

ESOL Skills for Life – Level 2

Marked learner work

Below is an example of a candidate response to the ESOL Skills for Life Level 2 writing test followed by the marks and rationales from the marker.

All names and personal data have been changed or removed.

Candidate 1

Level 2 – Writing

Planning section

For this exam you must show you know how to plan your writing. Use this section to plan your answer to one or two of the tasks in this exam paper. Remember, you **must** plan at least one answer in this box.

Use this box to plan your answers.

1. Starting - root cause
explanation

Define problems

yours sincerely

appropriate

appropriate

topic
2. Guitar playing

In the 2nd task

I will write about a guitar.

checked

Level 2 – Writing

Task 1

Your local authority has some money to improve roads in the area you live. They have asked you to complete a survey so they can decide how to spend the money. Complete the form using the notes below.

Write about 200 words in total for the form.

MY AREA	PROBLEMS	IDEAS
School opposite my house	Congestion and safety	Parking - residents only? Car park?
Huge flow of traffic around 8.45am	Pollution (air and noise)	Buses - encourage public transport use? Bus lanes?
500 students, 90% are driven	Residents can't park	Traffic lights? Crossings?
Park in local streets		

SURVEY	
Name	STANLEY PRICE
Address	34 SYLVESTER ST. NL13 5US WREXHAM
How long have you lived at the above address?	3 YEARS
Contact email	STANLEY.GMAIL.COM.
What are the main traffic problems in your road?	
To show it may concern.	
I am writing to you to help you get a closer look on the traffic problems in my community.	
I live in a lovely neighborhood where the school is situated opposite my house. There is a park in local streets as well.	
NB The form continues overleaf	

Level 2 – Writing

Using the opportunity to fill in this survey, I would like to highlight the huge flow of traffic around 8:45am. 500 students attend to the school during the day and 90% of them are driven. It causes a lots of noise in the morning and the local residents ~~have~~ find it difficult to get to the work on time. Traffic is not safe if it comes to the health of the children. Residents also struggle with empty car spaces in the local car park as foreign cars are always there in the morning. We barely can breathe with ~~the~~ dirty air caused by the oil smell.

What should be done to resolve the situation?

To resolve the situation I propose to build a car park ~~only~~ for residents ~~only~~. It would help us a lot. I was talking to the rest of our community and we found out that a school bus lane would be ~~of~~ the best possible solution.

It may decrease the traffic.
We have been thinking about traffic lights as well.

We believe that the situation will be resolved and everybody will be happy with solutions you will bring to our life.

Thank you for the opportunity to help our community.

Yours Sincerely
STANLEY PRINCE

Level 2 – Writing

Task 2

Write an article for your college magazine about a sport or hobby that you have tried.

Write about 250 words.

We all live in our own way...
We move back and forward everyday, and it does not matter if it is left or right. Life is like a never ending dance. And what do we need to dance? Music
The answer is simple - music.
I have tried to dance without it, but it is really difficult.
I took my guitar then and tried to play a soundtrack of my life.
You can believe it or not, but the world looks completely different when you have a hobby like this.
~~Probably~~ Probably you are wondering what songs you could play. It depends. Whether you have got an acoustic or electric guitar you are able to play plenty of kinds of music. My favourite is rock.
I started when I was 15 years old.
My father bought a guitar for himself, but he did not play a lot. A number of people may find it difficult to play like Van Halen, but believe me...
It is always matter of time.

Turn over page

Level 2 – Writing

I did not write yet, what kind of guitar I have right now.
My Vintage Les Paul is an electric guitar designed for rock and blues music.

I spend with it a lot of time and I love it.
If you are interested in guitars as well you can get in touch with me if you through the social medias.

I will try to reply as soon as possible if I will not be playing the guitar at the moment.

I know that all of you enjoy listening to music. Has about playing it? Metallica, Ozzy Osbourne, The Beatles... Lets join the Hall of Fame.

If you have any hobbies we can share our point of views. My favourite band is Rolling Stones.

In my opinion they are the best in the whole world. I can play their songs endlessly. When I have heard "Satisfaction" I just couldn't stop to listen to it.

I hope that my passion for guitars considered you to create your own soundtrack of your life.

Thank you all for reading.

STANLEY PRINCE
class 1B.

Level 2 – Writing

Task 3

You enjoy meeting your friends at a local café. But in recent weeks, the quality of the food and the cleanliness have deteriorated. Write a letter to the manager outlining your concerns and requesting some changes.

Write about 200 words.

Dear Sir / Madam.

I am writing to you to explain my concerns about standards of your café.

It is about the food and the cleanliness.

Your café was a number one on my list of best places to eat. Now, me and my friends have decided that we will change a restaurant if the standards will be still the same.

