



LearnEnglish – British Council · October 6 at 1:30pm ·

Hi everyone and welcome to our live language clinic with the Understanding IELTS educators! We're looking forward to answering all your questions! Just post them in the comments below and we will answer them!

Please be patient if it takes a little time to get an answer - we get a lot of questions! You can use the time to check other answers - I'm sure you'll find lots of useful advice there too! Let's go!

Neil

#FLEngishIELTS #MOOC

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Šilėnė Kūnaitė, Vinod Kumar Ch, Fao Miranda and 293 others like this.

18 shares



Write a comment...



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi everyone! I hope we get lots of great questions today!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 20 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 1:33pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Thanks for all your great questions! It's time for the educators to go now, but if you have any more questions you can ask them on the timeline of this page or in the Understanding IELTS course. If you haven't joined the course yet, you can sign up here: bit.ly/FLEngishIELTS2 We'll be having another IELTS Clinic on Thursday and our regular Language Clinic tomorrow so I hope to see you there! Bye for now!

Neil

#FLEngishIELTS #MOOC



Understanding IELTS - British Council

Improve your English and prepare for tests, such as IELTS reading, writing, speaking and listening, with...

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[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 8 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:46pm



Kleber Santos Thank so much!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 4:22pm



Write a reply...



Samar Helmy Hello .. I find listening is such difficult for me in exams only otherwise i understand people very well specially I work as a cabin crew so my english must be pretty good .. But actually i dont know what happens to me in listening test i trained my self alot by i dont pass 6 of 10 in part one so thats make me worry of my score in part 2 and 3 and of course 4 .. What should i do to get a high score in the ielts listening test .. Thank you ..

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 5 · October 6 at 1:42pm

[Hide 12 Replies](#)



Samar Helmy Sorry i missed something i have the same problem to understand i have to read subtitles in hollywood movies except cartoons such as - cloudy with a chance of meat balls - i think because of they use more easy english .. I think i have a big problem with vocabulary.. How could I improve it in a month ?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 1:47pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Samar, you mentioned that you have trained a lot, but the question is what has the training involved. This week we share lots of tips and resources so make sure you check them all out on the course. It's important to practise a little every day, and not just by doing practice tests etc. You need to build your general listening skills and that means listening to a variety of things - TV shows, news, podcasts, TED talks, films, all different sources. Practising exam tasks is important, but it's not enough on its own. If you get into the habit of listening to as much English as you can, do it every day, and also practise with the listening activities on

our websites, then you will definitely see an improvement soon.
Neil

Like · Reply · 13 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Samar, check out this blog for some good advice: <http://bit.ly/VoicesFilmEnglish>

And practise with these links:

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../listening...>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/listen-and-watch>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/ielts-mock-papers>

Neil

Like · Reply · 6 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr · Edited



Samar Helmy Thank you so much Neil

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:51pm



Eman Elrehawy The first link can't be found

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:04pm



Samar Helmy Yes Eman I thought its a problem in my mobile or country .. Then could you Neil give us another one ?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:08pm



Mariajo Varela fantastic advice, thank you!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:10pm



Tengku Khairil Ahsyar Thank's Neil, I will tray it for every day. I will finding find friends who want to talk with me...

Like · Reply · October 7 at 6:01pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Eman Elrehawy and Samar Helmy, sorry about the broken link - I've fixed it now:

<http://bit.ly/VoicesFilmEnglish>

Neil



How can film help you teach or learn English? | British Council

BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Write a reply...



Emad Sulieman How many times can sit to the IELTS test if I don't passing for the first time?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:50pm



Mohamed Hasan As many as you need, no limits for that.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:06pm



Emad Sulieman That is good

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:08pm



LearnEnglish – British Council That's right Emad, you can take the test as often as you like.

Neil

Like · Reply · 2 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr · Edited



Emad Sulieman Thanks

See Translation

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:51pm



Ali Cynna Faizi Ok what's the price for IELTS test and is here any free test of it ?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 6:08pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Ali Cynna Faizi, you need to check the price in your country using this website:

<http://bit.ly/FLTakeIELTS>

We will be sharing links to free practice tests during the course.

Neil



Book and prepare for IELTS | British Council

BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Write a reply...



Hamayon Ahmadi Hi everyone. I really want to get a cerficate from future learn. But they ask us to pay. Is there any way to get it freely?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 8 at 7:01pm



LearnEnglish – British Council I'm afraid not [Hamayon](#), sorry!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Frederic Momine Hello ,it is my first time to take courses online, by computer.I would like to know if iam in the tendancy.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 6:55pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi [Frederic](#), I'm afraid I'm not really sure what you mean!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Awais Afridi My third and final question is that which pronoun can be used for a 'Shemale'?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · October 6 at 1:53pm



LearnEnglish – British Council We don't use the term 'shemale' [Awais Afridi](#) as it is considered offensive. We use the term 'transgender' to describe people whose gender identity and/or gender expression is different from the sex they were assigned at birth. In your example, the pronoun would be she/her.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 4 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:41pm



Awais Afridi Okay! Thank you so much.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 7:19pm



Write a reply...



Elena Zhadan Hello dear educators, we all are very thankful for yours advice. Let me please to ask some questions: I try permanently listen to music, news, but I can't to percept English easy. I need to listen few times. Can you give some tips what and how I should to listen? Perhaps it should be specific podcasts or other text?

Thanks for your answers.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · October 6 at 1:53pm



Mariajo Varela Elena I've been working with lyrics training web we were given and, it is quite useful and relaxing if you don't get stressed as me the first time!! try it and tell us

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 1:58pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi [Elena Zhadan](#), yes it's a good idea to work on building your general listening skills by practising a little every day with things like podcasts or the listening skills activities on our websites:

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../listening...>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/listen-and-watch>

As for songs, there is an excellent website called LyricsTraining which can really help. You can find it here:

<http://lyricstraining.com/>

Neil



Skills | LearnEnglish Teens | British Council

LEARNENGLISHTEENS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:02pm



Cristina Querol Hi Elena, I usually find useful to listen and watch videos with subtitles. That way , if I miss something , I can catch up with it by reading it! Hope it helps

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:10pm



Elena Zhadan Thanks for all who answered. I think that especially web resource lyricstraining.com is new for me. I will try to use all yours tips



Learn Languages for Free with Music Videos, Lyrics and Karaoke!...

LYRICSTRAINING.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · October 6 at 2:17pm



Sonia Bajaj Hi guys

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 5:20pm



Sonia Bajaj Do I ask any question???

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 5:20pm



Omar Baraa Hi .everyone

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 8 at 10:33am



Write a reply...



Palace Del Mar Hi everyone! My question is: "What special training aids (textbooks) would you recommend to prepare for IELTS? Maybe you can give the links for free download them?" Thank you in advance for answer!

