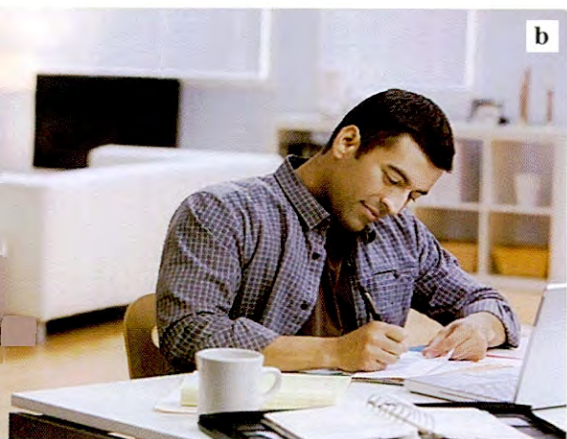


**TASK 1** Work collocations  
Participle phrases  
Identifying exceptions

**TASK 2** Fronting sentences  
Opinion phrases  
Commonly used language



a



b



c

## Task 1 Participle phrases

**1** Look at the pictures. What are the people doing? Do you do any of these things? If not, would you like to? What are the pros and cons of each?

**2** Look at the collocation grid below. The words around the edge can fit before or after the key word in the centre. Complete the sentences with a word from the edge and a word from the centre.

a Many people are workshy and don't try to find work.

b Having friendly \_\_\_\_\_ is important for job satisfaction.

c A \_\_\_\_\_ in the Middle East is Sunday to Thursday.

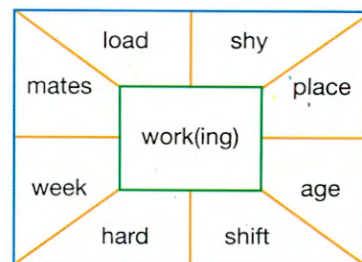
d Nursing requires people to do \_\_\_\_\_ as nurses have to be on duty at nights sometimes.

e If you have a heavy \_\_\_\_\_, it is important to be organized to deal with it.

f If a \_\_\_\_\_ is comfortable, the staff will be happier.

g When children reach \_\_\_\_\_, they should learn about tax and pension systems.

h \_\_\_\_\_ is not always rewarded with high wages.



**3** Do you agree with the sentences in 2? Why/why not?

**4** Create two more collocation grids in your notebook. Write the key words *job* and *salary* in the centre of the grids. Add correct words from the box below around the edge of each grid. One word fits both grids.

annual ■ apply for ■ competitive ■ full ■ final ■ high  
high-powered ■ hold down ■ increase ■ manual ■ permanent  
safeguard ■ satisfaction ■ skilled ■ starting

### Technique

You should try to include collocations in your writing to show that you understand natural phrasing in English.



**5** Choose three collocations from each grid. Write a sentence with each which is true for you.

**6** Complete the sentences using the correct form of collocations from 4.

- 1 Not having income from a/an \_\_\_\_\_, many older people have to rely on a pension to live.
- 2 Arriving at the office, she noticed another candidate who had \_\_\_\_\_ the job already sitting outside the interview room.
- 3 The company closed down its factory, leaving many of those doing \_\_\_\_\_ without employment.
- 4 Given enough time, she will get promoted into a \_\_\_\_\_ and no doubt will be a huge success.
- 5 The teacher, enjoying the \_\_\_\_\_ gained from doing something she loves, is new to the area.
- 6 Before getting a more \_\_\_\_\_, he had to achieve an excellent report.

