

IELTS

雅思基础阅读 分题型教程

主编 陈艳龙 副主编 裴如意 李 勃 董小燕 王晶晶

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前 言

本书是在编者多轮讲授雅思阅读课程及参与雅思考前培训指导所使用的讲义基础上编写的,按照雅思官方指定的阅读题型以及常考的阅读话题设置单元内容。全书除导论部分外共设 14 个单元。导论中介绍了雅思考试、报名、参考网站以及常用阅读策略等内容。第 1~12 单元分别以“媒体”“文化”“教育”“罪与罚”“社会”“科学”“技术”“自然”“人文”“环境”“经济”“饮食”为主题,介绍了雅思阅读考试中的以下题型:多项选择,寻找信息,寻找作者观点、论点,信息匹配,为段落或文章的部分内容选择相对应的小标题,特点匹配,句子结尾匹配,完成句子,完成摘要,完成笔记、表格或流程图,对图表进行标记,简答。此外,编者在每单元中详细介绍了该题型特点及解题步骤,并提供了练习语篇供读者使用。第 13、14 单元为雅思考试模拟测试卷。

本书可以作为雅思阅读课程授课或培训教材,也可供学生首次参加雅思考试练习使用,具有以下特点:

1. 重视基础知识的学习以及英语语言应用能力的培养。每个单元的主题文章后设置了词汇表和相关知识的介绍,并围绕主题文章设置了阅读理解、文章结构分析、词汇练习以及翻译等题型。
2. 重视阅读策略能力的培养。对每种考试阅读题型进行详细讲解,并分析答题步骤,手把手教会学生阅读的方法。
3. 重视练习在学生阅读能力培养中的作用。每个单元后都配有阅读练习语篇,供教师和学生选用和参考。
4. 所有阅读练习语篇都提供词汇注释以及参考答案,彻底减轻教材使用者的负担。

本书由陈艳龙主编,裴如意、李勃、董小燕和王晶晶编写。其中,陈艳龙负责导论、第 1、2、3 单元的编写以及所有阅读练习语篇的词汇注释和统稿,裴如意负责第 4、10 单元的编写,李勃负责第 5、6、7、8 单元的编写,董小燕负责第 11、12、13、14 单元的编写,王晶晶负责第 9 单元的编写。

在本书的编写过程中,编者参阅了一些已出版的雅思阅读教材及雅思官方网站的部分内容,在此对其作者表示衷心的感谢!同时感谢为本书的顺利出版付出辛勤劳动的编审人员!感谢盐城工学院对本书出版的大力支持!

由于编者水平及时间所限,疏漏之处在所难免,殷切欢迎广大读者对本书提出批评和改进意见。

编 者

2014 年 1 月

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What is IELTS?

IELTS stands for the International English Language Testing System, which is the world's proven English language test. IELTS is of four skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. IELTS is jointly owned by British Council, IDP, IELTS Australia and the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL). There are over 7,000 organisations and more than 1.7 million tests are taken each year around the world.

What features does IELTS have?

1. IELTS is a test of English language proficiency for non-native speakers who are applying for higher education or employment in an English-speaking country.
2. IELTS is a test of English language proficiency for non-native speakers who are applying for higher education or employment in an English-speaking country.
3. IELTS is a test of English language proficiency for non-native speakers who are applying for higher education or employment in an English-speaking country.
4. IELTS is a test of English language proficiency for non-native speakers who are applying for higher education or employment in an English-speaking country.
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9. IELTS is a test of English language proficiency for non-native speakers who are applying for higher education or employment in an English-speaking country.
10. IELTS is a test of English language proficiency for non-native speakers who are applying for higher education or employment in an English-speaking country.

INTRODUCTION

What is the test format and how long will it take?

There are four parts: Listening (30 minutes), Reading (60 minutes), Writing (60 minutes) and Speaking (11-14 minutes). The total test time lasts 2 hours and 45 minutes. The Listening, Reading and Writing tests are administered in one classroom while the Speaking test may be on the same day or up to seven days before or after the other tests.

