

Practical Skills For

IELTS

实用
雅思

Reading

阅 读 分 册

主 编 魏东波 金寒光

哈尔滨工程大学出版社

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PRACTICAL IELTS

阅 读 部 分
(Reading)

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内 容 简 介

本书的大多数文章均选自英、美、澳等国原文,用以提高参加雅思考试的考生的阅读理解能力。全书将雅思考试中不同的题型、题类以及各种雅思卷类加以归纳,使考生提高对英语文章的理解力,扩大词汇量,同时对雅思的各种题型及卷类有较为深入的认识,提高学生对考试的适应程度。

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序 言

凡是报考出国进修或攻读研究生,几乎都要参加英语水平考试。当前主要是考 IELTS (International English Language Testing System)。

经过数年的雅思教学实践,我们发现有的雅思阅读材料在语言文化上难度太大,容易使人望而却步。因此,我们将平时教过的阅读资料积累起来,把适合学生程度的内容汇编成册。在教学中使用取得非常好的效果,受到学生的欢迎和好评。本书的大多数文章都选自英、美、澳等国原文,以提高学生们的阅读理解能力。不仅如此,我们还把不同的题型、题类以及各种雅思卷类加以归纳,使学生通过学习提高对英语文章的理解力,扩大词汇量,同时对雅思的各种题型及卷类有较为深入的认识,并提高考生对雅思考试的适应程度。

阅读能力是一个综合概念。它主要是指运用语言知识、语言能力和阅读技巧以一定速度进行成功阅读的能力。语言知识和语言能力是阅读基础,而打好语言基础又有赖于大量阅读。大量阅读可以使学过的语言知识得到复习和巩固,使语言能力得到发展和提高。在阅读量少,接触英文材料很少的情况下,学生对所学语言知识就理解不深,掌握不好,且边学边忘,学习效率很低,使学习者兴趣索然。通过阅读大量难度适当、知识性和趣味性强的文章,这些问题可以得到较好解决。本书分为三大部分:

第一部分 Learning, 熟悉 IELTS, 以及应试的题型,并用大量的阅读材料相配合,科普、文学、人物等应有尽有。它覆盖面广,能增加知识,扩大视野,提高学习兴趣,而且由于耳濡目染、潜移默化的作用,读者会自然而然地增强对语言的感悟。

第二部分 Practice, 实践与提高, 扩大词汇量。语言学家 D. A. Wilkins 说过:“事实上,没有语法不能传达很多东西,而没有词汇就不能传达任何东西。”一个人掌握词汇量的多少与其语言水平的高低有密切关系。语言水平高的人都拥有较大的词汇量,而词汇量少的人不可能达到较高的语言水平。

第三部分 Examination, 自我检验。阅读速度和理解率应大体保持平衡为宜,即在理解率不低于 70% 的情况下,尽可能提高速度。如果理解率是 50% ~ 60%, 则可能表明你的速度高于你的实际水平,应适当降低速度,加强理解。如果上述意见是针对精读而言,则无实际意义,因为精读本来就不可能有过严格的速度要求,特别是作为外语学习的精读更不能有时间限制。

现行英语教学大纲对阅读速度做了规定:每分钟 70 ~ 120 单词,能就阅读材料进行略读式寻读;能阅读所学专业的综述性文献,并能正确理解中心大意,抓住主要事实和有关细节。你若确实达到了这个要求,就为具备较强的阅读能力打下坚实的基础。

由于编者水平有限,缺点错误在所难免,恳切希望广大读者和使用本书的英语教师批评指正。

编 者

2004 年 12 月 21 日

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IELTS 考试成绩计算办法

Listening & Reading 有 0.5 分档次(有半分)

Writing & Speaking 只有整数档次(没有半分)

总分:四项得分平均后,除 0.5 分外,每次进一个单位(0.5),不能使用四舍五入。

例如:

