

TASK 1 Paraphrasing and using synonyms
Checking spelling

TASK 2 Using general nouns to link and summarize ideas
Using cause and effect relationships
Ensuring verb-subject agreement

Task 1 Paraphrasing and using synonyms

- 1 Think of at least one positive and negative effect of each of the developments in health provision in the pictures below. Mention consequences such as cost and relaxed atmosphere.



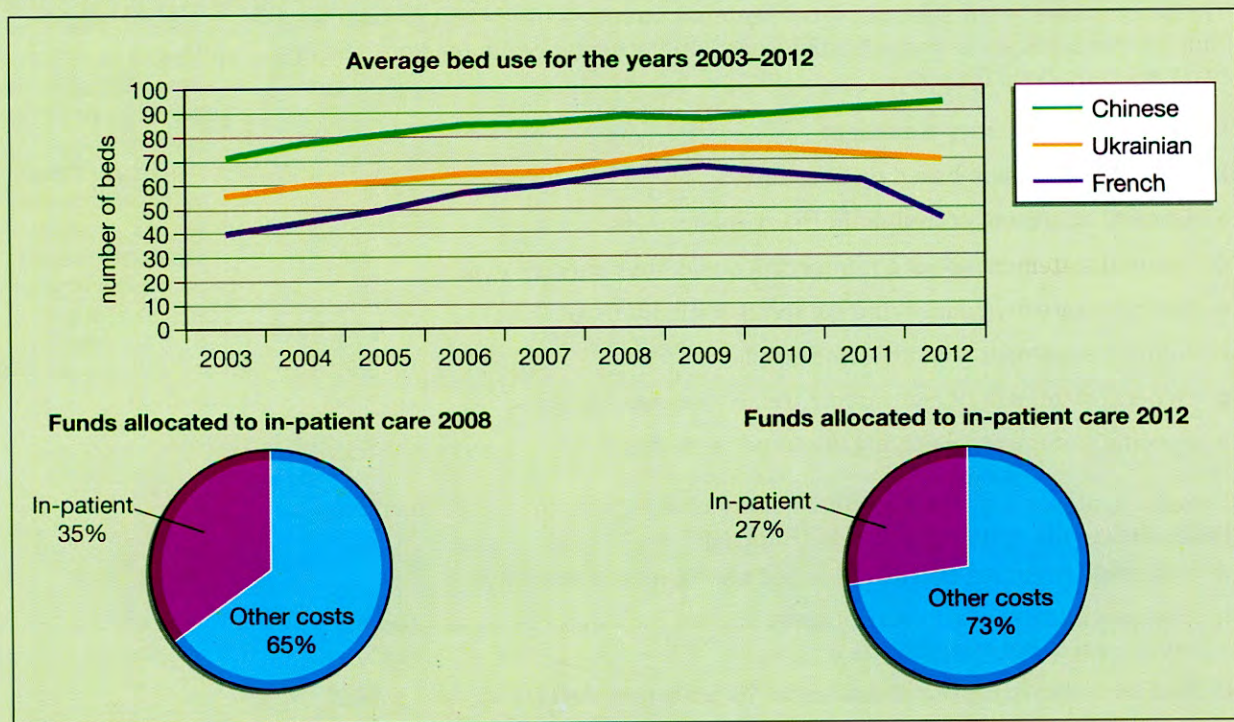
- 2 Answer these questions about hospitals and health care.
- What are the main priorities of health care in your country?
 - How is health care delivered in your home country? If you want to consult a doctor, what do you do?
 - Are medicines free or do you have to pay for them?
 - What effect has technology had on medical care in your country?
- 3 Read the Task 1 question on page 71. Then answer questions a–e below.
- What general statement can you make about the whole graph? Look at the description and the graph itself.
 - What general statement can you make about the French hospital?
 - What general statement can you make about the Ukrainian hospital?
 - How can you link the pie charts to the graph?
 - How could you use these words to describe the graph?

trend ■ upward ■ similar pattern ■ reach a peak ■ except that
saw a continuous rise ■ change ■ coincide

Task 1

The charts below show the average bed use in three typical hospitals internationally and the proportion of hospital budgets allocated to in-patient care before and after day-surgery was introduced in 2009.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.



4 Complete the text with words from the box. The first gap has been done for you.

peak ■ impact ■ clear ■ occupancy ■ trend ■ details
marked ■ reduction ■ falling ■ significantly ■ rise ■ experienced

The graph provides 1 details about the average beds in use each year in three similar hospitals before and after the introduction of day-care surgery.

Day-care surgery seems to have had an 2 impact on bed use in all three hospitals. At the French hospital, the figures show an upward 3 trend over the period from 40 beds in 2003. However, in 2009 bed 4 usage had reached a 5 peak of just under 70 beds, before 6 falling back. A similar pattern was repeated for the Ukrainian hospital, except that the decline in bed use after 2009 was not so 7 marked (76 beds in 2009 as against 71 in 2012).