How does IELTS calculate the score?

- Candidates receive a Test Report Form showing their Overall Band Score and their scores on each of the four sub-tests: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. Bands of the sub-test scores are equally weighted. The Overall Band Score is calculated by taking the mean of the four individual sub-test scores.

What is IELTS?

IELTS stands for *the International English Language Testing System*, which is the world's proven English language test. IELTS is of four skills English language testing, which made its debut in 1980. IELTS is jointly owned by British Council, IDP; IELTS Australia and the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL).

There are over 7,000 organisations and more than 1.7 million tests are taken each year around the world.

What features does IELTS have?

1. International English

IELTS recognises both British and American English in terms of spelling, grammar and choice of words. It also incorporates a mix of native speaker accents from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the US in the listening component.

2. International content

The IELTS approach is recognised as being fair, reliable and valid to all candidates, whatever their nationality, cultural background, gender or special needs. The test questions are developed by a network known as the IELTS item writers in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the US. They are based on real life sources (for example, advertisements, books, newspapers and company policies), ensuring that they are always fit for purpose.

3. International partners

IELTS is owned by a global partnership of education and language experts: the British Council, IDP; IELTS Australia and the University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL). These bodies are dedicated to academic excellence, cultural understanding, student recruitment and creating success worldwide.

4. International consultation

IELTS has been developed in close consultation with academics, professional bodies and immigration authorities from around the world.

5. Choosing from more than 800 locations worldwide

IELTS tests are offered up to four times a month in over 800 test venues in more than 130 countries. The cost of taking the test is set locally and payable in the local currency, making registration more convenient for candidates. Results are issued to candidates 13 calendar days after the test. Official IELTS test centres can send Test Report Forms directly to your organisation or institution (provided it has been nominated by the candidate), either by mail or as an electronic download.

What is the test format and how long will it take?

There are four parts—Listening (30 minutes), Reading (60 minutes), Writing (60 minutes) and Speaking (11–14 minutes) in IELTS. The total test time lasts 2 hours and 45 minutes. The Listening, Reading and Writing tests are administered in one classroom while the Speaking test may be on the same day or up to seven days before or after the other tests.

How does IELTS calculate the score?

- Candidates receive a Test Report Form setting out their Overall Band Score and their scores on each of the four sub-tests: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. Each of the sub-test scores is equally weighted. The Overall Band Score is calculated by taking the mean of the total of the four individual sub-test scores.

- Overall Band Scores are reported to the nearest whole or half band. For the avoidance of doubt, the following rounding convention applies: if the average across the four skills ends in .25, it is rounded up to the next half band, and if it ends in .75, it is rounded up to the next whole band.
- Thus, a candidate achieving 6.5 for Listening, 6.5 for Reading, 5.0 for Writing and 7.0 for Speaking would be awarded an Overall Band Score of 6.5 ($25 \div 4 = 6.25 = \text{Band } 6.5$).
- Likewise, a candidate achieving 4.0 for Listening, 3.5 for Reading, 4.0 for Writing and 4.0 for Speaking would be awarded an Overall Band Score of 4.0 ($15.5 \div 4 = 3.875 = \text{Band } 4.0$).
- On the other hand, a candidate achieving 6.5 for Listening, 6.5 for Reading, 5.5 for Writing and 6.0 for Speaking would be awarded band 6 ($24.5 \div 4 = 6.125 = \text{Band } 6$).

The IELTS Band Score Scale

The IELTS Band Score	The Score Meaning in English	The Score Meaning in Chinese
9	Expert user	专家水平
8	Very good user	优秀水平
7	Good user	良好水平
6	Competent user	合格水平
5	Modest user	基础水平
4	Limited user	有限水平
3	Extremely limited user	极有限水平
2	Intermittent user	初学水平
1	Non user	不懂英语
0	Did not attempt the test	考生缺席

How to write reading answers?

