

# IELTS Study Planner

## Get started

Day	Activity	Self-check
1	<p>Test takers who understand the format of IELTS are at an advantage. Become familiar with IELTS by looking at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/test-format">https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/test-format</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/test-format">https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/test-format</a></li> </ul>	
	<p>Take a practice IELTS test to better understand your current English level. You can find practice papers at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/sample-test-questions">https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/sample-test-questions</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-ielts-practice-tests">https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-ielts-practice-tests</a></li> </ul>	
	<p>You can now take the IELTS test on a computer! Take the familiarization test at <b>GELIELTS</b>.</p>	
	<p>Download the <b>IELTS Prep App</b> onto your phone to give you instant access to free practice tests and sample questions for the listening, reading, writing and speaking sections.</p>	
	<p>To give you an approximate indication of your English level, go to <b>LearnEnglish</b> and take our free online English test.</p>	
	<p>Consider purchasing additional IELTS practice materials. For more information, please go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Road to IELTS</b> (for a comprehensive online preparation program)</li> </ul>	

# Week 1 (Focus: Listening)

Day	Activity	Self-check
2	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and learn everything you can about the listening section (format, timing, task types, how it's marked).</p> <p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and look at some of the listening sample questions.</p> <p>Go to <b>Dialang</b> and find out your English proficiency level in listening.</p>	
3	<p>What are the key listening skills being tested in IELTS? Go to <b>Voices Magazine</b> and read 'Five essential listening skills for English learners'.</p> <p>Download the <b>LearnEnglish Audio and Video</b> app and practice listening to different podcasts &amp; videos on a wide range of topics.</p> <p>Watch an English-language movie/TV show from an English-speaking country that isn't the U.K. or U.S.A. Can you full understand the accent?</p>	
4	<p>What should you do before you hear the test recording? Have a read of some helpful advice in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Watch an English language movies/TV show with subtitles in English. Remove the subtitles once you start feeling confident.</p> <p>Try to do some listening where there are no visual clues, as this mirrors the listening in the IELTS test.</p>	
5	<p>What should you do during the test recording? Have a read of some helpful advice in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Watch/listen to a sports match (that you are familiar with) with English commentary.</p> <p>Listen to some English songs and try to write down the lyrics that you hear. Use the internet to see if you were correct.</p>	
6	<p>What should you do after you hear the test recording? Have a read of some helpful advice in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Watch a <b>TED talk</b> online, and choose a topic that may appear in IELTS, i.e. environment, education, health, etc. Try and identify how stress, intonation, pauses, and repetition are used for emphasis in the talk.</p>	
7	<p>Go to the 'Skills' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>, and attempt some of the free listening activities at your level.</p> <p>Go online (e.g. download the <b>British Museum Guide</b> app) and listen to a virtual tour of a famous museum or landmark in English.</p> <p>Watch another <b>TED talk</b> online. When you are listening to the talk, pause the recording and try to predict what will come next.</p>	
8	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and test yourself with some of the listening samples!</p> <p>Compare your responses to the correct answers. Where did you earn most marks? Where did you have misunderstandings?</p> <p>Listen again to the listening samples. Can you hear the correct answer now?</p>	

# Week 2 (Focus: Writing)

Day	Activity	Self-check
9	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and learn everything you can about the writing section (format, timing, task types).</p> <p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and look at some of the writing sample questions.</p> <p>Go to <b>Dialang</b> and find out your English proficiency level in writing.</p>	
10	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and download the writing assessment criteria. Pay attention to the descriptors ONE LEVEL above your current level.</p> <p>If you are not sure what each of the four assessment criteria means, watch the short videos at <b>Take IELTS</b> in the 'Teach IELTS videos' section.</p> <p>Read a news story online (e.g. the <b>Mirror</b>), and make use of the comments section where you can write your opinions about the story.</p>	
11	<p>What are some things you should do before you start writing in a test? Read about planning time in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Download the IELTS Word Ready app to help with your vocabulary learning for academic writing.</p> <p>Start writing a blog. You can write about your interests, ideas, wishes, humour and anything else you think about... in English!</p>	
12	<p>What do you need to consider when you're writing in a test? Read about writing time in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Download the <b>LearnEnglish Grammar</b> app to help with your grammatical ability for academic writing.</p> <p>Find a Website containing statistical data (e.g. <b>Statista</b>), choose a table, graph or pie chart and write a short description of it.</p>	
13	<p>What should you do after you've finished writing in a test? Read about reviewing time in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Choose an article in a newspaper and write a persuasive essay about the topic, using some ideas and content from the original article.</p> <p>Look back at your old written work. Circle any words/grammatical structures that are simple/repetitive, and replace with stronger ones.</p>	
14	<p>Go to the 'Skills' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b> and attempt some of the writing activities at your level.</p> <p>Practice free writing: write about any topic for 5 mins. Do not stop to read what you are writing, and you'll notice that your writing will become more fluent over time.</p> <p>Send phone messages in English to friends who are learning English.</p>	
15	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and test yourself with some of the writing samples!</p> <p>Self-assessment: Look at the band descriptors and check if you have included everything you need to at your desired level.</p> <p>Peer-assessment: Ask a friend to evaluate your task answers, using the band descriptors OR a specific language area you'd like to focus on.</p>	

