

THE NEW

Prepare for IELTS

# 最新雅思考试指南

GENERAL TRAINING MODULES

普通类

Penny Cameron & Vanessa Todd

Preparation for the  
new Speaking test  
口试新题型指导

5 complete practice tests  
for the new IELTS test  
5套完整的雅思模拟试题



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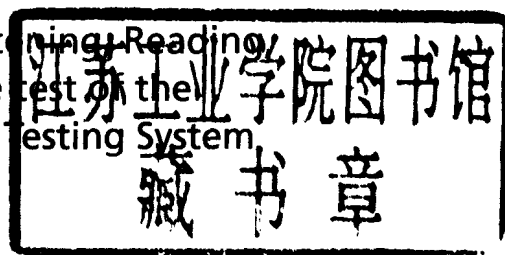
# **Prepare for IELTS**

## **GENERAL TRAINING MODULES**

最新雅思考试指南·普通类

**Penny Cameron & Vanessa Todd**

**5** complete practice tests for Listening, Reading,  
Writing and Speaking in the test of the  
International English Language Testing System



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本书配有磁带，需要的读者请与“网络与光盘检索实验室”联系。

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## 前言

由悉尼科技大学 INSEARCH 语言学院编著的 *The New Prepare for IELTS* 在清华大学出版社的大力支持下终于和大家见面了!

笔者向准备参加雅思考试的朋友们郑重推荐这套书,主要基于三个原因:首先原出版方悉尼科技大学 INSEARCH 学院是在国际上久负盛名的英语和雅思教育权威机构;其次编写本书的两位女作者都是具有二十多年教学与研究经验的英语教学专家和雅思考官;再者也更重要的是因为我本人在过去十年中已亲眼目睹数以万计的留学生通过学习和使用本系列雅思教材而获得考试高分并顺利进入国外大学深造。

笔者服务多年的悉尼科技大学(UTS)是澳大利亚最主要的综合性大学之一,目前在校学生达 28 000 余人,其中大约有 4 000 名来自亚洲和欧美各国的海外学生在其属下的商学院、法学院、信息技术学院、建筑与设计学院、工学院、理学院、人文与社科学院、教育学院和护理与卫生学院等学府攻读各类学士、荣誉学士、硕士和博士课程。由英世企有限公司管理、拥有上千名海外学生的悉尼科技大学 INSEARCH 学院则是全澳最大和最著名的专为海外学生提供各类英语教育包括雅思准备课程的语言和预科学院。而位于悉尼科技大学市中心校区的雅思考试中心多年来也一直是全球规模最大的考试中心。长期以来 INSEARCH 学院编辑出版的各类雅思教材在雅思教育领域始终处于领先地位。

最初的 *Prepare for IELTS* 是由悉尼科技大学于 1991 年出版。当时我刚开始在 INSEARCH 学院任职,也正在准备报考大学的管理硕士研究生。非英语背景的我成为了该书最早的读者之一,使用后感觉受益匪浅,为日后的学习和工作打下了良好的英语基础。1995 年雅思考试的形式和内容改革,悉尼科技大学率先出版了与之相应的 *Prepare for IELTS General Training Modules* 和 *Prepare for IELTS Academic Modules* 系列教材。该系列书和磁带由此一跃成为亚太地区最流行的雅思教材。随后的几年里不论是在 INSEARCH 从事留学招生工作还是在大学任教,我都直接或间接地了解到大量的海外学生和申请移民人士通过学习该雅思教材而获得成功。2001 年雅思考试形式和内容再次修改,悉尼科技大学也因此出版了这套 *The New Prepare for IELTS*。新系列教材出版后,大学接到了众多国家的雅思培训机构和个人发来的订单,其中包括来自中国的团体和读者,这使得 INSEARCH 产生了在中国出版该书的想法,今天在清华大学出版社的协助下这一计划得以实现。在未来几年里,INSEARCH 将竭力向读者朋友们提供国外最新最快的雅思考试信息与教材,帮助大家实现出国留学或移民的愿望。

