



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS



CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH
Language Assessment
Part of the University of Cambridge

Cambridge English



IELTS is jointly managed by the British Council,
IDP: IELTS Australia and Cambridge English Language Assessment

The **Official** Cambridge Guide to

IELTS

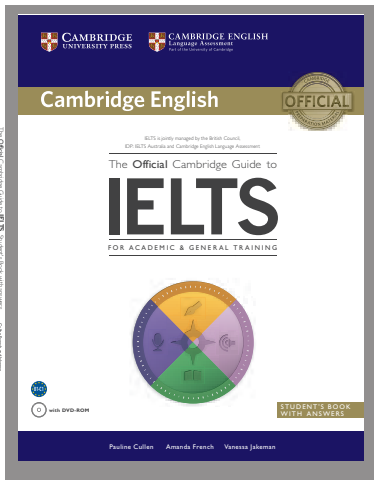
FOR ACADEMIC & GENERAL TRAINING



with DVD-ROM

**STUDENT'S BOOK
WITH ANSWERS**

Pauline Cullen Amanda French Vanessa Jakeman



The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

The definitive guide to IELTS

Student's Book with answers with DVD-ROM 978-1-107-62069-8

Who is it for?






Test takers

- Self-study guide
- Revision companion

Teachers

- All-in-one reference
- Class revision guide

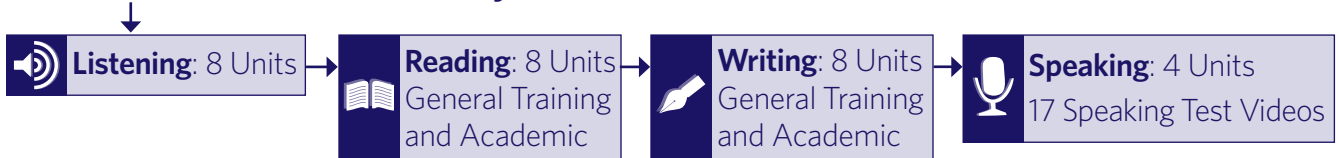
What is it?

-  Comprehensive *IELTS* exam guide
-  Easy access from Band 4.0
-  Divided by skills
-  Develops language level and exam techniques
-  General Training and Academic Modules



What's inside?

IELTS Introduction and Summary



8 Practice Tests: First Test Fully Guided

🌐 Use the book section by section, or choose the parts you need, when you need them

Why buy it?

- 🌐 400-page total solution for *IELTS*
- 🌐 Exercises to develop skills
- 🌐 More than 100 'must have' Exam and Study Tips
- 🌐 Strategies to improve test performance
- 🌐 Videos of the Speaking test (DVD-ROM)
- 🌐 8 full Academic practice tests with 2 additional General Training sections

What is *IELTS*?

IELTS: International English Language Testing System

- 🌐 Accepted by 8000 organisations worldwide
- 🌐 For higher education and global migration
- 🌐 2 million tests taken per year
- 🌐 Two versions: General Training and Academic
- 🌐 Tests the four skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening)
- 🌐 Reflects real life use of English
- 🌐 Unique 9-Band scale accurately pinpoints English level

IELTS is jointly managed by the British Council, IDP: IELTS Australia and Cambridge English Language Assessment

www.ielts.org



The Cambridge English Corpus is a multi-billion word collection of written and spoken English. It includes the Cambridge Learner Corpus, a unique bank of exam candidate papers.

Our authors study the Corpus to identify typical mistakes made by exam candidates. This means that Cambridge materials help students to avoid common errors and improve their performance. **www.cambridge.org/corpus**

Contents

Introduction	p5	IELTS Reading skills	p42
IELTS Summary	p7	1 Reading strategies	p44
IELTS Listening skills	p13	1 Using the features of a Reading passage	p44
1 Getting ready to listen	p15	2 Skimming a passage and speed reading	p46
1 Understanding the context	p15	3 Global understanding	p47
2 Using the correct spelling	p16	2 Descriptive passages	p48
3 Writing numbers	p17	1 Scanning for detail	p48
2 Following a conversation	p18	2 Using words from the passage	p49
1 Identifying the speakers	p18	3 Notes/flow-chart/diagram completion	p50
2 Identifying function	p19	3 Understanding the main ideas	p55
3 Understanding categories	p21	1 Identifying the main idea	p55
3 Recognising paraphrase	p22	2 Understanding the main points	p57
1 Identifying distractors	p22	3 Identifying information in a passage	p58
2 Recognising paraphrase	p23	4 Locating and matching information	p59
3 Selecting from a list	p24	1 Identifying types of information	p59
4 Places and directions	p25	2 Locating and matching information	p60
1 Describing a place	p25	3 How ideas are connected	p63
2 Following directions	p27	5 Discursive passages	p64
3 Labelling a map	p28	1 Discursive passages	p64
5 Listening for actions and processes	p29	2 Identifying theories and opinions	p66
1 Understanding mechanical parts	p29	3 Matching features	p67
2 Describing an action or process	p31	6 Multiple-choice questions	p70
3 Describing a process	p32	1 Understanding longer pieces of text	p70
6 Attitude and opinion	p33	2 Different types of multiple choice	p71
1 Identifying attitudes and opinions	p33	3 Identifying a writer's purpose	p72
2 Persuading and suggesting	p34	7 Opinions and attitudes	p73
3 Reaching a decision	p35	1 Argumentative texts	p73
7 Following a lecture or talk	p36	2 Identifying the writer's views/claims	p75
1 Identifying main ideas	p36	3 Identifying grammatical features	p76
2 Understanding how ideas are connected	p38	8 General Training Reading	p78
3 Understanding an explanation	p38	1 The General Training Reading paper	p78
8 Contrasting ideas	p39	2 Dealing with multiple texts	p83
1 Signposting words	p39	3 Understanding work-related texts	p84
2 Comparing and contrasting ideas	p40		
3 Using notes to follow a talk	p41		