When we went inside of your café we started to feel different than usually. It was about the smell which made us leave your place.

We saw breadcrumbs on the tables, the floor was dirty and the food tasted different.

We still like your café and we expect these things to be changed in the nearest future.

Maybe it is a matter of your staff. They should pay more attention to the details such as cleanliness.

Please consider to hire a new cook or send the current one for the best cooking course.

Turn over page

page 7

Level 2 – Writing

If the changes will be applied, we will consider
a come back. Hope you will get better. We miss our café.
We want you to keep the highest standards
all the time. We do not want you to
lose customers as the place is incredibly suitable
for young people.

Thank you very much.

Kind regards,

STANLEY PRICE

Level 2 – Writing

Task 4

Your teacher is going to give your class some news. Write an email to your friend speculating about what it could be, and persuading him/her to phone you after class.

Write about 100 words.

To: friend@email.com
Subject: Teacher news

Hi Scott.

Have you heard about some news that our teacher is going to give to our class?

I am wondering what could it be. I think that that the next classes are cancelled and we would stay home all day. What could it be in your opinion? I hope the news will be good and suprising for us all and we will all be happy to hear it. If you would hear anything please give me a call after class.

I know you want to know it the same like me. Do not hesitete to contact me as soon as possible. I will be waiting for your reply.

call me soon, your friend
STANLEY

Candidate 1 marks and rationale

Assessment criteria	Mark	Rationale	
Whole paper – plan text			
1.1	Plan text for a specific purpose	0	No evidence of planning - just a few words have been noted down hinting to task 1 and task 2.
Task 1 – form			
2.1	Produce content which meets the purpose effectively	3	Mostly effective and relevant content which meets the purpose and addresses the audience quite clearly Good level of detail for this form
2.2	Use language effectively	3	The style of language and lexis used is mostly effective at making a polite but firm point - register is fairly consistent Effective arguments have been constructed
2.4	Use grammar correctly	2	Limited range of high level grammatical structures have been used Quite a few basic errors give a poor impression
2.5	Use punctuation correctly	1	Level of punctuation is very basic Clarity could be improved with a better level of punctuation No evidence of attempt to use a wide range of punctuation markers
2.6	Spell words accurately	3	Good ability to re-write notes using own vocabulary Fairly flexible use of lexis demonstrated Spelling is fairly consistent
3.1	Complete a form with complex features correctly	4	Candidate has adapted the notes for the purpose of the form with a high level of appropriacy All communicative aims are fully achieved

Assessment criteria	Mark	Rationale	
Task 2 – review or article			
2.1	Produce content which meets the purpose effectively	4	Very effective, highly relevant content which meets the purpose Addresses the audience appropriately - convincing for the reader Good level of detail
2.2	Use language effectively	4	Appropriate register used consistently throughout Style appropriate for the audience and genre Good use of language for specific effect
2.3	Structure text coherently for purpose	2	Acceptable structure for the task Paragraphing is inconsistent and affect the ease of reading Format acceptable for the task
2.4	Use grammar correctly	2	Acceptable range - some good examples of complex structures of the level Several basic errors
2.5	Use punctuation correctly	2	Enough evidence to demonstrate a minimal level of punctuation for this level One or two examples of the amplification evident but wider range would have made it easier to read
2.6	Spell words accurately	3	Fairly good range of lexis for this task Appropriate range of collocations used but not wide enough Spelling is consistent with some persistent errors, but these do not impede

Assessment criteria	Mark	Rationale	
Task 3 – formal letter or email			
2.1	Produce content which meets the purpose effectively	3	Mostly effective and relevant content which meets the purpose and addresses the audience quite clearly Good level of detail Fairly positive impact on the reader
2.2	Use language effectively	3	Acceptable register used but not sufficiently formal Style appropriate for the audience and genre Some fairly good use of language for effect
2.3	Structure text coherently for purpose	2	Basic paragraphing and lexical markers are present The text may require careful re-reading to understand
2.4	Use grammar correctly	2	Range of grammatical structures only acceptable - one or two examples of complex structures of the level Several basic errors, mostly non-impeding
2.5	Use punctuation correctly	1	No evidence of ability to use punctuation of the level Very basic punctuation used Better punctuation would have made it easier to read
2.6	Spell words accurately	3	Fairly good range of lexis for this task Some lexical errors may cause difficulty to the reader Spelling is fairly consistent with some minor errors
Task 4 – informal email or message			
2.1	Produce content which meets the purpose effectively	2	The content does not fully address the task Some lack of expansion and some irrelevance
2.2	Use language effectively	1	Acceptable register in parts used but very inconsistent No evidence of the ability to use language effectively demonstrated

Candidate 1 achieves a total score of 50 out of 84 and fails the Writing exam.