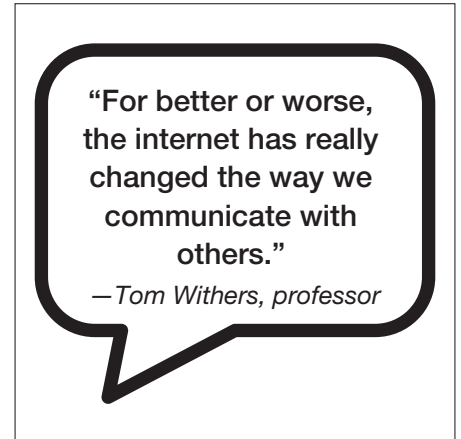
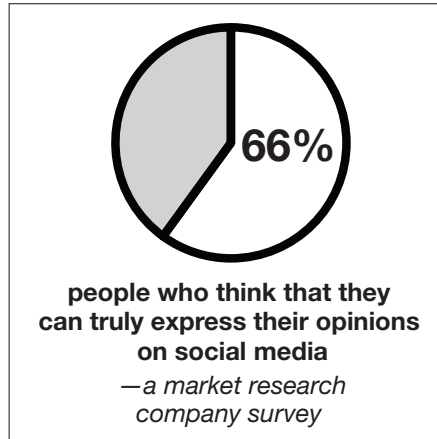
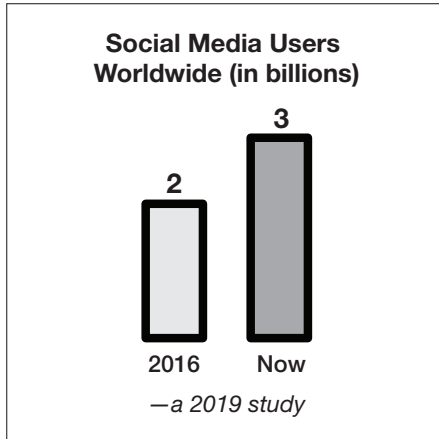


Prompt 1 (Samples 1 and 2):

Writing Prompt

**Task 1: Article**

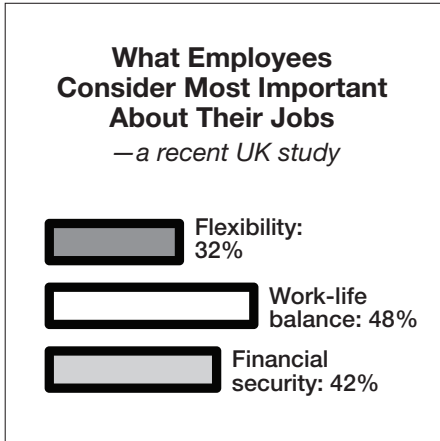
Teachers in your school plan to use a popular social media platform for class activities. Some teachers and students are excited about this idea, but others are not. Write an **article** for the school newspaper on the effects of forcing teachers and students to use social media for class work and your opinion about it. Include at least one piece of information given above to support your response.

Task 2: Essay

Social media has allowed people to connect from around the world. What positive and negative impact might this have? Write an **essay** addressing this topic, and explain what you think about it. Include at least one piece of information given above to support your response.

Prompt 2 (Samples 3 and 4):

Writing Prompt



“Employees are the greatest asset that a company has and should be treated accordingly.”
— Jaime Jacobs, business manager and author

Task 1: Proposal

A local company wants to allow its employees to make decisions about their working hours and create their own schedules for coming into the office. Some people at the company think that this is not a good idea. Write a **proposal** to the president of the company evaluating the different options, and explain what you think should be done. Include at least one piece of information given above to support your response.

Task 2: Essay

Some people believe that an employee’s wellness is connected to their working conditions. What positive and negative effects do you think that a company’s working conditions might have on employees? Write an **essay** addressing this topic and discuss what you think about it. Include at least one piece of information given above to support your response.

Writing Sample 1 (Prompt 1): Article

Fellow students, as you know there has been a debate whether our school using a popular social media platform for class activities will be helpful or not. Some teachers and students are excited about this idea while others are not.

Those who support this idea have many reasons to do so. Firstly, since we are the newest generation, we are used to using technology on a daily basis, so it will be easy for us to use it in school activities too. Moreover, a market research showed that 66% of people worldwide think that they can truly express their opinions on social media. This can help both students and teachers make classes easier to understand.

