

Focus on Writing Task 2; Environmental Problems and Solutions
Grade 11 English

Understanding the Question

Look at the task below:

1. What is the general subject?
2. What three areas of the environment do you have to cover?
3. What two main things must you cover for each area?

Write about the following topic.

Many countries are experiencing serious problems with their environment, with pollution of their land, water and air.

What are these problems and how might they be reduced?

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

You should write at least 250 words

Organise your ideas:

In order to write the above task you must first organise your ideas

Look at the list of problems in column 1 of the table below. Which problems are associated with land, which with sea and which with air? Use a dictionary if necessary. Tick the correct column. Some problems

Problems	Land	Water	Air
contaminated rivers			
smog			
soil erosion			
acid rain			
litter on the streets			
floods			
buildings in rural areas			
toxic fumes			
greenhouse gases			
melting ice caps			
land fill sites full of rubbish			

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droughts			
polluted atmosphere			
global warming			
deforestation			

Match the problems above with possible solutions below. There may be more than one answer for each. Write the correct letters in the columns above.

Possible Solutions

- a. Turn of lights/appliances when they are no longer in use.
- b. Use renewable forms of energy e.g. wind or solar energy.
- c. Use public transport more often.
- d. Buy fuel efficient cars.
- e. Reduce waste and recycle rubbish.
- f. Charge polluting factories high taxes
- g. Produce biodegradable objects e.g. carrier bags
- h. Buy cars with less polluting engines
- i. Refuse to give planning permission for new buildings
- j. Plant more trees

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Planning your answer:

Look at the skeleton sample answer below

1. What is the topic of Paragraph 1?
2. What is the topic of Paragraph 2?
3. What is the topic of Paragraph 3?
4. What is the function of Paragraph 4?
5. How many main sections are there in each paragraph?

Complete the following essay skeleton use ideas from the tables above. REMEMBER YOU DON'T HAVE TO INCLUDE ALL THE POINTS YOU CAN JUST USE WHAT YOU THINK ARE THE MAIN ISSUES

First Paragraph

Almost every country in the world has problems with the environment, affecting its land, air or water . I believe that the main problems on land are:

Perhaps the most helpful thing we can do to tackle these difficulties is to

Second Paragraph

The ways in which air is affected are as follows. Firstly

I believe that the best ways to reduce these problems is by:

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Third Paragraph

The main effects of pollution and other environmental problems on water are

These can be dealt with by

Fourth Paragraph- Conclusion

It is crucial that these measures are taken in order to ensure a healthy future for our planet