1. Reading

Candidates may write their answers directly on the answer sheets or they may write them on the question paper and transfer them to the answer sheet before the end of the test. **Candidates will not be given extra time to transfer answers at the end of the test. Nothing they write on the question paper will be marked. Candidates must write their answers in pencil.**

2. Completion types (e. g. note completion)

The word(s) candidates use must be taken from the Reading text. Candidates must not change the form of the words in the text.

The format of IELTS Reading answer sheet

Please write your full name in CAPITAL letters on the line below.

Please write your Candidate number on the line below.

Please write your three digit language code in the boxes and shade the numbers in the grid on the right.

Are you: Female? ☐ Male? ☐

Reading Reading Reading Reading Reading Reading

Module taken (shade one box): Academic ☐ General Training ☐

1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 x	21	<input type="checkbox"/> 21 x
2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 x	22	<input type="checkbox"/> 22 x
3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 x	23	<input type="checkbox"/> 23 x
4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 x	24	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 x
5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 x	25	<input type="checkbox"/> 25 x
6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 x	26	<input type="checkbox"/> 26 x
7	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 x	27	<input type="checkbox"/> 27 x
8	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 x	28	<input type="checkbox"/> 28 x
9	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 x	29	<input type="checkbox"/> 29 x
10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 x	30	<input type="checkbox"/> 30 x
11	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 x	31	<input type="checkbox"/> 31 x
12	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 x	32	<input type="checkbox"/> 32 x
13	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 x	33	<input type="checkbox"/> 33 x
14	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 x	34	<input type="checkbox"/> 34 x
15	<input type="checkbox"/> 15 x	35	<input type="checkbox"/> 35 x
16	<input type="checkbox"/> 16 x	36	<input type="checkbox"/> 36 x
17	<input type="checkbox"/> 17 x	37	<input type="checkbox"/> 37 x
18	<input type="checkbox"/> 18 x	38	<input type="checkbox"/> 38 x
19	<input type="checkbox"/> 19 x	39	<input type="checkbox"/> 39 x
20	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 x	40	<input type="checkbox"/> 40 x

Checker's initials: _____ Marker's initials: _____ Band Score: _____ Reading Total: _____

Sit for IELTS test in China

- 英国文化协会(在中国作为英国驻华大使馆/总领事馆文化教育处开展工作)代表中国雅思考试网络,与国家教育部考试中心合作,在中国国内 42 个考试中心举办雅思考试,每年有 48 个考试日期。考生可根据需求选择最合适的考试日期和地点。

- 雅思中国官方网址: <http://www.chinaielts.org>

- 全国考后服务热线: +86 (0)10 65906903 - 1

- 邮箱: ielts@britishcouncil.org.cn

- 雅思考试成绩的有效期: 雅思考试日期后 2 年。

凡报考中国大陆地区的雅思考试的考生均须登录教育部雅思考试网上报名网站: <http://ielts.etest.net.cn> 进行报名和付费。

- 雅思考试费用: RMB 1,680
- 为协助考生完成报名,雅思考试特设全国呼叫中心服务热线: 010-82345671, 考生若出现网站登陆或者报名付费过程中的任何问题,均可拨打该号码求助。
- 服务时间: 周一至周五: 8:30 - 17:30; 周六: 7:30 - 13:00

- 报名程序:

1. 访问 <http://ielts.etest.net.cn>, 注册成为教育部考试中心网上报名系统用户, 记下您的 NEEA 用户名和密码以备后用。

2. 预存考试费。

3. 选择考试日期和考试中心。

4. 填写雅思考试报名表并确认支付(请考生务必按照真实情况填写雅思考试报名表,注意姓名拼音、是否参加过雅思考试、居住地址等信息的准确性)。

2014 年全国雅思考试安排情况

(请登录教育部 IELTS 网上报名网站 <http://ielts.etest.net.cn/> 确认最新考试日期安排以及报名额度)

