



LearnEnglish – British Council
Published by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 3:59pm ·

Hi everyone and welcome to our special Understanding IELTS Language Clinic! I'm joined today by a whole team of educators and IELTS experts from the course, so if you have any questions about IELTS or developing your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills, this is the place to ask them!

Post your questions here and we'll answer as many as we can over the next hour.

Neil

Boost Post

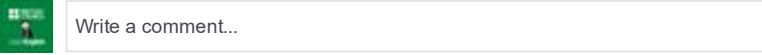
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Wassim Barakat, Mahbub Alam and 249 others

Top Comments (Unfiltered)

15 shares





LearnEnglish – British Council Hi everyone, it's time for us to finish now. Thanks for all your great questions - there were certainly a lot of them! I hope you found the answers useful and if we missed any I'll go back and answer these a little later on. If you have any more questions you can ask them on the course or here on the timeline and we'll answer as soon as we can. Bye for now!
Neil
Like · Reply · 41 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 5:10pm

Hide 18 Replies

**Shefali Banerji** Thank you for all the information!
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:12pm

**Rama Alasaa'd** thank you guys ... you are awesome
Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 5:12pm · Edited

**Farah El-saadi** Thank you
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:12pm

**Mv Navarro Orilla** Sincerely thankful for sharing your time with us. GOOD LUCK ielts takers
Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 5:13pm

**Galina Lukyanova** Many thanks for your great help
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:13pm

**Claudia Martínez** Thanks for your answers, are very useful. Have a great day
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:13pm

**Willian da Silva** Tks for the help and specially the links to free IELTS tests!
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:16pm

**Настя Колоколова** Thank you all! You do a great job! Your answers are very helpful.
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:17pm

**Lela Sinik** Thank you for all advice's and links
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:17pm

**Anibal Correia Silva** Hi, I'm stay here so late. Could you tell me when will be another meet?
Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 5:25pm

**Anibal Correia Silva** please
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:25pm

**Ayot Adhiambo** Thank you so much for all your help....
Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:27pm

**Chandavali Kashyap** Wish the session went on longer...I m so late

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:40pm



Alister Widdowson Thanks everyone for your great questions!

Unlike · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 5:41pm



PT Marina Khairy Yes you missed my q !
thank u alot BTW ^^

Unlike · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 1:45am



LearnEnglish - British Council Anibal Correia Silva - there will be another Facebook language course for IELTS next Wednesday 4 May - <https://www.futurelearn.com/.../understandi.../3/steps/89785>



Page from Understanding IELTS - British Council

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 4 · Commented on by LearnEnglish Tina · 23 hrs



Anibal Correia Silva Thank you

Unlike · Reply · 1 · 15 hrs



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Anibal**, we'll be having another clinic like this next week, so check Step 2.1 for more details.
Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 12 hrs



Write a reply...



عبيد وحيد I didn't attend the blab with u yesterday and can't find the video of it !where I can find it ?..., I'm attending English course in my city but it depends on AmE so Do I'll make troubles or a incorrect blend of the two accents? and also I want to ask: How can I develop my writing skills ? Thanks for your help.

Unlike · Reply · 11 · April 28 at 4:25pm

Hide 15 Replies



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi عبيد وحيد, don't worry about accent! So long as your pronunciation is clear and easy to understand you'll be fine - you don't need to have a British or American accent, and if you have a little of both it's no problem! We'll be looking at writing in detail in weeks 4 and 6 so you can either jump ahead to look at those now or wait until we get there. It's probably best to wait and do the earlier activities first but it's up to you!

Neil

Like · Reply · 7 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 4:43pm



LearnEnglish - British Council And here is the Blab link:

<https://blab.im/chris-cavey-understanding-ielts-evo3lw>

Neil



Understanding IELTS

Watch Chris Cavey talk about Understanding IELTS live on Blab. Click to join the...

BLAB.IM

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Hannah Moma Mwilambwe hi..check this link

<https://www.futurelearn.com/.../understandi.../3/steps/89046> then look for blab event page, written in pink. you'll find the recorded one.



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Ayot Adhiambo One of the educators on yesterday's blab talked about the usage of both American English and British English.....He said both of them have different spellings and when doing your writing test ,don't mix the two versions of English up, decide on only one version of English you are going to use for your writing.

Unlike · Reply · 7 · April 28 at 4:53pm



عبيد وحيد I don't know why this page doesn't work with me?! it opens but it's a blank page,nothing appears on it !

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:58pm · Edited



Santa Patra

same problem is here [عبير وحيد](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 5:11pm



[LearnEnglish – British Council](#) [عبير وحيد](#) I don't know why this page doesn't work with me ?! it opens but It's a blank page,nothing appears on it! If this continues I won't see anything Are all the sessions of the course will be on blab ?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 5:12pm



[Ahmed Myalo](#) try to change the browser

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:37pm



[Ahmed Myalo](#)

[عبير وحيد](#) هاللا اشتغل ؟

[See Translation](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:41pm



[Ahmed Myalo](#) [عبير وحيد](#) yes, it opened from Mozilla and I tried many from chrome as this the browser I always use.Thanks for helping

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 6:04pm



[Santa Patra](#) [عبير وحيد](#) someone advised me to try another browser and it works with Mozilla instead of Chrome. so try it ,and also all the steps are appeared to u so u can watch videos from the steps,the video is appeared online and behind it u can see download standard or HD

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 6:25pm



[Santa Patra](#) [عبير وحيد](#) I told u s.th wrong Santa : all the other steps u can find with it's video but I think live events like the one we are talking about u can find it only in (blab event page) even if u'll watch it online or downloading it not watching it live only

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 7:11pm



Write a reply...



[Mv Navarro Orilla](#) Are the practice test for ielts are really similar question on real test?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 6 · April 28 at 4:03pm



[LearnEnglish – British Council](#) Hi [Mv Navarro Orilla](#), that depends on the source. There are many online so I can't vouch for all of them, but the ones from reputable publishers and organisations, like the ones on our <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests> site, or in the Cambridge exam books certainly are.

Neil

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[Ik Heet Amsterdam Holland](#) [LearnEnglish – British Council](#) thank you very much indeed.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:10pm



[Kristina Bogatinova](#) This is very helpful , thank you very much!

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:18pm



[Honey Ngo](#) Thank you so much for your helpful link!

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:43pm



[Valeria Lamù Puerari](#) Thank you for this veeeery useful link. Do we receive the result as in the real exams?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:29pm



[LearnEnglish – British Council](#) Hi [Valeria](#), you get the answers for the Listening and Reading sections so you can count your score and use a Band Score Calculator like this to work out your band for those sections:

<http://www.ieltspractice.com/ieltscalculator.php>

For the writing test you get sample good and bad answers with examiner comments so you can compare your own answer with them.

Neil

IELTS score calculator | IELTS practice and preparation from the British Council: Road to IELTS

Predict your IELTS band scores with the IELTS score calculator. Do mock tests on Road to IELTS to get a prediction.

IELTSPRACTICE.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · Commented on by [Neil McLaren](#) · 11 hrs



Write a reply...



Alister Widdowson Hi everyone, Alister here, one of the educators on the course. I'm sure we'll get some great questions today!

Unlike · Reply · 20 · April 28 at 4:02pm



Inder Verma Hi Alister, I am having a question in my mind. Which actually happened with one of my friend. He actually used a word from his mother tongue(which is not english) But just a single word. So how much band will be deducted of him... otherwise his speaking was great.

Unlike · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:18pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Inder, thanks for the question! People do make mistakes like this when speaking in real life so it's not a big problem. If your friend noticed it and then corrected himself then he shouldn't lose any marks at all. Remember, IELTS is a test of communication ability, not grammar so if he did something we often do in real life then dealt with it well then he has shown good communication skills. Of course, if you speak another language a lot or don't correct yourself then it will be a problem.

Like · Reply · 5 · April 28 at 4:23pm



Esraa A. Kamel You mean we do not need a correct grammar when we are speaking, writing or reading in the exam. do we ?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:41pm



Inder Verma Alister Widdowson thanks a lot for your response... I will surely let him know about it..

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:45pm



Alister Widdowson No! We need to get our grammar as accurate as it can be. The point I'm making is that you can get a good score even if you make some grammar mistakes. the important thing is that the person you are communicating with can clearly and easily understand you. That means your grammar must be clear too.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:45pm



Ahmed Myalo Yup hi Mr.Alister how I can improve my listening skill? because when hearing somebody ..i can't able to understand alot of his words .. i would be need to hear his words slowly to understand all his speaking

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 6:00pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Ahmed, well first of all I'd recommend that you shouldn't worry too much about understanding absolutely everything and should focus on understanding the overall meaning and most important information. If you focus too much on trying to understand every single word you will definitely have problems and will probably miss important information. And of course in IELTS you won't be able to slow the listening down or pause - you have to be able to follow it at natural speed. Of course that takes practice - lots of practice! In Week 3 we'll be sharing lots of tips and tools to help you, but in the meantime you should try to start listening to a little English every day. Check out our websites and apps for lots of free resources:

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

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/apps>

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

Neil



Listen & Watch

Try our video, audio and reading materials.
They're fun and accompanied by useful...

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

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Write a reply...



Caroline Rodarte Another question about speaking, how we could organize our speech? I'm shy and when under pressure, it becomes hard for me to organize my thoughts in a clear way. Thanks!

Unlike · Reply · 22 · April 28 at 4:21pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Caroline, that's a really good question. I find that using linkers and signposting language is critical to help organise your ideas orally. For example, you might be giving a list of advantages then you might say..." Firstly, secondly... in addition". Then to contrast and introduce the disadvantages you might say " On the other hand.... and another problem could be...". I'm posting a link to a nice video which covers some of this here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SI0twnNEN8&index=2...>



IELTS: Improve English & prepare for IELTS...

YOUTUBE.COM

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LE Freddie Hi Caroline. This is most relevant in part two where you need to speak for two minutes about a topic. In the other parts you will be asked direct questions from the examiner. In part two you have one minute to make notes and here you have a chance to structure your ideas. We will be looking at this next week on the course and giving you concrete suggestions for how to organise your notes effectively. If you cannot wait till next week you can jump ahead: <https://www.futurelearn.com/.../understandi.../3/steps/59320>



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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 7 · April 28 at 4:31pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Caroline**, there is no easy answer for that I'm afraid - it all comes down to practice. The more you practise at home, with friends etc. and the more you build your vocabulary and fluency then the more confident you will become in your abilities and that should make it easier to focus on organising your thoughts. It can be stressful I know, but really you have to try to relax and treat it like a normal conversation. When it comes to part two, you have time to make short notes, so make sure you use it to organise your ideas clearly.

Neil

Like · Reply · 19 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 4:34pm



Caroline Rodarte Thank you so much for all tips and videos!

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Write a reply...



Claudia Martínez How much time is for the speaking test?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:00pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi Claudia, the test is 11-14 minutes long.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 3 hrs



Hefrida Ruslan Dear Admin,,, i'm an english teacher of Indonesia. Today, in Indonesia, english test for students in junior and high school, even for selection test for to be college student in a university, the paper based test, is only focussed about reading comprehension. Higher level, higher the difficulty of the text. Even same as the difficulty of TOEFL test or such kind of it. So, my main purpose to join this course, is want to know more about tips or trick to pass this english test, especially for reading test. I hope this course can help me much..

