

ESOL Higher Writing: Everyday Life

Restaurant Review

Although the candidate makes a fair attempt at the task, this answer falls well short of Higher standard in terms of grammatical structure, spelling and to a certain extent punctuation. A number of aspects of the writing, such as over-elaborate but inaccurate grammar, point to this being the work of someone more than usually comfortable with spoken than written English. The piece is short, consisting of 173 words rather than the required 220-250. Therefore, a mark of **5** would be awarded.

The candidate covers the task adequately, dealing with each point in turn as set out in the rubric but the range of language available to the candidate has made it difficult to match the style and tone needed for an online review, being mainly a description of what happened. Within the grammatical limitations, writing is coherent and cohesive and the overall message is conveyed. Layout is appropriate, with clear evidence of paragraphing. In general, but with some exceptions, punctuation is adequate, with consistent use of commas and full stops. However, sentencing is not always up to standard, e.g. *“one of the waiter was talking to the cheff about the food, there were many argument ...”* (paragraph 3)

There is some evidence of developed vocabulary — *“weird, experience, fake”* — though this is not extensive. However, it can be said that vocabulary is adequate to the task. However, there are regular spelling errors — *“standar, exelent, atmosphe, mayority, clustomers”*.

What mainly lets this candidate down is grammatical structure, e.g. –

Paragraph 1

defining for non-defining relative clause: *“with my family who came to visit me”*

Paragraph 2

active for passive: *“On the restaurant website shows high stanar of service”*.
Although this could be fixed by deleting *on*.

A verb is used in place of adjective: *“choose”* rather than *choice*.

Paragraph 3

missed article: *“there were couple people around”*. The word *of* is also missing.

Candidate active for passive: *“the menu was not how showed in the website”*, though this could be avoided by simplifying the structure, e.g. ‘was not the same as on the website’.

Wrong form of present continuous: *“the majority of restaurant in theses day trying to ...”*