

IELTS Writing task two

Opinion essay

Agree/Disagree essay

- Some people think that instead of preventing climate change, we need to find a way to live with it.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

- Some people think that dangerous extreme sports such as rock climbing and sky-diving should be banned.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Steps in writing a good essay

- 1) Read and analyze the topic carefully
- 2) Brainstorm ideas and choose the most relevant arguments
- 3) Write an essay quickly, don't waste your time overthinking
- 4) Always leave some time for proof-reading

1-sided approach

Some people think that instead of preventing climate change, we need to find a way to live with it.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Some suggest that we adapt to climate change rather than try to prevent it. I disagree with this assertion for two main reasons, which will be explained below.

To begin with, adapting to climate change is a short-term solution. This is because the Earth's climate is largely unpredictable and still poorly understood despite the advances in climate prediction technologies. Thus, adaptation measures that seem effective for today's climate may fail to address the long-term effects of climate change. For instance, city planners can relocate cities further inland in response to rising sea levels, but these cities may eventually suffer from low precipitation and water shortage due to a sudden change in cloud formation. In this sense, adaptation proves a short-sighted measure to a phenomenon yet to be fully understood.

Furthermore, preventing climate change would be a more sensible course of action. This is because while adaptation deals with the effects of climate change to some degree, preventative measures tend to target the root causes of climate change. One prime example of a prevention strategy would be switching to renewable energy in order to curb human carbon output - a primary contributor to global warming. This measure serves humankind longer than adaptation measures like large-scale installation of air-conditioning in cities to bring down temperature levels.

In conclusion, I am adamantly opposed to the idea of adapting to climate change not only because it is a half measure but also because its alternative - prevention - is far more practical from a long-term future perspective.

Climate change represents a major threat to life on Earth, but some people argue that we need to accept it rather than try to stop it. I completely disagree with this opinion, because I believe that we still have time to tackle this issue and reduce the human impact on the Earth's climate.

There are various measures that governments and individuals could take to prevent, or at least mitigate, climate change. Governments could introduce laws to limit the carbon dioxide emissions that lead to global warming. They could impose “green taxes” on drivers, airline companies and other polluters, and they could invest in renewable energy production from solar, wind or water power. As individuals, we should also try to limit our contribution to climate change, by becoming more energy efficient, by flying less, and by using bicycles and public transport. Furthermore, the public can affect the actions of governments by voting for politicians who propose to tackle climate change, rather than for those who would prefer to ignore it.

If instead of taking the above measures we simply try to live with climate change, I believe that the consequences will be disastrous. To give just one example, I am not optimistic that we would be able to cope with even a small rise in sea levels. Millions of people would be displaced by flooding, particularly in countries that do not have the means to safeguard low-lying areas. These people would lose their homes and their jobs, and they would be forced to migrate to nearby cities or perhaps to other countries. The potential for human suffering would be huge, and it is likely that we would see outbreaks of disease and famine, as well as increased homelessness and poverty.

In conclusion, it is clear to me that we must address the problem of climate change, and I disagree with those who argue that we can find ways to live with it.

Counter argument approach

Introduction	1) Introduce the topic 2) Give your own opinion clearly
Body One	1) There are a number of arguments.. 2) Argument 1 3) Explain the argument using at least 2 sentences + give relevant examples 4) Argument 2 5) Explain the argument using at least 2 sentences + give relevant examples 6) Summarize your Body One
Body Two	1) There are a number of arguments.. 2) Argument 1 3) Explain the argument using at least 2 sentences + give relevant examples 4) Argument 2 5) Explain the argument using at least 2 sentences + give relevant examples

Body Three (optional)	1) There are a number of arguments.. 2) Argument 1 3) Explain the argument using at least 2 sentences + give relevant examples 4) Argument 2 5) Explain the argument using at least 2 sentences + give relevant examples 6) Summarize your Body Three
Conclusion	1) Restate the arguments 2) Restate own opinion

Let's analyze an essay together

Some people think that instead of preventing climate change, we need to find a way to live with it.