本书两位作者 Penny Cameron 和 Vanessa Todd 和我认识多年,她们曾在英国、美国、日本、香港和澳大利亚等地专业从事对非英语背景人士的语言教学工作,在雅思考试创办初期即取得考官资格,积累了丰富的雅思教育培训经验。她们谦逊的态度和敬业的精神深得学生和同行的赞赏。由于这是首次推出 INSEARCH 雅思教材中国版,她们很希望得到中国学生关于使用本书的反馈意见,为此我们设立了一个专用电子邮箱:

IELTS@insearch.com.cn，期待指教。

预祝读者朋友们考试成功！

严 骏

2001 年 12 月于北京

注：严骏（Jonathan Yan），澳大利亚太平绅士，1988 年赴澳留学，1990 年进入澳大利亚教育界，长期从事国际教育产业发展和中澳国际教育合作工作。历任悉尼科技大学 INSEARCH 学院海外学生部主任、中澳合作上海大学悉尼工商学院副院长、英世企有限公司海外市场发展经理、悉尼科技大学 MBA（MI）国际工商管理研究所所长等职。现任英世企中国公司总裁。

## 序

IELTS 被引入中国已有 10 多年, 但得到广泛关注只是近两年的事。

IELTS 的全称是 International English Language Testing System, 在我国被译为“雅思”。雅思考试由英国剑桥大学考试委员会, 英国使馆文化处和澳大利亚教育国际开发署共同开发和管理。考试由听力、阅读、写作和口语四个分项考试组成, 分学术类 (Academic) 和通用培训 (移民) 类 (General Training) 两个模块。两个模块的听力和口语考试相同, 阅读和写作考试不同。在雅思考试被引入我国的初期, 参加这一考试的考生主要是中英友好奖学金项目的国家公派留学人员, 1995 年以后, 参加通用培训 (移民) 类考试的考生才逐渐增多起来。

由于雅思考试的形式是根据真实的学术、培训和生存环境的需要而设计, 评价的是考生听、说、读、写四项语言技能的实际运用能力, 也就是考生的交际能力, 而不是考生的语言知识, 能够较准确地反映考生的实际英语水平, 这一考试得到越来越多的大学和教育机构的承认, 不仅仅是英国、澳大利亚、新西兰和加拿大等英联邦国家高等教育机构, 美国越来越多的高校也已开始承认 IELTS 考试成绩, 到目前为止, 接受 IELTS 成绩的美国大学和教育机构已达 189 所。自 2001 年 5 月澳大利亚高校不再承认 TOEFL 成绩以后, 越来越多的留学申请者选择参加 IELTS 考试, 考生人数激增, 2001 年仅北京地区考生人数已经突破了 1 万名。

然而雅思考试的形式不同于我国考生所熟悉的 TOEFL、GRE 或大学英语四、六级等考试的形式, 它既没有语法、词汇项目, 也不以多项选择题为主 (实际上多项选择题只占很小的比例), 考生若要取得理想的成绩, 需要对雅思考试形式的了解, 需要应试培训和应试指导书籍, 尤其需要实用的、有针对性的指导和训练, 从而在较短的时间内尽快适应考试形式, 发挥自己的最佳水平。

*The New Prepare for IELTS* 恰恰能为考生提供他们迫切希望得到的帮助。本书包括对雅思考试的介绍, 如何备考 (临场前的准备和临场如何发挥) 的指导, 针对每一项考试的总体策略以及模拟训练。特别值得圈点之处是本书的开头部分, 考生可以从听说读写四方面就自己对考试形式的了解、考试技巧的熟练程度和语言技能三个方面进行自我评估, 从而判断自己的弱点是由于缺乏对考试形式的了解, 还是缺乏应试技巧的训练, 抑或是语言交际能力欠缺所致, 然后根据书中的专业指导有的放矢地进行训练。针对听读写分项考试, 书中各配有 5 套模拟试题。这些模拟试题从命题思路、选材到材料难易度的把握都十分贴近真正的雅思考试。

