

# Task 2 - advantages & disadvantages

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## IELTS advantages & disadvantages question sample

For example, you can get this question for IELTS writing task 2:

A lot of places in the world rely on tourism as a main source of income. Unfortunately, tourism can also be a source of problems if it is not managed correctly.

Describe the advantages and disadvantages of tourism in the modern world. Do you think that benefits of tourism outweigh its drawbacks?

This essay topic is related to tourism. Of course, topics for questions will vary, but *ideal answer structure is the same for all advantages & disadvantages essays* in IELTS.

## Producing ideas for your answer

Before you start writing your essay, you should always **spend 1-2 minutes on producing ideas for your answer**. This way, you'll know what to write about and your answer will be more coherent and well-structured. In case of *advantages & disadvantages essay*, you need to think of 2-3 *advantages* and 2-3 *disadvantages* of the given issue.

Let's think about advantages and disadvantages of tourism in the modern world.

### Advantages of tourism:

- boost in country's economy due to increased spending
- new job opening for local people
- opportunities to discover new places for individual travelers

### Disadvantages of tourism:

- destruction of popular tourist destinations by large numbers of tourists
- development of illegal economic activities
- local people can experience loss of privacy

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## Band 9 answer structure for advantages & disadvantages

Though there are many ways to structure your IELTS essay, we'll use this time-tested band 9 essay structure:

1. **Introduction**
2. **Body paragraph 1 – advantages**
3. **Body paragraph 2 – disadvantages**
4. **Conclusion**

**Tip:** before starting to write your essay, decide what you think: does tourism have more advantages or disadvantages? You'll need to make accent on your opinion in one of the body paragraphs.

We'll use the **opinion** that tourism has more advantages.

**Introduction** Write the introduction in 2 sentences:

- Sentence 1 - paraphrase the question (restate the problem):  
Nowadays tourism generates a significant portion of national income for many countries, but it has certain drawbacks too.
- Sentence 2 - tell the examiner what you're going to describe in your essay:  
This essay will examine the advantages and disadvantages of tourism and provide a logical conclusion.

### **Body paragraph 1 - advantages**

- Sentence 1 - state 2 main advantages:  
The two main advantages of developed tourism industry are boost in country's economy and a large number of new job openings for the local people.
- Sentences 2-4 - explain the first advantage + give an example (if possible):  
Firstly, tourists spend money on a wide range of services, including hotels, amusements, transportation, food and medical services. This way, tourism yields an additional income, greatly supporting the countries' economies.
- Sentences 5-7 - explain the second advantage + give an example (if possible):  
Secondly, tourism increases the level of employment by bringing new jobs. For instance, the influx of tourists results in a larger demand in restaurant workers, tour guides, hotel staff and employees of retail

services, exhorting business owners to hire more people for these positions.

### **Body paragraph 2 - disadvantages**

- Sentence 1 - state 2 main disadvantages:  
However, tourism also has some major disadvantages like destruction of popular tourist destinations and development of illegal economic activities.
- Sentences 2-4 - explain the first disadvantage + give an example (if possible):  
Ancient buildings, temples and monuments struggle to cope with a vast amount of visitor's traffic and get damaged. Also, the large number of tourists can cause environmental problems. For instance, when places of interest are overcrowded, natural resources often become overexploited.
- Sentences 5-7 - explain the second disadvantage + give an example (if possible):  
What's more, tourism can create more serious situations where criminal issues are involved. The presence of a considerable number of tourists with a lot of money to spend, and often carrying valuables such as cameras and jewelry, increases the attraction for criminals and brings with it activities like robbery and drug dealing.
- Sentences 8 - make an accent on your opinion (we'll use the opinion that tourism has more advantages):  
However, proper hospitality management and correct usage of tourism revenue by the local government can eliminate these disadvantages.

### **Conclusion**

- Sentences 1-2 - briefly restate the advantages and disadvantages  
To conclude, although tourism has certain disadvantages like destructive effects and growth of crime rate, it has an extremely positive impact on country's economy and provides a large number of new jobs for the local people.
- Sentence 2 - give your final opinion  
I believe that these benefits of tourism outweigh its drawbacks.

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## **A very good answer**

Nowadays tourism generates a significant portion of national income for many countries, but it has certain drawbacks too. This essay will examine the advantages and disadvantages of tourism and provide a logical conclusion.

**The two main advantages of developed tourism industry** are boost in country's economy and a large number of new job openings for the local people. Firstly, tourists spend money on a wide range of services, including hotels, amusements, transportation, food and medical services. This way, tourism yields an additional income, greatly supporting the country's economy. Secondly, tourism increases the level of employment by bringing new jobs. For instance, the influx of tourists results in a larger demand in restaurant workers, tour guides, hotel staff and employees of retail services, exhorting business owners to hire more people for these positions.

**But tourism also has some major disadvantages** like destruction of popular tourist destinations and development of illegal economic activities. Ancient buildings, temples and monuments struggle to cope with a vast amount of visitor's traffic and get damaged. Also, the large number of tourists can cause environmental problems. For instance, when places of interest are overcrowded, natural resources often become overexploited. What's more, the presence of a considerable number of tourists with a lot of money to spend, and often carrying valuables such as cameras and jewelry, increases the attraction for criminals and brings with it activities like robbery and drug dealing. However, proper hospitality management and correct usage of tourism revenue by the local government can eliminate these disadvantages.

**To conclude**, although tourism can have certain negative effects like destructive impact and growth of crime rate, it has an extremely positive influence on country's economy

local government can eliminate these disadvantages.

**To conclude**, although tourism can have certain negative effects like destructive impact and growth of crime rate, it has an extremely positive influence on country's economy and provides a large number of new jobs for the local people. I believe that these benefits of tourism outweigh its drawbacks.  
(299 words)

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