

## Writing Task Sample

### Unit 19 Expedition to Mars (p.153)

Do you think it is necessary for humans to explore Mars?

Write an article to express your view in about 200 words.

Humans have only ever known life on Earth. With factors including population growth and **depleting energy resources** having a negative impact on the state of the planet, the need to find an alternative place to **inhabit** has never been more pressing.

Due to the benefits of **proximity** and the **similarities** between Earth and Mars in terms of land mass, climate, and natural resources, Mars has been proposed as a possible destination for **human exploration and settlement.**

Mars is relatively close to Earth and revolves around the sun annually, with a rotation on its axis that is very similar to Earth's. It has a comparable land mass that includes valleys and mountains, and similar weather patterns with **four seasonal variations**, making the establishment of a sustainable environment a distinct possibility. At 24 hours and 39 minutes, the Martian day is only slightly longer than Earth's.

NASA's confirmation of the **presence of water** on Mars gave further encouragement that life on Mars is possible. The existence of water suggests that living organisms and plants may exist on Mars. If the environment can sustain life in some form, then it is likely that humans can as well.

Exploring Mars would be a massive help in understanding whether it could be a viable alternative to living on Earth.

~214 words