

IELTS Recent Mock Tests Volume 2

Writing Practice Test 4

HOW TO USE

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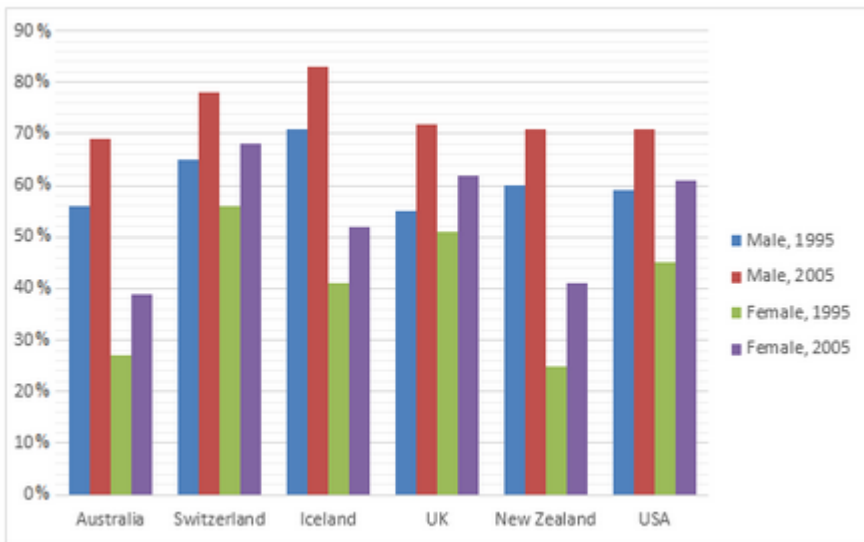
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about **20** minutes on this task.

The graph below shows information on employment rates across 6 countries in 1995 and 2005.

Summarise the information by choosing and describe the main idea, and make comparisons where appropriate.

You should write at least **150** words.



WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about **40** minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic.

Most people have forgotten the meaning behind traditional or religious festivals; during festival periods, people nowadays only want to enjoy themselves.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?

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 supplied bar graph compares the employment rates between men and female in 6 different countries for the years 1995 and 2005. As is observed from the given data, the employment rate among men was higher than that of females in all of the given six countries and the overall employment conditions in Iceland, Switzerland was comparatively better than the other four countries.

As is given in the diagram, initially in 1995, more than 65% males were employed in Switzerland and in Iceland while in other four countries this rate was less than 60%. After a decade, the male employment percentage reached over 70% except in Australia. On the contrary, in 1995, the female employment rate was over 50% only in Switzerland and for the rest of the countries, this was from 28% to 58%. This quota also improved over the 10 years, and in 2005, female employee rate reached to almost 70% in Switzerland and for the rest of the countries, it was 50%.

In summary, the male had a better employment record than the female and in 10 years the employment opportunity for both male and female increased.

SAMPLE WRITING TASK 2

Sample Band: 8

Some people feel that religious festivals are becoming meaningless with most people only wanting to enjoy themselves. I don't agree with this view. In my opinion, festivals are to be enjoyed. Also I don't think that people have forgotten their meaning.

All traditional festivals teach and celebrate the good values of life such as morality and ethics. In my country, for example, people celebrate Diwali in a grand manner by wearing new clothes, giving and receiving presents, bursting crackers and preparing traditional foods which give them more enjoyment. In addition, by decorating their homes with earthen lamps they are also sending out the message that we should dispel darkness from the world and our lives. Similar behaviour can be seen during the non-religious festivals like Bogi. People come together making bonfires, watching fireworks displays, and participating in the cultural events held in local parks.

In my opinion, the argument that people have forgotten the meaning of festivals is meaningless. In schools, children are learning the reasons for celebrating festivals such as Diwali, Navratri, Pongal, Easter, Id and Holi in their text books. Also, devotional singing and writing competitions are held to encourage the students to learn more about the religious festivals. In addition, parents tell children interesting anecdotes about various festivals to ensure that they stay rooted in their culture.

In conclusion, even in this fast paced modern world, people are still celebrating their religious festivals with full of enthusiasm and joyfulness. Just because they are celebrating it does not mean that they have forgotten the values and messages of these festivals.

SAMPLE WRITING TASK 2

A festival is the celebration of an agricultural or a religious traditional event. While some festivals have lost their original purposes, I disagree that they are merely for entertainment; instead, there is significant effort to revive the tradition of our ancestors.

The origins of festivals are linked with agriculture and religions. In the harvest season, after a year of hard work, rewarded by ample food, people could finally enjoy themselves with music and ritual ceremonies. As a result, tradition and religious festivals were created to provide entertainment and group cohesion. Various festivals started to appear throughout history, each had its own cultural and religious meaning.

The Industrialization Revolution has made agriculture less important, resulted in a decline in cultural awareness. The Halloween was originally a harvest festival of the Gaelic, however, recently it has become an entertainment event, with people wearing costume and drinking in the night. The same thing happened in Vietnam not so long ago, where Hau Dong - the practice of spirit mediums - gradually declined in the twentieth century.

However, there is a rise of traditional awareness around the world. For example, Hau Dong has been revived, with thousands of people attending the festival. Numerous efforts to signify the importance of cultural identity have been made worldwide, such as teaching history lessons to the children, or preservation and translation ancient texts into modern languages. Many young people are growing interest in their tradition, with the celebration of ancient festivals like The Olympics Games is a clear evidence.

To summarize, I acknowledge that some festivals have lost their original meanings. However, the effort to reinvigorate our culture has made significant impacts, thus the traditional and religious of festivals will be preserved into the future.