IELTS Writing	p91	IELTS Speaking	p134
1 Academic Writing Task 1 – Describing a chart, table or graph	p93	1 The Speaking Test – Part 1	p136
1 Understanding graphs, tables and charts	p93	1 Getting ready to speak	p136
2 More complex charts	p96	2 Part 1 – talking about familiar topics	p137
3 Improving your Task Achievement score	p97	3 Using the right tense – Grammatical Range and Accuracy	p138
2 Academic Writing Task 1 – Comparing and contrasting graphs and tables	p100	2 Part 2 – Giving a talk	p140
1 Avoiding repetition	p100	1 Understanding the task	p140
2 Comparing and contrasting data	p102	2 Improving Fluency and Coherence	p142
3 Grammatical Accuracy – describing numbers and figures accurately	p104	3 Organising your notes and your talk	p143
3 Academic Writing Task 1 – Describing diagrams	p106	3 Part 3 – Talking about abstract topics	p145
1 Understanding a diagram	p106	1 Talking about abstract topics	p145
2 Describing a process – coherence and cohesion	p107	2 Agreeing and disagreeing	p147
3 Lexical Resource – being accurate	p108	3 Improving your Lexical Resource score	p148
4 Academic Writing Task 1 – Describing maps	p110	4 Checking, correcting and assessing	p149
1 Describing a map	p110	1 Dealing with problems	p149
2 Describing changes in a place	p111	2 Pronunciation, intonation and ‘chunking’	p150
3 Grammatical Accuracy	p112	3 Assessing yourself and improving your score	p153
5 General Training Writing Task 1 – A letter	p113	Practice Tests	
1 Understanding the task	p113	Practice Test 1	p154
2 Improving your score	p115	Practice Test 2	p173
3 Checking and correcting	p117	Practice Test 3	p190
6 Writing Task 2 – Getting ready to write	p119	Practice Test 4	p207
1 Understanding the task	p119	Practice Test 5	p226
2 Planning and organising your ideas	p120	Practice Test 6	p246
3 Getting started – writing an introduction	p122	Practice Test 7	p266
7 Writing Task 2 – Expressing your ideas clearly	p124	General Training Test	p286
1 Linking ideas – cohesion	p124	Practice Test 8	p300
2 Lexical Resource – avoiding repetition	p125	General Training Test	p319
3 Expressing a personal view	p127	Recording Scripts	p333
8 Writing Task 2 – Checking and correcting	p129	Answer Key	p366
1 Developing your ideas clearly	p129	Sample Answer Sheets	p397
2 Grammatical Accuracy	p130		
3 Assessing your language	p132		

Introduction

Who is this book aimed at?

This book is designed for candidates of any level hoping to take the IELTS test. It is suitable for students working alone or in a classroom situation. The materials can be used for self-study, or can be integrated into an IELTS preparation course. The book is also a valuable resource for teachers who are preparing IELTS candidates.

How can students of different levels use this book?

The IELTS test has two modules: the Academic Module and the General Training Module (see the following pages for an explanation of the two). Each Academic Module candidate will take the same test, no matter what his or her English level is. Similarly, each General Training candidate will take the same General Training test. So, the information in this book is useful and important to students of every level.

Lower-level language students generally need more guided practice and there are exercises in this book to provide this. However, they also need experience and practice in expressing themselves more freely, as this is what IELTS requires them to do. Similarly, more advanced students need frequent opportunities for self-expression, but they also need to become more self-critical and aware of their own common mistakes. Corpus research has shown that even high-level candidates make careless slips, so all levels can benefit from both controlled and free practice.

What are the aims of this book?

This book aims to provide an official, comprehensive guide to IELTS as well as a range of authentic practice tests.

