

KRISTOF ABRATH · ENGLISH EXAM PREPARATION

IELTS Writing Task 2

Technology Topic — Vocabulary & Practice Pack

Ten model essays on technology, covering all five Task 2 question types, with useful technology vocabulary and collocations highlighted in bold. Build your own vocabulary list, then write a full essay of your own for one of the ten exam questions.

IELTS Band 6.5+

10 Essays · 5 Question Types

WHAT'S INSIDE

How to Use This Pack
Opinion Essays (Q1–Q2)
Discussion Essays (Q3–Q4)
Advantages & Disadvantages (Q5–Q6)
Problem & Solution (Q7–Q8)
Two-Part Questions (Q9–Q10)
Vocabulary Log (all 10 essays)
Write Your Own Essay

Writing Practice — Instructions

Kristof Abrath · English Exam Preparation · IELTS Writing Task 2

By the end of this pack, I will be able to: build a personal technology vocabulary list and write a complete IELTS Task 2 essay about technology, using your own vocabulary and ideas.

Follow These Steps

- ① **Read.** Read the exam question. Then read the model essay.
- ② **Look.** Look at the **bold words**. These are useful technology words and phrases.
- ③ **Choose.** Choose the words you want to learn. Write them in your Vocabulary Log at the back.
- ④ **Look up.** Look up any words or phrases you need. Use a dictionary or a translator.
- ⑤ **Compare.** Read both essays in the same section. Notice how they are organised.
- ⑥ **Choose a question.** At the end, choose 1 of the 10 exam questions.
- ⑦ **Write.** Write your own full essay for that question. Use your Vocabulary Log to help you.

TIP Do not copy sentences from the model essays into your own essay. Use them to learn vocabulary and structure, then write your ideas in your own words.



1. Opinion (Agree or Disagree)

State your position clearly and defend it with reasons and examples throughout.

QUESTION 1

Artificial intelligence will bring more harm than good to society. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

In recent years, **artificial intelligence** has advanced rapidly, changing the way people work, communicate, and make decisions. Some people believe that this **technological development** will ultimately do more harm than good to society. I disagree with this view and believe that the benefits of **AI** considerably outweigh its drawbacks.

One important reason to reject this claim is that **AI** can significantly improve **productivity** across a wide range of industries. **AI**-powered systems can complete repetitive tasks more quickly and accurately than human workers. For instance, **automation** in manufacturing plants has reduced production errors while increasing overall output. In addition, **AI** is transforming healthcare by enabling earlier and more accurate diagnosis. **Machine learning** algorithms, which can analyse medical scans within seconds, now detect diseases such as cancer at an early stage, considerably improving patient outcomes. This combination of higher efficiency and better healthcare outcomes shows that **AI**'s overall contribution to society is largely positive.

Although critics highlight genuine concerns such as job losses and privacy risks, these problems can be managed through appropriate **regulation** rather than rejecting the technology altogether. **Automation** may eliminate certain jobs, particularly in manufacturing and administrative roles. However, governments can support affected workers through **vocational training** programmes that help them acquire new skills for emerging industries. A second concern relates to **data privacy**, since **AI** systems often rely on large amounts of personal information. This risk can be reduced through strict **data protection** laws that require companies to handle personal data responsibly. With effective policies in place, both employment disruption and privacy risks can be minimised, meaning these drawbacks do not outweigh **AI**'s benefits.

In conclusion, I disagree that **AI** will cause more harm than good, as its contributions to **productivity** and healthcare are considerable, while its risks can be effectively controlled. Governments should therefore prioritise clear **regulatory frameworks** and worker retraining programmes alongside the continued development of **AI**.

QUESTION 2

Children should not be allowed to use smartphones until they are at least 16 years old. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

Smartphones have become an essential part of daily life for people of nearly all ages, including children. Some people argue that young people should not be allowed to use these devices until the age of sixteen. I largely agree with this view, although I believe some supervised use before that age can be acceptable.

