Writing

Task 2

1 Read this Writing task and the sample answer which follows it. Do not pay attention to any errors in the answer.

Write about the following topic.

Some people say that modern buildings are ugly and are ruining our towns and cities, especially when these buildings are very different from those around them. Others say that they add variety and interest.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

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

Write at least 250 words.

Sample answer

When a major new building goes up in an urban area two groups of people usually come forward to give their oppinion about it. One group are positive. They say that it is original and adds intrest to the area. The other group are negative. They say that it is ugly and spoils the area. I live in an old university city. Many of the buildings there are almost 600 years old. Recently a new sience block was built for the university. It was made of concrete it was covered in black glass, and it was taller than the older buildings surounding it. A lot of people hate it, and I am one of them. However I believe that this is a matter of personel taste. What looks good to some people looks terible to others. It also depends on the building itself. A modern building can be very different from those around it but it may actually complement those buildings. For example in the 1980s, a glass pyramid was built in the courtyard of the Louvre muzeum in Paris. It made a lot of local people very angry. They argued that it was wrong to build such a modern structur next to such an old building. In my opinion however, it is visually exciting and actually complements the buildings around it. Many visitors to the city feel the same way, and today it is one of the city's most famos sights. In conclusion I beleive that some modern buildings can ruin a town, but it depends partly on personal taste, and partly on the building itself. As the English expression goes 'One man's meat is another man's poison.'

(279 words)

2 Underline *Yes* or *No* in Questions 1–7.

In the sample answer on the left,

1 has the writer discussed both views? **Yes / No**
2 has the writer given an opinion? **Yes / No**
3 has the writer given reasons for his / her answers? **Yes / No**
4 has the writer included relevant examples from his / her own knowledge and experience? **Yes / No**
5 has the writer included an introduction and a conclusion? **Yes / No**
6 has the writer written enough? **Yes / No**
7 has the writer divided his / her answer into paragraphs? **Yes / No**

3 Decide where the paragraph breaks should come in the sample answer. There should be *five* paragraphs. Put a slash (/) where the breaks should come.

4 The sample answer contains ten spelling mistakes. It is also missing ten commas. Underline the incorrectly spelt words in the answer, and write their correct spellings below. Then insert the commas into the answer.

opinion ....
....
....
.....

Student's Book page 129

5 Now write your answer to the following Writing task. You should write at least 250 words.

Write about the following topic.

Some people say that living in a high-rise apartment block is a lonely experience because there is no community spirit. Others say that people who live in high-rise apartments have a much better sense of community than those who live in houses.

Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar

Modal verbs

1 Match 1–6 with a–f to make complete sentences.

1 You don't have to walk
2 You have to make
3 I can't afford
4 Can I make
5 You can find
6 Do we have to pay

a an effort if you want to find somewhere to live in this city.
b a deposit when we rent an apartment?
c lots of interesting books on architecture in the library.
d changes to my house without permission from the local council?
e to live here because house prices are so expensive.
f very far in the city to see some really ugly modern architecture.

2 Complete these sentences with the modal verbs from the box, depending on the function of each verb at the end of the sentences. You can use more than one verb in some sentences.

can	can't	could	couldn't	don't have to
had to	have to	may	might	must
mustn't	should			

1 I ..... start looking for somewhere to live as soon as possible. (*I think this is a good idea or is important.*)
2 I ..... hand in my essay on town planning until Friday. (*It is not necessary for me to do this.*)
3 I ..... come round to your place now if you like. (*I am able to do this.*)
4 There's so much crime in the area that I ..... keep my doors locked all the time. (*I think this is necessary or essential.*)
5 The council has told me that I ..... make any changes to the front of my house without permission. (*I am not allowed to do this.*)
6 When I looked out of the window, the only thing I ..... see was miles and miles of identical housing. (*I was able to do this.*)
7 I ..... look for somewhere new to live next year. (*This is possible, now, or in the future, but I am not sure if I'll do it.*)
8 I ..... understand why so many people dislike modern architecture. (*I am not able to do this.*)
9 I ..... call you because I was too busy. (*I was not able to do this.*)
10 Last week I ..... give a talk on the architect Le Corbusier. (*It was necessary for me to do this.*)

3 (23) Read this summary of a conversation between Sam and Chris. Then listen to the conversation. Complete the passage which follows it with the correct form of the words and phrases in the box in Exercise 2.

Chris **1** *couldn't* go to Teresa's party on Saturday because he **2** ..... finish an essay and start work on an assignment. He **3** ..... get the assignment finished by this Friday. He **4** ..... hand it in until Monday, but he's going away for the weekend with Pat. He's not sure where he'll go, but he **5** ..... drive down to Chichester to see some friends (although before he goes, he **6** ..... replace a tyre on his car). Unfortunately, he's not getting on very well with the assignment. He **7** ..... find any books in the library, so he **8** ..... look on the Internet. He found a website called Unipedia, but his friend Sam says that he **9** ..... believe what he reads on that website because it's full of mistakes. Chris wants to know if Sam **10** ..... recommend something else. Sam thinks that Chris **11** ..... look on a website called Urban Environment. Chris wants to know if he **12** ..... sign up or have a password.

LIVEWORKSHEETS