BRISTISH COUNCIL

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IELTS™

IELTS

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM

Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
30 min	60 min	60 min	11–14 min
4 Sections	3 Sections	2 Tasks	3 Parts
40 Questions	40 Questions	> 400 Words	Face - to - Face

NORMAL IELTS

IELTS Academic

Measures proficiency that is typically required in an academic environment

OR

IELTS General Training

Measures proficiency in a practical, everyday context with focus on workplace & social situations

IELTS Academic   VS   IELTS General

IELTS Academic

Purpose: Primarily for those planning to undertake higher education or professional registration in an English-speaking environment.

Reading: In the Academic module, the reading passages are more academically oriented, with topics related to academic subjects.

Writing Task 1: Involves describing visual information such as graphs, charts, and diagrams.

Writing Task 2: Requires candidates to write an essay in response to a point of view, argument, or problem.

Listening and Speaking: The content is more academically focused, with lectures and discussions related to university life.

IELTS General

Purpose: Geared towards those migrating to English-speaking countries for secondary education, work experience, or training programs.

Reading: The passages in the General Training module are related to everyday life, work, and general topics.

Writing Task 1: Involves letter writing. Candidates are asked to write a letter requesting information or explaining a situation.

Writing Task 2: Requires candidates to write an essay in response to a point of view, argument, or problem. The topics are more related to general issues.

Listening and Speaking: The content is related to everyday social situations and workplace scenarios.

IELTS Band Score and Skill level

IELTS Band Score
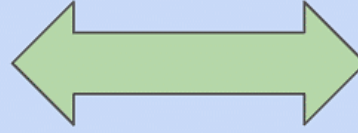
IELTS Skill Level

IELTS Band Score	IELTS Skill Level
Band 9	Expert User
Band 8	Very Good User
Band 7	Good User
Band 6	Competent User
Band 5	Modest User
Band 4	Limited User
Band 3	Extremely Limited User
Band 2	Intermittent User
Band 1	Non User

IELTS SCORE

Writing	Speaking	Reading	Listening	Average ÷ 4	Overall Band
6.0	5.5	7.0	6.5	6.25	6.5

Writing	Speaking	Reading	Listening	Average ÷ 4	Overall Band
4.0	4.5	5.5	6.5	5.125	5.0

Writing	Speaking	Reading	Listening	Average ÷ 4	Overall Band
7.5	7.0	8.5	8.0	7.75	8.0

- What is IELTS Band Scores
- How They are Calculated
- Example and Calculation

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IELTS Band Scores

Academic Reading

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

General Reading

Score	Correct Answers
9	40
8.5	39
8	37-38
7.5	36
7	34-35
6.5	32-33
6	30-31
5.5	27-29
5	23-26
4.5	19-22
4	15-18

Listening

Score	Correct Answers
9	39-40
8.5	37-38
8	35-36
7.5	32-34
7	30-31
6.5	26-29
6	23-25
5.5	18-22
5	16-17
4.5	13-15
4	10-12

IELTS Speaking Band Descriptors

Scoring criteria for Academic and General Training tests

Band Score	Fluency and coherence	Lexical resource	Grammatical range and accuracy	Pronunciation
9	Fluent with only very occasional repetition or self-correction. Any hesitation that occurs is used only to prepare the content of the next utterance and not to find words or grammar. Speech is situationally appropriate and cohesive features are fully acceptable. Topic development is fully coherent and appropriately extended.	Total flexibility and precise use in all contexts. Sustained use of accurate and idiomatic language.	Structures are precise and accurate at all times, apart from 'mistakes' characteristic of native speaker speech.	Uses a full range of phonological features to convey precise and/or subtle meaning. Flexible use of features of connected speech is sustained throughout. Can be effortlessly understood throughout. Accent has no effect on intelligibility.
8	Fluent with only very occasional repetition or self-correction. Hesitation may occasionally be used to find words or grammar, but most will be content related. Topic development is coherent, appropriate and relevant.	Wide resource, readily and flexibly used to discuss all topics and convey precise meaning. Skilful use of less common and idiomatic items despite occasional inaccuracies in word choice and collocation. Effective use of paraphrase as required.	Wide range of structures, flexibly used. The majority of sentences are error free. Occasional inappropriacies and non-systematic errors occur. A few basic errors may persist.	Uses a wide range of phonological features to convey precise and/or subtle meaning. Can sustain appropriate rhythm. Flexible use of stress and intonation across long utterances, despite occasional lapses. Can be easily understood throughout. Accent has minimal effect on intelligibility.
7	Able to keep going and readily produce long turns without noticeable effort. Some hesitation, repetition and/or self-correction may occur, often mid-sentence and indicate problems with accessing appropriate language. However, these will not affect coherence.	Resource flexibly used to discuss a variety of topics. Some ability to use less common and idiomatic items and an awareness of style and collocation is evident though inappropriacies occur. Effective use of paraphrase as required.	A range of structures flexibly used. Error-free sentences are frequent. Both simple and complex sentences are used effectively despite some errors. A few basic errors persist.	Displays all the positive features of band 6, and some, but not all, of the positive features of band 8.