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A Communication today

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IELTS Overview

| Listening (30 Minutes + 10 minutes transfer time) | | |
|--|---|--|
| Discourse Types | Question Types | Skills |
| Recording 1: a conversation between two people in an everyday context Recording 2: a monologue in an everyday context Recording 3: a conversation between up to four people in an educational setting Recording 4: a monologue on an academic subject | 40 questions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple choice • Short-answer questions • Notes/Table/Form/Flow chart completion • Diagram labelling • Matching • Classification • Sentence completion • Flow chart summary • Plan/Map/Diagram labelling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening for gist • Listening for main ideas • Listening for specific information • Understanding opinions |
| Academic Reading (60 minutes) | | |
| Text Types | Question Types | Skills |
| General interest texts taken from journals, newspapers, textbooks and magazines. These non-specialist texts are graded in difficulty and are representative of reading requirements for undergraduate and postgraduate students. Total of 2,000–2,750 words | 40 questions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple choice • Short-answer questions • Notes/Table/Form/Flow chart completion • Diagram labelling • Matching • Classification • Sentence completion • Flow chart completion • Matching paragraph headings • Matching lists/phrases • True/False/Not given | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading for gist • Skimming • Reading for main ideas • Reading for detail • Understanding logical argument • Recognising opinions, attitudes and purpose |
| General Training Reading (60 minutes) | | |
| Texts and extracts taken from books, magazines, newspapers, notices, advertisements, company handbooks and guidelines that you would encounter on a daily basis. | | |
| Academic Writing (60 minutes) | | |
| Task 1: a minimum of 150 words. A summarising description of graphic or pictorial input. Task 2: a minimum of 250 words. An extended piece of discursive writing. | Task 1: Describe, summarise or explain information from a graph, table or chart. Task 2: Respond to a point of view, argument or problem. Formal register required. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the appropriate writing conventions and register • Describing processes • Describing data • Expressing a point of view • Comparing and contrasting • Analysing problems and solutions |
| General Training Writing (60 minutes) | | |
| Task 1: a minimum of 150 words. Writing a letter or email. Task 2: a minimum of 250 words. An extended piece of discursive writing. | Task 1: Write a letter or email to someone explaining a situation or requesting information. Task 2: Write an essay in response to a point of view, argument or problem. Can be personal in style. | |
| Speaking (11–14 Minutes) | | |
| Format | Nature of Interaction | Skills |
| Part 1: Introduction and interview (4–5 minutes) Part 2: Individual long turn (3–4 minutes) Part 3: Exploring a topic/discussion (4–5 minutes) | Part 1: Speaking on familiar topics like home, family, work, studies, interests, etc. Part 2: You will be given a card which asks you to talk about a topic You have one minute to prepare before you speak for two minutes You will then be asked one or two questions on the same topic. Part 3: You will be asked more questions about the topic in Part 2 so you can discuss more abstract ideas. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving personal information • Talking about everyday habits and issues • Expressing opinions • Organising ideas • Understanding the rules of conversation |
| Total test time: 2 hours and 45 minutes (+10 minutes transfer time for Listening) | | |