The Chinese hospital, by comparison, 8 experienced a continual 9 rise in bed use between 2003 and 2012, 71 and 93 respectively. However, we see that after 2010 the rate of increase was 10 slower than in previous years.

It is 11 clear that the fall in bed use coincides with the 12 reduction in the average budget at the three hospitals for in-patient care (35 per cent compared to 27 per cent) between 2008 and 2012.

- 5 Look again at the words in the gaps in exercise 4 on page 71 and choose a synonym for each one from the box. You will not use all the words.

effect ■ use ■ tendency ■ cut ■ considerably ■ low ■ evident
 increase ■ decrease ■ dropping ■ information ■ result
 saw ■ high point ■ sharp ■ dramatically

- 6 The descriptions below summarize the sentence structure of the text in exercise 4. Number the notes in the correct order, based on the sentences in the text. The first two have been done for you.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| a | General introductory statement. | 1 |
| b | General conclusion based on pie charts. | 8 |
| c | General statement of first main trend, then specific data. | |
| d | General statement about a reinforcing trend, then specific data. | |
| e | Specific statement qualifying the trend, without detail. | |
| f | General statement about the line graph. | |
| g | General statement of contrasting trend, then specific data. | |
| h | Specific statement qualifying the trend, with detail. | |

- 7 For each sentence a–g, there are three alternative phrases to replace the phrase in *italics*. Delete the option which is NOT correct.

- a The graph *provides* details about bed use. (*gives/says/shows*)
- b The introduction of day-care surgery *had an impact on* bed use. (*had an effect on/had an affect on/affected*)
- c Bed use *reached a peak* of just under 70 beds. (*reached its highest point/reached a height/hit a peak*)
- d A similar *pattern* was seen in the Ukrainian hospital. (*design/trend/movement*)
- e The Chinese hospital, *by comparison*, continued to see a rise. (*by contrast/on the other hand/alternatively*)
- f The number of beds rose from 40 to *around* 45. (*approximately/about/towards*)
- g There was a reduction in the budget (35 per cent *compared to* 27 per cent). (*as opposed to/as against/in contrast with*)
- h The change in bed use *is reflected in* the budget. (*can be seen in/can be viewed in/can be detected in*)

Technique

Keep a record of synonyms and paraphrases of parts of text. Aim to use these when writing your answer to avoid repetition. Record your synonyms with a context and by theme if possible.

Checking spelling

1 In each group of four words, circle the one which is spelt incorrectly and correct it.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| a therefore | opposite | befor | limit |
| b believe | achieve | recieve | brief |
| c staying | stayed | studing | studied |
| d usefull | helpful | hopefully | carefully |
| e personaly | practical | usually | normal |
| f efficient | sufficent | ancient | deficient |
| g unfortunately | improvement | definitly | management |
| h comfortable | diffrent | temperature | interested |
| i choise | price | increase | advice |
| j preferred | committed | refered | happened |

Technique

Make a note of words that you have spelt wrongly in the past. In each word, underline the part that you tend to get wrong or write/ highlight this part in another colour.

2 Look again at your answers in exercise 1. Some of the spellings depend on simple rules. What spelling rules explain the misspelt words? Compare your ideas with the key on page 110.

3 Find and correct the spelling mistakes in the following sentences. One of the sentences has two spelling mistakes.

- The numbers declined gradually and stood at just twenty in 2006.
- In-patient care took up 25 per cent of the funds, wich was an increase of six per cent on the previous year.
- A number of significant changes occured in the following twenty years.
- The percentage increased sharply and reached a pick in 2003.
- The figres rose from approximatly 45,000 to 49,000 over the period.
- Patient numbers rose steadily for the first ten years, and then flactuated around 500 for the following decade.
- The required number of beds exeeded what was anticipated for that year.
- Most people in the servey thought that more money should be spent on the health service.

4 Read the following extract written by an IELTS student on the number of traffic accident victims seen at a local hospital. Find the eight mistakes that he made.

The averag number of road traffic accidents from cars increased dramatically between 1995 and the year 2000, rising from a total of 53 to 178 respectively. Over the next five years, there was a noticeable improvment as numbers fell steadilly to a new low point of 37 in 2006. As regard motorcycl accidents, however, it is clear the trend is upward, with more occuring in this category in the later period.

Task 2 Using general nouns to link and summarize ideas

- 1 Decide which of the items below are the most important for good health. Add at least one other lifestyle factor to the list.

taking regular exercise ■ carefully monitoring your diet ■ having a wide range of interests
 having a wide network of friends ■ living in the countryside ■ sleeping at least seven hours a night

- 2 Complete the paragraph by choosing the best adverb in each case.

