Which of the diagnosed issues would you like to focus on now? (Please pick one or two; for example: "Revise thesis and fix topic sentence in paragraph 2" or "Thesis clarity and grammar.")

Once you confirm, we'll start Step 1.

Step 1 — Thesis statement revision (ready to begin after you confirm priorities)

- I see this sentence as your current thesis:

"I strongly recommend governments ought to enforce stricter laws to maintain and safeguard their rights since migrant workers become the vital sources of labour and represent the supportive from foreign neighbourhood."

- Feedback on that thesis:

- It contains redundancy and mixed modal verbs ("strongly recommend" + "ought to") — pick one confident verb form.
- Grammar and word choice make the meaning unclear ("represent the supportive from foreign neighbourhood").
- It doesn't preview the main reasons you'll discuss. A strong thesis should answer the question directly and list 2–3 clear reasons (e.g., economic contribution, exploitation they face, and effect on Hong Kong's reputation).
- Avoid first-person phrasing like "I strongly recommend" in formal academic essays; state the claim directly.

Helpful revision steps (try one or two):

Use this simple template (fill the blanks): Governments should [action: e.g., "enact stricter labour laws"] to protect migrant workers because [reason 1], [reason 2], and [reason 3].

Use precise verbs: enact/implement/strengthen/protect/regulate.

Use clear reason phrases: "because they are essential to Hong Kong's economy," "because they suffer long hours and low pay," "because protecting them would improve the city's international reputation."

Keep it one sentence, active, and specific. No hedging ("I think," "maybe").

Would you like to try rewriting the thesis now using that template? Paste your revision and I'll give focused feedback. If you prefer, tell me which two main reasons you want to include and I'll help you shape them into a thesis (but I won't write the whole sentence for you).

You:

How can I make my thesis statement preview the main reasons I will discuss (e.g., economic contribution, exploitation, international reputation)?

Assistant:

Great question — previewing your main reasons will make your thesis clearer and give the reader a roadmap. Before I show you the technique, please pick your revision targets so I can focus my help.

1) Quick decision: Which 1–2 targets do you want to work on now?

- Options (pick up to two): clarity of argument, thesis strength/preview, paragraph/topic-sentence linkage, grammar/sentence accuracy, vocabulary/word choice, evidence/development.

Once you confirm, we'll revise the thesis.

How to make your thesis preview the main reasons (short guide)

- Use a single, active sentence that states the claim and lists 2–3 reasons you will develop in the essay.
- Use precise verbs (e.g., "enact," "strengthen," "implement") and clear reason phrases (e.g., "because they contribute to the economy," "because they face long hours and low pay," "because protecting them improves Hong Kong's global reputation").
- Order the reasons in the same sequence you will discuss them in your body paragraphs.
- Avoid first person and hedging (no "I believe," "I strongly recommend," "maybe," or "ought to" + "recommend" together).

Template you can use

Governments should [action] to protect migrant workers because [reason 1], [reason 2], and [reason 3].

Two brief examples (use only as models — try your own first)

- Example A (formal, compact): Governments should enact stricter labour laws to protect migrant workers because they are essential to Hong Kong's economy, they often endure long hours and low pay, and stronger protections would improve the city's international reputation.
- Example B (slightly simpler): To safeguard migrant workers, governments should strengthen labour regulations since these workers support Hong Kong's economy, face exploitation through long hours and unfair pay, and their protection would enhance Hong Kong's global standing.

Next step

Would you like to:

- Try writing your revised thesis now using the template and the three reasons above? Paste it and I'll give focused feedback.
- Or tell me which two or three reasons you prefer to include, and I'll help you shape them into a thesis (I'll guide but won't write the full sentence unless you ask)?

Which targets did you choose, and which option (a or b) would you like?

You:

What's a good way to make my thesis preview the main reasons I'll discuss later in the essay?

Assistant:

Nice question — good thinking. Before we start revising, please pick 1–2 targets from this list so I can focus my feedback: clarity of argument, thesis strength/preview, paragraph/topic-sentence linkage, grammar/sentence accuracy, vocabulary/word choice, evidence/development. Which do you choose?