通过本书的各种训练, 读者还会有一个意外的收获。书中内容涉及日常生活、文化习俗、就业情况、环境保护、商务和科技发明等社会生活的各个方面, 对于学习者有很强的趣味性。通过学习本书, 读者不仅能够提高英语水平和应试技巧, 还可以了解西方文化, 为将来在国外的留学或移民生活做好思想上的准备。

我相信这样一本为读者提供实实在在的帮助的书，它的价值必然会得到读者的肯定。

王冰欣

于北京语言文化大学出国留学人员培训部

2001.11.22

注：王冰欣，北京语言文化大学外语学院副院长，出国留学培训部主任，副教授。1991年毕业于北京外国语大学，获英美文学硕士学位。1997至1998年在英国爱丁堡大学进修TESOL专业。著有《英国IELTS考试技能训练教程·阅读》、《IELTS阅读模拟试题集（General Training）》等。

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# Unit 1

## Introduction to the IELTS test

### Part 1: About the IELTS test

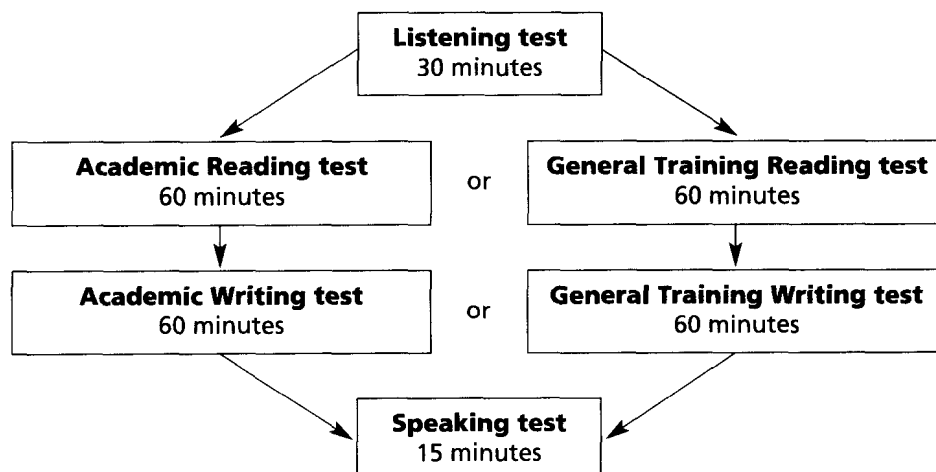
Not only has English become an international language, it is used by more and more people around the world as a medium of post-school study. To help universities and colleges select students with sufficient English skills to succeed in their courses, the IELTS test was introduced in 1989 to assess “whether candidates are ready to study or train in the medium of English”. It is now used for this purpose around the globe.

Depending on the course of study that students plan to take, students must elect to sit either the Academic IELTS test or the General Training IELTS test. This choice must be made when applying to sit the test. The Academic IELTS test is necessary for students who plan to study at university (undergraduate or postgraduate courses), and will test the student’s ability both to understand and to use complex academic language. The General Training IELTS test is required by other institutions, such as colleges and high schools, for courses that require less complex language skills, and is also used as a general test of English proficiency e.g. for immigration purposes in Australia and New Zealand.

### The Test Format

There are four subtests, or modules, to the IELTS test: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. Students must sit all four subtests. While all students take the same Listening and Speaking tests, they sit different Reading and Writing tests, depending on whether they have selected the Academic IELTS test or the General Training IELTS test.

On the day of the test, the four subsections will be taken in the following order:



The Speaking test may even take place a day or two later at some test centres.

**The Listening test** lasts for about 30 minutes. It consists of four sections, played on cassette tape, in order of increasing difficulty. Each section might be a dialogue or a monologue. The test is played once only, and the questions for each section must be answered while listening, although time is given for students to check their answers. **Unit 2** of this book contains five practice Listening tests, recorded on the accompanying cassette tape.

