

Answers: Part 2

2.1 Argument and discussion

1 Discussion vocabulary

- (a) benefits/ advantages
- (b) drawbacks/ disadvantages
- (c) negative
- (d) advantages/ benefits
- (e) disadvantages/ drawbacks
- (f) benefit/ advantage

2 Organisation

Vertical: a simpler pattern suitable for short essays

Horizontal: this allows a more complex approach in longer essays

3 Practice A

Possible ideas include:

+	-
No time spent commuting to work Gives employees more flexibility Saves expensive office space	Employees may feel isolated May not suit all employees Home may contain distractions Requires different management style

Example outline with structure (a):

(a) Introduction: reasons for growth of home-working: development in communication

technology, demand for more flexible work patterns.

(b) Drawbacks: Employees may feel isolated, be distracted by activities at home.

May not suit all employees, some prefer more direct management.

(c) Benefits: Companies need to provide less office space, less time spent on commuting = more work time, employees have more flexibility.

(d) Discussion: Of benefit to certain employees in some roles, but necessary to have

regular contact with colleagues and managers.

5 Counter-arguments

The writer's position is essentially critical of the way prisons work

(Example answers)

Counter-argument	Your position
It has been claimed that employees may waste time at home,	but in practice there seems little evidence for this.
Although home-working may save companies money by reducing the need for office space,	employees need to have a well-equipped workspace in their home.

6 Providing evidence

1 Claims for 'digital natives'
2. Arguments against
3. Writer's viewpoint

7 Practice B

(Example answer)

There has been considerable debate about the value of space exploration, in view of the high costs involved. Supporters such as Donnet-Kammel (2005) claim that this is a vital method of collecting data about the structure of the universe, and additionally point out that there have been many practical benefits arising from the space programme, such as satellite communication. The example of the space station is also given as an instance of the value of the research programme in encouraging international co-operation.

In contrast, critics (e.g. Soroka, 2000) point to the huge costs involved in launching space probes, claiming that these resources would be better devoted to solving the serious earthly problems of hunger and disease. Furthermore, they argue that much of the space programme is effectively a testing ground for new weapons, such as missiles, and brings little benefit to ordinary people. In the context of the current economic crisis, a more critical approach is clearly needed in deciding which of those projects have real value.

2.2 Cause and effect

2 Practice A

(Example answers)

- (b) Higher rates of literacy often lead to greater demand for secondary education.
- (c) As a result of constructing a new airport more tourists arrived.
- (d) Due to last year's national election a new government was formed.
- (e) Installing speed cameras on main roads produces a fall in the number of fatal accidents.
- (f) Opening a new hospital in 2006 reduced infant mortality.

3 Practice B

(Example answers)

- (a) Increasing use of the internet for shopping has increased the number of delivery services.
- (b) The violent storms last week damaged power lines in the region.
- (c) The new vaccine for TB will result in lower child mortality.
- (d) Building a high-speed railway line caused journey times to fall by 25 per cent.
- (e) The serious motorway accident was due to thick fog.
- (f) The war of 1856–8 resulted from economic rivalry between the countries.
- (g) Earthquakes are often caused by movements in tectonic plates.
- (h) The rising prison population was due to a harsher sentencing policy.

4 Practice C – Why women live longer

(Other answers possible)

- (a) because of/ due to/ owing to
- (b) because/ since/ as
- (c) consequently/ therefore/ which is why/ hence
- (d) due to/ owing to/ because of
- (e) because of/ due to/ owing to
- (f) so/ therefore/ thus/ consequently

5 Practice D

(a)

(Example paragraph)

An increase of 25 per cent in the price of oil would have numerous results. Firstly, it would lead to sharp rises in the cost of transport and freight, thus affecting the price of most goods. Clearly, businesses for which fuel was a significant proportion of their costs, such as airlines, would find it difficult to maintain profitability. Another consequence would be a reduction in oil consumption as marginal users switched to alternative fuels, such as gas, or made economies. There would also be increased investment in exploration for oil, as the oil companies attempted to increase supply, and this in turn would stimulate demand for equipment such as oil rigs. Finally, there would be a number of more localised effects, for instance a change in demand from larger to smaller and more economical vehicles.

2.3 Cohesion

2 Practice A

Reference	Reference word/ phrase
La Ferrera	She
new businesses	they
average life of only 4.7 years	this
one economic	the former
one social	the latter
the former , the latter	these

4 Practice B – Famous for?

(a) he

(b) his

- (c) his
- (d) it / this
- (e) his
- (f) he
- (g) they
- (h) This

5 Practice C – Velcro

Velcro is a fabric fastener used with clothes and shoes. **It** was invented by a Swiss engineer called George de Mestral. **His** idea was derived from studying the tiny hooks found on some plant seeds. **They** cling to animals and help disperse the seeds. Mestral spent eight years perfecting **his** invention, which **he** called ‘Velcro’ from the French words ‘velour’ and ‘crochet’. **It** was patented in 1955 and today over 60 million metres of Velcro are sold annually.