Unlike · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 4:15am · Edited



LearnEnglish - British Council I'm sure it will help **Hefrida Ruslan**

We will be concentrating on reading in Week 5.

Tina

Like · Reply · 1 · Commented on by LearnEnglish Tina · 23 hrs



Salai Thomas Hi, Everyone,I took exam 10 yrs ago (Overall Band 6). I practise everyday for reading & listening test. But the mark still over 20 plus. Never improve to get over 30 out of 40. How should I do? Please advise.

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:09pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi Salai, I'm sorry to hear that! Maybe you need to think about how you're practising and if you are using the most effective techniques. Our course will help with that and I'm sure if you follow all the advice we share that you will see an improvement.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi Salai, I'm sorry to hear that!

Maybe you need to think about how you're practising and if you are using the most effective techniques. Our course will help with that and I'm sure if you follow all the advice we share that you will see an improvement.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Salai Thomas [LearnEnglish – British Council](#) Thank you for your advice, I will follow your instruction to upgrade my skill. Now I feel more confident after week one activity. Awaiting for next week's preparation.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 1 hr



Write a reply...



Claudia Martinez Hi! My question is for the speaking test part. Is only one question to answer or is a questions and answers session?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:59pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Claudia**, we'll be looking at this in detail next week, but in the meantime you can see a sample test here. There are three sections - in the first section the examiner will ask you general questions about yourself, your family etc. Then in the second section you will be given a topic and a little time to prepare and you will then speak on that topic. In the third section the examiner will ask you wider ranging questions related to that topic.

<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../speaking-practice...>

Neil

IELTS Speaking practice test 1

Practice your English speaking with the IELTS speaking practice test, then review by listening to your recordings.

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

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Jamie Rios Camacho In speaking exam, the many less common words we use the higher the score we get? Do we must explain our ideas in more detailed but not too much? How about if we answer too long do we get penalized? Thanks a lot!

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 6 · April 28 at 4:41pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Jamie**, while it's true that in the lexical resource criteria you will get credit for the range of vocabulary you use and for using less commonplace expressions, that does not mean you get a higher score the more you use! The important thing is to effectively answer the questions and to speak naturally. So it's a bad idea to just try to fit as many long words in as you can! It would sound forced and unnatural and it would increase your chances of using them incorrectly or inappropriately. So yes, try to show of your vocabulary range, but no don't go too far! As for time, the test follows a strict time schedule so if you go over the time the examiner will politely stop you and move on to the next part. Don't worry if this happens - it's not a bad thing, so long as you have answered the question in that time!

Neil

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Nada Haitham How can I improve my writing and speaking? I already got 6.5 in both of them but I need to get 7. I feel like 6.5 is the best I can get but I really want to know how to get band 7?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 5 · April 28 at 4:22pm · Edited



Neeraj [LearnEnglish](#) Hi **Nada**, check out these videos which explain how speaking is evaluated. See what you need to improve <https://www.youtube.com/playlist...>



IELTS speaking

These videos will help you understand and prepare for the IELTS speaking test.

[YOUTUBE.COM](https://www.youtube.com)

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Nada Haitham Thank you neeraj. What about writing how I can improve it and how I can make sure that I'm ready to take the exam and get band 7?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:02pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Nada**, we'll be looking at writing in detail in Weeks 4 and 6 and that will help you a lot.

Neil

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Write a reply...



Rodrigo G Pinto Hello everyone! I believe my biggest challenge will be the writing test. I would like to get a few tips on how to improve this skill. Should I pick some text and try to copy it? What subject to choose? If I write on my own, I won't have anyone to make the corrections. * I am planning on applying for a permanent residence visa in Canada.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:19pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Rodrigo. It isn't a good idea to learn whole texts to remember for the exam. The examiners can spot that easily and your grade will go right down. It is a good idea to learn useful sentences which you can use in your questions. You won't be able to choose what you write about I'm afraid. You will get one question for part one and one for part two and you won't be able to change or choose.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:49pm



Rodrigo G Pinto Thanks Alister. Drum play today? lol

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:51pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Rodrigo**, sadly Alister didn't get a chance to answer the question about whether he plays the drums you could see in the background of the Blab yesterday. It's a pity - I wanted to know the answer too! I must ask him...
Neil

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Write a reply...



Serag Lena did I miss it?

it looks that I did

anyways, my question is: if I'm gonna use IELTS for both live and study which type of test should I take?

my second question if my accent and some of my words and idioms are American speech rather than British, does that mean I will fail or score a low band in IELTS?!

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 6:07pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Serag Lena**, if you think you may use the test for study you should take the Academic module - it would be accepted for both. On the question of accent, it doesn't matter at all which accent you have so long as your pronunciation is clear and easy to understand.

Neil

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Mohamad Hallak I wonder if you can help me by recommending some free applications especially which related to the most frequency words and sentences

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:18pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Mohamad**, while there are lists of vocabulary which are useful for IELTS, in general the best approach is to read and listen as widely as you can to get a good idea of how this vocabulary is used in context.

<http://www.dielts.com/ielts-vocabulary/>

Neil



IELTS vocabulary -

IELTS vocabulary for different topics in IELTS, functional vocabulary, and specialist...

DCIELTS.COM

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Mohamad Hallak Thank you so..so much ,I really appreciate your help and thanks not enough.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Mohamad Hallak Hi, firstly I want to say thank you so much for this lovely course, and I really appreciate your hard work with us

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:14pm



LearnEnglish – British Council That's great to hear **Mohamad**, thank you!
Neil

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Jeniffer Silva Campos What's the difference between IELTS and TOEIC?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:56pm · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Jennifer, they are quite different exams. For example, speaking is only available in some locations for TOEIC and does not involve a face to face interview but is an online test. You can find detailed descriptions of both here:

<http://www.examenglish.com/TOEIC/>

<http://www.examenglish.com/IELTS/index.html>

Neil

TOEIC® test- about the Test of English for International Communication

Test of English for International Communication - practice tests

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Carolina Protzner Hi dear educators!

Nice to meet you.

My main doubt: I will try IELTS for a work permit.

My intention is move to another country as England or Dublin.

As i saw, the test can be "General", not the "Academic".

My purpose is try a new life outside Brazil.

Could you explain me a little more about the score i have to get and how does this visa works?

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:55pm · Edited



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Carolina, I'm afraid we can't give you any information about visas - you will need to check with the country you are going to. The general test is often used for emigration and the academic for university entrance. The place you want to go to will be able to give you more information on the score you need. Have a look at this site for more information: <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org>



IELTS International English language test system | Take IELTS

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:54pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi [Carolina](#), and you can find out about the different levels needed for the UK (depending on the type of visa) here: <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/ielts-ukvi/score>

Neil

Find out what score you need for your visa | Take IELTS

The IELTS test you take – and the score you need – will depend on both your visa requirements and/or the requirements of the institution where you plan to study or work.

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

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Write a reply...



Niña Camacho Hi, everyone I'm having a hard time on how to start my academic writing test, please help me on this. Thanks a lot!

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:45pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi [Niña](#), if you jump forward to Week 6 in the course you will find lots of resources and practice activities to help you.

Neil

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Niña Camacho Thanks for that.

Like · Reply · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Clélia Godoy Hi Neil, my worst difficulty is the listening. What do you recommend to improve it? Thanks

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:45pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi [Clélia Godoy](#), check my answer

here for that:

<https://business.facebook.com/.../posts/1272720249423143...>

Neil

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Patricia Rodríguez Alborno Hi everyone! I'd like to know if there is a certain way to improve my speaking, it is good but I'd like to improve it. Thanks!

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:16pm



Rita Domingues me too!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:34pm



Adelaida Ibarra I want to share with you my experience: I was in an English course and there was a classmate who really wanted to practice his English speaking, then we started to speak only in English not only in the class but also outside the class. At the beginning it is hard because when you don't know the word you tend to speak in your mother tongue but your partner shouldn't allow you to do it, then you look for synonyms or you try to explain your ideas in another way. I think this method works because you are speaking with a person with a similar English level than you and he/she is a friend, so you are not afraid of doing mistakes, you correct each other. And the most important is that you become more confident with your speaking.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 5:06pm



Patricia Rodríguez Alborno Thank you for your advice"

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:21pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Patricia**, Adelaida's advice is excellent. We'll be sharing lots of resources and activities to help you next week, but really the only way to improve your speaking is through lots and lots of practice and forming a conversation or study group with friends is a great way to do this. You'll also find that reading and listening a lot help too.

Neil

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Write a reply...



Habibat Rasulallah hello Mr Neil my name is Jeida , is it important to got IELTS books to help me or the informations and material given are enough to progress

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:20pm · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Habibat, some of the IELTS practice test books would be very useful for you, but we share a LOT of free resources during the course, so even if you can't get a book, you should still have enough to prepare.

Neil

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ნინო გოცირიძე Hi, aren't you planning to repeat this course by adding it on your website later? After 6weeks when it finishes. I want to participate in it but i don't have enough time.... Thank you for giving us such a great opportunity to ensure our level and improve our english. Good luck!

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 23 hrs



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi @ნინო გოცირიძე , you can still join the course now as the course contents are still available to you even after Week 6. I believe there will be a repeat of the course later on this year. I will try and find out for you

Tina

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ნინო გოცირიძე Thanks, Tina

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 23 hrs



Write a reply...



Ahmed S. Mokhtar Is this course just tips to pass the ielts or it provides materials to study???

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:03pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Ahmed S. Mokhtar, it gives both.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Elon Musk what's the score that depends on to get a scholarship ?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:25pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Elon, that depends on the scholarship! You need to check each one separately.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Prity Ladsaria Roy If the band that I require is not enough, how soon can I take the test again?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:42pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Prity, you can take the test as often and as many times as you want. So if you don't get the result you need, you can register for the next available test. However, if there is a big gap between your results and the score you need I'd suggest waiting and working more on your preparation - it's expensive to take the test again and again so it's best to be sure you are ready.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Gurbinder Singh im little nervous about writing?
what can i do to get more ideas about topics?
anything like

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:36pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Gurbinder**, here's an excellent resource to help you prepare - 301 prompts for argumentative writing from the New York Times. It covers many topics that often come up in IELTS and each question is linked to an article which can really help you build your vocabulary. <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/.../301-prompts-for-...>

Neil



301 Prompts for Argumentative Writing

LEARNING.BLOGS.NYTIMES.COM | BY MICHAEL...

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Yasmen Swalmeh Hi everyone, if I finished this course with you guys can I be ready for the test ?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:21pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Yasmen, I'm afraid we can't tell you that! It depends on many things, including what your level was before you started the course. It's not designed as a full-scale course - it's more an introduction and we share lots of resources that will give you enough practice to do the test - but it will take you a lot longer than six weeks to go through all of these resources!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Sarika Gadhia Ruparelia many thanks for giving us such opportunity. My question is how much important accent in speaking section? which type of accent should be used ?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:14pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Sarika, accent is not important unless it makes you difficult to understand. What matters is clear, easy to understand pronunciation, not what accent you have.

Neil

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



Azuka Aghadiuno How do you improve your listening skills to be an effective communicator?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:05pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Azuka, we'll be looking at all these things during the course!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Annette Lemière What do you have to say about people who think Shakespeare is not the real author?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:03pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Annette, wrong MOOC! This is the IELTS discussion! But you can find the answer to your question here: http://bloggingshakespeare.com/.../Shakespeare_Bites_Back...