Unlike · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 1:50pm · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Palace Del Mar**, you can find lots of great material online and we will be sharing a lot of it during the course. To get started you can check out these links:

LearnEnglish - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/ielts>
 Take IELTS - <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/prepare>
 IELTS.org - http://ielts.org/test_takers_information/test_sample.aspx
 ExamEnglish - <http://examenglish.com/IELTS/index.html>
 Dominic Cole's IELTS Blog - <http://www.dcielts.com/>

IELTS Videos

Reading - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrATVKQ9yNg>
 Listening - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_3qJobgmFQ
 Speaking (4 videos in playlist) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQQE2hWrl98...>
 Writing (4 videos in playlist) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=43AlGwz1Aq0...>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dUJV_okEACo
 Practice tips - <http://britishenglishcoach.com/33-ways-to-speak-better...>

Neil



IELTS

In our IELTS section you can find practice materials and advice to help you prepare for...
LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 6 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 1:59pm



Adibah Kamal yeah. a good question to ask! if you don't mind, can you share the answer~~ a kind of books or link that helpful for the preparation of IELTS once you get the answer on it? im afraid that i will lost in this comment. thank you.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:59pm



Palace Del Mar **LearnEnglish – British Council** Thanks so much for so useful links! But if we will take exactly text books and not from the course, can you recommend something? Maybe some particular authors?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:18pm · Edited



Write a reply...



Clara Sinta Puteri Kinasih Hi educators, I have a question about listening section in IELTS. There are three parts, first is talking about our-self, second and third are about topics that are chosen by examiner. May I know what kind of topics that always be chosen by examiner? So, I can prepare it well. Thank you.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 5:05pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Clara Sinta**, if you check Week Two of the course you'll find lots of information on this.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Diana Peñuela Hi! I took my oral test today. I thought i would be given 1 minute to prepare my ideas before answering the questions from the third part. It turns out I didn't. I was asked one question after the other and although i think i didn't do bad, I consider i may have done better had i been given some thinking time. Does this happen often? Please, let me know.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 7 at 4:04am



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Diana**, as the third section is a discussion, there is no preparation time before it starts. The only preparation time given is for part two.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Amanda Champion Hi, I'm Amanda from South Africa, I've studied English as my first language from kindergarten. I speak, read and write it fluently. I'm also a lover of books, which means I read a lot (in English), reading has helped and continues to help me with learning new words and phrases. I'm engaged to a British man whom I've discovered that his grammar is pathetic, he has to ask me to finish his sentences or spell words for him and even explain meanings of words he doesn't understand. Coming from a country that's so strict about the English language, I wonder why I have to be the one taking this exam instead of him.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 11:38pm



LearnEnglish – British Council That's an excellent question **Amanda**! Unfortunately it's not one I can really answer for you! I think that situation is the same in any country and any language - some native

speakers are weaker than others in their own language! We don't really study grammar as a formal subject, so it's also not uncommon for learners of English to be more familiar with grammatical terms and rules than native speakers. British people migrating to Australia etc. have to take IELTS if they want extra points for their visa application.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Muhammad Afzal hello.... could u give me the link of best mp3 to listen and improve my listening skill so that i can speak effortlessly and fluently

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 5:09pm · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Muhammad Afzal we have shared lots of advice and free listening resources on the course this week, so please check the steps!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Zhongxiao LI If I speak very fluently in part 1 of speaking test(it is due to a lot of preparation before the test, which is not my real level) and then I speak terribly in part 2 which reveals the real level of my speaking, will this be considered as "cheating"?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 3:16pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Zhongxiao LI, it certainly would not be considered cheating, but you would be given a mark based on your performance that would reflect that situation.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Nata Kevedo Hiii ... Thanks one more time for this chat

I would like to know if it the notes that the student make for the speaking test at part 2 have some importance for the score?

It's Because on the videos I always see that the evaluator ask for the note paper back

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · October 6 at 2:15pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Nata Kevedo, good question! No the notes do not count towards your mark at all. The reason the examiner asks for them back is because you can't take test questions away.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:24pm



Nata Kevedo Thanks Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:36pm



Write a reply...



Andrew Alex Joloza A follow up question to the one I asked earlier, is it possible for someone to ask the examiner to change the topic of discussion during the speaking test in case where the candidate feels to have insufficient knowledge on the given topic?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 2:14pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Andrew Alex Joloza, I'm afraid not! We talked about this last week on the course - the topics chosen are all designed to be general topics that anyone can talk about. Of course there will be topics where you may feel you have more or less to say, but none of the topic will require any specialist knowledge.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:34pm



Andrew Alex Joloza Thank you for highlighting that the design of the topics focuses on general issues. I guess I missed a lot last week as I was tied up and did not have enough time to complete Week 2 activities.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 2:45pm



Write a reply...



Zhongxiao LI In speaking test, if I discover that I had made a mistake in grammar or in pronunciation, should I ignore it or should I go on self-correcting? If I ignore it, it will be a grammar mistake. But, if self-correct it, it will be considered as lack of fluency. I'm confused of what should I do.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · October 6 at 2:07pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Zhongxiao, good question! There's nothing wrong with correcting yourself if you make slip, but only if you can do it without interrupting the flow of your conversation. So if it's something you can notice immediately and can correct easily but otherwise just keep going. If you check the band descriptors you can see that even at higher bands, some mistakes are expected.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 5 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:14pm



Eman Elrehawy I want to ask about the listening test. will we hear the four sections in 30 minutes then answer the 40 questions in 10 minutes? sorry I wrote my question wrong as a reply.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:02pm



David Lewis Hello Eman, you can answer the questions as you listen, but at the end there is an extra ten minutes to allow you to transfer your answers to the official answer sheet.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:21pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Eman Elrehawy**, no. You have ten minutes at the end of the test to transfer your answers to the answer sheet, make any final checks etc. But you should write your answers down as you listen during the first 30 minutes.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:22pm



Write a reply...



Jagan Ssmoorthy Hi, Good evening could you kindly let me know how to improve my reading and writing skills.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:56pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Jagan Ssmoorthy**, we'll be looking at those skills in Weeks 4, 5 and 6 of the course, so make sure you don't miss them! In the meantime, check out our skills activities here:

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../reading...>

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../reading...>

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../writing...>

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../writing...>

Neil



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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:19pm



Jagan Ssmoorthy **LearnEnglish – British Council** Thank you Neil, for your guidance.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:30pm



Write a reply...



Natarajan Mohanraj Good evening educators glad to see your comments I am more worry about writing how to improve especially Task 2

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:49pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Natarajan**, we'll be looking at this in detail in Week 4 and Week 6 so make sure you stay on the course until then! In the meantime check out our Writing Skills activities for some useful advice and practice:

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../writing...>

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../writing...>

Neil



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Mostafa Alkady hi every one i want to ask about how the exam will be for disabled and how to book it for them?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:48pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Mostafa Alkady**, special arrangements can be made for different special needs. You must give the test centre advanced notice though t allow them to make preparations. You can find out more here:

http://www.ielts.org/tes.../what_is_ielts/special_needs.aspx

Neil

IELTS | Test Takers - Special needs

IELTS | Test Takers - Special needs

IELTS.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 1:52pm



Mostafa Alkady i'm a quadriplegic i don't how is the exam work and

they didn't say

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:58pm



Write a reply...



Muh Rifqi Rosyadi is the clinic on fb?