日 期	考试类型	城 市
1/9/2014	A + G	北京、呼和浩特、石家庄、杭州、合肥、广州、深圳、长沙、成都、重庆
1/11/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、太原、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明
1/18/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、成都、昆明
1/25/2014	A	北京、长春、哈尔滨、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、太原、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、上海、南京、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、南昌、成都、重庆
2/13/2014	A	北京、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、太原、武汉、南京、广州、深圳、南昌、重庆
2/15/2014	A + G	北京、长春、哈尔滨、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、成都、重庆、昆明
2/22/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、西安、郑州、开封、武汉、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明
3/1/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、成都、重庆
3/8/2014	A + G	北京、长春、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
3/13/2014	A	北京、石家庄、杭州、广州、深圳、长沙、成都
3/15/2014	A + G	北京、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、兰州、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
4/5/2014	A + G	北京、长春、兰州、石家庄、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、上海、南京、杭州、苏州、广州、深圳、长沙
4/12/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
4/24/2014	A + G	北京、石家庄、杭州、广州、深圳、长沙、成都
4/26/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳
5/10/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
5/15/2014	A	北京、石家庄、杭州、广州、深圳、长沙、成都
5/17/2014	A + G	北京、长春、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳
5/24/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、武汉、郑州、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、南宁、成都、重庆、昆明
6/7/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、福州、长沙、南宁、海口、南昌、重庆、贵阳、昆明

续表

日 期	考试类型	城 市
6/19/2014	A	北京、石家庄、上海、杭州、深圳、长沙、成都
6/21/2014	A + G	北京、哈尔滨、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、杭州、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明
6/28/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、兰州、青岛、沈阳、天津、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、成都、重庆
7/10/2014	A + G	北京、石家庄、乌鲁木齐、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、广州、深圳、长沙、成都、重庆
7/12/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
7/19/2014	A + G	北京、长春、哈尔滨、青岛、沈阳、太原、武汉、西安、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明
7/26/2014	A	北京、大连、哈尔滨、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、太原、武汉、郑州、开封、上海、南京、杭州、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳
8/2/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、济南、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、太原、西安、郑州、武汉、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆
8/9/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、太原、武汉、西安、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、成都、贵阳、昆明
8/16/2014	A + G	北京、长春、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、太原、武汉、西安、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、贵阳、昆明
8/21/2014	A	北京、呼和浩特、兰州、沈阳、石家庄、太原、武汉、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、南宁、南昌、成都、重庆
9/4/2014	A	北京、石家庄、上海、杭州、深圳、成都
9/6/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、兰州、青岛、石家庄、天津、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、南京、杭州、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、厦门、南宁、南昌、重庆、贵阳
9/20/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
9/27/2014	A	北京、哈尔滨、石家庄、太原、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、长沙、成都
10/2/2014	A + G	北京、石家庄、武汉、深圳、福州
10/11/2014	A	北京、哈尔滨、石家庄、太原、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、成都
10/18/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、西安、郑州、开封、武汉、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
10/25/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明
11/1/2014	A + G	北京、长春、哈尔滨、济南、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳
11/8/2014	A	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、贵阳、昆明
11/13/2014	A	北京、石家庄、杭州、广州、深圳、长沙、成都
11/22/2014	A + G	北京、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明
12/4/2014	A	北京、石家庄、太原、杭州、广州、深圳、南昌、成都

日期	考试类型	城市
12/6/2014	A + G	北京、长春、呼和浩特、济南、青岛、石家庄、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、上海、南京、杭州、合肥、苏州、广州、福州、长沙、南宁、海口、成都、重庆、昆明
12/13/2014	A + G	北京、长春、大连、哈尔滨、呼和浩特、济南、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、太原、乌鲁木齐、武汉、西安、郑州、杭州、苏州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、南昌、成都、重庆
12/20/2014	A	北京、长春、哈尔滨、兰州、青岛、沈阳、石家庄、天津、武汉、西安、郑州、开封、杭州、苏州、温州、广州、深圳、福州、长沙、厦门、南宁、海口、南昌、成都、重庆、昆明

