

# Question 1

## Candidate A

Nowadays, more and more parents are making the controversial decision to teach their children at home rather than sending them to school. Although this approach to education has advantages, pupils who learn only at home definitely lose more opportunities.

First, children who don't go to school only know two teachers, the same people who are also their parents. Because of this, the pupils may not learn other points of view outside their family. Besides this, there is also the question if parents have the qualifications and knowledge to teach every subject. Perhaps their mother and father are experts in one or two subjects, but any school provides teachers expert in every subject.

We should remember that there is more to education than learning about topics. In addition, going to school is also a way to meet people your own age and to make friends. It is clear that children can socialise better at school, and as a result children at school will have the chance to start many lifelong relationships.

I agree that parents can have some good reasons for having home school, but overall, considering teachers and friends, it's much better for children to attend school.

# Question 1

## Candidate B

In my opinion studying at home is not a bad things because you are the only student and your parents, who becomes your teacher, can help you better than a "normal" teacher with more students; you don't have to wait for other students who don't do their homework or students who don't understand something.

By the way there is a bad thing: studying on your own doesn't let you meet other children and making friends becomes harder. A "normal" student stay with other people 5 or 6 hours per day, so he or she must learn how to approche with other children.

At the end this kind of school improve the relation between parents and his son because they study together so the son can see also his parents trying to learn his school subject and also the parents become important figures for the child, not just because they teach the education, but because they teach history, geography and maths, too.

## Examiner comments **1**

Subscale	Mark	Commentary
<b>Content</b>	<b>5</b>	All content is relevant to the task and the target reader is fully informed. The candidate discusses the advantages of staying at home to be taught by parents ( <i>your parents, who becomes your teacher, can help you better than a "normal" teacher</i> ). The disadvantages of this method are also explored, including the difficulties of making friends if you are home schooled ( <i>making friends becomes harder</i> ). The candidate also includes their own idea, suggesting that families become closer through this type of contact ( <i>this kind of school improve the relation between parents and his son because they study together</i> ).
<b>Communicative Achievement</b>	<b>3</b>	The conventions of essay writing are evident in this response. Three distinct ideas are clearly addressed and an attempt is made to introduce the ideas in a formal way. This helps to hold the target reader's attention and communicate straightforward ideas. The topic is clearly stated in the first sentence and is referred to throughout. It is written from a general perspective and uses examples to support statements made by the writer ( <i>In my opinion studying at home is not a bad things because you are the only student</i> ).
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>3</b>	The text is generally well organised through the use of linkers and cohesive devices, although these are not always used correctly, for example, <i>By the way; At the end</i> , which are not appropriate in this context. There is a variety of linkers within the text ( <i>because; so; not just ... but because</i> ) and there is some use of relative clauses as well ( <i>other students who don't do their homework or students who don't understand something</i> ). The text is coherent and the main message moves forward logically.
<b>Language</b>	<b>3</b>	There is a range of everyday, relevant vocabulary, which is used appropriately within the context of the question ( <i>students; teacher; subject; homework; study</i> ) and some collocations are used correctly as well. A range of simple and some more complex grammatical forms is used, including the gerund and modal verbs ( <i>you don't have to wait; can help you better than; he or she must learn how to</i> ) and comparatives. There are a number of errors with plurals and verb agreement, but these are non-impeding.

## Examiner comments **2**

Subscale	Mark	Commentary
<b>Content</b>	<b>4</b>	All content is relevant and the target reader is on the whole informed. The candidate discusses the first two numbered points in the question. They address disadvantages of having parents teaching their own children, explaining that only one view may be offered and there might also be a lack of knowledge about certain subjects. The second point is addressed by saying that children have more opportunities to socialise at school and will find it easier to make friends. However, although these two points are covered in some depth, there is no 3rd point ( <i>your own idea</i> ) introduced by the candidate, resulting in the target reader not being fully informed.
<b>Communicative Achievement</b>	<b>5</b>	The essay is very well written, using the conventions of the task effectively to hold the target reader's attention. The language is formal throughout and the topic is treated in an appropriate way. Balanced views and opinions are given and the candidate also suggests scenarios to support certain views ( <i>Perhaps their mother and father are experts in one or two subjects</i> ). Both straightforward and more complex, abstract ideas are communicated clearly to the reader ( <i>pupils may not learn other points of view outside their family</i> ).
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>5</b>	The essay is well organised and coherent and uses a variety of cohesive devices, referencing, pronouns, substitution and conjunctions to link the ideas across the text. Organisational patterns are used to generally good effect with positive and negative opinions being given ( <i>Although this approach to education has advantages; Because of this; Besides this, there is also; I agree that ... but</i> ). The essay has a good overall structure, with a clear opening paragraph setting out the topic of the essay. Two points are developed in the main body and there is an effective conclusion which summarises the writer's view.
<b>Language</b>	<b>5</b>	A good range of vocabulary is used appropriately, including some effective collocations ( <i>controversial decision; this approach to education; more to education than learning; socialise better; lifelong relationships</i> ). There is a range of simple and complex grammatical forms used with control and flexibility to communicate specific ideas. Occasional errors occur, but these do not impede.