6 Practice D

(Example answer)

Wallace Carothers, the director of research at the American DuPont Corporation, invented nylon in 1935. He had previously studied chemistry, and specialised in polymers. They are molecules composed of long chains of atoms. Nylon was a strong but fine synthetic fibre which was first mass produced in 1939. It was/ is used to make a wide range of products which included/ include stockings, toothbrushes, parachutes, fishing lines, and surgical thread.

2.4 Comparisons

2 Practice A

- (a) Residential property in London is twice as expensive as in Rome.
- (b) Property in Moscow is slightly cheaper than in New York.
- (c) Tokyo property is nearly as expensive as property in Paris.
- (d) Singapore has significantly cheaper property than New York.
- (e) London is the most expensive of the eight cities, while Sydney is the cheapest.

(Possible answers)

- (f) Parisian property is slightly cheaper than Moscow property.
- (g) Property in Sydney is 50 per cent cheaper than in New York.

5 Practice B

- (a) Real Madrid was the richest club **in world football**.
- (b) Real Madrid's income was twice **as** much as AS Roma's.
- (c) FC Barcelona earned **slightly** less than Manchester United.
- (d) Internazionale had less revenue **than** AC Milan.
- (e) Liverpool's income was slightly **higher** than AC Milan's.

6 Practice C

- (a) shows/ compares/ contrasts
- (b) rate
- (c) varies/ fluctuates
- (d) same
- (e) slightly
- (f) than

(g) over/ approximately

(h) high

7 Practice D

(Example sentences)

(b) America had the highest number of prize winners in both Medicine and Physics.

(c) Sweden and Switzerland had the same number of prize winners for Physics.

(d) Russia had twice as many prize winners for Physics as for Literature.

(e) The UK and Germany had similar numbers of prize winners for Physics.

(f) Sweden had half as many prize winners for medicine as Germany.

(g) The USA had as many Medicine prize winners as France, Britain and Germany combined.

2.5 Definitions

1 Simple definitions

(a) instrument

(b) organs

(c) organisation

(d) material

(e) behaviour

(f) process

(g) period

(h) grains

(Example answers)

(i) A lecture is an academic talk used for teaching purposes.

(j) Tuberculosis is a disease mainly affecting the lungs.

(k) The Red Cross is a humanitarian organisation which helps people affected by disasters.

(l) An idiom is a phrase used in colloquial language.

2 Complex definitions

(a) a failed project

(b) development

(c) attachment

(d) self-brightening

(e) globalisation

(i) c

(ii) a, e

(iii) b, d

(iv) b (process) c (system) d (effect)

3 Practice

(Example definitions)

(a) **Capital punishment** involves the execution by the state of convicted criminals.

(b) An **entrepreneurial business** is set up by somebody who demonstrates the effective application of a number of enterprising attributes, such as creativity,

initiative, risk taking, problem solving ability and autonomy, and will often risk his or her own capital.

(c) **E-books** are electronic books designed to be read on a computer or special device.

(d) **Urban areas** are predominantly built-up areas in which roads, housing or commercial buildings are found.

(e) **Obesity** is a medical term meaning unhealthily overweight.

2.6 Examples

2 Phrases to introduce examples

(Example answers)

(a) Some twentieth-century inventions, such as TV and the internet, affected the lives of most people.

(b) Lately many countries, for instance China, have introduced fees for university courses.

(c) Various companies have built their reputation on the strength of one product, a case in point is Microsoft Windows.

(d) In recent years more women, e.g. Angela Merkel, have become political leaders.

(e) Certain countries such as Japan are frequently affected by earthquakes.

(f) Many musical instruments, for example the guitar, use strings to make music.

(g) A group of root crops, such as potatoes and carrots, constitute an important part of our diets.

(h) Politicians have discussed a range of possible alternative punishments to prison, for instance community work.

3 Practice A

(Example answer)

Widespread use of the internet has led to a major change in shopping habits. It is no longer necessary to visit shops to make routine purchases, **for example many supermarkets offer delivery services for online customers.** With more specialised items **such as books and music** internet retailers can offer a wider range of products than bricks-and-mortar shops. They can also provide extra incentives to customers, **for instance free delivery or discounted prices,** in addition to the convenience of not having to visit a real shop. As a result certain types of store **e.g. bookshops** are disappearing from the high street. Other products however, **for instance clothing and footwear,** appear to require personal inspection and approval, and in addition many people enjoy the activity of shopping, so it seems unlikely that the internet will completely replace the shopping centre.

