

# ROAD TO IELTS

## IELTS preparation and practice



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### General training syllabus

#### Introduction

Road to IELTS consists of four sections: Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. Each one has four different parts: Starting out, Advice and tutorials, Practice zone and Test practice. This syllabus documents outline content of each sections.

#### Starting out

1

Whether you are taking the IELTS test for the first time or re-taking the test, it is important to go over the key facts about the modules. Use the eBooks and introduction videos in this section to learn about different task types and kick-start your IELTS preparation.

#### Test practice

4

Finally, you can put your IELTS knowledge and English proficiency to the test by taking the 18 complete practice tests found in this section (Reading, Writing and Listening). Record your speech in the simulated Speaking Part 2 practice and improve your next performance with the self-reflection guide.

#### Advice and tutorials

2

Watch the tutorial videos created by British Council IELTS experts to get an in-dept understanding of the test. Other than the explanation for each task type, you will also find important hints and tips for each paper.

#### Organise your preparation

##### Candidates videos

Watch how other candidates prepare for the different modules in IELTS.

##### Study Planner

Use this worksheet to plan your IELTS preparation so you can spend your prep time in the most efficient way.

##### Study Guides

6 downloadable study guides to answer common IELTS FAQs.

#### Practice zone

3

This section includes over 300 interactive activities which allow you to put theory into practice. In these activities, you can also make use of the instant feedback function and test tips written by IELTS experts.

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#### Reading

<b>Starting out</b>	<b>Content type</b> eBook, video
<b>Description</b>	Information about the IELTS Reading test, including explanations of question types

<b>Advice and tutorials</b>	<b>Content type</b> Video
<b>Description</b>	<i>Title: IELTS Reading Advice</i> Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Reading test

<b>Practice zone</b>	<b>Content type</b> Interactive activities with printable reading texts, organised into 12 individual sets.								
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<b>Description</b>	<b>Set 9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Matching headings to sections</li><li>• True, False, Not given</li><li>• Yes, No, Not given</li><li>• Summary completion</li></ul> <i>Topic: Society and social issues</i>	<b>Set 10</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short answer questions</li><li>• Sentence completion</li><li>• Multiple choice</li><li>• Matching information to paragraphs</li><li>• Matching</li><li>• Yes, No, Not given</li></ul> <i>Topic: Education</i>	
	<b>Set 11</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Matching</li><li>• Multiple selection</li><li>• Summary completion</li><li>• Diagram completion</li><li>• True, False, Not given</li></ul> <i>Topic: Developing world</i>	<b>Set 12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Matching headings to paragraphs</li><li>• True, False, Not given</li><li>• Sentence completion</li><li>• Table completion</li><li>• Classification</li><li>• Summary completion</li></ul> <i>Topic: Science and technology</i>	

<b>Test practice</b>	<b>Content type</b> Printable question paper, timer
<b>Description</b>	6 downloadable mock test papers of the IELTS Reading test, covering all question types; includes model answers

### Listening

<b>Starting out</b>	<b>Content type</b> eBook, video
<b>Description</b>	Information about the IELTS Listening test, including explanations of question types

<b>Advice and tutorials</b>	<b>Content type</b> Video
<b>Description</b>	<i>Title: IELTS Listening Advice</i> Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Listening test

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### General training syllabus

Practice zone	Content type Interactive activities, organised into 12 individual sets.	
<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>Set 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short answer questions</li> <li>• Table completion</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Leisure and entertainment</i></p> <p><b>Set 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple choice</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Travel, tourism and transport</i></p> <p><b>Set 5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form completion</li> <li>• Classification</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Art and culture</i></p> <p><b>Set 7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Table completion</li> <li>• Short answer questions</li> <li>• Labelling a diagram</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Health and fitness</i></p> <p><b>Set 9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form completion</li> <li>• Multiple choice</li> <li>• Classification</li> <li>• Summary completion</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Society and social issues</i></p> <p><b>Set 11</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple choice</li> <li>• Sentence completion</li> <li>• Matching</li> <li>• Labelling a diagram</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Developing world</i></p>	<p><b>Set 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sentence completion</li> <li>• Matching</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Language and communication</i></p> <p><b>Set 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form completion</li> <li>• Labelling a diagram</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Environment</i></p> <p><b>Set 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple selection</li> <li>• Summary completion</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Mass media</i></p> <p><b>Set 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form completion</li> <li>• Multiple selection</li> <li>• Multiple choice</li> <li>• Sentence completion</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Work and business</i></p> <p><b>Set 10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Table completion</li> <li>• Form completion</li> <li>• Short answer questions</li> <li>• Sentence completion</li> <li>• Classification</li> </ul> <p>Diagram completion</p> <p><i>Topic: Education</i></p> <p><b>Set 12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form completion</li> <li>• Multiple selection</li> <li>• Short answer questions</li> <li>• Sentence completion</li> <li>• Classification</li> </ul> <p><i>Topic: Science and technology</i></p>

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<b>Test practice</b>	<b>Content type</b> Printable question paper, audio recordings
<b>Description</b>	6 downloadable mock test papers of the IELTS Listening test, with accompanying audio files and model answers

### Speaking

<b>Starting out</b>	<b>Content type</b> eBook, video
<b>Description</b>	Information about the IELTS Speaking test, including explanations and tips on delivering the best possible performance

<b>Advice and tutorials</b>	<b>Content type</b> Video
<b>Description</b>	<p><i>Title: IELTS Speaking Advice</i> Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Speaking test</p> <p><i>Title: What the examiner is looking for</i> IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in the speaking test</p> <p><i>Title: Advice: What do I talk about?</i> Advice and tips on how to deal effectively with subjects about which you have insufficient knowledge</p> <p><i>Title: Advice: Coping with nerves</i> IELTS experts provide advice on managing stress on test day</p> <p><i>Title: Tutorial: Interview Phase 2</i> An analysis of the individual long turn phase of an IELTS speaking test, with commentary on the candidate's performance and score</p> <p><i>Title: Tutorial: Interview Phase 3</i> An analysis of the two-way discussion phase of an IELTS speaking test, with commentary on the candidate's performance and score</p>