**The Reading test** lasts for 60 minutes. Students are given either an Academic Reading test, or a General Training Reading test. Both tests consist of three sections, and in both tests different question types are used to assess students' comprehension. In both tests the sections are in order of increasing difficulty. **Unit 3** of this book contains five Reading practice tests.

**The Writing test** also lasts for 60 minutes. Again, students take either an Academic test, or a General Training test. Students must perform two writing tasks, which require different styles of writing. There is no choice of question topics. For more detail and Writing practice tests, turn to **Unit 4** of this book.

**The Speaking test** consists of a one-to-one interview with a specially trained examiner. The examiner will lead the candidate through the three parts of the test: an introduction and interview, an individual long turn where the candidate speaks for one to two minutes on a particular topic, and a two-way discussion thematically linked to the individual long turn. This interview will last for approximately 11-14 minutes. For more detail, turn to **Unit 5** of this book.

### **How the test is marked**

Each module is marked on a scale from 1 up to 9. These bands are given according to highly detailed marking guidelines. These marking guidelines are not made public, but correspond roughly to the following descriptions:

- 1 Non User
- 2 Intermittent User
- 3 Extremely Limited User
- 4 Limited User
- 5 Modest User
- 6 Competent User
- 7 Good User
- 8 Very Good User
- 9 Expert User

The test results form will show the mark for each module as well as an average (overall) band score.

### **What do the band scores mean?**

There is no pass or fail mark in the IELTS test. The marks, or bands, that a student receives show their ability to use and understand English. However, it is up to

each university and college to decide what bands will be acceptable for entry into each course. This will usually depend on the language requirements for the course, that is, how difficult is the level of language that students are required to use and understand in each course.

### **The advantages of the IELTS test**

The IELTS test is very comprehensive. It rates a student's ability to use English in the four major language skill areas: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking. Each module contains a variety of question types, and all of them are designed to simulate the language tasks that are needed in real life academic and training situations. Thus the scores that a student achieves in the IELTS test will give the student and the institution to which they have applied a clear idea of the student's ability to use English and whether their language skills are strong enough for them to study their desired course, or to fit more easily into the English-speaking community.

### **The interval between tests**

Students may take the IELTS test as many times as they like, but after sitting an IELTS test, they must wait for THREE MONTHS before they can take it again. This is an official rule, but in any case it is unlikely that a student's score will improve in less than three months.

## Part 2: For the student: How to prepare for IELTS

In this chapter you will find some suggestions for activities and approaches to help you do your best in the IELTS test. You will probably find it most useful after you have completed one or more of the practice tests in this book.

### Analyse your weaknesses

To begin with, read the following statements and tick ☒ any that apply to you.

- |                  |   |                          |
|------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Listening</b> | I cannot listen and read the questions at the same time (E)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I do not understand what the question is asking me to do (E)                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I do not understand what I hear (L)   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Reading</b>   | I run out of time and do not answer all the questions (F)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | It takes me a long time to read the passages (E)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I do not understand what the question is asking me to do (E)                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I do not understand the reading passages (L)                                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Writing</b>   | I am not sure what the question means (E)                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I cannot write quickly enough (E)   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I do not have enough ideas to write about on the topic (L)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I cannot say what I think in English (L)                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Speaking</b>  | I get nervous and make mistakes (E)   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | The examiner asks me questions I have not thought about before (E)          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I do not understand the examiner's questions (L)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                  | I feel threatened when the examiner asks me to speak for 1 or 2 minutes (F) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

After each statement you will find a letter: **F**, **E** or **L**. These refer to: **Format**, **Exam Practice** and **Language Practice**. As you read the sections below, you will find suggestions under each heading to help you improve your IELTS score.

### Know the Format

An important preparation for the IELTS test is to find out about the structure of the test. What are the sections of the test? Which one comes first? Second? How much time is allowed for each section? How many questions are there? How long must I speak?

These are simple questions to answer, but important. Once you are familiar with the test format, you will be more relaxed. You will be able to focus on answering questions well, rather than worrying about how many questions there are, or how much time is left.

You will find the answers to these questions in the introduction to this book, and (in more detail) in the *IELTS Handbook*, available from test administration centres.