**7** Look at the sentences in 6 again and underline the participle clauses.

**8** Look at the six types of participle clause below and the examples. Match sentences 1–6 in 6 with a type a–f.

Type	Full clause	Participle clause
<b>a</b> to give a reason	She couldn't apply for the job as she wasn't qualified.	Not being qualified, she couldn't apply for the job.
<b>b</b> to show a condition	If the pay is sufficiently competitive, the job will attract good applicants.	Given sufficiently competitive pay, the job will attract good applicants.
<b>c</b> to give a result	The value of the company rose with the result that the owners made a considerable profit.	The value of the company rose, making the owners a considerable profit.
<b>d</b> to show a time	While the manager made his speech, he showed a set of PowerPoint slides.	Making his speech, the manager showed a set of PowerPoint slides.
<b>e</b> to replace a relative clause	The accountant, who was doing extra hours, managed to complete all the accounts in time.	The accountant, having done extra hours, managed to complete all the accounts in time.
<b>f</b> after a preposition	After he had reached the age of 75, the chairman retired.	After reaching the age of 75, the chairman retired.

**9** Read the pairs of sentences and answer the questions.

- 1 **a** Doing such a bad interview, I don't think I will get the job.  
**b** Doing such a bad interview, I didn't think I would get the job.  
 Which sentence is in the past? Does the participle clause tell us this or the main verb?
- 2 **a** Organized properly for the meeting, the office looked much better.  
**b** Having been organized properly for the meeting, the office looked much better.  
 Which sentence emphasises the order of the actions?
- 3 **a** They advertised their business, founded the previous month, on the internet.  
**b** Advertising the product on the internet worked well.  
 Which sentence has an active meaning and which has a passive meaning?

# 10 Rewrite the sentences a–e using participle clauses.

- a Because she got such excellent qualifications, she didn't have problems getting her first job.
- b After he had graduated, he spent some time on a gap year.
- c My manager, who has just given in his notice, wants me to leave too and work with him.
- d Provided that the job is completed step by step, it won't be difficult.
- e While the teacher had offered a lot of help, she still encouraged her student to work autonomously.

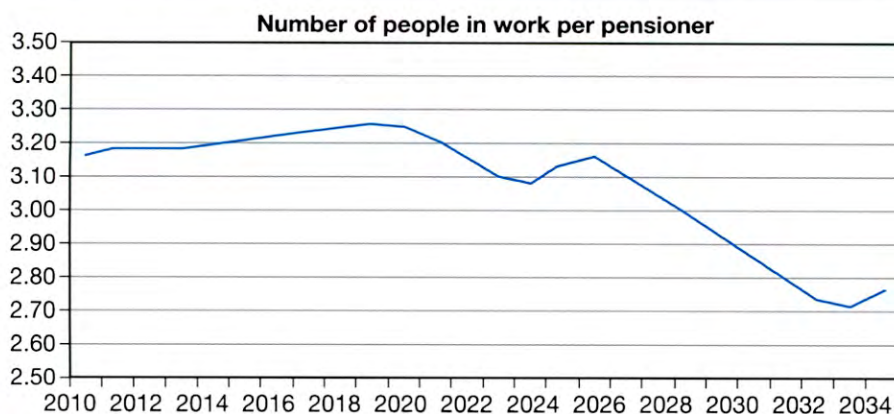
# 11 Look at the Task 1 question below and pick out three key trends from the line graph.

*You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.*

**The line graph shows the number of people in work per retired pensioner in the UK.**

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

*Write at least 150 words.*



# 12 Read the model answer below. Does the model answer contain the key trends you picked out in 11?

The line graph identifies the number of people in work in relation to those who have retired, <sup>1</sup>and makes a projection about the situation up to 2034. The overall trend is likely to be downward bar some short periods where the numbers may rise again. Certainly, by the end of the period the ratio is predicted to be significantly lower than the start, <sup>2</sup>and it will hit its lowest level of just above 2.70 in 2033.

The ratio of working people to pensioners began approximately 0.5 higher than this low point, with 3.18 workers per pensioner in 2010. There was an immediate though minor increase in the next four years, <sup>3</sup>when it rose to just over 3.20.

<sup>4</sup>After it has reached a high of 3.25 by 2020, it is predicted that the ratio will then rapidly decrease with the exception of two years between 2024 and 2026, when it will shoot up again.



- 13** Replace each underlined phrase 1–4 in the model answer in 12 with a participle phrase.

