

Synonyms for academic essays

- 1 Complete the text giving advice by writing a word from the box in each space to replace the word in brackets.**

recommended	employ	appropriate	allocated	required
basic	further	paraphrase	intended	heed
reproduce	identical	broad	limited	impacted on
				ensure

In order to do well in the IELTS Academic Writing test Part 2, it is (1) *recommended* (suggested) that you (2) (follow) the advice below.

- (3) (Make sure) you read the first part of the question carefully. Often the topic is fairly (4) (narrow), so, for example, if the question is about how the environment is (5) (affected) by tourism, do not write about the environment in general.
- Make a (6) (rough) plan before you start writing. Start by making notes about the (7) (main) statements or claims you plan to include. Then each statement/claim needs one or more supporting examples, so add (8) (more) notes for those.
- Do not (9) (copy) the question and (10) (use) it in your opening paragraph because you will not impress the examiner. It's better to find a way to (11) (reformulate) the question.
- Include your opinion. At university, students are often (12) (asked) to do this in the introduction and the conclusion. However, during the IELTS test, you are (13) (given) a time limit. It is probably better to write your opinion only in the conclusion, so you are not repeating the same points and using (14) (the same) language in two stages of your essay.
- Use a (15) (wide) range of grammatical structures and vocabulary which are (16) (suitable) for academic writing. This unit is (17) (designed) to help you learn synonyms that will give you greater flexibility in expressing yourself.

- 2 Read the essay question and the following sentences. Decide whether the statements indicate advantages (A) or disadvantages (D).**

Some educational systems are now focusing on the teaching of practical skills to high school students, rather than on theoretical knowledge.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this development?

- 1 One benefit of learning practical skills at school is ... ^A.....
- 2 A further argument in favour of focusing on practical skills is
- 3 In the long run, there may be certain negative outcomes.
- 4 A major downside to this form of education might be that
- 5 Learning practical skills may also be beneficial because
- 6 A practical education may also be advantageous because

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- 7 A secondary drawback is that
- 8 Such training may be invaluable later on in life.
- 9 This kind of education may be of considerable benefit in the way that
- 10 One other unfortunate aspect of this trend is that

3 Read the essay question and the following sentences. Decide whether the statements indicate cause (C) or measures that need to be taken (M).

Many people who live in urban areas are suffering increasingly from stress. What do you think are the causes of this problem and what measures could be taken to reduce it?

- 1 The first step would be**M**.....
- 2 One key factor behind urban stress is
- 3 Inner city stress may also derive from
- 4 Another potential solution would be
- 5 There is another approach that could be considered.
- 6 Feelings of anxiety may also result from
- 7 To some extent, urban transport may also contribute to a sense of stress.
- 8 Another underlying reason for this form of nervous tension is
- 9 An alternative strategy could be
- 10 A further way to tackle this issue could be
- 11 One possible way to address this problem is

4 Underline the two words in *italics* in the second sentence which are similar in meaning to the word or phrase in **bold** in the first sentence from different parts of an essay.

- 1 Free healthcare is certainly a **matter of debate**. (in the introduction)
As we have seen, free healthcare is a *divisive/argumentative/controversial* issue. (in the conclusion)
- 2 Censorship of the media is certainly a **complex** issue. (in the introduction)
As the arguments above illustrate, the subject of media censorship is highly *confusing/complicated/multifaceted*. (first line in the conclusion)
- 3 In this essay, I will **evaluate** the pros and the cons of introducing higher tax on unhealthy foods. (last sentence in the introduction)
After *measuring/assessing/weighing up* both sides of the argument, it seems clear that a tax would certainly bring about considerably more benefits than problems. (first line of conclusion)
- 4 Over the last few years, there has been a **steady** increase in violent crime. (claim)
Cases of assault have *constantly/continuously/sharply* been going up and robbery is now more likely to result in injury. (evidence)
- 5 When deciding whether art should be a compulsory subject, we have to **take into account** the personal interests of the students. (first claim)
We also need to *wonder/consider/bear in mind* how relevant art may be to a student's future working life. (later claim)
- 6 There are **some** situations in which a competitive personality would benefit a person. (claim)
There are also *varied/certain/particular* situations in which this kind of behaviour may be harmful. (opposing claim)

- 7 There is **little likelihood** of people voluntarily giving up their cars. (claim)
It is also *improbable/incredible/unlikely* that public transport networks will be able to transfer commuters to the precise locations they require. (later claim)
- 8 If we do not tackle the issue of homelessness now, we will have to face the **consequences** later. (claim)
Greater levels of ill-health and depression are just two of the likely *repercussions/influences/outcomes* of failing to deal with this problem. (evidence)

5 Complete the second sentence with an appropriate word from the box with a similar meaning to the words in *italics* in the first sentence.

depending	information	question	violent	operate	afford
immense	construction	the case	elderly	pleasure	company
selection	countryside	reply	anxious	contentment	impact

- 1 People are no longer *relying* on paper-based *research*. Instead they are depending on the Internet for their information .
- 2 Consumers are *heavily influenced* by advertising, whether they realize it or not. The of television and billboard commercials on our decision-making in the supermarket is
- 3 In some societies, there is growing *concern* about the treatment of the *older generation*. The and their middle-aged children are about who will look after them when they can no longer take care of themselves.
- 4 If we continue to extend our cities and *build* in *rural areas*, the decline of certain animal species is certain. New should be located in waste land within urban areas, rather than the
- 5 Is it true that money can *buy happiness*? In my opinion, it cannot by itself lead to real , but it means that people can shelter, warmth and food. Without these essentials, it is a challenge to find any in life.
- 6 It is *true* that recent graduates may bring fresh ideas to an *organization* that will improve its *performance*. Nevertheless, it is also that older employees have the kind of knowledge and experience that allows a to successfully in the long term.
- 7 If you *ask* the older generation if books will become obsolete, their *response* is a definite 'no'. But put the same to a group of younger people, and the is a unanimous 'yes'.
- 8 If a child is allowed to *choose* their own video games, they may be exposed to *extreme and disturbing images*. Careful by parents instead should mean that games brought into the house are less