

IELTS Writing Task 1

Q-The table below shows the monthly expenditure of an average Australian family in 1991 and 2001.

*Other goods and services: non-essential goods and services

www.ielts-exam.net	1991	2001
	Australian Dollar Per Month	
Food	155	160
Electricity and Water	75	120
Clothing	30	20
Housing	95	100
Transport	70	45
Other goods and services*	250	270
Total	675	715

Model answer

The table depicts changes in an average Australian household's purchasing patterns from 1991 to 2001. Household expenditure in Australia was higher in 2001 than in 1991, although the difference was not substantial (AUD 715 per month and AUD 675 per month respectively).

Over the last ten years, the amount spent on energy and water has risen dramatically from \$75 to \$120 each month. However, with a slight rise of \$20, the growing trend in non-essential products and services was less visible. Simultaneously, spending on food and housing increased just marginally, from \$155 to \$160 and \$95 to \$100, respectively.

The other two products, on the other hand, saw a reduction in spending. Clothing, for example, was spent one-third less in Australia, falling from \$30 to \$20. Similarly, transportation expenditure dropped from \$70 in 1991 to \$45 in 2001.

Food and "other products and services" appear to be the two most essential expenditure items. They were more than half of all household spending in total. Australians, on the other hand, spend very little time getting dressed up.

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