Welcome to IELTS General Training

The Gateway to Global Migration, Employment & Living Abroad

What is IELTS General Training?

**It is the globally benchmarked test designed to measure English language proficiency in a practical,
everyday social and workplace context.**
Global Acceptance: Strictly required for immigration and visa purposes by government bodies in Canada (Express Entry/PNP), Australia, New Zealand, and the UK. It is also used for employment and secondary school entry.

IELTS General Training - Listening Module

Tests your ability to understand spoken English in both everyday social and academic environments.

- **Duration: Approximatly. 30 minutes (Plus 10 mins transfer time for Paper-based / 2 mins review time for Computer-delivered).**
- **Structure: 40 Questions across 4 Sections (10 questions per section).**

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Detailed Breakdown:

- **Section 1 (Social/Transactional): A conversation between two people in an everyday social context (e.g., inquiring about gym membership).**
- **Section 2 (Social Monologue): One person speaking in an everyday context (e.g., a radio guide about local recycling).**
- **Section 3 (Academic/Training Context): A discussion between up to 4 people in an educational or workplace training setting (e.g., colleagues discussing a project).**
- **Section 4 (Academic Monologue): A lecture or talk on a topic of general interest (e.g., the history of a specific industry).**

Common Question Types: Form/Note completion, Multiple Choice, Matching, Sentence completion.

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IELTS General Training - Reading Module

Focuses on the survival reading skills required in daily life, the workplace, and society.

- **Duration: 60 minutes (Strictly NO extra transfer time allowed).**
- **Structure: 40 Questions across 3 distinct sections.**

Detailed Breakdown:

- **Section 1 (Social Survival - ~13 Questions):** Contains 2 or 3 short factual texts or notices (e.g., travel leaflets, advertisements, timetables).
- **Section 2 (Workplace Survival - ~13 Questions):** Focuses on work context. Contains 2 texts (e.g., job descriptions, staff policies, safety manuals, contracts).
- **Section 3 (General Reading - ~14 Questions):** 1 long, complex text dealing with a topic of general interest (usually descriptive or narrative).

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Source of Texts: Notices, advertisements, company handbooks, official documents, books, and magazines.

Common Question Types:
True / False / Not Given, Multiple Choice, Matching Information, Summary completion.

IELTS General Training - Writing Module
Assesses your practical communication skills, ability to write letters, and construct general arguments.

- **Duration: 60 minutes (Recommended: 20 mins for Task 1, 40 mins for Task 2).**
- **Structure: 2 Mandatory Tasks.**

Detailed Breakdown:

- **Task 1 (Letter Writing): You are given a everyday situation (e.g., complaining about a product, applying for a job, inviting a friend). You must write a formal, semi-formal, or informal letter based on the prompt.**
  Minimum: 150 words.

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- **Task 2 (General Essay): You must write an essay responding to a statement, argument, or problem of general interest. The tone can be slightly more personal than Academic, but still well-structured. Minimum: 250 words.**

Assessment Criteria:

- **Task Response (25%),**
- **Coherence & Cohesion (25%),**
- **Lexical Resource (25%),**
- **Grammatical Range & Accuracy (25%).**

IELTS General Training - Speaking Module

A face-to-face, interactive interview with an examiner testing your fluency and confidence in spoken English.
Duration: 11 to 14 minutes.
Structure: 3 Distinct Parts.

Detailed Breakdown:

Part 1 (Introduction - 3-4 mins): Easy questions about yourself, your family, your job, your hometown, or daily habits.

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Part 2 (The Long Turn - 3-4 mins): You receive a cue card with a descriptive topic. You have 1 minute to take notes and must speak for 1-2 minutes without stopping.

Part 3 (Discursive Discussion - 4-5 mins): Abstract, deeper questions connected to the topic in Part 2. This tests your ability to compare, give opinions, and debate general societal issues.

Summary Matrix - IELTS General Training

- **Total Time: ~2 Hours 45 Minutes.**
- **Scoring: Band Scale from 1 to 9 for each module, with an Overall Band Score.**
  Focus: Proof of your ability to integrate, work, and survive effortlessly in an English-speaking society.

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IELTS GENERAL TRAINING – SCORE CALCULATION GUIDE

1. Objective Scoring (Listening & Reading)

Listening Band Conversion (Same for General & Academic)

Raw Score (Out of 40)	IELTS Band Score
39 – 40	9.0
37 – 38	8.5
35 – 36	8.0
32 – 34	7.5
30 – 31	7.0
26 – 29	6.5
23 – 25	6.0
19 – 22	5.5
16 – 18	5.0

General Training Reading Band Conversion (Lenient Grading) Because General Training texts are less complex, you need more correct answers to achieve the same band score as the Academic version.

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Raw Score (Out of 40)	IELTS Band Score
40	9.0
39	8.5
37 – 38	8.0
36	7.5
34 – 35	7.0
32 – 33	6.5
30 – 31	6.0
27 – 29	5.5
23 – 26	5.0

2. Subjective Scoring (Writing & Speaking)

Speaking Module

Identical to Academic. Graded from 1 to 9 based on 4 criteria (25% each):

1. Fluency and Coherence (FC)
2. Lexical Resource (LR)
3. Grammatical Range and Accuracy (GRA)
4. Pronunciation (P)

Formula: {Speaking Band} = {{FC} +{LR} +{GRA} +{P}} / 4

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General Training Writing Module

The weighting remains the same:

Task 2 (Letter) is 1/3 of your grade, and Task 2 (General Essay) is 2/3 of your grade.

The core difference is in Task 1 criteria, which evaluates Task Achievement based on how well you fulfilled the purpose and tone of the letter prompt.

Formula: {Total Writing Band} = { {Task 1 Score} + {Task 2 Score x 2}} / 3

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3. General Training Overall Band Score & Rounding Rule

The averaging and rounding rules are exactly identical to the Academic module.

Calculation Examples for Your Students: The Overall Band Score is the average of all 4 modules, rounded to the nearest whole or half band according to official Cambridge specifications:

- **Ends in .00 to .24 ➡ Rounds DOWN to the nearest whole band**
- **Ends in .25 to .74 ➡ Rounds to the nearest HALF band**
- **Ends in .75 to .99 ➡ Rounds UP to the nearest whole band**