

**Task x.** Read the text from The Writer’s Bureau website and answer the questions following the text.

## WHY NOT BE A WRITER?

As a freelance writer, you can earn very good money in your spare time, writing the stories, articles, books, and scripts that editors and publishers want. Millions of pounds are paid annually in fees and royalties. Earning your share can be fun, profitable and creatively fulfilling.

To help you become a successful writer we offer you a first-class home-study course that’s been created by professional writers – with individual guidance from expert tutors and flexible tuition tailored to your own requirements. You are shown how to make the most of your abilities, where to find ideas, how to turn them into publishable writing and how to sell them. In short, we show you exactly how to become a published writer. If you want writing success – this is the way to start!

Whatever your writing ambitions, we help you achieve them. For we give you an effective, stimulating and most enjoyable creative writing course that’s appreciated by students and praised by experts.

It’s ideal for beginners. No previous experience or special background knowledge is required. You write and study at your own pace. Others have been successful in this way – why not you?

We are so confident that we can help you become a published writer that we give you a full refund guarantee. If you have not earned your course fees back from published writing by the time you finish the course, we will refund them in full.

For you free copy of our brochure, visit our website [...] or call us NOW!

### **Read what our satisfied customers have to say:**

“My first three novels are all best sellers. The Writer’s Bureau made this possible! Now I’m a writer and my life has changed completely.”

***Christina Smith, Cardiff***

“Before starting this course I was an engineer. I owe my success to my tutor who guided me with patience and understanding. Now I am employed by several newspapers.”

***Brian Eckert, Edinburgh***

“The course gave me valuable insight into the workings of the magazine industry. Now, I have a monthly column in four magazines. Hopefully, next year I’ll publish my first book.”

***Megan Fenn, Dublin***

### **Course Features:**

- 30 modules
- 20 written assignments
- Tutorial support
- No time limit
- 14 day trial period

From The Writers Bureau website  
[www.writersbureau.com/prospectus/](http://www.writersbureau.com/prospectus/)

1. From statements **A** to **L** select **five** that are **true** according to the text. Write the appropriate letter (in any order) in the answer box provided. The first one has been done as an example. **NOTE:** there are more options than you need.

Example

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- A. Admission to the course requires previous writing experience.
- B. The writing course curriculum was developed by skilled professionals.
- C. Former students have achieved success by publishing their work.
- D. To complete the course successfully, students must meet deadlines imposed by course tutors,
- E. The Writer's Bureau guarantees the participants will earn money from their writing.
- F. The focus of the course is on publishing magazine articles.
- G. The freelance writer course is offered free of charge to talented individuals.
- H. People can participate in the course free for two weeks before registering.
- I. Students must attend a limited number of modules on site to earn their certificate.
- J. *Interested individuals can get more information by telephone or through the company website.*
- K. The Writer's Bureau course features more than one mode of instruction,
- L. The course has had limited impact on the lives of students who have taken it.

Answer the following questions.

2. The Writer's Bureau claims that their course is "flexible". Give one example of the course's flexibility.

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3. What are the requirements for enrolment on the Writer's Bureau course?

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Read the text once again and answer the following questions. Choose the most appropriate response from the options below. Write the letter in the answer box provided.

4. Which of the following types of writing will the Writer's Bureau course prepare you for?

- A. writing advertisements
- B. writing travel guides
- C. writing scripts
- D. writing brochures

5. People who have taken the Writer's Bureau course consider that it was

- A. a waste of time
- B. a valuable experience
- C. extremely demanding
- D. highly structured

6. The purpose of this text is to

- A. sell a book on writing
- B, promote a publisher's website
- C. help develop a person's ambitions
- D. encourage people to take the course

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**Task x.** Read the following openings of three novels. Choose which one you would like to go on reading and explain why on the basis of what you have found interesting, attractive, effective in the extract? Write your answer in a paragraph from 50 to 60 words.

*In your explanation refer to the extracts as Text A, Text B or Text C.*

#### **Text A**

All young people worry about things, it's natural and inevitable part of growing up, and at the age of sixteen my greatest anxiety in life was that I'd never again achieve anything as good, or pure, or noble, or true, as my O-level results.

I didn't make a big deal about them at the time of course; I didn't frame the certificates or anything weird like that, and I won't go into the actual grades here, because then it just gets competitive, but I definitely liked having them; Qualifications. Sixteen years old, and the first time I'd ever felt qualified for anything.

Of course, all that was a long, long time ago. I'm eighteen now, and I like to think I'm a lot wiser and cooler about these things. So my A-levels are, comparatively, no big deal. Besides, the notion that you can somehow quantify intelligence by some ridiculous, antiquated system of written examinations is obviously specious. Having said that, they were Langley Street Comprehensive School's best A-level results of 1985, the best for fifteen years in fact, three As and a B, that's 19 points – there, I've said it now – but really, honestly don't believe that's particularly relevant, I just mention them in passing. And anyway, compared to other qualities, like physical courage, or popularity, or good looks, or clear skin, or an active sex-life, just knowing a whole load of *stuff* isn't actually that important.

*From David Nicholls. Starter for Ten, 2003*

### Text B

When I stepped out into the bright sunlight from the darkness of the movie house, I had only two things on my mind: Paul Newman and a ride home. I was wishing I looked like Paul Newman – he looks tough and I don't – but I guess my own looks aren't so bad. I have light-brown, almost-red hair and greenish-gray eyes, but I have to be content with what I have. My hair is longer than a lot of boys wear theirs, squared off in back and long at the front and sides, but I am a greaser and most of my neighborhood rarely bothers to get a haircut. Besides, I look better with long hair.

I had a long walk home and no company, but I usually lone it anyway, for no reason except that I like to watch movies undisturbed so I can get into them and live them with the actors. When I see a movie with someone it's kind of uncomfortable, like having someone read your book over your shoulder. I'm different that way. I mean, my second-oldest brother, Soda, who is sixteen-going-on-seventeen, never cracks a book at all, and my oldest brother, Darrel. Who we call Darry, works too long and hard to be interested in a story or drawing a picture, so I'm not like them. And nobody in our gang digs movies and books the way I do. For a while there, I thought I was the only person in the world that did. So I loned it.

*From S.E. Hinton. The Outsiders, 1967*

### Text C

Emma Woodhouse, handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition, seemed to unite some of the best blessings of existence; and had lived nearly twenty-one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her.

She was the youngest of the two daughters of a most affectionate, indulgent father; and had, in consequence of her sister's marriage, been mistress of his house from a very early period. Her mother had died too long ago for her to have more than an indistinct remembrance of her caresses; and her place had been supplied by an excellent woman as governess, who had fallen little short of a mother in affection.

Sixteen years had Miss Taylor been in Mr. Woodhouse's family, less as a governess than a friend, very fond of both daughters, but particularly of Emma. Between *them* it was more the intimacy of sisters. Even before Miss Taylor had ceased to hold the nominal office of governess, the mildness of her temper had hardly allowed her to impose any restraint; and the shadow of authority being now long passed away, they had been living together as friend and friend very mutually attached, and Emma doing just what she liked; highly esteeming Miss Taylor's judgment, but directed chiefly by her own.

The real evils, indeed, of Emma's situation were the power of having rather too much her own way, and a disposition to think a little too well of herself; these were the disadvantages which threatened alloy to her many enjoyments. The danger, however, was at present so unperceived, that they did not by any means rank as misfortunes with her.

*From Jane Austen. Emma, 1815*