

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 1

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 5.5** score.

Sugar is one of the food that is used to make foods or drinks. Without sugar, our foods or even drinks will be tasteless. Not to forget, sugar is not readily available because we cannot naturally get it from plants. Here in Malaysia, there are few factories or companies that manufacture sugar from sugar cane plant. There are few steps that need to be done before the sugar is present.

First and foremost, farmer or gardener will plant a garden of sugar cane for about 12 to 18 months. The process of watering and fertilizing need to be done in order for the plant grown to be healthy and good quality. Next, when the sugar cane is ready, step two is done by harvesting the sugar cane plant. Harvesting process is carried out by two ways; first by using a harvesting tractor and not just that, human itself can harvest the sugar cane. Steps three is continued by crushing the sugar cane in a machine. This step is to make sure that the juice can be extracted out in a large volume.

After the juice is produced and collected, the product is filtered by using limestone filter. This is to ensure that no dirt or unwanted materials stuck in the juice before being evaporated. When the filtrate is already clean and clear, the juice will be filled into an evaporator. The evaporator will heat up the sugar cane juice with a very high temperature. This to allow the juice to become more concentrated and all the water is removed. When the juice is slightly dry and free from water, the syrup is placed in a centrifuge to separate the sugar crystals formed from syrup. Centrifuge machine will spin the syrup to totally remove the liquids present. The last process that need to be done is drying and cooling. The product that are crystals formed will be exposed to a wide and hot area to evaporate the leftout water. Finally, the sugar is ready to be used.

Manufacturing sugar is important especially in Asra's county because sweets such as sugar is our main necessity. Sugar not just be used by our family at homes but also being exported to the worldwide. This to help out county living in a better economy and stable government. Hence, process of manufacturing sugar need to be learned by certain community so that it will be continued by the future generations.

Here is the examiner's comment:

The main steps of the process are clearly presented but the first and last paragraphs contain irrelevant information which is not required. The response should also include an overview that summarises the main stages of the process, but this is missing.

The steps of the process are presented in order and progression is clear. Some effective cohesive devices are used to organise ideas, including sequencing devices [*First and foremost* | *Next* | *After* | *Finally*], but generally there is some repetition [*the sugar cane* | *evaporator*].

The range of vocabulary is adequate, with some good examples [*extracted* | *concentrated*], but overall, control is limited with some errors in word choice [*leftout* / *leftover*].

The response contains a range of structures to describe the process [*is carried out by* | *can be extracted* | *will be exposed to* | *is ready to be used*] and although errors in grammar are frequent, the meaning is still clear.

This response could be improved by adding an overview, removing the irrelevant information about the manufacture of sugar across the world and using more accurate vocabulary and grammatical structures.