

10 Writing Task One

Sample Answer

This task appears on page 127 of *IELTS Masterclass Student's Book*.

The table shows trends in of sea and ocean fish over a ten-year-period.

During ~~the~~ the period 1989 to 1991, the fish was catch in ~~Asia~~ Asian 25,427, ^{thousand metric tonnes} and then ~~as~~ gravally increased to 28,102 ^{thousand metric tonnes} between 1999-2001. In sub-saharan Africa the captures of sea and ocean fish between 1989 and 1991 ~~were~~ was 2,169 thousand metric tonnes and then slightly ~~is~~ increased to 3,140 thousand metric tonnes during the period 1999-2001. The captures of sea and ocean fish in North America was 5069 thound metric tonnes after that between 1999 and 2001 ~~it~~ the capture of sea and ocean fish gually decreased to 3,995 thousand metric tonnes. Between 1989 and 1991 the captives of sea and ocean fish ~~was~~ of Europe was 18,032 and slightly decreased to 14,315 during the period 1999 to 2001.

It trends ~~be~~ in Asia, excluding Middle East was the most captures of sea and ocens fish, compare with other. The less capture of sea and ocens fish was Oceania ~~Marine fis~~ ^{just} total capture (thousand metric tonnes) which ^{just} was 60z of capture of sea and ocean fish between 199-2001.

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Commentary

Task Achievement

Figures are accurately reported. However, the focus of the response is not always appropriate and there are both omissions and redundancies.

In the first paragraph, the selection of data for reporting appears entirely arbitrary as only four of the eight regions are mentioned. In the second paragraph, the writer appropriately highlights the difference between the regions that have the highest and the lowest captures of fish (though this difference is mistakenly referred to as a *trend*). However, no attempt is made at comparisons across the data, such as highlighting differences between the two periods within regions, or presenting an overview of general trends.

The first paragraph would probably be discounted, as it simply restates the rubric, but the word length would allow for this.

Coherence and Cohesion

The substance of the answer is contained in two paragraphs: one reporting figures, and the other an overview. To this extent, the answer is coherent. However, the sequence of particular information to general information is arguably unusual. A more significant issue is the absence of cohesive devices (there are just two: *after that* and *and then*) or pronouns. For example, the writer repeatedly refers to *the captures of sea and ocean fish* without substituting another expression.

Lexical Resource

The writer correctly employs the language of change on very few occasions. Otherwise there is very little evidence here that the writer has access to the relevant vocabulary, as much of the response repeats language contained in the rubric (see **Coherence and Cohesion**), and *gradually* is not used correctly. Spelling is generally accurate.

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

The writer borrows heavily from the language in the rubric, and therefore produces very little original language. In those limited areas where his/her own words are used, only partial control of structures is shown, for example, *It trends in Asia excluding Middle East was the most captures of sea and oceans fish compare with other*. Errors of word order are an additional source of difficulty for the reader, for example, *During the period 1989 to 1991, the fish was cacth in Asia 25,427 thousand metric tonnes ...*

Punctuation is generally correct.

Marks

This answer would probably receive a **Band 4**.