

EAP Writing: Illustrative Sample 2

Task:

Present an argument in favour of or against the following opinion:

Studying at university is a great opportunity for all, and is even more beneficial if the university attended is in a foreign country.

Please use relevant facts, ideas and examples.

You may use the topic ideas below to support your argument if you choose.

Topic ideas:

- Personal development
- Professional opportunities
- Costs
- Cultural issues

You should write **at least 300 words**.

Answer:

It is widely believed that holding a university degree has various benefits, while holding an international degree is even more beneficial. This is because it helps people to get jobs, attain high salaries, develop their skills, and for some, to learn a foreign language. This essay will argue in favour of studying abroad.

Studying in a foreign country reaps multiple benefits. For example, businesses tend to hire employees who hold an international degree as it is more globally recognized. Employees would bring their outside experience to the table as well as good communication skills. It is also believed that studying in a foreign country costs less than in their home country. Not only is it cost-effective but it also helps to develop a person's mind.

Another benefit in holding an international degree is that the majority of foreign universities have co-op programmes or on-hand courses which give students the experience they require to present when tackling harder obstacles in their jobs. This also leads to a stronger CV and the likelihood of getting employed from well-known companies. Generally companies and businesses prefer candidates who already have experience from foreign countries as it is classified that international degrees hold a higher standard.

Some may believe that studying in a foreign country is not an option as they might face multiple obstructions such as language barriers, unable to integrate, cultural shock, homesickness etcetra. However, statistics and surveys have proven this statement to be incorrect as students do integrate with foreign students as well as adapt to that country's culture and traditions. One may face cultural shock as well as homesickness but in a brief period of time they find it easier to coup up with it.

To summarize, studying or holding an international degree has more benefits than studying in one's home country. While there may be drawbacks when studying in an unknown country, the benefits are far more dominant than the latter.

(323 words)

Overall mark: 65

This answer contains a number of relevant ideas, presented in a systematic fashion to support the candidate's position in favour of the statement in the task. The opposing viewpoint is acknowledged but not really evaluated. The range of vocabulary is one of the strongest aspects of the essay, and grammatical structures are also used quite flexibly, allowing ideas to be expressed quite precisely in places. Accuracy is also reasonably good, although a number of errors occur with less common expressions which may confuse the reader. The structure of the essay is clear, although there is some unnecessary repetition and the ideas are not always well connected.