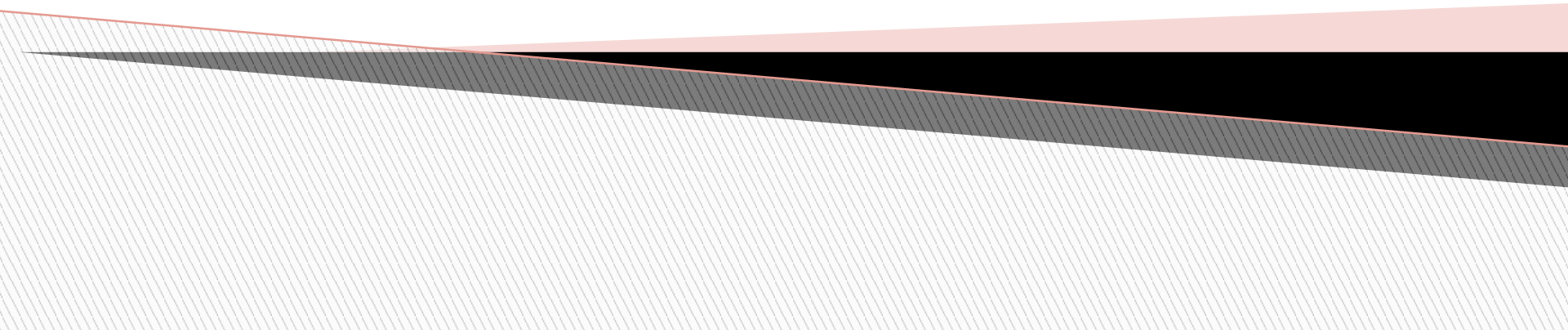# IELTS

International English Language Testing System

General information

- It is an international standardized test of English language proficiency for non-native English language speakers.
- Test-takers can take IELTS in more than 140 countries and in over 1,000 locations.
- There are up to 48 test dates available per year. Each test centre offers tests up to four times a month depending on local demand.
- There used to be a minimum time limit of 90 days before which a person was not allowed to retake the test. However this restriction has been withdrawn and currently there is no limit for applicants to retake the test.
- There are two modules of the IELTS:
  - Academic Module
  - General Training Module

Band score scale

There is no pass or fail. There is no minimum score.
IELTS is scored on a nine-band scale, with each band corresponding to a specified competence in English.

The IELTS band score scale	
9	Expert user
8	Very good user
7	Good user
6	Competent user
5	Modest user
4	Limited user
3	Extremely limited user
2	Intermittent user
1	Non user
0	Did not attempt the test

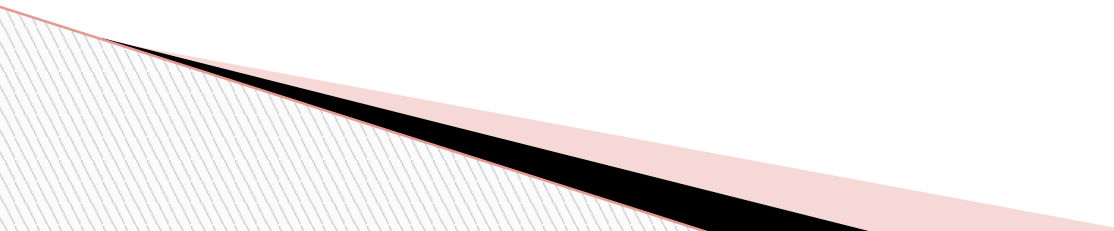| IELTS	CEFR
9.0	
8.5	C2
8.0	
7.5	
7.0	C1
6.5	
6.0	
5.5	B2
5.0	
4.5	
4.0	B1

Execution time

The IELTS test has four parts:

- Listening: 30 minutes
- Reading: 60 minutes
- Writing: 60 minutes
- Speaking: 11–14 minutes

The test total time is: 2 hours and 55 minutes.

Listening, Reading and Writing are completed in one sitting. The Speaking test may be taken on the same day or up to seven days before or after the other tests.

Listening

The module comprises four sections, with ten questions in each section:

• Sections 1 and 2 are about everyday, social situations.

🞏   Section 1 has a conversation between two speakers (for example, a conversation about travel arrangements)

🞏   Section 2 has one person speaking (for example, a speech about local facilities).