On the other hand, there are several drawbacks on this idea. One of them is that since it is on the internet many students will be able to find the answer online, without having to spend time answering it themselves. This can lead to students not working hard enough and not being able to do anything on their own.

To sum up, I personally believe that the idea of using a social media platform is great as long as there are limits, for example not using it all the time, so that students can work on their own. If they can achieve that, classes will be both fun and learning.

Writing Sample 1 – Commentary

- The writer addresses the prompt and refers to one of the provided sources in paragraph 2: “a market research showed that 66% of people worldwide think that they can truly express their opinions on social media.” The response is framed as an article addressed to the study body and includes the writer’s opinion.
- The response is logically organized, but the writer’s ideas are not fully developed and, overall, the response is short. In paragraph 2, there are two ideas presented (students are used to technology; classes will be easier to understand if social media is used) but not elaborated on. In paragraph 3, only one drawback is presented (the ease of finding answers online).
- The writer demonstrates control of both simple and some complex syntactic structures (“One of them is that since it is on the internet many students will be able to find the answer online, without having to spend time answering it themselves.”). The writer uses simple and sometimes sophisticated vocabulary (“newest generation,” “drawbacks,” “limits”).
- The response engages the reader in the opening paragraph (“Fellow students, as you know there has been a debate”); however, this awareness of the reader (school newspaper audience) wavers as the response continues (in the final paragraph, the writer refers to the students in the third person rather than in the first).

This test taker is adequately prepared to take the ECPE Writing section.

Writing Sample 2—Essay

Social Media in My Life

Social media has made a huge change in my life. I wish I could say that all the changes have been an improvement in my life, but that is far from being true.

Most people will argue that there are more positive features with what social media offers the billion users. For example, the speed at which people are able to communicate with each other, or how one can minimize the spacial distance the world has, making communication easier for most everyone. The fact that it is getting cheaper and more available to people also shows a positive aspect. For me these are a few of the positive changes my life has had thanks to social media.

On the other hand I feel social media has made my life more stressful. From the moment I get up I have to check my social media. Even while sleeping I interrupt my dreams with my inner mind reminding me that I must check or write something through social media for my next day. I get messages from my family, from my job, from my friends, even from people I don't know who might be offering or asking for something. I feel that if I'm not connected I'm missing out on something important and that makes my life more stressing.

Social media has also affected my leisure time in ways I did not know were dangerous. Everyone needs to relax from the daily grind, for me a good TV show or a movie have always been the way to do this. Lately I've noticed that I'm more concerned with the message ringtone than the plot of the movie. I thought it would go away but it is getting rowse. This is another reason why my life is becoming addicted to social media and it's stressing me out.

As Tim Withers said, "For better or worse, the internet has really changed the way we communicate with others." I feel that it has made my life a rollercoaster of emotions each day. I need to learn to live with it , because it is here to stay.

Writing Sample 2—Commentary

- The writer fulfills all of the task requirements, including crafting an essay, discussing the impact of social media, and providing her opinion. The writer includes one of the sources verbatim at the end of her response to support her final point about the internet being here to stay.
- Ideas in the response are well thought out and supported, as in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4. The writer’s ideas are clearly described and organized in a realistic manner. Each paragraph moves forward the writer’s argument all the way to the concluding paragraph.
- The writer uses precise and sophisticated vocabulary that is appropriate for the essay (“positive features,” “spacial distance,” “inner mind,” “the daily grind”). The writer’s use of syntax is mostly accurate, and both simple and complex structures are controlled. There are few errors (“that makes my life more stressing”) but these do not cause confusion.
- The writer’s response is highly engaging and original. The title that the writer gives her response sets the stage for an effectively written essay. The writer uses personal examples from her life to add character to her response (especially to support ideas in paragraphs 3 and 4) and highlight the complexity of the issue presented in the prompt.

This test taker is well prepared to take the ECPE Writing section.

Writing Sample 3—Essay

In the last year's companies gave more attention and the company organization and especially at the working conditions. This is because managers believe that in this way can make the employees to feel more comfortable at the working place. As a result, the employees can work with more passion and more effective work.

First of all, it is very important the working conditions to be advanced and friendly for the workers. In particular, when the conditions in the work are advanced the employees can move faster without problems. In this way, improved the service or the products at the company with, finally, pleasure at the customer.

Secondly, good company products means that more and more new customers. Particularly, if the services or the products, which made, were in high quality then the customer can promote the store in the other people. In addition, new customers mean that the supply has increased. As a result, the incomes factories can be more. Moreover, if the sales increased, the factory will give higher salary for the well employees.

