

Information about the Preparatory Course for International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

About IELTS

Adapted from source: <https://www.ielts.org/>

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) measures the language proficiency of people who want to study or work where English is used as a language of communication. It uses a nine-band scale to clearly identify levels of proficiency, from non-user (band score 1) through to expert (band score 9).

IELTS Academic or IELTS General Training

- IELTS is available in two test versions: Academic - for people applying for higher education or professional registration, and General Training for those migrating to Australia, Canada and the UK, or applying for secondary education, training programmes and work experience in an English-speaking environment. Both versions provide a valid and accurate assessment of the four language skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking.
- IELTS treats all test takers with the utmost fairness and respect by actively avoiding cultural bias, and accepting all standard varieties of native-speaker English, including North American, British, Australian and New Zealand English.
- IELTS is available at more than 1,100 locations worldwide, including more than 50 locations in the USA, and there are 48 test dates a year.

IELTS for study - Accepted as evidence of English proficiency by 10,000 institutions

An IELTS certificate is recognised as evidence of proficiency in English by more than 10,000 education and training providers worldwide. Some universities in non-English speaking countries require an IELTS score, where courses are taught in English.

About the IELTS Academic test

The IELTS Academic test is suitable for entry to study at undergraduate or postgraduate levels, and also for professional registration purposes. It assesses whether you are ready to begin studying or training in an environment where English language is used, and reflects some of the features of language used in academic study.

Test format details

- The IELTS test assesses your abilities in listening, reading, writing and speaking – in less than three hours.
- There are two types of the IELTS test: IELTS Academic and IELTS General Training. Listening and Speaking are the same for both tests, but the subject matter of the Reading and Writing components differs depending on which test you take.
- The Listening, Reading and Writing components of all IELTS tests are completed on the same day, with no breaks in between them.
- The Speaking component, however, can be completed up to a week before or after the other tests. Your test centre will advise.
- The total test time is 2 hours and 45 minutes.
- The IELTS test can be taken at various official IELTS test locations in Singapore.

For more information on IELTS, please log on to <https://www.ielts.org/>

Course Overview

This IELTS preparatory course is generally for students who already have a functional level of English proficiency. The course aims to help the student develop the essential academic English skills that are required to achieve a high score in the IELTS Academic test. This course is also for students who may not plan to take the IELTS test immediately but in the future; and who may need additional development of essential language skills. Thus, the course will help students to develop and improve their skills in the four main components of the IELTS test i.e. Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. In addition, the course will inculcate in students the proper grammar and expand their vocabulary.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, the student will learn:

- how to read, interpret and analyse academic texts.
- how to read, analyse and answer comprehension questions based on written texts as found in the IELTS academic test.
- how to analyse, interpret and elaborate on graphs in writing.
- how to identify and scan for specific information as well as to infer point(s) of view in written texts as found in the IELTS academic test.
- how to articulate issues in a discursive or opinion essay.
- how to competently handle the speaking component of the IELTS test (e.g. by taking part in discussions (e.g. group or pair) and practicing the required speaking skills).
- how to precisely note and record down the salient points from spoken texts or dialogues.
- how to competently handle the listening component of the IELTS test (e.g. by practicing listening skills using a wide variety of spoken text types as found in the IELTS test).

Mode and Duration:

For the Standard course, it is 2.5 Months of Full-Time Study, Mondays to Fridays (5.0 Days x 6.0 Hours per day).

For the Short Term course, it is 1.0 Months of Full-Time Study, Mondays to Fridays (5.0 Days x 3.0 Hours per day).

Learning is mainly in a classroom setting.

Teaching methods are varied including:

- Interactive Tutorials (including use of IT).
- Group work.
- Group discussion.

Entry Requirements:

- Minimum Age: At least 16 years old.
- Academic Level: Secondary 4 or equivalent level.
- Language Proficiency: Secondary 4 or equivalent level.

Mode of Internal Assessments:

- English Diagnostic Placement Tests.
- Tests and examinations for the 4 major components i.e. Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.
- Assignments and Projects.

Qualification / Award

The student will receive a Certificate of Attendance and Course Completion upon successful completion of the course.