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Shabin Ashfarah Khondaker Hello Neil, what techniques should be followed to ace the reading test.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:01pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Shabin, we look at this in detail in Week 5, so you can jump ahead and check there for some advice and practice activities.

Neil

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



Farhana Nahrin Anika Hello educators, I can't understand about the reading part test. My question is- How will it be look like?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:38pm



Farhana Nahrin Anika And my another question is- Why don't you make a live video in Facebook? Then anyone can join that and ask there questions from anywhere in this world. Yesterday many people couldn't join blab. It wasn't working then...

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:53pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Farhana, although technology is improving all the time, video conferencing still has a long way to go. We are limited by what is available, and also by the internet connection and equipment that participants have. Most video conferencing software either only allows broadcast, or limits the number of participants. Blab is the best solution we've found so far to reach a wide audience and to allow anyone who wants to join in the chance to do that, either through the questions stream or by calling in. We had over 8000 learners watching in the Blab which is incredible! And we had hundreds of questions. It's a long way from perfect but I think it's great that anyone can watch without registration, and that everyone can join in or watch the video session later. And then for people who cannot join in the Blab, we have this text only clinic which people can read and join in from any device, even with a slow internet connection. Facebook does not yet have a video option, but I know they are working on it, so I'm afraid we just have to be patient!

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Farhana Nahrin Anika Thank you LearnEnglish - British Council (Neil) for your reply, actually I want to mean that you can make a live video in facebook, I don't mean to stop blab or facebook clinic. I mean, you can make a live video and Facebook clinic together and in video you can answer the important questions only. It will help us a lot. Actually everyone can't read all the questions in one time and ask you another if they have. Whatever I can understand your words. And lastly you said in your last comment in this post that we can ask question later in your page if we will have. Thank you for that.

I have another question that I asked you about reading part on this comment. Please can you reply me about that.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 2 hrs



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Farhana Nahrin Anika, if you check forward to Week 5 you can find full details of the reading test as well as practice tests.

Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 51 mins



Hanan Ali Hi everyone, I think each part of IELTS is important, but Is there any simulation for the test? and how can improve writing and speaking? In the speaking part how can improve Fluency and coherence, Lexical resource, Grammatical range and accuracy and Pronunciation. Is there any resources can help.

Waiting for educators's answers.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 5 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Hanan, Here is the first of a series of 4 short videos on the different aspects of the speaking:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SI0twNEN>

YouTube

YOUTUBE.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:40pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Hanan, here are some great videos which explain more about how to improve in these areas.

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



IELTS speaking

These videos will help you understand and prepare for the IELTS speaking test.

YOUTUBE.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:46pm



Hanan Ali Thank you Karen and Neeraj

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:57pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Hanan**, you can also practise a whole speaking test using our practice test here <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../speaking-practice...> then record yourself and listen back to see where you could improve. It can really help!
Neil

IELTS Speaking practice test 1

Practice your English speaking with the IELTS speaking practice test, then review by listening to your recordings.

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Write a reply...



Esraa A. Kamel Hi , my big proplem with learning english is speaking . If you are asking me a question face to face i can't reply even if i know the answer .. i feel like my brain is closed, can't think although after that i discover that i know the answer .. is it about learning english and how i can improve my concentration and speaking or it is in my personality may be im shy or afraid .. thanks alot

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 5 · April 28 at 4:25pm



Myo Aung Really, but I think you need to speak as much as you can and that will improve. Like you I am hesitate in speaking but I have to speak because we need to communicate that why I speak even I wrong or right and if listener is not clear they will ask again. So you have time available I will support you to speak English through skype if you available. I am learner too.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:50pm



Adelaida Ibarra I experienced something similar, what I did was: I was in an English course and there was a guy who really wanted to practice his English speaking, then we started to speak only in English not only in the class but also everywhere. At the beginning it is hard because when you don't know the word you tend to speak in your mother tongue but your partner shouldn't allow you to do it, then you look for synomys or you try to explain your ideas in another way. I think this method works because you are speaking with a person with a similar English level than you and he/she is a friend, so you are not afraid of doing mistakes, you correct each other. And the most important is that you become more confident with your speaking.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 5:07pm · Edited



Esraa A. Kamel Mother tongue ?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 10:29pm



Esraa A. Kamel Adelaida Ibarra thanks for that words i tried this today i think it may get work with me

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 10:30pm



Esraa A. Kamel Myo Aung thanks alot 4 ur advice i'll try to practise

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 10:36pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Esraa**, yes 'mother tongue' is another way to say your first language - the language you first learned as a child.
Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Write a reply...



Hannah Moma Mwilambwe I find myself running out of time in the reading test (Practice) and am not good at matching titles to paragraphs. How can I improve?

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:35pm · Edited



Alister Widdowson Hi Hannah. So much of the IELTS exam comes down to time management. The first thing is to do lots of practice with real past exam questions with strict time limits. You will get faster but only if you practice. The second thing is to make sure you don't write too much. The word limit is 150 words for part 1 and 250 for part 2. You can go over this limit but not under so aim to write about 160 and 260 word. That way you won't waste time by going over the required amount.

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:17pm



Ayot Adhiambo I also have the same problem too....I feel as though I have too much to say and I cant make my writing concrete enough.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:32pm



Ayot Adhiambo Hannah, one tip that has always helped me is attach one line of thought to one paragraph. One idea, one paragraph, it makes your line of thought easier. Once you have exhausted all your thoughts on one idea, you can move on to the next paragraph...

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Hannah Moma Mwilambwe sorry guys, please pardon me, I meant to write Reading, Not Writing..

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:36pm



Ayot Adhiambo Alister Widdowson That's wonderful advice. Thank you very much...

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:37pm



Hannah Moma Mwilambwe Alister Widdowson good advice.. thank you very much. I will work on that also..

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:40pm



Hannah Moma Mwilambwe Ayot Adhiambo thank you also for that. I'll try to use that during writing practice.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:42pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Hannah**, we'll be looking at reading in Week 5 and you'll get lots of tips and practice activities there, but in the meantime check out this activity. It let's you practice different types of reading task with a built in timer:
http://selfaccess.com/sa_ver2/html/sa_viewer_external.php...

Neil

Selfaccess_Viewer

SELFACCESS.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Hannah Moma Mwilambwe Thank you Neil..I will check that out..looking forward to week 5.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Khandarmaa Lkhagva Hi Everyone. I have one question about IELTS Writing Task. Because I'm preparing for IELTS myself, it would be very nice if someone was able to check my essays and give a feedback for further improvement (Of course, if it's possible). I'd really appreciate it if someone could give me some advice and tips. Thank you in advance and best regards.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:12pm



Khandarmaa Lkhagva Hi Myo Aung, nice to meet you! Thank you for your readiness to help!

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:43pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Khandarmaa**, our closed MOOC study group is a great place for that - you can share your writing and other members around the world will give you feedback and advice - many of them have scored 7.0 or higher at IELTS. You can find the group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1612481695682158/>
Neil

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



Write a reply...



Willian da Silva To become a registered dentist in Australia I will have to pass at Academic IELTS with at least 7 in all tests . About the parts there are different in General and Academic IELTS , They will ask things about dentistry ? Should I prepare my technical vocabulary?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:54pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Willian, the topics covered in IELTS are quite wide and can be quite general too. To get an idea of the type of topics that can appear you should look at example questions. Here are some <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../listening-section-1>

IELTS listening sample test 1 from the British Council

The IELTS listening sample test 1, containing questions 1 to 10. Take the IELTS listening sample test now.

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:56pm



William da Silva Tks Neeraj! That was also a doubt from my friend Marcelo Martins

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:57pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **William da Silva**, check both these links to get a good idea of what to expect:

<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>
<https://www.ielts.org/about-the-test/sample-test-questions>

Neil



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 10:39pm



Write a reply...



Galina Lukyanova I apologise in advance for such a maybe stupid question! Why do you think it was decided to except IELTS results only instead of a wide choice what we had before? Unfortunately it caused some negative consequences and first of all essential rise in price of examination.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:52pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Galina, can you clarify more your question ? I don't understand it.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:53pm



Galina Lukyanova Hi Neeraj, I mean before (e.g. in 2014-15) we had a choice which English test to take: Cambridge, Toefl, IELTS and some others, to provide corresponding bodies (universities, employers, schools, immigration bodies, etc.) with Certificates. Now the list of approved "providers" of English Certificates contains IELTS only. Why there is no choice any more?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:02pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Galina**, I'm afraid your question is still not 100% clear - when you mention 'approved' you need to explain approved by whom? For example TOEFL is still the most commonly requested qualification in north America, although thousands of institutions also accept IELTS. Different bodies ask for different things and of course it is up to individual institutions to decide which qualifications they accept and what level they demand, but most offer alternatives rather than only accepting IELTS. Visas and immigration are different in that they ask for IELTS UKVI taken under secure conditions. So I'm not sure which list of approved providers you mean, as there are so many possible lists!

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Write a reply...



Sanda Saw Hi educator, I cannot attend the blab with you because of connection problem in our country.Can I proceed leaning your course without it.I haven't touched English for at least 10 years.Can I improve my English ?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:49pm



David Lewis Hello Sanda, of course you can still learn and improve even if you haven't studied for ten years! It's just a question of having the right attitude and determination to learn. Regarding the Blab, you can watch the recording, since you missed it. Live events like the Blab are optional on the course, so of course you can continue.

<https://blab.im/chris-cavey-understanding-ielts-evo3lw>



Understanding IELTS

Watch Chris Cavey talk about Understanding IELTS live on Blab.
Click to join the...

BLAB.IM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:57pm



Sanda Saw Thank you for your suggestion. Blab cannot still be opened. I will try.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:02pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Sanda**, it may be that your device is not compatible. I'll be uploading the video to YouTube today so you can watch it there. You will find the link on the Blab step on the course and under the end of week video.
Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Svetlana Gromovaya Hi! Have a nice clinic today! Could you give some advice how to cope with reading within the time of 60 minutes? The texts are rather big and it takes much time to skim them. And some tasks aren't arranged according to the logical order of the text. Then it starts "wandering" about the texts. Will you share ideas? Thanks.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:36pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Svetlana, We will be looking at reading strategies soon which hopefully will help with the problem of time.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 6:02pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Svetlana, as Karen mentioned, we'll be looking at reading in depth in Week Five. You can either skip ahead or wait until we get there, but I'm sure it will help.
Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 10:41pm



Write a reply...



Abubakar Abana i want to write the IELTS exam to be able to gain admission into a UK university but i dont have the capital to register. DO u have any Scholarship program? i

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:31pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Abubakar, I'm afraid we don't but if you do a Google search, you might find some scholarships. You can also contact the university you are applying to and they might be able to put you in the direction of scholarships.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:41pm



Abubakar Abana i believe they is a certificate for offering this course. can it be of any help for institution requesting for test of English

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:50pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Abubakar**, I'm afraid I'm not aware of any scholarships to cover the cost of IELTS, but you can find out about different scholarships for college and university here:
<http://www.educationuk.org/.../sub/scholarships-and-money/>
Neil



Scholarships and money | Education UK (Global)

EDUCATIONUK.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Shyrleen Insular Tabujara Hi Neil, when answering the questions in reading and listening is proper capitalization to be followed and proper use of grammar? thanks

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:03pm



LE Freddie Hi Shyrleen. Capitalisation does not matter. However,

correct 'grammar' does. For example if the question needs a noun form of a word and you write the verb form (which is spelt differently) you will not receive the mark.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:40pm



Shyrleen Insular Tabujara How about when you write a number as answer to the question. Example the answer is 1 is it ok to write 1 or one? Which of the two will give me a mark or both will do?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:51pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi Shyrleen you can write either words or numbers.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Shyrleen Insular Tabujara Thank you so much for the information..God bless

Unlike · Reply · 1 · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Racheal Okerediden I missed the blab yesterday, can't seem to find the video, please can you send it, how do I improve my writing skills?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:03pm



Tora Fawzi Hi, here's the blab's link <https://blab.im/chris-cavey-understanding-ielts-evo3lw>



Understanding IELTS

Watch Chris Cavey talk about Understanding IELTS live on Blab. Click to join the...