Source websites for IELTS reading materials

www.marinemammal.org

www.animalbehavioronline.com

www.seafriends.org.nz

www.earthlife.net

www.nationalgeographic.com

www.economist.com

www.artsmanagement.net

www.newyorker.com

www.pilotfriend.com

www.psychologytoday.com

www.castles.org

www.theaustralian.news.com.au

www.orientalarchitecture.com

www.greenhouse.gov.au

www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

www.historyguide.org

www.greennature.com

www.ft.com

www.ecology.com

www.newscientist.com

www.nature.com

www.americanscientist.org

www.scienceweek.com

www.sciencedaily.com

www.sciencenews.org

www.popular-science.net

www.scienceandsociety.com

Additional links for preparing IELTS test

- Newspapers are excellent sources of text. Try any of the following:

www.independent.co.uk

www.guardian.co.uk

www.scmp.com

- Journals and magazines are equally good and may include more specialized or academic vocabulary. Try something in your subject field, something you enjoy, or
www.nationalgeographic.com
www.actionasia.com
www.economist.com
www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/ (This site gives BBC news coverage: you can listen or read.)
www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/ (This link uses BBC material to help you improve your English.)

Twenty tips for the IELTS academic reading test

1. Try your best to answer all questions. Incorrect answers will not be punished by cutting down on your total marks.
2. The reading test is considered by many to be the most difficult part of IELTS with some justification. You have to read three long sections, each with multiple paragraphs, and answer 40 questions (13 to 14 per section). Unlike the listening test, **no extra time is given at the end to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.** Time can be a major constraint since you only have an hour to finish the test.
3. Read the instructions and questions carefully so you don't make a silly mistake. As you read the questions, use a pencil to underline important information such as dates, places and names. For example, people often will **mix the yes/no answers with the true/false answers** and write *yes* as an answer instead of *true* or vice versa. Strictly speaking, you are wrong although you have understood the question and answer. Do not take it for granted that you are already familiar with the protocols and procedures.
4. Answer the questions exactly in the way you are asked to. If the question asks for one answer, then give one answer. Giving two is wrong as it asks for one and you will be marked wrong. The type of question where this could happen would be: *Give one example of...* Writing two examples to show you really understand is wrong.
5. If the question asks for no more than 3 words, use no more than 3 words. Writing 4 words or more is wrong. You won't be asked to do it in 3 words or less unless it is possible. So don't worry. It can always be done.
6. One area that students don't like is that, in the reading test, good grammar and spelling are important. So take care while writing in the short answers. You will lose points for incorrect spelling. Take special care when copying words from the text. The grammar part is not as important as you can't make many grammar errors in 3 words (the maximum you use in the reading test) but, if you spell something wrong, it will be marked as wrong. So, be careful about your spelling!
7. The most important thing to understand is that the test does **NOT** assess your comprehension of the paragraphs. It does **NOT** test how well you have understood the passage. It tests specific skills called Scanning and Skimming.
8. Don't spend too much time on a single question as that will lose your time for answering questions that could be easier for you. Sometimes leaving a question and coming back later can help you answer it too. Leave any questions that you have spent too long on, and come back at the end of the test if you have time. Sometimes, if the question has a *yes/no/not given* answer, the answer you are looking for does not exist as it could be a *not given*. Be aware so you don't waste time looking for something that doesn't exist there.
9. One constant discussion is whether to read the questions first and then read the passage or read the passage first

