

TEST 4, WRITING TASK 1

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 6.0** score.

Dear Sara,

I am so glad to hearing from you that you have already offered a place on that engaging course at my university. I hope you will enjoy studying there.

To begin with I have spent great time being a student. As for the place of my accommodation I lived in a residence hall because this university offers such a great opportunity so I shared the room with 2 nice girls. We have spent a great amount of time together and we are still friends for now!

As far as I remember the best way to get a room in their residence hall is to make a request to the student services department before the semester starts. Otherwise it might happen that they run out of free accommdation! The representative usually answers within a week.

Though be careful with the floor where you choose a room because I have heard about several problems from the students who lived on the ground floor. Some of them suffered from the loud noise outside the building, others suffered from cold floor and the draft that gave them a cold. Moreover do not choose the room for more than 3 students, because people are different, you know.

I hope you will enjoy spending your time at the university.

Best wishes,

Here is the examiner's comment:

The response addresses all the bullet points except for the first: although the candidate says they lived in the residence hall, they give no further details. More of a description of where they lived would be needed for a higher Band Score.

There is a clear progression in this response, but some of the cohesion within the sentences is faulty, for example, in the first sentence. The range of vocabulary is both adequate and appropriate, with some less common examples [*engaging course* | *make a request* | *suffered from*].

There is a mix of simple and complex sentence forms and a range of tenses [*will enjoy* | *have heard*]. The errors do not reduce communication.