BLAB.IM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:45pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi Racheal, if you look ahead to Weeks 4 and 6 you will find lots of writing advice and practice.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Walid Azimi Think it is difficult to improve our speaking than other skills in a self practice. Any guide?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:11pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Walid Azimi**, many other people have asked the same question here - if you check through the answers you will find lots of advice and activities to help you.

Neil

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



Napie Napie Hi educators, please give me some helpful instruction to improve my pronunciation. I always make it wrong. Please suggest me some ways to practice everyday.

Unlike · Reply · 11 · April 28 at 4:04pm



Alister Widdowson I find that just by speaking a bit slower and a bit louder you can make your pronunciation a bit clearer quite quickly. Otherwise it's a good idea to really focus on word and sentence stress, when different parts (syllables) of a word or sentence are said louder and the others are said quieter. When you learn a new word, try to learn the stress and people will find it easier to understand you.

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:38pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Napie Napie**, the first steps in improving your pronunciation are to listen to as much everyday English as you can - TV, videos, radio etc. Listen to how it sounds, and look for any areas that you have problems. It's a good idea to record yourself using your phone or computer and listen back. You can also try reading aloud and recording it maybe using the transcripts from our websites or course, then compare your version with the original and look for areas you need to improve. Check out these links for more:

Practice tips - <http://britishenglishcoach.com/33-ways-to-speak-better...>

Pronunciation activities -

<http://esol.britishcouncil.org/.../skills/pronunciation>

Phonemic Chart -

<http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/activities/phonemic-chart>

Sounds Right app - <http://goo.gl/FZSsXv>

BBC Videos -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/.../learningenglish/grammar/pron/sounds>

Sentence stress - <http://esol.britishcouncil.org/.../teachi.../sentence->

stress

<https://www.englishclub.com/pronuncia.../sentence-stress.htm>

Neil



33 ways to speak better English

You don't need to take classes to speak better English. Here are 33 ways you can improve...

BRITISHENGLISHCOACH.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 19 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 4:40pm



Taha Abdel Nour LearnEnglish – British Council can provide me some ways like this to improve listening skill

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 11:08pm · Edited



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Taha, if you read through the questions here you will find lots of links and advice for this. And we will be looking at listening in more detail in Week 3.

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 11 hrs



Write a reply...



Lidiana Alonso Hi, I am from Havana, Cuba, and I have a question for you.: If there is a Writing Test in the IELTS why are you so exacting with the spelling in the Listening Test?

Unlike · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:55pm



Alister Widdowson That is an interesting question. I can understand your point - test spelling in the writing and not in the listening. I'm afraid that's just the way it is!

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:56pm



Lidiana Alonso Alister Widdowson really? You have just made me happier. It is said that you can loose your mark only for missing one letter e.g (flower-flowerS).

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:07pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi **Lidiana**, I'm afraid you may have misunderstood Alister's answer! He wasn't saying that spelling was not important in the Listening test - just that he thought your point was interesting. Unfortunately as you said, spelling IS important in Listening, and one of the reasons is exactly as you show in your example. Misspelling words that you hear can change the meaning, for example from plural to singular, or to synonyms, which can mean that you didn't fully understand what you heard. So I'm afraid you have to be very careful with your spelling!

Neil

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 4 hrs



Write a reply...



Rama Alasaa'd when and how can I know if I am ready to take the test???

Unlike · Reply · 22 · April 28 at 4:00pm

Hide 14 Replies



Alister Widdowson Hi Rama, I thik the first thing is to find ot exactly what band score you need. This depends on why you are doing the exam - study, work or visa purposes

Unlike · Reply · 5 · April 28 at 4:03pm



LE Freddie Hi Rama. Good question. Firstly you need to find out what band score you need. Then when you are doing the IELTS test you need to be sure you are getting an equivalent score when you do practice tests. You may use an IELTS band score calculator for this http://www.examenglish.com/.../IELTS_Band_Score.... Speaking and writing is more tricky as you will need to assess yourself, or have a friend or a teacher assess you. You will be looking at the public marking criteria later in the course and this may be of help

The IELTS Band Score Calculator

Convert your scores in the reading and listening tests to IELTS band scores

EXAMENGLISH.COM | BY EXAM ENGLISH LTD, ALL RIGHTS RES...

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 10 · April 28 at 4:04pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Good question **Rama Alasaa'd**! If you're attending a face-to-face course then of course you should listen to the advice of your teacher, but if you're preparing alone it can be more difficult. There are different practice tests available online and to buy in book form, and you should try doing these under

exam conditions and timings, then see how well you do. Here are some examples:

<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>

<http://www.examenglish.com/IELTS/>

<http://www.ieltspractice.com/ieltscalculator.php>

Neil



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 32 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 4:04pm



Mv Navarro Orilla So it means if you just need a bandscore of 5 how many days or months is advisable to be prepared in taking the ielts exam? Just an estimation? Thank u

Unlike · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:06pm



Rama Alasaa'd Oh thank you so much I'll do my best to do it ... wish me luck

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:09pm



Rama Alasaa'd Yeah like if I'm looking for a scholarship how many band do I need to take the IELTS? ?

Unlike · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:11pm



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Rama Alasaa'd**, I'm afraid we can't answer that as the score needed is chosen by the awarding body and they can vary a lot depending on course, country etc. You really need to check the language requirements on the website of the scholarship body or university you are applying to. They will always state the IELTS or TOEFL score you need.

Neil

Like · Reply · 2 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · April 28 at 4:30pm



Rama Alasaa'd **LearnEnglish - British Council** you are totally right.... thank you

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:36pm



Kristina Bogatinova What is the highest and lowest score for passing IELTS?

Unlike · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:38pm



Rama Alasaa'd I want to ask if I'm still studying and there's about 3 years till graduation Should I take the test? Or wait Until I graduate? Because it's kind of expensive to me and I heard once that it has an expiry date

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:46pm · Edited



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Kristina**, there is no pass mark for IELTS. The test assesses your speaking, reading, writing and listening skills and grades each of them on a scale from 1 to 9. The band score you need depends on what you need it for. For example someone who is married to a British resident and needs IELTS for a visa to go and live with them needs a much lower score than someone applying to go to study in the UK. So you can't think of pass and fail - you need to find out what band score you need for your purposes, whether work, study or immigration and then achieve that band.

Neil .

Like · Reply · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 11 hrs



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi **Rama**, that's right - the test is valid for two years, so you should not take it until closer to the time when you will need it. Also, as you say, because of the expense it is wise to wait until you are absolutely sure you are ready.

Neil

Like · Reply · 1 · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 11 hrs



Rama Alasaa'd **LearnEnglish - British Council** Thank you so much I appreciate your hard work 😊

Like · Reply · 11 hrs · Edited



PT Marina Khairy Are the comments and events and blabs attendance , affect the grade of course !?



LearnEnglish - British Council Hi PT there is no grade on this course - it's designed to help you prepare so you can do as much or

as little of the course as you like but if you want to get a Statement of Participation you must complete at least 50% of the steps.
Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 3 hrs



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi PT, there is no grade on this course - it's designed to help you prepare, not to test you!
Neil

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Linda Hernandez I am taking the IELTS ONLINE Program. Once done, how and when may I book the exam? I am in Costa Rica. How much does it cost?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:09pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Linda, you can find full details here: <https://ielts.britishcouncil.org/>
Neil



British Council IELTS Online Application

IELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · Commented on by Neil McLaren · 2 hrs



Santa Patra In speaking English fluency is more important than accuracy, is that true?

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:32pm



LearnEnglish – British Council Hi Santa Patra, both are important, but fluency certainly helps communication!
Neil

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



LearnEnglish Tina Hello Everyone, welcome to our first live language clinic Can't wait to chat to some of you!!!
Tina

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 16 · April 28 at 4:09pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Tina!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:01pm



Lyes Tfyèche

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FutureLearnDiscussion/>

ENGLISH CONVERSATION

FutureLearn Discussion

Closed Group
59 Members

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · April 28 at 5:25pm



Ayot Adhiambo TINA.....

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:43pm



Write a reply...



LE Freddie Hi Everyone. I'm Freddie, one of the moderators on Understanding IELTS. I'm really looking forward to answering your questions.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 27 · April 28 at 4:00pm

[Hide 15 Replies](#)



Carlos José Hi Freddie, what's activity's today? I believed it would be a video on live

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:12pm



Meriem Touami Hi Freddie ! Could you let me know if scoring 6.5 in the IELTS exam is attainable after this program ? If not, how long do I need to work on my english to get such a score ?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:15pm



LE Freddie Hi Carlos. The video was yesterday. We're just answering your messages here. They'll be another live question and answer session in a couple of weeks.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:15pm



Enilda Rrapaj HI Freddi, I know that there is a lot of information in website, and personally i have done even specific course for IELTS, even practising online, but i feel not sure for the speaking task. I want to give an advise, if u could, to create a specific program, for the speaking part, where we can register our response and one of the tutor can check and give a result related to that, just to have a general idea for our level, Thank you very much for your support.

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:15pm



Inder Verma Hi freddie, I am having a question in my mind. Which actually happened with one of my friend. He actually used a word from his mother tongue(which is not english) But just a single word. So how much band will be deducted of him... otherwise his speaking was great.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:17pm



Carlos Josë Thanks for answering

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:18pm



Yehia Adleh hi Freddie

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:19pm



Yehia Adleh can i know more about the difference between the academic and other kind of exams

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:20pm



LE Freddie Enilda Rrapaj I will give feedback to the British Council on your suggestion. Thanks.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:23pm



LE Freddie Inder Verma If it is just one word then examiner will not penalise it. They will consider the test as a whole when deciding the final score.

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:25pm



Sarika Gadhia Ruparelia Hi Freddie yesterday I was not able to attend the live session may be due to poor internet speed so if I can have the recording. Help me.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:39pm



Inder Verma LE Freddie Thank You... And yes he said it was only a single word...

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:42pm



Enilda Rrapaj Freddie please can u tell us, which are the most common questions in speaking part? I mean about the topics, except speaking about us and our family. Thanks

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:43pm



LE Freddie Sure. Topics such as education, technology, work, sport, science, cities, entertainment etc. The questions will never be very technical so you should always be able to answer them

Like · Reply · 5 · April 28 at 4:46pm



LE Freddie Sarika Gadhia Ruparelia <https://blab.im/chris-cavey-understanding-ielts-evo3lw>



Understanding IELTS

Watch Chris Cavey talk about Understanding IELTS live on Blab. Click to join the...

BLAB.IM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:46pm



Write a reply...



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi everyone, I'm Neeraj one of the educators on the MOOC.