### Technique

When writing about data, you should show that you understand what the axes or pie chart figures represent. If you don't identify what the numbers refer to (e.g. it rose from 2 to 20; it rose from 2 per cent to 20 per cent), your answer will be unclear or incomplete.

- 14** Look at the first paragraph of the model answer in 12 again and complete the sentence below.

The overall trend is likely to be downward \_\_\_\_\_ some short periods where the numbers may rise again.

- 15** Which of the following words/phrases cannot replace the word in the gap in 14?

except for ■ other than ■ unless ■ with the exception of ■ without

- 16** Look at the sets of information 1–4 and complete the sentences.

- 1** a a half                      b a third                      c three-quarters  
d 30 per cent

All the quantities are fractions except for d which \_\_\_\_\_.

- 2** a 0.5                      b 1.4                      c 4                      d 54.5

None of the examples are whole numbers other than \_\_\_\_\_.

- 3** a nearly 20                      b significantly less than 20                      c far less than 20  
d noticeably lower than 20

The quantities are all much lower than 20 with the exception of \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4** a 50 per cent                      b half                      c part                      d 0.5

The quantities are all related in amount bar \_\_\_\_\_.

- 17** Using one of the underlined phrases from 16, complete the sentences. Use your own ideas.

- 1 Commuters often travel ...  
2 Work is ...  
3 Dangerous jobs are ...

### Technique

However good the language in your answer, you must also interpret the data correctly and ensure that you give accurate information.

## Task 2 Fronting sentences

- 1 What do you know about child labour?
- 2 Read the paragraph about child labourers and answer the questions below.
  - a Do we know for sure the exact numbers of children working in slave-like conditions?
  - b What are the conditions for children like generally?
  - c Which fact is particularly worrying?
  - d Why is it possible for this to happen?



A number of well-known charities claim that millions of people in the world work in slave-like conditions, including children. One such charity, Compassion, suggests that one in six children between age 5 and 14 in developing countries is involved in work of some kind. This rises to 30 per cent in the least developed countries. Whilst statistics are not exact and can be refuted, there seems to be convincing evidence that slavery amongst children is a significant problem. Working children often labour in hazardous conditions and suffer cruelty and beatings. More disturbing still are the 22 000 children each year who die in work-related accidents. Most children work in the informal sector, e.g. in homes or on the streets where they have no legal protection. Also unprotected are the 49 million children, the highest proportion globally, who work in sub-Saharan Africa, often in terrible conditions.

- 3 What are the possible causes for child labour? Think about the ideas below.
  - a poverty
  - b tradition
  - c culture
  - d social support
  - e orphans
- 4 In the paragraph in 2, underline the sentence about the children who work in sub-Saharan Africa. Do you notice anything about the structure of the sentence and the position of the subject?
- 5 The sentences 1–4 contain examples of 'fronting'. Match each sentence with a pattern a–d.
  - 1 Much more shocking is the fact that 73 million working children are younger than 10 years old.
  - 2 So shocking are these figures that charities across the world are attempting to find solutions to the problem.
  - 3 Standing behind the problem, however, are world governments who need to listen to concerned charities.
  - 4 Outraged the charities may be, but without the action of governments change will be hard.
  - a object/complement of sentence or clause in subject position
  - b superlative/comparative + *be* + subject
  - c adverbial phrase of position/movement + *be* + subject
  - d *such/so/also* + adjective + *be* + subject

### Technique

Formal writing often uses less typical sentence structure to add emphasis. If you can use these forms accurately, it will make your writing more sophisticated.



**6** Make the following sentences emphatic by 'fronting' them using the patterns a–d in 5.

- 1 The amount of time spent at work is so high that people often suffer from stress-related illnesses.
- 2 The manager, who was standing at the front of the meeting, announced some redundancies.
- 3 Employees are so satisfied with the opportunities to progress in the business that they don't leave the company.
- 4 Social work was much more exciting than his previous role in banking.
- 5 The job might be badly paid but it provides a high level of job satisfaction.

### Technique

Use structure as well as vocabulary to emphasize your ideas and show which are important.

