

## TEST 3, WRITING TASK 2

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7.0** score.

### Home sweet home

Some people say home sweet home, talking about their home town. They enjoy being where they were born and raised, they like saying hi to the same people, greeting their middle school teacher and going to the same café they always go to. There are others who move a bit further from where they were born, but continue living in the same country, or same state. Meanwhile, some population chooses to move as far as possible from their home towns, and there are always valid reasons for both decisions that we will discuss in this essay.

Firstly, we will approach as I call them, the "home sweet home" people's point of view. They believe being close home is very beneficial in many ways. For instance, you know everybody around you, and you know the names of the streets, you are known, you are basically in the comfort zone. This life style allows you to feel at ease and you do not have to push yourself to do anything differently.

On the other hand, those benefits can become your enemy because you may get stuck in one place, one job, one house and you may miss the chance to go out of the box and meet new people, new feelings, new opportunities. Those people, the one who take advantage of experience new things, also have stages of their lives when they feel lonely, homesick, they go through culture shock when they go to another country or even another state where they might feel they do not belong. These people prefer to suffer the emptiness of being away but enjoy their freedom.

In my experience I find it very exciting living abroad, away from parents, friends, relatives. When you move out and face new things, there is something inside of you that changes, you grow up and you become stronger, kinder, happier and resilient.

To sum up, there are different ways to encounter life, one would decide to stay safe and others would pick the hard road which is facing independency and going away from home. Whatever it is that people choose I strongly believe that the important thing is to feel happy and at peace with the decision, otherwise we will be living a lie.

Here is the examiner's comment:

Firstly, titles are not required for Task 2 responses, but overall this is a good response.

The introduction describes all types of people from those who like to stay at home, or in the same country, to those who move away. To achieve a higher score, the writing should clearly emphasise the reasons for staying at home or moving away. The response is easy to read and is organised logically, although the final two paragraphs could be joined together.

The candidate uses some good vocabulary with some interesting expressions [*culture shock* | *resilient*] and collocation [*valid reasons for* | *become your enemy*], but there are some errors [*wher* / *where* | *preffer* / *prefer* | *emptyness* / *emptiness*]. Grammar is a strength and there is good range of different grammatical structures, with a few remaining errors, for example with past tenses [*raise* / *raised*] and prepositions [*close home* / *close to home*].