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. 听力分数 | Listening Band 8.0 | |
| 阅读分数 | Reading Band 8.0 | |
| 写作分数 | Writing Band 6.0 | |
| 口语分数 | Speaking Band 7.0 | |
| 平均分 | $(8.0 + 8.0 + 6.0 + 7.0) / 4 = 7.25$ | 总分: 7.5 |
| 2. 听力分数 | Listening Band 6.0 | |
| 阅读分数 | Reading Band 7.0 | |
| 写作分数 | Writing Band 7.0 | |
| 口语分数 | Speaking Band 7.0 | |
| 平均分 | $(6.0 + 7.0 + 7.0 + 7.0) / 4 = 6.75$ | 总分: 7.0 |
| 3. 听力分数 | Listening Band 6.0 | |
| 阅读分数 | Reading Band 6.0 | |
| 写作分数 | Writing Band 7.0 | |
| 口语分数 | Speaking Band 7.0 | |
| 平均分 | $(6.0 + 6.0 + 7.0 + 7.0) / 4 = 6.5$ | 总分: 6.5 |

考试成绩评判标准

由于中国地区的考生较多,目前大致需要 3~4 周才能收到你的成绩,但是你可以直接前往英国教育文化处亲自领取成绩,这样就无需邮寄。

IELTS 考试没有及格和不及格的界限,所有学校或移民国家都有一个分数要求,或许进一步对说写听读单科有个别要求,你应向通知单位了解清楚。

9 Expert User. Has fully operational command of the language: appropriate, accurate and fluent with complete understand.

成绩极佳,能将英语运用自如,在完全理解情况下恰当、准确且流畅。

8 Very Good User. Has fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies and inappropriacies. Misunderstandings may occur in unfamiliar situations. Handles complex detailed argumentation well.

非常良好。能将英语运用自如,只是偶尔有不系统的错误和不恰当。在不熟悉的状况下可能出现误解。可将复杂细节的争论掌握得相当好。

7 Good User. Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.

良好。有能力运用英语,虽然在某些情况有时发生理解上的不准确、不恰当和误解。大致可将复杂的英语掌握得不错,也能理解其全部内容。

6 Competent User. Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.

(澳大利亚移民 & 英语留学分数线)及格。大致能有效地运用英语,虽然有不准确、不恰当和误解发生。能使用并理解相当复杂的英语,特别是在熟悉的情况时。

5 Modest User. 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.

(加拿大移民 & 新西兰移民分数线)适当及格。可部分运用英语,大多数情况下可应付全部的意思,虽然可能犯下许多错误。在本身领域内应可掌握基本的沟通。

4 Limited User. Basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Has frequent problems in understanding and expression. Is not able to use complex language.

(英国预科分数线)水平有限。只限在熟悉的状况下有基本的理解力。在理解与表达上常发生问题。无法使用复杂英语。

3 Extremely Limited User. Conveys and understands only general meaning in very familiar situations. Frequent breakdowns in communication occur.

水平极有限。在极熟悉的情况下,只能进行一般的沟通理解。交谈时经常发生中断现象。

2 Intermittent User. No real communication is possible except for the most basic information using isolated words or short formulate in familiar situations and to meet immediate needs. Has great difficulty understanding spoken and written English.

只属于断续使用英语。除非在熟悉的情况,使用单词和简短的短句表达最基本的信息,真正的交谈是不可能的。在英语的说和写方面有很大的困难。

1 Non User. Essentially has no ability to use the language beyond possibly a few isolated words. 不能通过。可能只能说几个单词,无法沟通。

Part I About the Reading Test

The IELTS Academic Reading Test takes 60 minutes.

There is a question booklet which contains all the instructions, the reading passages and the questions.

There is an answer sheet (on the back of the Listening Test Answer Sheet). You **must** put all your Answers Sheet while you are reading. There is no time allowed at the end for transferring answers.

The test is divided into three sections. Each section is more difficult than the one before. Each reading passage is between 700 and 1,000 words long.

There're about 38 and 42 questions. The questions may come **before** or **after** the readings. There is a variety of possible question types. There may be examples of how to answer the questions. There is a more detailed explanation of the questions later in the book.

You may mark or write on the question paper, but all answers must be written on the answer sheet. Remember you must write your answers on the answer sheet **as you go**. Unlike in the listening test, there is no time to transfer them at the end of the test.

Getting the Instructions Right

The written instructions in the reading booklet are always given in italics. Important aspects of the instructions are also in **BOLD ITALIC CAPITALS**.

The instructions in the Reading Test depend on the type of questions. As you work through this book, take particular note of instructions. Getting to know the instructions now means that you will be able to see quickly what you have to do in the actual test and will be less likely to make more common mistakes.

