IELTS writing Course

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Session 5

Different types of questions

Fewer students are studying science at school and university, favouring more computer-based subjects instead.
What are the reasons for this?
Is this a positive or negative development?

Nowadays many people choose to be self-employed, rather than to work for a company or organization
Why might this be the case?
What could be the disadvantages of being self-employed?

It is important for children to learn the difference between right and wrong at an early age. Punishment is necessary to help them learn this distinction.
To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion?
What sort of punishment should parents and teachers be allowed to use to teach good behavior to children?

What should I be looking for?

- Are the questions related on some level?
- Do I see any plural "S" in the questions?

Examiner's introduction

In recent years, it has become evident that there has been a shift among secondary and university students away from traditional sciences and towards IT-based subjects. **In this essay I will talk about** the reasons behind this shift and explain why I think that overall this is a negative development.

Introduction formula

Presenting the two sides	Presenting my own view
• While in the past…, today… • In the past…, whereas today… • It is evident that there has been a shift away from… towards….	• This essay will outline… • In this essay I will outline… • In this essay I will talk about the reasons behind this… • In this essay I will explain why….

Body 1: the reasons

The rise on popularity of IT and similar computer-based subjects is unsurprising given how ==pervasive computer technology is within society==. Our lives are so dependent on devices and the Internet that it has become one of the world's main industries. **What is more**, the media is full of stories of tech start-ups that have made their founders / inventors into millionaires or even billionaires, so it is easy to see why young people would be attracted to the industry as a field of study. **It certainly seems a safer bet than a career in science, which typically requires a longer-term commitment and at least at first glance less rewards in terms of salary and social prestige**.

Starting a body paragraph

- **One of the main reasons why…..**

- **The rise on popularity of ……is unsurprising given how….**

Examiner's body 2 (why a negative development?)

However, both academia and society as a whole depend on a sustainable stream of talented scientists, pushing the boundaries of what is possible. These are the people who develop our medicines, design our cars, improve our manufacturing processes, invent new materials – the list is endless and their work is vital for maintaining and improving the quality of life that we enjoy. A fall in the number of students taking sciences therefore means a fall in the number of talented people doing such valuable work.

Your modified version

However, <mark>a fall in the number of students taking sciences means a fall in the number of talented people who are responsible for improving life standards</mark>. Both academia and society as a whole depend on a sustainable stream of talented scientists, pushing the boundaries of what is possible. These are the people who develop our medicines, design our cars, improve our manufacturing processes, invent new materials – the list is endless and their work is vital for maintaining and improving the quality of life that we enjoy.

conclusion

In conclusion, the move towards computer-based subjects and careers is understandable, given the importance of the computing industry in today's world. However, if this is at the expense of having new scientists and engineers, then it is also potentially very detrimental. Without scientific innovation, the world will be a very different place.

Creating contrast in conclusion

- Although
- However,