

SEEREE  
Conquer IELTS

李维 编著

# 雅思阅读进阶

Developing Reading Skills

# IELTS



西安交通大学出版社  
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY PRESS



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阅读能力不是课堂上学出来的,而是来自大量的阅读实践。对于阅读而言,单词和语法虽然也是不可或缺的,但并非最有效的方法。有些英语国家的人,虽然没有接受过高等教育,但拿起他们当地的报纸,同样读得津津有味,其实他们的常用词汇量也就几千而已。有的考生词汇背了近万,可是每当阅读原汁原味的英文报纸,依然困难重重,不知如何下笔解题。

雅思阅读考试坚持考试目的的实用性原则和考试题目设计的客观性原则,旨在考察考生在有限的时间内,从大量的阅读材料中获取有效信息的能力,并非传统意义上对英语词汇知识和语法知识的测试。在这里,语言不再是学习的对象,而是获取信息的工具。本书的编写更侧重阅读本身的技能训练,也就是获取信息的训练,以帮助考生在理解文章的基础上,快速、有效地找到考题答案。

本书共分为四个部分,详细介绍了雅思阅读考试的概况,阐述了雅思阅读的解题步骤,并对雅思阅读考试中常见的题型做了系统而全面的讲解。此外,书中还配有大量的练习,力求通过难度适中的练习,使考生迅速了解雅思阅读考试的内容和形式,掌握基本的应试步骤和解题技巧。

本书的编写特色如下:

**考试介绍及标准套题让考生全面了解雅思阅读考试。**本书对留学类和移民类雅思阅读考试分别做了介绍,并附有两套标准试题,使考生能够对雅思考试阅读部分产生直观的认识,并了解熟悉雅思阅读考试。

**雅思阅读基本技巧帮助考生快速、准确掌握解题技巧。**本书详细阐述了雅思阅读四个步骤,并对每个步骤进行了讲解,每个步骤后均配有例题及练习,旨在培养读者快速把握文章结构、识别段落大意、认清题目要求、并且能利用题目中的线索准确检索到答案的技能。此外,书中还添加了非常重要的备考建议,使考生能避免考试中易犯的错误。

**不同题型的设置让考生犹如置身雅思阅读考试现场。**本书还分别对雅思阅读考试中常出现的题型进行了分类说明和讲解。在每一种题型的练习之前,读者都可以发现相关题型的做题步骤和基本技巧。这些步骤和技巧是基于雅思阅读试题设计的客观性而给出的,对考生攻克雅思阅读考试非常有效。

**合理的练习设置让考生理论与实践相结合。**书中还选编了与文化、社会、自然、科学技术相关的文章和练习,目的是在强化本书所涉及的阅读技能的同时,扩充考生相关话题项下的文化知识和词汇。

本书在编写过程中受到许多同事和朋友的鼓励及大力支持,值此书即将出版之际,我在此对他们表示衷心的感谢。同时由于时间、能力有限,错误在所难免,希望各位专家及读者朋友给予批评指正。

李 维

2010年3月于西安

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# Part 1 >>> About IELTS Reading

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## I . Orientation

### General Training Reading

The IELTS General Training Reading test takes 60 minutes. It is divided into three sections of increasing difficulty:

- **Section 1** has short texts which come from advertisements, timetables, instruction manuals and the like;
- **Section 2** has longer texts (usually two texts of about 500 words each) which give information and advice about education and training;
- **Section 3** has one longer text (about 700 words) with more complex language and structure. The text will be about a general topic and come from sources like general interesting magazines.

There are about 40 questions to answer. The questions may come before or after the reading texts. There are a variety of questions. Often there are examples of how to answer the questions.

You may mark or write on the question paper, but all answers must be written on the answer sheet.

### Academic Reading

The IELTS Academic Reading test also takes 60 minutes. There are three reading

passages on topics of general interest and to 40 questions answer. The passages are taken from magazines, journals, books and newspapers. At least one text contains detailed logical argument. Each reading passage is between 700 and 1000 words long.

