

ARTICLE WRITING

Past-paper questions and model answers

This teaching handout compiles the Pearson Level 1 writing tasks supplied by the user. Model answers are original teaching examples, not official Pearson responses. Where fewer than five genuine questions were available, clearly labelled Pearson-style practice tasks have been added.

How to use this handout

Read each exam-style task first and plan your own answer. Then compare your work with the model response. Notice the format, paragraphing, tone, detail and how every bullet point is covered.

Exam reminder: Pearson Level 1 Writing assesses spelling, punctuation and grammar as well as how clearly and appropriately you communicate for purpose and audience.

Practice 1 - Pearson past paper

Source: Past Paper 3 - Task 1

Information

Some people remember school as the happiest time of their lives, while others could not wait to leave. You decide to write about your own experience of education.

Writing Task

Write an article for a blog about your education.

In your writing, you should:

- say when and where you went to school
- explain what you liked and disliked about your experiences
- suggest what you might have done differently

You should aim to write about 200 to 250 words.

(21 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

My Education: What I Learned Beyond the Classroom

I went to secondary school in Birmingham from the age of eleven until I was sixteen. Later, I returned to education as an adult and joined an English course at my local college. The two experiences were very different, but both taught me valuable lessons.

At school, I enjoyed English and art because the teachers encouraged us to be creative. I also liked spending time with friends and taking part in school events. However, I disliked large classes because it was sometimes difficult to ask for help. I was also quite shy, so I rarely volunteered to speak in front of others.

As an adult learner, I appreciate education much more. I understand why attendance, practice and asking questions are important. The classes feel practical, and I can immediately use what I learn at work and in everyday life.

If I could change one thing, I would have been more confident at school. I would have joined more clubs, asked teachers for support and worried less about making mistakes. Education is not only about passing exams; it is also about discovering what you can do.

Overall, this experience has shown me that small choices and steady effort can make a real difference.

Model answer word count: 210 words | **Target:** 200 to 250 words

Practice 2 - Pearson past paper

Source: Past Paper 7 - Task 1

Information

A careers website wants an article about your career hopes and ambitions.

Writing Task

Write an article for the website about your career hopes and ambitions.

In your writing, you should:

- say what job you want to have in ten years
- explain why you would like to have this job
- describe how you plan to achieve this

You should aim to write about 200 to 250 words.

(21 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

My Career Goal: Becoming a Nurse

In ten years, I hope to be working as a qualified nurse in a busy hospital or community health centre. I have always been interested in healthcare, and I would like a job where I can support people when they are worried or unwell.

Nursing appeals to me because every day is different. Nurses need practical skills, patience and good communication, so the role would allow me to keep learning throughout my career. I also like working as part of a team, and I would be proud to do work that has a positive effect on other people's lives.

To achieve this goal, I first need to improve my English and maths qualifications. I plan to complete my Functional Skills courses and then apply for an access course in health and social care. I also want to volunteer in a care setting so that I can gain experience and understand the responsibilities of the job.

The journey will take time, but I am prepared to work hard. My aim is to take one step at a time, keep developing my skills and eventually qualify as a confident, caring nurse.

Overall, this experience has shown me that small choices and steady effort can make a real difference.

Model answer word count: 212 words | **Target:** 200 to 250 words

Practice 3 - Pearson past paper

Source: Past Paper 8 - Task 1

Information

Your college, workplace or school has received a large amount of money to improve the building and facilities.

Writing Task

Write an article for your college/workplace/school newsletter saying how you would spend the money.

In your writing, you should:

- describe the building and facilities you have now
- say what improvements are needed
- explain how these improvements will benefit everyone

You should aim to write about 200 to 250 words.

(21 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

How We Should Improve Our College

Our college has friendly staff and useful courses, but some parts of the building need improvement. The classrooms are generally comfortable, although several computers are old and slow. The canteen is small, the toilets become crowded at break time and there are not enough quiet places for learners to study.

I think the first priority should be the IT facilities. New computers and stronger Wi-Fi would help learners complete assignments and use online resources more efficiently. We should also improve the toilets and create a larger, cleaner canteen with healthier food choices. A quiet study room with charging points would be especially useful for learners who stay at college between lessons.

Some of the money could also be spent on the social areas. Comfortable seating, noticeboards and a few indoor plants would make the building feel more welcoming. These changes would benefit everyone because learners would have better places to work, eat and relax.

If the money is spent carefully, the college could become a more modern and enjoyable place without losing its friendly atmosphere. Better facilities would support learning and encourage people to spend more time on campus.

Overall, this experience has shown me that small choices and steady effort can make a real difference.

Model answer word count: 212 words | **Target:** 200 to 250 words

Practice 4 - Pearson past paper

Source: Past Paper 9 - Task 2

Information

Your college, workplace or school newsletter wants articles about people's favourite animals.

Writing Task

Write an article for the newsletter about your favourite animal.

In your writing, you should:

- describe your favourite animal
- explain in detail why this animal is your favourite

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

Why Dolphins Are My Favourite Animals

My favourite animals are dolphins. They live in seas and oceans around the world, and they are easy to recognise because of their smooth bodies, curved fins and friendly-looking faces. Dolphins usually travel in groups and communicate with one another using clicks and whistles.

I like dolphins because they are intelligent and social animals. They can learn complicated tasks, work together to find food and even help other members of their group. I also find the way they move through the water amazing because they look fast, graceful and playful at the same time.

Another reason I admire dolphins is that they seem curious about the world around them. I once watched a documentary showing dolphins swimming beside a boat, and I was fascinated by how confidently they approached it.

Of course, dolphins are wild animals and should be protected in their natural environment. For me, their intelligence, teamwork and energy make them one of the most interesting animals on the planet.

Model answer word count: 168 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words

Practice 5 - Pearson past paper

Source: Past Paper 10 - Task 2

Information

A newsletter asks readers to write about someone they would like to thank. This may be someone in their own life or a famous person.

Writing Task

Write an article for your college/workplace/school newsletter about someone who you would like to thank.

In your writing, you should:

- describe the person you would like to thank
- explain why you want to thank this person

You should aim to write about 150 to 200 words.

(15 marks)

MODEL ANSWER

Someone I Would Like to Thank

The person I would most like to thank is my first English tutor, Mrs Ahmed. I joined her class when I was nervous about speaking English, and I often avoided answering questions because I was afraid of making mistakes. She was patient, cheerful and always made the classroom feel welcoming.

Mrs Ahmed helped me in many practical ways. She explained difficult grammar clearly, recommended simple books and encouraged me to practise speaking every day. More importantly, she changed the way I thought about mistakes. She told me that mistakes show that we are trying, and this helped me become much more confident.

Because of her support, I later applied for a better job and continued studying. I still remember her advice whenever I find something difficult.

I would like to thank Mrs Ahmed for believing in me before I believed in myself. A good teacher does more than teach a subject; they can help someone see new possibilities for the future.

Model answer word count: 167 words | **Target:** 150 to 200 words