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# IELTS™

# Official IELTS Practice Materials

*Updated March 2009*

[www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

# Official IELTS Practice Materials

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A CD containing the Practice Listening test and three sample candidate Speaking tests is included at the back of this booklet.

## Introduction

These Practice Materials are intended to give IELTS candidates an idea of what the test is like. They also give candidates the opportunity to test themselves to see whether their English is at the level required to take IELTS.

Please note, however, that a high score on these Practice Materials does not guarantee that the same standard will be reached in the real IELTS test.

**These Practice Materials are approved by the British Council, Cambridge ESOL and IDP: IELTS Australia.**

## Format of the IELTS

The IELTS test is made up of four components. All candidates take the same Listening and Speaking tests. There is a choice of Reading and Writing tests depending on whether you are an **ACADEMIC** or **GENERAL TRAINING** candidate.

The tests are normally taken in the order Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking, and are timed as follows:

Listening	approximately 30 minutes
Reading	60 minutes
Writing	60 minutes
Speaking	11–14 minutes

Information on the test format can be found in *IELTS Information for Candidates*. This is available from test centres or can be downloaded from the IELTS website [www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

The website also contains further information on the test content, test administration and marking procedures.

# How to use the Practice Test

## Preparing to take the Practice Test

- 1 Decide which Reading and Writing tests you should take – **ACADEMIC** or **GENERAL TRAINING**.

The Academic module assesses the English language skills required for academic study or professional recognition.

The emphasis of the General Training module is on language skills in broad social and workplace contexts. It is suitable for candidates who are going to migrate to an English-speaking country (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK). It is also suitable for candidates planning to undertake work experience or training programmes not at degree level, or to complete their secondary education.

- 2 You need to write your answers on the answer sheets. The Listening/Reading answer sheets are on pages 80–81. Instructions on how to complete the Listening/Reading answer sheets are on page 79. The Writing answer booklet is on pages 82–85. You may photocopy the answer sheets/booklets so that they may be reused.
- 3 Prepare for the Practice Test carefully:
  - Find a quiet room with a table to write on.
  - Make sure that you are not going to be interrupted.
  - Make sure that you have everything you need, i.e. pencils, pens, an eraser, a pencil sharpener and a CD player for the Listening test.
  - Make sure you have a watch or clock. It is essential that you follow the time allowed for each component. There is a lot of material in the Reading and Writing tests and one of the aims of this Practice Test is to see how you can manage in the time allowed. **If you allow yourself longer than the test says, you will not get a true picture of your ability.**

## Taking the Practice Test

- 1 Turn to the **Listening test** on page 5. Do not open it yet. Put the Listening test CD in the CD player. Do not play it yet.

Read the instructions on the cover of the question paper and make sure you understand them. Start the Listening test CD. Note that once you have started the CD, you must not stop it. You must let it run straight through to the end. It will take about 30 minutes. You should write your answers as you listen in the spaces provided next to the questions on the question paper.

Once the recording has ended, do not listen to it again.

Copy your answers carefully into the corresponding boxes on the answer sheet. For example, write the answer to question 1 in box 1. You must copy your answers onto the answer sheet in 10 minutes.

- 2 Now turn to the appropriate **Reading test** (Academic or General Training) on pages 14 or 37. Read the instructions on the cover of the question paper and make sure you understand them. Make a note of the time and start the test.

You may write your answers directly on the answer sheet, or you may write your answers on the question paper and then copy them onto the answer sheet. Note, however, that no extra time is allowed for copying answers onto the answer sheet.

After 60 minutes, stop immediately.

- 3 Allow yourself a short break.
- 4 Now turn to the appropriate **Writing test** (Academic or General Training). There are three examples of the Academic Writing test on pages 28–36. There are two examples of the General Training Writing test on pages 49–54.

Read the instructions on the cover of the question paper. Once you are sure you understand them, make a note of the time and start the test.

Write your answers in the Writing answer booklet.

You should spend approximately 20 minutes on Task 1, and approximately 40 minutes on Task 2.

After 60 minutes, stop immediately.

- 5 Allow yourself a break.
  - 6 There is information about the **Speaking test** and sample Speaking materials on pages 55–56.
- Read through this material and practise making responses.

## Marking the Practice Test

- 1 Read 'How to mark the Listening and Reading Practice Tests' on page 57, and then check your answers to the Listening and Reading tests against those in the answer keys on page 58.

To interpret your Listening and Reading scores, read 'Interpreting your Scores' on page 62.

- 2 You cannot mark the Writing test yourself, but you will have a clearer idea of what is required in the time allowed. There is information on how Writing is assessed on page 63.

You will find sample answers to the Writing tasks on pages 64–76. Each answer has been given a Band Score and these are explained by examiner comments.

