

## Task 1 Justifications - A Holiday Job (letter)

This 185-word letter (not counting the address and date which is unnecessary with the given layout or repetition of Dear Sir which is already provided) is slightly under the required 200 words by 7.5%. In terms of content the test taker addresses only 2 of the 3 bullet points. The first paragraph ends with an explanation of why s/he wants to work at the camp, thus fulfilling, albeit minimally, the requirements of content point 1. Content point 2 is addressed more fully in paragraph 2 though the relevance of some of the information provided is not always clear. Paragraph 3 adds further information on content point 2 but the letter then ends abruptly with no response given to content point 3.

However, the letter is organised into 3 distinct paragraphs which generally follow paragraphing conventions. In addition, the test taker produces a number of shorter sentences demonstrating an ability to use basic connectors and cohesive devices such as **because, now, and, while, at that time.**

The test taker appears to have sufficient vocabulary for the task but there are occasional problems with word choice which hinder communication. For example, in paragraph 1 line 4 the meaning is **to do something worthwhile** but the test taker writes **to make a good things**. Then in paragraph 2 line 7 it would be better to use **encourage** than **recommend**. In addition, in paragraph 3 line 2 the correct word choice would be **develop** instead of **make**.

The test taker attempts to use a variety of basic grammatical structures but lacks control, particularly with longer sentences. Errors are frequent but do not hinder communication. For example, in paragraph 1 line 3 s/he writes **I am interesting about** instead of **I am interested in**. In paragraph 2, line 1 s/he writes **I'm graduated from** instead of either **I graduated from** (plus verb) or **I'm a graduate of** (plus noun). In paragraph 2, line 5 the word **ever** is used incorrectly in a positive statement. In line 8 the present tense **I have to work** is used instead of the past **I had to work**. Then, in paragraph 2 line 8 and again in paragraph 3, line 2 the test taker uses the singular form **book, game** and **activity** instead of the plural.

To sum, the test taker performs reasonably well in terms of task fulfilment as well as organisation, coherence and cohesion. However, the inaccurate use of grammatical structures and limited range of vocabulary does at times hinder communication. For this reason s/he is awarded a minimal B1 pass.