The 1 *normally/outlandishly/strangely* beneficial effect that animals have on people's health and general well-being is now 2 *essentially/goodly/well* recognized. The idea may seem peculiar to some people, but 3 *surprisingly/shockingly/unpredictably* there is clear evidence of the partnership. Take the example of dolphins, which are 4 *wildly/widely/hardly* known for their healing qualities. Dogs have also been used to detect cancer cells very 5 *deeply/professionally/accurately* in patients and are 6 *often/rarely/hardly* even taken around hospital wards to be introduced to 7 *seriously/hugely/deadly* ill patients. The effects of this particular partnership are 8 *importantly/really/well* documented and have led to animals being used 9 *frequently/seldom/lots* to supplement conventional medicine. 10 *Evidently/Clearly/Oddly*, the message is that more money should be used to research how animals can benefit humans.

- 3 Which list of general nouns summarizes the paragraph in exercise 2?

- a situation – examples – effects
- b situation – effects – reasons – examples

- 4 Complete sentences a–i with a general noun from the box.

idea ■ information ■ issue ■ knowledge ■ measure ■ opinion ■ problem ■ scheme ■ solution

- a The best way to improve public health is to provide people with all the facts, but the _____ needs to be made simple.
- b It is often suggested that national health systems should be modernized. However, many people are opposed to the _____ of modernization.
- c Our programme to introduce new equipment succeeded in reducing waiting lists, but the improvement _____ met with considerable resistance.
- d The government should invest more money in preventing drug abuse. This _____, if taken, would save many lives.
- e Obesity is on the rise in many countries and not just in the developed world. It is now an _____ that demands immediate attention.
- f More nurses need to be trained rather than doctors. This, I feel, is the best _____ to the current crisis.
- g People are often aware of the dangers of smoking, but even with this widespread _____, it is difficult to persuade them to stop.
- h Some people are against the involvement of private companies in health care, but this _____ is held by fewer people nowadays.
- i Lack of health care is making the lives of many people miserable, yet it is a _____ that can be easily tackled.

5 For each of a–h, read the first sentence. Then complete the follow-up sentence with your own ideas. Use the general noun in *italics* to help you.

- a** Some people are concerned that increasing numbers of old people will mean more spending on health care.

This *issue* _____

- b** Conventional and alternative medicine can complement each other.

This *idea* could _____

- c** In the future, health care will be much cheaper for everyone.

This *prediction* _____

- d** The level of change within many national health systems is increasing.

Initially, this may be a *problem*, but _____

- e** Health care costs are now worrying planners throughout the world.

The *situation*, however, _____

- f** More emphasis should be put on preventive medicine, like health education.

Measures like this _____

- g** Acupuncture is becoming more and more popular around the world.

Not surprisingly, it is a *trend* _____

- h** If people live longer, this can lead to other costs and problems.

This is a *matter* that _____

Technique

Use *the/this* + general nouns to help you link sentences. This is an alternative to using linking devices such as *moreover*, etc and adds variety to your writing.

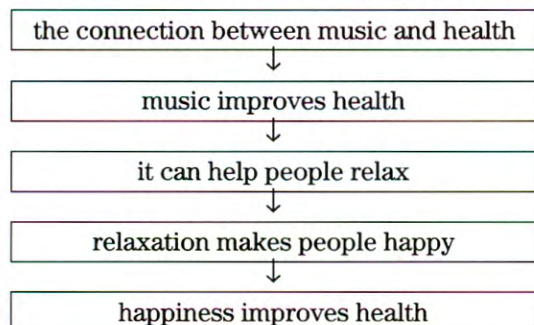
Using cause and effect relationships

1 Choose one of the topics a–c below. Make a list of ideas for the topic you have chosen. Use the general nouns in the box to organize and trigger ideas.

- a** the connection between music and health
- b** how alternative therapies can influence health
- c** the connection between exercise and health

conclusion ■ effect ■ idea ■ information ■ issue
knowledge ■ matter ■ measure ■ opinion ■ prediction
problem ■ scheme ■ solution ■ trend ■ view ■ example

2 Make a short plan for your idea using a cause and effect chain:



3 Write a paragraph based on your ideas in exercise 1. Remember to give reasons and examples, using the plan in exercise 2.



Technique

Keep a list of cause and effect verbs and collocations: *make, produce, result in, cause, affect, improve, have an effect/have an impact on, lead to.*

Ensuring verb-subject agreement

1 Complete the following sentences with *is*, *are*, *has* or *have*.

- a The number of people who are suffering from stress _____ on the increase.
- b The fact that people live longer nowadays _____ led to an increased number of elderly people in society.
- c Predictions about how long a patient with cancer will live _____ often inaccurate.
- d A ban on advertising all types of junk food _____ probably the only way to stop the spread of obesity.
- e The pressurized situation in many hospitals _____ resulted in a stressed workforce and low morale amongst nurses.
- f Elderly people who have a large family _____ generally healthier and happier than those who have fewer contacts with other people.
- g The reason why allergies are becoming more common _____ still not known.
- h An increasing number of patients seem to be dissatisfied with conventional medicine and _____ turned to alternative therapies.