## Useful typical language

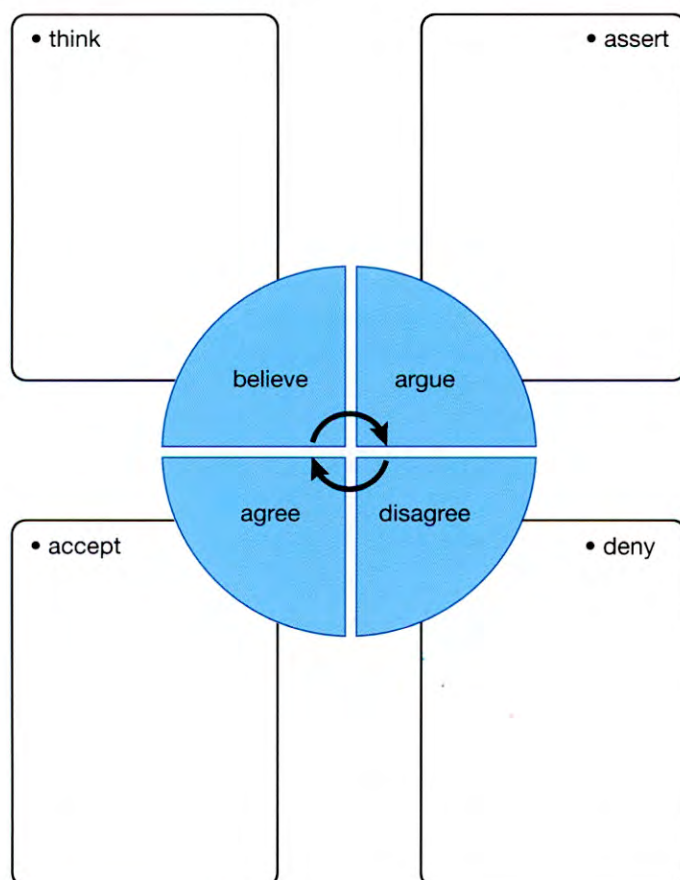
**7** Look at some sentences from the paragraph in 2 and underline the words or phrases which express an attitude or opinion rather than fact.

- a Charities claim that millions of people in the world work in slave-like conditions.
- b Compassion suggests that one in six children between age 5 and 14 in developing countries is involved in work.
- c Statistics are not exact and can be refuted.
- d ... there seems to be convincing evidence that slavery amongst children is a significant problem.

**8** Look at the words and phrases you underlined in 7 and answer the questions.

- a Which are verbs and which are adjective + noun forms?
- b Which of the verbs are used actively and which is used passively?

**9** Put the reporting verbs from 7 (*claim*, *suggest*, *refute*) into the correct category in the diagram below.



- 10 Add the verbs from the box to the correct category in the diagram in 9.

acknowledge ■ admit ■ advocate ■ challenge ■ concede ■ dismiss ■ doubt ■ insist  
maintain ■ object ■ question ■ support ■ suspect

- 11 Look at some other typical verb, adjective and noun forms used in IELTS essays. Circle the option which is not possible in each case.

- a This argument can be *rejected/refuted/denied/conceded* due to the strong opposing evidence.
- b Such a viewpoint can be *supported/refused/defended/backed* as there is a convincing argument to support it.
- c This idea is simply *conjecture/speculation/proof/theoretical* and not proven.
- d The prevailing opinion is *debatable/compelling/almost unanimous/convincing* so most people agree with it.
- e This stance is based on *a misconception/a misunderstanding/hearsay/reasoned evidence* and can be easily disproved.
- f It is *true/unarguable/unclear/commonly recognized* that this is so.
- g This *source/opinion/attitude/viewpoint* is commonly held by many.
- h Such *a/an issue/concern/matter/item* is controversial.
- i Many people disagree with this *situation/state/ailment/circumstance*.
- j *A/An important/crucial/heavy/vital* factor is the following.

- 12 Look at the Task 2 question and the start of an introduction to the essay below. Underline three reporting verbs in the introduction which express opinion.