Meanwhile, here's a short, practical guide to make your thesis preview the main reasons clearly:

1) Pick a clear action and 2–3 specific reasons

- Action: use a strong verb (enact/strengthen/implement/protect).
- Reasons: make them concrete and short (e.g., "they support Hong Kong's economy," "they face long hours and low pay," "protecting them would improve Hong Kong's international reputation").

2) Put claim then reasons in one sentence

- Use because / since / to + infinitive to link reasons.
- Keep the reasons in the same order you will discuss them in the body paragraphs.

3) Use confident, formal language

- Don't use "I" or hedging ("I think," "maybe," "ought to" + "recommend").
- Avoid vague phrasing — be specific (not "supportive from foreign neighbourhood").

4) Keep it compact and readable

- One sentence, active voice, no extra clauses. Aim for clarity over length.

Short template you can use

- Governments should [action] to protect migrant workers because [reason 1], [reason 2], and [reason 3].

Two brief example models (use as models only)

- Governments should enact stricter labour laws to protect migrant workers because they are essential to Hong Kong's economy, they often endure long hours and low pay, and stronger protections would improve the city's international reputation.
- To safeguard migrant workers, governments should strengthen regulations since these workers support Hong Kong's workforce, suffer exploitation through excessive hours and unfair wages, and their protection would enhance Hong Kong's global standing.

Would you like to:

- a) Try writing a revised thesis now using the template? Paste it and I'll give focused feedback.
- b) Or tell me which 2–3 reasons you want to include and I'll help you shape them into a thesis (I'll guide but won't write the whole sentence unless you ask)?

Tell me your chosen targets and whether you want option a or b. Ready when you are.

You:

How can I replace vague expressions

Assistant:

Great — focusing on vague expressions is a smart choice. I'll help you replace them so your writing sounds more precise and academic.

First: please confirm your target

- Do you want to focus only on vocabulary/word choice (replacing vague expressions), or do you also want help with grammar/sentence accuracy? (Pick one or two.)

Quick strategy (three simple rules)

1. Be specific: use exact nouns, numbers, or sectors instead of vague words (e.g., say "domestic workers" or "finance sector," not "many job opportunities").
2. Use precise verbs: choose active verbs like employ, earn, enforce, exploit, or enact instead of weak phrases like "meet exploitation" or "provide many job opportunities."
3. Replace general quantifiers with clearer alternatives: if you don't have a number, use "a significant number," "many," "numerous," "a growing number," or "the majority" — but only if accurate.

Common vague expressions from your essay + concise replacements (phrases only — not full sentence rewrites)

- "the most famous international financial center" → one of the world's leading financial centres
- "massive amounts of resources" → extensive financial resources / abundant investment capital
- "stay in Hong Kong to start various business" → establish businesses in the city / set up new firms
- "many job opportunities" → numerous employment opportunities / jobs in finance, hospitality, and domestic work
- "this place" → Hong Kong (use the specific noun)
- "less regulations" → weak labour protections / insufficient regulation / lax enforcement of labour laws
- "long working hours and unfair wage payment" → excessive working hours and low pay / unfair wages
- "they meet exploitation" → they face exploitation / experience labour abuse
- "vital sources of labour" → a vital part of the labour force / an important source of labour
- "represent the supportive from foreign neighbourhood" → are supported by workers from neighbouring countries / receive labour from nearby countries
- "Elderly rising issue" → population ageing / the ageing population
- "teenagers achieve high-level education and find a better job inside the office" → younger people attain higher education and prefer office-based jobs
- "focus their attention on mainland and foreign countries to meet development" → look to the mainland and overseas for economic opportunities
- "may not as high as native born population" → may have lower educational attainment than native-born workers
- "implement some policies that underscore the higher workloads for but low payments for them" → adopt policies that impose heavy workloads but offer low pay
- "a newspaper mentioned a case" → a recent report/case study described / a newspaper reported
- "release out some laws or protect their rights" → enact/introduce laws to protect their rights
- "more migrants workers come... the more reputation Hong Kong can receive" → an influx of migrant workers can boost Hong Kong's international reputation
- "a research figured out" → a recent study found
- "sophisticated technologies, gorgeous land location and the best exportation" → advanced technology, strategic location, and strong export industries
- "increase stably" → have increased steadily / have grown steadily
- "transparently respond to their acclaim" → reflect positively on the city's reputation / improve Hong Kong's international standing
- "avoid discrimination on them and promise not to endure them with long working hours" → prevent discrimination and limit excessive working hours

