

WRITING TASK 2

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Some industry leaders believe that children should learn computer programming in primary school.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this opinion? .

Give reasons for your answer and include relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

MODEL ANSWER 6.5

Computers are very important in all countries nowadays, and they will continue to be important in the future. This means that we have to teach children to become computer programmers. However, teaching it in primary school is not a good idea.

If children begin learning about computer programming when they are young, they will probably be good at it already when they go to university. Because of this, some people from IT companies say that we should teach computer programming in primary school. They say that it will make their company stronger than companies in other countries.

However, children in primary schools already have to learn many other important things. Computer programming is useful in some jobs, but most don't need it. Instead, they need children who can write good English or understand mathematics. This means that primary schools have to spend their time concentrating on those subjects.

Another problem is that classes in primary school usually have only one teacher. This teacher has to teach all subjects. Primary school teachers understand basic English and basic mathematics because they have taught them for a long time, but most of them do not know anything about computer programming. If primary schools have to teach computer programming, they will have to hire new teachers or retrain their old teachers, which will take a lot of time and expense. It is much better to wait until children go to high school. That way, they can learn the subject from a real computer programming teacher.

To sum up, although teaching computer programming in primary school has advantages, I think the disadvantages are more important, so I am against the idea.

(276 words)

MODEL ANSWER 6.5 - TASK ACHIEVEMENT

Computers are very important in all countries nowadays, and they will continue to be important in the future.

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To sum up, although teaching computer programming in primary school has advantages, I think the disadvantages are more important, so I am against the idea.

MODEL ANSWER 6.5 - COHERENCE and COHESION

Computers are very important in all countries nowadays, **and** they will continue to be important in the future.

This means that we have to teach children to become computer programmers. **However**, teaching **it** in primary school is not a good idea.

If children begin learning about computer programming when they are young, they will probably be good at it already when they go to university. **Because of this**, some people from IT companies say that we should teach computer programming in primary school. **They** say that it will make their company stronger than companies in other countries.

However, children in primary schools already have to learn many other important things. Computer programming is useful in some jobs, **but** most don't need it. **Instead**, they need children who can write good English or understand mathematics. **This means that** primary schools have to spend their time concentrating on **those** subjects.

Another problem is that classes in primary school usually have only one teacher. This teacher has to teach all subjects. Primary school teachers understand basic English and basic mathematics because they have taught them for a long time, **but** most of them do not know anything about computer programming. If primary schools have to teach computer programming, they will have to hire new teachers or retrain their old teachers, **which** will take a lot of time and expense. It is much better to wait until children go to high school. **That way**, they can learn the subject from a real computer programming teacher.

To sum up, **although** teaching computer programming in primary school has advantages, I think the disadvantages are more important, **so** I am against the idea.

MODEL ANSWER 6.5 - LEXICAL RESOURCE

Computers are very **important** in all **countries nowadays**, and they will **continue** to be important in the future. This means that we have to teach children to become **computer programmers**. However, teaching it in **primary school** is not a good idea.

If children begin learning about **computer programming** when they are young, they will probably **be good at** it already when they go to **university**. Because of this, some people from **IT companies** say that we should teach **computer programming** in **primary school**. They say that it will make their company **stronger** than companies in other **countries**.

However, children in **primary schools** already have to learn many other important things. **Computer programming** is **useful** in some jobs, but most don't need it. Instead, they need children who can write good English or understand **mathematics**. This means that **primary schools** have to spend their time **concentrating on** those **subjects**.

Another problem is that **classes** in **primary school** usually have only one teacher. This teacher has to teach all subjects. **Primary school teachers** understand **basic** English and basic **mathematics** because they have taught them for a long time, but most of them do not **know anything about** computer programming. If primary schools have to teach **computer programming**, they will have to **hire** new teachers or **retrain** their old teachers, which will take a lot of time and **expense**. It is much better to wait until children go to high school. That way, they can learn the subject from a **real computer programming teacher**.

To sum up, although teaching **computer programming** in primary school has **advantages**, I think the **disadvantages** are more important, so I am against the idea.

MODEL ANSWER 6.5 - GRAMMATICAL RANGE and ACCURACY

Computers **are** very important **in** all countries nowadays, and they **will continue to be** important **in** the future. This means that we **have to teach** children **to** become computer programmers. However, teaching **it in** primary school **is** not a good idea.

If children **begin learning** about computer programming **when** they **are** young, they **will probably** be good at it already **when** they **go to** university. Because of this, some people from IT companies **say that we should teach** computer programming in primary school. They say that **it will make** their company **stronger than** companies in other countries.

However, children in primary schools already **have to learn** many other important things. Computer programming **is** useful in some jobs, but **most don't need it**. Instead, they need children **who** can write good English or understand mathematics. This means that primary schools **have to spend** their time concentrating **on those** subjects.

Another problem **is that** classes **in** primary school usually **have** only one teacher. This teacher **has to teach** all subjects. Primary school teachers **understand** basic English and basic mathematics because they **have taught them** for a long time, but **most of them** do not know anything about computer programming. **If** primary schools **have to teach** computer programming, **they will have to** hire new teachers or retrain their old teachers, **which will** take a lot of time and expense. It is **much better to** wait until children go to high school. That way, they can **learn** the subject **from** a real computer programming teacher.

To sum up, although teaching computer programming in primary school **has** advantages, I think the disadvantages **are** more important, so I am against the idea.