- 3 You cannot mark your speaking performance using the sample Speaking test materials, but there is information on how Speaking is assessed on page 77. On the CD, there are three sample Speaking tests. On page 78, there are Band Scores and examiner comments for each sample candidate performance.

### **Taking the Practice Test again**

- 1 If your scores on the Practice Test are low and you decide to have more English lessons or study to improve a language skill, you may want to take the test again to see if you have made progress before you apply to take IELTS. You should, therefore, put the Practice Materials away and not refer to them until you are ready to try again. If you do this, there is a good chance that you will have forgotten the answers and that the Practice Test will still give you a reasonable indication of the score you would get on IELTS. You should therefore not re-take the Practice Test too soon after first taking it.
- 2 Please note that the Practice Materials are not designed to measure short-term progress. If you re-take the Practice Test too soon, you may find that your scores are no higher than they were.

Candidate Number

Candidate Name \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM 0380/4**  
**0381/4**

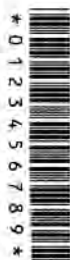
Listening

**PRACTICE MATERIALS**

Approximately 30 minutes

Additional materials:

Answer sheet for Listening and Reading



**Time** Approximately 30 minutes (plus 10 minutes' transfer time)

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

**Write your name and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page.**

Listen to the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer all the questions.

While you are listening, write your answers on the question paper.

You will have 10 minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the separate answer sheet. Use a pencil.

At the end of the test, hand in this question paper.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

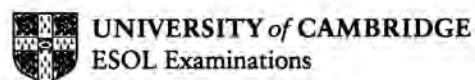
There are **four** parts to the test.

You will hear each part **once** only.

There are **40** questions.

Each question carries one mark.

For each part of the test, there will be time for you to look through the questions and time for you to check your answers.



PV7

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**SECTION 1**

**Questions 1 – 10**

Questions 1 and 2

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B** or **C**.

*Example*

Penny's interview took place

- A** yesterday.
- B** last week.
- C** two weeks ago.

- 1 What kind of shop is it?
  - A** a ladies' dress shop
  - B** a department store
  - C** a children's clothes shop
  
- 2 What is the name of the section Penny will be working in?
  - A** the Youngster
  - B** the Youngset
  - C** the Young Set

3

Questions 3 – 10

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

**Pay:** \$6.50 an hour

**Breaks:** one hour for lunch and **3** ..... coffee breaks

**Holidays:** three weeks a year in the first two years  
four weeks a year in the **4** .....

**Staff training:** held on the **5** ..... of every month

**Special staff benefits or 'perks':** staff discount of **6** ..... on everything except sale goods

**Information on pension:** see Personnel Manager, office in **7** .....

**Boss's name:** **8** .....

**Duties:** serve customers  
**9** .....  
check for shoplifters  
check the stock

**Expected to wear:** a **10** ..... , a red blouse,  
and a name badge

Turn over ►



**SECTION 2****Questions 11 – 20**

Questions 11 – 13

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B** or **C**.

- 11** The Bridge Hotel is located in
- A** the city centre.
  - B** the country.
  - C** the suburbs.
- 12** The newest sports facility in the hotel is
- A** a swimming pool.
  - B** a fitness centre.
  - C** a tennis court.
- 13** The hotel restaurant specialises in
- A** healthy food.
  - B** local food.
  - C** international food.

Questions 14 and 15

Choose **TWO** letters, **A-E**.

Which **TWO** business facilities are mentioned?

- A** internet access
- B** mobile phone hire
- C** audio-visual facilities
- D** airport transport
- E** translation services



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE  
ESOL Examinations



\*1448077176\*

University of Cambridge  
ESOL Examinations  
1 Hills Road  
Cambridge, CB1 2EU  
**United Kingdom**

Tel 44 1223 553355  
Fax 44 1223 460278  
email [ielts@CambridgeESOL.org](mailto:ielts@CambridgeESOL.org)

British Council  
Bridgewater House  
58 Whitworth Street  
Manchester, M1 6BB  
**United Kingdom**

Tel 44 161 957 7755  
Fax 44 161 957 7762  
email [ielts@britishcouncil.org](mailto:ielts@britishcouncil.org)

IDP: IELTS Australia  
Level 8  
535 Bourke St  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Australia**

Tel 61 3 9612 4400  
Fax 61 3 9629 7697  
email [ielts@idp.com](mailto:ielts@idp.com)

IELTS International  
825 Colorado Boulevard, Suite 112  
Los Angeles, CA 90041  
**USA**

Tel 1 323 255 2771  
Fax 1 323 255 1261  
email [ielts@ieltsintl.org](mailto:ielts@ieltsintl.org)

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