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### General training syllabus

Practice zone		Content type
		Interactive activities, organised into 12 individual sets.
Description	<p><b>Set 1</b> Video clips and practice exercises for answering general questions about yourself in Phase 1 of the speaking test</p> <p><b>Set 3</b> Introduction and tips on Phase 3; video analysis of candidates' performance in Phase 3</p> <p><b>Set 5</b> Advice and strategies on speaking fluently and confidently; video analysis of what to say when you are asked about a topic you do not know much about</p> <p><b>Set 7</b> Preparing effectively for the speaking test; review of how examiners assess candidates; video analysis of how to talk extensively on a topic</p> <p><b>Set 9</b> Techniques for making comparisons; phrases for speculating; video analyses of two candidates making speculations</p> <p><b>Set 11</b> Techniques for expanding on a topic; video analyses of candidates talking extensively on topics</p>	<p><b>Set 2</b> How to deal with questions about yourself in Phase 2; what to do when you do not have a ready answer; making notes on speaking topics</p> <p><b>Set 4</b> Review of tenses to use when answering questions about yourself; video analysis of a candidate's performance in Phase 1</p> <p><b>Set 6</b> How to deal with Phase 2 speaking topics; responding effectively to follow-up questions; analysis of ways of stating reasons</p> <p><b>Set 8</b> Strategies on giving reasons during the individual long turn in Phase 2; video analyses on candidates talking about social problems in their countries; comparative forms</p> <p><b>Set 10</b> Effective strategies for speaking fluently in each phase of the speaking test; possible problems candidates are likely to face and how to avoid them</p> <p><b>Set 12</b> Dos and don'ts in the speaking test; video analyses on two candidates talking about a technological innovation</p>

Test practice	Content type
	Task cards, audio instructions, timer
Description	6 practice Speaking Phase 2 activities, conducted against the clock. Each is followed by a reflection activity where users are given prompts to evaluate their performance.

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#### Writing

<b>Starting out</b>	<b>Content type</b> eBook, video
<b>Description</b>	Information about the IELTS Writing test, including explanations of writing task types and strategies for the best possible performance

<b>Advice and tutorials</b>	<b>Content type</b> Video
<b>Description</b>	<p><i>Title: IELTS Writing Advice</i> Advice on how to improve performance in the IELTS Writing test</p> <p><i>Title: What the examiner is looking for</i> IELTS experts provide insight into how examiners assess candidate performance in the writing test</p> <p><i>Title: Advice: Writing task 2</i> Advice and strategies on tackling Task 2 of the Writing test.</p> <p><i>Title: Tutorial: Writing task 1</i> An IELTS expert analyses how well a candidate has responded in Task 1 of the General Training Writing test, with marks given; PDF download available.</p> <p><i>Title: Tutorial: Writing task 2</i> An IELTS expert analyses how well a candidate has responded in Task 2 of the Writing test, with marks and criteria given; PDF download available.</p>

<b>Practice zone</b>	<b>Content type</b> Interactive activities, organised into 12 individual sets.		
<b>Description</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td> <p><b>Set 1 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters of introduction</p> <p><b>Set 2 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against</p> <p><b>Set 3 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion</p> </td> <td> <p><b>Set 2 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters giving advice</p> <p><b>Set 3 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters asking for information</p> <p><b>Set 4 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters of complaint</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Set 1 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters of introduction</p> <p><b>Set 2 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against</p> <p><b>Set 3 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion</p>	<p><b>Set 2 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters giving advice</p> <p><b>Set 3 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters asking for information</p> <p><b>Set 4 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters of complaint</p>
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<b>Description</b>	<p><b>Set 4 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions</p> <p><b>Set 5 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions discussing advantages and disadvantages</p> <p><b>Set 6 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against</p> <p><b>Set 7 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion</p> <p><b>Set 8 task 2</b> Practice exercises for compositions discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions</p> <p><b>Set 9 task 2</b> Revision exercises for Writing Task 2</p> <p><b>Set 11</b> Practice exercises for a letter of advice, and for a composition giving and justifying your opinion</p>	<p><b>Set 5 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters giving information</p> <p><b>Set 6 task 1</b> Practice exercises for thank-you letters</p> <p><b>Set 7 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters of apology</p> <p><b>Set 8 task 1</b> Practice exercises for letters of application</p> <p><b>Set 9 task 1</b> Revision exercises for Academic Writing Task 1</p> <p><b>Set 10</b> Practice exercises for a letter asking for information, and for a composition discussing arguments for and against</p> <p><b>Set 12</b> Practice exercises for a letter of praise, and for a composition discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions</p>
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<b>Test practice</b>	<b>Content type</b> Printable question paper, timer
<b>Description</b>	6 downloadable mock test papers of the IELTS Writing test; includes model answers



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## Academic syllabus

### Additional resources

<b>Candidate videos</b>	<b>Content type</b> Video
<b>Description</b>	A number of candidates give advice on how to prepare for the different IELTS papers, on preparation for test day itself, and on waiting for the results
<b>Study planner</b>	<b>Content type</b> PDF
<b>Description</b>	A worksheet test takers can use to diagnose their strengths and weaknesses and schedule their preparation in the most efficient way
<b>Study guides</b>	<b>Content type</b> PDF
<b>Description</b>	6 handy downloads giving FAQ-type information on IELTS Preparation, Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening and Test Day