

赴澳及英联邦国家留学

IELTS

考试指南

及

模拟试题

Michael Garbutt & Kerry O'Sullivan 编著

世界图书出版公司

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出版者的话

IELTS 考试是“International English Language Testing System”的缩写。它是赴英联邦国家（如：澳大利亚、英国、新西兰等）留学必须通过的英语水平测试。它的考试内容主要由：阅读、写作、听力、会话四部分组成。本书针对这四个部分的考试内容逐一进行讲解，并提供了大量的附有参考答案的练习题和模拟题，使广大读者通过本书的阅读，可以了解 IELTS 考试的详细内容，并通过本书所介绍的学习方法、练习题和模拟试题的训练，迅速增强应考能力，从而在考试中取得理想的成绩。

本书的原出版者为 IELTS 考试的出题单位之一——澳大利亚 Macquarie University。因此，保证了本书的权威性。我公司经过艰苦的谈判才购得本书在中国大陆地区的重印权。希望本书的出版对参加 IELTS 考试的考生来说有很大的帮助作用，我们非常希望读者们能将本书在使用过程中的意见反馈给我们，以便我们今后修订。

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► INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this book is to help you focus on the English-language skills that you need in the IELTS test and the ways in which you can develop these skills.

► TEST DESCRIPTION

The IELTS test (the International English Language Testing System) assesses your level of skill in reading, writing, speaking and listening in English.

The test's four sections are administered in the following order:

▲ Listening	40 minutes
▲ Reading	60 minutes
▲ Writing	60 minutes
▲ Speaking	11–15 minutes

There is generally a break between the writing and speaking sections.

Each of the sections contains a variety of tasks designed to test your English-language proficiency. Although the range of tasks will vary from test to test, the strategies presented in this book are intended to develop a level of English-language proficiency which will enable you to deal with a wide range of different task types.

It is important to note that there are two different types of test. If you are planning to study at university you will be required to take the **IELTS Academic Module**. If you are planning to undertake a non-tertiary course or non-degree training you will be required to take the **IELTS General Training Module**. The format of both modules is identical but the reading passages and writing tasks in the General Training Module do not reflect tertiary study requirements. If you intend to take the General Training Module, you should pay particular attention to the General Training Module Sections on pages 8, 47, 54, 94 and 98, and in the *Practice Test Book* on page 45.

The **General Training Module** is designed for students who intend to enter non-tertiary or non-degree courses. The format of this module is identical to the Academic Module, but the reading passages and writing tasks do not reflect tertiary study requirements. General Training Module candidates take the same Listening and Speaking sections as other candidates. If you intend to take the General Training Module, you should pay particular attention to the General Training Module sections on pages 8, 47, 54, 94 and 98, and in the *Practice Test Book* on page 45.

The range of academic and professional fields in which candidates taking the IELTS Academic Module intend to study is, of course, very wide. You might be intending to

study dentistry, or landscape architecture, mathematics, engineering, economics or literature. Whatever your intended field of study, you will take the same test as all candidates. As a result, the Academic Module does not require and does not test specialist knowledge.

The IELTS test does not assess

- general knowledge
- technical knowledge

The scores you achieve in the test will provide a description of your English-language proficiency. These scores will enable the institutions where you have applied to study to decide whether your English-language proficiency will enable you to perform successfully in tertiary study.

The IELTS test assesses

- your ability to read, write, listen and speak in the kinds of situations which are commonly encountered when living and studying in English-speaking countries.

Your basic aim, therefore, should be to become familiar with these kinds of situations and the language used in them.

Studying in English-speaking countries may involve

- reading books and journals
- writing assignments
- listening to lectures
- participating in tutorials and seminars

Reading books and journals

In tertiary study you need to be able to

- read a wide variety of recommended and other relevant books and journals
- find the information you require in texts, tables and diagrams
- critically evaluate what you read

In the IELTS Reading section you will have to read several passages which may be accompanied by tables and diagrams, understand the main points, locate specific information, and evaluate what you read.

Writing assignments

In tertiary study you may be required to

- analyse the set question or task
- read recommended and other relevant texts
- organise a writing plan
- write in your own words, showing that you have read widely

In the IELTS Writing section you need to analyse the question or task, organise a writing plan, develop an argument and then write it up.

Listening to lectures

In tertiary study you need to be able to

- understand rapid speech
- understand a variety of accents
- identify the main points
- take notes

In the IELTS Listening section you may be required to listen to a radio news item, for example one in which you hear native speakers using a range of accents. You need to be able to understand the main points and write them down.

