

Writing Task 1 Sample Answer

Map

Southwest Airport

Band 6.5

Instructions:

- Practice writing your own response and then compare your answer to the band 6.5 sample answer below. Also see the examiner's comments.

Note:

- This material is from Cambridge's IELTS practice book, number 16.

WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The plans below show the site of an airport now and how it will look after redevelopment next year.

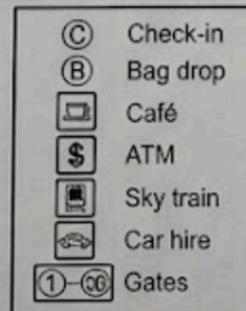
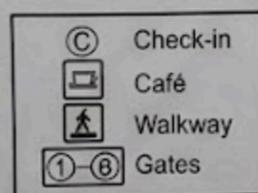
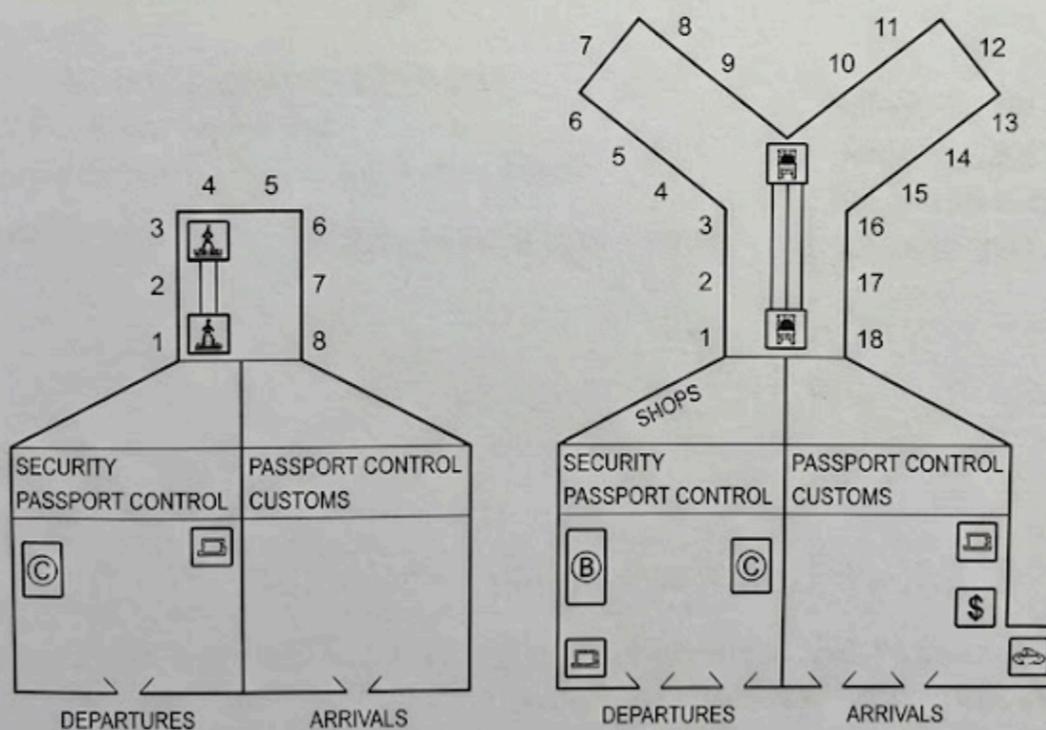
Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words.

SOUTHWEST AIRPORT

NOW

AFTER DEVELOPMENT



This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 6.5 score**.

"The South West airport had some changes after its redevelopment. The departures area was modified to have a bag drop service, along with a cafe and check-in module that were already there before the redevelopment. However, both the cafe and the check-in module changed places to make room for the bag drop. After going through security passport control, passengers and airport staff will be able to purchase stuff at the new stores before their flight. After doing some shopping, the boarding gates wait ahead. There are now 18 gates, which were 8 before the redevelopment. For this reason, the walkway installed between the gates has been replaced for a sky train, which will be able to transport people along the different gates. But if you're not leaving the South West airport, you'll be glad to know the arrivals area has also been redeveloped. After going through passport control customs, passengers and airport staff will be able to hire different services. This area was empty before the redevelopment, but now it has an ATM, a cafe and a car hire service that will gladly take you to your destination."

The examiner's comment:

Task Achievement: This response covers the key details required; however, it describes the changes in the past tense instead of using future verb forms for the development 'next year'. Overall, it could be improved by adding a summary of the main changes.

Coherence and Cohesion: The response has been organised logically by describing the changes to the journey through the redeveloped airport: firstly departures, then arrivals. There are some good cohesive features [However | After | But] and some referencing [which | This area]. Organisation could be improved by breaking the response down into two or three paragraphs.

Lexical Resource: Vocabulary is a strength, with some effective collocation [changed places | take you to your destination] and flexibility [modified | installed between].

Grammatical Range and Accuracy: In terms of grammar, this response has a variety of structures, but it describes some of the changes in the past simple [was modified] and in the present perfect [has been replaced by] whereas the question asked for a description of the future changes. To improve the score, there should be a wider range of future structures to address the changes 'next year'.