Unlike · Reply · 5 · April 28 at 4:17pm · Edited



Chris Medan Hi Neil. I dunno what to talk about But, I'm 1 of u'r fan. I'd like to improve my academic writin' skill. Can u help me?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · 2 hrs



Sahajahan Khan i'm very delightful for joined the live Facebook Clinic.thanks to all for the participate live facebook clinic and many many thanks all member of this course.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:06pm



Hussam SH Hi every one , thanks for your course and i am bad in English and want to better if i can >>> thanks

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:52pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi all, I'm Karen, one of your educators

Unlike · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:28pm



Tarek Samir Hi

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:29pm



Write a reply...



Carolina Protzner Some tips to improve your English:

Try an App called Duolingo

Try to Watch videos and movies in English with subtitles in English also.

Im already doing daily meditation in English

If you like music, try to listen and sing in a similar way of the singer.

Among others

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Sandra Borchardt Hi I have just started so I didnt attend blab yesterday but I will do my best to attend evderything

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:49pm



Md Ala Uddin Which parts (reading, listening, speaking, writing) of IELTS should I start first?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 6:28pm



Noel Muse Hello, thanks for this clinic

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:45pm



Kristina Bogatinova Thank you **LearnEnglish – British Council** very much for this event, it answered all my questions

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:15pm



Myo Aung Any today Language Clinic is very effective for me and thanks for your team effort and sharing you time and idea.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:59pm



John Mike How to study to be good at IELTS?

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:43pm · Edited



Lidiana Alonso Thank you very much.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:17pm



Myo Aung Good night see you next time.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:00pm



Maryamo Cumar Thnk you neil.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:15pm



Ngọc Việt Hùng Tks

See Translation

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 6:15pm

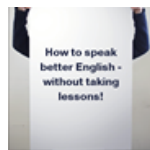


Farah El-saadi Hi everyone , i graduated from english department and still cant speak fluently i have a grammatical mistakes while i am speaking and poor vocabulary ☺ , my first question , is this course could improve my language ? And should i take IELTS or another course to improve it and start the Master degree ?

Like · Reply · 5 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Farah, This course can help improve your English especially if you follow the links and practice. One of the important elements is to notice your mistakes and try to write or say the sentences again. Here is a site that can help with speaking: <http://britishenglishcoach.com/33-ways-to-speak-better.../> For your question about taking the IELTS exam, it depends what you want to do. It's a level test rather than a grammar exam so if you want to improve your general English, I'd suggest taking a general course but if you want to enter a University, IELTS is the one to do. Check the requirements with the university beforehand.



33 ways to speak better English

You don't need to take classes to speak better English. Here are 33 ways you can improve...

BRITISHENGLISHCOACH.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:33pm



Write a reply...



Irati Makaia Hi, I need to score a 7 for the University entry. I have been 2 years living in London but I couldn't really say which is my English level. Is it very hard to score a 7 in your first IELTS exam?

Like · Reply · 5 · April 28 at 4:33pm · Edited



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Irati, everything depends on your present

level of English. IELTS band 7 is an advanced level (the maximum is 9) so if you think you have an advanced level then its very possible to get band 7 in IELTS on your first attempt. You could try some practice tests and see how many points you get and this will give you an indication of what band you are. Find these here <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 5 · April 28 at 4:38pm · Edited



Neeraj LearnEnglish Also you could try these free online tests <http://examenglish.com/leveltest/index.html>

Free English Level Test - How good is your English? Which English exam is right for you?

Check your level of English for free. Score given as CEF level and in relation to main international English exams: TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge ...

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 4 · April 28 at 4:39pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/content>

| LearnEnglish | British Council

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LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:39pm



Irati Makaia Neeraj LearnEnglish Thank you! I have my exam on the 19th May so I hope to be ready! Thanks for your reply

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:40pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Best of luck Irati for your exam. You should go ahead and look at all the next 5 weeks material in the course. No need to wait! Also don't forget there is additional practise material in the free Road to IELTS course <http://www.roadtoielts.com/testdrive/>

Road to IELTS Test Drive | Home

ROADTOIELTS.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 4 · April 28 at 4:49pm

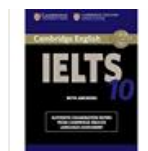


Irati Makaia Neeraj LearnEnglish a part of futurelearn and road to ielts, which other online courses, webpages or apps do you recommend me to prepare the exam? Or should be enough with that two?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:54pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish You can also buy practise exam books which have full exam that you can practise with. Here is an example https://www.amazon.es/Cambrid.../dp/1107464404/ref=sr_1_2...



Cambridge IELTS 10 Student's Book with Answers (IELTS Practice Tests)

AMAZON.ES

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:59pm



Ayot Adhiambo That's a very good question to ask ...

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:46pm



Write a reply...



Caroline Rodarte Hello everyone, I've got a question about the speaking: are we going to receive a paper with all the questions or only the examiner is going to have them? Thank you!

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:15pm



David Lewis Hello Caroline, during the exam only the examiner has all the questions. However, during part two you are given a card with the topic and three sub-topics for you to refer to during the one minute preparation time.

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:32pm



Write a reply...



Shaimaa Elmesad Hello everyone, really thanks for making this course available for us.
My questions is how I can make my speaking very good.
And please for me check my writing is it good or not?

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:20pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Shaimaa, Your writing is fine Here's a site that can help with speaking: <http://britishenglishcoach.com/33-ways-to-speak-better.../>



33 ways to speak better English

You don't need to take classes to speak better English. Here are 33 ways you can improve...
BRITISHENGLISHCOACH.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 5:36pm



Shaimaa Elmesad Karen LearnEnglish thank you very much

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:45pm



Write a reply...



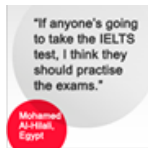
Galina Lukyanova Dear educators and moderators, can you please tell us if there are any available examples of real tests to train? E.x. last year I took Cambridge test. For preparation I used such examples carefully presented by Cambridge English. So it was enough for me that time to pass my test with merit.

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:14pm

Hide 11 Replies



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Galina, Here is a practice test:
<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:32pm



Galina Lukyanova Hi Karen, thank you. I have found the link below. It is a bit different but I will use it for sure.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Galina Lukyanova I understand. It is different because the test has different structure than Cambridge.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:37pm

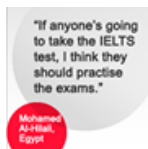


Rafael Siqueira Hello. My question was the same, I would like to get any available exam to study by myself. But I didn't find the link posted by Karen. Can you post again? Thank u

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:43pm



Galina Lukyanova <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:44pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Rafael here you are
<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 5:07pm



Claudia Martínez Hello Galina, I'll take an exam for certification of Cambridge. Can you give me a link for the examples of the test? Can you give me some advices?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:25pm



Galina Lukyanova Hello Claudia, it was a year ago but I still remember all process very well. I will try to find some links for you:

Regarding advice

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 6:08pm



Galina Lukyanova <http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams/>

Exams | Cambridge English

Cambridge English offers a wide range of the world's most valuable English language exams for all levels, helping you achieve your life, work and study goals.

CAMBRIDGEENGLISH.ORG

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Galina Lukyanova Claudia Martínez So I used web-site mentioned. You need to choose your level (mine was PET) and find there all materials for training.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 6:09pm



Galina Lukyanova I had some problems with timing. Spent too much time to check my reading results and didn't have enough time for writing. So I would recommend to be prepared better for writing.

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 6:12pm



Write a reply...



Rita Domingues Good afternoon, I have done since the IELTS and went very wrong in the speech test. How could I study to improve this?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 4 · April 28 at 4:15pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Rita, practice is the most important thing! Actually, first, find out as much as you can about the exam and what the examiners want to see. You will get the speaking criteria when we look at speaking on the course. Then, practice each part of the exam making sure you speak loud enough and not too fast. Remember to be positive and don't give one word answers - more is better! Practise with a friend if you can but it is also really useful to practise while recording your voice to listen back to late.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:20pm



Rita Domingues Thanks a lot!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:24pm



Rita Domingues

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:24pm



Write a reply...



Lela Sinik Hello Freddie and Niel! I have one questions. I already took IELTS exam 2013 and I was satisfied with score. But now I would like to improve my score, do you have tips for listening part, I did most mistakes in that part. Thank you in advance.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:12pm



LE Freddie Hi Lela. Listening is a tricky area but one which can be practised a lot online. <http://www.memrise.com/course/84877/ielts-listening-2/>



IELTS Listening

Practice Listening Skills by learning words' sound and spellings.

MEMRISE.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:17pm



LE Freddie Here are some more links:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OEefmk-sN8>
<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-ielts-practice-tests/listening-practice-test-1>



IELTS Listening TIPS from BRITISH...

YOUTUBE.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · April 28 at 4:18pm



Lela Sinik Thank you very much

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:18pm



LE Freddie http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/ielts-mock-papers?_ga=1.55089451.1271693925.1395258705

Learn English | British Council

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[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · April 28 at 4:18pm



Write a reply...



Eman A. Kishko hi everyone,
thanks for your efforts
my question is : how can I develop my listening skill? my weakness is on listening, I can understand what is said in audio but i find difficulty in answering questions in listening part ??

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 6 · April 28 at 4:06pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Eman, practice makes perfect! Do as much listening practice as you can and this should make things easier. In the exam, spend your time wisely. You have a few seconds to read the questions before you listen and you should use this time to study the questions to find out exactly what you need to do (how many words in your answer) and what kind of information you are listening for (number, name, age etc.) that way you can maximise your grade.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 7 · April 28 at 4:11pm



Claudia Martínez Hi Alister! Are the questions about yourself? Your name, your age, etc.?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:32pm



Write a reply...



Amel Elhasairi Hello everyone..
My question is about the reading part, how can I improve it? I took IELTS exam (academic) last year, but my score on the reading section wasn't high enough for what I need it.
Thanks a lot.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Amel, reading can be tricky as you need to develop your vocabulary and your reading speed for the exam. the best thing to do is practice. A lot! try to read for about half an hour a day for a few months. it might be slow but you should improve.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 5:03pm



Amel Elhasairi Alister Widdowson thank you.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:07pm



Write a reply...



Rafaela Le Voci Menegazzo Hello everyone! Is there a minimum score that I need to get in each part of the IELTS to achieve a good final classification? (General Training)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:13pm



David Lewis Hello Rafaela, the final IELTS band score is an average of the four individual band scores of each paper. Bearing this in mind it is important to do well across all four papers to do well in the final score. However, a strength in one area can compensate for a weakness elsewhere. For example, if you scored 7-5-6-6, your overall band score would be 6. Here's some more information for you.<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../understand-your...>

Understand how to calculate your IELTS scores

Band score, skill levels and detailed description to help you understand how the IELTS scores are calculated.

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:36pm



Rafaela Le Voci Menegazzo Thank you!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:38pm



Write a reply...



SaRa Galal hello , how can i improve my reading and speaking to prepare myself to the ILETS exam ? to be fluent and to read in a right way..

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:19pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi SaRa, There will be a lot of links coming in the course over the next few weeks so hopefully this will help you.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:00pm



Write a reply...



Tarek Samir Is there any site that specialized in evaluating my speaking skill??

and please re-post -if you can- all the links that were written in live broadcast yesterday.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:26pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Tarek, That's a hard one as it's difficult for a computer to evaluate your speaking. We will be looking at Speaking next week on the course and you will have a chance to record yourself Here is something on speaking:

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



IELTS Speaking Advice
Road to IELTS Clarity...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:38pm



Tarek Samir Karen, Thank you very much. I will be waiting for that chance

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:50pm



Rita Domingues Please!

