

# Writing for Proficiency

Topic: Work and Employment

## IELTS Writing Task 2

### Prompt 1: Opinion Essay

Topic: Some people believe that job satisfaction is more important than job security. Others think that having a stable job is more crucial. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

Task: Write at least 250 words.

### Prompt 2: Advantages and Disadvantages Essay

Topic: Many people think that job satisfaction comes from having a high salary. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of high salaries contributing to job satisfaction.

Task: Write at least 250 words.

### Prompt 3: Problem-Solution Essay

Topic: Despite various efforts by companies to improve job satisfaction, many employees remain dissatisfied with their jobs. What are the main causes of job dissatisfaction? What solutions can companies implement to address this issue?

Task: Write at least 250 words.



## Model answers - Band 8

### Prompt 2: Advantages and Disadvantages Essay

**Topic: Many people think that job satisfaction comes from having a high salary. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of high salaries contributing to job satisfaction.**

In contemporary society, there is a prevailing belief that job satisfaction is primarily derived from earning a high salary. While it is undeniable that financial remuneration can significantly influence an individual's contentment with their job, it is also important to consider other factors that contribute to job satisfaction. This essay will explore the advantages and disadvantages of high salaries in relation to job satisfaction.

One of the primary advantages of high salaries is the financial security and improved standard of living they provide. Employees with substantial incomes are able to afford better housing, healthcare, and education, which directly contributes to their overall well-being and satisfaction. Additionally, high salaries can be a reflection of an employee's value and recognition within the company, which can enhance their sense of achievement and motivation. Furthermore, financial rewards can alleviate stress related to economic instability, allowing employees to focus more on their work and less on financial concerns, thereby increasing job satisfaction.

However, there are notable disadvantages to equating high salaries with job satisfaction. Firstly, a high salary does not necessarily correlate with job fulfillment or personal growth. Many individuals find satisfaction in meaningful work, professional development opportunities, and a positive work environment, none of which are guaranteed by a high salary. Additionally, positions that offer high salaries often come with increased responsibilities and pressures, which can lead to burnout and decreased job satisfaction. Furthermore, when employees prioritize high salaries, they may overlook other important aspects of a job, such as work-life balance, company culture, and job security, which are crucial for long-term satisfaction.

In conclusion, while high salaries can provide significant advantages in terms of financial security and recognition, they are not the sole determinants of job satisfaction. It is essential to consider other factors such as job fulfillment, work environment, and

personal growth opportunities. Therefore, while high salaries can contribute to job satisfaction to a certain extent, they should not be viewed as the primary or only factor.

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## Focus on Introductoin

## How to Paraphrase: Techniques Explained with Examples

### Original Topic:

"Many people think that job satisfaction comes from having a high salary."

### Paraphrased Version:

"In contemporary society, there is a prevailing belief that job satisfaction is primarily derived from earning a high salary."

### Techniques Used:

#### 1. Synonyms:

- "Many people think" → "there is a prevailing belief"
  - "Prevailing belief" conveys the idea that it is a common or widespread opinion.
- "job satisfaction" → retained as is because it is a specific term.
- "comes from" → "is primarily derived from"
  - "Derived from" is a synonym for "comes from" and adds a slightly more formal tone.
- "having a high salary" → "earning a high salary"
  - "Earning" is a synonym for "having" in this context and is more specific to income.

#### 2. Rephrasing:

- The original sentence structure was changed to make it more complex and to avoid direct repetition of the phrasing.
- The paraphrased version starts with "In contemporary society," which provides context and sets the scene for the topic.

#### 3. Adding Context:

- "In contemporary society" was added to contextualize the belief within modern times, enhancing the introduction's depth.

#### 4. Adjusting Word Order:

- The structure of the sentence was adjusted to place "job satisfaction" later, allowing the sentence to flow smoothly and naturally in its new form.

#### Breakdown of the Paraphrased Sentence:

- In contemporary society: Sets the context in the modern world.
- there is a prevailing belief: States the common opinion, using synonyms and adding a formal tone.
- that job satisfaction is primarily derived from: Keeps the core meaning but changes "comes from" to "is primarily derived from" for variety and formality.
- earning a high salary: Changes "having" to "earning" to be more specific and accurate in the context of jobs.



#### How to Write a Thesis Statement: Techniques and Connections to Main Ideas

In an IELTS Writing Task 2 essay, the thesis statement is crucial as it **outlines the main argument or position of the essay**. It sets the stage for the discussion that will follow in the body paragraphs.

#### Full Thesis Statement from the Essay:

"While it is undeniable that financial remuneration can significantly influence an individual's contentment with their job, it is also important to consider other factors that contribute to job satisfaction. This essay will explore the advantages and disadvantages of high salaries in relation to job satisfaction."

#### Breakdown and Explanation:

##### Acknowledging the Complexity of the Issue:

"While it is undeniable that financial remuneration can significantly influence an individual's contentment with their job, it is also important to consider other factors that contribute to job satisfaction."

- This part of the thesis statement recognizes that high salaries have a significant impact on job satisfaction but also introduces the idea that there are other important factors.
- By acknowledging both sides of the issue, it sets up a balanced discussion, which is crucial for a well-rounded essay.

### Outlining the Scope:

"This essay will explore the advantages and disadvantages of high salaries in relation to job satisfaction."

- This sentence specifies the focus of the essay, ensuring that the reader knows what to expect in the following paragraphs.
- It clearly indicates that the essay will cover both the positive and negative aspects of high salaries.

### Connection to Main Ideas and Topic Sentences in Body Paragraphs:

#### Body Paragraph 1: Advantages of High Salaries

- **Topic Sentence:** "One of the primary advantages of high salaries is the financial security and improved standard of living they provide."
- **Connection to Thesis:** This topic sentence directly relates to the part of the thesis that acknowledges the significant influence of financial remuneration. It introduces the main idea of financial benefits, which will be expanded upon with examples and explanations.

#### Body Paragraph 2: Disadvantages of High Salaries

- **Topic Sentence:** "However, there are notable disadvantages to equating high salaries with job satisfaction."
- **Connection to Thesis:** This topic sentence relates to the part of the thesis that emphasizes the importance of considering other factors contributing to job satisfaction. It sets up a contrast to the first body paragraph, maintaining the essay's balanced approach as outlined in the thesis.

### Summary of Connections:

- The thesis statement provides a clear roadmap for the essay, indicating that both the advantages and disadvantages of high salaries will be discussed.
- Each body paragraph starts with a topic sentence that directly relates to the thesis, ensuring coherence and relevance throughout the essay.
- The discussion in each paragraph supports the overarching argument presented in the thesis, making the essay well-structured and logically sound.

