

# Succeed in ECCE

## Writing

### Model Answers

#### Test 1

##### Task 2 essay – page 4

Our society has generally become an unhealthy one for a variety of reasons and therefore it has become more important than ever that children are encouraged to lead a healthy lifestyle and develop healthy habits from an early age.

Parents must take on the main responsibility for teaching their children healthy habits. This can be done by giving them a balanced diet from a young age and also encouraging them to be physically active. Families should get out and about in the fresh air playing football or basketball in the park or just going for a family walk. Schools should also offer healthy snacks at school and make physical education classes interesting and fun for all children and not just the sporty ones.

Children should be discouraged from eating a lot of junk food, instead it should be had every now and then as a treat. Also parents should limit how long their children sit in front of a TV, computer or smart phone so that they get up and do something more active.

To sum up children need to learn that a healthy lifestyle is the normal thing to do and then they will keep those healthy habits for life.

#### Test 2

##### Task 1 letter – page 26

Dear Sir/Madam

There is a lot of controversy over professional sport as it offers both positive and negative influences on society. I believe that in recent years the more negative aspects have started to take over the advantageous ones. Let me justify why I believe this is true.

First of all in certain sports such as football, professional players are paid way too much money. They receive hundreds of thousands of pounds which in my opinion is completely wrong if you compare that to the wage of a doctor, teacher or police officer for example.

Secondly these athletes consider themselves to be celebrities and many of them show off their lifestyle as though they are better than other people. They wear designer clothes, drive expensive cars and live in huge houses. I'm not saying this is entirely their fault as the world of sport seems to be all about making money these days and the young athletes get caught in the money trap.

On the other hand sport can offer a lot of pleasure and entertainment to people in difficult times and it is certainly something that can be used to encourage people to live a healthier lifestyle.

All in all I believe the world of professional sport needs to take responsibility for its actions and reputation. If it sets a good example to young people it can be a major positive influence on society.

Yours faithfully .....

#### Test 3

##### Task 2 essay – page 48

A night at the movies is one of the most popular forms of entertainment worldwide. You only have to look at the glamor of Hollywood to see that. However, in my opinion nothing compares to the atmosphere created during a live performance.

When a performer walks on to a stage an audience comes to life. If it is a singer or a band people will clap and cheer and you can feel the excitement in the crowd. If it is an actor there will be a quiet mood in the audience but still filled with excitement as the people wait to see what will happen on the stage. A cinema audience also feels this to a certain extent but it is not such a strong feeling as people eat their popcorn and maybe talk quietly to the person sitting next to them.

One of the magical things about a live performance is that you can never be sure what is going to happen. It is unpredictable as sometimes things go wrong or the unexpected happens. Also the crowd gets more involved. They might sing and dance and shout or clap their hands. This doesn't happen in a cinema. When watching a movie there is a distance between the crowd and the big screen as the performers aren't real, they are just an image.

To sum up, although going to the movies can be an exciting experience in my experience it can never compare to the thrill of an unpredictable live performance.

#### Test 4

##### Task 1 email – page 70

Good morning Mrs Jameson. After receiving your memo I thought I would email you to make some suggestions as to how the workplace could be improved for everyone. After talking to some of my colleagues there were two things that stood out as needing improvement without costing you too much money.

First of all everyone said they would like somewhere that they could sit and relax during their coffee breaks. At the moment we all sit at our desks and eat our sandwiches which isn't very relaxing. It feels like we haven't had a break at all. There is the storeroom at the back of the building that we could empty and turn into a comfortable room.

The second thing that people would like is some art on the walls and some plants in the corridors and offices. This doesn't have to cost much as you can buy some cheap prints and frames from a department store. Nobody would expect you to buy original art of course. I noticed that even the supermarket was selling cheap plants last week and we could water them and look after them. Research has shown that art and plants make workers less stressed and more positive generally.

I hope these ideas are interesting for you.

Bob.

## Test 5

### Task 2 essay – page 92

There is an interesting idea that all schoolchildren should get a free meal at lunchtime when they are at school. There are clearly advantages to this idea although there would also be potential problems too.

First of all the importance of children being properly fed should not be underestimated. For the majority of children this is not a problem as their parents earn enough money to keep them healthy and happy and provide everything that their children need. However, the reality is that there are children who do not get a good meal every day due to their parent's situation. If a child is hungry they will not be able to concentrate on their schoolwork and will therefore not do as well as they should in school. Also even the best fed children get hungry during the day so a healthy meal at school would be enjoyed by all children.

In some countries children who come from poorer families already get a free meal at school every day. This is of course a good thing but schools need to be very careful that these children are not seen to be different as this might mean that they might be bullied. Therefore it would make more sense that all children are given a free meal at school so that they are all seen to be equal.

To conclude we can say that providing children with a school meal is without doubt beneficial as long as it is something healthy and easy for the school to provide.