*You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.*

***Many believe that doing a part-time job can be beneficial to children and help them develop into better adults. Why is this? Give reasons for your answers and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.***

*Write at least 250 words.*



Children below the age of 16 have often undertaken part-time jobs in many countries, doing a few hours' work each week to earn some pocket money. Some people assert that this is not a key issue because it doesn't have a great impact on children while others object strongly, maintaining that it is, in fact, damaging and takes up time and energy the children could better spend studying.

- 13 Read the question in 12 again. Think of one or two facts about this topic and make notes.

*Children – legally allowed to work in my country at the age of 14. Only for a few hours per week.*

- 14 Think of two or three commonly held ideas or opinions for or against the statement in the question in 12.

*Most people think work experience = useful/good for understanding reality of work.*

- 15 Use your notes in 13 and 14 to write 2–3 sentences. Use vocabulary from 10 or 11 in each sentence.

*It is unarguable that children can in fact work in my country after the age of 14 although only for very short periods per week.*

*The idea that children benefit from having experience of the realities of work is compelling.*

### Technique

You can make notes on your answer sheet including quick lists of different vocabulary to help you vary the range you use. Cross them out cleanly at the end to ensure they are not assessed.



## Practice Test 7

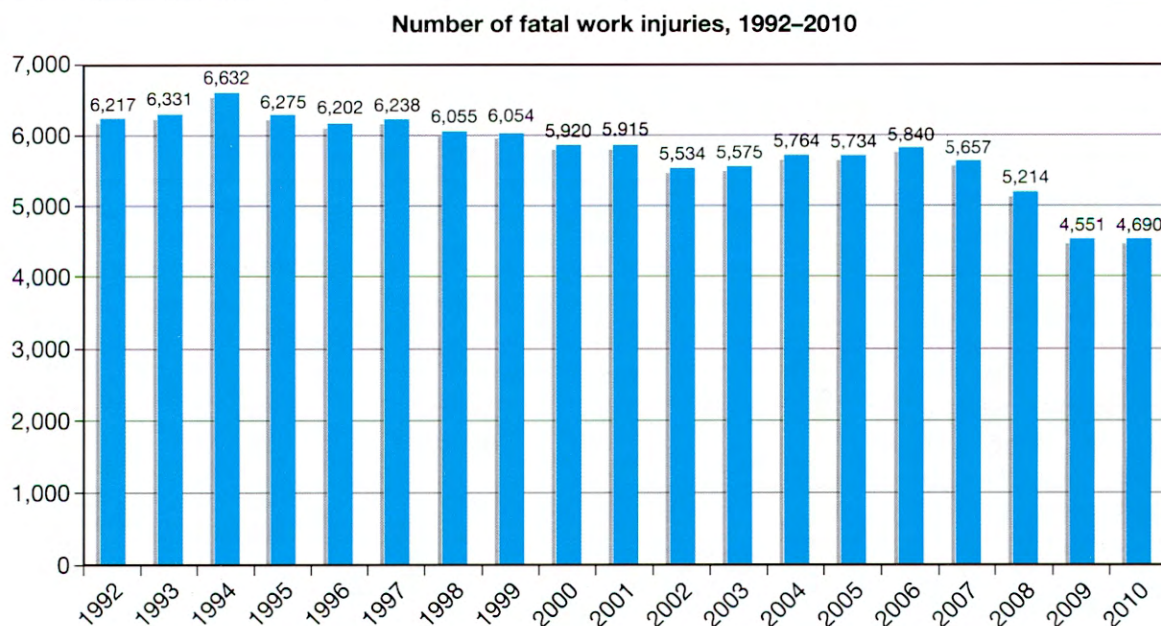
### Task 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph shows the number of fatal injuries (resulting in death) of workers in New Zealand between 1992 and 2010.

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

Write at least 150 words.



### Task 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Some people believe that it would be beneficial if employees worked three or four days per week rather than five or six days.

Why is this? Give reasons for your answers and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.