

WRITING PART 2 ESSAY SAMPLE ANSWER 1

You recently had a discussion in class about going abroad to improve your English. Your teacher has asked you to write a composition giving your opinions on the following question:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad?

Write your composition in **140-190** words in an appropriate style.

My Essay Plan (made in about 5 minutes!)

Introduction	In recent years it's a fashion. Is it effective?
Paragraph 1 Advantages	Au pairs with a family. Working and going to classes
Paragraph 2 Disadvantages Drawbacks.	Bad family. Native speakers. Expensive.
Conclusion	Choose the right place and family. Avoid speaking your own language.

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MY ANSWER

What are the advantages and disadvantages of studying abroad?

In recent years studying English in Britain or the U.S.A **seems to be** the latest fashion for students who hope to improve their language skills. **According to** tour operators, it is the quickest and most effective way of learning. Whether this is true **remains to be seen**.

Living with an English speaking family as an au pair or doing a summer job are **currently** the most popular choices. Older students generally prefer to stay with a family **while** attending 'intensive' English courses at a language school. In theory, this means speaking English 24 hours a day.

It could be argued, however, that looking after children can actually be stressful and even a negative experience unless you stay with the right family. **Although** going to classes will obviously improve your level, in many schools you may meet people from your own country and end up communicating in your mother tongue.

In conclusion, therefore, it could be said that studying abroad is only a good option if you avoid mixing with people of your own nationality. Language courses can be expensive and living with the wrong family could be a serious mistake.

NOTES

- Think for a few minutes and make a simple plan. It will save time later
- You only need a couple of ideas for each argument in paragraphs 1 + 2
- Expressions used for style are in bold print
- Note the use of passive to express opinions indirectly (scientifically!)