

IELTS Writing Task Two on architecture and town planning

Discuss your opinions on the topics below with one or two other students. Don't think about how you would write an answer yet, but do try to stick closely to answering the questions that are there.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In many countries the capital city is becoming more and more important, in contrast to the countryside and other towns. Some people think that something should be done to stop this, while others think that it is a natural process that cannot and/ or should not be stopped.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people think that the best way to decrease the cost of housing is to make it cheaper and easier for private developers to build houses and flats through deregulation, sales of government land, etc. Others think that this would have little or no positive effect, and that governments need to build and run affordable housing.

In your opinion, which would have the biggest positive effect?

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people think that architectural prizes should always be given to the buildings that do least damage to the environment and the architects who design them.

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.

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In many cities, homes are becoming both smaller and more expensive.

What are the causes of these problems, and what solutions can you suggest?

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Putting roads underground is the best solution to the problems caused by traffic in cities.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

What other measures might be effective?

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

Write at least 250 words.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In some places, people who squat in abandoned buildings are allowed to stay in them as long as they maintain or renovate the building, and no one objects to them being there.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this policy?

Do you think it is a good idea in most countries?

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

Write at least 250 words.

Ask about any questions above which you couldn't understand, couldn't answer, etc.

Plan some of the essays above, compare your plans, then write an introduction matching one of those plans.

Do the next task in exactly 40 minutes from first looking at the task to finishing editing and putting your pen down (not looking at the task before you start your stopwatch).

Extra task for (timed) writing practice

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Some people say that ugly modern architecture that ruins the skyline of historical cities should be demolished.

Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?

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

Write at least 250 words.
