

Corrections in red

Academic language suggestion in blue

Vocabulary suggestion in purple

General comments in green

Original answer in black

Being a celebrity- such as a famous film star or sports personality- brings problems as well as benefits. Do you think that being a celebrity brings more benefits or more problems?

Nowadays being a celebrity in the public eye is one of the hardest ways of life. There are lots of advantages like such as being rich, loved by many people and being famous, but however, there are also many disadvantages that we should think about consider. So, it is a difficult question, that there is not an easy answer to.

[You should make it clear in the introduction what you think. Pick one side or the other. You could say something like 'I believe there are more advantages than disadvantages.' or 'I believe the disadvantages outweigh the advantages.' You could also include an outline sentence, saying what you will discuss in the rest of your essay. Please see my sample essay below which includes these.]

Let's first talk about the celebrities to see if there are some benefits of being well-known. Some of them has to work very hard to get to the point of being well-known and are celebrities.

[The above paragraph does not really answer the question. It talks about celebrities working hard, rather than the benefits or problems. Only include things that directly answer the question.]

But if we just look into their everyday's lives, we can see that they have very wealthy accomadations live in luxury mansions and have lavish lifestyles: they have the such as dream dream wages, they live in luxury houses, and they can buy all the super cars they want desire.

[This paragraph addresses the benefits of being a celebrity so it does respond to the question, but you would need to develop your answer with explanations and examples, in order to get one of the higher band scores. How is wealth a benefit? Wealth might seem like an obvious benefit, but you should always explain why. Can you give a specific example?]

But However, money is not nothing everything: even they who are rich rich peoples', their personals lives is are not always so as happy as people see it is realise. I can now remember For example, Michael Jackson as good example. In the start he was the King of Pop, but when he got older he had more and more life problems that got worse and worse day by day. Some say that he was a drug addicted because of being so sad and others say his character had worse aspects. So Therefore, being a celebrity is not all easy things and a happy life.

[You have given a good reason why celebrity is a problem and given a specific example.]

All in all In conclusion, when I look at all the advantages and disadvantages, we can't see if it is good or bad.

[A good conclusion should summarise your main points and then state your opinion again. Try to do this when you rewrite this essay.]

Examiner's Report

Task Response- Band 5

Both the advantages and disadvantages are covered; however, the advantages of fame are not covered in as much detail as the disadvantages.

The answer would have been better if the ideas were more developed with explanations and examples.

The main weakness in this area is not having a clear opinion. The conclusions drawn do not tell the reader which side of the argument the writer favours.

The candidate wrote over the 250 word limit required.

Suggestions- Have one clear paragraph for advantages and one clear paragraph for disadvantages. Each paragraph should have a topic sentence, an explanation and a specific example.

State your opinion in the introduction and conclusion.

Answer the questions directly or in other words, only discuss the advantages and disadvantages of fame.

Giving yourself 5 minutes to plan what you are going to write at the start will also help you in this area.

Coherence and Cohesion- Band 6

Ideas were organised logically with a clear introduction and then discussion of the positives and negatives, but the beginning of paragraphs could be improved to link ideas together more effectively.

Paragraphing is not effectively used. There are too many paragraphs and the paragraphs that are used often have too many ideas.

Suggestions- Start each of the main body paragraphs with a clear topic sentence showing the reader what that paragraph is about. You can then develop this topic sentence with explanations and examples. Each paragraph should have one main idea only.

Also, learn how to use some simple discourse markers such as 'however', 'therefore' and 'in conclusion'.

Use a clear four paragraph structure.

Finally, try **not** to use informal language such as, 'all in all.'

Vocabulary- Band 6

Vocabulary is adequate for the task but with inappropriacies and repetition, however, the errors do not prevent meaning from being communicated.

Keywords from the such as 'famous' and 'celebrity' are copied from the question and repeated several times, however, the candidate has tried to vary the keywords 'benefits' and 'problems'.

Examiner's Report

The candidates do try to use words that are specific to the topic, such as 'lifestyle', 'accommodation', 'character' and 'luxury', but they often make mistakes when trying to use these less common words.

Suggestions- Only use vocabulary you are 100% sure is correct. By 100%, you should know the spelling, grammar, synonyms, and collocations and have used it correctly before in a sentence.

You can improve your vocabulary by keeping a vocabulary book that you record new words in, along with things, such as synonyms and collocations that will help you remember. You should also read something in English within the common Task 2 topics, such as education, health, technology and the environment.

Finally, give yourself time to check your work at the end for small mistakes.

Grammar- Band 5

There is a mixture of both simple and complex sentences; however, when complex sentences are attempted there is a noticeable increase in the amount of mistakes made, some of which cause communication problems. Most sentences have at least one mistake.

Common problems are subject-verb agreement, plurals and use of articles.

Suggestions- This is the third essay I have marked and the same small mistakes keep occurring. This is a good thing because you can now focus on improving these aspects of your grammar.

You should also allow yourself some time at the end to check your writing for these common mistakes.

Overall- Band 5.5

Thank you for sending me these essays. You stated in your email that you need to get 6.5 in your writing and I think with focused practice and a deeper understanding of the task required, you can achieve your goal.

Your main priority should be learning how to answer Task 2 questions properly i.e. answering the question that is asked. Familiarise yourself with the 5 different types of Task 2 questions and use an appropriate structure for each of them. This will help your scores for Task Response and Coherence and Cohesion.

It will also help your essays if you learn how to write effective introductions and conclusions.

Also learn some simple discourse markers that will help you organise your essays effectively.

You need to fix the common grammar mistakes highlighted above. Follow the 100% rule with your grammar- if you are not 100% sure, don't write it. Keeping it simple helps with this.

Examiner's Report

Suggested free IELTS Advantage resources-

<http://ieltsadvantage.com/2015/05/21/write-supporting-paragraph-ielts/>

<http://ieltsadvantage.com/2015/03/05/how-to-understand-analyse-ielts-writing-task-2/>

<http://ieltsadvantage.com/2015/03/05/how-to-write-introduction-ielts-writing-task-2/>

<http://ieltsadvantage.com/2015/06/14/ielts-writing-conclusions/>

<http://ieltsadvantage.com/2015/03/03/ielts-writing-task-2-essay-structures/>

<http://ieltsadvantage.com/2015/05/24/ielts-advantages-and-disadvantages-lesson/>

Band 9 Sample Essay

Being a celebrity- such as a famous film star or sports personality- brings problems as well as benefits.

Do you think that being a celebrity brings more benefits or more problems?

Being in the public eye- such as a movie star or professional football player- has its benefits and its drawbacks. Overall, this essay believes that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. The essay will first discuss the financial rewards celebrity brings, followed by a discussion about the lack of privacy, before giving a reasoned conclusion.

Celebrities are not only known the world over; they are also fabulously wealthy and this is the primary reason why it is so beneficial. They often become millionaires overnight and this allows them to buy whatever they want for themselves and their loved ones and all for doing something they love. Premiership footballers are a prime example; with most of them being able to support themselves for the rest of their lives, after earning over \$50,000 per week, on average, for many years.

However, it is often argued that this comes at a price and that price is the destruction of their private lives. Many complain that they can't cope with living 'inside a goldfish bowl' and they would trade their newfound wealth for anonymity. For example, 'A-listers' like Kanye West are hounded by Papparazzi wherever they go and can never lead a 'normal' life again. However, they do have a choice and there are very few stars that stop what they are doing, give away their money and return to normality.

In conclusion, the financial freedom associated with fame and its many benefits, far outweigh the problems, particularly constant attention from the press and fans.