

***EAT YOUR***

***IELTS***



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## EAT YOUR IELTS

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## *Acknowledgment*

IELTS among pervasive language tests in the world is most demanded and widespread. It is considered as a high-stakes test due to its nature. Most immigrations and job opportunities are related to the results of this exam. Accepting in a well-known university or offering a good job is in need of delivering an IELTS number, which is mostly academic one. The higher number, especially academic one, the more opportunity to reach the goal. So, this pack is going to provide IELTS candidates with the authentic and practical solutions to get a high mark in the exam. IELTS is a proficiency language test which aims to assess the candidates' overall language proficiency. To do that, it follows some principals and rules that this pack is practicing to provide the candidate with the best practical and the most up to date official exams with their real examiner's tips to guide the candidate to achieve their goals by acing it. The best way to succeed in this exam is to get the candidates familiar with the rules, structures and rubrics of this exam. How is it administered? And how is it going to assess your language proficiency. To know the exam questions face and how to answer them is guide the candidates greatly. Finally, how the examiners are going to assess the exam and what they are looking for in the exam is paramount in achieving the exam.

*Ali Shirvani*



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## EAT YOUR IELTS

### Chapter One

#### *Introduction*

#### **What is IELTS?**

IELTS stands for “International English Language Test System” and it is the world’s most popular English language test. If you’re looking to work, study or live abroad then taking an IELTS test can help you make that dream come true.

It is developed by some of the world’s leading experts in language assessment and evaluates all of your English skills — reading, writing, listening and speaking. The test reflects how you’ll use English to study, work and live in an English speaking environment. IELTS is accepted by more than 10,000 organizations in over 140 countries. Those organizations include governments, academic institutions and employers with 3,000 in the USA alone.

Proving your English language skills with an IELTS test not only provide you with a better chance abroad but also it can help you get a better job or a promotion in your home country.

#### **What are IELTS types?**

There are three types of IELTS available in the market, namely:” Academic, General Training and UKVI”.

- **IELTS Academic test**

Take the IELTS Academic test if you want to study at either undergraduate or postgraduate level, or if you want to work in a professional organization in an English speaking country.

- **IELTS General Training test**

Take the IELTS General Training test to study at below degree level, work in an English speaking country or your own country and emigrate to an English speaking country.

- **UKVI**

There is a specific IELTS test for UK visas and immigration (UKVI). If you are looking to work, study or live in the UK then you may need to take this test.

#### **IELTS Academic Vs. IELTS general**

##### **Structural Similarities**

The IELTS academic and general training tests have far more similarities than they have differences. The timing and structure for both tests are the same (four sections that evaluate speaking, reading, writing, and listening over a total of two hours and 45 minutes). In both cases, students must take the IELTS writing, reading, and listening

assessments on the same day, while the speaking paper may be taken up to seven days before or afterwards. The registration procedure (online or submission of forms in hard copy) is identical for the academic and general training tests, and most test centers will offer either version.

### **Structural and Scoring Differences**

There are two main differences between the IELTS academic and general training tests:

- ✓ The content of some sections and;
- ✓ The purposes for which the exam is used.

The IELTS academic reading and writing papers are designed for those pursuing postsecondary degrees, while general training reading and writing feature content more appropriate for the workplace. Undergraduate or graduate university applicants take the academic test, while the general training test is most often used for the assessment of skilled workers. Academic institutions will generally accept the academic test only, and the general training test is often required by immigration agencies for certain types of applicants. However, it should not be assumed that the general training test is always taken for all non-academic purposes. Some private companies that use the IELTS to evaluate their job applicants, for example, prefer the academic test over the general training test. The IELTS website includes a database of the test versions and test scores expected by a large number of academic and non-academic organizations.

In term of scoring, IELTS scoring concordance tables show that general training test-takers must answer a larger number of reading paper questions correctly to receive the same band score as an academic test-taker. This is because the reading passages on the academic test are more complex in terms of vocabulary and style. On the academic test, band scores of 5, 6, 7, and 8 are associated with respective correct reading paper answers of 15, 23, 30, and 35 (out of 40 total questions) whereas, the same number of correct answers on the general training test's reading paper would mostly result in a band score that is one full point lower (i.e. 15 correct answers = a band score of 4, 23 = 5, 30 = 6, and 34 = 7). The academic and general training tests use the same raw score table for the listening section (band scores of 5, 6, 7, and 8 equal raw scores of 16, 23, 30, and 35, respectively). These types of raw scores are not relevant to the assessment of the IELTS *speaking* and *writing* papers, which are graded by IELTS examiners according to abstract criteria. The conversions indicated above are only averages, and an individual test-taker's score may be adjusted slightly upward or downward based on test difficulty.

### **Which IELTS:” British Council or IDP”?**

All test which is conducted by the British Council and IDP are compiled by “Cambridge English Language Assessment”. So there is no difference between the IELTS test at BC and in IDP. Difficulty level at both is the same. This means you



will get the same tests if you are at BC or IDP. IDP and British Council conduct IELTS tests but they do not write them. In fact, it is written by Cambridge English Language Assessment who is one of the joint owners of IELTS.

## Different Types of IELTS in Detail

### IELTS Academic

The IELTS Academic test measures whether you have the level of English language proficiency needed for an academic, higher education environment. It reflects some of the features of academic language and assesses whether you are ready to begin studying or training.

✓ Take this test if you want to:

- study at either undergraduate or postgraduate level anywhere in the world
- apply for Tier 4 Student Visa at a university that is a Tier 4 Sponsor in the UK
- Work in a professional organization in an English speaking country.

You can choose between paper-based or computer-delivered IELTS Academic.

**Duration:** 2 hours and 45 minutes.

**Format:** There are four sections to the test: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. When you book your IELTS test with the British Council, the test will take place in an official British Council IELTS test center.

Your Speaking test may be offered on the same day as the other sections of the test, or up to a week before or after. You will receive notification in advance if your Speaking test is on a different day to your main test day.

<b>9</b>	<b>Expert user</b>	Has fully operational command of the language: appropriate, accurate and fluent with complete understanding.
<b>8</b>	<b>Very good user</b>	Has fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies and inappropriate words. Misunderstandings may occur in unfamiliar situations. Handles complex detailed argumentation well.
<b>7</b>	<b>Good user</b>	Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriate words and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.
<b>6</b>	<b>Competent user</b>	Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriate words and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language particularly in familiar situations.
<b>5</b>	<b>Modest user</b>	Has partial command of the language, coping with overall meaning in most situations, though is likely to make many mistakes. Should be able to handle basic communication in own field.
<b>4</b>	<b>Limited user</b>	Basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Has frequent problems in understanding and expression. Is not able to use complex language.
<b>3</b>	<b>Extremely limited user</b>	Conveys and understands only general meaning in very familiar situations. Frequent breakdowns in communication occur.
<b>2</b>	<b>Intermittent user</b>	No real communication is possible except for the most basic information using isolated words or short formulae in familiar situations and to meet immediate needs. Has great difficulty understanding spoken and written English.
<b>1</b>	<b>Non user</b>	Essentially has no ability to use the language beyond possibly a few isolated words.
<b>0</b>	<b>Did not attempt the test</b>	No assessable information provided.

### IELTS Academic Test Part 1: Listening Tasks

**Duration:** 30 minutes plus 10 minutes to transfer your responses to the answer sheet.

**Format:** Four audio recordings in varying accents.

You will write your answers using:

- multiple choice
- matching
- diagram labelling
- Sentence completion.

You will listen to four recordings of native English speakers and then write your answers to a series of questions.