Following are seven examples of instructions which are typical of those you will find in the IELTS Academic Reading booklet. Read each of the instructions below and the explanations that follow.

Example 1

Questions 1—5

Choose the appropriate letters A – D and write them in boxes 1 – 5 on your Answer Sheet.

This instruction typically applies to multiple-choice questions. One of the answers – A, B, C or D – will be the correct answer.

Example 2

Questions 11—15

Reading Passage 2 has five sections A – E. Choose the most suitable heading for each section from the list of headings below. Write the appropriate numbers (1 — 1X) in boxes 11—15 on your Answer Sheet.

Note : There are more headings than sections so you will not use all of them . You may use any heading more than once .

This means the sections are given the headings **A , B , C , D** and **E** . The answer choices , (i . e . the headings) usually appear in a box and will be numbered using Roman numerals . You will write those Roman numerals on your answer sheet .

There are always extra headings . Although you are told “ You may use any heading more than once . ” you will rarely need to do so .

There can be a question of this type asking for a heading for only one paragraph or a heading for the whole passage .

Often there will be an example given . It is unlikely this example will be used again .

Example 3

Questions 11—15

Choose ONE phrase A – F from the list to complete each key point .

Write the appropriate letters A – F in boxes 11—15 on your Answer Sheet .

The information in the completed sentences should be an accurate summary of points made by the writer .

Note : There are more phrases A – F than sentences so you will not use them all . You may use any phrase more than once .

This is like the headings instruction . Usually you will have to match the first half of a sentence with the second half . The completed sentences will always be paraphrases or summaries of information in the text .

A similar instruction could ask you to match lists of points such as causes and effects , or advantages and disadvantages .

It is possible that you will use a phrase more than once .

Example 4

Questions 12—15

Look at Questions 12—15 . Classify the following as linked in the passage to :

M Mammals

B Birds

F Fish

Write the appropriate letters M , B or F in boxes 12—15 on your Answer Sheet .

Again this is rather like the headings instruction . You classify the points given in each questions to the appropriate category in the list .

Example 5

Questions 22—27

a *Using NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS , answer the following questions . Write your answers in boxes 22—27 .*

OR

b Complete the sentence(s) below with words taken from Reading Passage 3. Use **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 22—27.

OR

c Complete the table [note/summary] below. Choose **ONE or TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 22—27.

There are two key points you will always need to check with this instruction type:

- **the number of words** you should use for your answer
- **where the words come from**: the passage or your own words.

Example 6

Questions 25—31

Do the following statements agree with the views of [summarise the opinions of/reflect the attitudes of] the writer in Reading Passage 1?

In boxes 25—31 on your answer sheet write:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| YES | if the statement agrees with the writer |
| NO | if the statement contradicts the writer |
| NOT GIVEN | if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this. |

For your answers to questions with an instruction like this you may also write:

- **Y** instead of **YES**
- **N** instead of **NO**
- **NG** instead of **NOT GIVEN**.

Example 7

Questions 33—40

a Complete the notes [summary/diagram] below. Choose your answers [labels] from the box below the notes [summary/diagram] and write them in boxes 33—40 on your Answer Sheet.

Note: There are more words [labels] than spaces so you will not use them all. You may use any of the words more than once.

OR

b Complete the summary of the main ideas in Reading Passage 2. Choose **ONE or TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 25—31 on your Answer Sheet.

OR

c Complete the summary below of the main ideas in Section B on page 5. Choose your answers from the box below the summary and write them in boxes 25—31 on your answer sheet.

Note: There are more words than spaces so you will not use them all. You may use any of the words more than once.

These instructions could apply to a set of notes, a summary or a diagram based on information in the reading passage. The important points for you to note are:

- **the number of words** you should use for answer
- **where the words come from**: the passage or the words given in a box. You might have to use the same

word or phrase more than once.

Make a copy of the blank Reading Answer Sheet at the end of the book and do this Practice Test.

Note : There is no separate answer key for this test . You will find the answers as you work through the exercises in the rest of the book .

The Question Types

There are four main question types in the academic Reading Module. Those are:

- overview questions
- specific information questions
- viewpoint questions
- summarizing question

Overview Questions

These questions will often require you to choose a heading for different sections of the reading. You will be given a number of possible headings to choose from. There are always more headings than you need. You will not always have to give a heading to every section. Sometimes these questions will be multiple-choice questions asking you what the topic of a particular section is.

