

HOW TO PREPARE FOR IELTS

Exam information, strategy and
guidance for your preparation.



Jeremy Education Centre
Result Oriented Quality Education

LETTER FROM THE AUTHORS

We are happy and grateful for your interest in this short eBook.

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) measures the language proficiency of people who want to study or work where English is used as a language of communication. It uses a nine-band scale to clearly identify levels of proficiency, from non-user (band score 1) through to expert (band score 9).

IELTS exam has opened gates for tremendous opportunities for Indian students. While the exam has its challenges, it is something that most students can master with the right training and guidance.

Our wish is that this book will assist you in making informed decisions about your career, as well as help you in planning your IELTS preparation if you so choose.

Best wishes,
Prakash & Vandana Macwan
Jeremy Education Centre

INTRODUCTION

This eBook is an attempt to introduce students to the IELTS exam.

It is written in a simple Q&A format to assist your journey to:

- Understand the exam
- Learn about career options after IELTS
- Guidance on the best way to prepare for the exam

About us:

We are the Leading Institute in IELTS Coaching in Ahmedabad and Vadodara (Gujarat) providing the best personalized coaching.

We also provide coaching for exams like PTE Coaching, TOEFL Coaching, SAT Coaching, ACT Coaching, GMAT Coaching, GRE Coaching, OET Coaching, CMAT Coaching, CAT Coaching and Spoken English Classes.

What is IELTS?

IELTS stands for The International English Language Testing System.

IELTS is available in two test versions:

- 1) **Academic** - for people applying for higher education or professional registration, and
- 2) **General Training** for those migrating to Australia, Canada and the UK, or applying for secondary education, training programmes and work experience in an English-speaking environment.

Both versions provide a valid and accurate assessment of the four language skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking.

Choose the IELTS Academic if:

- You are getting trained at the University for undergraduate/postgraduate studies • You are advised to go for Academic IELTS

Choose the IELTS General in case:

- You are immigrating to any English-speaking country • You are visiting an English-speaking country for completing your Secondary School training. • You want to do some non-academic training programs or work experience. You are advised to study common training IELTS

What is tested in IELTS?

This exam has been designed to assess the English language proficiency of an individual. This is determined based on four different factors. They include speaking, writing, reading and listening.

These four sections are known as modules in the IELTS test.

Where can I take the test?

Tests are conducted in more than 900 test centers, which are located around the world.

Who conducts these tests?

The British Council, IDP Education Australia and the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL), jointly conducts the IELTS test.

What are the different sections in the test?

Listening – You will have to listen to four different recordings of English speakers and then provide answers to a series of questions. You will be provided with 30 minutes for the listening module.

Reading – In here, you will be asked to read three long texts and then provide answers to 40 questions within a period of 60 minutes.

Speaking – In this module, the examiner would ask several questions from you about some topics that you are familiar with. The time allocated for speaking module is between 10 – 15 minutes.

Writing – In the writing module, you will be provided with a diagram, chart, table or graph. Then you will be asked to describe it in your own words. Or else, you will be asked to write an essay about a familiar topic. The answers should be provided in formal style.

Who needs to take the IELTS exam?

Students applying for study in the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the US need IELTS assessment.

Medical professionals planning to go for further studies or work in the UK, Australia or the USA requires IELTS test.

Also, it is required by the people who are planning to migrate to Canada, Australia or New Zealand.

Who is eligible for IELTS?

There is no minimum qualification for IELTS.

Different institutions and organizations have different score level requirements according to the needs of their course or work program.

To check the band score of different organizations, you can use this link:

<https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/who-accepts-ielts-scores>

For how long is IELTS score valid?

IELTS score is valid for two years. At the time of admission to an educational institute, the latest IELTS score is considered.

How much time does IELTS preparation take?

This depends entirely on your current level of English. If you are highly proficient in English, you just might be able to prepare for the IELTS in less than a month.

Highly skilled English users only need to focus their studies on test knowledge and strategy. And you can learn the structure of an exam and the best strategies for the exam pretty quickly.

Learning English from a weak foundation takes a lot longer to build. If you are having trouble actually understanding IELTS reading passages or audio tracks, you will have to take the time to boost your comprehension. (You can see how comfortable you are with our vocabulary lesson video below.) And if you don't speak English very clearly or find writing in English to be hard, you can't improve these skills overnight. It might take several months in such cases.

How should I prepare for IELTS?

You should make personal effort to improve your proficiency in the English language. Always prepare for all the four parts of the test and know the amount of time allocated for the assessment. In order to know the areas being examined, there are several manuals and CDs available online that can come in handy for a candidate.

