

Higher ESOL Writing – Study**Task 2 — Study — essay**

Write an essay discussing the benefits and drawbacks of exchange programmes* at school, college or university.

You should cover some or all of the following:

- cultural awareness
- language skills/barriers
- different educational standards/systems
- life skills
- time away from the normal curriculum.

You may also add your own ideas.

* a programme that provides students with the opportunity to study overseas for a period of time

You should write approximately 250–300 words.

Candidate 8

Task number

2

Exchange programmes are programmes that provide students with the opportunity to study overseas for a period of time.

On one hand, both the incoming student and the receiving students will learn more about each other's culture.

This is an immense advantage to these programmes as it enriches students with world-wide knowledge. On the other hand, some students might not want to learn about another culture resulting in unfriendly behaviour.

A possible obstacle that needs to be considered is the language barrier.

This can be an opportunity for the exchange students to learn a language with help from natives, however this can be seen as a bullying motive as some students feel better by mocking non-native speakers.

For a period of time, exchange students experience another educational system,

which can help them, perhaps, fill gaps left by their previous system.

Exchange students also get to increase their life skills as they have to be responsible for their education.

They also, get to visit another country as well as learning and ~~to~~ living ~~in~~ it, which can help students relax and do better academically.

Additionally, a break from their old curriculum can freshen their attitude to school and prepare them for life.

In conclusion, exchange programmes are ~~an~~ an amazing experience that will not only relax students, but improve their ~~to~~ understanding of the world.

Candidate9

Task number

2

Today in my essay I will be discussing the benefits and drawbacks of exchange programmes at school, college or university.

Here are some benefits and drawbacks.

The first one is cultural awareness.

I feel that a lot of students that are going through an exchange programme do not know what to ~~expect~~ expect and they might not have any knowledge about the family's culture, and can often offend them or do something bad that they do not realise they did. Because of different cultures and beliefs, this can be a major drawback.

Language skills/borders can be a drawback but also a benefit. If the pupil doesn't speak multiple languages then there can be a

language barrier and they might not be able to communicate with a family, but on the other hand some people might enjoy learning/teaching a language so that can also be fun. This can also be very useful later on in life.

There are different educational systems in every country and some might be excited to try something new that they have never done before and others might not want to because simply because they feel like it might confuse them or they have not learned what the others have because the systems are different and they won't know how to do their work or understand it, also because it might be in another language and they are not bilingual.

By taking part in that programme you might learn some new skills or improve your skills and become

more independently, this will help you later on in life.

The time away from your normal curriculum can be a good change because you are not used to it so it is good to try something new but then again you might not like it because some countries start classes earlier and have longer hours, and even go to school on the weekends.

In conclusion, I think that there are a lot of benefits and a lot of drawbacks but if you do get an opportunity to be in an exchange programme then you should take it because even if you do not like it then you never have to do it again, but it gives you an opportunity to study overseas and that is really cool, because years ago people didn't have this opportunity.

Candidate 10

Task number

2

Benefits and Drawbacks of Exchange Programmes at Schools.

Exchange programmes are an excellent way ~~of~~ for pupils to see ~~different~~ various different cultures. There are most certainly benefits created by this programme. However, there are also some drawbacks that can be caused.

Firstly, a massive benefit ~~of~~ this certain programme creates is cultural awareness. Students are not as aware of different cultures and ~~that~~ sometimes do not tone enough respect to those people who are from ~~at~~ another culture. ~~This~~ The exchange programme will introduce those other cultures and allow ~~them~~ the pupils to experience it for a ~~little~~ duration of time. This increases the knowledge of the pupils about various cultures and be aware of their existence, which is a huge benefit to their lives in the future.

As a result of exchange programmes, the pupils should create better linguistic skill. When the pupils travel abroad to their host family, ~~it may~~ the location may be in a non-English speaking country. Therefore, the pupils would have to educate themselves on the ~~language~~ language that is spoken there. This will help them learn how to communicate with people from a variety of cultures and countries. Exchange programmes

allow the pupils to ~~form~~ become more capable of communicating with others and also develops their language skills which will most certainly be helpful for their future as well.

Thirdly, these programmes shows different educational standards and systems. All over the world there are different types of schools. Seeing all these various types of schools will show the pupils that not all education is free and ^{that} every school is run ~~off~~ in a different way. This can be a drawback for the pupils because they will have to experience life with a different ~~to~~ school system and make friends with other pupils who might not be capable of speaking English.

On the other hand, pupils would develop new life skills such as the ones mentioned before: cultural awareness ^{and} language skills. There are many more skills that they are ^{very} ~~able~~ capable of developing. As a result of the exchange programme, pupils will be more tolerant towards people from a variety of cultures and ~~countries~~ countries and be ~~more~~ increasingly more capable of communication in a different language. These ~~to~~ skills will most certainly be helpful for them in the future for ~~finding a job~~ applying for a job.

~~On the other hand~~
~~However~~, there is a drawback to the programmes. This drawback is spending time away from the normal curriculum. This can be extremely stressful for some pupils because their normal routine is ~~to~~

has ~~struggled~~ disappeared. ^{Especially when they} ~~have~~, already having to leave their families behind. Some pupils struggle to adapt to a new curriculum and the ~~struggle~~ struggle and stress is definitely not worth it because that would not allow them to develop any new skills.

In conclusion, there are some clear benefits and drawbacks by doing an exchange programme. It is recommended to ~~to~~ participate in an ~~an~~ exchange programme because it has more benefits. However, it is the pupils' ~~the~~ choice and it would only help them develop skills for their future if they allowed themselves to adapt to these circumstances.