For each section of the Reading Test, the best strategy is to read all instructions, questions and examples very quickly. This gives you a clear focus when you read the passage and helps you to decide the best strategy for dealing with the questions.

If there are overview questions which require you to match headings with sections of the text, they always come before the reading. If there are questions which require you to choose the best topic from several options, they come after the reading. In both cases the best strategy is to quickly skim the passage.

- Read the first sentence of each paragraph.
- Skim the rest of each paragraph looking for key words.
- Match the headings with the sections.
- Write the heading numbers beside the appropriate sections in the test booklet.
- Read the text more closely to confirm your choices.

Practice

The following exercise will give you practice with this strategy.

Only the first sentence of each paragraph is given.

- Read the instructions.
- Read the headings.
- Read the first sentence of each paragraph once.
- Assign one or more headings to each section as you read.

Time target – 5 minutes

Questions 1—4

The following Reading Passage has six sections A – F. Choose the most suitable heading for the sections from the list of headings below. Write the appropriate numbers (i — viii) in boxes 1—4 on your Answer Sheet.

Note : There are more headings than sections so you will not use all of them. You may use any of the headings more than once.

HEADINGS	
(i)	Accommodating newcomers
(ii)	World Bank efforts
(iii)	Community participation
(iv)	Upgrading housing
(v)	Community leaders
(vi)	Better infrastructure
(vii)	Getting business involved
(viii)	New regeneration strategies

Example	Answer
Section A	viii

1. Section C
2. Section D
3. Section E
4. Section F

READING PASSAGE

URBAN REGENERATION I

A The science-fiction city of the future—Le Corbusier's grand schemes, or Niemeyer's Brasilia—seems ever less likely to replace our decaying cities and sprawling slums. A few new “open filed” towns may be built as satellites to our biggest cities to fulfill this dream but will not house the urban poor. The new urban strategies are aimed at mobilizing local communities and stretching scarce resources to cope with massive problems.

B The massive slum clearance and building boom of the '60s and '70s are over and reaction has set in.

C Community involvement and leadership are critical...Encouraging a dialogue between city officials and shantytown dwellers can produce more effective initiative than top-town planning.

D Current thinking aims at providing incentives to employers, through aid and technical advice, and the provision of small workshops.

E The World Bank has funded improvement schemes worldwide.

In the last decade "sites and services" schemes have concentrated on providing water, sanitation, street foundations and power, but left construction of housing to individual occupants.

F Whenever cityward migrations have reached unusual proportions, conventional housing and infrastructure services have been hard-pressed to cope.

DISCUSSION

You already know that heading VIII has been used in the example. Therefore, it will probably not be used again.

You do not have to choose a heading for section B, even though it has been given a section letter. The IELTS does not always require you to choose a heading for every section. Check this before answering the questions.

Section C (Question 1)

In the first sentence in Section C, there are two key words that match two of the answer choices. These are community and leadership. Also, the word involvement is a synonym of participation. Therefore, at this stage, you would write in your question booklet III and V. If you look at the first sentence of the second paragraph in this section, you find several other key words which indicate that your choices are on the right track. Can you find any clues that might help you decide which of these two is the correct choice?

Section D (Question 2)

This time there are no words the same as the words in the answer choices. However, there are close synonyms which indicate that choice VII might be the answer here. These are the words business and employers.

Section E (Question 3)

The first sentence and answer choice II both mention the World Bank. But when you read the first sentence of the second paragraph you see that services, such as water, sanitation, street foundations and power are mentioned. These are all types of infrastructure. So you must also consider answer choice VI for this section.

Section F (Question 4)

This sentence talks about cityward migrations. People coming to the city are newcomers. But housing is mentioned in this sentence as well as in answer choice IV. Answer choice I mentions accommodating newcomers, which includes housing.

So in an IELTS test you would write in your question book: III and V beside Section C, VII beside Section D, II and VI beside Section E, and I and IV beside Section F. Now you will have to read the passage in greater detail to confirm your choices and make your final selections.

However, in the real IELTS you cannot spend your time reading the complete passage in order to confirm a few answers. You need to keep other questions on that passage in mind at the same time. As you are reading, you should mark sections of the reading passage that might provide answers to these questions.

Look at some other questions for this same passage before you begin reading.

Question 5—9

Choose the appropriate letters A – C.