Do read English newspapers and magazines on a regular basis. Watching English movies and TV programs will also help. Try to speak to people in English, especially with those who understand the language very well and speak it fluently.

It is also important to do some “mock tests” and to attend some seminars or programmes to prepare adequately for the IELTS tests.

It is a good idea to join a coaching program for IELTS from a professional institute – which combine training, books, and practice to give a complete package.

Also it is useful to speak to individuals who have taken the exam recently, to know the recent trends and updates. This is because the IELTS exam changes frequently especially in the speaking and writing topics.

What are some tips for the Speaking Section?

- try to talk as much as you can
- talk as fluently as possible and be spontaneous
- relax, be confident and enjoy using your English
- develop your answers
- speak more than the examiner
- ask for clarification if necessary
- do not learn prepared answers; the examiner is trained
- to spot this and will change the question
- express your opinions; you will be assessed on your ability to communicate
- the examiner's questions tend to be fairly predictable; practise at home and record yourself

What are some tips for the Writing Section? (1/1)

- analyse each task properly and spend some time making notes
- highlight or underline key words in the tasks to make sure that you focus on what you have to do
- plan your answers
- use paragraphs clearly; put one idea in each paragraph
- do not repeat ideas using different words
- do not copy whole sentences from the question – you will receive no marks for this
- keep to the topic; do not write about unrelated subjects
- manage your time; remember, Task 2 is worth twice as much as Task 1
- spend approximately 20 minutes on Task 1 and approximately 40 minutes on Task 2

What are some tips for the Writing Section? (2/2)

- pay attention to the number of words required for each task; you will lose marks if you do not write at least 150 words for Task 1 and at least 250 words for Task 2
- learn to recognise how long 150 and 250 words look in your handwriting; you will not have time to count during the test
- you must write your answers in full; answers written in note form or in bullet points will lose marks
- pay attention to spelling, grammar and punctuation; you will lose marks for mistakes
- avoid informal language
- do not memorise model answers; examiners are trained to recognise them and your test will be invalid
- spend several minutes re-reading and correcting your answers

What are some tips for the Listening Section? (1/2)

- if you cannot hear the audio clearly, let a member of staff know straightaway
- follow the instructions carefully; they may be different to practice or previous tests
- listen for the specific information you want
- try and anticipate what the speaker will say; this will require concentration
- do not worry if there is a word you do not understand; you may not need to use it
- if you do not know the answer to a question, attempt it but do not waste time; move quickly onto the next one
- be careful with your spelling and grammar
- do not panic if you think the topic is too difficult or the speaker is too fast; relax and tune in
- read, write and listen at the same time

What are some tips for the Listening Section? (2/2)

- focus precisely on what you are asked to do in completion type questions
- pay attention to the word limit; for example, if you are asked to complete a sentence using no more than two words, if the correct answer is 'leather coat', the answer 'coat made of leather' would be incorrect
- if the question asks you to complete the note 'in the...' and the correct answer is 'morning', note that 'in the morning' would be incorrect; the correct answer is 'morning'
- attempt all questions; there are no penalties for incorrect answers
- check your answers

What are some tips for the Reading Section? 1/2)

- focus precisely on what you are asked to do in completion type questions
- look out for the title, headings and any special features such as capital letters, underlining, italics, figures, graphs and tables
- make sure that you understand the questions and follow instructions carefully
- pay attention to timing; do not spend too long on one passage or question
- do not try and read every word; remember, you are reading for a purpose
- if you do not know the answer to a question, attempt it but do not waste time; move quickly onto the next one
- do not panic if you do not know anything about the subject of the text; all the answers can be found in the text
- the word(s) you use must be taken from the Reading text; you must not change the form of the word(s) in the text

What are some tips for the Reading Section? (2/2)

- check your spelling
- be careful to use singular and plural correctly
- focus precisely on what you are asked to do in 'completion' type questions
- if the question asks you to complete the note 'in the...' and the correct answer is 'evening', just use 'evening' as your answer; note that 'in the evening' would be incorrect
- pay attention to the word limit; for example, if you are asked to complete a sentence using no more than two words, if the correct answer is 'silk shirt', the answer 'shirt made of silk' would be incorrect
- attempt all questions; there are no penalties for incorrect answers, so you have nothing to lose
- check your answers

EBOOK SOURCES:

- <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org>
- <https://www.ielts.org>



Jeremy Education Centre

Result Oriented Quality Education

We are the Leading Institute in IELTS Coaching in Ahmedabad and Vadodara (Gujarat) providing the best personalized coaching.

JOIN US FOR A FREE CLASS:

Email usmlegujarat@gmail.com

or contact us on _____ to get registered and get further information.