Syllabus for IELTS Preparation Course
Academic and General Training Writing Task 2

Ebrahim Tahasoni, Cert TESOL
www.tahasoni.com

- Preview to the writing test
- Overview of task two: essay writing
  - General requirements of the task
  - Opinion-led tasks
  - Argument-led tasks
  - Mixed-opinion/question tasks
  - Issue/problem tasks
  - Advantage/disadvantage tasks
- Marking scheme: the band descriptor
  - Task Response
  - Coherence and Cohesion
  - Lexical Resource
  - Grammatical Range and Accuracy
- Opinion-led tasks
  - Task overview
  - Defining an approach to the task
  - Outlining and brainstorming
  - Introduction
  - Body
    - Support
    - Refute
    - Attack
  - Conclusion
- Argument-led tasks
  - Task overview
  - Defining an approach to the task
  - Outlining and brainstorming
  - Introduction
  - Body
  - Conclusion
- Mixed-opinion/question tasks
  - Task overview
  - Defining an approach to the task
  - Outlining and brainstorming
  - Introduction
  - Body
    - Supporting an opinion
    - Discussion items
    - Discussion a situation
  - Conclusion
- Issue/problem tasks
  - Task overview
  - Defining an approach to the task
  - Outlining and brainstorming
  - Introduction
  - Body

- - - Causes
      - Implications
      - Solutions
    - Conclusion
- Advantage/disadvantage tasks
    - Advantages/disadvantages
    - Advantages + disadvantages
    - Advantages + disadvantages + opinion
    - Comparative Advantages + disadvantages + opinion

Syllabus for IELTS Preparation Course
Academic Writing Task 1

Ebrahim Tahasoni, Cert TESOL
www.tahasoni.com

- Preview to the writing test
- Overview of task one: report writing (description of visual or numerical information)
  - Graph tasks
  - Bar chart tasks
  - Comparison bar chart tasks
  - Pie chart tasks
  - Table tasks
  - Process and flowchart tasks
  - Map tasks
- Marking scheme: the band descriptor
  - Task Achievement
  - Coherence and Cohesion
  - Lexical Resource
  - Grammatical Range and Accuracy
- Graph tasks
  - Understanding trends
  - Describing trends
  - Lexical and grammatical patterns for describing patterns
    - Direction
    - Intensity
    - Speed
  - Understanding tenses for discussing trends
  - Working with and reporting values
  - Referencing
  - Sequencing and linking
  - Single-variable line graphs
    - Outline and paragraphing
    - Trend zones: selecting the main features
    - Writing an introduction statement
    - Writing an overview statement
    - Structuring the body of the report
    - Approaches to a sum-up paragraph
  - Multiple-variable line graphs
    - Outline and paragraphing
    - Writing an introduction statement
    - Structuring the body of the report
      - Approach one: Common trend zones
      - Approach two: Discussing lines separately
    - Approaches to a sum-up paragraph
- Bar charts
  - Single-variable Bar charts
  - Multiple-variable Bar charts
  - Comparison bar charts
    - Drawing comparisons
    - Selecting main features
  - Pie charts
  - Understanding the type of chart (comparison/trend)

- o Understanding and converting proportions
- Table tasks
  - o Understanding the type of table (comparison/trend)
  - o Reporting in rows or columns
- Process and flowchart tasks
  - o Understanding sequence and stages
  - o Cycles and linear processes
  - o Understanding tenses for describing a process
  - o Using the passive or active tense
  - o Branching off
  - o Describing pictures and shapes
  - o Linking
  - o Outline and paragraphing
  - o Writing an introduction statement
  - o Writing an overview statement
  - o Structuring the body of the report
  - o Approaches to a sum-up paragraph
- Map tasks
  - o Comparison maps
    - Selecting the main features
    - Outline and paragraphing
    - Writing an introduction statement
    - Writing an overview statement or paragraph
    - Structuring the body of the report
      - Drawing comparisons
    - Approaches to a sum-up paragraph
  - o Development maps
    - Understanding the map
      - Periods of change
      - Types of development
    - Sequencing
    - Outline and paragraphing
    - Writing an introduction statement
    - Writing an overview statement
    - Structuring the body of the report
    - Approaches to a sum-up paragraph

Syllabus for IELTS Preparation Course
General Training Writing Task 1

Ebrahim Tahasoni, Cert TESOL
www.tahasoni.com

- Preview to the writing test
- Overview of task one: letter writing
- Understanding your audience
    - Formal vs. informal language
- Marking scheme: the band descriptor
    - Task Achievement
    - Coherence and Cohesion
    - Lexical Resource
    - Grammatical Range and Accuracy
- Outline of a letter
- Salutation and closing
- Purpose statement
- Body paragraphs
    - Introduction
    - Explanation and description
        - Formal
        - Informal
    - Asking for information
        - Formal
        - Informal
    - Asking for action
        - Formal
        - Informal
    - Thanking
        - Formal
        - Informal
    - Apology
        - Formal
        - Informal
    - Suggestion and advice
        - Formal
        - Informal
- Closing the letter