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:43pm



Muh Rifqi Rosyadi hi...i'm rifqi from Indonesia

See Translation

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:44pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Muh Rifqi Rosyadi! It's on Facebook now!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:45pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi again, Indonesia is a beautiful country ... I love it!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:47pm · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Muh Rifqi Rosyadi, you're IN the clinic!

Neil

Like · Reply · 2 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:09pm



Write a reply...



Mohamed Elkherbawye please, how can i learn the punctuation in writing

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:43pm



LE Freddie Hi Mohamed. Good question as many people lose marks for not using accurate punctuation. There are some good writing resources on the internet and some of these focus on punctuation. Have a look at these sites:

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../build...> Academic Writing -Writing for a Purpose - <http://goo.gl/O5wmaE> Vocabulary exercises - <http://goo.gl/s66Lvw> Academic word lists - <http://goo.gl/7925Rh> Purdue Online Writing Lab - <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/Using> English for Academic Purposes (by one of the creators of our Writing for a Purpose materials) - <http://www.uefap.com> Academic Phrasebank - <http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk>

Like · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 1:48pm



Mohamed Elkherbawye thanks

See Translation

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:51pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Mohamed Elkherbawye, you might also find this free ebook useful:

Brushing Up - <http://bit.ly/1wouKy8>

Neil

Like · Reply · 3 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:26pm



Mohamed Elkherbawye thanks

See Translation

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:29pm



Write a reply...



Andrey Molenko Question about listening test: How will it be marked, if I make a mistake in spelling(one wrong letter); and other case - if 1 of 2 words is completely incorrect?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 4:01pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Andrey, spelling is important in the listening test, so unfortunately if you spell a word wrong it would be marked as incorrect. Also if you need two words and one is wrong, that would be incorrect.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Andrey Molenko Hello! Could I pause a passage during a listening test?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:39pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Andrey Molenko, I'm afraid not - the test is played through once only and all the timing and pauses are fixed.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 1 hr



Malavika Maya hello.. i have 1 more question to ask how can i overcome the listening because i get confused with different accents even though i practice with movies and news?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:55pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Malavika Maya, different accents can be confusing even for native speakers, and it takes time to get used to different ones. Movies and news are useful for lots of things but not always for accents, as news often has quite a limited range and movies very often have strong accents, slang, noise and other things that can make it more difficult. TV shows showing ordinary

people speaking are good, as are radio talk shows. BBC, ABC in Australia and many stations in the US are free online and you can find interesting programmes to download and practise with. Also podcasts are a great way to practise on the move:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts>

Don't worry about it too much though. Although you can get a range of British, American, Australian etc. accents in IELTS, these will not be very strong accents

Neil



BBC Podcasts

Enjoy BBC audio on the move - a wide range of programmes and highlights are available as...

BBC.CO.UK

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 4 · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · October 6 at 2:08pm



Malavika Maya thank you so much sir

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:09pm



Write a reply...



LearnEnglish Tina Hello everyone, Tina here, one of your IELTS educators, looking forward to chatting to you today!

Unlike · Reply · 9 · October 6 at 1:33pm



Charles Soromtochukwu May I chat with you, Tina? You can also help edit my work.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:52pm



Mariajo Varela Hello and thanks to you all, so appreciated your guidance

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:56pm



Cristina Querol Hi Tina, many thanks for your smile when recording videos. It makes me feel much at ease and confident! :))

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:58pm



Эльвира Шонгалова Hello, Tina. I am so happy to take part of this online course. I have learned a lot because of this course. But I have problem with grammar. In spite of learning a lot I always mixing them. I tend to use them with mistakes. Please give me advice to manage with grammar. Thank you in advance!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:58pm



LearnEnglish Tina @ Cristina, thanks you are kind! are you enjoying it so far?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:01pm



LearnEnglish Tina @ Эльвира Шонгалова, grammar can be tricky ... here are some links to some useful pages where you can practice more:

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/english-grammar>,

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/quick-grammar>,

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/>

English Grammar

You can use this English grammar in different ways. Use English grammar like a book Read through the different grammar areas in order:

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:05pm



Write a reply...



Cusi del Saso Hi, thank you for being there to answer our questions.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:43pm



Aftab Ahmad Khan Thanks everyone who offered assistance during the clinic, specially David Lewis for being answering to lots of questions from the participants!!

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:40pm



Emilia Cernaianu Hi from Bucharest

Unlike · Reply · 4 · October 6 at 1:44pm



David Lewis Hello from Bucharest as well.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:45pm



Emilia Cernaianu Oh, so I'm not alone

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:46pm



David Lewis No not at all.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:24pm



Write a reply...



Zhongxiao Li Hi. In a speaking test, if time is up and I'm stopped by the examiner before I finished, how much will this affect my score?

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:46pm



David Lewis Hello Zhongxiao, if you are stopped by the examiner because the time is up, this isn't a problem at all and it won't have a negative impact on your score. Of course, you should make sure to mention the most important things you want to say near the beginning so that they aren't missed.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:49pm



Write a reply...



Emad Ma Thank you so much for giving your time to us.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:02pm



Alister Widdowson You're very welcome Emad

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:04pm



Emad Ma What should I do If I couldn't hear or understand a sentence properly?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:17pm



Emad Ma I have a problem in listening. when I'm listening to the news, for example BBC news, I understand most the words and sentences but but I forget first sentences after few seconds!!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:20pm



Emad Ma You know, it seem my short memory is very week!! how can I improve it?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:21pm



Alister Widdowson In the listening exam there's not much you can do because you only hear the recording once. The important thing is that you move on with the recording, you don't get stuck but continue listening for the rest of the questions. In the speaking, the best thing to do is to tell the examiner! Just say, 'Sorry could you repeat that' or 'I'm afraid I didn't catch that', and the examiner will say it again. This is not a bad thing and in fact it is very good communication, something which IELTS really looks for in the test.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:22pm



Write a reply...



Abdullah Al-Sabbagh hello everyone!

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:01pm



Alister Widdowson Hi there!

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:23pm



Abdullah Al-Sabbagh Hi
See Translation

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:25pm



Alister Widdowson How are you today?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:26pm



Abdullah Al-Sabbagh Fine, Thank you.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:27pm



Abdullah Al-Sabbagh How are you?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:27pm



Write a reply...



Nlove You Hello

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:45pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hello

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:48pm



Write a reply...



Talib Qweli thank

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:34pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Talib - how are you today?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:36pm



Write a reply...



LE Freddie Hello Everbody. I am Freddie, one of the educators. I'm looking forward to answering your questions

Unlike · Reply · 7 · October 6 at 1:31pm



Эльвира Шонгалова Helli Freddie. I am Elvira. How can I improve my listening skills. It is the most difficult part for me. In spite of listening a lot I cant catch some words and phrases. Thank u in advance!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:04pm



LE Freddie Hello. Listening can indeed be tricky. Remember that you should focus on trying to decode words and sentences accurately and also understanding meaning - these are two separate processes involved in listening. Here are some links to help: Listen & Watch - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../listen-and...> Podcasts - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../professionals...> Skills Practice - <http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../listening...> Zone - <http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../video...> UK -

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/uk-now/video-uk> Memrise -
<http://www.memrise.com/course/84877/ielts-listening-2/>

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LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · October 6 at 2:06pm



Write a reply...



