



VOCABULARY FOR IELTS

HOW TO AVOID
REPEATING WORDS

PART 1

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WHAT YOU WILL LEARN?

- What repetitive language looks like
- How to use subject/ object pronouns and possessive adjectives **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to use relative pronouns **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to use other pronouns **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to change the grammar **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to change the vocabulary **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- Practice

WHY WORRY ABOUT AVOIDING REPEATING WORDS?

If you **AVOID REPETITION OF WORDS**, you can show the **IELTS** examiner that you have a wide range of vocabulary (**Vocabulary**)

AVOIDING REPETITION OF WORDS allows you to use words in different forms and apply different grammatical structures. This shows the **IELTS** examiner that you can use grammar flexibly (**Grammar**)

You will make your writing more cohesive if you **AVOID REPETITION OF WORDS**. Your ideas and words will seem well-connected (**Coherence and Cohesion**)

Because your writing style will be much better if you **AVOID REPETITION OF WORDS**, you will have a more formal and academic style (**Task Achievement/Response**)

IELTS TASK 2 WRITING BAND DESCRIPTORS

Band	Task Response	Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical Resource	Grammatical Range and Accuracy
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fully addresses all parts of the task presents a fully developed position in answer to the question with relevant, fully extended and well supported ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses cohesion in such a way that it attracts no attention skilfully manages paragraphing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of vocabulary with very natural and sophisticated control of lexical features; rare minor errors occur only as 'slips' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of structures with full flexibility and accuracy; rare minor errors occur only as 'slips'
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sufficiently addresses all parts of the task presents a well-developed response to the question with relevant, extended and supported ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sequences information and ideas logically manages all aspects of cohesion well uses paragraphing sufficiently and appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of vocabulary fluently and flexibly to convey precise meanings skilfully uses uncommon lexical items but there may be occasional inaccuracies in word choice and collocation produces rare errors in spelling and/ or word formation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a wide range of structures the majority of sentences are error-free makes only occasional errors or inappropriacies
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> addresses all parts of the task presents a clear position throughout the response presents, extends and supports main ideas, but there may be a tendency to over-generalise and/ or supporting ideas may lack focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> logically organises information and ideas; there is clear progression throughout uses a range of cohesive devices appropriately although there may be some under/ over-use presents a clear central topic within each 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a sufficient range of vocabulary to allow some flexibility and precision uses less common lexical items with some awareness of style and collocation may produce occasional errors in word choice, spelling and/ or word formation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a variety of complex structures produces frequent error-free sentences has good control of grammar and punctuation but may make a few errors

IELTS TASK 2 WRITING BAND DESCRIPTORS

Band	Task Response	Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical Resource	Grammatical Range and Accuracy
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> addresses all parts of the task although some parts may be more fully covered than others presents a relevant position although the conclusions may become unclear or repetitive presents relevant main ideas but some may be inadequately developed/ unclear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> arranges information and ideas coherently and there is a clear overall progression uses cohesive devices effectively, but cohesion within and/ or between sentences may be faulty or mechanical may not always use referencing clearly or appropriately uses paragraphing but not always logically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses an adequate range of vocabulary for the task attempts to use less common vocabulary but with some inaccuracy makes some errors in spelling and/ or word formation, but they do not impede communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a mix of simple and complex sentence forms makes some errors in grammar and punctuation but they rarely reduce communication
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> addresses the task only partially; the format may be inappropriate in places expresses a position but the development is not always clear and there may be no conclusions drawn presents some main ideas but these are limited and not sufficiently developed; there may be irrelevant detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> presents information with some organisation but there may be a lack of overall progression makes inadequate, inaccurate or over-use of cohesive devices may be repetitive because of lack of referencing and substitution may not write in paragraphs, or 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a limited range of vocabulary, but this is minimally adequate for the task may make noticeable errors in spelling and/ or word formation that may cause some difficulty for the reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses only a limited range of structures attempts complex sentences but these tend to be less accurate than simple sentences may make frequent grammatical errors and punctuation may be faulty; errors can cause some difficulty for the reader

