

## Sample Task Two questions

### Writing Task 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

***People move to new cities or new countries more than ever before.***

***What challenges do they experience? What strategies are there to help them meet these challenges?***

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

Write at least 250 words.

- 1. We live today in an electronic information age. It is easier to be connected by technology yet many people seem no closer to feeling happy in their lives. Discuss.***
- 2. Some people think that robots are very important for humans' future development. Others however, think that robots are a dangerous invention that could have negative effects on society. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.***
- 3. Tourism can be an excellent way to develop a country but it can also cause harm. How can countries ensure that tourism benefits their development?***
- 4. Some people say that it is impossible to live comfortably in large cities. What problems are faced by people who live in large cities? What can be done to help solve these problems?***
- 5. Many people complain about stress in the workplace. What can employers do to reduce workplace stress and what can the workers themselves do?***

# The Strange Island of Tango



Have you ever been to a remote island? Did you enjoy staying there? Do you think that the people there are happier than people who live in cities?

You will hear a story about the island of Tango, a small island not far from the east coast of Fantasia. The story is about the inhabitants of Tango, who have given up worrying and working more or less completely.

Listen and answer the questions:

1. What effect did the drug have on people's minds?
2. What effect did it have on the country's economy?
3. What did the government do, and why weren't they successful?
4. What did the government do in the end, and why was this a better solution?

As you listen again, choose verbs from the list and write sentences which have the same meaning as those below.

Don't forget to put the 'Tango' verb in the past simple tense, and be sure to complete the sentence. The first has been done for you.

<b>allow</b>	<b>stop</b>	<b>make it easier</b>
<b>enable</b>	<b>prevent</b>	<b>make it more difficult</b>
<b>encourage</b>	<b>discourage</b>	
<b>force</b>	<b>save</b>	

1. When they took the drug, it was more difficult for them to think rationally.  
The drug **made it more difficult for them to think** rationally.
2. When they took the drug, they didn't worry about the future.  
The drug ...
3. When they took the drug, they were able to forget about all their problems.  
The drug ...
4. When they took the drug, they could relax and enjoy themselves more easily.  
The drug ...
5. Although there was a shortage of food, people still wanted to take the drug.  
Even the food shortage did not ...
6. Because of the economic crisis, the government had to take some decisive action.  
The economic crisis ...
7. After the new law was introduced, people still took the drug.  
The new law didn't ...
8. After the new law was introduced, people wanted to take the drug even more.  
The new law ...
9. When the drug was exported, the islanders didn't have to work more than one day a week.  
Exporting the drug ...
10. When the drug was exported, they were able to sit in the sun all day long.  
This...

# The 'Tango' verb plus verb combinations

## Pattern One: plus infinitive

<b>enable</b> <b>allow</b> <b>encourage</b> <b>force</b>	<b>someone</b>	<b>to do something</b>
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## Pattern Two: make it ...

<b>make it</b>	<b>easier</b> <b>more difficult</b>	<b>for someone to do something</b>
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## Pattern Three: plus gerund

<b>stop</b> <b>prevent</b> <b>save</b>	<b>someone</b>	<b>(from) doing something</b>
<b>discourage</b>	<b>someone</b>	<b>from doing something</b>

## Discussion

**Example:** *package holidays*

- A** Package holidays **enable people to travel** abroad cheaply.
- B** Ah yes, but they **discourage people from being** adventurous, because everything is organised for them.
- C** But on the other hand, they **make it easier for single people to make friends** on holiday.
- D** Yes, but they **force you to spend** your holiday with people you may not like.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of the following? Choose five topics and write a sentence on each one. Try to use a different Tango verb for each topic.

A credit card	Car-free day	Sharing a flat with friends
Instagram	Being married	A part-time job
Living with parents	Living in Jakarta	A personal trainer
Having your own car	Having a Master's degree	Being a celebrity
Being able to play the piano	Learning Mandarin	Instant noodles
TV advertising	Google maps	Studying psychology

Your sentences:

1. ....
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....

## Supermarkets or small shops?

Rewrite the sentences about supermarkets below, beginning with the words given.

1. People tend to buy more in supermarkets because of the open display.

*The open display encourages people to buy more.*

2. There is a wide range of goods, so you can do all your shopping in one place.

*The wide range of goods .....*

3. Some supermarkets use cameras, so that people are less likely to steal things.

*The use of cameras .....*

4. Because supermarkets sell things at cut prices, smaller shops have to lower their prices too.

*The cut prices in supermarkets .....*

5. Because of the competition from supermarkets, it is harder for smaller shops to stay in business.

*The competition from supermarkets .....*

## The Tango answers

1. The drug **made it more difficult** for them to think rationally.
2. The drug **stopped** them worrying about the future.
3. The drug **enabled** them to forget all their problems.
4. The drug **made it easier** for them to relax and enjoy themselves.
5. Even the food shortage **did not discourage** people from taking the drug.
6. The economic crisis **forced** the government to take some action.
7. The new law didn't **prevent** people from taking the drug.
8. The law only **encouraged** people to take the drug.
9. Exporting the drug **saved** the islanders from having to work more than one day a week.
10. This **allowed** them to sit in the sun all day long.

## And some final tips

### Useful phrases for the four-paragraph essay:

- [Information technology] has had a major impact on people's lives/everyday life
- [Information technology] has a number of advantages. First, ...
- On the other hand, it cannot be denied /many people would argue that ...
- [Information technology] has a negative effect overall
- Few people would deny that [information technology] has had several undesirable consequences/effects/results
- In conclusion, it is clear that ... can benefit people in a number of ways.
- However, parents/the government should make sure that children/people do not ....

### Link ideas with these words at the beginning of a sentence:

For example, ...	As a result, ...	In conclusion, ...
For instance, ...	However, ...	To sum up, ...
Moreover, ...	On the other hand, ...	In my opinion, ...
Furthermore, ...		

### Using Tango verbs (1)

The easiest way to use the Tango words is to simply think of the topic of your essay, then add the Tango verb:

*High school examinations (allow, enable, prevent, force etc.) ...*

*Or: Living in Jakarta/Having a cat or dog/Getting married at an early age ...*

### Using Tango verbs (2)

Use **This** plus a Tango word to develop an idea:

*Many people now choose to work from home one day per week. **This** (enables/allows) them to ...  
However, working from home may ...*

### People and everyday examples

Think of people and everyday examples when you write a topic. Compare the following topics. Which would be easier to write about?

1. Urban problems
2. Traffic
3. Traffic in Jakarta
4. My journey to school/work everyday