

# Why take IELTS

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is the world's most popular English language proficiency test.

Take IELTS to:

- Apply to a university or higher education institution for a course taught in English in any country in the world.
- Work in a professional organisation in an English speaking country.
- Immigrate to an English speaking country such as Canada, Australia or New Zealand.



[Book your test](#)

## IELTS test levels

You will be awarded an IELTS band score from 0-9 for each test section (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking), and an overall band score which reflects your proficiency in English.

Each educational institution or organisation sets its own level of IELTS scores to meet its individual requirements. [You can check the scores here.](#)

## Test fees and further information

Please visit this page for information about test locations, dates and fees: [IELTS website registration portal](#)

## Test

There are two IELTS tests available – IELTS Academic and IELTS General Training. The test you choose should be based on what you want to achieve:

IELTS Academic measures whether your level of English language proficiency is suitable for an academic environment. It reflects aspects of academic language and evaluates whether you're ready to begin training or studying.

IELTS General Training measures English language proficiency in a practical, everyday context. The tasks and tests reflect both workplace and social situations.

You can find more information [here](#).

Please check which test you require with the institution or organisation.



[Find out more](#)

The structure of the test is as follows:

### **ACADEMIC:**

Listening: 30 minutes

Reading: 60 minutes

Writing: 60 minutes

Speaking: 11-14 minutes

### **GENERAL TRAINING:**

Listening: 30 minutes

Reading: 60 minutes

Writing: 60 minutes

Speaking: 11-14 minutes

## **Paper or computer?**

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IELTS on paper

If you choose this option, the Listening, Reading and Writing sections will be on paper and the Speaking test will be conducted face-to-face with a trained IELTS Examiner.

IELTS on computer

This is exactly the same test as IELTS on paper, but instead of writing your answers on paper, you will type them on a computer.

With IELTS on computer, you will have more test dates to choose from - and your results will be available in 3-5 days.

## **How can I prepare for the test?**

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Prepare for your test with [a range of free IELTS study materials and resources](#) from the British Council that are included in the test fee.

The IELTS learning materials will get you acquainted with the test format and also improve your confidence when listening, reading, writing and speaking in English.

## **FAQs**

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Frequently asked questions can be found on [TakeIELTS website](#).