Mini tips for stronger phrasing

- Replace "many" or "some" with more precise alternatives: "numerous," "a growing number of," "a significant proportion of," or specific figures if you have them.
- Replace weak noun forms with verbs when possible: "make a regulation" → "regulate"; "give protection" → "protect."
- Use collocations common in academic writing: "labour protections," "wage levels," "working conditions," "enforce laws," "legal protections," "exploitative practices."

Would you like to practice now?

- Option A: Pick one sentence from your essay (paste it) and try replacing the vague phrases using the lists above. I'll give focused feedback.
- Option B: Ask me to flag the 3 most vague sentences in your essay and I'll point out which words to change (I won't rewrite full sentences).

Which do you prefer, and did you want to include grammar help as well or just vocabulary?

You:

Are my three reasons strong, need more development?

Assistant:

Good question — those three reasons are a good start: they are relevant and give a clear, logical basis for arguing that governments should enforce stricter laws. That said, each reason needs clearer focus and stronger development in the essay so the reader trusts and follows your argument.

Brief diagnosis of the three reasons

- Reason 1 (economic contribution): Strong and useful — showing that migrant workers are essential makes a practical case for protection. Needs concrete detail and clearer link to policy.
- Reason 2 (exploitation: long hours and low pay): Very strong — this is the moral and factual core of the argument. Needs clearer evidence and explanation of exactly how laws would address these problems.
- Reason 3 (improving Hong Kong's international reputation): Interesting and persuasive for a policy audience, but it's weaker right now because it's abstract and needs clearer cause–effect evidence.

How to strengthen each reason (quick, actionable steps)

1) Make the “economic contribution” reason specific

- What to show: the sectors where migrants work (domestic care, construction, hospitality, elder care) and their share of that workforce or the services they provide.
- Evidence to look for: government labour statistics, NGO or academic reports, news articles citing numbers or sector reliance.
- How to explain it: after you present a fact (e.g., X% of domestic workers are migrants or Y services rely on migrant labour), say why that matters: “losing or mistreating these workers would disrupt households/services/healthcare and impose costs on employers and public services.”
- Quick topic-sentence idea you can adapt: Migrant workers play a vital role in Hong Kong's labour market, especially in [sector(s)], making legal protection essential to the city's economy.

2) Develop the “exploitation” reason with evidence and causal explanation

- What to show: specific types of exploitation (excessive hours, withheld wages, lack of contracts, workplace abuse), and a concrete example or statistic to illustrate frequency.
- Evidence to use: a reported case, NGO documentation, survey results. If you can't access exact numbers in an exam, use phrasing like “many reports describe...” and follow with a short example you remember.
- How to connect to policy: explain how laws would work (minimum wage, limits on hours, enforcement/inspections, penalties) and why current lax enforcement allows abuse.
- Topic-sentence idea: Many migrant workers face exploitative conditions — including long hours and low pay — that stronger labour laws and enforcement could reduce.

3) Make the “international reputation” reason concrete and persuasive

- What to show: how better labour protections affect reputation (ratings, diplomatic relations, foreign recruitment patterns, tourism/investment perceptions).
- Evidence to use: a study or news item linking labour conditions to international criticism or to recruitment choices by other countries.
- How to explain it: show the mechanism — e.g., improved standards lead to better media coverage and investor confidence, which benefits Hong Kong's global standing.
- Topic-sentence idea: Strengthening migrant protections would also enhance Hong Kong's international image, attracting talent and investment while reducing criticism.