Participating in tutorials and seminars

In tertiary study you need to be able to

- read recommended texts
- prepare to discuss the texts
- understand questions asked by the teacher and other students
- ask questions
- contribute to the discussion

In the IELTS Speaking section you will have to understand and respond to questions asked by the interviewer and ask questions yourself.

Living in an English-speaking country may involve

- reading newspapers, notices, signs, instruction manuals, etc.
- writing to institutions and individuals
- listening to the radio, instructions, casual conversation, etc.
- speaking about yourself: your background, home country, study plans, etc.

These activities are relevant to all candidates, but are particularly important for General Training candidates, as they usually form the basis of reading passages and writing tasks in the General Training Module.

Your research

The tertiary study tasks listed above may not necessarily reflect the specific tasks you will be required to do, as these vary according to institution and discipline. You should contact the tertiary institutions that you are planning to study at and ask about the tasks you will have to carry out in the first semester or term. The following questions are designed to focus your research.

- Is there a pre-reading list?
- Can the institution supply you with a list of assignments from the coming year or previous years? How long are the written assignments expected to be?
- How is assessment carried out? Are there written exams, oral exams, practicals, continuous assessment or a combination of these methods?
- Will you be expected to give oral presentations? If so, can the institution supply examples of these tasks?
- How is formal teaching organised? Are there lectures? seminars? tutorials? laboratory work? field work? practical sessions?

This is a major research task which you need to begin before commencing tertiary study. In the IELTS test you are not expected to know the answers to these questions, but a knowledge of academic requirements will help you to focus your program of study for both the test and your future studies.

Your study program

You need to collect as many resources as possible.

You can use a *cassette recorder* to listen to pre-recorded materials, record radio and television programs, interview native speakers, and record your own speaking to analyse your performance.

You can use a *video recorder* in a similar way. In particular, a video recorder can help you to practise for the IELTS Speaking section.

Newspapers and magazines can help you to develop your grammar and vocabulary, to practise your reading strategies and to familiarise yourself with topics of general interest which may be relevant to the Reading, Writing and Speaking sections. A selection of useful newspapers and magazines is given on page 47.

As you work through this book and identify the language areas which you need to develop, you should build into your study program a selection of appropriate tasks from the wide range of English-language textbooks available. A list of relevant textbooks is given on pages 51, 93, 117 and 144.

Although bilingual dictionaries can be useful you should try to get used to using a *monolingual dictionary*, as this will extend your vocabulary and reading skills. A selection of monolingual dictionaries is given on page 51.

You should use *international radio guides* to select appropriate programs, such as interviews, news bulletins, documentaries and current affairs programs. If you are unable to obtain these guides from the consulates and cultural centres of English-speaking countries, you can write to the stations themselves.

You should also contact *cultural centres* of English-speaking countries, such as the British Council. These centres generally have extensive libraries, including books, newspapers, journals and video and audio tapes.

If possible, find a *study partner*. A regular arrangement to study with a partner can provide support, motivation and feedback.

Native speakers of English are also a valuable resource for practising speaking and listening, for getting feedback about your reading, writing and speaking, and for learning more about English-speaking cultures. If you do not know any native speakers, you should contact an English-speaking cultural centre and ask them for suggestions. They may have clubs and activity groups which you can join. You can also place an advertisement offering to teach your language in exchange for learning English.

Using this book

This book is designed to be used by all candidates for the IELTS test. It is assumed that you currently have at least an intermediate level of English-language proficiency.

IELTS: Strategies for Study contains four units: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. The strategies presented in each unit relate to and reinforce each other. The units can therefore be studied in any order.

ANSWER KEYS

Tasks which have an answer key are marked with an asterisk, e.g. TASK 27*. Some tasks may have more than one answer. In these cases, the key provides some sample answers. If your answer is not included among these sample answers, you should check with your teacher or a native speaker of English.

This book is designed to help you identify your language needs and to provide a framework for your study program. The material is suitable for both independent study and classroom use. No recommended number of hours of study is given for the four units because individual learners will have different needs.

The passages presented in the book reflect the diversity of subject matter used in the IELTS test. As in the test itself, the subject matter of a particular passage may be unfamiliar to you. It is the use of appropriate strategies, not technical knowledge, that will enable you to find the information you require in these passages.