David Lewis Hello everyone, David here, one of the educators on the course.

Like · Reply · 6 · October 6 at 1:31pm



Moisés Ricarte Hello, David! I want to know the difference between "simple past" and "past perfect". In what situations I will use simple past/past perfect. This subject make me confused!!!
 *Sorry for my grammar!!!!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:53pm



Maria Leon i would like to now how to improve my writing in english, grammar is very important in IELTS test, what hapen if i do mistakes??

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:55pm



David Lewis Hello Moises, this is quite a difficult subject to answer here, but I'll try. we use the simple past to talk about events that are finished. We often use it to tell stories when we tell the story in the sequence events happened: I got up, then I had a shower. The past perfect is often called the past of the past as it refers to an earlier time: When my friend arrived i had already finished dinner. Here having dinner happens before my friend arriving. These Learn English links might help

you <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../past...>

Past Continuous and Past Simple

Past Continuous and Past Simple 1. The most common use of the past continuous tense is to talk about something that was happening around a particular time in the past. What were you doing at 8 o'clock last night? I was watching television. I started watching television before 8 o'clock and I cont...

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 1:57pm



David Lewis <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../past-perfect>

Past perfect

When we talk about something that happened in the past we sometimes want to refer back to something that happened before that time. We can use the past perfect tense (had + past participle) to do this. Look at these two sentences.

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 1:58pm



David Lewis Hello Maria, writing with correct grammar is important in IELTS, but it's only one area you will be judged on. To improve your writing you could try the exercises on the writing section of Learn English. <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/writing>



Writing

At the moment we have one writing section, Writing for a Purpose, which will help you with...

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · October 6 at 2:00pm



Moisés Ricarte Thank you so much, David!!!!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:01pm



Write a reply...



Lori Prenga Hello,, I would like to ask you about the certificate, if i get them how much it helps me,, is like i have done the IELTS exam,, or if i ask for a work it's it worthy, and thank you everyone for this course , it's very helpful...

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:25pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Lori, the certificate is a record of you taking part in the course and of having completed more than half of it. The course is to help you prepare to take the IELTS test - it isn't the same as the IELTS test.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:41pm



Lori Prenga Okay thank u so much Simon LearnEnglish.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:45pm



Write a reply...



Sawsan Boulaki Hello everyone ! nice to meet you all .

First of all I would like to thank you for all your efforts exerted in this clinic and the course in general .

actually I have a question which is maybe out of today's discussion.
I would like to know the difference between IELTS and TOFEL exams .

Waiting for your feedback

Thanks in advance

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:08pm



LE Freddie Hi Sawson. They are quite similar exams really. There are some small differences in the format. For example in TOEFL you speak to a machine rather than a person and some parts of reading and listening are integrated so you have to listen and read in the reading exam for example.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:14pm



Write a reply...



Dana Al-Bunni Hello.. first I want to ask about the books, are they important just if I want to do the IELTS exam? or they are beneficial in my whole studying (I'm studying English Literature)
another question is about the certificate..what kind of certificate is it? and is it international?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:43pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Dana, books are very important for learning English and even more important if you are studying literature! Read as much as you can.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:11pm



Simon LearnEnglish The certificate for the course is an acknowledgement that you took part in the course. You can add it to your CV. It isn't a 'formal' qualification though.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:12pm



Dana Al-Bunni Thanks a million Mr.Simon

Like · Reply · October 6 at 3:24pm



Write a reply...



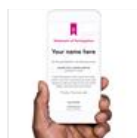
Emad Sulieman After finishing this course Understanding the IELTS, I think we will get certificate, for me can I take it from the British Council in Sudan?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:23pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Emad, yes you can register to take the IELTS test with the British Council in Sudan. The IELTS test is separate and different from this course - Understanding IELTS is designed to help you to prepare for the IELTS test. If you would like a certificate to say you participated in the course, you can buy it from Futurelearn:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/.../statement-of-participation>



Statement of Participation -
FutureLearn

FUTURELEARN.COM | BY FUTURELEARN

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · October 6 at 2:47pm



Write a reply...



Amal Al-Duais I really appreciate the effort that has been done in this course:)

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:11pm



Alister Widdowson Thanks Amal!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:13pm



Write a reply...



Sara Tirabassi Hi and thank you for being there for us!

I read in some forums that during the speaking test you can reach the higher levels only if you choose an accent and stick to it (british or american for instance). But you said during the lessons that we don't need to sound like native speakers. So should we learn an accent or not?

Also is it relevant if we mix up 'british' and 'american' words? Learning english as a second language you often learn a word without knowing if it's a safe word that works for both American English and British English, or if it's a word used only in one country (for instance restroom - toilet).

Thank you in advance for your reply and for your work on the course!

Like · Reply · 6 · October 6 at 1:32pm



LE Freddie Hi Sara. You really do not need to worry too much about accent. You are assessed on pronunciation features like word stress and whether you pronounce sounds in words clearly. Both standard British and American English are fine to use in the speaking exam.

Like · Reply · 8 · October 6 at 1:36pm



Write a reply...



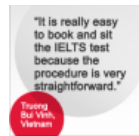
Teko Gvamberidze Hello, I need certificate of IELTS and what can I do to get it?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:19pm



David Lewis You can read about how to book a test here.

<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../how-book-ielts-test>



How to Book IELTS online with the British Council

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:26pm



Teko Gvamberidze Thank you very much

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:26pm



Write a reply...



Adriana Diniz Hello everybody! I'd like to find someone to improve my language skill, by Skype or WhatsApp. I doing the [LearnEnglish – British Council](#). I doing my PhD course about business and I need the exam to finish this course.

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:02pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Adriana, using Skype and WhatsApp is a good way of improving your English. We'd like to ask you not to share any personal contact details on this site or on FutureLearn though. Hopefully you can find fellow students at your university who'd like to practice English with you. Good luck!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:50pm



Syed Qasim Asb Hello

[See Translation](#)

Like · Reply · October 6 at 5:18pm



Write a reply...



Herlin Pribadi Hi all educators.. I'm Herlin from Indonesia. I will take an IELTS test a few months later. So I take IELTS course in FutureLearn to know what IELTS test is. Can you give me some tips or tricks to get a good band for beginner especially for speaking test? I have a weakness for speaking test. Thank You Educators

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:53pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Herlin, looking at your post, i don't think you are a beginner! The best way to improve your speaking is to speak! If you can find someone else who is doing the exam, you can do exam practice where one of you is the examiner and one the candidate. following the Understanding IELTS course should give you lots of ideas of how to answer IELTS questions well and by recording yourselves and listening back with the exam criteria you should find areas to work on.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:19pm



Herlin Pribadi Hello Mr. Alister. Seriously, i never take an ielts test because ielts isn't populer in my city. Only people who want to apply for scholarship take ielts test. Anyway, Thank you for your advice, I'll remember it and hope i'll get good band to apply a scholarship. Thank you Mr. Alister

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:34pm



Write a reply...