## Exam Practice

Once you have found out about the format of the IELTS exam, you need to practise your **exam skills**. These are techniques to help you show off your language skills during the short time you have in the exam.

The first skill to work on is **timing**. You will have to practise reading and writing under time constraints. Practise speed reading every day. Try reading a short passage in a fixed time (for example, set yourself three minutes to read it quickly). You will not understand everything in the first reading, but you will become more used to skimming a text to get a general idea of its main points. Then you can come back to read certain parts of the text with more attention.

Likewise, try writing for a set period of time every day. For this exercise, total accuracy is not necessary; rather you are trying to practise getting your ideas down on paper quickly. Set yourself a different topic each day, such as Computers, the Family, Industry in my country, etc., and write as much as you can for, say, five minutes. Write notes to your friends, or short descriptions of something you have seen. Your speed will improve gradually, and will be very useful in the exam, when you must write a certain number of words for each task in a set period of time.

Another exam preparation is to familiarise yourself with the **question types** used in the IELTS exam. There are many different types, and they do not all appear in every exam. But by knowing some types, you will be familiar with the kinds of tasks you are expected to do, and you will save time because you can interpret the question more easily.

Start with the exams in this book. Do each test under exam conditions, then afterwards look at the tests again. What kind of questions were asked in each section? Multiple choice? Short answers? Matching parts of sentences? Filling in diagrams? Look at the kinds of questions used, and what they are asking you to do. If you had problems with any of them, do them again, slowly, so that you are sure of what you are doing. Then when you sit the real test, you will be more familiar with the kinds of questions asked, and will understand what you have to do more quickly.

Note: always read the questions carefully. Do not assume they will be exactly the same as the practice tests!

Finally, you might think about sitting a real IELTS test "just for practice". You will get to know how it works, and get practice working under exam conditions. Then, when you are ready to take the IELTS test in earnest, you will know about the IELTS format, and will have already practised your exam skills.

If this is not possible, you can ask other students who have taken the IELTS test about their experience, and find out which tasks they think require the most preparation.

## Language Practice, in class and on your own

This is where the hard work lies. Exam practice and knowing the format will help you in the IELTS test by leaving you free to concentrate on your language skills. However, you will need to work hard to further develop these skills.

The IELTS test measures how well students can perform the language skills needed for study. To do this, it uses the kinds of tasks that might be found in real-life situations. Therefore, you will not be able to simply memorise answers. Your IELTS score will be a reflection of your language ability, and to do well, you will have to work on your language skills. To achieve the IELTS score you want will require hard work, usually with the help of a teacher.

### Class Work

In class your teacher will be introducing and extending a range of skills, all essential for the IELTS test. These will include:

- Speaking: pronunciation and intonation practice, fluency practice, using and understanding common phrases, interacting with other speakers, speaking for an extended time on a particular topic, discussing that topic.
- Listening: recognising voice tone (questions, surprise, etc.), listening for keywords, listening for general information, listening for numbers, listening for discourse markers (*firstly, secondly, Or I could say that another way, the most significant result was that ...*).
- Reading: skimming (to get a general understanding), scanning (looking for specific information), vocabulary development, summarising, determining the writer's attitude and opinion.
- Writing: adjusting style according to purpose, writing paragraphs, introductions and conclusions, using conjunctions and reference, organising information within a text, using supporting evidence to prove a claim.

Make the most of the work you study in class by reviewing it regularly. Re-read your class notes; note carefully any areas where you had problems. Work on them again and see your teacher if you still have questions. Try to use new vocabulary in your writing compositions, or in conversation. Practise grammatical structures in the same way.

Your teacher knows what you need and will try to help you overcome language problems. By going over lessons you will get the maximum benefit from your teacher's skills and work.

### Out of class work

Most experts agree that the quickest way to improve in a language is to immerse yourself in it. Therefore, to improve your English skills, try to get into as many situations where you and other people are using English.

