

WRITING TASK 1: MAPS: COMPARING TWO MAPS - STOKEFORD

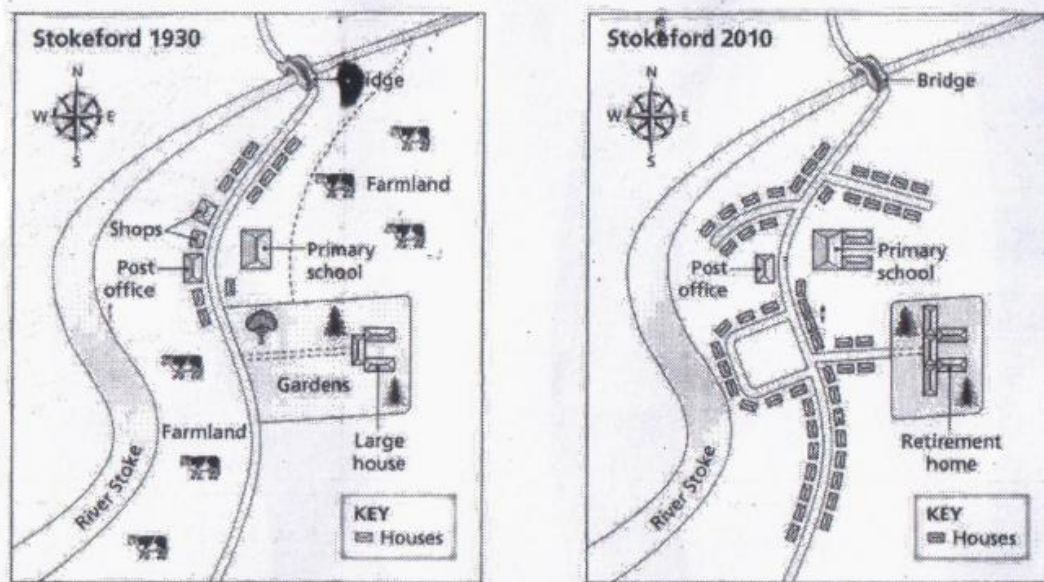
WRITING TASK 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The maps below show the village of Stokeford in 1930 and in 2010.

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

Write at least 150 words.



COMPARING TWO MAPS: POINTS TO CONSIDER

The date – you have to decide which tense to use. Both of the maps are in the past so use past simple. When comparing between the two you might need to use past perfect (see the example in the possible answer).

The passive – you will be referring to many changes and actions and because you do not know who made those changes you will need to use the passive; in this case, the past simple passive.

Paragraphs – you have two maps so you should have 4 paragraphs (introduction, map 1, map 2, conclusion). The paragraph for map 1 will be quite short because it should be a simple description of how the village was in 1930. For map 2, however, you will need to describe what had changed between 1930 and 2010, as well as describing how it was in 2010.

Comparative language – the question asks you to ‘make comparisons where relevant’ so here you will need to describe how the village changed from 1930 to 2010. Here you will need to use verbs of change, such as:

-was replaced by
-was added in the place of
- There were more/ fewer
- became a
- was changed into a

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.... was increased/ enlarged

Prepositional language – map questions are really testing your ability to describe the positions of things i.e. where they are. To do this you need to use prepositional language, such as:

.... was north/ south/ east/ west of

.... was positioned above/ below

.... was located next to/ close to/ far away from

.... was situated between/ in the centre of

Possible answer:

This report will refer to two maps that show how the village of Stokeford **changed** over the years between 1930 and 2010.

In 1930 the village **consisted** mostly of farmland with just a few houses, a small primary school, a few shops and a post office. **In the east of** the village there **was** a large house **surrounded by** gardens.

By 2010 the village **had changed** considerably, mostly regarding the number of houses. Housing **was added all along** the main road, **replacing** the former shops, and an extra road with **more houses was also built** in place of the farmland previously **situated next to** the river. In fact, the farmland **had disappeared** completely. The primary school **was extended** and the large house **was converted into** a retirement home. The bridge **over** the river and the main road **remained the same**.

Overall, it is clear that the population of Stokeford **must have increased** a great deal and therefore, there **was** the demand for more accommodation to be built.

(167 words)