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:55pm



Write a reply...



Ismail Ramdan Are we going to learn the basics about all four (speaking , listening , reading and writing ? , cause i learn so incorrect basics in my country .

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:49pm



David Lewis Yes Ismail, all four papers are covered in the course, including the difference between academic and general writing.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:00pm



Write a reply...



Esraa Abdelkader I have a problem with listening skills ..English has more than one accent and when I talk with anyone I can't reply to him until translate what he say And sometimes can't understand them

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:02pm

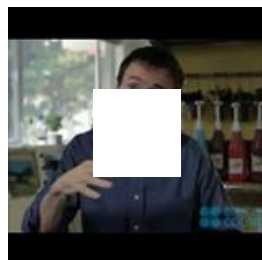


Meriem Touami Hi ! I'd like to know if this 6 week program can help me improve my speaking and how ? Is it enough to allow me speak fluently ? And maybe have your Awesome British accent (Any tips that could help me with that ?) ?

Like · Reply · 7 · April 28 at 4:04pm



LE Freddie Hi Meriem. Don't worry too much about having a British accent as the important thing is just to speak clearly. We will be giving lots of tips and advice for improving speaking on the course. We will look at the marking criteria and strategies you can use during the test, e.g. not taking in part two. We will also look at the public marking criteria so I'm sure you will learn a lot. Here is a video you may find helpful https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_pYTX3_jYA



Scoring High in IELTS
SPEAKING. Tips from...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 5 · April 28 at 4:14pm



Meriem Touami Thanks !

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:16pm



Sarika Gadhia Ruparelia Thanks

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Ayot Adhiambo LE Freddie I like what you told Meriem, dont worry about speaking in a British accent, just focus on being clear.....I like that.....I like the sound of the British Accent...

Unlike · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 5:03pm



Write a reply...



Rahaf Ziad I have no questions, but i would like to thank you for the course that we doing and the hard work you do to help us improving our skills. one note I've always left a comment but i still wonder if i have grammar mistakes so how could i determine whether i am wrong or not?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:05pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Rahaf, your writing is pretty good. The best way to improve and learn is to practice. Read what other people write and try to see if it is the same as yours or not. For example, if I write 'the best way to improve....' and you see that you used +ing form with the verb 'improve', you can correct this the next time. Remember to use capital 'I' when writing.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:40pm



Write a reply...



Juan Pablo Zuluaga How important it is to speak fluently in the speaking section, i mean this affects a lot the results? thanks

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:07pm



Alister Widdowson It's part of the exam criteria so it's good to focus on this when you practice. It can be hard to improve though, particularly in exams when you are nervous. I find that if you slow down your speech a bit (not too much!) then fluency improves and you often make fewer mistakes. Also, practice doing the speaking exam with questions from past exams.

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:14pm



Write a reply...



Islam Ammar Osama Magdy any Questions

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:18pm

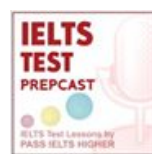


Rosa Damascena What is the difference between opinion essay which is a type of discursive essay and argumentative essay ? Thanks in advance

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:10pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Rosa, the two are very similar. Here's a task on writing: <http://www.ieltestprepcast.com/category/ielts-writing/>



IELTS Writing

Episode 018 | IELTS Writing | Task 2 advice with student example By Steve Price Andrea uses...

IELTESTPREPCAST.COM | BY STEVE PRICE

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:51pm



Rosa Damascena Thank u very much

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:39pm



Write a reply...



Meherafroj Lutfa on Reading test, fill in the blanks, sometimes, no mention about how many words to use. It is confusing whether use one or two words. Please suggest.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:50pm



Alister Widdowson Hi there, the instructions before the question will tell you how many words you can use but it will only tell you the maximum for the questions. You have to decide how many you use up to the limit.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:52pm



Write a reply...



Isaac Martinez Good morninr here in Mexico. Good afternoon in London. My main concern has to do with the speaking and writing parts of the test. How

can I improve these two aspects working by myself on line. It is really difficult, I might say impossible, to meet English speaking people in the area where I live. Do you have any suggestions, websites or something that might help me?

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:05pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Isaac, yes it's true that the best way to improve speaking is by speaking to other people. I tell my students to use sites/apps like Meetup to join conversation groups in their local area. But did you know you can improve you're speaking by listening ? Follow these links for listening resources Listen & Watch - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/listen-and-watch>
Professional Podcasts - <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../professionals...>
Listening Skills Practice - <http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../listening...>
Video Zone - <http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../video-zone>



Listen & Watch

Try our video, audio and reading materials.
They're fun and accompanied by useful...

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:25pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Isaac, this can be a bit tricky. I'd suggest that first you get really familiar with the requirements of the exam - exactly what you have to do in each part and what the examiner will be looking for. the, if you can get hold of the Cambridge English IELTS practice tests then you will find real exam questions with example answers written in the back which you can have a look at.

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:28pm



Galina Lukyanova Dear Isaak, I am not an educator but can share my experience in Writing. There is very good and available source to improve your writing skills. Try to use all opportunity of LearningEnglish courses. Take any you like and go ahead. I have one behind and two now. And I can notice every day how easier for me to write my thought and opinions now than it was before. Hope it will help you as well

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:31pm



Isaac Martinez I appreciate the time you have taken to respond to my question. I will do all what you have suggested and visit the links you posted.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:46pm



Ayot Adhiambo Neeraj LearnEnglish Thank you for sharing all those links

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:56pm



Ayot Adhiambo Isaac Martinez I wish you well

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:57pm



Write a reply...



Ayxan Mesimli I always face with problem in reading part. Though I look for tips and techniques, they didn't help me. Is there any source can really affect my reading point?

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:04pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Ayxan, hopefully you find some useful tips and tricks in these videos IELTS Reading Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrATVKQ9yNg>
Reading exam tips - <http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../reading...>



IELTS Reading: Improve
your English and prepare...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:50pm



Ayxan Mesimli Thanks Neeraj

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:51pm



Write a reply...



Ryan Hendro Purnomo I am living in Indonesia and I really want to take a IELTS try out to make sure about the next path which I should take to improve my fluency in English particularly to carry out IELTS exam. I've tried to find out about such kind of try out (or maybe a prediction), but I didn't find it. Is British Council in my country having such kind of try out/prediction? Thanks ^.^

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Ryan, here are some online tests which can give you an indication of your level

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/content>

| LearnEnglish | British Council

Please note we cannot guarantee that content will always be on the website and we reserve the right to remove content at any time without notice.

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:44pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish <http://examenglish.com/leveltest/index.html>

Free English Level Test - How good is your English? Which English exam is right for you?

Check your level of English for free. Score given as CEF level and in relation to main international English exams: TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge ...

EXAMENGLISH.COM | BY EXAM ENGLISH LTD, ALL RIGHTS RES...

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:44pm



Ryan Hendro Purnomo Thank you so much Neeraj LearnEnglish, I will check it out on this weekend

Unlike · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 8:17am



Write a reply...



Sartika Tandirerung Hello Neil and Freddy, I have difficulties on listening to long conversation as well as on reading the long passage, moreover for the rare topic. Could you please share any tips on that case? Thanks.

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:04pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Sartika, Listening to longer podcasts will help and having the radio on will also help you get used to hearing English. Hopefully this course will help you and give you some ideas and sites for more practice.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:02pm



Write a reply...



Carolina Protzner Freddie, Neil already sent me some links to try see what should be my current score at IELTS...

But as i saw... One of its is not free...

There are some free test which i can try to see how i am?

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:05pm



LE Freddie Hi Carolina. The official IELTS website has a number of free practice tests <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>. As does this site here: <http://www.ielts-exam.net/>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:08pm



Carolina Protzner LE Freddie thanks, Freddie!

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:20pm



Write a reply...



Mst. Shanjida Sultana hi i am shanjida.i prepared for IELTS myself ...reading part is difficult to me.specially yes/no or true/false section.how i can develop and what types topic common in reading parts

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:35pm · Edited



LE Freddie Hi Shanjida. I suggest reading as much in English as you can, especially topics you enjoy. Try to learn and record new vocabulary whilst you read, especially important words for English learners: <http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/.../oxford3000/> With true/false and not given questions you have to read very

carefully, especially when trying to decide whether something is false (there is information in the text which directly contradicts what is said) and not given (there is no way of knowing if this is true or false by reading the text. Here is a link to practise:
<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../mock-reading...-shock>

Browse Oxford 3000 word list from a to alarmed in English Dictionary at...

Browse Oxford 3000 word list from a to alarmed in English Dictionary at OxfordLearnersDictionaries.com. The Oxford 3000 key words are the words that are the most important and useful vocabulary words for learners of English to know. See more at oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com.

OXFORDLEARNERSDICTIONARIES.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:51pm



Write a reply...



Manar Salman Hi everyone..i wanna ask about the validation time of IELTS certificate??

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:33pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Manar, do you mean how long IELTS is valid for? This really depends on why you are doing it. If you are applying for a visa then they might only accept IELTS scores for 2 years after you do it although it's a good idea to check with the embassy. For universities it is the same although please do check. If you are doing it for work then I think the employers won't worry about how long ago you did the exam.

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Write a reply...



Maggi Hesham How this course will help me to improve my speaking skills?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:11pm · Edited



LE Freddie Hi Maggi. Next week we'll be looking at tips and strategies for the speaking exam and online resources which can you practice, such as online voice recorders. We'll also be considering the public marking criteria <http://vocaroo.com/>
https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../IELTS_Speaking...

Vocaroo | Online voice recorder

Vocaroo is a quick and easy way to share voice messages over the interwebs.

VOCAROO.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Write a reply...



Настя Колоколова Hello, Alister, Freddie and Tina! My name is Anastasia. My question is: What IELTS score corresponds to the level B2 or higher? Is it possible to do such a correlation?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:10pm · Edited



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Nastya, B2 is more or less between IELTS 5.5-6.5. You can see it here
<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../common-european....>

5.0		
5.5		
6.0		
6.5		
7.0		
7.5		
8.0		
8.5		
9.0		
9.5		
10.0		

Common European Framework

Common European Framework relates band levels of IELTS with European framework...

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Настя Колоколова Thank you so much, Neeraj!

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Ne za shto ! my pleasure
[See Translation](#)

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:54pm



Настя Колоколова Очень приятно!
[See Translation](#)

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:14pm



Write a reply...



Luisa Fernanda Rodriguez Good morning to every one or good afternoon for some of you, thank you very much for this course i'm really excited! I've heard that we can improve our english when we listening songs, please can you recommended us some links?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:39pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Luisa, I have a fantastic link for you. I use it a lot with my students. <http://lyricstraining.com/> Hope you enjoy it !



Learn Languages with Music Videos,
Lyrics and Karaoke!

LYRICSTRAINING.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:52pm



Write a reply...



Eiei Mon Hello everyone!

My weakness is listening in 4 skills, what is the best way to improve it?
My overall band score is 6 and listening is only 5.5. Give me possible quick way for it! THANK YOU ALL TEACHERS

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:09pm · Edited



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Eiei, You can improve your listening by doing some practice tests: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../mock-listening...>

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:48pm · Edited



Eiei Mon Thanks, Karen!
I'll try my best

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:53pm



Write a reply...