## Test 6

### Task 1 letter – page 114

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to express my concern at the proposal to build a new art gallery in the town. Although I love looking at art and feel that galleries play an important role in society, I strongly believe that there is a better way to spend money for the benefit of the whole community.

I think that the best place to spend this money would be at the hospital. As you know the hospital was built many years ago and it is in need of improvement. At the moment it does not even have a canteen and staff and patients have to walk to the nearest shop or cafe to get a snack or a meal. I know that there are drinks machines and machines that sell sweets and chocolate but this is not healthy food to be sold in a hospital. There do not need to be two canteens for staff and the public. One would work well for everyone.

Also it would be good if the rooms could be redecorated and some art put on the walls to make the place more cheerful. People in hospital are obviously stressed or unwell so a nice positive environment would make a big difference to how they feel. More importantly it will be easier to keep the hospital clean if the walls are all freshly painted.

I hope you will reconsider your decision to spend public money on a gallery and use it to improve the most important facility in our town.

## Test 7

### Task 2 Essay – page 134

Music has been taught in schools for many years although every school teaches it slightly differently. Some schools teach children more about the history of music and famous composers and musicians. Others actually teach children how to play an instrument. I believe that music programs are very important in schools for the following reasons.

To start with, everyone loves music of some kind. Music brings people together no matter what their social background is. Everyone has access to music and it makes our lives better. Schools can give children the opportunity to learn about and appreciate different types of music that they might not have heard before. They can discuss it in class and talk about what they liked or didn't like. It's an excellent way for children to become involved in an intelligent conversation or debate.

Another valuable thing about music programs is that some children who do not do so well at school might be very good at playing a musical instrument if they are able to have lessons. This could be a way for them to achieve something and possibly continue to do in the future. It is a fact that the younger someone starts to play a musical instrument, the better their chances are of being a very good musician when they get older.

To sum up I would argue that music programs in school are a valuable part of a child's education and offer something special and unique that no other subject can offer a child.

## Test 8

### Task 1 Email – page 154

Hi Jenny,

Thanks for your email. I can understand why you might be worried about going to boarding school as I would be too. I have been thinking about your situation a lot however and I think it might be much better than you think.

Let's think about the good things first of all. For a start you are going to make lots of really good friends as you will be with them all the time and you are all going to be in the same situation so you will be very supportive of each other. Secondly there will be so many fun things to do there. You will be able to play sports, join clubs to do things like music or drama. Also I think they will take you on lots of interesting excursions. Apart from all the fun stuff you will get an excellent education which means you will have the chance to go to a good university or get a great job after school.

I think the biggest problem you might have at first is that you will feel homesick and you will miss your family and friends back home. But don't forget everyone goes through that and you will help each other through it. I don't know what the food will be like. I hope it's better than our school dinners or you will have a problem. I'm sure the food will be excellent in an expensive school like that.

I hope you feel reassured by my email. Good luck,

Anna

## Test 9

### Task 2 Essay – page 174

In these times when people are more aware of protecting the environment, many people believe that all cars should be banned from city centres. I believe that this view is slightly extreme but is basically a sensible one with some exceptions.

Without doubt, large numbers of cars and other vehicles in our cities cause serious problems for people's health and for the environment generally. Cars cause a great deal of air pollution from exhaust fumes. They are also very noisy and make the streets dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. On the other hand people need to be able to get to work and use the shops, businesses and facilities in the city.

It seems to me that rather than banning all cars there should be limits and controls in the city centre. If there is good and cheap public transport many people will not want to use their car. Also car parks outside the centre could be provided with a free bus that goes regularly to and from the centre.

Finally people who are disabled or have special needs should still be allowed to drive into the centre and of course the emergency services need to be able to get everywhere very quickly. All in all there should be a careful review of how traffic is controlled and monitored in city centres to make sure that it is safe for everyone.

## Test 10

### Task 1 Letter – page 194

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am very excited to hear that the council is planning to build a new park and leisure center in the town. I think that this will be a big improvement to the town and benefit the whole community.

In order for everyone to be able to get to the new center it needs to be as central as possible. Of course there is a problem with this because most of the town has buildings on it. However I think there is a really good solution to this problem. The old factory by the river has been empty for years and it is a really big place. There would be plenty of space there if the building was demolished and its location by the river could mean that a beautiful park could be created with the river running through it.

It is important the leisure center has a variety of facilities for all ages. Of course a gym would be a very good idea and an indoor swimming pool that could be used all year round. A sports hall could be used for many different sports and fitness classes and maybe some of the local schools could then use the facilities too.

Finally it would be really nice if there were a cafe that could be used by people using the leisure center and the park. This would raise money to maintain the new facilities.

I hope you find my ideas useful and will consider them in your plans.

Yours Faithfully .....