Irene Venter Hi, what I would like to know is, will we get enough time to read through ALL of the questions when doing the listening test, or will we have just enough time to "scan" through the questions?

Like · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 1:37pm



LE Freddie Hi Irene. You are given about 30 seconds before each section to read through the questions.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:39pm



David Lewis Hello Irene, you are given time to read the questions in each section before the listening starts. However, scanning is more realistic in this time than reading carefully each question.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:39pm



Irene Venter But 30 seconds isn't much! Not enough to underline key words as was suggested

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:40pm



Daniela Arenas Hi Irene... you have to do it quickly, like scanning.. I think it's possible to do it after some practice

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:49pm



Adibah Kamal hope can do the best in times of 30 seconds for scanning the question!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:00pm



LE Freddie Actually in most sections you are given 30 seconds per half section, e.g. every 5 questions

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:09pm



Irene Venter sounds better

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:28pm



Write a reply...



Rupal Chandriani hello everyone...just wanted to know if it makes any difference if we write the answers in block capital answers for better legibility or cursive writing is ok?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:39pm



LE Freddie You can write all in capital letters if you wish. If you choose not to you will need to ensure you use appropriate capitalisation when necessary. As long as your writing is clear it really does not matter if you use capitals or not.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:51pm



Write a reply...



Pattys Tiag Hello, thank you for being here in every step along with us.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:41pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Pattys, thank you, are you enjoying the course so far?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:43pm



Pattys Tiag Yes for sure. I trying to get over my fear and begin to speak up. This course has been an excellent opportunity.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:50pm



Pattys Tiag I'd like to know why I lose all the concentration in the listening tests, specially when I miss a word or when I know the timer is running. I always feel that the time wasn't enough.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:05pm



LearnEnglish Tina I'm glad that you are having a go and speaking in English. Did you do a recording in Week 2? How did it feel? As to your question about the listening, it sounds like you get into a panic which then makes you miss things which throws you into more of a panic because time is running out. All I can suggest is practice, maybe use a stop watch too so that it feels like an exam. Here are a couple of links to try out ... Listen & Watch - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/listen-and-watch> Professional Podcasts - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../professionals...> Hope they help!



Listen & Watch

All of our audio and video materials are accompanied by language practice activities...

[LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG](http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org)

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:15pm



Pattys Tiag Thank you very much. I appreciate it a lot!!!!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:18pm



Write a reply...



Amin Mohammad Ruhul I know English well indeed but the problem is that I don't able to apply... And my listening skill is so poor that can't hear a steady conversation.

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:05pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Amin, this is a problem, for lots of people, dealing with native speaker speed recordings. The only thing you can do is practise I'm afraid. Developing listening and reading skills takes a very long time so if you can do about 20 minutes per day over a number of months that should help. It's also good to find things to listen to which you can understand. The news is a good idea, why not listen to the news in your first language then in English, the English should be a bit easier if you know what the stories are about.

You can also get audio books which are set at a certain level so if you are an intermediate learner you can get audio books to suit your level.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:08pm



Amin Mohammad Ruhul Dear sir, it's so difficult to survive myself in Malaysia. When I talk to the strangers a few sentence i can speak bt

after that I couldn't make any word to express myself.It's really bother me hear. I want to overcome my fluency... plzz tell me what should i do....

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:13pm



Amin Mohammad Ruhul I badly need to speak englis fluently..... I love the language english...

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:15pm



Write a reply...



Олюсик Олюсик Hello, I see I'm so late, sorry for being late. In any case, I'm glad to be here!!!

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:48pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi, the clinic has finished, but feel free to read through all the questions and answers!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:59pm



Write a reply...



Andreea Mandia Hello everyone. I'm in:)

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:42pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Andreea

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:44pm



David Lewis Hello Andreea, do you have a question for us?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:44pm



Andreea Mandia Actually, I do. What is the psychological profile in terms of features for a successful candidate in IELTS speaking?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:49pm



David Lewis A successful candidate in speaking is someone who first of all can answer all the questions asked in an appropriate way. For example, if they are asked for a personal opinion, they express one, but if asked to explain something more abstract, such as other people's thoughts, they can do that too. At the same time, they can do this using a wide range of grammar and with clear pronunciation.

Like · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 1:53pm



Andreea Mandia Thank you, David! I admit I was expecting some qualities that we have to develop in order to achieve all those assessments criteria like self-confidence, social and communication skills etc

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:58pm



David Lewis You are aren't really judged in this way as it is a test of language knowledge rather than life skills. While being self-confident may help someone, if the quality of their English is poor they will still receive a low mark.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:17pm · Edited



Andreea Mandia Another question: how does the examiner avoid errors in evaluating the candidate? Can we call into question his evaluation?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:13pm



David Lewis The examiners are trained regularly in the procedures and evaluation methods. There are also trainers who regularly spontaneously check that examiners are following procedures and evaluating accurately. If a speaking score was substantially different from the band scores in the other sections, it would be automatically re-examined. Also, if a candidate feels that they have been judged unfairly, then they can ask for the test to be marked by a second marker.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:34pm



Write a reply...



Aftab Ahmad Khan Normally how many questions are there to be answered after each section?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:30pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Aftab, are you asking about listening part?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:44pm



LearnEnglish Tina You could take a look at some listening practice tests to get to know it better:

<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../listening...>

Free IELTS Listening practice test to help pass the exam

Free IELTS listening practice tests contains a four part listening test with a total of 40 questions.

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:47pm



Write a reply...



Awais Afridi Hello there! I'd like to ask about the prepositions i.e. After each and every preposition progressive (-ing) form of verb is used but on and off, i've seen that we sometimes don't use ing form after preposition like: i want to play cricket. Why?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:46pm



LE Freddie Hi Awais. There are lots of different rules for prepositions so that is why. Have a look at the following link:
<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../verbs...>

Verbs & Prepositions

Verbs & Prepositions Some verbs are usually followed by prepositions before the object of the verb. these are called dependent prepositions and they are followed by a noun or a gerund ('ing' form).

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:02pm



Awais Afridi I'm afraid! My mobile is unable to run this link so kindly write it in a comment form. Please

Like · Reply · October 6 at 7:20pm



Write a reply...



Festim Klinaku Hello. I have a question about the exams. How are you going to test us? Do I have to go to British Council here in Kosova and someone will be there to test me, or are you going to test us online? I mean for the Listening and Speaking parts.

Thank You!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:09pm



David Lewis Hello Festim, if you are taking IELTS your local centre will inform you of the methods of taking the test. However, I believe there isn't an online component at the moment.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:13pm



Write a reply...