Technique

Check that the subjects and the verbs in your sentences agree. Remember that the subject is not always the closest noun to the verb, e.g. *the number of people rises each year* (not *rise* because the verb agrees with *number*, not *people*).

2 In sentences a–g, replace the countable nouns in *italics* with an uncountable noun from the box. Make any other necessary changes in verb forms or pronouns.

progress ■ evidence ■ information ■ work ■ advice
research ■ equipment

Technique

Remember many general or collective nouns like *information* are uncountable in English. Make a list of common uncountable nouns like these, with examples of their use.

- a Everyone is aware today of the bad effects of smoking on people's health. These *facts* are published all around us, even on cigarette packets.

- b Most doctors recommend a diet low in sugar and fat, and high in fibre. Unfortunately, these *suggestions* are not often followed.

- c Many nurses nowadays do not carry out basic care such as washing and feeding patients. Instead, these *tasks* are carried out by health care assistants.

- d Enormous *advances* have been made in understanding how disease spreads, but the possibility of a worldwide pandemic is still with us.

- e Many people enjoy keeping fit in the gym by using rowing machines, walking machines, and so on. However, these *devices* can be dangerous if they are not used properly.

- f Many doctors do not believe in homeopathic medicine. However, there are certainly some *indications* that it can be beneficial.

- g Some *studies* have been carried out which show that elderly people live longer if they live with a partner.

Practice Test 9

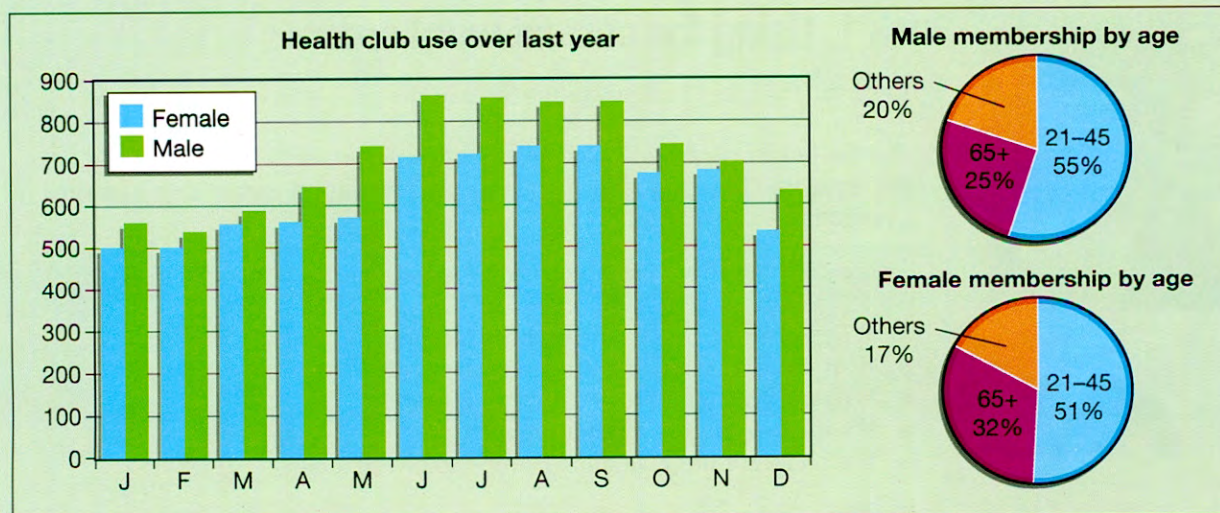
Task 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows the average monthly use of a health club in Miami, Florida by all full-time members in 2013. The pie charts show the age profile of male and female members.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.



Useful language

men/women who used the health club ...
 male/female health club users ...
 members aged between 21 and 45 ...
 members aged 65 or over ...
 other age groups ...

In general, the health club was used more ...
 The number of users rose/increased/decreased/
 declined gradually in January/from January to
 March/between January and March
 21 to 45 year olds made up/accounted for ...

Task 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task. Write about the following topic:

The number of elderly people in the world is increasing. What do you think are the positive and negative effects of this trend?

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

Write at least 250 words.

Useful language

As far as the workplace/home life/the economy is concerned ...
 One obvious disadvantage is ...
 Another drawback ...
 One benefit associated with ...

Societies with a greater number of older people ...
 If a country has a substantial number of elderly people ...
 Elderly people are more/less likely to ...