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# **TASK II LESSON 4**

## **GIVING EXAMPLES**

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**Why do we need  
examples?**

# ESSAY TOPIC

Some people believe that not all criminals should be kept in prison, but that some of them should be allowed to do unpaid work to help the community.

Do you agree or disagree?

Give reasons for your answer and **include any relevant examples** from your knowledge or experience

# Good vs. bad examples

# MAKE YOUR EXAMPLES SPECIFIC

## BAD EXAMPLE

*For example, many students have a gap year before starting their chosen course.*



## Good Example

*For example, Cambridge University in the UK surveyed over 500 students in 2017 and reported that over 65% had completed a gap year before starting their chosen course.*



# GOOD EXAMPLES

- ✓ Introduce the example with a cohesive device - For example/For instance
- ✓ Give dates (the year the survey was given etc)
- ✓ Names (of Universities, Documentaries, organisations, etc)
- ✓ Include a percentage (if you are giving the results of a survey)

# 7 ways to give examples

# 1 UNIVERSITY STUDY

You can make up a **fictional study** from a University in your country or city. If you want you can even use a study from a famous University, like Harvard, Cambridge or Oxford in the UK. These types of examples are great for supporting points about education, students or children.

*For example, Cambridge University in the UK surveyed over 500 students in 2017 and reported that over 65% had completed a gap year before starting their chosen course.*

## 2 NEWSPAPER REPORT

Another way of writing a relevant example is to make up some information from a **newspaper report or article**. This may even be loosely based on something you have read in the news or seen online.

*For instance, according to an article published in The New York Times in 2016, a survey of people who work online, from home in the state of New York showed that 24% of people said they had developed depression.*

## 3 STATISTICS FROM POLICE

If you are writing an example for a crime or punishment related question you could include statistics from the **police or government**

*For example, in some states in the USA, there are tough sanctions in place for criminals, including death by lethal injection. In 2014, the Texas State Police Department reported that up to 65% of criminals who were incarcerated for high-level crimes (murder, manslaughter) received the lethal injection.*

## 4

## STATISTICS FROM HEALTH ORGANIZATION

If you are writing an example for a health-related question you could include statistics from a **health organisation** like The WHO (World Health Organisation), the NHS in the UK or a private organisation like BUPA. Think of places from your own country that you could write about.

*For instance, the NHS in the UK regularly hold talks in schools for both parents and students to educate communities on how to have a balanced diet. They also promote proper exercise, involvement in sports, and having an active lifestyle. As a result of this program, in some areas, they saw a decrease in the number of overweight health issues.*

## 5 DATA FROM TECH COMPANY

If you are writing an example for a technology or communication-related question you could include statistics from a tech company.

*For example, in 2015 Google allowed senior engineers to work remotely, using flexible hours for those who travel a lot or have the need to work with little interruptions. This increased productivity to over 70% as the senior members could work seamlessly without any delays.*

## 6 DOCUMENTARY

Another way of writing a relevant example is to make up some information from a **documentary** you have seen.

*For example, a documentary by Channel 4 in 2016 showed that the most obese populations were situated in underdeveloped nations, like Venezuela, where people admitted to finding it difficult to eat a balanced and healthy diet and had no nutritional education.*

# 7 YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE

You can also include examples that display your **own experiences** in relation to the question. You should avoid using personal pronouns in the essay, but in this example, where you are writing about your own experience it is acceptable.

*For instance, In my experience, I know that in Romania, it is common practice for graduates from state-funded university courses to work in areas where their services are needed for a minimum of two years before they are able to apply to work abroad.*

# SUMMARY

- ✓ YOU MUST WRITE EXAMPLES TO GET A HIGH SCORE IN WRITING TASK 2
- ✓ YOU CAN “INVENT” AN EXAMPLE
- ✓ MAKE YOUR EXAMPLES RELEVANT AND SPECIFIC
- ✓ LEARN 7 WAYS OF GIVING EXAMPLES

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