Rana Osama I want to ask if there is any chance one of the teachers can evaluate my speaking and my level in english language in general before taking the test. thanks

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:59pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Rana, I'm very sorry but we're not able to do this. Actually, anyone who has examining experience is not allowed to do this. If we say that you would get a certain score then you get a different one in the exam then you would be understandably angry! Why not do a practice exam and record yourself? then you can listen back with the criteria to get an idea of your strengths.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:38pm



Rana Osama I understand, but you know I need someone professional to do it for me. I didn't ask for the score I'll get, i only asked for a general evaluation just to know whether I'm qualified enough to do the test, or i need further training that's all. In anyways, thanks for your great efforts and concern i really appreciate it

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:42pm



Write a reply...



Fadil Nour Need to know the links for today CLINIC?

Like · Reply · October 8 at 10:25am



Vicky Vic in the listening test i would like to know if one can jot down possible answers to questions while listening to either conversation or monologue then write correct answers after the text

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:45pm



LE Freddie Hi Vicky. Yes indeed. You can write on the question booklet during the test. Afterwards you are given ten minutes to transfer your answer to the answer sheet.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:52pm



Vicky Vic LE Freddie thanks Fred

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:03pm



Write a reply...



Irene Venter I have another concern, some of the practice listening test wasn't very clear. How is the listening test done? Do we get earphones or are all the test takers listening to a recording out loud?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:44pm



LE Freddie It depends on where you take the exam. Some places use headphones but some others do not.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:26pm



Write a reply...



Erika Lorraine Gaw Hi, I will just like to clarify in the speaking test if there is a signal from the questioner if the 1 minute preparation time is up? Or we should be mindful of the preparation time, otherwise it will consume the allotted 2-3 minutes speaking time (in part 2 of exam)? Thanks

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:55pm



LE Freddie Hi Erika. The examiner will tell you when the time is up for making notes.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:15pm



Write a reply...



Cristina Querol Hi educators and coursemates!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:42pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Cristina

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:49pm · Edited



Write a reply...



Zinwai Myint Hello..lovely educators,could u help me pls..I have question ..I listen songs but I can't understand easier if those song are new..may I get some ideas from you sir...thank u giving advices

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:27pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Zinwai Myint , With songs, I sometimes find it hard to hear what they are singing about. the best thing to do is to get the lyrics from the internet and listen while reading them. You could also learn to sing the song!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:31pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Zinwai - this is a great website for listening to music and reading the lyrics (subtitles) - <http://lyricstraining.com/>, hope you enjoy it



Learn Languages for Free with
Music Videos, Lyrics and Karaoke!...

LYRICSTRAINING.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · October 6 at 2:40pm



Write a reply...

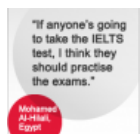


Syuzanna Melkonyan Hi, dear learn English team and other participants! So my question is this: will we be given a full IELTS test at the end of this course?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:46pm



David Lewis Hello Syuzanna, there isn't a full test included in the course, though if you complete every activity you will have done similar exam questions. You can find example tests in several places, such as here on TakeIELTS. <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop
your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:08pm



Syuzanna Melkonyan Thank you for your reply and supportDavid Lewis

Like · Reply · October 6 at 3:09pm



Write a reply...



Kusuma Herawati Hello, I'm Hera. I want to ask you, what should I do to improve my listening skills? I often listen the English song, movie and some conversation from youtube, but until now I find my biggest problem is listening. And how we can improve our concentrate? and then, can you give me some link to free download how to prepare IELTS Test? The last, how many times our maximum opportunity to join IELTS test?

Thank you,
Best Regard,
Hera

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:26pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Hera, thanks for the questions. Listening can be really difficult, particularly if you are listening to native speakers speaking quickly. To make it a bit more manageable, you could listen to a song while reading the lyrics which will help with comprehension. You could also listen to the news on the radio. I find that if i listen first in my own language then i listen in the language i am learning then it gets easier as I know what people are talking about. Keep up the good work!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:29pm



Kusuma Herawati Thank you for your advice Alister Widdoson

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:32pm



Write a reply...



Sara Tirabassi Another question from me! I just thought about this: during the reading and writing part of the test can candidates use a dictionary?

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:43pm · Edited



LE Freddie No dictionaries are allowed in the IELTS test.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:20pm



Aftab Ahmad Khan Good question

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:34pm



Write a reply...



Erika Lorraine Gaw I will also greatly appreciate if you can suggest for an easy to understand review resource material for English grammar? I will be taking the IELTS really soon and I am getting really nervous about it.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:59pm



LE Freddie Both the British Council and BBC have good pages for this: BBC <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish> British Council: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../grammar-and...>



BBC Learning English - Learning English

BBC.CO.UK

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · October 6 at 2:12pm



Write a reply...



Ali Cynna Faizi Thanks dear Educators for your hard working.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 6:05pm



Anum Afshee It's time to go. Thanks to everyone specially the educators who gave us their precious time to us:)

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:37pm



Alister Widdowson You are more than welcome!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:39pm



Write a reply...



Maria Yosefha Hello everyone,...

First, thank you educators for being there to answer our questions. :))

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:53pm



LearnEnglish Tina Hi Maria how are you today?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:17pm



Maria Yosefha i feel good but i have study hard to past my mid term test. can you correction my word if it have a wrong word ?

LearnEnglish Tina thanks before

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:25pm



Write a reply...



Kleber Santos Hello from Brazil! I'd like to know about speaking ielts test. What is the magic to be confident and calm?

Like · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 1:39pm



David Lewis Hello Kleber. I'm not sure that there is magic that can help you, but what I'd recommend is being well-prepared. If you know what to expect in the test, and have practiced the different parts, then you should find that the test is a lot easier. Also remember you aren't expected to be perfect when you speak - no-one is. If you make a mistake, correct it if possible and carry on.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:43pm



Kleber Santos Tnx

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:00pm



Write a reply...



Rizii Rao When to use SPECIALLY and ESPECIALY

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:01pm



LE Freddie Hi Rizil. Have a look at this page <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/.../especially-or-specially>



Especially or specially ? - gramática inglés en

DICTIONARY.CAMBRIDGE.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:17pm



Write a reply...

**LearnEnglish Tina** Bye everyone, see you at the next one on Thursday!

Unlike · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 2:50pm

**Emad Sulieman** Hello everyone

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:46pm

**LearnEnglish Tina** Hi Emad

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:50pm



Write a reply...

**Anum Afshee** hello. thanks to give us such opportunity

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:36pm

**LearnEnglish Tina** Hi how are you doing today Anum Afshee?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:37pm

**Eman Elrehawy** I want ask about the listening test. will we hear the four sections in 30 minutes then answer the 40 questions in 10 minutes?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:47pm

**Anum Afshee** Alhumdulillah fine. Nice to hear from u

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:57pm

**Anum Afshee** Yes,i think so Eman. but v have to answer while listening and then 10 min to copy them in answer sheet.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:00pm

**Anum Afshee** if we write one word answer instead of 2 words. then we get half mark?

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:07pm

**Eman Elrehawy** Thanks Anum

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:16pm

**Anum Afshee** u r welcome

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:31pm



Write a reply...

