



IELTS Band Score

www.ielts.org



- **IELTS (International English Language Testing System)**
- **Task-based test**
- **Communicative competence**
- **Assesses and reports performance in all four language skills**



- **IELTS: the test that sets the standard**
- **Standardised world-wide**
- **Very strong recognition**
- **Reputation**



Interpreting IELTS Band Scores

1. Understanding IELTS Band Scores
2. Understanding IELTS Band Score Scale
3. IELTS scoring in Detail
4. Useful tools



1. Understanding IELTS Band Scores

- **Candidates' scores: 1 to 9**
- **L/R/W/S: score 1-9**
- **Overall Band Score /9**



Each component of the test – Writing, Speaking, Reading and Listening – is given an individual score, so your overall exam result will be made up of a score for each component and an overall band score. The overall band score is the average of the four individual scores.



For example:

Writing	Speaking	Reading	Listening	Average ÷ 4	Overall Band
6.0	5.5	7.0	6.5	6.25	6.5

Writing	Speaking	Reading	Listening	Average + 4	Overall Band
4.0	4.5	5.5	6.5	5.125	5.0

Writing	Speaking	Reading	Listening	Average + 4	Overall Band
7.5	7.0	8.5	8.0	7.75	8.0




The IELTS TRF (Test Report Form)

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM
Test Report Form ACADEMIC

NOTE: Admission to undergraduate and postgraduate courses should be based on the ACADEMIC Reading and Writing Modules. GENERAL TRAINING Reading and Writing Modules are not designed to test the full range of language skills required for academic purposes. It is recommended that the candidate's language ability as indicated in this Test Report Form be re-assessed after two years from the date of the test.

Centre Number Date Candidate Number

Candidate Details

Family Name 

First Name

Candidate ID

Date of Birth Sex (MF) Scheme Code


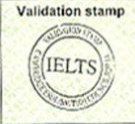
Country of Origin First Language

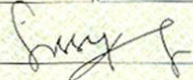
Repeating IELTS (Y/N) Previous Test Date Previous Test Centre

Test Results




Listening Reading Writing Speaking Overall Band Score

Administrator Comments

Centre stamp  Validation stamp 

Writing Examiner Number Administrator's Signature 

Speaking Examiner Number Date Test Report Form Number

The validity of this IELTS Test Report Form can be verified online by recognising organisations at <https://ielts.ucles.org.uk>

2. Understanding IELTS Band Score Scale

Your band score is designed to provide an accurate assessment of your level of proficiency in all four aspects of English – Writing, Speaking, Reading and Listening.

This can then be used by various institutions to help them decide if you will be able to study, work or live successfully in the country to which you are applying.

This table shows the overall IELTS scores and their descriptors.

Band	Descriptor
9	Expert user Shows complete understanding of English. Uses language appropriately and with fluency and accuracy. Full operational command.
8	Very good user Has full operational command of the language except in a few unfamiliar situations. Occasional unsystematic inaccuracies. Complex and detailed argumentation handled well.
7	Good user Has operational command of the language with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriate usage and misunderstandings in some situations. Understands detailed reasoning and generally handles complex language well.
6	Competent user Has effective command of the language. Shows some inaccuracies, inappropriate usage and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.
5	Moderate user Has partial command of the language. Copes well with overall meaning in most situations, though many mistakes are likely. Should be able to handle basic communication in own field.
4	Limited user Basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Unable to use complex language and frequently has problems in understanding and expression.
3	Extremely limited user Able to convey and understand only general meaning in very familiar situations. Communication frequently breakdowns.
2	Intermittent user Has great difficulty in understanding spoken and written English. May know a few isolated words or phrases useful in familiar situations.
1	Non- user No ability in using the English language. May know a few isolated words.



3. IELTS Scoring in Detail

Here is some information about how the individual components are scored which will help you to understand the IELTS band score system.



Listening

The listening test contains 40 questions. One mark is awarded for each correct answer (raw score). The score out of 40 is then converted to the IELTS nine-band scale.



Listening Test- Raw Score Conversion

Raw Score	Band Score
39- 40	9
37- 38	8.5
35- 36	8
32- 34	7.5
30- 31	7
26- 29	6.5
23- 25	6
18- 22	5.5
16- 17	5
13- 15	4.5
11- 12	4

Reading

The reading test also contains 40 questions with one mark awarded for each correct answer (raw score). The score out of 40 is then converted to the IELTS nine-band scale.

The difference between the Academic and General Reading tests is one of genre or text type. The Academic Reading test is likely to contain texts with a greater complexity and which contain more difficult vocabulary.



Academic Reading Test- Raw Score Conversion

Raw Score	Band Score
39- 40	9
37- 38	8.5
35- 36	8
33- 34	7.5
30- 32	7
27- 29	6.5
23- 26	6
19- 22	5.5
15- 18	5
13- 14	4.5
10- 12	4
8- 9	3.5
6- 7	3



General Reading Test- Raw Score Conversion

Raw Score	Band Score
40	9
39	8.5
37- 38	8
36	7.5
34- 35	7
32- 33	6.5
30- 31	6
27- 29	5.5
23- 26	5
19- 22	4.5
15- 18	4
12- 14	3.5
9- 11	3



Writing

The two part writing test is marked by an examiner who awards an IELTS band score based on four criteria:

- **Task Achievement (Task 1) / Task Response (Task 2)**
- **Coherence and Cohesion**
- **Lexical Resource**
- **Grammatical Range and Accuracy**

Each criterion carries equal weight. An average is taken of the four criteria scores to give the overall IELTS band score.



Speaking

Similar criteria are applied to the speaking test and the IELTS band score is calculated in the same way.

- **Fluency and Coherence**
- **Lexical Resource**
- **Grammatical Range and Accuracy**
- **Pronunciation**



4. Useful tools

- IELTS Website www.ielts.org
- IELTS Global Recognition Site
- IELTS Standards Setting DVD
- Public Band Descriptors

