Short-Term Study Plan  
Introduction to IELTS  
Awards for Outstanding Performance in IELTS  
Long-Term Study Plan  
Short-Term Study Plan  
Test Format & Prep Tips–Listening–Speaking–Reading–Writing  
HKBU IELTS Prep Courses  
HKBU IELTS Resources  
Less than six months before you plan to take IELTS?  
1. Become familiarized with the exam format and requirements  
Before you start practising for the exam, you need to familiarize yourself with the format, and what is expected of you in the exam. There is basic information on each skill on these pages:speaking,listening,reading,writing. For more detailed information, go to theSALL Resources on the Web IELTSpage and browse through theExamination Informationsites.  
2. Become familiarized with the specific exam skills tested  
On theSALL Resources on the Web IELTS pagego toSkills Trainingand work your way through the programs ‘Study Skills Success’ or ‘NetLanguages’. These will help you understand the specific skills you need for each part of the exam, and will also show you which areas you need to work on more.  
3. Work out a study plan  
Set a study schedule  
Look at your timetable and work out a realistic plan for when and where you will do your IELTS preparation study. A little every day is probably better than several hours once per week, but consider your own study style and what works best for you. Also consider the availability of resources, and where and when the best places are for you to do your study. For more advice on how to set a study plan, go to ourSelf-Study Skillspage.  
(a)Focus on your weak points: Once you have worked your way through these materials, you should have some idea of what your weakest points are, and how you need to spend the rest of your preparation time.NB: HKBU students’ average scores for speaking and writing are around one whole band score lower than for reading and listening. If you are a typical Hong Kong student, then the chances are that you will need to spend more time preparing for the speaking and writing sections, especially for the Writing Task 1 graph description.  
(b)Schedule your time: Divide your available time according to your weak points. For example, if you are weakest in writing, then schedule more time to practise writing, and less on the other skills.  
(c)Find the resources which will help you practise in the area(s) you most need practice on.Go to ourHKBU IELTS Resourcespage for specific resoure recommendations.  
4. Do some practice tests  
It’s important to do some timed tests in the week or month before you take the exam.

URL: https://lc.hkbu.edu.hk/main/main/ielts/prepare\_less