



IELTS WRITING TEST

Band Scores



IELTS PREPARATION COURSE

About the band scores

**Not a pass or
fail test**



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Band 1

**You have no ability to use the language
except a few isolated words.**



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Band 2

**You have *great difficulty* understanding
spoken and written English.**



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Band 3

**You convey and understand only
general meaning in very familiar
situations. There are frequent
breakdowns in communication.**



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Band 4

Your basic competence is limited to familiar situations. You frequently show problems in understanding and expression. You are not able to use complex language.



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Band 5

You have a partial command of the language, and cope with overall meaning in most situations, although you are likely to make many mistakes. You should be able to handle basic communication in your own field.



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Band 6

Generally you have an *effective command* of the language despite *some inaccuracies*, inappropriate usage and misunderstandings. You can use and understand *fairly complex language*, particularly in familiar situations.



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Band 7

You have an operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriate usage and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally you handle complex language well and understand detailed reasoning.



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Band 8

You have a fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies and inappropriate usage. You may misunderstand some things in unfamiliar situations. You handle complex detailed argumentation well.



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Band 9

You have a full operational command of the language. Your use of English is appropriate, accurate and fluent, and you show complete understanding.



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**How are band scores
calculated?**

	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Average	Band score
Candidate A	6.5	6.5	5.0	7.0	6.250	6.5
Candidate B	4.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.875	4.0
Candidate C	6.5	6.5	5.5	6.0	6.125	6.0



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