

ALL ABOUT IELTS



Includes:

- ✓ IELTS exam overview
- ✓ Test format
- ✓ Types of questions to expect
- ✓ Tips and tricks for each section from LeapScholar's top educators

WHAT IS IELTS?

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM



It is the world's biggest English language test with test centres in most of the countries across the globe. This means it is a test which accepts international English, not only British English.

- It is the world's most popular English language proficiency test for study, work and migration, with more than three million tests taken in the past year.
- The IELTS results are recognised by more than 10,000 organisations, including educational institutions, employers, professional association and governments, in 140 countries around the world.
- In India, this exam is now conducted by only one organisation-International Development Program (IDP).

OPTIONS

FOR TAKING IELTS

You can choose to take either **Paper Based Test (PBT)** or **Computer Based Test (CBT)**. There is no difference the content, format or level of difficulty between the two options. Only the Speaking Test is conducted on a different day.

COMPUTER BASED TEST

The first 3 modules (Listening, Reading & Writing) to be attempted using a Computer in the exam center.



RESULTS IN 3 TO 5 DAYS



MORE THAN 20 TESTS PER MONTH



**INDIVIDUAL HEADPHONES FOR LISTENING
& COMPUTER FOR ANSWERING**



FACE TO FACE SPEAKING TEST

OPTIONS

FOR TAKING IELTS

PAPER BASED TEST

The first 3 modules (Listening, Reading & Writing) to be attempted using a pen and paper, in the exam centre.



RESULTS IN 13 DAYS



AROUND 4 TESTS PER MONTH



**INDOOR BROADCAST FOR LISTENING &
ANSWER SHEET WITH PENCIL FOR WRITING**



FACE TO FACE SPEAKING TEST

TYPES OF IELTS EXAM

1. IELTS ACADEMIC

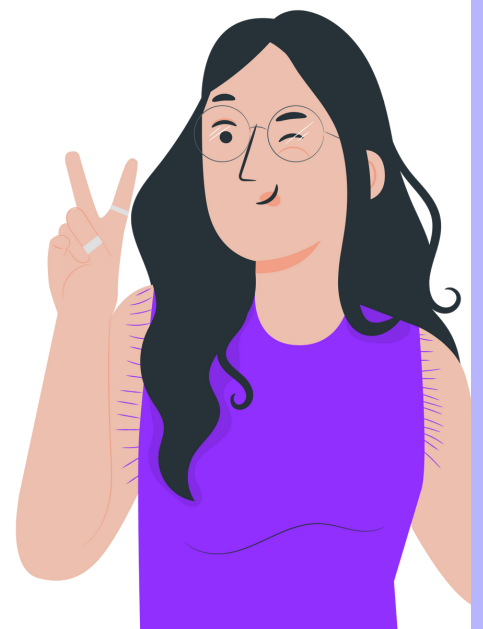
For studies of any kind:-

Undergraduate/ Post-Graduate/ Diploma/ PG Diploma/
Phd in any discipline in any University or College

2. IELTS GENERAL

For:-

Migration or employment of any kind - skilled or unskilled



FORMAT OF THE TEST

SPEAKING

Face-to-face/ video call interview with an examiner. Lasts between 11 to 14 minutes. Made up of 3 parts. All IELTS candidates take the same test.

LISTENING

An audio recording containing 4 parts is played. Lasts for 30 minutes. 40 questions divided into 4 parts. All IELTS candidates take the same test.

READING

3 reading passages comprising of 40 questions. To be completed in 1 hour. This section is different for Academic and General Training tests.

WRITING

Two tasks, to be completed in a duration of 1 hour. The former task is different for Academic and General Training Tests.

HOW DO BANDS WORK?

9 BAND

EXPERT USER

8 BAND

VERY GOOD USER

7 BAND

GOOD USER

6 BAND

COMPETENT USER

5 BAND

MODEST USER

4 BAND

LIMITED USER

3 BAND

EXTREMELY LIMITED USER

2 BAND

INTERMITTENT USER

1 BAND

NON USER

SCORING MATRIX

IELTS LISTENING SCORES

Correct Answers	Band Scores
39-40	9
37-38	8.5
35-36	8
32-34	7.5
30-31	7
26-29	6.5
23-25	6
18-22	5.5
16-17	5
13-15	4.5
11-12	4

SCORING MATRIX

IELTS Reading Scores (AC)

Correct Answers	Band Scores
40-39	9
38-37	8.5
36-35	8
34-33	7.5
32-30	7
29-27	6.5
26-23	6
22-19	5.5
18-15	5
14-13	4.5
12-10	4
9-8	3.5
7-6	3
5-4	2.5

IELTS Reading Scores (GT)

Correct Answers	Band Scores
40	9
39	8.5
37-38	8
36	7.5
34-35	7
32-33	6.5
30-31	6
27-29	5.5
23-26	5
19-22	4.5
15-18	4
12-14	3.5
9-11	3
6-8	2.5

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE EXAM

LISTENING

The listening part of the exam assesses your ability to understand main ideas, your ability to understand detailed information, your ability to understand the opinions, purpose, and attitudes of the speakers and your ability to understand a variety of voices and native-speaker accents.

