

Writing Part 2

An article

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- In Writing Part 2 you do one writing task from a choice of four.
- The possible tasks are an article, a letter or email, a report, a review, or a story. The fourth task is always the set-book option.
- You must write between 140 and 190 words.

Exam
advice

- 1 Look at this writing task and note the points you must write about.

You have seen this announcement in an English-language magazine for teenagers.

A great way to spend your free time!

Tell us about a leisure-time activity you really enjoy.

- How did you get started?
- Why do you enjoy it so much?

We will publish the most interesting articles in next month's issue.

Write your **article**.

- 2 Work in pairs. Tell your partner about one of your free-time activities. While you are speaking, answer the questions in the writing task above.
- 3 Work in pairs. The article in the next column would lose marks in the exam because it is not divided into paragraphs.
 - 1 Divide it into paragraphs.
 - 2 Say what the main idea is in each paragraph.

Sailing

– a fun and exciting sport

I've always loved the sea, but I first experienced sailing last year. I went to stay with my aunt, who lives near the sea. She is a keen sailor and she suggested that I join the local sailing school. In the first lesson, I learnt how to steer the boat and some basic survival skills at sea. Although I found some things quite complicated at first, I soon mastered the basics. By the end of the course, I was quite a competent sailor. I really benefitted from meeting other people who were my age at the sailing club. When we became more experienced, we were allowed to take a small boat out on our own. It was really satisfying to take charge of the boat and we enjoyed being independent. It was a lot more difficult for us to sail when the weather was bad. I even fell in the water once, but it was very exciting trying to keep the boat under control in the rough sea. Despite the difficulties, I can't wait to go back there next summer. I love sailing because it's challenging and sociable.

- 4 You can write compound sentences by joining two sentences with *and*, *but* and *because*. Which two sentences are joined in these compound sentences?
 - 1 I've always loved the sea, but I first experienced sailing last year.
 - 2 She is a keen sailor and she suggested that I join the local sailing school.
 - 3 It was really satisfying to take charge of the boat and we enjoyed being independent.
 - 4 I even fell in the water once, but it was very exciting trying to keep the boat under control in the rough sea.
 - 5 I love sailing because it's challenging and sociable.



5 Write compound sentences by joining these sentences with *and*, *but* and *because*. Use pronouns (*he*, *she*, *it*, etc.) to avoid repetition.

- I'd like to learn to fly. I think learning to fly is too expensive.
I'd like to learn to fly, but I think it's too expensive.
- I got interested in flying when I was about 14. My father took me to an airshow.
- My parents don't want me to fly. They think flying is dangerous.
- One of my friends is learning to fly. My friend has asked me to come with him. My friend thinks I'd like flying.

6 You can write complex sentences by joining two sentences with words such as *when*, *who*, *which* and *that*. Write these complex sentences as two separate sentences.

- I went to stay with my aunt, who lives near the sea.
I went to stay with my aunt. My aunt lives near the sea.
- I really benefitted from meeting other people who were my age at the sailing club.
- When we became more experienced, we were allowed to take a small boat out on our own.
- It was a lot more difficult for us to sail when the weather was bad.

7 Join these sentences using *when*, *who*, *which* and *that*.

- I was 13. I started running seriously.
- My uncle encouraged me. My uncle's a keen athlete.
- I go running most days. I've finished school and done my homework.
- Running is a sport. Running gets you really fit.

8 Join these sentences using *and*, *because*, *but*, *when*, *which* and *who*. Use pronouns (*he*, *she*, *it*, etc.) to avoid repetition.

- I started windsurfing. I was 13. I was staying with friends by the sea.
- One of my friends is a keen windsurfer. She encouraged me to start. She thought I would enjoy it.
- I kept falling into the sea to start with. It was a fairly windy day. There were a lot of waves.
- I didn't enjoy it at first. I had to concentrate quite hard. I carried on trying.
- I started to windsurf quite fast. It was exciting. I started to find it quite enjoyable.

9 Find adjectives in the article which describe the following:

- how the writer found learning to sail at first
- the writer's ability to sail by the end of the sailing course
- how the writer felt about the experience of sailing with friends

10 Complete the table with the words in the box.

~~astonishing~~ competitive delightful demanding
depressing dreadful economical entertaining
exhausting incredible irritating popular
superb time-consuming tremendous unbelievable