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

Introduction -> criteria

- 1) Mention all parts of the topic
- 2) Show your clear position
- 3) Give a background statement unless it is irrelevant to the main idea of the topic

Sample introduction

Climate change causes a lot of problems and puts our lives in danger. Despite this risk, some people hold the view that we should accept climate change instead of trying to stop it. Although it might sound reasonable for some to find ways of living with the changing climate, I disagree that it is too late to try to combat it.

Body paragraphs -> criteria

- 1) Always start your arguments with an opening statement. Introduce your arguments shortly.
- 2) Always expand your arguments. Remember T.R. and C.C.
- 3) Take your arguments to the end, till the very final logical ending.
- 4) If you give an example, make sure it does not hinder the meaning. Avoid making it too general or too personal.
- 5) Use linkers appropriately. Always connect your ideas. Make sure you expand all statements that you included in introduction

Sample Bodies

True, channeling resources toward adapting to climate change may also prevent fatal consequences. The adaptation can indeed help communities and ecosystems become more resilient to the impacts of climate change. This includes building infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather events, implementing early warning systems, and developing strategies to protect vulnerable populations. However, if we choose to simply accept and live with climate change instead of implementing the aforementioned measures, I believe the consequences will be devastating. To illustrate this point, I am not optimistic about our ability to handle even a slight increase in sea levels. Flooding would displace millions of people, particularly in countries that lack the resources to protect low-lying areas. These individuals would lose their homes and livelihoods, and they would be compelled to migrate to nearby cities or potentially even other countries. The potential for immense human suffering would be inevitable, and it is likely that we would witness outbreaks of disease and famine, as well as a surge in homelessness and poverty.

Sample Bodies

Furthermore, there are several other actions that can be taken by both governments and individuals to prevent or reduce the impact of climate change. Governments have the power to implement laws that limit the emission of carbon dioxide, which is a major contributor to global warming. They can also impose taxes on drivers, airlines, and other polluters, encouraging them to adopt more environmentally friendly practices. Additionally, investing in renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and water power can help reduce reliance on fossil fuels. On an individual level, we can make efforts to decrease our own carbon footprint by being more energy efficient, reducing air travel, and using public transportation or bicycles. It is also important for the public to vote for politicians who prioritize addressing climate change rather than those who choose to ignore it, as this can influence government actions.

Conclusion -> criteria

- 1) Restate your arguments
- 2) Restate you own position
- 3) Make sure your arguments are not restated robotically but outline the main idea of your essay
- 4) Never include a new idea in your conclusion

Sample conclusion

In conclusion, it is crucial to take proactive measures to prevent or reduce the impact of climate change instead of accepting it. Failure to address climate change could lead to catastrophic consequences. Therefore, it is imperative that we take action now to protect our planet and future generations.

Class practice

Some people think that dangerous extreme sports such as rock climbing and sky-diving should be banned.

To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Some call for banning of extreme sports like rock climbing and sky-diving for being dangerous. While there is some truth to this assertion, I largely disagree with it.

Admittedly, illegalizing extreme sports can be justified on several grounds. The primary reason is concern over safety. Since extreme sports entail huge risk, participants may sustain severe physical injuries such as bone fractures and, in some scenarios, die. In this respect, banning such sports appears a logical measure to prevent these misfortunes. Apart from safety hazard, there is an environmental impact to consider. Cases of pristine habitats being converted to racing tracks and mountain peaks being littered with human junk have grown with the growing popularity of extreme sports. Hence, one would be right to assume that the prohibition of extreme sports can avert further contamination and possible destruction of the environment.

Despite the reasons stated above, I am opposed to imposing limitations on extreme sports. My reason being, extreme sports are a boon to the economy: It is a lucrative industry that generates considerable revenue as well as employing many people. Equipment cost, training, safety checks and permits mean many vacancies and large profits both to organizers and the government, so revenue and job losses ensue as a result of the restriction of extreme sports. Furthermore, shutting down extreme sports is likely to be met with strong public disapproval. Millions of extreme sports enthusiasts and viewers across the world would protest if the government were to forbid extreme sports.

In conclusion, though I admit banning extreme sports seems logical for a few reasons, I am generally against it seeing as doing so could undermine the economy and cause public discontent.