Eiei Mon Reading Test is so so excited, sometimes it looks like a sea of words. How can I make remember the words I've already read.
And I also confuse the not given ques:, how can I decide it???

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:21pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Eiei, I agree, the 'not given' question is pretty hard. Try this site: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/.../mock-reading...-shock>

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:42pm



Write a reply...



Aya Adly Sometimes when anyone asks me a question, I feel that I know the answer and I can hear it in my mind. But once I start speaking I became hesitated and it takes a lot of time and effort to deliver my speech!

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Aya, One way round this is to use hesitant language such as 'um', 'well, you know' to give you time to think. This also helps you to sound more fluent rather than memorising a paragraph. We will be looking at speaking next week.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:44pm



Aya Adly Thanks alot

Like · Reply · April 28 at 6:52pm



Write a reply...



Inder Verma I am having a question in my mind. Which actually happened with one of my friend. He actually used a word from his mother tongue(which is not english) But just a single word. So how much band will be deducted of him... otherwise his speaking was great.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:06pm



David Lewis Hello Inder, I think that if a candidate performed well in the speaking test and happened to use one non-English word within the 14 minutes of the test, then this wouldn't effect the score at all.

However, in general, if a candidate doesn't know a particular word, they should try and describe it.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:28pm



Inder Verma surely i will keep this in mind.... thanks

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:46pm



Write a reply...



Hibba Noor Good evening neil! I have a problem about ielts. My ielts listening skill v poor. How can i improve?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:45pm



Nalin Fonseka Hello Freddie and Niel, I have a question about the speaking, Should I correct my mistakes when I'm speaking in the test? and What can I do if I don't have any ideas for the answer in part 3? Thanks!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:35pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Nalin, A very good question If you make a mistake and correct it, go ahead as it shows the examiners that you are aware you made a mistake. If you have prepared enough for the speaking, you shouldn't find yourself in a situation you don't know about but if this happens, you can say something like 'I don't know much about this topic, or I don't have much experience in this area but I've heard.....' and then you can talk more hypothetically and use your imagination. The examiner is there to evaluate your language not necessarily whether you actually know something or not.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:59pm



Adelaida Ibarra In my English course the teacher suggested to correct your mistake immediately when you are aware of it as you do when you make mistakes when you are speaking in your mother tongue.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:02pm



Nalin Fonseka Thank you so much for your explanatory Reply.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:04pm



Write a reply...



Gunay Gunay Hi, mr. Neil. My problem is with my attention. Because I learnt at first time British English. Then I went to the course, we spoke in American English. And now I cannot make out the accent, when I listen in English. I can not choose... Help me please. What should I do ??

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:18pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Gunay, first of all don't worry! Relax and take a deep breath before you listen and say to yourself - I can understand. Listen to the radio in English and some podcasts which will help you familiarise yourself with listening.

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

Elementary Podcasts

Learn everyday English with over 50 free podcasts about everyday topics. There are interactive exercises to help you practise the language you hear.

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove](#) [Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 6:01pm



Gunay Gunay Thanks, your advice and the link

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 6:20pm



Write a reply...



HayMar Thae Su Kyaw Hello!

I'm a student to take an IELTS test. How and When can I know my skills?

Is one year enough to prepare for an IELTS test? (I think my English skill is not very bad)

How should I do?

I want high band scores in IELTS test. What are the best ways to prepare for an IELTS test?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:33pm · Edited



Karen LearnEnglish Here is a site you can use to check your level: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/content>

| LearnEnglish | British Council

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:53pm



Write a reply...



Rafid Hassan I am worried about my writings.... Sometimes I couldn't maintain the structure and have problem with collocation... how am I supposed to deal with that???

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:27pm

[View 1 reply](#)



Write a reply...



Shefali Banerji I think I will face a problem with fluency, because I sometimes tend to hesitate or stutter, while speaking. This is not just for English, but applicable to all the languages I speak, including my native language. It's a natural problem. So will it affect my score?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:56pm · Edited



David Lewis Hello Shefali, the types of natural hesitations or stuttering that happen during normal speech won't affect your score. It is only a problem if it is extended or very pronounced, as this suggest the speaker has a problem with finding their words beyond the normal collecting of thoughts that any speaker would do.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:51pm



Shefali Banerji Thank you so much, David. Thank you for the clarification.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:53pm



Write a reply...



Mohamed Yasin Ali for the speaking exam. if the examiner asks a topic which i dont understand what is being asked to me? what shal i do? can i ask the instruct to explain what is it mean?

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:33pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Mohamed, If you prepare well enough, this shouldn't happen as they ask about fairly general topics. You can ask the examiner to repeat the question. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yvavz2nUpw>



12 IELTS Speaking Tips

Learn 12 important ways to get a higher score on the IELTS...

[YOUTUBE.COM](#)

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:49pm



Write a reply...



Suhhail Khaki I feel more comfortable when I am writing but when it comes to speaking part i feel a bit hesitant although I don't run short of words or sentences but I trouble myself overthinking about the topic. What is the possible way to overcome this issue?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:30pm



Karen LearnEnglish Here's a site that can help:
<http://britishenglishcoach.com/33-ways-to-speak-better.../>



33 ways to speak better English

You don't need to take classes to speak better English. Here are 33 ways you can improve...

[BRITISHENGLISHCOACH.COM](#)

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 5:41pm



Suhhail Khaki Thanks for the help

Like · Reply · April 28 at 6:49pm



Write a reply...



DrKaung Mon Winn I would love to know more collocations to improve my writing and speaking. Therefore, would you recommend me some sources or references to learn more about collocations?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:18pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi DrKaung, Here you are:
<https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/collocations.htm>

Collocations | English Club

What collocations are and why it's a good idea to learn them. For ESL learners and teachers. With examples and quizzes.

ENGLISHCLUB.COM

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:53pm



DrKaung Mon Winn It's very kind of you... Thanks a lot.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:56pm



Write a reply...



Inder Verma Dear Educators, I also want to know if there are any last minute suggestions from me. as I am going to sit in IELTS exam on this Saturday. I am not that worried, but still want to make sure that I get best out of it...

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:53pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Inder, Good luck on Saturday. My advice would be to keep calm. Make sure you notice the time and make sure you have filled in all the answers on the answer sheet. Don't leave anything blank. Get a good night's rest leading up to the exam. Remember to smile in the interview

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:56pm



Inder Verma Thanks...

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:04pm



Write a reply...



Lays Rodrigues what's the most important thing we have pay attention on listening and reading for we don't waste our time in one question?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Karen LearnEnglish In reading, if you are not sure of the answer, leave it and return to it later so you don't spend too long on one answer. For the listening, if you can't answer a question, move to the next one so you don't get left behind and miss what they are saying on the audio.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:57pm



Write a reply...



Clarisa Valencia If i don't take any english course to improve my skills on ielts, can i learn by mw own way and keep practice ? And what book that you recomend ? Thank you.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:40pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Clarissa - I'd recommend doing a course or at least practice tests to help you prepare. This course will give you a good foundation. Good luck.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:03pm



Write a reply...



HàĐoàSh AISHam Actually i don't know when should i book the date of IELTS exam due i don't know when i'm going to be ready to do it .. so what advice can you give it to me?? (And can i leave it without booking or i have to book)??

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 5:05pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi, you need to book a test but it depends on when you need it. If you are applying for university, they will tell you when you need to submit the results. You can do some practice tests to see how you are getting on. This will help you decide. This course you are doing now is a good way to check progress and to get more information and practice. <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · April 28 at 5:47pm



Write a reply...



Mv Navarro Orilla How about if you just need a bandscore of 5 how many days or months is advisable to be prepared in taking the ielts exam? Just an estimation? Thank u

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:09pm



David Lewis There is no perfect answer to this as it will depend on the level of English that you start with and how hard you work. The more effort you make the sooner you will reach your goal.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:07pm



Write a reply...



Florea Marian Hi! Can anyone give us a hint how to approach the reading part of the test in order to get a higher score? Thank you!

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:14pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Florea, we will be looking at reading soon but in the meantime here is a site which might help:

<http://www.eltstestprepcast.com/category/ielts-reading/>



IELTS Reading

Episode 016 | IELTS Reading | Reading Techniques 1 By Steve Price In this episode...

IELTSTESTPRECAST.COM | BY STEVE PRICE

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 6:05pm



Write a reply...



Sa Alkhatib Hi everyone

I would like to ask if there is online exam for ILETs ?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:53pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Sa, there isn't an online exam for IELTS - you need to sit it at an exam centre.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 6:06pm



Sa Alkhatib Thanks for replying

Like · Reply · April 28 at 6:09pm



Write a reply...



Rita Domingues hello how I could improve fluency in speech?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:05pm



Karen LearnEnglish Here you go, hope this helps:

<http://britishenglishcoach.com/33-ways-to-speak-better.../>



33 ways to speak better English

You don't need to take classes to speak better English. Here are 33 ways you can improve...

BRITISHENGLISHCOACH.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 6:09pm



Rita Domingues Thanks a lot

Like · Reply · April 28 at 7:42pm



Write a reply...



Anas Al-Monaifi There are many skills that necessary to pass International English exams like taking notes.

Are you going to teach us these skills during this course?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:32pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Anas, We will be looking at all aspects of the test and next week you will get an opportunity to record yourself. In terms of note taking, this isn't quite as necessary as in other exams. We are only going to focus on the skills for IELTS.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:42pm



Write a reply...



Abo Hamza Ahmad Hi everyone. I would like to ask about the speaking test.

Are the topics discussed follow a specific pattern or is it open and is subject to the choice of the examiner

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:59pm



David Lewis Hello Abo, you'll see more about this in the course, but in general, part 1 is general information with quite broad every day topics. Part 2 the examiner choose s a topic for you and you speak about it. Part 3 is a discussion based around areas connected to the topic of part 2.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:03pm



Write a reply...



Muhammad Arslan Mirza I am hoping to learn and improve my english. I havent taken ilets before so from where should i start?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:03pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Muhammad, This course is a great start here is some more information about IELTS:
<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org>



IELTS International English
language test system | Take IELTS

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 6:05pm



Write a reply...



Noel Muse I know many country have different pronunciation , when i have speaking test, is my one have to be UK's pronunciation?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:47pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Noel, You don't heed to have UK pronunciation but you need to be understandable. We will be looking at speaking next week and you will have a chance to record yourself

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:59pm



Write a reply...



Meherafroj Lutfa On listening, if i use singular instead of plural form of word, will the examiner consider the answer?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:01pm



Karen LearnEnglish yes they will. This is a small mistake and doesn't interfere with the overall communication but will come under Grammar and Pronunciation. If you are worried about singular and plurals, you can practice more to feel more confident.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:55pm



Write a reply...



Khandarmaa Lkhagva Another question about listening, if I write in my answers sheet the answers with a capital letter when it's not necessary or when I write a singular noun instead of plural, it would be considered as a mistake? Thank you in advance.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:52pm



Alister Widdowson You can write your answers all in capitals if you like. There will be a problem if you write and answer which should have a capital with a small letter, john for example. Plurals and singulars are important and you need to try to get them right

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:54pm



Khandarmaa Lkhagva Thank you for your advice! I'll keep it on my mind.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:20pm



Write a reply...