and then the questions. From my experience with many students my conclusion is that there is no correct answer for this. It depends on a number of variables. It can depend on the types of question and how difficult the questions are. It can depend on how good and fast a reader you are. It can depend on the length of the text and how much time you have. Let's look at these variables: If the question type is difficult and asking something which is hard to answer, then reading the text first can help. Just a quick survey through using a technique called skimming (see below for an analysis of skimming) can give you the knowledge of the text that will help you find the answer more easily. To know whether you should read the IELTS Reading passage first or the questions first, experiment with both strategies and see what works best for you. Many students have found it helps to skim through the questions first to get an idea of what to pay attention to in the reading passage. This method may work for you too, but in reality, it depends on a number of factors. These include how well or how quickly you read, the type of questions, how difficult they are, how much time you have, and so on. So, never mind what your teacher recommends, or what your best friend is going to do. Try both ways and see what helps you the most.

10. If you are a good, fast reader, then you can read the text quickly, getting good knowledge of the content without using up too much precious time. This can help you answer the questions better. If the texts are short then it doesn't take long to quickly read through them.
11. If time is short, then it doesn't matter how complex or long the texts are. You need to get some answers on the answer sheet as quickly as possible. So, you can see that there is not one answer to the problem of whether to read the texts or the questions first. What I tell students is to experiment in your practice and see what suits you for the different types of question in different situations. As usual, practising your techniques with good quality IELTS practice tests is the key.
12. Time management is the key to success. You have a number of texts to read and 40 questions to answer in one hour. If you spend too long on one part, you may find that you have not enough time to finish all the questions and some of those questions could be ones that you could answer quite easily. Therefore, don't spend too long on a difficult question. Keep an eye on the clock. It's a good idea to have your watch or a small clock on your desk so you know exactly how long you have left in the test at any given time. In addition to this, keep control on how long you spend on each section. Remember the test gets more difficult as it goes on so you will probably need more time for the questions at the end than for those at the start. Maybe a guideline could be: 15 – 17 minutes on section 1; 18 – 20 minutes on section 2; 21 – 23 minutes on section 3. If possible, keep some spare time to check your answers (If you can do things more quickly all the better as that will give you time to look at questions that you skipped and to check on your answers.). With experience and practice on realistic IELTS practice tests, you will soon know how long things take you, and be able to manage your time well.
13. Answer the questions one by one with the help of the underlined parts of the text, which have been highlighted by you while you read it. Having read the text once, you will find it easy to find specific information by scanning.
14. The answers usually appear in the text in the same order as the questions. That is, the answer to question 4 will be earlier in the text than the answer to question 5. However, this need not always be true. It may apply to each question type rather than to all the questions taken together. The answer to MCQ 2 will appear before that to MCQ 3 and the answer to Matching question 2 will usually appear earlier than that to Matching question 3. However, the answer to MCQ 3 may appear before the answer to Matching question 2. This will not apply to questions like "*In which paragraph does this information appear?*" and "*Yes/No/Not Given*". For these

- question types, the information may be scattered randomly anywhere in the paragraphs.
15. As soon as you find an answer, write it against the question on the question paper. It is not always a good idea to try answering questions in the order in which they are asked.
 16. The toughest questions are the *True/False/Not Given* and *Yes/No/Not Given* ones. Practise doing these questions till you are confident. Make sure you do not answer *True/False* for a *Yes/No* question and vice versa. Such an answer will be considered wrong and fetch no marks.
 17. Do not get stuck on any one question. If you can't get the answer, move on. You can always come back later.
 18. In reading part, one must follow the following part to solve it:
 - (1) In the reading part, one has to read and understand THE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PASSAGE.
 - (2) Read the questions FIRST and remember them. Circle key words on the QUESTIONS like dates, names, places, etc., so that you can have an idea of the type of information you will be looking for and when you are reading the passage, these key words/triggers will ring a bell.
 - (3) Read instructions carefully. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT because this is a READING test. You have to read instructions also.
 - (4) Read the first paragraph and glance through the questions and think if you can answer any question.
 - (5) Read other paragraphs and do the same.
 - (6) While reading a paragraph, also encircle the key words in the paragraph.
 - (7) Remember one thing: all the questions in ONE PARTICULAR SET are in a sequence and order and SO is the information in the paragraph.
 - (8) Do at least one hour of reading daily in a quiet place and try to read 6 pages of English articles on a regular basis.
 19. Read the IELTS Reading instructions carefully. Don't try to save time by skipping this part. The instructions give you critical information about how many words the answer should be, what exactly you need to do, and so on. Always read the instructions, even if you have done hundreds of practice tests already!
 20. If you have finished the exam with time to spare, don't just sit there! Check what you have done. If you have time after the check, check again, and again...

