

Functional Skills Level 2 English Writing Sample Paper 1

Worked Example – fail

Question 1

You have recently been on two different work placements.

- You were given the first placement but you found it to be quite boring and irrelevant to your future career path.
- You chose the second one yourself and found it much more interesting and beneficial because it was more relevant to your career plans.

Your task: write a blog about your experiences aimed at people preparing for work experience. Your blog should encourage people to seek their own work placements in an area that interests them and explain how it will benefit their career development.

(27 marks)

Write around 5 to 8 paragraphs.

I went on a work placenent. It was gived to me by a collage. It was nothin to do with my corse. I have been working in a charity shop cleaning cloths and helping poelpe. My corse is brickwork. It was waste of time and I should never of being given it. 2nd one was better cos I was on site working with an old fella who has being laying bricks all is life. He was descent bloke and tort me stuff all about different bonds andother teknikes. dont do one that is rubbish do one that is good for your carer. I learned good stuff with him.

Question 1	Band 4	Band 3	Band 2	Band 1	
	Consistently	Most of the time	Some of the time	Limited	
Communicates information, ideas and opinions clearly, coherently and effectively			✓		
Writes text of appropriate detail and length				✓	
Uses appropriate format and structure and paragraphing				✓	
Conveys clear meaning and establishes cohesion			✓		
Uses language and register appropriate to audience and purpose			✓		
Constructs complex sentences				✓	
Overall band	Band 2				5
Composition Marks	(12-15)	(8-11)	(4-7)	(0-3)	

Sample Paper 1 – Level 2 Worked Example – Fail

Question 1	Consistently accurate at appropriate level 4 marks	Accurate most of the time 3 marks	Accurate some of the time 2 marks	Limited accuracy 1 mark	Insufficient evidence 0 marks	
Spelling				1		
Punctuation				1		
Grammar				1		
SPaG Total						3
SPaG mark + composition mark						8

Commentary

The instruction is to write 5 to 8 paragraphs. This has clearly not been followed as the candidate has written only one paragraph of approximately 100 words. Whilst there has been an attempt to write about the task, the level of detail is sparse and does not fully address all the elements in the question. The lack of detail and brevity affect the overall coherence, cohesion and effectiveness of the communication as a whole. A title would have enhanced the format and structure marks, but as it stands, there is nothing to indicate that this is a blog.

Punctuation is limited to some correct sentence demarcation, but some full stops, commas and apostrophes have been omitted. Grammar and spelling are also relatively weak.

Question 2

It is well known that celebrities use the media to help their careers, but they don't seem to like it when the media covers their private lives.

- Is it right how the media treats celebrities?
- How do celebrities benefit from the media and how does the media benefit from celebrities?
- Should anything be off-limits or can the media cover everything about celebrities and their private lives?

Your task: Write an article for a student magazine exploring the extent to which it is fair that the private lives of celebrities are covered in the media.

(27 marks)

Suggested word count 250 – 300 words.

They use the media to make them famous but cant take it when the media photograph them. I think they should of not use the media if they dont wont to be phtoed. I dont think I will like it if they was alwayse taking my photo but if I were famous then I would like it because I will be in the new papers and magazines and every body will read about me making me more famous. Kim Kardashian is alwayse photoed and she is rich and all her family is rich to. David Beckham is famous and is photoed but he dosent always like it if they is taken photos off his kids so it can work both ways. The media shouldnt take the pphotos of them if they dont want them to but they can take photos if they are out and about. If they have to clime over a hedghe or fence it is wrong and if they have to hide any where it is wrong but if they are walking along and then they can take a photo of a clebity.

Sample Paper 1 – Level 2 Worked Example – Fail

Question 2	Band 4	Band 3	Band 2	Band 1	
	Consistently	Most of the time	Some of the time	Limited	
Communicates information, ideas and opinions clearly, coherently and effectively			✓		
Writes text of appropriate detail and length			✓		
Uses appropriate format and structure and paragraphing				✓	
Conveys clear meaning and establishes cohesion				✓	
Uses language and register appropriate to audience and purpose			✓		
Constructs complex sentences			✓		
Overall band	Band 2				5
Composition Marks	(12-15)	(8-11)	(4-7)	(0-3)	

Question 2	Consistently accurate at appropriate level 4 marks	Accurate most of the time 3 marks	Accurate some of the time 2 marks	Limited accuracy 1 mark	Insufficient evidence 0 marks	
Spelling				1		
Punctuation				1		
Grammar				1		
SPaG Total						3
SPaG mark + composition mark						8

Overall mark for question 1	8
Overall mark for question 2	8
FINAL MARK	16

Commentary

Once again, the lack of any formatting and paragraphing affects the overall effectiveness of the response. Coherence is not very well established due to a lack of a title and an abrupt opening that does not inform the reader who or what is being written about, and very few devices to give the text cohesion. There are also clarity issues at times and language and register are not wholly appropriate.

Sample Paper 1 – Level 2 Worked Example – Fail

Spelling, punctuation and grammar are poor throughout. Tense selection is inconsistent, and subject-verb agreement and verb-tense agreement are not always accurate. Spelling errors are frequent and suggest a lack of proof-reading, and punctuation consists of some sentence demarcation.

Overall, the standard is well below what is expected for a level 2 candidate.