

I'm sure you will agree that answering an IELTS Task 2 essay is not easy, very often our mind will go blank, especially if the question is ridiculously obscure:

The rule of law, the role of parliament, and democracy in general have evolved over the last thirty years to represent a very modified form of governance.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view?

One way to write an error free essay is to have a few useful phrases that you can adapt to any essay task that you face.

This tutorial contains seven useful phrases for IELTS Writing task two. Use these phrases for introductions, body paragraphs, and supporting sentences. Copy and adapt them. This is perfectly legitimate, however, you absolutely must adapt the phrases to your essay topic!

Listed below are seven simple sentence constructions or enrichment tips you can effectively use to ensure a longer yet grammatically error-free essay.

Useful Phrase 1 – best for introductions

“This essay will analyse this issue using the examples from...” “to demonstrate points and support arguments.”

You will need to supply the examples in accordance with your particular topic. For instance:

“This essay will analyse this issue using the examples from wartime countries and conflict zones to demonstrate points and support arguments.”

and

“This essay will analyse this issue using the examples from Canada, Australia and Rwanda to demonstrate points and support arguments.”

If you need further help with your introductions, check this tutorial.

It is undeniable that ___(insert problem from question)___ is one of the most challenging issues in the western world.

Useful Phrase 2 – best for body paragraphs (opinions)

2.) When injecting an opposing thought, instead of using only “However,” you can use:

“However, it should not be forgotten (that)...” and add the opposing point.

Useful Phrase 3 – best for body paragraphs (examples)

Cite examples from research or studies made, using the phrase,

“For example, a recent study by _____ showed...”

There are also studies being performed on a global level to discover the source of these important problems. One solution proposed by the **_(insert global organisation)_** is to _____.

For instance:

For example, a recent study by the **WTO** (or **U.K. government**) showed..." then supply the details of the findings.

Useful Phrase 4 – best for body paragraphs

It is fairly easy to comprehend the arguments as to why this proposal has been made.

There would be at least two facets to this proposal.

There is also, however, a strong argument not to implement this proposal.

The issue of X in western / African countries has **grown** in importance over the past few **decades**.
The issue of X in most continents has **fallen** in importance over the past few **years**.

Useful Phrase 5 – best for supporting sentences

Instead of saying "There is proof that..." you can say, instead:

"There is ample evidence to suggest that..."

For instance:

"There is ample evidence to suggest that scientists will promptly discover..."

and

"There is ample evidence to suggest that local governments will be implementing ..."

Useful Phrase 6 – best for supporting sentences

Give your findings a supportive introduction using the phrase:

"Numerous studies have consistently found that ..."

then provide your conclusion, for instance:

Numerous studies have consistently found that children from economically advanced countries..."

and

"Numerous studies have consistently found that students who learn 3 languages have a reduced chance of contracting Alzheimer's."

Useful Phrase 7 – best for strengthening an argument by being specific

Instead of generalising, enumerate or cite samples. For instance:

Replace “*Recent electronic gadgets have...*” with “*Electronic gadgets such as the smartphone, the laptop, and the 3D printer have drastically increased worker productivity.*”

Replace “*Serious diseases are a recurring matter...*” with “*Serious diseases such as Malaria, Ebola and Dengue Fever bring about a considerable amount of expenses.*”

Useful Phrase 8 – to change the person

However, in **my view** this solution is rather controversial and other solutions need to be found. However, from a **general viewpoint** this solution is rather impractical and other solutions need to be found.

These may be little additions of 3-9 words per phrase but many little phrases go a long way toward a 250 word goal.

Warning! When using these useful phrases for IELTS writing task two..

- Make sure you have adapted them to your specific essay topic
- To improve your grammatical range and accuracy experiment with these same structures but using different verbs and nouns.
- You can find more structures by reading academic material and copying phrases you think you could adapt in your essays. Academic material is easily found by searching in Google like this: **Your topic (crime) + .edu + pdf** -this will usually pull up academic reports about your given topic.
- If you need need more sentence structures and don't know how to organise all these sentence structures then have a look at the online IELTS course here.

Now you need to take notes and exercise using the phrases in your own sentences for better retention. Note that these phrases need not necessarily be copied. Merely copying can cause you trouble. You must make sure that the way you use the phrases that fit your essay perfectly to maintain coherence in thought and correct grammatical structures.