

# TASK B

(adapted from *Abschlussprüfung Englisch 2008/Haupttermin*)

nature.com

**WRITING TO WIN**

You take part in a writing competition for the online magazine *nature.com*. The competition rules say that the story must begin with the following words:

*I've been on this planet called "Earth" for four weeks now. Commander Green sent me here to find out more about this planet and its creatures. A very exciting mission indeed! ...*

**Continue the story and include the following ideas:**

- CE** What does the planet look like?
- Did you get in contact with human beings? (If YES, how did they react? If NO, why not?)
- Ž** How do they care for their planet/nature?
- What was your most exciting experience in the last four weeks?
  - Find **one** additional aspect.



**Write about 180 words.**

## Script 3

Dear members from nature.com.

I've been on this planet called "Earth" for four weeks now. Commander Green sent me here to find out more about this planet and its creatures. A very exciting mission indeed! When I were on this planet I saw lots of people and a wonderful area with trees and flowers. You can't say that it's like our planet. The "Earth" is very small. The humans were very funny. I spoke with some. And they liked me. I think I had good luck because they didn't got trouble then they saw me. Their planet isn't good and not bad. They throw sometimes rubbish on the ground and the greenhouse gases in their atmosphere are to high. On the other side they plant trees and save the animals. My most exciting experience was in this time a soccer challenge called the EM. It was in Austria and in Switzerland. The last game was in Austria and Germany played against Spain. The game was very exciting and fantastic. The humans showed me also how you play soccer and how to celebrate when your favourite team wins the match. When I started to my spaceship I got beer from the people. Now I want to show you how you play and celebrate soccer.

Yours sincerely

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(181 words)

Task Achievement [Band 7]		
CP 1: (what the planet looked like)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"When I were... (topic introduced) ... lots of people (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) ... wonderful area with trees and flowers (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea). ... [not] like our planet. (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea) ... very small." (4 <sup>th</sup> idea)
CP 2: (contact with human beings)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"... were very funny. (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) I spoke with some. (topic introduced) ... they liked me. (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea) ... had good luck because..." (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea)
CP 3: (care for planet/nature)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"Their planet... bad. (topic introduced) ... throw rubbish on the ground (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) ... greenhouse gases... to high (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea). ... plant trees... save the animals." (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea)
CP 4: (most exciting experience)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"My most exciting ...the EM. (topic introduced) It was in... (1 <sup>st</sup> idea). ... Germany played against Spain (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea). The game was very exciting ..." (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea)
CP 5: (additional aspect)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"... showed me how to play soccer (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) ... how to celebrate when... (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea). ... I got beer from the people. (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea) Now I want to show you..." (4 <sup>th</sup> idea)
all content points fully elaborated [à Band 7]		

Coherence & Cohesion [Band 4]
ideas <b>generally well organized</b> , but: transition from one topic to another is not smooth; the various thematic <b>aspects are listed one after the other</b> ; [à weak Band 5] lots of <b>isolated sentences</b> ; <b>few basic linking devices</b> (few intra-sentential connectors: <i>and, when, because</i> ); <b>incorrect use of <i>on the other side</i></b> [à weak Band 3]

Grammar [Band 4]	
Range:	<b>basic</b> range, only <b>simple structures</b> (simple past – <i>were, spoke, saw, liked...</i> ; present tense); <i>it's like our planet</i> (comparison) [à Band 3]
Errors:	<b>occasional errors</b> : use of tenses – <i>I were, ...didn't got trouble...</i> , ...; word order problem - <i>...showed me also how you...</i> , ... <i>throw sometimes rubbish...</i> ; but it is <b>always clear</b> what he/she is trying to express [à Band 5]

Vocabulary [Band 4]	
Range:	sufficient range, <b>effective use</b> : <i>wonderful, throw rubbish, greenhouse gases, atmosphere, plant trees, how to celebrate, favourite, ...</i> [à strong Band 5]
Errors:	<b>more than occasional errors</b> : <i>didn't got trouble. EM, I had good luck, celebrate soccer, started to my spaceship...</i> ; some <b>spelling mistakes</b> ( <i>to, sincely, ...</i> ) and other errors; can cause <b>some difficulties</b> [à does not meet Band 5]