**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.

Although there are something different between the formats of General Training and Academic Reading Tests, candidates usually apply the same reading strategies and skills to cope with them because they have same types of questions.

### Common question types

- Matching headings to paragraphs
- Summary completion
- True/False/Not Given or Yes/No/Not Given
- Matching of details
- Sentence completion
- Completing an illustration
- Multiple choices
- Classification
- Short answer

## II. Sample: General Training Reading

**TIME ALLOWED:** 1 hour

**NUMBER OF QUESTIONS:** 40

### INSTRUCTIONS

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE WRITTEN ON THE ANSWER SHEET.

The test is divided as follows:

Section 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Questions 1 – 14  
 Section 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Questions 15 – 26  
 Section 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Questions 27 – 40

Start at the beginning of the test and work through it. You should answer all questions. If you cannot do a particular question leave it and go on to the next. You can return to it later.

### Section 1

*You are advised to spend 20 minutes on Questions 1 – 14.*

#### Questions 1 – 8

*Look at the article Having a Lovely Time? about holidays and the statements (1 – 8) below.*

*In boxes 1 – 8 on your answer sheet write*

**TRUE**            *if the statement is true*

**FALSE**          *if the statement is false*

**NOT GIVEN**   *if the information is not given in the passage*



1. Solving problems can be hard work for the holiday-maker.
2. The most common problem for holiday-maker is crowded airports.
3. Overall, holiday accommodation poses few problems.
4. Tour companies provide a satisfactory level of information to holiday-makers.
5. A low-cost holiday should still offer some high-quality services.
6. Hotel staff can advise you on who you should complain to.
7. Photographs may help to support an argument about a holiday problem.
8. If you are not good at writing letters, find someone to help you.

### **Having a Lovely Time?**

A chance to relax and leave your worries behind? For some, holiday are nothing but trouble as the results of one survey showed.

When you think about it, it's amazing that anyone gets away with a carefree holiday. It seems there is limitless potential for things to go wrong, from flight delays and lost luggage to poor accommodation.

A recent questionnaire showed that a third of people who replied had a complaint about their holiday last year. And when these people were unhappy, holiday-makers discussed the problem with their tour company and nearly half said it involved time and effort on their part to resolve things.

When asked exactly what the reasons were for their dissatisfaction, top of the list was flight delays and 20 per cent of holiday-makers to Europe said they had to wait up to an hour.

More worrying is the fact that almost a third of holiday-makers who had complained said it was about the apartment or hotel room they had been allocated. There is an enormous variety of holiday accommodation and we recommend that consumers look

for places that have been inspected by the Tourist Boards; in this way they can have the confidence that they will get the type of accommodation they are looking for. It seems that tour companies now offer more honest accurate brochures though. Eight-five per cent of holiday-makers who responded to our questionnaire said the description offered by the company matched the place they visited and the facilities provided.

This is good news for the industry and for holiday-makers. A holiday is a major purchase—yet it's one we can't try before we pay. All we have to go on is the brochure and it's credit to tour operators that they now contain more detail.

### **Our Advice**

Be realistic. No one should be palmed off with a poor standard of service, food or accommodation even if you paid a rock-bottom price for a last-minute break. However, be reasonable—you won't get a room with the best view in town if you've paid a budget price.

DO complain to the right person. Moaning to the waiter about a week's worth of appalling food, then writing an indignant letter when you get back home won't have the same impact as airing your grievances at the time.

DO get evidence for a serious problem such as having a building site instead of the promised swimming pool below your window. Take a photo to back up your case.

DON'T write and complain for the sake of it. Letters can be powerful as long as they're about something you have a good reason to complain about.

DON'T lose your temper. Easier said than done, but you're more likely to get results if you state your case firmly, explain why you think there's a problem then suggest a reasonable solution.

