

## TEST 4, WRITING TASK 2

### SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7.5** score:

Most contemporary economies allow such a model of employment as being self-employed, which appears very tempting for many. However, still the vast majority of people opt for being employed in a company and not to set up their own business. This essay will attempt to look into the key factors as to why people may prefer entrepreneurship and major drawbacks to it.

To start with, in many modern societies, including Russian, entrepreneurship is greatly encouraged with lots of business seminars and workshops advertised. These may range from slightly fraudulent to genuinely educational and supportive, and generally any information on setting up a company is easily accessible for those who are willing. And willing they are, as being a business person, the image itself has a certain feel of luxury, respectability and success. People are being told that they have no limits and can easily become as wealthy as a Steve Jobs is they wish it.

This first reason is linked to the second, which is relevant for Russia and some other countries. Bank loans are accessible too, and they are largely eagerly granted. If a future business person truly knows their business, it poses no threat. Nevertheless, easy access to setting up a company for someone inexperienced or insensible may cause a range of problems.

Apparently, the first issue that may perplex an unskilled entrepreneur is the necessity to be a jack of all trades (if the company is very small). Having taken the responsibilities of an accountant, PR or HR manager at the same time can be a burden and make the person wish they had never done it at all. If they hire other people to perform these tasks, they must pay more tax and provide their employees with decent working conditions. At the same time, business is usually a risky matter and in our competitive reality many of them go bankrupt. And last, but not least – self-employed people are the only people responsible for their own vacations, sick or maternity leaves or any job perks.

So, in a nutshell, being your own master has many downsides, that is why many people decide to play it safe.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The candidate has produced a well-developed response to the task. Further ideas could be included, e.g. wanting to develop own ideas, wanting to work more flexibly than employment allows for. There is a clear progression throughout the response, with information and ideas organised logically. There is a range of cohesive devices [*To start with* | *These* | *The first ... the second* | *Apparently* | *last but not least*] and each paragraph has a clear central topic. There is a wide range of vocabulary, including less common items and showing evidence of style and collocation [*contemporary* | *tempting* | *vast majority* | *opt for* | *entrepreneurship* | *fraudulent* |

### Sample answers for Writing tasks

*image | luxury | perplex | jack of all trades*], with only rare examples of inaccuracy [*insensible*]. There is a variety of complex structures, used flexibly and accurately. Grammar and punctuation are well controlled and there are frequent error-free sentences. A few errors persist [*still the vast majority of people opt for (word order) | (the) major drawbacks*] but the message is still clear.