

Writing

Task 2

- 1 Read this Writing task and underline the key ideas.



Write about the following topic.

Some people say that travel helps us to appreciate other cultures.

How true is this statement? Do you think that people who travel a lot appreciate other cultures more than those who stay at home?

Give reasons for your answers and include any relevant examples from your own experience.

Write at least 250 words.

- 2 Are these statements about the Writing task in Exercise 1 true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The main topic is about what other cultures are like.
- 2 I must say whether or not I agree with the statement.
- 3 I must talk about the benefits of staying at home.
- 4 I should say why I have a certain opinion about the subject.
- 5 I should support my ideas with reasons and examples.
- 6 I should write in detail about a holiday or trip I have taken.
- 7 I can write more than 250 words.

- 3 Here are the first three paragraphs (introduction and two body paragraphs) from a sample answer. Match the first part of each paragraph, 1–3, with its second part, A–C.

1 Introduction

Before mass tourism made overseas travel available to everyone, people were rather ignorant of the world beyond their homes. For many, this changed when they began to travel.

2 First main paragraph

However, for others, their views remained unchanged. One reason for this was that they did not actually *experience* the culture of the country they were visiting. In many cases, this was because they were not interested in it.

3 Second main paragraph

Unfortunately, this is still true today. In my country, the main reason many people go abroad is to get a suntan and go swimming in the sea. They show little interest in the local people or their way of life.

- A They simply wanted to go somewhere where they could relax and enjoy some warm weather. In other cases, they found the thought of experiencing the culture a frightening prospect, especially if it was very different from their own.
- B Consequently, they learn no more about the country they are in than people who stay at home. A recent survey of holidaymakers indicates that 76% did not leave their hotel or resort unless they went on a guided tour.
- C They learnt a lot about other cultures, and benefited from personally experiencing them. As a result, they returned home having a much greater appreciation and understanding of other cultures.

- 4 The sample answer above has no conclusion. Choose the best conclusion from the four below.

The best conclusion is

- A I believe, therefore, that everyone who travels learns something about the local culture. They do not even have to leave their hotel to do this. They can learn as much about the local people and their way of life by just sitting on the beach as they can by going out and exploring.
- B In my view, those who stay at home probably learn much more about foreign cultures than those who travel. This is because they can do it in an environment that they feel comfortable in. It is no longer necessary to travel in order to learn about the world.

C In my opinion, therefore, travel *can* help us to appreciate other cultures. However, we need to make an effort to do so, and this involves leaving the comfort of our hotel and going into the community. Unfortunately, it seems that too few people are prepared to do this.

D In conclusion, not everyone who travels appreciates the local culture. Another reason for this may be that they do not want to experience anything that is unfamiliar. They want things to be the way that they are in their home country, except with better weather.

- 5 Now write your answer to this Writing task. You might find some of the language in Exercises 2–4 helpful. You should write at least 250 words.

Write about the following topic.

Some people say that you can learn more about another country by watching television programmes and films about it than by actually visiting it.

How true is this statement? Is there anything you can learn about another country by visiting it that you cannot learn by watching programmes and films about it?

Give reasons for your answers and include any relevant examples from your own experience.

Grammar

Relative pronouns: *who, which, that, where*

- 1 Write these sentence pairs as one sentence, using a relative pronoun to join them together. Remember to remove any unnecessary words.

1 Football is a popular sport. It is played all over the world.

Football is a popular sport that / which is played all over the world

2 There's a man in my town. He can remember the name of everyone he's ever met.

3 *Perfume* is a famous novel. I've read it many times.

4 There's a tourist information office in the town centre. You can get all the information you need there.

5 There's a tortoise in the zoo. It is over 150 years old.

6 *The Angry Olive* is an excellent restaurant. You can eat there for less than £10.

- 2 The relative pronouns have been left out of these sentences. Correct them by writing *who, which* or *that* in the correct place.

1 I spent two weeks on an island ^{that/which} is famous for its wildlife.

2 I'm not sure people travel a lot learn more about the world.

3 New York is the city I'd most like to live.

4 To get to Oxford, take the train leaves from platform 18.

5 Most tourists visit my country rarely explore the countryside.

6 If you visit my city, I can recommend several places might interest you.

7 On the island, there were birds would eat right out of your hand.

8 There aren't many places left in the country you can get away from the crowds of tourists.

- 3 In which of these sentences can we omit the relative pronoun? Tick (✓) the relevant boxes.

1 The man who we met last night seemed very friendly. ☒

2 The book that you lent me wasn't very interesting. ☐

3 I met a man who says he can get tickets for the show tonight. ☐

4 There aren't many people who I know in the town. ☐

5 I know of several people who have never been abroad. ☐

- 6 There are several bus services which can get you into the city centre. ☐
- 7 My cousin Andy is someone who I really look up to. ☐
- 8 Here's the money which you asked me for. ☐
- 9 My brother has only two faults: everything that he says and everything that he does. ☐
- 10 The woman who runs the tourist information office is very helpful. ☐