

IELTS Writing Task 2 requires you to write an academic-style essay on a common topic. You have 40 minutes to write at least 250 words.

Task 2 can be broken down and thought about more easily in 5 steps:

1. Question Analysis

You must first understand the question to know exactly what the examiner is looking for. One of the biggest mistakes students make is not answering the question properly. If you do not answer the question fully, you can't score higher than a Band 5.

In order to do this, you must first identify the question type, then identify the keywords in the question and finally identify the instructions words in order to find out what the examiner wants you to do with the question. We will look at these skills in more detail below.

2. Planning

Planning helps you organise your ideas and structure before you write, saving you time and helping you write a clear essay.

3. Introduction

The introduction should tell the examiner what the rest of the essay is about and also answer the question directly. This tells the examiner that you know what you are doing straight away and helps you write your main body paragraphs.

4. Main Body Paragraphs

This is where you give the examiner more detail. You do this by stating your main points and supporting these with explanations and relevant examples.

5. Conclusion

Here you provide a summary of what you have already said in the rest of the essay.