

# IELTS Writing Task 2

## Diagnostic essay feedback



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### **Task:**

The working week should be shorter and workers should have a longer weekend. Do you agree or disagree?

### **Summary:**

Your writing shows clear organisation – it is paragraphed well and the ideas are good and logical.

My feedback focuses on some grammatical issues and writing in an academic writing style.

Your writing	My corrections
<p>The working week should be shorter and workers should be given a longer weekend. <u>I do agree</u> with this statement for the following reasons.</p> <p>I agree/I do not agree – never ‘I do agree’ (in writing)</p>	<p>Paraphrase the question.</p> <p>Avoid using the same words used in the question.</p> <p>Use much stronger, more academic to signal agreement. Avoid the word ‘I’</p> <p>I would recommended strengthening your introductions. They should fully outline the complexities of the issue</p>
<p>A major benefit of having a short working week with a longer weekend is work-life balance. <u>This is made possible because reasonable working hours means that people have the energy to give time back home to their families after work. <u>At the same time, long weekends</u> allow them to split their time between their family and their work related chores for the upcoming week.</u></p> <p>I suggest this is changed to:</p> <p>‘As a further argument’</p> <p>Or</p> <p>‘In addition to’</p> <p>It’s a different point, not an extension of the previous one.</p>	<p>Good first sentence – and the focus of the rest of the paragraph on this issue is good.</p> <p>Unclear pronoun. Does it refer to the benefit, the short working week or the work-life balance.</p> <p>This is actually not <u>how</u> it is made possible- it’s actually an explanation of the benefits.</p> <p>Focus isn’t clear now. Are you talking about ‘reasonable working hours’ or ‘long weekends?’</p>

Moreover, shorter working week also enables the company to have savings in terms of power consumption and people prioritise the activities based on their deadlines. For example, if the working week isn't too long then people will end up completing those projects or assignments first that have a close submission. Also the company is able to cut down on expenditure pertaining to the amenities at the office due to shorter hours.

Never start a sentence with 'also'.

Tense isn't quite correct. It should be 'the company would also be able to...' (second conditional)

Lastly, short working hours allow the employees to show up at work more energised because they are not drained as a result of a long work shift. Mental health of employees is essential for them as well as for the employer's business in the long run. Long working hours do have an impact on their mental well-being because every one needs to relax with their friends or family after a tedious day at their office. A big corporation cannot yield successful results if the workforce is mentally exhausted or not motivated. Therefore, long weekends and short working hours are important for the workers to culminate in better outcomes.

This is a good idea. I suggest you make it a little clearer though – what you mean specifically is how it will make company productivity more efficient and cost effective.

You follow up with a good example

Good idea. Your writing would benefit significantly from developing a formal, academic style to express these ideas.

Another good topic sentence. The paragraph is well focused on one issue.

Explore stronger ways of starting paragraphs and introducing a new argument.

Develop formal vocabulary. Phrasal verbs are too informal to reach band 7.5 +

e.g 'all the employees to arrive at the workplace more energised'

<b>This sentence doesn't make sense.</b>	<b>Really good, logical idea to focus on mental health. My suggestion is to work on a stronger, more academic style to express this sentence.</b>
<b>I suggest you work on a technique for finishing essays with a strong conclusion</b>	

**My score for this essay is Band 6.0**

You have a clear sense of how to organise ideas well into paragraphs. And the result is an essay which is logical and written to a structure which is sensible.

**If you want to improve to band 7 +, I suggest that you seek personal guidance and feedback to:**

- Develop a style for writing stronger introductions
- Develop your academic style to express opinions without using 'I' or 'my'
- Develop your academic writing style and vocabulary
- Develop a technique to ensure your arguments are fully developed  
eg 'idea -> example -> explanation/consequence'
- Work on writing stronger conclusions

If you would like to work with me on these skills, I would be happy to provide you with options for lessons, including both one-to-one or group lessons.



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