4 Practice B

(Possible examples)

Customs: holidays and festivals, ways of greeting people

Everyday patterns of life: types of shop, shop opening times

Inevitable differences: language, currency

Rapid changes of mood: depression, elation

Relatively short period: two/ three months

Some aspects of their new surroundings: freedom, independence

5 Restatement

- (a) The company's overheads, in other words the fixed costs, doubled last year.
- (b) The Roman empire (27 BC – 476 AD) was a period of autocratic rule.
- (c) The Indian capital, namely New Delhi, has a thriving commercial centre.
- (d) Survival rates from the most common type of cancer, i.e. breast cancer, are improving.
- (e) Participation rates in most democracies are in decline, that is to say fewer people are voting.

2.7 Generalisations

1 Using generalisations

- (a) This may be true in some cases, but is too general to be valid.
- (b) A widely accepted fact, supported by evidence.
- (c) Similar to (b), this is a well-researched link.
- (d) Similar to (a).
- (e) Clearly true in some cases, but not valid for every situation, e.g. Paris-London.

2 Structure

What we look for in choosing a mate seems to vary from place to place. A recent study (Jones and DeBruine, 2010) explores the idea that female preferences in a mate might vary according to the society in which she lives. In their research nearly 5,000 women in 30 countries were shown the same pictures of male faces and asked to state which they found more attractive. In countries where disease is common women chose men with more masculine features, while in countries such as America with more advanced health care and lower levels of disease, more effeminate-looking men were preferred. The

researchers conclude that in healthier societies women are more interested in men who may form long-term relationships and help with child-rearing, while in places where child mortality rates are high they choose strongly-featured men who seem more likely to produce healthy children.

3 Practice A

(Example answers)

- (b) Regular rainfall is necessary for good crop yields.
- (c) Honest judges are needed to ensure respect for the law.
- (d) Adequate sleep is vital for academic success.
- (e) Industrial growth tends to cause pollution.
- (f) Cold weather is likely to increase demand for gas.
- (g) Job satisfaction depends on having interesting work.

4 Practice B

(Example generalisations)

- (a) Graduates are more likely than undergraduates to study in the library.
- (b) Female undergraduates generally prefer to work in silence.
- (c) Few students choose to study outdoors.
- (d) Male graduates prefer to study in the library, while females prefer their own room.
- (e) More undergraduates than graduates work in bed.

2.8 Numbers

2 Percentages

- (a) 50 per cent
- (b) 100 per cent
- (c) 400 per cent

3 Simplification

- (b) Scores of students applied for the scholarship.
- (c) He re-wrote the essay several/ a few times.
- (d) Last year dozens of books were published on biogenetics.
- (e) Various names were suggested but rejected for the new chocolate bar.
- (f) The students thought of a few/ several good topics for their project.

4 Further numerical phrases

(Example answers)

- (a) The price of petrol has increased tenfold since 1975.
- (b) Two thirds of the students in the group were women.
- (c) The new high-speed train halved the journey time to Madrid.
- (d) The number of students applying for the Psychology course has risen by 50 per cent.
- (e) The number of visitors to the theme park doubled every year from 2007 to 2009.
- (f) More than twice as many British students as Italian students complete their first degree course.
- (g) Tap water is seven hundred times cheaper than bottled water.
- (h) The highest rate of unemployment is in Spain and the lowest in Norway.
- (i) 7 per cent of the computers produced had some kind of fault.

(j) A majority of members supported the suggestion, but a large proportion of these expressed some doubts.

5 Practice

(Example answers)

(a) A small minority spoke European languages.

(b) Maths was the most popular future course.

(c) One fifth of the group planned to study Economics.

(d) Only one student was over 23.

(e) Swimming was the favourite sport of one third of the group.

(f) The least popular sports were cycling and tennis.

2.9 Problems and solutions

3 Practice A – Managing tourism growth

Problem	Many developing countries have found that the development of a tourism industry can bring social and environmental drawbacks . . . such as water.
Solution A	One possible solution is to target upmarket holidaymakers, in order to get the maximum profit from minimum numbers.
Argument against solution A	However, there is a limited number of such visitors, and this market requires considerable investment in infrastructure and training.
Solution B	Another remedy is to rigorously control the environmental standards of any development, in order to minimise the impact of the construction.
Conclusion in favour of B	This requires effective government agencies, but is likely to ensure the best outcome for both tourists and locals.

