

The IELTS exam pattern comprises **four sections, Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking**. The candidates are tested on these four parameters. **The International English Language Testing System (IELTS exam)** can be given **in two formats namely IELTS Academic and IELTS General Training Test**. Candidates should check the requirement of the college/university they are applying to and then prepare accordingly. IELTS Academic is **accepted by universities worldwide** where candidates apply for pursuing undergraduate or postgraduate courses. The IELTS test pattern includes 4 sections that evaluate the candidates' ability on various parameters.

It is also accepted by **professional organizations** that ask for English language proficiency scores from the candidates whose native language is not English. On the other hand, IELTS General Training is given by those **who are planning to migrate to a major English speaking nation**. It can also be given by those who are shifting to a different country for work-related training. **IELTS Test Score** plays a significant role in the selection criteria. This exam is conducted and administered by the ETS, Educational Testing Service, across the world. This exam is accepted by more than 10,000 educational institutes in more than 150 countries.

IELTS Paper Pattern

Sections with Duration	IELTS Academic Test Description	Total Questions
<u>Listening</u> (30 minutes)	It encompasses four recorded monologues and conversations	40
<u>Reading</u> (60 minutes)	Three long reading passages with tasks Texts range from descriptive and factual to discursive, and analytical includes non-verbal material like diagrams, graphs, and illustrations texts are authentic (taken from books, journals, and newspapers)	40
<u>Writing</u> (60 minutes)	A writing task of at least 150 words where the candidate must summarize, describe or explain table, graph, chart or diagram, and another short essay task of at least 250 words	2
<u>Speaking</u> (11-14 minutes)	The face-to-face interview includes short questions, speaking at length about a familiar topic and a structured discussion	3

IELTS Test Component (Academic and General Training)

1. Listening (Same for Academic and General Training)

- It includes **four sections, 40 items**
- One is a conversation between two individuals
- Second is a monologue/speech
- The third section is a conversation among a maximum of four people set in an academic setting
- The final one is a monologue on an academic subject

Please note that each section is heard only once.

2. Reading (Different for Academic and General Training)

- It includes **three sections, 40 items**
- You need to read the text passages and answer questions in multiple-choice, sentence completion, summary writing, matching information, short-answers
- Each passage consists of 13-14 questions
- The reading module has in total of 40 questions
- Reading passages and questions are different in Academic and General Training IELTS

a) Reading-IELTS Academic

- The syllabus includes three long texts
- **Subject matter range from the descriptive and factual to the discursive and analytical.**
- The texts are authentic and are taken from books, journals, magazines, and newspapers.
- These are selected for a **non-specialist audience**
- Appropriate for candidates entering university courses or seeking professional registration abroad.

b) Reading- IELTS General Training

- Requires candidates to read extracts from **books, magazines, newspapers, notices, advertisements, company handbooks, and guidelines.**
- These are materials **one is likely to encounter on a daily basis in an English speaking environment.**

3. Writing (Different for Academic and General Training)

- It includes two tasks
- Topics are of general interest and suitable for candidates planning undergraduate and postgraduate studies abroad or seeking professional registration.
- In **Academic Task I**, you will be presented with a graph, table, chart or diagram and asked to describe, summarise or explain the information in your own words.
- In **General Task I**, the candidate would be required to write a letter as per the given situation. The letter could be formal, semi-formal or personal depending upon the situation presented. You will be asked to explain, request for something or support your argument to a certain authority.
- **In Task 2, you will be asked to write an essay in response to a point of view, argument or problem.**

4. Speaking (Same for Academic and General Training)

- **Three-part one-on-one conversation**
- The test will be recorded for evaluation purposes and will consist of three parts that simulate a face-to-face oral interview with an examiner.
- **The Speaking component assesses the candidates' use of spoken English; takes between 11 to 14 minutes to complete.**
- **The entire speaking test is recorded by the examiner.**
- **In Part I**, you will be asked questions about oneself and a range of familiar topics, such as home, family, work, studies and interests.
- Part I is for about four and five minutes.
- **In Part II**, you will be given a card asking you to talk about a particular topic. You will be given one minute to prepare before speaking.
- **In Part III**, the questions you will be asked will be connected to the Part II topics.