

TEST 1, WRITING TASK 1

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7.5** score.

Dear Rita

Hey! I hope you are in pink of your health. My happiness knew no bound when I recieved your letter after ages. How's your new pet Charli? I'm indeed excited to meet him. I'm writing this letter to receommend you an exciting sport you would want to learn. Being a certified swimmer at the VTC Club in our town and knowing all the benefits of swimming, I totally insist you to go for it. Do you know swimming for 1 hour every day can prevent you from lifestyle related disorders like diabetes and cholesterol? Also, it is a total stress-buster after long hours of work shift. Lying in the pool can instantly make you feel relaxed and rejuvenated. Therefore, I totally suggest you to go for it.

As you know, there are multiple swimming pools, both private and government-funded in our town. I have tried many, but personally I would say you should opt for VTC club. They have deeper sections of 11 metres depth too! Plus, they give the provision for well trainer personal coaches. Do you know Shrinath Sharma, the swimming champion? He was once a trainer there and now comes every couple of weeks to share his tricks and tips to swimmers. Moreover, they have their own store for exclusive swimming accessories to purchase from a variety of stuff that you will need like headcaps, floaters, eyewears and colourful swimsuits.

How about we join swimming together? Next month I am going for a part-time job and will be unoccupied in the evenings. I am also thinking of investing my leisure time in something like this. Do give me a call if you wish to join. Loads of love!

Yours lovingly,
Vittoria

Here is the examiner's comment:

This is a strong and engaging response to the task. The candidate addresses all three bullet points and uses a suitable tone to respond to a friend. (Only one detail is not entirely appropriate. The candidate is already a *[certified swimmer]*, so this is not the best sport to 'learn together'. It should probably be new to both of them.) The response is presented in the correct letter format. There is clear progression throughout the letter.

The range of vocabulary is wide and conveys precise meanings *[certified swimmer | disorders | stress-buster | rejuvenated | government-funded | tricks and tips]*, although there are occasional errors *[eyewears / goggles]* including spelling *[recieved | receommend]*. The candidate uses a variety of complex structures, including a range of tenses, modal verb forms and question forms. The errors do not cause difficulty for the reader. To achieve a higher Band Score, the candidate would need to reduce the number of errors in vocabulary and sentence structure.