Reading Techniques: Skimming, Scanning and Pre-reading Strategies

Skimming and scanning are the two main techniques that people use to read and answer IELTS reading tests. It's not a question of using one or the other but you will need both methods in doing the test. Let's have a look at the two techniques in turn.

1. Skimming

Skimming is reading fast to get the "gist" or the general idea of the text. This is done when you are reading a paragraph quickly to get an idea of what it is about, without trying to understand its details. This technique is part of the initial reading (see below). It can be modified (reading a little slower) to answer "Provide headings for the paragraphs", "In which paragraph does this information appear in the text?" and "Author's views" type of questions.

There are different techniques of doing skimming. You can run your eyes over the text getting the general meaning, not stopping at words that you don't understand as this will slow you down. The important thing with skimming is speed. Another way to skim is to just read the first and last paragraphs of a text and summaries as well. Skip the

rest of the content, you could also just read the title, subtitles and illustrations if there are any. I prefer for IELTS the first way—reading it all quickly to get the general meaning, but of course it depends on your reading speed. If you are a slow reader in English you really need to practise to improve. You don't need IELTS specific texts for this. A good English newspaper is fine. Get one every day and read the articles as quickly as you can. Do this with as many articles as possible every day and your speed will be quickly improved. Using IELTS practice tests is of course the best way to practice.

2. Scanning

This is another very important technique for the IELTS Reading Tests. This is the technique that you use when you are looking for a phone number in a directory or a specific word in a dictionary. You are not starting at the top and reading every line back and forth as you would read a novel. You are moving your eyes around the text, back and across and up and down. You are searching for some specific information: a word or a name. This is of great importance technique in IELTS reading as you are often searching for some specific information. You read the question and then you search for key words or ideas associated with the question. This is a bit more difficult to practice than skimming. You get long texts (from newspapers, magazines, IELTS practice tests, or other sources) and get a friend to read them and then ask you to find key ideas or words as quickly as possible. Again, if you do this frequently, your speed will be quickly improved. You know the specific information you are looking for and you go down the page quickly to find it. This technique is used when answering questions such as *multiple-choice* and *matching*. You scan the passage to quickly find the information mentioned in the question. Once you find it, you get the answer from the passage and write it against the question.

If you want to improve, there's no secret. Practice. Practice. Practice. You won't get better sitting and doing nothing. Even good English users need practice for the IELTS exam. Doing plenty of challenging reading and doing IELTS practice tests could make all the difference between your getting the band that you need, and getting half a band less than you need and having to do the exam again.

Finally, there are no correct answers or methods. Here I've given you some ideas to guide you and hopefully to help you but the questions can be answered well in different ways. Good luck with the IELTS Academic Reading Test! I hope that this tutorial has helped you.

3. Pre-reading Strategies

- (1) Go through the passage to locate the main idea as quickly as possible (Usually you should do this in less than five minutes).
- (2) Do not read word for word, which is unnecessary and a waste of your valuable time.
- (3) Ignore the new words if they do not pose a threat to your global comprehension.
- (4) Read the title and subtitle of the passage (Most IELTS reading passages have a title and some may also have a subtitle).
- (5) Read the first and the last paragraph which usually contain important information.
- (6) Read the first sentence of each paragraph which is in general the topic sentence.
- (7) Piece together the information you get from the title, subtitles, the first paragraph, the last paragraph, and topic sentences to form the gist of the passage.