TEST FORMAT

1. Part 1 is based on everyday situations between two speakers.
2. Part 2 is a monologue on everyday situations.
3. Part 3 is an academic discussion between 2-4 speakers based on educational topics.
4. Part 4 is generally a presentation also based on academic subject – 1 speaker

SCORING

- Each correct answer receives 1 mark
- Scores out of 40 are converted to the IELTS 9-band scale
- Scores are reported in whole and half bands
- There is NO NEGATIVE marking

READING

1. In the reading section, you are expected to answer 40 questions in 60 minutes. You will be given passages to read and the questions will be based on the passage.
2. The IELTS Academic reading test includes three long texts which range from the descriptive and factual to the discursive & analytical. The texts are authentic and are taken from books, journals, magazines & newspapers.
3. Though you can mark and write on the Question Paper, you must enter your answers on the Reading Answer Sheet. You must write your answers in pencil. (for Paper test)
4. No extra time is given for transferring your answers from the test booklet to the Reading Answer Sheet. For Computer based tests students need to write or mark their answer on screen.
5. The Academic & General Training Reading Tests are graded to the same level. However, because the texts in the Academic Reading Test are more challenging overall than those in the General Training Test, more questions need to be answered correctly on a General Training Test to receive the same grade.
6. A variety of question types is used in order to test a wide range of reading skills.

SCORING

- Each correct answer receives 1 mark.
- Scores out of 40 are converted to the IELTS 9-band scale.
- Scores are reported in whole and half bands.
- There is NO NEGATIVE marking.

QUESTION TYPES

1. Multiple choice question

This question requires you to pick the correct answer from the given choices A,B,C and D. This type of question tests your ability to understand detailed and specific information.

2. List Selection

Choose the correct answer from the given list of words, information, or names. Answers are usually A-G, read the instructions carefully to check.

3. Information identification questions-

True/False/Not Given

Identify whether the given information is either true, false or not given. This type of question tests your ability to clearly understand what the text is talking about.

4. Information matching

Find specific information and place them where they fit to be. You need to have clearly understood the text and be able to understand every paragraph and what information it contains.

5. Heading Matching

Pick a suitable heading from the given list of headings. Mainly, if you have clearly understood the given text and find the main idea of every paragraph, you'll be able to make a heading out of every paragraph.

6. Features matching

Find specific information about given features and match it. For example you can be given

7. Matching sentence endings

Part of a sentence is picked from a line in the text. You have to locate where it has been taken from in the text and complete the sentence.

8. Sentence completion

An incomplete sentence is given. You are supposed to complete it with words taken from the text.

9. Summary completion

A summary part of the text will be given to you. You are required to complete it by picking words from the text with a given maximum number of words to complete it. Sometimes the synonyms of these words are given in a box; you need to choose the correct answer from the box.

10. Short answer questions

Answer the question from the given facts in the text. Moreover, you need to check the number of words given in the instructions. A maximum number of words is always given.

11. Global questions - Choosing a title

You need to find the main idea of the passage. A passage that tests this question might not be presented with a title.

12. Flowchart/Diagram/Table Completion

You need to complete the gaps in a table, diagram or flow chart with the correct words from the passage.

WRITING

The writing module assesses your ability to write 2 different essays in a short period of time.

- Each correct answer receives 1 mark
- Scores out of 40 are converted to the IELTS 9-band scale
- Scores are reported in whole and half bands
- There is NO NEGATIVE marking

TYPES OF TASKS

TASK -1: IELTS ACADEMIC

- You will have to attempt task 1 in 20 minutes
- You must write at least 150 words.
- You may get any of the following:
 1. Bar graph
 2. Pie chart
 3. Line graph
 4. Process chart
 5. Table chart
 6. Layout
 7. Multi /Mixed graph

TASK 1- GENERAL TRAINING EXAM:

- You will have to attempt task 1 in 20 minutes. (GT)
- You must write at least 150 words.
- You may get a :
 1. Formal letter
 2. Informal letter
 3. Semi-formal letter

TASK 2- ACADEMIC AND GENERAL TRAINING EXAM:

You have to attempt task 2 in 40 minutes. (same for both Academic and General Training)

- You must write at least 250 words.
- You may get a
 1. Discussion essay
 2. Opinion - Agree or disagree essay
 3. Problem and solution essay
 4. Advantages and disadvantages essay

SPEAKING

The IELTS Speaking test takes the form of a one-to-one interview. There are three parts to the Speaking test. These allow you to demonstrate your spoken English skills through a number of tasks. The tasks are designed so that you can use a range of language on a variety of topics. The whole interview takes between 11 and 14 minutes. Speaking section is the same for both Academic and General students.