The skills section of the book provides

- a detailed explanation of each paper and each section of IELTS;
- examples of the different types of question candidates can expect to find in each section;
- an analysis of the language skills and strategies needed for each type of question;
- study tips and test tips that can help you to achieve your best score.

This book also contains eight complete Practice Tests, to give you thorough preparation.

How is the book organised?

At the beginning of the book, there is a summary of each IELTS paper. Then, there are four sections dealing with the four skills covered in IELTS: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. These are divided into units, which focus on key areas aiming to build your abilities and confidence, and provide authentic test practice. The second half of the book contains eight complete Practice Tests, each with a comprehensive answer key. The first practice test contains hints and reminders to guide you. At the end of the book, you will find the Answer Key and complete Recording Scripts.

How do I use this book?


For the skills sections, it is best to work through each unit in order. This is because the tasks and information are graded, developing your skills as the units progress. However, the different skills can be covered in any order. For example, you may decide to concentrate on only one skill at a time, or you may want to work on all four skills to provide a more balanced course. You should study all of the skills units before taking the Practice Tests.

When taking the Practice Tests, try to use the tips and strategies recommended in the skills units. You should also try to take the tests under exam conditions and stick closely to the time limits in the test.

How is this book different from other books?

This book is the only official guide to IELTS. The skills units and Practice Tests have been written by IELTS exam writers, so you can be sure they contain authentic, accurate and up-to-date information and advice. For the first time, we have also included a DVD showing IELTS Speaking tests, along with a commentary to explain the candidates' scores. Our writers have used the Cambridge Learner Corpus to help choose the most appropriate language and skill areas to focus on.

What is the Cambridge Learner Corpus?

 The Cambridge Learner Corpus is the world's largest learner corpus. It is made up of thousands of exam scripts written by students from all over the world who have taken Cambridge ESOL exams. The corpus allows us to see the types of error candidates commonly make in the IELTS exam at each different level.

What is 'paraphrase' and why is it important?

Paraphrase is the use of different words to express the same idea. In order to test whether you have understood the Reading and Listening texts, the questions in IELTS will paraphrase the words used in the texts. In the Writing and Speaking sections of the test, being able to use paraphrase, instead of simply repeating and copying the words in the question, will show that you have a wide vocabulary and help you to achieve a higher score. So, using and understanding paraphrase is important in every part of the test.

IELTS Academic Module

The IELTS Academic Module can be used for undergraduate or postgraduate study or for professional reasons.

Academic Reading

Time: one hour

N.B. This includes the time needed to transfer your answers to an answer sheet. There is no extra time for this.

The Reading paper consists of three different texts and a total of 40 questions.

The texts are authentic and academic in nature, but written for a non-specialist audience. They are similar to the types of texts you may be expected to read as part of an undergraduate course. The style may be descriptive or argumentative and at least one text contains detailed logical argument. Texts may contain illustrations. If a text contains technical terms, a simple glossary is provided. The three texts are graded from easiest to most difficult. Each text will have 12–14 items.

Overview of task types

Task type	What do I have to do?
1 multiple choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Choose one answer from alternatives A–D.Choose two answers from alternatives A–E.Choose three answers from alternatives A–G.
2 identifying information (T/F/NG)	Say whether a statement is True, False or Not Given.
3 identifying the writer's views/claims (Y/N/NG)	Say whether a statement agrees with claims or views (Yes), disagrees with the views/claims (No) or whether there is no information on this (Not Given).
4 matching information	Match information to a paragraph in the text.
5 matching headings	Match a heading from a list of possible answers to the correct paragraph or section of the text.
6 matching features	Match a list of statements to a list of possible answers in a box (e.g. specific people or theories or dates).
7 matching sentence endings	Complete a sentence by choosing a suitable ending from a box of possible answers.
8 sentence completion	Complete a sentence with a suitable word or words from the text within the word limit given.
9 notes/summary/table/flow-chart completion	Complete notes/a summary/a table/flow-chart with a suitable word (or words) from a text.

10 labelling a diagram	Label a diagram with a suitable word (or words) from the text or from a box of possible answers.
11 short-answer questions	Answer questions using words from the text.

Assessment: each question is worth one mark.

Academic Writing

Time: one hour

This test consists of two separate writing tasks. You must answer both tasks.

Task	Timing	Length	What do I need to do?
Writing Task 1	20 minutes	150 words	You need to accurately describe and summarise visual information. The information may be presented in a diagram, map, graph or table.
Writing Task 2	40 minutes	250 words	You need to write a discursive essay. You will be given an opinion, problem or issue that you need to respond to. You may be asked to provide a solution, evaluate a problem, compare and contrast different ideas, or challenge an idea.

You will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Task Achievement
- Coherence and Cohesion
- Lexical Resource
- Grammatical Range and Accuracy

Writing Task 2 is worth twice as much as Writing Task 1.

