

IELTS Practice Test Volume 4

Writing Practice Test 2

HOW TO USE

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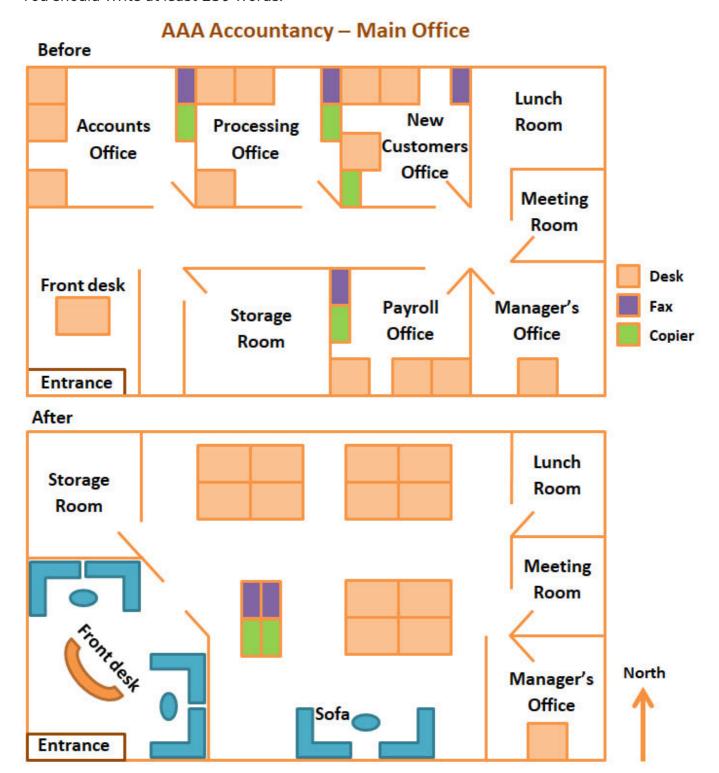
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The two floor plans show the renovation of AAA Accountancy's main office.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

You should write at least 150 words.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Dogs are one of the most popular pets in the world, yet many would, yet many would say it is inappropriate to have them in built-up inner-city areas?

Do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer, and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

You should write at least 250 words.

SAMPLE WRITING TASK 1

The manner in which AAA Accountancy's headquarters has been refurbished* can be summarised as follows.

In general, the premises have been converted from a closed plan of separate rooms housing cohorts of specialised workers to an open one, creating a spacious central arena, and a 'soft' benefit of more organic channels of communication, as well as a 'hard' one, by eliminating the duplication of office equipment.

Regarding this central area, the original 'three-desk' offices, dealing with accounts, processing, customers, and payroll, each with its own fax and copier, and accessed by an arterial corridor, have been subsumed (and possibly intermixed) within three rectangular clusters of 'four-seater' workstations, all wired to an industrial-sized machine, which now serves all. The consequent saving in space has allowed the inclusion of a sofa-set alongside the southern wall.

Moving to the periphery, the east side remains essentially unchanged, then, as now, having a lunchroom, meeting room, and manager's office in a north-south alignment. The west side, however, now sports a smaller storage room (halving the dimensions of the original), and, most significantly, an expanded foyer with a customer-friendly hemispherical reception island and adjacent sofa sets, behind which lie elegantly curved walls and sliding doors, screening the interior from view.

One instinctively feels that this new arrangement is a mammoth improvement in terms of aesthetics, function, and cost efficiency.

SAMPLE WRITING TASK 2

Dogs, possessed with an instinct to form co-operative packs, have a long history working alongside human beings. Nowadays, however, with humanity compressed into 'concrete jungles', dogs mostly take the role of companions, yet I would say, most emphatically, that these animals should be prohibited from urban centres. Here are my reasons.

Firstly and most obviously, dogs scatter unsightly, unsanitary, and malodorous excrement, which is particularly inappropriate in cemented city precincts. Human sewage has long been recognised as a vector of disease, hence the scrupulously thorough infrastructure dealing with this in heavily populated areas. It is thus perplexing that society tolerates this parallel problem from dogs, carrying as it does identical risks. Regarding Melbourne, for example, after heavy rains, the E-coli count in beaches drifts dangerously high, rendering swimming unsafe, a condition attributed mostly to dog droppings.

Another reason for cities banning dogs is to remove the danger they present. Within these animals lurks the predatory instincts of wolves (from whose ancestral stock dogs were domesticated). It is again perplexing that such potentially vicious creatures are concentrated in

urban centres, when

attacks - occasionally lethal - inevitably occur. A particularly distressing example was of a five-year-old girl savaged to death by three 'family' dogs in Australia. One could equally cite those similarly affecting incidents which see babies mauled, their innocent lives gruesomely terminated. No justification, whatsoever, is acceptable here.

Admittedly, dog owners would claim they need canine companionship in lonely urban existences. This rationale is, however, somewhat lame when there are plentiful human beings available if even minor effort were taken. I see this frequently here in Taiwan, with pampered 'pooches' carried in handbags, transported in prams, and dressed in clothes, effectively transformed into pseudo-children in veritable theatres of the absurd. Such choices do not defend dogs, but merely reflect inappropriate assessments concerning life's priorities.

For all these reasons, excluding dogs from urban areas is necessary.

Allowing these animals there blatantly ignores the majority, who do not want them, or the problems they create.

Hopefully, civic leaders will take this initiative, showing immediately how cities can become safer and more habitable places.

I would predict, regrettably, that civic leaders do not have the political courage necessary to enact such laws.