IELTS TASK 2 WRITING BAND DESCRIPTORS

Band	Task Response	Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical Resource	Grammatical Range and Accuracy
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• responds to the task only in a minimal way or the answer is tangential; the format may be inappropriate• presents a position but this is unclear• presents some main ideas but these are difficult to identify and may be repetitive, irrelevant or not well supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• presents information and ideas but these are not arranged coherently and there is no clear progression in the response• uses some basic cohesive devices but these may be inaccurate or repetitive• may not write in paragraphs or their use may be confusing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• uses only basic vocabulary which may be used repetitively or which may be inappropriate for the task• has limited control of word formation and/ or spelling: errors may cause strain for the reader	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• uses only a very limited range of structures with only rare use of subordinate clauses• some structures are accurate but errors predominate, and punctuation is often faulty
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• does not adequately address any part of the task• does not express a clear position• presents few ideas, which are largely undeveloped or irrelevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• does not organise ideas logically• may use a very limited range of cohesive devices, and those used may not indicate a logical relationship between ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• uses only a very limited range of words and expressions with very limited control of word formation and/ or spelling• errors may severely distort the message	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• attempts sentence forms but errors in grammar and punctuation predominate and distort the meaning



AVOIDING
REPEATING WORDS
TO IMPROVE YOUR
IELTS GRADE

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Rich people are getting **richer** and **richer**.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Rich people are getting **richer** and **richer**. At the same time **poor people** are getting **poorer** and **poorer**.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Rich people are getting **richer** and **richer**. At the same time **poor people** are getting **poorer** and **poorer**. The governments in **rich** countries have got enough money for schools, hospitals and roads.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Rich people are getting **richer** and **richer**. At the same time **poor people** are getting **poorer** and **poorer**. The governments in **rich** countries have got enough money for schools, hospitals and roads. **The governments in poor countries have not got enough money for schools, hospitals and roads.**

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Rich people are getting **richer** and **richer**. At the same time **poor people** are getting **poorer** and **poorer**. The governments in **rich** countries have got enough money for schools, hospitals and roads. **The governments in poor countries have not got enough money for schools, hospitals and roads.** I strongly believe that **this is the most serious problem facing humanity** at the moment and that **people in rich countries** should help **people in poor countries**.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits. The governments in prosperous and successful areas

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits. The governments in prosperous and successful areas have enough funds to build schools, hospitals and roads.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits. The governments in prosperous and successful areas have enough funds to build schools, hospitals and roads. The authorities in less developed nations

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits. The governments in prosperous and successful areas have enough funds to build schools, hospitals and roads. The authorities in less developed nations lack the capital to invest in health, education and infrastructure.

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits. The governments in prosperous and successful areas have enough funds to build schools, hospitals and roads. The authorities in less developed nations lack the capital to invest in health, education and infrastructure. I strongly believe that members of more affluent societies

REPETITIVE LANGUAGE: EXAMPLE



‘There is a huge gap between rich people and poor people in the world. This is the most serious problem facing humanity in the 21st century.’ What is your opinion of this statement?

Those who already possess significant wealth are becoming increasingly well-off. At the same time, individuals with fewer economic resources may find themselves in dire financial straits. The governments in prosperous and successful areas have enough funds to build schools, hospitals and roads. The authorities in less developed nations lack the capital to invest in health, education and infrastructure. I strongly believe that members of more affluent societies ought to provide support for those struggling to survive in other regions of our planet.