Impression of General Quality [Band 0]
letter instead of short story à <b>major genre and format problem</b>

## Script 4

The planet is fascinating. The scenery is spectacular, there are high mountains covered with frozen rain (they call it “snow”), deserts, where its hot and dry like on our planet, but there are also green forests with lakes and rivers where the air is clear and healthy. I thought that’s the perfect planet until I reached the first city and had some contact with humans. The humans seemed to be scared, they were shouting and screaming when they saw my spaceship, so I decided to avoid them. The cities where the majority of the humans live, are crowded and polluted. The pollution is their worst problem. IN some places it’s impossible to live because there is so much dirt and waste. As I had seen the beautiful landscapes at the beginning of my journey, I couldn’t believe why they treat their planet so bad. Once, as I was flying over a desert, I saw smoke. I wanted to know what was going on on the ground and I flew a little lower. I saw some big trucks, tanks, airplanes and some explosions. They were killing each other! Instead of working together on a better environment they make war! After this experience I was quite disappointed, I thought maybe we could have some economical relationships with the humans but it seems the earth will completely collaps within the next 100 years.

(230 words)

Task Achievement [Band 7]		
CP 1: (what the planet looked like)	included elaborated <u>fully elaborated</u>	"Their planet (topic introduced) is fascinating. (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) ...scenery is spectacular (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea), ...high maunteins... rain (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea), deserts... like on our planet (4 <sup>th</sup> idea), ... green forests... healthy." (5 <sup>th</sup> idea)
CP 2: (contact with human beings)	included elaborated <u>fully elaborated</u>	"I thought that... humans. (topic introduced) ... seemed to be scared, (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) ... shouting and screaming... spaceship (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea), ... avoid them." (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea)
CP 3: (care for planet/nature)	included elaborated <u>fully elaborated</u>	"The citys... live (topic introduced), are crowded and polluted (1 <sup>st</sup> idea). The pollution... worst problem (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea). ... impossible to live because... waste. (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea) ... why they treat their planet so bad." (4 <sup>th</sup> idea)
CP 4: (most exciting experience)	included elaborated <u>fully elaborated</u>	"Once, ... I saw smoke, (topic introduced) I wanted to know what...a little lower. (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) I saw... explosions. (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea) ... killing each other. (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea) Instead of working together... they make war!" (4 <sup>th</sup> idea)
CP 5: (additional aspect)	included <u>elaborated</u> fully elaborated	"After... disappointed, (topic introduced) ... economical relationships with the humans (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) but... the earth will... collaps..." (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea)
4 out of 5 content points are <b>fully elaborated</b> [à Band 7]		

Coherence & Cohesion [Band 7]
a number of <b>appropriate</b> linking devices – <i>but, until, and, when, so, because, as once...</i> ; <b>high level of coherence</b> , nice <b>logical progression</b> of ideas; <b>transitional sentence</b> linking two parts of the script ( <i>I thought that... until I reached... and had some contact...</i> )

Grammar [Band 7]	
Range:	<b>good range</b> of <b>complex</b> sentences, comparative structure ( <i>their worst problem</i> ), <b>variety of tenses</b> (incl. past perfect – <i>I had seen</i> ), <b>sequence of tenses</b> (... <i>as I was flying... I saw smoke.</i> ); relative clause (... <i>where it's hot and dry</i> ); reported question ( <i>I wanted to know what was going on...</i> ); <i>there are; could have;</i>
Errors:	only <b>minimal errors</b> that do not interfere with comprehension ( <i>treat bad</i> )