feelings about an activity

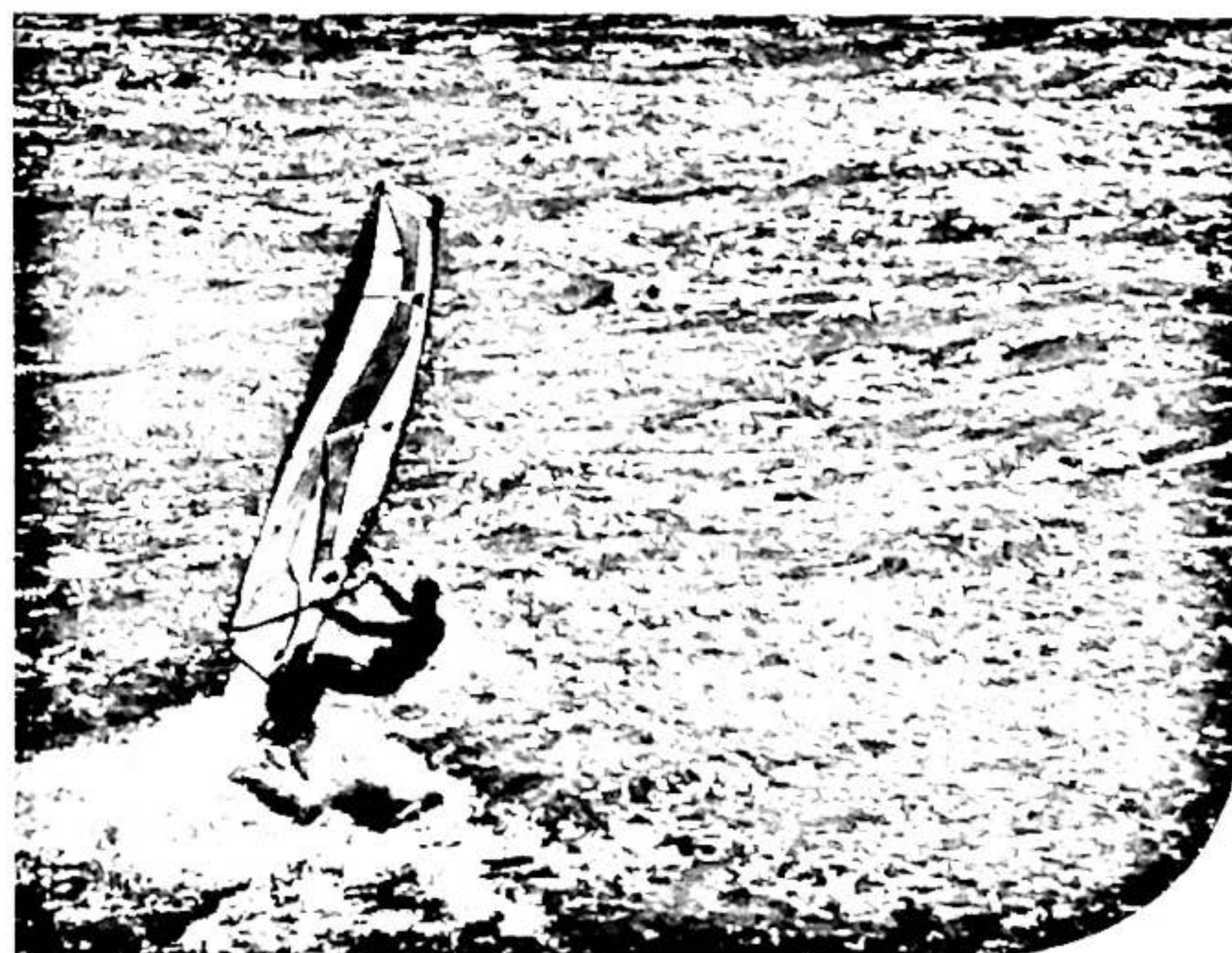
the type of activity

astonishing

11 You are going to write your own article to answer the writing task in Exercise 1. Before you write:

- decide on a title for your article which will encourage people to read it
- decide how many paragraphs you need, the subject of each paragraph and write a short plan
- think about some of the vocabulary you can use.

12 Write your article using between 140 and 190 words.



1 Read about the article in Part 2 of the Writing paper.

In Part 2 of the Writing paper, you choose a task from three possible ones. One of the tasks might be an article. The task will give details about what you should write an article about and what information you should include.

You might be asked to write a description, give examples or give your opinions about something. The task will also say where people will read your article, e.g. on a website or in a magazine or newspaper.

You should make sure you cover all the points in the task, and you should structure your article in a suitable way. You should use creative language to make the article interesting for your reader, and you can ask the reader direct questions to engage them. You should write 140–190 words.

2 Read the exam task. What should you write an article about? What points should you include? Where will people read your article?

You see this notice in an English-language magazine.

Articles wanted

My hobby

Write an article about your hobby. Say what it is, how you started doing it, and why you enjoy it.

The best articles will appear in our magazine next week.

Write your **article**.

3 Study the model answer and answer the questions.

- Does the article cover all the points in the task?
- How many paragraphs does it have?
- How many direct questions does it ask the reader?
- Is it written in a formal or an informal style?

MODEL ANSWER

¹The thrill of the stage

²I'll never forget the first day I stepped onto a real theatre stage. I knew immediately that this was my hobby for life! I'm now a member of my local drama club. We put on two shows every year and have a lot of fun while doing so!

³I first started acting by chance. A friend of mine was interested in joining a drama club, and I agreed to go along with her, to give her a bit of support. ⁴And I loved it from the first day!

First, drama is ⁵incredibly challenging. ⁶Not only do you have to learn what you're going to say, but also understand the character you're playing, their role in the play, and then communicate that to the audience.

⁷Another thing I love about drama is how sociable it is. I've made so many good friends at the drama club, and spending time with them, working towards a shared goal, is extremely rewarding. And in addition to all of this, ⁸what could beat the thrill of appearing under the lights, in front of a cheering crowd?

¹ has an interesting title

² has a first sentence which interests the reader and encourages them to read more

³ is organised into clear paragraphs, each with a topic sentence

⁴ gives the writer's opinions

⁵ uses creative language with strong meanings

⁶ gives examples to support the ideas

⁷ uses structures to add emphasis

⁸ try to end with a question or a lively final sentence

4 Read the tips.

Remember, to get a good mark for your article:

- you must include all the points in the input
- you should choose an interesting title for your article
- your ideas should be organised into clear paragraphs, which each focus on a clear topic
- you should make the reader feel interested by asking them questions
- you should use a wide range of creative language and language structures
- you should include your own opinion and experiences.

5 It is important to choose a title and first sentence which will engage your reader and encourage them to read more. Choose the best title and first sentence for an article about Nelson Mandela. Why is it the best?

A Nelson Mandela

I really admire Nelson Mandela because of everything he achieved in South Africa.

B A peaceful transformation

Can you imagine one person bringing peaceful change to a whole country?

C An important figure in South Africa

Nelson Mandela is a very important figure in the history of South Africa.