

TEST 2, WRITING TASK 1

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

Dear Mr and Mrs Collins,

Thank you for the invitation to Chris's surprise birthday party. I can tell that Chris will enjoy the surprise party because all of his friends and family will be at the party. Especially for his high school friends that he has not seen in a long time. The party would become a surprise reunion for him. Unfortunately, I feel sorry to inform you that I would not be able to attend the party because of my schedule. At the same day with the party, I have to take a final examination at my college. I would love to have a chance to meet Chris at a different time. I suggest that I and Chris can meet at your house the day after the party if it possible. After that I think I would take Chris to a restaurant to have a lunch as a compensation because I cannot attend the surprise birthday party. Best wishes for Chris in his birthday.

Warm regards,

Gaby

Here is the examiner's comment:

This is a good response; the candidate appropriately addresses all three points and uses the correct format for a letter. Ideas are logically organised but there is only one paragraph. The response could be improved by grouping ideas together using several paragraphs.

The range of vocabulary is adequate with some less common items [*surprise reunion* | *as a compensation*], but a greater range would be needed to score more highly. This response includes sentences with multiple clauses including [*that*] and a range of tenses. However, there are more than a few errors [*day with* / *day as* | *if it possible* / *if possible* | *in his birthday* / *on his birthday*] which detract from the overall Band Score.