Other practical tips for all three reasons

- Order: Put the strongest, most concrete reason first (I suggest starting with exploitation because it directly answers the “should” question), then economic contribution, then reputation — or order them the same as your body paragraphs.

- Evidence + analysis: For each paragraph, keep the structure: topic sentence → brief evidence/example → explanation of how it supports the claim → mini-conclusion/transition.
- Language: Replace vague phrases (e.g., “many,” “some research”) with more precise phrasing where possible (“a recent report,” “numerous case reports”); if you lack numbers, use “many reports” but follow with a concrete brief example.
- Link back to thesis: End each paragraph with a sentence that ties the paragraph’s point clearly to why stricter laws are needed.

Next step — pick targets so we can revise together

Which 1–2 of these would you like to work on now?

- Options to pick from: thesis strength/preview, paragraph/topic-sentence linkage, evidence/development, grammar/sentence accuracy, vocabulary/word choice.

Also, do you want to:

- Try writing a revised thesis now (using the reasons we discussed) and paste it for feedback?
- Or have me help you shape your chosen 2–3 reasons into a thesis (I’ll guide you step-by-step but won’t write the full sentence unless you ask)?

Tell me your chosen targets and whether you want option a or b — then we’ll start Step 1.

You:

Do I need more specific data or case studies to support the contributions and challenges of migrant workers?

Assistant:

Short answer: Yes — specific data or a brief case study will make your argument much stronger, but you don’t need a lot. One clear statistic or one short, concrete example in each key paragraph is usually enough to raise your score on Evidence & Development and Content.

Why it helps

- Credibility: Numbers or named reports show you’ve thought beyond general claims.
- Persuasion: A concrete case (e.g., a reported abuse or a study finding long hours) makes the problem real.
- Rubric impact: Evidence directly improves “Content and Ideas” and “Evidence & Development” ratings.

How much to add (practical guidance)

- For an exam-style essay or timed task: add 1 statistic or 1 short case/example per body paragraph (so 2–3 pieces total).
- For a longer researched essay: aim for one good source and one illustrative case per paragraph.
- Don’t overload: add evidence, then explain clearly how it supports your claim.

Quick types of evidence you can use

- Official statistics (labour department, census): e.g., share of domestic workers who are migrants, average hours reported in surveys.
- NGO/academic reports (ILO, Human Rights Watch, local NGOs): find summaries that note working hours, wage complaints, enforcement problems.
- News reports or a well-known case: a single anecdote (named incident) showing exploitation.
- Legal/policy examples: mention whether Hong Kong has a minimum wage or limits on hours for certain worker categories (if you know).

Where to look quickly (if you have web access)

- Hong Kong Census & Statistics Department; Hong Kong Labour Department
- International Labour Organization (ILO) reports
- Human Rights Watch, Amnesty, and local NGOs like Mission for Migrant Workers
- Reputable news outlets: South China Morning Post, BBC, Reuters

How to integrate evidence smoothly (short phrase templates you can adapt)

- “A recent report by [organization] found that...”
- “For example, a news article reported that a migrant domestic worker was required to...”
- “Official statistics indicate that X% of workers in [sector] are migrant workers, which shows...”

Keep each piece of evidence followed by 1–2 sentences explaining how it supports your point and links to the thesis.

If you don't have exact data (exam conditions)

- Use careful phrasing: "many reports," "a recent study," or "a number of cases have shown..." then give one brief illustrative example you remember.
- Avoid inventing figures. If you must mention a number and aren't sure, use "about" or "around" and make clear it's an estimate.

Would you like to try one of these now?

- Option A: Pick a paragraph and paste it; I'll suggest a short, realistic place to add one statistic or a brief example and give a template sentence you can use.
- Option B: Tell me which two targets you want to work on (I recommend "evidence/development" plus "thesis strength/preview"), and we'll start Step 1 (thesis revision).

Which do you choose?