

Assessment #9vi. Writing letters (Part 1)

How often do you write letters? [Why/Why not?]
 When do people write letters in your country?
 Do you think people will still write letters in the future? [Why/Why not?]
 Do you prefer writing letters or sending emails? [Why?]



Read the example below. Take note of the preparation and assessment feedback comment. To view this task along with study exercises and explanation videos on the AlyIELTS.com website, [click here](#).

English Teacher: How often do you write letters?

Darby Laai: Not as often as I would like to unfortunately.

English Teacher: Why?



Darby Laai: I guess it's because sending text messages and writing emails has taken over for the most part. Did I say it right?

English Teacher: Let's discuss it in a moment. Next question. When do people write letters in your country?

Darby Laai: When do people write letters in my country...I suppose they write letters on wedding cards or birthday cards...I think people still do that. I know I wrote a letter on a birthday card last year. Unfortunately, I don't think the person that I wrote it for bothered to read it.

English Teacher: Uh huh...Do you think people will still write letters in the future?

Darby Laai: I forgot my crystal ball at home but since you ask, I do believe that they will...but it will be rare.

English Teacher: Uhh ok. Why?

Darby Laai: Just because young people are more used to keyboard and screen as opposed to pen and paper.



English Teacher: This last response was very natural in my opinion. You don't always have to use an alternative to "because" if you say it the way you said it.

Darby Laai: How did I say it?

English Teacher: Uhhh...I can't really repeat it exactly the way you said it but you started with "just because"....


Darby Laai: Can I use that every time?

English Teacher: Is that what I said?

Darby Laai: No, you said that it sounded natural.

English Teacher: Ok, so take that feedback as my professional opinion and please don't ask me if you can use it every time because it is impossible for any teacher to honestly answer that question.
Darby Laai: I see.

Preparation Feedback Comment

 Avoid asking your teacher if you said something right in the middle of the training task. Be patient until you receive the feedback comment to avoid unnecessary tension between you and your teacher.

Assessment Feedback Comment



You used an alternative expression to "because" that was natural and meaningful. This is important for grammar and vocabulary.



You used alternative expressions while giving your reason, but you need to pick the right expression to match your meaning during your preparation for the task.



If you only use simple sentence beginnings when giving reasons, you will lose the opportunity to show a range of vocabulary to the interviewer. Perhaps try this task again?