The most compelling reason to support this restriction is that early **smartphone** use can negatively affect children's mental health and social development. Spending too much time on **social media** platforms can expose children to unrealistic comparisons and cyberbullying. For example, studies have linked heavy **screen time** among teenagers to increased rates of anxiety and low self-esteem. In addition, **smartphones** can interfere with children's academic performance by encouraging **digital distraction**. Many students struggle to concentrate on schoolwork when notifications from **online platforms** frequently interrupt their attention. Given these effects on both wellbeing and academic performance, delaying **smartphone** access appears to protect children's healthy development.

At the same time, completely banning **smartphones** may not be necessary if parents provide careful supervision. Basic **smartphone** use can help children stay in contact with family members for safety reasons. For instance, a child walking home from school can quickly reach a parent in an emergency, which many families consider valuable. **Smartphones** can also support learning through educational apps and **digital skills** development. **Educational technology** designed for children can build familiarity with computers that will be useful throughout their lives. Therefore, limited and supervised access, rather than a strict ban, may allow children to gain these benefits while avoiding the risks outlined above.

In conclusion, I largely support restricting **smartphone** use among young children, since the risks to their mental health and academic performance are considerable. Parents should therefore be encouraged to permit only supervised, limited **smartphone** use for safety and educational purposes until children reach an appropriate age.



2. Discussion (Discuss Both Views)

Present both sides fairly with equal development, then give your own opinion.

QUESTION 3

Some people believe social media has had a more positive effect on personal relationships, while others believe it has had a more negative effect. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Social media platforms have become a central part of how people maintain personal relationships in the modern world. While some believe that these platforms have strengthened relationships, others argue that they have weakened genuine human connection. Both views will be discussed before I give my own opinion, which favours the negative perspective.

Those who hold a positive view argue that **social media** allows people to maintain relationships that would otherwise be difficult to sustain. **Online platforms** enable friends and family members living far apart to stay in regular contact. For example, video calls and messaging apps allow grandparents to communicate with grandchildren living overseas almost every day. **Social media** also helps people build new relationships by connecting them with others who share similar interests. Online communities based on shared hobbies, such as photography or gaming, allow members to exchange advice and support. For these reasons, supporters believe **social media** has expanded rather than diminished people's social connections.

However, I share the view of those who believe **social media** has damaged the quality of personal relationships. Frequent use of these platforms can replace meaningful **face-to-face interaction** with shallow online exchanges. Many people now spend social gatherings checking their phones rather than engaging directly with the people around them. **Social media** can also generate jealousy and conflict within relationships through constant comparison. Seeing carefully curated posts from friends can create unrealistic expectations, which sometimes leads to dissatisfaction with one's own relationships. These effects on both the depth and the stability of relationships suggest that, overall, the negative impact outweighs the benefits described above.

In conclusion, although **social media** offers clear advantages for maintaining distant relationships, I believe its overall effect on personal relationships is more negative than positive. People should therefore make a conscious effort to prioritise **face-to-face interaction** over online communication whenever possible.

QUESTION 4

Some people think governments should strictly regulate the internet, while others believe people should have completely free access. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

As the **internet** has become central to communication, education, and commerce, there has been growing debate over how much control governments should exercise over it. While some argue for strict **internet regulation**, others believe access should remain largely unrestricted. This essay will examine both views before presenting my own opinion, which favours moderate government regulation.

Advocates of unrestricted **internet** access argue that free access supports **freedom of expression** and the open exchange of ideas. Without government interference, individuals can share opinions and information without fear of censorship. For example, activists in many countries have used social media to raise awareness of issues that traditional media might otherwise ignore. Unrestricted access also promotes innovation, since entrepreneurs can develop new **online platforms** without excessive bureaucratic barriers. Many successful technology companies began as small start-ups that grew rapidly because they were not constrained by heavy regulation. For these reasons, supporters believe minimal government involvement is best for both individual freedom and technological progress.