In the other hand, there are some drawbacks for the luxury conditions of the factory. Additionally, it is a higher risk, for the factories with a huge cost to make the ideal working conditions with fat incomes for the employees because after that the factory hasn't the budget for the products invention. This means that the products with old design or old techniques have a disadvantage in controversy with the others, similar products.

In concluding, it is very important the employees' wellness but with some limits. In addition, I believe that the factory should have the correct working conditions but they mustn't spend all the budget in this part of the factory because some other parties maybe stay in the same place that is very risky in the dynamic economy. I support that the balance spend of budget is the correct way for the success.

Writing Sample 3—Commentary

- The writer does not refer to any of the provided sources in his response. The writer also does not address the prompt-specific topic of how employees' wellness is connected to their working conditions. It's not clear that the writer knows what working conditions are referring to because he doesn't give any examples of good or bad working conditions.
- The connection between sentences is not always logically organized (e.g., the use of "Additionally" to connect the first two sentences of paragraph 4 is confusing). The support that is given is not fully developed. For example, paragraph 3 describes why good products lead to more customers, but the writer does not successfully connect this idea to the topic presented in the prompt.
- The writer demonstrates inconsistent control of simple and complex syntactic structures, and grammatical errors are present in most sentences ("This is became because," "plessure at the costumer," more new costumer"). The writer attempts to use some sophisticated vocabulary but the words sometimes cause confusion, as in paragraph 4 ("the luxury conditions," "fat incomes," "in controversy").
- The writer's response does not engage the reader. The writer presents very few examples and none are original.

This test taker is not prepared and should work on developing his writing skills before taking the ECPE Writing section.

Writing Sample 4—Proposal

Dear president,

I'm writing this letter as a proposal or a solution to this problem.

First of all, in my opinion, allowing employees making decisions about their working hours isn't, actually, a very good idea. But, let's first focus on the advantages and not the disadvantages of the situation.

So, letting employees create their own schedule might be good because, they will like more the place that they're working. For example some employees don't really like working in the day but prefer, having, night shifts. Now, another advantage, is that they will have more time to spend with their families or even themselves. This method could, actually, be used in a lot of jobs so workers-employees are not only happier with their working hours, but also satisfied and confident with them.

But with all the advantages, there also are, some disadvantages that could shut down the company and leave many employees without a job.

Letting employees manage their own schedules is not the best idea, because a company must be opened for certain hours and when employees choose their working hours the company can't let the building open twenty four hours a day and seven days a week. So that's one problem, that the president, must manage. Another problem, can be the money. Some employees will work longer than others because the working hours aren't stable and when it's time to get paid they'll ask for more money and may get in a lot of trouble. Others will also come for a very short while and then leave and then ask for money which will lead into even more trouble.

In the end, as I mentioned earlier, I, personally, don't think that this method will be very good or efficient for both the employees and also the president that runs that company.

Writing Sample 4—Commentary

- The writer does not include one of the provided sources in her response. She does successfully explain what she thinks should be done with regard to the prompt at the beginning and the end of the proposal: “in my opinion, allowing employees making decisions about their working hours isn’t, actually, a very good idea”; “I, personally, dont think that this method will be very good or efficient.”
- The writer provides well-developed support for her ideas, especially in describing the disadvantages of the idea presented in the prompt. However, the writer does not successfully refute the advantages that she presents first in the proposal, nor does she transition cohesively to the disadvantages (“But with all the advantages, there also are, some disadvatages that could shut down the company”).
- The writer demonstrates control of most simple syntactic structures (in the second body paragraph: “some employees don’t realy like working in the day”) and some complex ones (in the fourth body paragraph: “Some employees will work longer than others because the working hours aren’t stable and when its time to get paid they’ll ask for more money and may get in a lot of trouble”). The vocabulary used in the response is typically simple or taken from the prompt, but at times there are more sophisticated words used successfully (“confident,” “manage,” “stable”).
- The content of the response is straightforward. There are some attempts to engage the reader (i.e., the president of a company) at the beginning of the response (“Dear president, I’m writting this letter as a proposal or a solution to this problem”), but the writer misses opportunities to address the reader directly, as in the last paragraph: “I, personally, dont think that this method will be very good or efficient for both the employees and also the president.”

This test taker is on track but should continue to prepare for the ECPE Writing section.