5 Practice B – University expansion

(Example argument)

Currently there is increasing demand for university places, which frequently leads to overcrowding of student facilities. It has been argued that fees should be increased to reduce demand for places, but this would discriminate against students from poorer families. Another proposal is for the government to pay for the expansion of universities, but against this is the view that this would unfairly benefit the minority, who in any case go on to earn higher salaries. A fairer solution might be for the government to subsidise the fees of the poorest students.

2.10 Style

3 Practice

(Example sentences)

- (a) Another factor to consider is the possibility of crime increasing.
- (b) Currently the rate of unemployment is high.
- (c) In the near future a vaccine for malaria may be discovered.
- (d) After 1989 the price of Japanese property fell sharply.
- (e) The numbers in that report are unreliable.
- (f) The severe inflation led to poverty and social unrest.
- (g) He was delighted to win the prize.
- (h) Students should be paid to study.
- (i) Women were enfranchised in 1987.
- (j) The main causes of the Russian revolution were war and misgovernment.

4 Avoiding repetition and redundancy – Fast food

(Example answer)

Currently, fast food is growing in popularity. This is food that people can buy ready to eat or cook quickly. This essay examines its advantages and drawbacks. First, it is very convenient. Most people who work in offices are very busy, so they do not have time to go home for lunch. But they can eat in restaurants such as McDonalds. The second benefit is cheapness. As it is produced in large quantities, this means that the companies can keep costs down. As a result it is usually less expensive than a meal in a conventional restaurant.

5 Varying sentence length

(Example answer)

Worldwide, enrolments in higher education are increasing. In developed countries over half of all young people enter college, while similar trends are seen in China and South America. This growth has put financial strain on state university systems, so that many countries are asking students and parents to contribute. This leads to a debate about whether students or society benefit from tertiary education.

China is one developing country (but not the only one) which has imposed fees on students since 1997. The results have been surprising: enrolments, especially in the most expensive universities, have continued to rise steeply, growing 200 per cent overall between 1997 and 2001. It seems in this case that higher fees attract rather than discourage students, who see them as a sign of a good education. They compete more fiercely for places, leading to the result that a place at a good college can cost \$5000 per year for fees and maintenance.

2.11 Visual information

1 The language of change

- (a) rose/ increased
- (b) levelled off
- (c) steadily
- (d) peaked
- (e) fell/ decreased/ dropped/ declined

2 Types of visuals

TYPES	USES	EXAMPLE
1 diagram	d	E
2 table	f	B
3 map	a	F
4 pie chart	c	D
5 bar chart	b	C
6 line graph	e	A

3 Describing visuals

- (a)
 - (i) is better. It comments on the main features of the chart but does not repeat the statistics.
- (b) (Example answers)
 - (a) density
 - (b) demonstrates/ illustrates/ shows

- (c) between
- (d) less-crowded/ less densely populated
- (e) role/ part
- (f) since/ as/ because
- (g) tend

5 Practice A

- (a) shows/ illustrates
- (b) various/ certain
- (c) between
- (d) majority
- (e) substantially/ significantly
- (f) Spain
- (g) than

6 Practice B

(Example paragraph)

The table illustrates student evaluation of library facilities, contrasting undergraduate with graduate opinion. Most facilities are rated highly by both groups, especially the café and staff helpfulness. Both student groups are least satisfied with the availability of short loan stock. In most areas graduates seem slightly more critical of facilities than undergraduates.

2.12 Working in groups

1 Why work in groups?

- (a) F (a kind of culture shock)
- (b) F (normally)
- (c) F (students are normally told who they will work with)
- (d) F (3 reasons)
- (e) T
- (f) F (paragraph 2)

2 Making group work successful

(This order emphasises personal relations in the team; a more task-orientated approach is also possible.)

1	Get to know the other members
2	Make everyone feel included
3	Analyse the task
4	Plan the job and the responsibilities
5	Divide up the work fairly, according to the abilities of the members
6	Select a co-ordinator/ editor
7	Finish the assignment on time

3 Dealing with problems

a (i) The lazy students will learn nothing from this approach, and the same problem will occur next time they are involved in group work.

- a (ii) Although it may seem difficult, this is the only positive solution.
- a (iii) Your teachers are unlikely to help – group work is designed to make these problems your responsibility.
- b (i) Your teachers are unlikely to help – group work is designed to make these problems your responsibility.
- b (ii) This will not help you in the long run – you must learn to take part in discussion.
- b (iii) The right approach. The other members probably don't realise that you are having difficulties with their language.
- c (i) If everyone in the group takes part the offender will be forced to accept that their behaviour is unhelpful.
- c (ii) Your teachers are unlikely to help – group work is designed to make these problems your responsibility.
- c (iii) You will run the risk that they will get a poor mark and so everyone will suffer.