Vocabulary [Band 7]	
Range:	<b>very good range:</b> <i>fascinating, spectacular, frozen rain, clean and healthy air, crowded and polluted, beautiful landscapes, truck and tanks, instead of..., disappointed, ...</i> <b>no repetition</b>
Errors:	some <b>minor spelling mistakes</b> ( <i>maunteins, citys, collaps</i> ); <i>economical relationships</i>

Impression of General Quality [Band 1]
<b>length problem</b> (230 words); more than +10% à one point off (see <b>FAQs page 4, General Question 2</b> )

## Script 8

I've been on this planet called "Earth" for four weeks now. Commander Green sent me here to find out more about this planet and its creatures. A very exciting mission indeed! The planet looks like blue Ball from the air. But there are some big islands on it. On land all is very green and there are very big plants. On the ground are many death humans. Humans are the residents of the earth. By the first contact with them they regarded me as her chef. But than they would kill me so I had to kill them all and this was the most exciting experinece on earth untill today. They have both skyscrapers as rooms into the ground in order to place to live. The nature is fascinating because you can see hundrets of kilometer wide without a tree or something as. I've found annother kind of getting energy. The humans gets their energy with water. But I can say at home the most things are better than on earth. On many things they are very primitiv such as weapons. They shoot neither with lasers nor with cristal guns. The shoot with a kind of a little ball which burned.

This was my report about the earth.

(177 words)

Task Achievement [Band 4]		
CP 1: (what the planet looked like)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"The planet looks (topic introduced) like blue Ball... (1 <sup>st</sup> idea). ... there are some big islands... (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea). ...all is very green and... plants." (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea)
CP 2: (contact with human beings)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"By the first contact... (topic introduced) ... regarded me as her chef. (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) ... they would kill me..." (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea)
CP 3: (care for planet/nature)	included elaborated fully elaborated	<b>MISSING</b>
CP 4: (most exciting experience)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"... I had to kill them... (1 <sup>st</sup> idea) and this was the most exciting... today." (topic introduced)
CP 5: (additional aspect)	included elaborated fully elaborated	"But I can say that... better than on earth. (2 <sup>nd</sup> additional aspect introduced). ... they are very primitiv... (1 <sup>st</sup> idea). They shoot neither with...guns. (2 <sup>nd</sup> idea) ... shoot with a kind of littel ball..." (3 <sup>rd</sup> idea)
<p><b>CP3 is not mentioned</b> ["They have both skyscrapers... without a tree or something as." can not be linked to CP3];                      "On the groun... residents of the earth." B might be considered additional ideas connected with CP1  <b>two additional aspects</b> (getting energy/they are primitiv); the second one is more elaborated [à the first one doesn't count]</p>		

Coherence & Cohesion [Band 3]
<p>ideas are <b>loosely connected</b>; one topic follows another as in a list, the script is sometimes difficult to follow (<b>poor coherence</b>); [à weak Band 3]                      linking devices are <b>basic and repetitive</b> (and, but, so) and not effectively used to mark connection between sentences (The humans get their energy with water. <u>But</u> I can say at home...);</p>

Grammar [Band 4]	
Range:	<p><b>sufficient range; some more complex structures</b>: comparison (...are better than on earth), neither... nor (They shoot neither with... not with...); other grammatical items that contribute to range are modals (had to), tenses (present perfect – I've found...), there are; [à strong Band 5]</p>
Errors:	<p><b>frequent errors</b>: like Blue ball, would kill me, hundrets of kilometer, humans gets, which burned; word order problem: On land all is ... [à Band 3]</p>

Vocabulary [Band 2]	
Range:	<p><b>basic range, some lexical gaps</b> (skyscrapers as rooms into the ground); [à Band 3]</p>
Errors:	<p>wrong meaning (chef, death human...); frequent spelling mistakes (ground, experinence, untill, hundrets, kilometre, another, primitiv, cristal...); both... as; something as...;  <b>frequent errors</b> that cause a lot of difficulties for the reader [à does not meet Band 3 completely]</p>

Impression of General Quality [Band 0]
<p>report instead of short story à <b>major genre problem</b></p>