Nevertheless, I believe that some level of government regulation is necessary to protect users from serious online harms. Without regulation, **cybercrime** such as fraud and identity theft can spread with little accountability. Victims often lose significant amounts of money to online scams that operate across borders, beyond the reach of individual users. Regulation is also needed to control the spread of harmful content, including misinformation and material that endangers children. Clear **data protection** laws and content standards can hold companies responsible for how they manage such material on their platforms. Given these risks, targeted regulation appears more responsible than leaving the **internet** entirely unrestricted.

In conclusion, while unrestricted **internet** access encourages free expression and innovation, I believe that moderate government regulation is necessary to protect users from **cybercrime** and harmful content. Governments should therefore focus on regulations that target genuine online harms without unnecessarily restricting **freedom of expression**.



3. Advantages and Disadvantages

Weigh both sides objectively, then reach a clear overall judgement.

QUESTION 5

Increasing reliance on automation and technology in the workplace has both advantages and disadvantages. Discuss.

Workplaces around the world are increasingly relying on **automation** and other forms of **digital technology** to complete tasks once performed by employees. This shift brings both advantages and disadvantages for businesses and workers. This essay will examine both sides of this development.

The main advantage of workplace **automation** is that it can significantly increase **productivity** and reduce costs for businesses. Automated systems can operate continuously without the fatigue or errors that affect human workers. For example, factories that use robotic assembly lines can produce goods faster and with fewer defects than factories that rely entirely on manual labour. **Automation** can also improve workplace safety by handling dangerous tasks previously performed by humans. Robots are increasingly used to manage hazardous materials in industries such as mining, which reduces the risk of workplace injuries. These improvements in efficiency and safety demonstrate why many companies continue to invest heavily in **automation**.

However, the growing reliance on **automation** also creates serious disadvantages, particularly regarding **employment opportunities**. As machines take over routine tasks, many workers, especially those in low-skilled roles, risk losing their jobs. For instance, the retail sector has already seen job losses following the introduction of self-checkout machines and online shopping systems. **Automation** can also increase inequality, since it often benefits highly skilled workers while displacing others. Employees without access to **vocational training** may struggle to transition into new, technology-based roles. Consequently, the economic benefits of **automation** must be weighed against its potentially damaging effects on employment and equality.

In conclusion, while **automation** offers considerable advantages in **productivity** and safety, it also raises serious concerns about job losses and inequality. Governments and businesses should therefore invest in retraining programmes to help displaced workers acquire the skills needed for emerging roles.

QUESTION 6

Online shopping has become increasingly popular in recent years. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this development?

Online shopping has grown rapidly over the past decade, changing the way consumers purchase goods and services. This development offers both advantages and disadvantages for shoppers and businesses alike. This essay will discuss both sides of this trend.

The primary advantage of **online shopping** is the convenience it offers to consumers. Customers can browse and purchase products at any time without needing to travel to a physical store. For example, busy professionals can order groceries or clothing late at night and have them delivered directly to their homes. **Online shopping** also allows consumers to compare prices easily across multiple **online platforms**. Price comparison websites enable shoppers to find the best deals quickly, which can lead to considerable savings. This combination of convenience and cost-effectiveness explains why **online shopping** has become an attractive alternative to traditional retail.

Nevertheless, **online shopping** also presents notable disadvantages, particularly regarding consumer security. Shoppers who provide personal and financial information online face an increased risk of **cybercrime**, such as fraud. Data breaches at major retailers have exposed millions of customers' payment details in recent years. **Online shopping** can also damage local businesses that cannot compete with large e-commerce companies. Many small shops have closed after losing customers to online retailers offering lower prices and greater convenience. The threat to consumer security, along with the damage caused to local businesses, represents a significant drawback of the shift toward **online shopping**.

In conclusion, although **online shopping** provides valuable convenience and cost savings, it also introduces security risks and threatens traditional local businesses. Consumers should therefore remain cautious about sharing personal information online and consider supporting local retailers when possible.



