

B2 Independent User – WRITING ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (Last update: July 2025)

“Can produce clear, detailed texts on a variety of subjects related to their field of interest, synthesising and evaluating information and arguments from a number of sources”.

[CEFR – Companion volume, 2022, p. 66](#)

	TASK COMPLETION content, length, register (25%)	ORGANIZATION punctuation, cohesion, paragraphs (25%)	VOCABULARY range, word choice, spelling (25%)	GRAMMAR range, accuracy, degree of mastery (25%)
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All content is relevant to the task and all aspects required are addressed in detail and precisely developed. Fully meets length requirements, staying within the recommended range or slightly above when justified by content development Demonstrates full awareness of the social context by consistently adjusting the register and tone to suit the task. Uses a range of stylistic choices effectively, adapting the language flexibly to the audience, purpose and genre. Tone and style are maintained throughout with natural control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Punctuation is consistently accurate and used with control to support clarity. The text is clearly and effectively organized, demonstrating a strong sense of cohesion through the precise and flexible use of a wide range of connectors and cohesive devices. Transition between paragraphs are smooth and natural. Paragraphing is consistently well-structured, with clear progression and support for the overall message. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a wide and flexible vocabulary range, including idiomatic expressions and varied formulations to avoid frequent repetition. Shows excellent control over word choice, avoiding ambiguity or errors that might obscure meaning. Spelling is consistently accurate, with very few or no errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a wide range of grammatical structures, including complex and varied sentence forms, used flexibly and appropriately to enhance meaning. Demonstrates consistently high accuracy across a wide range of grammatical structures, including complex forms, with errors being rare and minor. Demonstrates a high degree of grammatical mastery, skillfully applying complex structures to communicate ideas clearly, accurately, and with precision.
4	Sharing features of bands 3 and 5			
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All content is relevant to the task and aspects required are satisfactorily addressed. Meets length requirements with an appropriate amount of content to fulfill the task. Formal and informal register is appropriately identified to suit the task, but not always so appropriately used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Punctuation is relatively accurate and helps clarify meaning and support readability. The text is relatively well-organized and shows acceptable cohesion through common connectors, although longer contributions may occasionally lack smooth transitions between ideas. Transitions between paragraphs are generally clear, and paragraphs are used to organize ideas in a mostly logical way. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses an adequate and appropriate vocabulary range for the task, with some variation to avoid frequent repetition. Shows relatively high control of word choice, although occasional errors or imprecisions may occur without hindering overall understanding. Spelling is accurate, with minor mistakes that do not interfere significantly with comprehension. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses an adequate range of grammatical structures, including some complex sentence forms, with generally effective control. Maintains relatively high accuracy overall, although occasional errors occur, especially with complex structures, even though these errors do not significantly impede communication. Shows sufficient mastery of grammar, generally applying rules correctly to convey meaning clearly and understandably.
2	Sharing features of bands 1 and 3			
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content is generally relevant to the task, although there might be some aspects that are missing or only briefly mentioned. Meets the length requirements, although there is unnecessary content or some parts could be expanded to improve the response. There is some attempt to adjust the register to suit the task, but a neutral style is mostly used instead. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Punctuation is generally relevant to the task and sometimes helps clarify meaning, although there are frequent limitations in accuracy. The text shows some basic organization and attempts to use connectors, although cohesion is limited and inconsistent. Transitions between paragraphs are generally attempted, but paraphrasing may lack clear structure, which affects the overall flow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a vocabulary range sufficient to communicate basic ideas but shows clear lexical limitations, often relying on simple or repetitive words. Control of meaning is sufficient, but errors or inappropriate word choices sometimes cause confusion. Spelling errors are noticeable and may occasionally impede understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses a limited range of grammatical structures, mostly simple sentences, with little variety or complexity. Shows some accuracy with basic grammatical forms; however, when using complex structures, errors are frequent and may affect meaning. Has limited mastery of grammar, often struggling to apply rules consistently, which can hinder clear communication.
0	Performance below band 1			