► UNIT 1 *Reading*

This unit contains

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I couldn't believe my eyes when I opened the test paper and saw that there was a passage about laser physics, with a really complicated diagram. I don't know anything about laser physics. I'm a systems engineer!

German IELTS candidate

'I ran out of time in the Reading section. The passages are too long.'

Thai IELTS candidate

READING TEST DESCRIPTION

In the Reading Section, which lasts 60 minutes, candidates are required to read three passages and answer a total of about 40 questions. The passages, some of which may include diagrams, tables and pictures, range in length from approximately 300 to 1400 words in the Academic Module and from 20 to 1000 in the General Training Module. The test instructions indicate the amount of time you should spend answering each set of questions.

Because IELTS questions assess the kinds of reading skills required in tertiary study, a wide range of question types is possible. Although the precise format of the IELTS Reading section cannot be predicted, it is likely to contain:

- ▲ multiple-choice questions
- ▲ gap-filling exercises
- ▲ matching questions
- ▲ open questions

Examples of each type are given on pages 9, 10 and 11. This unit presents and practises a range of reading strategies relevant to all possible question types.

GENERAL TRAINING MODULE

Passages in the General Training Module are shorter and less linguistically complex than those in the Academic Module. Examples of General Training passages are presented in the *Practice Test Book* in Practice Test 4, on page 45. Note that the passages are less academic in style and content and reflect the kinds of passage you are likely to 'read' in everyday life in an English-speaking country. For example, passages could include:

- newspaper advertisements for accommodation
- cinema guides
- college timetables
- information about opening a bank account
- regulations regarding driving licences
- operating instructions for a compact disc player

Most of the passages in this unit are more academic in style and content than the ones you will find in the General Training Module and are therefore more linguistically demanding. The tasks, however, are designed to help you read more effectively and you should do them all, paying particular attention to the strategies which are practised.

ACADEMIC MODULE

What are the reading passages about?

The reading passages cover a very broad range of topics of general interest. They might include passages about education, technology, the environment or other contemporary issues. The important thing to remember is that you do not need any specialised background knowledge to read these passages and carry out the tasks successfully. Many candidates, such as the German systems engineer quoted earlier, believe it is impossible to answer questions about passages which deal with unfamiliar subjects. Remember that the test assesses your ability to use the effective reading strategies needed for any academic reading. Even though the passages may deal with subjects which you are not familiar with, you do not need any specialist knowledge to answer the questions. The test is not designed to assess your academic or professional knowledge of a particular subject.

SAMPLE READING TASKS

The five tasks presented below will familiarise you with the kinds of questions you may be required to answer in the Reading section of the IELTS test. In order to answer Sample Reading Tasks 1–5 you will need to re-read the Reading Test Description on pages 8 and 9.

SAMPLE READING TASK 1*: an example of a gap-filling task

The paragraph below summarises the section on this page called 'What are the reading passages about?' Five words or phrases have been left out. By referring to the section, find one or two words which fill the gaps. Write your answers in the column on the right.

Unfamiliarity with a ...1... may make candidates feel it is ...2... to answer the questions about the reading passages. It is important to note that the purpose of the test is not to ...3... technical knowledge but your ...4... to use the ...5... required for academic reading in general.

Write your answers here:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------|
| 1. <i>topic</i> | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | |

* With answer key

SAMPLE READING TASK 2*: an example of a gap-filling task

How long does the Reading section last? Write the appropriate letter in the space provided.

- A. 300 minutes C. 45 minutes
B. 60 minutes D. 40 minutes

Your answer:

SAMPLE READING TASK 3*: an example of a multiple-choice task

What is the main point of the section entitled 'Academic Module'? Write the appropriate letter in the space provided.

- A. Some candidates believe it is impossible to answer questions about passages which deal with unfamiliar subjects.
B. Many candidates are very concerned if they are unfamiliar with the subject of a reading passage.
C. The test assesses reading ability, not technical knowledge.
D. The subject matter is relevant to a candidate's area of study.

Your answer:

SAMPLE READING TASK 4*: an example of an open-question task

The reading test description on page 8 refers to four kinds of questions and exercises. What are they? Write your answers in the space provided.

Your answers:

1. 3.
2. 4.

SAMPLE READING TASK 5*: an example of a matching task

Which of the following paragraphs (A, B or C) corresponds to the heading 'Question Types'? Write your answer in the space provided.

Paragraph A

In the Reading Section, which lasts 60 minutes, candidates are required to read

continued on page 11