4. Problem and Solution

Identify the causes of a problem clearly, then propose realistic, matching solutions.

QUESTION 7

Many young people now spend excessive amounts of time using electronic devices. What problems does this cause, and what solutions can be suggested?

Many young people today spend several hours each day using **electronic devices** such as smartphones and tablets. This habit causes a number of significant problems, although effective solutions exist. This essay will discuss both the problems and possible solutions.

Excessive **screen time** among young people creates serious problems for both physical and mental health. Prolonged device use often reduces the amount of time spent on physical activity. As a result, rates of childhood obesity have risen in many countries where screen-based entertainment has replaced outdoor play. Heavy use of **social media** can also contribute to anxiety and poor sleep quality among teenagers. Many young people stay awake late at night browsing **online platforms**, which negatively affects their concentration at school the following day. These physical and psychological consequences show why excessive device use among young people is a genuine cause for concern.

Fortunately, several practical solutions can help address these problems. Parents can set clear limits on daily **screen time**, particularly during school nights. For example, establishing a household rule that devices must be switched off an hour before bedtime can significantly improve children's sleep. Schools can also play a role by promoting **digital literacy** and encouraging alternative activities such as sports or clubs. Programmes that teach students to use technology responsibly can help them develop healthier habits from an early age. Through a combination of parental guidance and school-based education, the risks associated with excessive device use can be substantially reduced.

In conclusion, excessive use of **electronic devices** among young people leads to serious physical and psychological problems, but these can be addressed through combined parental and educational efforts. Parents and schools should therefore work together to establish consistent limits on **screen time** and promote responsible, balanced technology use.

QUESTION 8

As more of our personal information is stored online, concerns about privacy and cybercrime are increasing. What problems does this cause, and what solutions can be suggested?

As increasing amounts of personal information are stored on **online platforms**, concerns about **data privacy** and **cybercrime** have grown considerably. This trend creates serious problems for individuals and organisations, though a number of solutions are available. This essay will outline these problems and suggest possible solutions.

The growing storage of personal data online has led to two major problems. First, individuals face a higher risk of identity theft when their personal information is exposed. For example, hackers who gain access to a company's database can use stolen details to open fraudulent bank accounts in victims' names. Second, businesses suffer significant financial and reputational damage following **data breaches**. Companies that fail to protect customer information often lose public trust, which can take years to rebuild. These risks to both individuals and organisations demonstrate why online data security has become such an urgent issue.

Several effective solutions can help reduce these risks. Governments can introduce stricter **data protection** laws that require companies to safeguard customer information properly. For instance, regulations that impose heavy fines for **data breaches** encourage companies to invest more in **cybersecurity** measures. Individuals can also protect themselves by adopting safer online habits, such as using strong passwords and two-factor authentication. Simple measures like these can reduce the number of security breaches. By combining stronger regulation with greater individual awareness, both companies and individuals can significantly reduce the risks associated with storing personal data online.

In conclusion, storing personal information online creates real risks of identity theft and **data breaches**, but firmer regulation and safer personal habits can substantially reduce these dangers. Governments should therefore continue strengthening **data protection** laws while encouraging individuals to adopt more secure online practices.



5. Two-Part / Direct Questions

Make sure you fully answer every part of the question, giving each roughly equal attention.

QUESTION 9

In many countries, social media has become extremely popular, especially among young people. Why has this happened? Is this a positive or negative development?

Social media has become an extremely popular form of communication in many countries, particularly among young people. This essay will examine the reasons behind this trend and then assess whether it represents a positive or negative development.

Social media has grown so popular largely because it meets young people's need for constant connection and entertainment. **Online platforms** allow users to communicate instantly with friends regardless of physical distance. For example, teenagers can share updates, photos, and messages with large groups of friends within seconds. **Social media** also offers a continuous stream of entertaining content tailored to users' interests. Algorithms that recommend videos and posts based on previous activity keep users engaged for long periods of time. This combination of easy connection and personalised entertainment explains why **social media** has become such a dominant part of daily life.

