

The IELTS essay questions below were reported by students as appearing in their writing task 2 test this year, 2017. The wording may, of course, vary from the real exam question.

Students taking their test this year should definitely prepare ideas for these topics. Although essay questions change, the topics are often repeated.

The questions below are divided into the 5 different types of IELTS essay:

- Opinion Essay (Agree /Disagree)
- Discussion Essay
- Advantage Disadvantage Essay
- Direct Question Essay
- Cause/ Solution Essay

Opinion Essay 2017

Schools are spending more time teaching traditional subjects such as history. Some people think they should rather spend more time in teaching skills that can help students find a job. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

It should be necessary for parents to attend a parenting training course to learn how to bring their children up. Do you agree?

Some people say International sports events help world peace. Do you agree or disagree?

Young people spend their free time in shopping malls. This has negative effects on young people and society. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Discussion Essay Questions 2017

Some people say it is OK to use animals for our benefit, others say it is not good to exploit them. Discuss both points of view and give your opinion.

Some people think Governments should take measures to improve the healthy lifestyle of individuals. Others think it must be managed by individuals. Discuss both sides and give your opinion.

Most countries allow 18 year olds to start driving a car. Some say it is good to allow it at this age, while others think that the age to start driving should be at least 25. Discuss both the views and give your opinion.

Some people think that the best way to reduce crimes is to apply longer prison sentences, while other people think that there are better methods of doing so. Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Advantages and Disadvantages Essay Questions 2017

Today, more and more students are deciding to move to a different country for higher studies. Do you think that the benefits of this outweigh the problems?

Consumer goods have become the most important part of people's lives. Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?

Many people go abroad for higher studies. What are the advantages and disadvantages?

In some countries, a foreign language is taught at primary schools. Do the advantages of learning a new language outweigh the disadvantages?

The advantages provided by English as a 'global language' will continue to outweigh the disadvantages. To what extent do you agree with the statement?

Direct Questions 2017

100 years ago people thought that the human race was steadily making progress in all areas of life. Nowadays, there is less certainty that it is so. In what areas do you think the most important progress has been made so far? In what areas are more things needed to be done?

In some schools and universities, girls tend to choose arts subjects (e.g. literature), and boys tend to choose science subjects (e.g. physics). Why do you think this is so? Should this tendency be changed?

Some universities offers online courses for students. Do you think this is a positive or negative development for students?

Children in some parts of the world have less responsibility compared to children in the past. Some people think this as a positive change, however others think of it as a negative change. What do you think? (*reported Dec 2016*)

Cause / Problem / Solution Essays 2017

The gap between rich and poor is growing. What problems does this create? What can be done to tackle them?

More and more people prefer to read e-books rather than paper books. What are the reasons for this? What problems can this cause for libraries?