• Sections 3 and 4 are about educational and training situations

🞏   Section 3 is a conversation between two main speakers (for example, a discussion between two university students, perhaps guided by a tutor)

🞏   Section 4 has one person speaking about an academic subject.

Reading

◻ <u>Texts in IELTS Academic:</u>

Three reading texts, which come from books, journals, magazines, newspapers and online resources written for non-specialist audiences. All the topics are of general interest to students at undergraduate or postgraduate level.

◻ <u>Texts in IELTS General Training:</u>

<u>Section 1</u> contains two or three short texts, which deal with everyday topics. For example, timetables or notices.

<u>Section 2</u> contains two texts, which deal with work. For example, job descriptions, contracts, training materials.

<u>Section 3</u> contains one long text about a topic of general interest. The text is generally descriptive, longer and more complex than the texts in Sections 1 and 2. The text will be taken from a newspaper, magazine, book or online resource.

Writing

The Writing paper has two tasks which must both be completed. In task 1 test-takers write at least 150 words in about 20 minutes. In task 2 test-takers write at least 250 words in about 40 minutes.

- IELTS Academic:

- Task 1: test takers describe a graph, table, chart or diagram in their own words.

- Task 2: test takers discuss a point of view, argument or problem.

- IELTS General Training:

- Task 1: test takers write a letter in response to a given everyday situation. For example, writing to a new employer about problems managing your time, writing to a local newspaper about a plan to develop a local airport.

- Task 2: test takers write an essay about a topic of general interests. For example, whether smoking should be banned in public places, how environmental problems can be solved.

Speaking

☐ The speaking test is a face-to-face interview between the test taker and an examiner.

It contains three sections:

- Section 1: introduction and interview (4–5 minutes).
- Section 2: long turn (3–4 minutes). Test takers are given a task card about a particular topic. They have one minute to prepare to talk about this topic. Test takers are then expected to talk about the topic for 2 minutes, after which the examiner may ask one or two questions.
- Section 3: discussions (4–5 minutes). The third section involves a discussion between the examiner and the test taker, generally on questions relating to the theme which they have already spoken about in Section 2.

IELTS marking system

Writing Section	Average Score (0 -9)	Speaking Section	Average Score (0 -9)
Task Acheivement	0 - 9	Fluency & Coherence	0 - 9
Coherence & Cohesion	0 - 9	Grammaticality Range & Accuracy	0 - 9
Lexical Resource	0 - 9	Lexical Resource	0 - 9
Grammaticality Range & Accuracy	0 - 9	Pronunciation	0 - 9

Writing Section	Average Score 6	Speaking Section	Average Score 6.5
Task Acheivement	6	Fluency & Coherence	8
Coherence & Cohesion	6	Grammaticality Range & Accuracy	6
Lexical Resource	5	Lexical Resource	7
Grammaticality Range & Accuracy	5	Pronunciation	4

Total: 6 + 6 + 5 + 5 = 22
Average Score: 22 / 4 = 5.75
Round up to the nearest half = 6

Total: 8 + 6 + 7 + 4 = 25
Average Score: 25 / 4 = 6.25
Round up to the nearest half = 6.5

Test Results

- A Test Report Form is posted to test-takers 13 days after their test.
- Test Report Forms are valid for two years.

IELTS™

Test Report Form

GENERAL TRAINING

NOTE *Admission to undergraduate and post graduate 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	IN001	Date	05/DEC/2015	Candidate Number	083888

Candidate Details

Family Name	JOSEPH
First Name	JENNIFER ANN
Candidate ID	K2652657

Date of Birth	13/11/1972	Sex (M/F)	F	Scheme Code	Private Candidate

Country or Region of Origin	
Country of Nationality	INDIA
First Language	ENGLISH

Test Results

Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Overall Band Score	CEFR Level
7.5	8.5	8.0	8.5	8.0	C1

Administrator Comments

Centre stamp

BC EXAMINATIONS & ENGLISH SERVICES INDIA PVT. LTD. ★ BRITISH COUNCIL

Validation stamp

IELTS

Administrator's Signature

Date	17/12/2015	Test Report Form Number	15IN083888JOSJ001G

BRITISH COUNCIL   idp   CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH Language Assessment

Advantages of the exam

✔ **Universality**

✔ **Reliability**

✔ **Practicality**