

Unit Four Practice Essay Gap Fill on Studying Overseas

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

Nowadays many students have the opportunity to study for part or all of their courses in foreign countries.

While studying abroad brings many benefits to individual students, it also has a number of disadvantages.

Discuss both sides of the argument and give your own opinion.

Write at least 250 words.

Part One

Which of these things should you include in your answer to this question? Write YES, NO or MAYBE next to each question.

1. What problems students may have studying abroad and what is good about it.

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2. What countries gain and lose from people going abroad to study.

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3. Whether governments should subsidise students' studies abroad.

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4. Your personal experience of studying abroad, or the experience of people you know.

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5. What is wrong with your country's education system.

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Part Two

More than one answer may be possible. You may need to capitalise the first letter of the word or phrase. You don't need to use all of the words / phrases.

on the other hand	moreover	firstly	this is partly because		
for example	finally	such as	in my opinion	secondly	what is more
furthermore	and partly due to	although	therefore	what is more	

In recent years there has been a vast increase in the number of students choosing to study abroad. _____ people are more affluent _____ the variety of grants and scholarships which are available for overseas students nowadays. _____ foreign study is not something which every student would choose, it is an attractive option for many people.

Studying overseas has a number of advantages. _____, it may give students access to knowledge and facilities _____ laboratories and libraries which are not available in their home country. _____, by looking abroad students may find a wider range of courses than those offered in their country's universities, and _____ one which fits more closely to their particular requirements.

_____, studying abroad has a number of drawbacks. These may be divided into personal and professional. _____ students have to leave their family and friends for a long period. _____ studying abroad is almost always more expensive than studying in one's local university. _____, students often have to study in a foreign language, which may limit their performance and means they do not attain their true level.

_____, however, the disadvantages of studying abroad are usually temporary in nature. Students who study abroad generally become proficient in the language quite soon and they are only away from their family and friends for a year or two. _____, many of the benefits last students all their lives and make them highly desirable to prospective employers.

To learn how to write, you want to read everything including essays and note the style, grammar, vocabulary and phrases. To help you do this, highlight the above essay with the following colours:

- Vocabulary for this topic.
 - Vocabulary and phrases that can be used in all / many Task Two essays.
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