AVOIDING REPETITION: SUBJECT/OBJECT PRONOUNS AND POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

- **Motorists are responsible for a great deal of unnecessary pollution. They cause it by driving when it would be possible for them to walk or use public transport. Their cars are often huge gas-guzzling machines.**
- **Experts believe that within a few years The Arctic will be completely ice-free during summers and that it will change radically. They say it will have huge consequences for humanity and that we should take their warnings seriously.**
- **The rise in crime concerns police officers. They say its main cause is social deprivation and that it could easily be reduced with government spending.**

AVOIDING REPETITION: RELATIVE PRONOUNS



- Medical professionals, **who** have spent their entire lives working to improve the quality of other people's lives, should be greatly respected and financially rewarded.
- The main reason **why** undergraduates choose an arduous six years at medical school is that they genuinely want to make a difference to the lives of those **who** are less fortunate than **themselves**.
- The drop-out rate amongst medical students, **which** used to be incredibly low, has risen. The courses are more rigorous, **which** is obviously a positive development.

AVOIDING REPETITION: USING OTHER FORMS OF PRONOUN



- There are a couple of reasons why those in their early sixties choose to retire: **one** is related to health concerns and **another** is more to do with lifestyle choices.
- **Many** who retire early find their retirement extremely rewarding. **Most** take up new hobbies and interests while **some** decide to travel. **A few** actually become entrepreneurs, opening up their own business. **Almost none** find retirement unsatisfying

AVOIDING REPETITION: USING OTHER FORMS OF PRONOUN



- It has been suggested that **those** in their seventies and eighties should be entitled to continue working instead of retiring. **This** might extend the useful life of the elderly but would undoubtedly make it harder for younger job-seekers to find work. **That** would certainly infuriate **those** in their twenties and thirties. **These** are our future leaders and it is important that they do not feel disenfranchised or alienated. **That** could lead some of them to emigrate. There might be a so-called ‘brain-drain’.

AVOIDING REPETITION: THE SAME WORD, DIFFERENT GRAMMAR



- This approach to education is clearly **advantageous**. The **advantages** can be seen in terms of student grades and teacher satisfaction.
- Working from home is tremendously **beneficial**. One of the chief **benefits** is that you **are able to** control your own working hours. Having **the ability** to do this makes life less **stressful**. Obviously, **stress** is a major cause of **illness** and being **ill** significantly affects a person's quality of life.

AVOIDING REPETITION: THE SAME WORD, DIFFERENT GRAMMAR



- It has been **suggested** that the world would be a **safer** and more **contented** place if international borders were **eradicated**. The **suggestion** that the **eradication** of frontiers would lead to greater **safety** and more **contentment** is, from my perspective, ridiculous.
- It is **believed** by many that having cosmetic surgery can make a person **happier**. This **belief** that physical appearance relates to **happiness** is often challenged by experts.

AVOIDING REPETITION: DIFFERENT WORD, SIMILAR MEANING



- The **number** of **cars and buses** in our **city-centres** is **too high**. The **excessive amount** of **motor vehicles** in **built-up urban areas** is **worrying**. **Alarm** has been **expressed** by leading scientists who **claim** that the current situation is untenable.
- It is my **firm belief** that **animals should** not be kept **in captivity**. **Zoos and wildlife parks** ought to be closed **immediately** and all **creatures** returned to **the wild forthwith** so that they can live in their **natural habitats**. This **strong conviction** is based on scientific evidence.

AVOIDING REPETITION: DIFFERENT WORD, SIMILAR MEANING

- Many **people** would like to see alterations in the laws on stalking. Some **individuals** have protested that current legislation is not tough enough. **Experts** have contacted the government in support of the change. Some **scientists and academics** believe that unless the law is re-written, there will be more **innocent victims** of **horrible criminals**. Meanwhile, **ordinary members of the public**, and particularly **those feeling most vulnerable**, are naturally anxious about the situation.



VOCABULARY FOR IELTS

HOW TO AVOID
REPEATING WORDS
PART 2

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN?