Santa Patra Thank you for being with us

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:22pm



Myo Aung Dear My Educator, My name is Myo Aung from Myanmar. I have been learning English speaking since 2007 and I felt I am not much improve in speaking English. How can I do?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:05pm



Adelaida Ibarra I think this is an important question. When you already has an English speaking level that everyone can understand you than it is more difficult to improve, you continue doing mistakes but no one correct you. What I do is asking to my friends who are English speakers or speak better than me to correct me.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:31pm



Myo Aung Yes I make many mistake but no one correct it and all

accept that English is just for communication and due to they understand my message...Thanks

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Prity Ladsaria Roy My personal preference is watch movies, television that are in English or ones which has English subtitles.. Interesting that way..

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:55pm



Myo Aung Good sharing for me and I will have to do. But now I am listening VOA Special English program and listen some tip of A J Hoge.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:57pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Myo, I can recommend using the <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en> to practise and improve your English.



Learn English | British Council

Learn English provides information, tips and resources to help adults learn English.

LEARNENGLISH.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:04pm



Myo Aung Neeraj LearnEnglish Thanks..

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 5:05pm



Write a reply...



Shāfiqūl Alām Jībōñ it seems,my listening performance is very poor .what sould i do

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:05pm · Edited



Alister Widdowson Hi, the best answer is to listen! practising for half an hour a day for an extended period - a number of months - can really help with your listening skills

Like · Reply · 4 · April 28 at 4:07pm



Alister Widdowson Find things which you rally enjoy listening to, podcasts can be great, and then get intot he habit of listening on the way to work, ni the car or the bus.

Like · Reply · 6 · April 28 at 4:08pm



Shāfiqūl Alām Jībōñ thanks sir...i will try my best to develop myself

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:16pm



Write a reply...



Abdelrahman Khalil how can i know many new words in ashort time at different fields?and how can i make my listening better?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:23pm



LE Freddie Hi Abdel. Concentrate on the most important words to learn that you do not already know. Any words you do not know from this list perhaps <http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/.../oxford3000/> Listening is a broad area and we will be looking in detail at lots of tips and strategies for improving your listening skills and practicing the exam in Week 3. Here are a couple of links to get you started:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_3qJobgmFQ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OEefmk-sN8>

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:57pm



Abdelrahman Khalil thanks very much sir

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:04pm



Write a reply...



Simohamed AI I have no idea what is IELTS?? please

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:03pm · Edited



David Lewis Hello Simohamed, IELTS is a test that measures your ability to use English communicatively across four skills, listening, speaking, reading and writing. You'll find a lot of useful information on the Understanding IELTS course about the different elements, and you can also read about it here.

<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/choose-ielts/what-ielts>



What is IELTS - International English Language Testing System

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · April 28 at 4:08pm



Simohamed AI How do you measure the speaking part? During the test...

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:56pm



Write a reply...

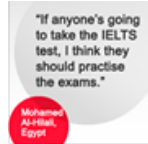


Liza Sukhina Is this courses enough to prepare for exam?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:21pm · Edited



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Liza, This course is a foundation in preparing you for the exam but there are a lot of other factors that need to be taken into account such as your level, how long you have to prepare and how much you have practised. Here is a site to help you prepare: <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests> I'd advise doing some practice tests to see how you get on.



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:34pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Liza, it depends on your level and what your objective is. If they are very far apart, then you might need more time and maybe help from a teacher.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:06pm



Write a reply...



Wersao Carvalho How to improve my writing skill's?! It is My biggest problem!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:12pm



Lela Sinik Hi Wersao recently I took great online course on FutureLearn I think its available now <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/english-for-study/>. I hope this can be useful



A Beginner's Guide to Writing in English for University Study -...

FUTURELEARN.COM | BY FUTURELEARN

[Unlike](#) · [Reply](#) · [Remove Preview](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:27pm



Wersao Carvalho Lela Sinik thanks a million! I'll do it!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:29pm



Write a reply...



Hàðøøøh AlSham I couldn't attend the blab yesterday where can i find it ? Thank u ...

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · April 28 at 4:41pm · Edited



Karen LearnEnglish Have a look at either my or Neils replies and you should find a link there.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:43pm



Hàðøøøh AlSham Thank you a lot

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:45pm



Write a reply...



Willian da Silva About the listening test. Is it always one word answers to fill the blanks?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:38pm



Alister Widdowson HI Willian, no sometimes they can ask for 2 or 3 words maximum. Read the instructions before each part really carefully to see what the requirements are for each question.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:40pm



Willian da Silva Tks Alister. That was also a doubt from my friend Marcelo Martins.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:42pm



Write a reply...



Inder Verma I also want to know what a perfect letter writing would be. According to IELTS...

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:48pm



LE Freddie Here are some examples <http://www.ieltsbuddy.com/ielts-letter.html>



IELTS Letter Samples

View a free model answer of an IELTS letter plus comments - many more free samples are...

IELTSBUDDY.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 5:03pm



Write a reply...



Yehia Adleh what is the difference between the academic and the other exams

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:16pm



LE Freddie Hi Yehia. The academic is designed for university study. The differences between the academic and general module are in the reading and writing parts. The reading texts are more academic in nature, as are the writing questions, e.g. describing a chart with data instead of writing a letter.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:02pm



Yehia Adleh thnx and can i know if there is a specific age to make an academic IELTS exam i am 15

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:03pm



Write a reply...



Zainit Istanar Is there Preparation IELTS test like toefl preparation? because I have a plan to take an IELTS test in the first june.

and how about to manage the ideas in writing test of the IELTS?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:37pm · Edited



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Zainit, Here is a practice test and site to help you prepare for IELTS which is a little different from TOEFL.
<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:33pm



Zainit Istanar many thanks karen

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:38pm



Write a reply...



Francesca Augustin Is IELTS test same level than Proficiency?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:25pm



David Lewis Hello Francesca, IELTS is a level testing system, so it checks learners ability to speak English across all levels from beginner to near native speaker level, so it depends on your result if it is equal to Proficiency. Have a look here at how IELTS band scores compare to Cambridge exams.

<http://www.examenglish.com/examscomparison.php>

Comparison of CEF levels of English language exams: IELTS, TOEFL, TOEIC, Cambridge ESOL (CAE,...

Comparison table of different ESL exams TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS and the Cambridge ESL exams (CPE, FCE, PET, KET)

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:41pm



Write a reply...



Juan Ramadhan My weakness is reading test, which concept or what should i do to make it easier?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:14pm



Neeraj LearnEnglish Hi Juan, to improve reading try using some of the advice in these videos IELTS Reading Video -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrATVKQ9yNg>

Reading exam tips -
<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/.../reading...>



IELTS Reading: Improve your English and prepare...

YOUTUBE.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · April 28 at 4:42pm



Write a reply...

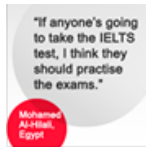


Hassan Alzyadneh How can I know my level in IELTS?

Like · Reply · 3 · April 28 at 4:12pm



Adelaida Ibarra <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/.../free-practice-tests>



IELTS Free Practice tests to develop your exam technique

TAKEIELTS.BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:26pm



David Lewis Hello Hassan, to know your level, take a practice test and check your answers, then use an online IELTS band score calculator, such as this one to see what band you would get.
http://www.examenglish.com/.../IELTS_Band_Score...

The IELTS Band Score Calculator

Convert your scores in the reading and listening tests to IELTS band scores

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Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 2 · April 28 at 4:48pm



Write a reply...



Kartheepan Karthi Can i get a scholarship for higher study in canada by following IELTS?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:38pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Kartheepan, I'm afraid we don't offer scholarships but if you contact the university you are interested in applying to, they might be able to help.

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:45pm



Kartheepan Karthi ohh ok thank you

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:46pm



Write a reply...



Moe Pwint Khin Thanks to everyone for both asking and answering questions good job everyone Also for sharing the links

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:10pm · Edited



Nalin Fonseka Can I ask the examiner to change the topic is part 2 if I can't talk about it?

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:18pm



David Lewis Hello Nalin, you can't ask to change the topic. The topics are quite general and a well-prepared candidate shouldn't have a problem dealing with them. There are some example topics here to give you an idea of what to expect. <http://www.ieltsbuddy.com/ielts-speaking-topics.html>



Common IELTS Speaking Topics

A full list of IELTS speaking topics for part 2 of the test

IELTSBUDDY.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 1 · April 28 at 4:23pm



Write a reply...



Inder Verma Hi Everyone there, First of all thank you all for the course as it is really helpfull.

Unlike · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:03pm



Rafid Hassan I have got some problem with English accent...So how can I do good in listening section???

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:10pm



David Lewis Hello Rafid, first of all the IELTS exam will have examples of English across many accents nit just English ones, but those major ones found in the world. So you may come across American, Australian or Indian accents, to give some examples. I suggest that you expose yourself to as many English language materials as you can as practice. Do you have channels on TV in English where you live? If yes, watch these for a few minutes each day. You might also like to try the BBC Podcasts, there is a wide range of material and it's great listening practice.

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



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 · 2 · April 28 at 4:20pm



Rafid Hassan thank you very much David

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:23pm



Write a reply...



Doaa Ibrahim How can i improve my writing to get a higher score?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:03pm



Karen LearnEnglish Hi Doaa, Doing a lot of practice will help and we will be looking at writing in the course.

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:43pm



Write a reply...



Rebeca Andreu hi good morning- afternoonj i am in Mexico. how many examiners do your oral exam?

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:03pm



David Lewis Hello Rebeca, there is one examiner in the room with the candidate. The oral exam is also recorded so that it can be listened to later.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:10pm



Rebeca Andreu thank you very much. how important is it for you how much of your native accent you have when speaking English?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:12pm



Write a reply...



Linda Hernandez Hi! I am from Costa Rica. Would you say IELTS is a good test for work purpose? I am currently taking your online Program.thanks

Like · Reply · 1 · April 28 at 4:06pm



David Lewis Hello Linda, the question of whether IELTS is good for work purposes depends on your situation. IELTS is usually used by people moving abroad to work or study and who need to prove their English level. However, in some cases a local employer may accept it as proof that you have the English skills needed to do a job. This will depend very much on the country and/or company, so I can't give you a perfect answer, only suggest that you check what is accepted where you are.

Like · Reply · 2 · April 28 at 4:13pm



Linda Hernandez Got it, thanks

Like · Reply · April 28 at 4:20pm



Linda Hernandez how and when may I book the exam? How much does it cost?

Like · Reply · April 28 at 5:10pm



Write a reply...



Santa Patra My problem is i am very much hesitate in conversing in English, when someone ask me any thing i feel nervous even if i know the answer, this hesitation is an obstacle in my career, so, i how can i overcome on this problem?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:32pm



Santa Patra Thanks Rita

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:00pm



Santa Patra Thank you all

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:03pm



Write a reply...



Carolina Protzner Hi everyone!

I am Carolina, from Brazil.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · April 28 at 4:02pm



Alister Widdowson Hi Carolina, nice to see you on the clinic! Do you have a question?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · April 28 at 4:06pm



Carolina Protzner Hi Alister! Nice to meet you.

My main doubt: I will try IELTS for a work permit.

My intention is move to another country as England or Dublin.

As i see, the test can be the General, not the Academic.

My purpose is try a new life outside Brazil.

Could you explain me a little more about the score i have to get and how does this visa works?

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 4:51pm · Edited



Write a reply...



Lyes Tfyèche be with us in our discussion group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FutureLearnDiscussion/>

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · April 28 at 5:22pm

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