

# How To Write an IELTS Process Diagram Essay

- An IELTS process diagram question can contain a wide variety of different types of graphics. It could be a natural process such as the water cycle, a manufacturing process or a diagram of a system.
- Using these 5 steps will help you to write a high-scoring process diagram essay:
  - **1) Analyse the question**
  - **2) Identify the main features**
  - **3) Write an introduction**
  - **4) Write an overview**
  - **5) Write the details paragraphs**

# Here's a model essay structure that you can use as a guideline for all IELTS Academic Task 1 questions.

- Your essay should have 4 paragraphs:

- **Paragraph 1** – Introduction

- **Paragraph 2** – Overview

- **Paragraph 3** – 1<sup>st</sup> main feature

- **Paragraph 4** – 2<sup>nd</sup> main feature

# *Analyse the question*

- **Sentence 1** – A brief description of the graphic
- **Sentence 2** – The instructions
- **The graphic** – diagram, chart, graph, table, etc.  
Sentence 2 tells you what you have to do.  
You must do 3 things:
  - **1. Select the main features.**
  - **2. Write about the main features.**
  - **3. Compare the main features.**  
You do not have to write about everything. Just pick out 2 or 3 key features and you'll have plenty to write about.

# ***Identify the Main Features***

All you are looking for are the main features. These should be the easiest things to spot. There will be lots of information in the graphic to help you identify them, especially, titles, labels and captions.

- **1) Is it a linear or a cyclical process?**
- **2) Where does the process start and end?**
- **3) How many steps are there to the process?**
- **4) Can the process be easily broken down into stages?**
- **5) What are the raw materials? What is produced at the end of the process?**
- **6) What is the end result of the process?**

## ***Write an Introduction***

- In the introduction, you should simply paraphrase the question, that is, say the same thing in a different way. You can do this by using synonyms and changing the sentence structure. For example:

### **Question:**

- ***The diagrams below show a structure that is used to generate electricity from wave power.***

### **Introduction (Paragraph 1):**

- **The two diagrams illustrate a method of creating electricity from the force of waves using a specifically designed man-made construction.**

## ***Write an Overview (Paragraph 2)***

In the second paragraph, you should give a general description of the diagram/s or process. The detail comes later in the essay.

## ***Write the 1st Detail Paragraph*** (Paragraph 3,4)

Paragraphs 3 and 4 of your IELTS process diagram essay are where you include more detailed information. In paragraph 3, you should explain the first key feature in more detail.

# ***Write the 2nd Detail Paragraph***

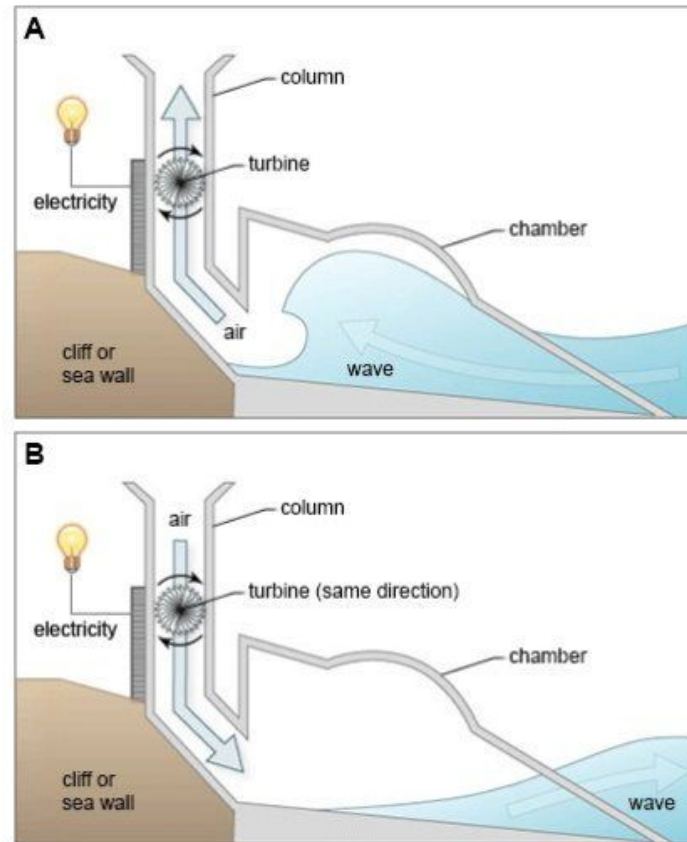
For the fourth and final paragraph, you do the same thing for your remaining key features or, for this question, the second stage of the process.



***The diagrams below show a structure that is used to generate electricity from wave power.***

***Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.***

Write at least 150 words.



**The two diagrams illustrate a method of creating electricity from the force of waves using a specifically designed man-made construction.**

**The structure, consisting of a wave chamber and a tall column containing a turbine, is erected on a steeply sloping coastal cliff or sea wall where it is subject to the movement of the ocean waves.**

**The first diagram shows how the incoming wave fills a large chamber and forces the air inside this space up the column and through the turbine. The pressure of the air rotates the turbine which generates a current of electricity. The process does not end there for the structure is able to continue producing power as the sea recedes as can be seen in the second diagram.**

**As the water now flows away from the structure, it draws air back down the column and downwards through the turbine in the same direction as the previous upward flow of air. The turbine continues to turn thus generating even more electricity.**

**(165 words)**