

Writing Task 1 Sample Answer

Diagram

Recycling plastic bottles

Band 5.5

Instructions:

- Practice writing your own response and then compare your answer to the band 5.5 sample answer below. Also see the examiner's comments.

Note:

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

WRITING TASK 1

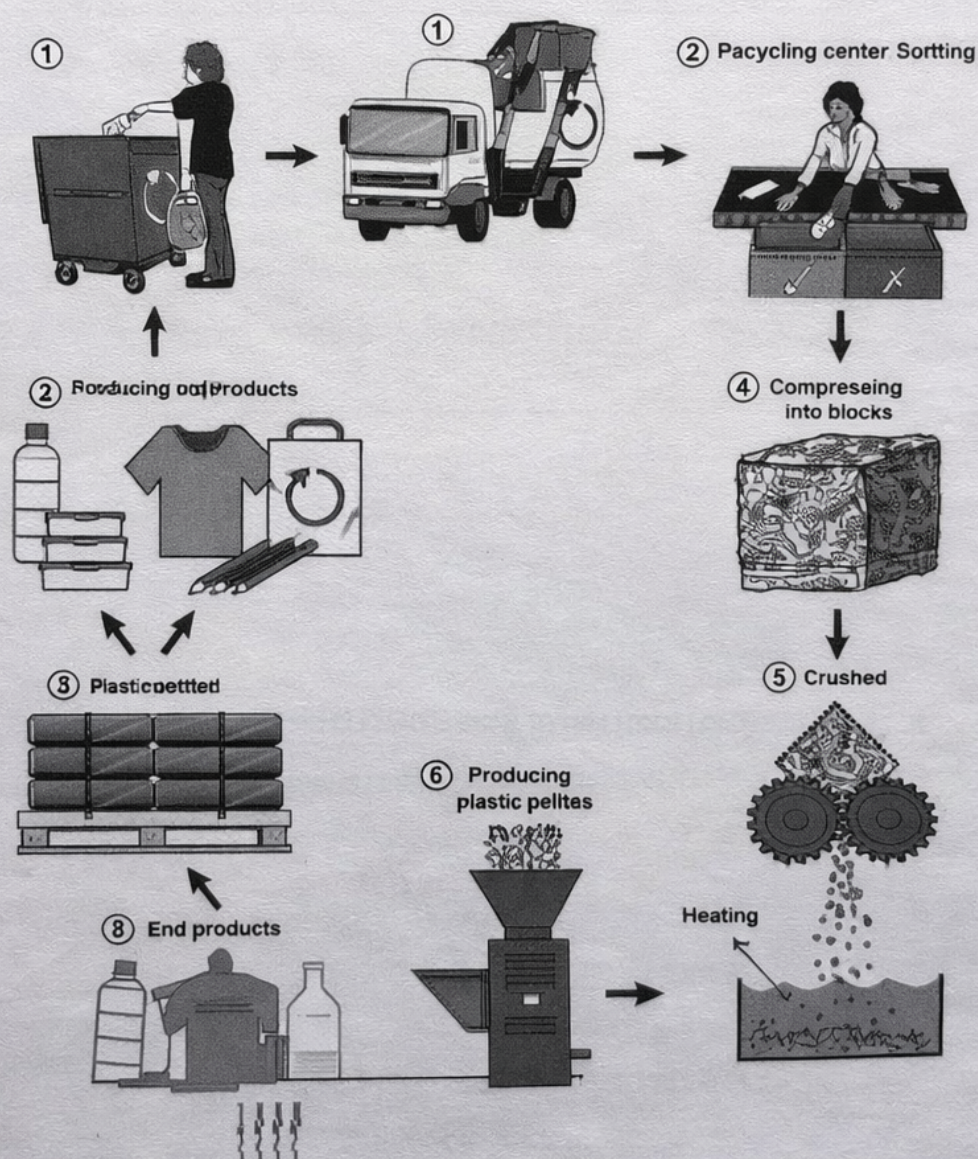
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The diagram below shows the process for recycling plastic bottles.

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

Write at least 150 words.

How plastic bottles are recycled



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

"Plastic bottles are one of the most materials used in the world, and recycling is a really important subject to try to minimize the waste.

Around the streets, in front of houses and restaurants is possible to see some bins, to collect organic and recyclable waste. Yellow one is the correct one to trash recycle things, such as plastic bottles. After trashed, a truck collects at least once a week and leave in a specific place to separate what is recyclable and what is not. For that reason, is really important to separate before trash, this means someone will not spend too many time separating.

Recycling is a big process, after separated the waste should be compressed in blocks to facilitate the crushing and washing process, that should be done because it makes easier to produce a new material.

Crushed, washed and then going to the production of plastic pellets, it is can be finally heated to form a raw material.

But what can be produced using recycled bottles? New bottles, containers, bags, T-shirts, pen, toys and to many other things.

Searching, it is possible to see how big is the waste problem around the world and how not many governments invests in this situation. Starting from the houses, avoiding to use plastics in excess and separating the correct things in the correct bins, is a good way to keep the environment safe."

The examiner's comment:

In this process task, the response includes an introduction and covers the main stages of the recycling process. However, there is significant irrelevant detail included, e.g. in the last paragraph, which reduces the score.

The stages are set out in order and there is good overall progression with some effective linking devices (such as *For that reason*) and cohesion (*what is ... what is not*) but the errors reduce the band score here. The candidate tends to use lists rather than a full range of cohesive devices.

Vocabulary is adequate with some original vocabulary (*minimize the waste / separated / containers / environment*); however, much is taken directly from the task (*compressing / to form a raw material*). There are errors in spelling (*in / bin / durty / dirty*) but they do not reduce communication.

Grammatical structures are limited and level of error is high (*after separated / after separating / should be compressed / should be compressed / it is can be / it can be*). For a higher score, improved accuracy is needed.

The score for this response could be improved by including a summary of the main stages of the process, e.g. plastic bottles are collected, sorted, broken down and made into new products.