

Task 1 Justifications - A Holiday Job (letter)

This 238-word letter exceeds the required 200 words by 19%. However, the test taker begins appropriately with a short introductory paragraph stating when and where s/he saw the job advertisement. S/he then goes on to address all 3 of the content bullet points.

In terms of organization, responses to content points 1 and 2 are merged in paragraph 2 when it would be better to present the information in two separate paragraphs. Content point 3 is dealt with on its own in paragraph 3 before the test taker closes with a brief request that the letter be considered. The test taker is able to link sentences into clear coherent text using a number of connectors and cohesive devices. Examples include **and**, **since**, **as**, **after** as well as **at the same time**.

The test taker uses a good range of vocabulary with only occasional slips in word formation such as in paragraph 3, line 6 where the writer uses **graduated** (verb) instead of **graduate** (noun). There are also some examples of incorrect word choice. For example, in the last line of paragraph 2 the test taker adds **effectively** when they may mean **regularly**. Then in line 7 of paragraph 3, s/he says they could manage the activities **sufficiently** when it would be more appropriate to say **reasonably well**. However, these mistakes do not hinder overall communication and in general the test taker's choice of words and level of formality are appropriate.

There is evidence to suggest that the test taker can use basic tense structures accurately. For example, "**Since I was a student in the university, I have been very much interested in working in public and social organizations.**" There is also evidence to suggest the test taker can produce some longer and more complex sentences, including relative clauses. For example, "**I attended most of the rural projects initiated by my school as I believe that (by) sharing with others, particularly the ones in need, is one of the best ways to make our society a better place to live.**"

However grammatical control is inconsistent. For example, in paragraph 1, line 3, even though the time is known from the previous sentence, the test taker uses the present perfect tense **I have found** instead of the past simple **I found**. S/he uses **after finished** instead of **after finishing** or **after I finished** in paragraph 2, line 7. Then in paragraph 2, line 8 the test taker mixes singular and plural forms when they say **in this kind of activities** and the **-ing** form of the verb (passive) when they should use the infinitive (active) to follow the verb need. In addition, s/he uses **could** for possibility instead of **should** for advice in paragraph 3, line 5. On the whole though, these errors do not hinder overall communication.

To sum, the test taker performs well on overall task fulfilment as well as lexical range and accuracy and reasonably well in terms of organization and grammatical range and accuracy. For this reason s/he is awarded a B2.