*Now read Hiring a Car Online and answer Questions 9 – 14.*

### Questions 9 – 14

*Match the car-hire websites to the statements 9 – 14.*

*Write the appropriate letters (A-H) in boxes 9 – 14 on your answer sheet.*

**NB** *Some of the websites may be chosen more than once.*

9. It is possible to see what the cars look like.
10. Assistance is provided with some holiday routes.
11. You will get cheaper car hire if you have used the company before.
12. Attempts made by the writer to book a car were unsuccessful.
13. You can only hire a car in certain locations.
14. The site is suited to people with up-to-date hardware.

### Hiring a Car Online

Online car hire promises to be cheap, quick and convenient. But is it? Neil McDougall revs up his mouse.

#### A

##### **Autos. com**

Just click on the reservations button, fill in your home country, destination and dates, pick a car and you're into the booking form without any fuss and with all the charges, fixed and optional, laid out. There's also a detailed rental guide explaining your contract.

#### B

##### **Cash. com. uk**

One to consider if you're going to the States, although, after I'd worked through half the booking process, it returned an error message without telling me which

element of the procedure needed adjusting. I got there in the end. There is an inspirational section with detailed directions for some of the great drives of America.

## C

### **Expeed. org. uk**

Book a flight with Expeed and when you continue on to the car-hire section, the software already knows where you are going and when. However, you seem to be restricted to cities with airports for your car hire, and additional taxes are presented in travel-agent speak.

## D

### **Cutprice. com**

Is currently offering an aggressive lowest rates guarantee, an extra discount for former Holtravel clients and a package of free gifts to sweeten the deal. It also commits to no insurance excess on any of their rentals anywhere.

## E

### **Hot. org**

Straightforward to navigate, with plenty of information on rental requirements and rules of operation. There are photographs of the types of vehicles available, leaving no doubt what a “premium” or a “compact” car is. It took me just seconds to start reserving a car but then the whole thing grounded to a halt and refused all attempts to access the reservation system.

## F

### **Cars. net**

Another site offering discounts for booking online, but also special late deals (for example £35 off a Renault Megane in Majorca last week). Prices are fully inclusive of insurance and there is a reassuringly large small-print section.

## G

### **Cover. org**

A three-step process to rent cars in 70 countries. Very flash and slick, so much so

that people with older computers may have trouble getting this information. Limited selection of online tourist attractions (but that's more than most give you). Graphically complex but impressive booking system.

## H

### **Cheapandcheerful.net.uk**

Avoids unnecessary embellishments online but the booking procedure is as good as it gets. Enter how many miles you expect to drive and tick your insurance, driver and child-seat choices and they will all be included in the final price. You must contact the location directly if you need a car within 3 days. And to hire a car abroad, there's a dull email form to fill in and they'll get back to you.

## Section 2

*You are advised to spend 20 minutes on Questions 15 – 26. Look at the book extract.*

### Questions 15 – 20

*From the list of headings below choose the most suitable heading for each paragraph A-G. Write the appropriate numbers (i-x) in boxes 15 – 20 on your answer sheet.*

#### List of heading

- i . Gathering source material
- ii . Open-ended essays
- iii . The importance of focusing on the task
- iv . Writing the essay
- v . Types of essay and their purpose
- vi . Learning from the essay
- vii . Making the support material relevant
- viii . Reviewing and amending the essay
- ix . Allocating your personal resources
- x . Writing a framework

Example	_____	Answer
Paragraph B	_____	ix
15. Paragraph A		
16. Paragraph C		
17. Paragraph D		
18. Paragraph E		
19. Paragraph F		
20. Paragraph G		

## Essay Writing

### A

Essays, whether written as part of a secondary school programme or further education course, are designed to test your thinking, writing and study skills. Creative essays offer you the freedom to demonstrate your abilities to communicate effectively. Analytical essays, on the other hand, will require you to show that you have researched the topic and drawn on the work of others to come to your conclusion.

### B

The amount of time and effort you devote to writing an essay will depend on how it fits into the overall scheme of assessment and should be in direct proportion to the percentage of marks allotted. If the essay constitutes part of your coursework, the time and effort required will depend on what marks, if any, are going towards your overall mark and grade.

