

IELTS Academic

Writing Module — Academic Version • Practice Paper 09

Centre Number	Candidate Number	Candidate Name	Date
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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.
- Write your name and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page.
- All answers must be written in the answer booklet provided. Do not write in the margins.
- This paper contains two tasks. You must complete **both** tasks.
- Task 1 requires at least 150 words. Task 2 requires at least 250 words.
- The total time allowed is 60 minutes. It is recommended to spend 20 minutes on Task 1 and 40 minutes on Task 2.
- Task 2 carries twice as many marks as Task 1.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Task Achievement / Response	25%
Coherence and Cohesion	25%
Lexical Resource	25%
Grammatical Range and Accuracy	25%

BAND SCORE DESCRIPTORS (Writing)

Band 9 Expert user rare and sophisticated usage	Band 6 Competent user some inaccuracies in complex language
Band 8 Very good user occasional unsystematic errors	Band 5 Modest user frequent problems with accuracy
Band 7 Good user occasional mistakes, handles complex ideas	Band 4 Limited user basic communication only, many errors

WRITING TASK 1

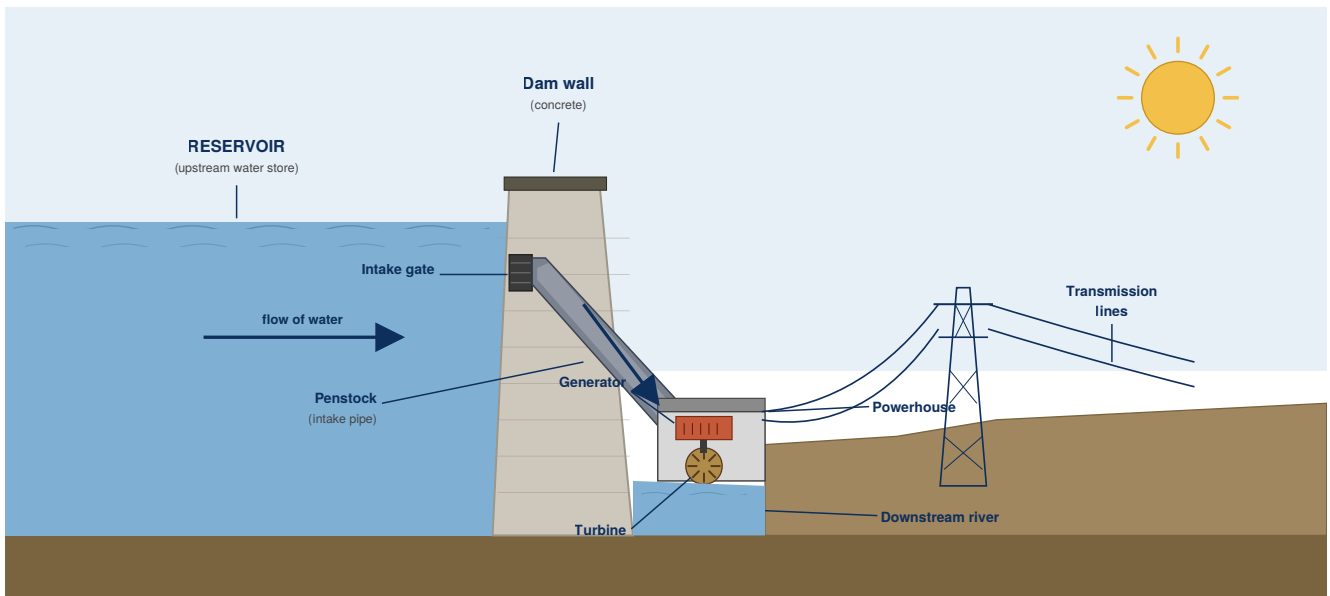
Cross-section Diagram ■ Recommended: 20 minutes ✎ Minimum: 150 words

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows a simplified cross-section of a typical **hydroelectric dam** and explains how it converts the energy of stored water into electricity.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features of the system.

How a Hydroelectric Dam Generates Electricity — Cross-section View



Source: adapted from a U.S. Geological Survey educational illustration.

KEY FEATURES TO DESCRIBE Water stored in the upstream reservoir is held back by a concrete dam wall · Pressure drives water through the intake gate and down the penstock · The falling water spins a turbine, which in turn drives the generator · Electricity travels along transmission lines to the wider grid; spent water exits downstream

TASK 1 — ANSWER SHEET

Write your answer in the space below. An answer written in this space will be marked.

TASK 1 ■ Begin your answer here:

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WRITING TASK 2

Causes & Solutions Essay ■ Recommended: 40 minutes ✎ Minimum: 250 words

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

In many developed countries, vast quantities of edible food are thrown away each year by households, supermarkets, and restaurants — even as some communities continue to face food insecurity. Government bodies, charities, and the food industry have begun to treat this paradox as both an ethical and an environmental problem in need of urgent attention.

Why does so much food go to waste, and what practical measures could be taken to reduce it?

PLANNING GUIDANCE

Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. Both halves of the question must be addressed with comparable depth: the **causes** (why does the waste occur?) and the **solutions** (what can be done to address it?). Consider the actors involved — consumers, retailers, producers, regulators — rather than treating waste as a single problem with a single cause. An essay that diagnoses causes thoroughly but treats solutions only briefly — or vice versa — will be penalised under Task Response. Develop each main idea with explanation, evidence, and where possible a concrete example. A clear introduction and a conclusion that summarises your main points are expected.

TASK 2 — ANSWER SHEET

Write your answer in the space below. Continue on the additional sheet if required.

TASK 2 ■ Begin your answer here:

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