OVERVIEW OF SPEAKING SECTION:

Part 1 Introduction and interview (4-5 minutes) -

You will have the chance to speak on familiar topics. The examiner will ask you a number of straightforward questions about yourself and about familiar topics, and you should find these easy to answer. This is an opportunity to overcome any nerves and demonstrate your basic fluency.

Part 2 Individual long turn (3-4 minutes)-

You will be asked to talk for 1-2 minutes on a topic chosen by the examiner. You will have a minute to prepare & then you will have to speak on the topic without stopping. The topic will be based on your experiences & feelings, so your talk should be lively & interesting.

Part 3 Two-way discussion (4-5 minutes) -

You will be asked more abstract questions, broadly linked to the topic introduced in Part 2 & you will be encouraged to discuss these more fully. This is where you can demonstrate control of language, your ability to express abstract ideas, & to support your opinions appropriately. You should aim to give longer replies than you did to the Part 1 questions.

NOTE:- IELTS examiners are specially trained to rate your speaking test on the scale of 1-9 bands. They are encouraging since they know that you may be nervous but they can mark on what they hear from you. The Examiner will assess you on the basis of 4 parameters : -

- Fluency and coherence
- Grammar and accuracy
- Vocabulary
- Pronunciation

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE IELTS TEST

PREREQUISITES & DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Passport: A valid passport with 6 months validity.

Registration Fee: Around Rs. 15,000 (as of now) for all types of tests.

STEPS TO REGISTER ONLINE:

In India, The IELTS Exam is conducted by only one organization- The International Development Program (IDP).

Visit the official website of IDP - www.ieltsidpindia.com

or

www.idp.com/india/ielts

Now, follow these steps to register for the test, after clicking on “Register for Test”

STEPS TO REGISTER:

1 Preferred Test	Select your preferred test - Computer Delivered Test/ Paper -based Test
2 Test Type/ Module	Select your test type/module - Academic or General training
3 City Location	Pick your preferred test location/ city from the list of venues available
4 Date & Time Slot	Select your desired date & time slot from the list of dates available
5 Upload documents	You will also have to upload a scanned color copy of your Passport.
6 Pay Test Fee	Proceed to pay the test fee using online methods - Debit/Credit Card, Net Banking/ Demand Draft

THINGS TO DO AFTER REGISTERING

1. Once you've completed the payment process, you will be receiving a mail with the exam details.
2. The 3 modules Listening, Reading and Writing will be held back to back on the same day.
3. The other module- Speaking, might be on a different day.
4. The final confirmation mail with details including your test date, time and venue will be send 5 - 7 days before your IELTS Test.

EXPERT TIPS

BY LEAP SCHOLAR'S EDUCATOR TEAM

Top 5 tips to do well in Listening:

1. This section actually tests your ability to multitask - listen, read and write.
2. Sharpen your skills by listening to English news channels or other media of various accents.
3. Understand the different Question types in Listening.
4. Brief note-making will help with hard question types.
5. Understand what you need to do at different stages: Before audio, while the audio plays and after the audio.

EXPERT TIPS

BY LEAP SCHOLAR'S EDUCATOR TEAM

Top 5 tips to do well in Reading:

1. Understand the different Questions
2. Understand the skills tested in each question type.
3. Work on the strategy for each question type; look for synonyms and paraphrases.
4. Work on time management -invest your precious time on prospective questions.
5. Analyze your incorrect answers.

EXPERT TIPS

BY LEAP SCHOLAR'S EDUCATOR TEAM

Top 5 tips to do well in Writing:

1. Understand the requirements of each task –Types of Questions, structure of the essay.
2. Planning before writing and proofreading after completing your tasks will aid a better score.
3. Brainstorm topic wise vocabulary as part of your planning.
4. Work on sentence structure -a combination of simple, compound & complex sentences is recommended.
5. Learn useful linkers to enhance your writing.

EXPERT TIPS

BY LEAP SCHOLAR'S EDUCATOR TEAM

Top 5 tips to do well in Speaking:

1. Both Listening and speaking skills are tested, so listen to the question carefully!
2. Remember! You are not tested on your general knowledge/ knowledge of any given topic.
3. Be creative! Be natural in your speech.
4. Use a word only if you are sure about its application
-Don't plug-in hard words just to impress the examiner -this will reduce your band score.
5. Practice to speak at length.

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AND **ACE YOUR IELTS** IN ONE GO



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