### C

However interesting and well prepared your essay may be, if it does not address the question, you will not receive a good mark. It is therefore essential that you examine the question and understand what is required. A list of key words which may appear in an essay question is provided in Appendix 4. Be sure you know what

is being asked for and then consider what information is relevant and what is not.

## D

Use a variety of relevant background texts, refer to your lecture notes and heed any advice given by your lecturer. When you collect material, always ask yourself what questions need to be answered and then take good notes in your own words. Begin notes on each source on a new page and do not forget to record details of the author, title of the book and date of publication. Remember that copying words from another writer's work without acknowledging the source constitutes the serious crime of plagiarism.

## E

Once you have collected your source material you should then sketch out a plan. Begin by writing three or four sentences, which provide a summary of the essay. You can amend or add to the plan as you proceed and it provides a useful scaffold for your essay. It also ensures that you cover all the main themes and that your essay focuses on the question. Ideally you should plan to examine the question from all sides, presenting various views before reaching a conclusion based on the evidence.

## F

The introduction to the essay should explain to the reader how you are going to tackle the question and provide an outline of what will follow. Then move on to the main body of the essay. Refer to your notes and develop two or three logical arguments. Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence, which clearly states the subject to be discussed, and then use the remainder of the paragraph to fill out this opening sentence. A good essay should finish rather than simply stop. That is to say, the conclusion should provide a statement of your final position, summing up the arguments that your opinions are based upon.

## G

It is important to keep the essay relevant and to provide some examples, quotations,

illustrations, diagrams or maps wherever appropriate. However, it is equally important to avoid the temptation to pad your essay with unwanted information; this wastes your time and undermines the relevant parts of the essay. In coursework and assessment essays not written under examination conditions, do not forget to acknowledge your sources in a bibliography.

***Now read the information below and answer Questions 21 – 26.***

## **Course Guidelines**

### **Assignments**

Coursework assignments will involve the production of an artifact (something shaped by human beings rather than by nature) OR an investigation of some kind followed by a report. This is to demonstrate the relevance of your study to society today. If you opt to produce an artifact, (e. g. a working model or piece of machinery) you will also be expected to provide some written explanation of how and why you produced it.

You need to follow these steps:

- Find out precisely what is expected of you. Talk to your tutor and refer to the syllabus document.
- Be aware of what skills and abilities you must demonstrate.
- Always plan a project thoroughly before you begin it but be realistic about how much time you can seriously devote to it.

### **Choosing a topic**

Remember that this course is essentially concerned with the achievement of desired ends. So first identify a real-life problem, then consider it in detail. Specify a precise need and define your design task. As you plan, wherever possible, consider using new materials, techniques and technology such as computer-aided design (CAD).



There is nothing wrong with talking to knowledgeable people about your project; In fact, this shows initiative. However, the project is yours so you must do the work yourself.

You will need a fairly flexible plan because sometimes resources, apparatus and consumables may not be available when you need them. It is a good idea to work backwards when planning so you know you will meet your final deadline. Finally, when you plan the various stages of your project give due regard to safety and costs.

### Questions 21 – 26

*Look at the Course Guidelines for students on how to approach a design project. Complete the sentences below using NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each answer. Write your answers in boxes 21 – 26.*

21. There are \_\_\_\_\_ types of assignment to choose from.
22. A working model must be accompanied by \_\_\_\_\_ of some sort.
23. In order to understand the purpose of the assignment, students are advised to read \_\_\_\_\_.
24. Topics must be based on \_\_\_\_\_.
25. To avoid handing in the assignment late, it is suggested that students \_\_\_\_\_.
26. As well as being cost effective, the method chosen must also be \_\_\_\_\_.

### Section 3

*You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 27 – 40 which are based on the reading passage below.*

#### A Stone Age Approach to Exercise

Forget those long arduous sessions in the gym. If you want to stay fighting fit, try a modern stone Age workout (physical exercise session) instead.