**Awais Afridi** My second question is, 'what're stative verbs and how many stative verbs are there in English?' how can those be known easily?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:50pm

**David Lewis** hello Awais, stative verbs are verbs that don't describe an action, for example, tohave.<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../stative-verbs>

Stative verbs

Stative verbs Some verbs are not usually used in the continuous form, even when we are talking about temporary situations or states. These are called stative verbs. So, we say I'm sorry, I don't understand rather than I'm not understanding. 1. Stative verbs are often verbs connected with thinking...

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · October 6 at 2:03pm



Write a reply...

**Sa Za** Hi dear educators.Unfortunately i missed this great course.Best wishes.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:56pm

**LearnEnglish Tina** Hi Sa Za, how are you? ... we all miss you on the course

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:00pm · Edited

**Sa Za** Hi dear Tina.Thanks a lot.I miss you all too:(

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:04pm

**LearnEnglish Tina** Are you still studying English?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:22pm

**Sa Za** Not really for a period time.But i will studing.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:23pm

**LearnEnglish Tina** Do keep it up, you were doing so well! I miss our discussions about food

Unlike · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:25pm

**Sa Za** Of course dear Tina.I miss our discussions about food too.Thanks a lot.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:31pm

Hi Sa Za!
Neil



Charles Soromtochukwu I want to know how to paint my writings with question tag?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:49pm



LE Freddie Hi Charles. I wouldn't worry about using question tags, e.g. isn't he? during the writing exam as these are not commonly used in these kinds of writing tasks.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:56pm



Write a reply...



Subodh Kumar Hello sir, I want to know the meaning of the sentence 'It is time India won the match.'

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:34pm



Alister Widdowson This means that the speaker thinks that it's actually getting late and that India should have won the match already. Other useful sentences are 'It's time we left' - meaning we need to go now, we really should have gone already and 'It's time we finished this session (it's getting a bit late, we should have finished already.

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 2:40pm



Subodh Kumar Thanks Alister Widdowson sir. I understood the meaning very well. Now I have no confusion. Thanks a lot.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:44pm



Write a reply...



Moisés Ricarte Hi, Neil! I want to know the difference between "simple past" and "past perfect". In what situations I will use simple past/past perfect. This subject make me confused!!!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:51pm · Edited



LE Freddie Hi Moises. Have a look at this page:
<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../verbs/past-tense>

past tense

There are two tenses in English – past and present. The past tense in English is used: to talk about the past to talk about hypotheses – things that are imagined rather than true. for politeness. There are four past tense forms in English:

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 1:57pm



Moisés Ricarte Thank you!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:58pm



Write a reply...



3laa Looka Do the questions come in order according to what i'm hearing ? in an other word if i heard the answer of question two before the answer of the first one, does that mean i missed the answer of the first one ?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:47pm · Edited



LE Freddie Yes indeed. The answers are in the same order as the questions.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:58pm



3laa Looka thank you

[See Translation](#)

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:06pm



Write a reply...



Balkiss Fares Thanks for your cooperation
I have a question about topics in speaking and writhing what happened if you ask me to speak about something that i have no knowledge or clue to talk about.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:49pm



LE Freddie Hi Balkiss. Most of the topics are quite general in nature, things relating to technology, education, work, friendship etc. so it is unlikely you will have nothing to say, especially if you practice lots of example questions beforehand.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:18pm



Write a reply...



Haroon Akhtar Sir, I've a query about the listening that why it become difficult to understand for me to the speaking of European language specially when they speak rapidly ???

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:22pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Haroon, This is normal I'm afraid. Every time I have tried to learn a language I have found it very difficult to understand native speakers when they are speaking quickly, there are so many words you have to understand quickly and sometimes

different accents can be tricky too. The only thing which will really help is to practice listening for a long time, say 20 minutes a day for a few months. Then it should start getting a bit easier.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:26pm



Haroon Akhtar Deara Alistor i'm greatly thanks for providing suggestions

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:27pm



Haroon Akhtar one more questions....that plz suggest me the BEST on paper or magazine or any other notes that is most updated and fruitful for me to improve my reading aspect ??

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:29pm



Write a reply...



Adibah Kamal Hello. I have one question to ask. My friends, she was so good in speaking of english but then, when comes to the writing's result, she had a lowest score, out of 4 test conducted. So then, may I know on how to prevent this situation from happend on me ? because, in my opinion, someone who are good in speaking, is supposedly doing great in writing. Thank you. sorry, for my bad grammar.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 2:06pm



LE Freddie Hi Abdihah. These are different skills so it is important to practise both. If someone only practices speaking but does not do any writing practice than this can easily happen.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:20pm



Write a reply...



Meemahmad Anis yes indeed

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 2:32pm



Andrew Alex Joloza Hello, during the speaking test on the part where one is expected to give a talk on the specific topic assigned to him/her, what consideration is given to make sure the candidate is comfortable with the selected topic? I am asking this because one can be given a topic which you might not be conversant with.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 2:08pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Andrew, Actually the topics are written to be general and there shouldn't be anything which the average person can't answer. Talking about a favourite teacher from your school days, a favorite film or a holiday you have had should all be ok. The best thing to do is to practise speaking in a broad range of topics so that you don't get surprised in the exam.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:12pm



Andrew Alex Joloza ...thank you, I like the part you said "practice speaking in a broad range of topics". That's what I will do.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 2:42pm



Write a reply...



Eman Elrehawy I have a problem with listening that I don't catch every word or may be I become confused about some words , for example if I am listening to a topic with transcript, when I read the transcript I found that I understood a word wrong. What is your advise? thank you

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 2:24pm · Edited



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Eman, it's normal not to catch every word when you are learning English. The key to improving is to do what you are doing already. Check the transcript, see what you didn't understand correctly - then look up the words you didn't understand in a dictionary and note down their meaning. You may like to practice listening to the same recording again after that. If you don't understand every word, this is ok - you should be aiming to understand the gist of the recording.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 3:09pm



Eman Elrehawy Thanks Simon for the tips.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 3:12pm



Write a reply...



Weaam Emad hello .. how can i improve my skills in speaking quickly and like native people ?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · October 6 at 1:59pm



LE Freddie Hi Weaam. Have a look at these sites for some help with speaking. Accuracy tips -

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../accuracyF... tips> -

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../fluencyExam Speaking>

videos - <http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../typical...>

Speaking videos <https://www.youtube.com/playlist...>

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../ielts...>

Speaking exams | LearnEnglish Teens | British Council

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:23pm · Edited



Weaam Emad A lot of thanks

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:24pm



Write a reply...



Julier Sandar Good evening, all of Educators , Although I think listening to a variety things :such as music, TV news, video, movie can help me to improve listening skill, speaking test is quiet difficult for me when the topic which I need to say is not familiar as wild animals, science, Technology and so on

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:16pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Julier, this is something people often comment on. Generally the topics are not too specialised in the IELTS listening test, so you shouldn't come across lots of specialised vocabulary. Here's a video to give you some tips on listening:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_3qJobgmFQ



IELTS Listening: Improve your English and prepare...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 2:54pm



Julier Sandar Thanks a million, GOOD NIGHT.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 3:08pm



Write a reply...