This may be difficult if you live in a non-English speaking country. However, try to find English interest groups, go to English films and listen to English on the radio. Read English books and magazines.

In an English-speaking country this is much easier. Wherever there are people, you will be able to use and understand English. English books and magazines will also be easier to obtain. Try to spend as much of your day as possible using English. You will probably end up dreaming in English, too!

### **A final word**

The practice tests in this book are designed to help you understand the nature of the test. You cannot use your results in these tests to accurately predict your performance in a live IELTS test where you will be doing an examination with all its attendant stresses. You can, however, get to know the form of the test very well.

With all this preparation - getting to know the format of the IELTS test, practising exam techniques, class work and private study - you will be ready to do your best in the IELTS exam.

Try also to relax, and do some activities that you enjoy. An occasional break from your studies will give you fresh energy and motivation to continue studying hard.

## The day of the test

After all your preparation for the IELTS test, follow these simple suggestions to ensure your test day goes smoothly.

- Plan to arrive early (perhaps half an hour). Then if you have unexpected transport problems or some other delay, you will have extra time to sort them out before the test starts. There is nothing worse than arriving late, upset and flustered, when you need all your mental energy for the exam.
- Don't worry about the parts of the test that are finished, or those yet to come. Concentrate fully on the module you have in front of you.
- Use your time carefully. Don't spend too much time on any one answer; if you do, you may not answer the other questions properly. Don't finish quickly, then sit doing nothing. In the time remaining, check your answers - you might change a wrong answer to a right answer and gain extra marks.

## The Listening test

- Before each listening section is played, read the questions through quickly. The vocabulary (and any diagrams) will give you some idea of what you are about to hear.
- Note what kinds of questions you must answer: filling in numbers, choosing a description, finding the speaker's opinion. You will then make the most of what you hear, because you will know what to listen for.

## The Reading test

- You have one hour to answer questions on three sections, so divide up your time - perhaps 15 minutes for the first section, 20 minutes for the second section, and 25 minutes for the third section (the sections get harder as you go on, so you might like to spend more time on the last one).
- As a general strategy, do not start by reading the passage. You do not yet know what information you are looking for, and you will waste precious time if you try to read and understand everything.

Firstly, read the heading of the text. This will give you a very general idea of what the passage is about.

Secondly, quickly read through the questions. How many questions are there relating to this text? What kind of questions are they? (sentence completion, diagram completion ...). This will help you focus when you read the text, as you will have some idea what to look for.

Thirdly, turn to the reading passage, and read it through quickly. The purpose here is to get a general understanding of the passage - you do not need to understand every detail.



Finally, turn again to the questions and begin to work through them, referring back to the passage when you need to, and reading important sections carefully and slowly.

If at any time you cannot answer a question, or it is taking you a long time, leave it and come back to it at the end.

### **The Writing test**

The style and shape of your answer will be covered in more detail in **Unit 4** of this book.

On a very practical level, however:

- write in pen (not pencil), as it is easier to read. Bring several pens to the test with you.
- do not write a rough draft, then re-write it. You will waste valuable time.
- use time at the end to check for small errors: verb agreements, plurals, punctuation, verb tense. These things are easily corrected and affect what mark your work will receive.

### **The Speaking test**

Preparation for this test will be covered in more detail in **Unit 5** of this book.

Some things to think about:

- Talk to your friends in English while you are waiting for your interview.
- Do not simply answer the examiner's questions; elaborate on your answers. Talk as much as possible. This is not rude; the examiner needs to hear you talk a lot, so he or she can find out your proficiency level.
- You will find it easier to talk if you have something to say. Use the suggestions in Unit 5 to prepare for the interview. Think about your opinions and your reasons for holding them. Think of important/funny/exciting things that have happened to you and be ready to talk about them.
- Phase 2 of the test requires you to speak for one to two minutes. Use all the information on the card to help you, and practise with a timer so you know how long you should speak.

If you prepare carefully for the IELTS test using the practice tests and the strategies in **Units 4 and 5**, and note the hints for the day of the test, you will show your language skills to their best advantage.

Good luck!