# Week 3 (Focus: Speaking)

Day	Activity	Self-check
16	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and learn everything you can about the speaking section (format, timing, task types).</p> <p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and look at some of the speaking sample questions.</p> <p>Go to <b>FutureLearn</b> and sign up to 'Understanding IELTS: Speaking course' (open Mar 16th).</p>	
17	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and download the speaking assessment criteria. Pay attention to the descriptors ONE LEVEL above your current level.</p> <p>If you are not sure what each of the four assessment criteria means, watch the short videos at <b>Take IELTS</b> in the 'Teaching IELTS videos' section.</p> <p>Download the new IELTS Smart Learning app, practice speaking Tasks 1 &amp; 2, and receive feedback on your speaking!</p>	
18	<p>What communication strategies can you use in the test? Have a look at some in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Download the <b>IELTS Word Power</b> app to help with your vocabulary when speaking.</p> <p>Start an audio journal: practice speaking on a certain topic for 2 mins each day and record it with your phone. Listen and evaluate yourself.</p>	
19	<p>How can you become more accurate and fluent when speaking English? Read some advice in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>With a friend who is also learning English, choose a topic that interests you and send each other voice messages in English about it.</p> <p>Find an international language partner on an established language-exchange Website like <b>italki</b> to help you practice English.</p>	
20	<p>Need some tips on how to answer common tasks in a typical speaking test? Go to 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b> and find out.</p> <p>Create your own vlog (on a topic that interests you) and share with your friends; encourage them to give feedback on your language.</p> <p>Watch a recent movie and note down any idiomatic language that you hear; try and include this language in your everyday spoken English.</p>	
21	<p>Go to the 'Skills' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b> and attempt some of the free speaking activities at your level.</p> <p>If you cannot find an (online) conversation club/English corner to join in your university/city, create one yourself today!</p> <p>Choose a scene from a movie you like and try to copy the actor's speech. Pay close attention to their pronunciation and try to copy it.</p>	
22	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and record your answers to some speaking samples!</p> <p>Self-assessment: Look at the band descriptors and check if your recorded answers include everything you need to at your target level.</p> <p>Peer-assessment: Ask a friend to evaluate your task answers, using the band descriptors OR a specific language area you'd like to focus on.</p>	

# Week 4 (Focus: Reading)

Day	Activity	Self-check
23	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and learn everything you can about the reading section (format, timing, task types, how it's marked).</p> <p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and look at some of the reading sample questions.</p> <p>Go to <b>FutureLearn</b> and sign up to 'Understanding IELTS: Reading course' (open Mar 16th).</p>	
24	<p>Do you have problems with your reading speed? Go to <b>Voices Magazine</b> and read 'How to help English learners read more quickly'.</p> <p>Go to <b>Dialang</b> and find out your English proficiency level in reading.</p> <p>Read graded readers (texts which are graded to your level) Visit your local bookstore to find English stories at different reading levels.</p>	
25	<p>What should you do before you start reading in a test? Have a look at some helpful advice in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Change your social media, computer settings, phone settings, email settings to English.</p> <p>Cook a meal with an English language recipe. You can find some recipes at <b>GoodFood</b>.</p>	
26	<p>What should you do while you are reading in a test? Have a look at some helpful advice in the 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b>.</p> <p>Go online and find an English language magazine, blog, or newspaper that interests you (but you have never read before) and start reading it.</p> <p>Read an article from a newspaper (e.g. <b>Jakarta Post</b>), and try to write a short summary of it by identifying the key points.</p>	
27	<p>Need some tips on how to answer common task types in a reading test? Go to 'Exams' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b> and find out.</p> <p>When reading a text, start choosing words/phrases that you think are important and which you want to learn, and store them in a notebook.</p> <p>Choose one article from a newspaper, and note down the words and expressions that are used to link the paragraphs/or ideas in the article.</p>	
28	<p>Go to the 'Skills' section of <b>LearnEnglishTeens</b> and attempt some of the free reading activities at your level.</p> <p>Start reading a book in English which you have already read in your native language or has been made into a film which you have seen.</p> <p>Set up a reading club with friends. One member chooses something for everyone to read and it's discussed in the next meeting.</p>	
29	<p>Go to <b>IELTS.org</b> and test yourself with some of the reading samples!</p> <p>Compare your responses to the correct answers. Where did you earn most marks? Where did you have misunderstandings?</p> <p>Read the sample text again. Can you find all the correct answers now?</p>	

# Week 5

Day	Activity	Self-check
30	<p>Take a practice IELTS test under timed conditions.</p> <p>Compare your responses to the correct answers. Where did you earn most marks? Where did you have misunderstandings? For speaking &amp; writing, ask a teacher from your school to evaluate your responses based on the band descriptors.</p> <p>Look back at your answers/responses. What would you do differently if you took the test again? Write a short summary.</p>	
31	<p>For some last minute test advice, go to <b>CambridgeEnglish</b>, download the IELTS FAQs, and read them carefully.</p> <p>Review some of the more useful resources in this study planner.</p> <p>Put the study books down, have a nice meal and get a good night's rest. Good luck on your test!</p>	

## Websites:

### IELTS registration website:

<https://www.ieltsasia.org/id/choose-test-format>

### IELTS official websites:

<https://www.ielts.org>

<https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org>

### IELTS familiarization test at GELIELTS:

<http://bit.ly/2YIk2ZH>

### IELTS Smart Learning app:

<https://ij.changyan.cn/download-app/home>

### British Council English learning resources:

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org>

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org>

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine>

### Other English learning resources:

<https://dialangweb.lancaster.ac.uk>

<https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams-and-tests/ielts>

<https://www.ted.com/talks>

<https://www.italki.com>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes>

<https://www.mirror.co.uk>

<https://www.statista.com/chartoftheday>

<http://www.arirang.com/news>