

**A. Read the following composition and fill in the blanks with a word or expression from the list:** furthermore    recently    as a result    in conclusion    on the other hand  
*Genetic engineering brings with it more dangers than benefits and should be banned worldwide.*

\_\_\_\_\_ (1), advances in science have demonstrated to us that things that once seemed possible only in science fiction could become a reality. The cloning of a sheep brought the possibility of using genetic engineering to create new organs, or even whole human beings, one step closer.

Some people consider this to be a dangerous development, and believe that all that research should be banned. Interfering with nature in this way could bring with it dangers that none of us can imagine. We have no idea how an artificially-created person might behave, or indeed how he or she might suffer. \_\_\_\_\_ (2), we may find ourselves in a position which we do not like, but which we are unable to reverse.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3), many people would say that it is not for human beings to decide what other human beings should be like. It is not only people with deep religious beliefs who feel that it is wrong, for example, for parents to choose whether their baby will be a boy or a girl, or have blue eyes or musical talent.

\_\_\_\_\_ (4), the latest research in genetics has also opened the possibility of new treatment for many diseases which up to now have been incurable. If it were possible to prevent a baby from developing a hereditary disease by modifying its genes, should we stop the scientists? If doctors could replace a diseased organ with a new one grown from cells, should it not be allowed?

\_\_\_\_\_ (5), I would say that genetic engineering has the potential to be both a huge benefit and a terrible curse for humankind. To make sure that we benefit from it, it will be necessary to control it very strictly. The real challenge will be to find ways of monitoring the research that is conducted in laboratories all over the world and to make sure that it is only used for the good of everyone.

**B. Replace the words with those from the box below.**

moreover	consequently	therefore	nevertheless	however	to sum up	in
addition	finally	nowadays				

**C. Writing Exercise: Complete the tasks below.**

**I. Universities should accept equal numbers of men and women in every subject.**

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

- 1) Write an introduction.
- 2) Make a list of ideas you are going to develop in order to support your thesis statement.

**II. Is emigration bad for a country? Should rich countries offer jobs to professionals such as doctors, engineers and teachers from poorer countries, even though these people are needed in their own countries?**

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

- 1) Choose two ideas which represent each view and write two paragraphs developing each of them.

**D. Sample essays on the topics above. Read them. Do they answer the questions properly? How would you evaluate them? Discuss in pairs. Mark the chunks of language you would like to use in your writing if any.**

I. Gender issues have been increasing in importance through the centuries. In almost every sphere of human activity, there has been a movement towards greater equality between men and women. Although I agree that universities should open their doors to all students alike, in my view, they need not set a fixed limit on the number of men and women they accept in each subject. The bases for my views are psychological and personal.

Psychologically-speaking, men and women are simply different, though they have the same potential for greatness. For example, women tend to be more intuitive, sensitive to others and caring. This means they may feel drawn, on the basis of their personalities, to certain kinds of professions such as teaching, nursing, or psychology, even if all fields are open to them. In such a context, it is best for universities to choose the best applicants, regardless of gender.

Personally, students need to discover their true calling. This is an individual matter and is not influenced by the universities reserving seats for men or women. For example, if the majority of women shy away from math or engineering, perhaps it has to do with their upbringing, which has influenced their interests. The universities will not be able to reverse this trend, though they should always look out for the most qualified candidates.

In conclusion, equality cannot be forced upon people – not in the area of education, employment or family life. Equality is about having choices and those who prove themselves capable will qualify for university, regardless of gender. It is only right that universities reflect and respect these free and natural choices being exercised by their students.

II. Every year millions of workers migrate to developed countries such as Canada or Germany to work as doctors, engineers, or other professionals. This is good for the rich countries, but can be bad for the developing countries. This essay will explain why it is difficult to limit this flow of talented people from poor to rich countries.

Allowing foreign professionals to work overseas can cause many problems back home. First, the rich country is essentially taking the money that the developing country spent educating these workers. They are getting highly trained employees at a minimal cost without the need to build expensive universities. Why should Canada or Ireland benefit from South Africa's or India's education system? Another point is that many of these workers never go home. The skills they pick up abroad are not available for their home country. A third point is that many education systems are producing people for export, rather than providing skills needed in the home country.

However, we cannot simply stop employing workers from overseas. First, most professionals are free to work where they want, and if Australia won't take them, the UAE or Saudi will. Competition exists, and people are free to choose their careers. Secondly, the remittances from these workers help to educate children. These children will, we hope, be able to work in their economy without the need to emigrate. In addition, allowing emigration can prevent social unrest. Unemployment can cause political or social problems, so it can be better for workers to emigrate, earn good salaries, and learn new skills elsewhere.

Finally, while many people would prefer to stay and work in their own country, it is inevitable that many others are attracted to higher salaries or better opportunities overseas. Developing countries need to examine why so many of their brightest, most talented people are leaving, and richer countries need quotas in place to ensure that they do not distort other education systems and economies.

Source: <http://www.goodluckielts.com/IELTS-sample-essay-4.html>