- What repetitive language looks like
- How to use **subject/ object pronouns and possessive adjectives** **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to use **relative pronouns** **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to use **other pronouns** **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to change the **grammar** **TO AVOID REPETITION**
- How to change the **vocabulary** **TO AVOID REPETITION**



PRACTICE WITH AVOIDING REPEATING WORDS

QUESTION



- **Some people criticise space travel. They say that it is expensive and the money could be better spent in other ways. What do you think?**

TRY TO REPLACE **SPACE TRAVEL** WITH A BETTER ALTERNATIVE

- Since the first **space travel** in the early 1960s, there has been a heated debate about the merits of **space travel**. As the amount of **space travel** has increased, this question has become increasingly significant. Although many individuals are sceptical about the value of **space travel**, I generally think **space travel** is important for our development.

POSSIBLE ANSWER



- Since the first **astronauts were launched into the atmosphere** in the early 1960s, there has been a heated debate about the merits of **going into space**. As the amount of **space exploration** has increased, this question has become increasingly significant. Although many individuals are sceptical about the value of **sending rockets into orbit**, I generally think **this activity** is important for our development.

TRY TO REPLACE SPACE TRAVEL WITH A BETTER ALTERNATIVE

- First and foremost, there are indisputably scientific benefits which result from **space travel**. Our species has made major technological advances because of the **space travel** of leading countries. This scientific progress eventually results in a higher standard of living for everyone on the planet.

POSSIBLE ANSWER



- First and foremost, there are indisputably scientific benefits which result from **going into space**. Our species has made major technological advances because of the **space programmes** of leading countries. This scientific progress eventually results in a higher standard of living for everyone on the planet.

TRY TO REPLACE **SPACE TRAVEL** WITH A BETTER ALTERNATIVE

- In addition, future **space travel** could enable us to understand and deal with the ecological disaster facing our planet. It is becoming clearer that unless we find solutions to global warming, our environment will be seriously threatened. Research undertaken during **space travel** may help us to comprehend the issues and come up with solutions to them.

POSSIBLE ANSWER



- In addition, future **journeys into space** could enable us to understand and deal with the ecological disaster facing our planet. It is becoming clearer that unless we find solutions to global warming, our environment will be seriously threatened. Research undertaken during **missions on The International Space Station and other orbiting space-craft** may help us to comprehend the issues and come up with solutions to them.

TRY TO REPLACE **SPACE TRAVEL** WITH A BETTER ALTERNATIVE

- Finally, there is the possibility that **space travel** might lead to the discovery of natural resources on other planets which we urgently need. It is even possible that other life forms may be discovered as a result of **space travel**. This could have very beneficial effects for our planet.

POSSIBLE ANSWER



- Finally, there is the possibility that **this type of scientific activity** might lead to the discovery of natural resources on other planets which we urgently need. It is even possible that other life forms may be discovered as a result of **travelling beyond our solar system**. This could have very beneficial effects for our planet.

TRY TO REPLACE **SPACE TRAVEL** WITH A BETTER ALTERNATIVE

- It needs to be said that **space travel** is expensive and that investment in **space travel** should not mean a reduction in spending on key areas such as health, education and the elimination of poverty. However, all governments waste money on wars, unnecessary administration and arts projects which are definitely less useful than **space travel**.

POSSIBLE ANSWER



- It needs to be said that **building and using rockets and space technology** is expensive and that investment in **it** should not mean a reduction in spending on key areas such as health, education and the elimination of poverty. However, all governments waste money on wars, unnecessary administration and arts projects which are definitely less useful than **such an important scientific endeavour.**

TRY TO REPLACE **SPACE TRAVEL** WITH A BETTER ALTERNATIVE

- In conclusion, I am sure that **space travel** can be hugely beneficial for our economies and ecology. It is the responsibility of leading governments to continue supporting **space travel** as the rewards could be enormous.

POSSIBLE ANSWER



- In conclusion, I am sure that **exploring space and other planets** can be hugely beneficial for our economies and ecology. It is the responsibility of leading governments to continue supporting **this marvellous project** as the rewards could be enormous.



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