In my view, this development is more negative than positive, primarily because of its effect on mental wellbeing. Constant exposure to carefully curated posts can lead young people to make unfavourable comparisons with others. Research has linked heavy **social media** use among teenagers to increased rates of anxiety and low self-esteem. Excessive use can also reduce the quality of real-world relationships by replacing **face-to-face interaction**. Many young people now prefer texting or messaging over spending time together in person, which weakens genuine social bonds. Given these effects on both mental health and relationships, the widespread popularity of **social media** does more harm than good overall.

In conclusion, **social media**'s popularity stems from its ability to connect people instantly and provide constant entertainment, but its overall impact appears to be more negative than positive. Young people should therefore be encouraged to balance online interaction with meaningful offline relationships.

QUESTION 10

Many people are becoming increasingly dependent on smartphones for daily tasks. Why is this happening? Do you think this is a positive or negative trend?

Many people today rely heavily on **smartphones** to manage everyday tasks such as communication, banking, and navigation. This essay will explore why this dependence has developed and then consider whether it represents a positive or negative trend.

This growing dependence has developed mainly because **smartphones** now combine so many essential functions in a single device. Modern **smartphones** allow users to complete tasks such as paying bills or booking appointments without needing a computer. For example, **mobile banking** apps let people check balances and transfer money within seconds, wherever they are. **Smartphones** have also become central to how people access information and stay organised. Features such as **digital calendars**, maps, and search engines have replaced separate tools that people once used individually. This convenience across multiple areas of daily life explains why dependence on **smartphones** continues to grow.

I believe this trend is largely positive, since it improves both efficiency and access to essential services. **Smartphones** save people considerable time by allowing multiple tasks to be completed from one device. For instance, commuters can manage emails, pay bills, and arrange transport during a single train journey, rather than at separate times. **Smartphones** also improve access to services for people who might otherwise struggle to reach them. Older adults or people in remote areas can use telehealth apps to consult doctors without travelling long distances. These benefits, which touch both convenience and access to services, suggest that increasing dependence on **smartphones** is largely positive, provided that people use them responsibly.

In conclusion, dependence on **smartphones** has grown because these devices combine so many useful functions, and I believe this trend is largely positive overall. People should nonetheless use **smartphones** responsibly, for example by setting aside dedicated time away from screens, to maintain a healthy balance in daily life.



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Task 2 Practice — Your Turn

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By the end of this pack, I will be able to: plan and write a complete, well-organised Task 2 essay of at least 250 words on a technology topic, using vocabulary from your own Vocabulary Log.

STEP 1 — CHOOSE ONE QUESTION

1. **Question 1:** Artificial intelligence will bring more harm than good to society. To what extent do you agree or disagree?
2. **Question 2:** Children should not be allowed to use smartphones until they are at least 16 years old. To what extent do you agree or disagree?
3. **Question 3:** Some people believe social media has had a more positive effect on personal relationships, while others believe it has had a more negative effect. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.
4. **Question 4:** Some people think governments should strictly regulate the internet, while others believe people should have completely free access. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.
5. **Question 5:** Increasing reliance on automation and technology in the workplace has both advantages and disadvantages. Discuss.
6. **Question 6:** Online shopping has become increasingly popular in recent years. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this development?
7. **Question 7:** Many young people now spend excessive amounts of time using electronic devices. What problems does this cause, and what solutions can be suggested?
8. **Question 8:** As more of our personal information is stored online, concerns about privacy and cybercrime are increasing. What problems does this cause, and what solutions can be suggested?
9. **Question 9:** In many countries, social media has become extremely popular, especially among young people. Why has this happened? Is this a positive or negative development?
10. **Question 10:** Many people are becoming increasingly dependent on smartphones for daily tasks. Why is this happening? Do you think this is a positive or negative trend?

STEP 2 — WRITE YOUR ESSAY (MINIMUM 250 WORDS, ABOUT 40 MINUTES)



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