Latoof Damyar Hello Neil, today my question is about age for instance iam saying that my friend is 15-year-old or 15 years old which one is correct and the my second question is about structure of 'having said ' or said that 'explain foe me thanks.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:11pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Latoof, 15 years old is correct. 'Said' is the past tense of say e.g. He said he was 15 years old. 'Having said' is a more complicated structure which we often use like, 'Having said that, It is a way of telling the person you are speaking to that you are going to offer a different opinion.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:22pm



Latoof Damyar Thank you sir

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:39pm



Write a reply...



Aftab Ahmad Khan Bye! Time to leave.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:38pm



Alister Widdowson Bye!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:38pm



Write a reply...



Claus Arellano Hi !! for me listening is not a difficult thing but i appreciate all your tips thanks !!

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:08pm



Alister Widdowson Good to hear that Claus! Which area do you think you need to work on most?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:09pm



Claus Arellano hi !! Mr. Widdowson i think i have to work more on my speaking because sometimes i feel insecure when i'm talking to a native speaker due to my accent and i'm feel nervous so i start to speak faster and people just see me like ... what ??

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:26pm · Edited



Write a reply...



Sadikh Kunnatheri Mooniyur When I speak with other I can't catch full length sentence from speaker ..! How I can practice overcome it...

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:47pm



David Lewis It's common not to catch every word someone is saying, what's more useful is to understand the key words. If you hear me say 'walk - dog - yesterday' you can probably guess that I'm saying 'I walked my dog yesterday.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:29pm



Write a reply...



Mohamed Hasan Hi Rob, hi Neil,

Multiple selection from a list in the listening is the hardest question for me, any advises other than read the options in advance, because usually there is no time to read them all?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:46pm · Edited



LE Freddie You have to practice analysing the question quickly predicting key words. After you practice this kind of question read the transcript carefully and make sure that you understand the words used to give the answer in each case.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:32pm



Write a reply...



Cristina Querol My question is related to the Writing section 1: do we have to write addresses ,date, etc..in the letter?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:43pm



David Lewis Hello Cristina, no, you don't need to write the address, etc. What matters is writing the content of the letter well, addressing all the points mentioned in the question.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 1:46pm



Cristina Querol Lots of thanks !! :))

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:47pm



Write a reply...



Guyzomanie Habib what is the difference between "on my opinion" and "in my opinion"?

Like · Reply · 2 · October 6 at 1:39pm



LE Freddie Hi Guyzomanie. 'In my opinion' is the correct expression to use.

Like · Reply · 4 · October 6 at 1:42pm · Edited



Guyzomanie Habib what's the difference between "recognized" and "recognised".. "memorized" and "memorised"?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:39pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Guyzomanie, there is no difference and you can use either.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil Stewart McLaren · 18 mins



Write a reply...



راوند الساري Hi lam late good bye simon

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:35pm



Omar Baraa Hi everyone

Unlike · Reply · 1 · October 8 at 10:37am



Myat Pyae Pyae Phyo I really weak in listening. What should I do to improve my skill?

I try to pick up the words but I can't catch up all words. Please give me suggestions for that! Thank you so much!!!

Like · Reply · October 6 at 3:03pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi, here are some tips:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_3qJobgmFQ



IELTS Listening: Improve your English and prepare...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 3:17pm



Myat Pyae Pyae Phyo Thank you from the bottom of my heart

Like · Reply · October 6 at 3:34pm



Write a reply...



Jayasree Menon Please give some tips to understand advanced listening audio. the easy steps to understand and get the answer on time.

Like · Reply · October 7 at 1:51pm



Fadil Nour oh....i miss it as live clinic...

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 3:00pm



LearnEnglish Tina What a shame Fadil - hope you can make the one on Thursday

Like · Reply · October 6 at 3:28pm



Write a reply...



Subhanallah Hello.. I want to know how to improve my spelling when I talk, bcz much words heared same for me and if someone talk to me, he/she didn't understand

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:46pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Subhanallah, the best advice I can give is to practice as much as possible with as many different people as possible. Here are some other useful tips in these videos:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQQE2hWrI98...>



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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · October 6 at 3:01pm



Write a reply...



Ando Traoré All of teachers students and friends today I am so sorry because my mom pass away from this life .

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:45pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Ando, I'm very sorry to hear this news. All of us on the team would like to offer you our sincere condolences.

Like · Reply · 3 · October 6 at 3:03pm



Ando Traoré Thanks Simon LearnEnglish

Like · Reply · October 8 at 4:33pm



Write a reply...



Ouvin Nasri I want to learn english language, but i not understand about grammar. Sometimes i understand if my friend say something with english language but this problem is grammar. What a grammar very important? How i can easy understand? I hope you can share to me

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:15pm



David Lewis Hello Ouvin, the most important grammar points are covered here on Learn English.

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/quick-grammar>



Quick grammar

This reference section provides brief explanations of 48 of the more common areas...

[LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG](http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org)

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · October 6 at 2:22pm



Write a reply...



Aftab Ahmad Khan Hi Educators,

1. If this audio was very tough or we will have similar / even tough audios to listen & answer?
2. What if instead of 2 words someone answered 1 correct word? if s/he will get 1 or 0.5 mark?
3. Please advise some specific tips on this section of listening test.

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 2:13pm



David Lewis Hello Aftab, in IELTS there are a range of listening tasks. Generally speaking the listening gets more difficult as it continues, so section 1 is easier than section 2, etc. In the case when you are asked to write a specific number of words, it's important to follow the instruction carefully, though usually there is a maximum number of words, so writing one instead of two would be OK.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:16pm



Write a reply...



Anum Afshee if we write one word answer instead of 2 words. then we get half mark?

Like · Reply · 1 · October 6 at 1:43pm



Simon LearnEnglish Hi Anun, there are no half marks in the test. All answers are either marked correct or incorrect.

Like · Reply · October 6 at 2:57pm



Meas Soksophea

1,825,513 people like her.

Like



Baby Blue Banana Bratislava

199 people like this.

Like



After Hours Shows

240 people like this.

Like



Adryenn Ashley

35,884 people like her.

Like



Vj Taboi

1,336,633 people like him.

Like

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[Write a reply...](#)**Vivek Tank** Hi, everybody

I want to know for how many years IELTS score is valid

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 8 at 8:23am**Lena Trushevsky-Gorunov** Hi. For two years for immigration. For studies you should check in college/university that you want to learn. It depends for what you need it. Good Luck))[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 8 at 8:28am · Edited**Vivek Tank** Thank you very much lena[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 8 at 6:55pm[Write a reply...](#)**Ahmed Elamien** Q:In the academic writing test task 1, If there are two diagrams, let's say, as an example, two maps of a town both of them are in the past tenses, and the task is to compare changes which took place in the structure of the town since the earlier year of the two. What would be the appropriate tenses used for describing the town in each year separately and to illustrate the changes in a comparison?, Are they the past perfect and the past simple??[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 3:06pm · Edited**Simon LearnEnglish** Hi Ahmed, if both maps are dated in the past, then you should use the past simple and the past perfect. If one map is dated in the past and the other the present, you should use the past simple and present simple.[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · October 6 at 3:15pm[Write a reply...](#)[Write a comment...](#)