5. Le Corbusier and Niemeyer are probably
A. traffic engineers B. architects C. builders
6. El Salvador is given as an example of a country which
A. is decaying B. experienced civil unrest
C. operated a community self-help scheme
7. What percentage of the economy of a large city in a developing country is likely to be found in the informal sector?
A. 30 B. 40 – 60 C. 60 – 80
8. Which scheme is given as an example of one making improvements with World Bank funding?
A. El Salvador B. Lusaka C. Francistown
9. In order to limit the number of people migrating to cities the author suggest that governments should
A. invest more in rural areas
B. provide better water supplies
C. let settlers build their own houses

Now read the complete passage that follows to confirm your answers to Questions 1—4 and to answer Questions 5—9.

READING PASSAGE

URBAN REGENERATION II

A The science-fiction city of the future—Le Corbusier's grand schemes, or Niemeyer's Brasilia—seems ever less likely to replace our decaying cities and sprawling slums. A few new "open file" towns may be built as satellites to our biggest cities to fulfill this dream but will not house the urban strategies are aimed at mobilising local communities and stretching scarce resources to cope with massive problems.

B The massive slum clearance and building boom of the '60s and '70s are over and reaction has set in. The human costs of uprooting communities, to re-house them in socially and constructionally disastrous high-rise blocks, are all too evident. Gradual renewal of our decaying city centre is now under way, through reuse of existing structures plus more sensitive new architecture. The renewal is often community-based and many small agencies have sprung up to help municipal and private efforts. Nothing, however, can replace major long-term investment by governments to deal with obsolescence and disrepair.

C Community involvement and leadership are critical. El Salvador, prior to heightened civil unrest in the early '80s, boasted an almost model scheme—a local non-profit making group concentrating on low-cost housing, operating through long-term repayment, appropriate technology and communal self-help.

Encouraging a dialogue between city officials and shantytown dwellers can produce more effective initiative than top-town planning. Redirected, local skills and organization can carry out low-cost schemes on a large scale, as in El Salvador. Establishing local administrative centers helps to focus community spirit, and allows a degree of self-management.

D Current thinking aims at providing incentives to employers, through aid and technical advice, and the provision of many large cities (between 40% and 60% in Jakarta, Bombay and Lima, for example) is a major provider of jobs, and at present receives negligible support through government credit.

E The World Bank has funded improvement schemes worldwide. They include shantytown and transport improvements. The Francistown Project in Botswana succeeded in giving 95% of households clean water, roads, and street lighting. Squatters were given legal tenure.

In the last decade "sites and services" schemes have concentrated on providing water, sanitation, street foundations and power, but left construction of housing to individual occupants. This policy has evolved into "upgrading" of existing slums and shanties. One project in Lusaka, Zambia, in the '70s tackled the upgrading and servicing of 31,000 plots, bringing basic needs to about 30% of people.

F Whenever cityward migrations have reached unusual proportions, conventional housing and infrastructure services have been hard-pressed to cope. The many millions of poor people now crowding into slums and squatter settlements cannot afford even the simplest permanent housing schemes (86% of urban populations in Bangladesh, for instance, are below the absolute poverty line).

Authorities are being forced to take a different line, tackling only the most basic provision themselves, and letting the settlers do the rest, with minimal aid. Just one of their intractable problems is that of water supply which is often privately owned—and very scarce. The most urgent need, however, is for greater rural investment to slow the flood to the cities.

DISCUSSION

Question 1 (Section C)

Closer reading of this section shows the two paragraphs focus more on community involvement and cooperation than on leadership, therefore heading **iii** is better than **V**.

Question 2 (Section D)

This section talks about the informal sector as a source of jobs, so the best heading is still **Vii**.

Question 3 (Section E)

Closer reading of this section shows the World Bank is only mentioned as a provider of funds. There is much more information about the provision of infrastructure in cities, so your choice would be **vi**.

Question 4 (Section F)

There is discussion of several aspects of housing and services for migrants to the city, so **i** is a better choice than **IV**, which is only about housing.

Questions 5—9

As you were reading, did you underline the following: Le Corbusier, Niemeyer, El Salvador, informal economy, World Bank, and between 40% and 60%. If you did, it would be fairly easy for you to find the answers to Questions 5—8. Question 9 asks for the author's suggestion or recommendation.