Listening

Time: approximately 30 minutes (plus an additional 10 minutes to transfer your answers)

Academic and General Training candidates take the same Listening test. This consists of four separate sections and a total of 40 questions. Sections 1 and 2 are set in a social context and Sections 3 and 4 are set in an academic context. In the IELTS Listening, you will hear the text **ONCE ONLY**. Each section is gradually more difficult and the test is divided up as follows.

Section	What kind of text will I hear?
1	A conversation between two people about a general topic with a transactional purpose (e.g. finding out information about travel).
2	A monologue or prompted monologue on a general topic with a transactional purpose (e.g. giving information about events in the community).
3	A conversation between two or three people in an academic context (e.g. a student and a tutor discussing an academic problem).
4	A monologue in an academic context (e.g. a lecture).

There are ten questions for each section in the listening test. Below are the task types that you may find in any section. You may have between one and three different tasks per section.

Task type	What do I have to do?
notes/summary/table/flow-chart completion	Complete notes/a summary/table/flow-chart with a suitable word or words within the word limit given.
multiple choice	Choose one answer from alternatives A–C. Choose two answers from alternatives A–E.
short-answer questions	Answer questions in the word limit given.
sentence completion	Complete a sentence with a suitable word or words within the word limit given.
labelling a diagram, plan or map	Label a diagram/plan or map with a suitable word (or words) or by choosing from a box of possible answers.
classification	Classify the information given in the question according to three different criteria (A, B or C). These may be dates, names, types, etc.
matching	Match a list of statements to a list of possible answers in a box (e.g. people, theories or dates).

Assessment: each question is worth one mark.

Speaking

Time: 11–14 minutes

This test consists of an interview with a trained examiner. The interview is recorded and has three separate parts.

Part	Timing	What will I need to talk about?
1	4–5 minutes	Questions on familiar topics (e.g. hobbies, likes and dislikes, etc.).
2	3–4 minutes	You will be given a booklet with a topic (e.g. describe a good friend) and some suggestions. You need to talk about the topic for 1–2 minutes. You have about one minute to write notes before you begin.
3	4–5 minutes	The examiner will ask you more detailed and more abstract questions about the topic in Part 2 (e.g. How important is friendship?).

You will be assessed on the following criteria:

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

General Training Module

The General Training Module is commonly used for vocational training programmes (not at degree level) or for immigration purposes.

Candidates for the General Training Module take the same Listening and Speaking test as the Academic Module. Only the Reading and Writing papers are different.

General Training Reading

Time: one hour

N.B. This includes the time needed to transfer your answers to a separate answer sheet. There is no extra time given for this.

This test consists of three different sections and a total of 40 questions.

The texts are about more general topics or related to work. The General Training Reading paper has three sections, each of increasing difficulty. The sections are organised as follows.

Section	Reading texts
1	two or three short texts or several shorter ones (e.g. advertisements)
2	two texts related to the workplace (e.g. information for staff)
3	one long discursive text

The General Training Reading paper has a total of 40 questions. Section 1 has 14 items. Sections 2 and 3 each have 13.

Task type	What do I have to do?
1 multiple choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose one answer from alternatives A–D. Choose two answers from alternatives A–E. Choose three answers from alternatives A–G.
2 identifying information (T/F/NG)	Say whether a statement is True/False or Not Given in the text.
3 identifying the writer's views/claims (Y/N/NG)	Say whether a statement agrees with claims or views in a text (Yes), disagrees with the views/claims in the text (No) or whether there is no information on this in the text (Not Given).
4 matching information	Match the information in the question to the correct paragraph in the text.
5 matching headings	Match a heading from a list of possible answers to the correct paragraph or section of the text.
6 matching features	Match a list of statements to a list of possible answers in a box (e.g. specific people or theories or dates).
7 matching sentence endings	Complete a sentence by choosing a suitable ending from a box of possible answers.
8 sentence completion	Complete a sentence with a suitable word or words from the text within the word limit given.
9 notes/summary/table/flow-chart completion	Complete notes/a summary/table/flow-chart with a suitable word (or words) from the text within the word limit given.
10 labelling a diagram	Label a diagram with a suitable word (or words) from the text or by choosing from a box of possible answers.
11 short-answer questions	Answer questions using words from the text in the word limit given.
12 multiple matching	Match the information in the question to the correct short text or advertisement.

Assessment: each question is worth one mark.

General Training Writing

Time: one hour

This test consists of two separate writing tasks. You must answer both tasks.

Task	Timing	Length	What do I need to do?
Writing Task 1	20 minutes	150 words	Write a letter in response to a given situation.
Writing Task 2	40 minutes	250 words	You need to write a discursive essay. You will be given an opinion, problem or issue that you need to discuss. You may be asked to provide a solution, evaluate a problem, compare and contrast different ideas or opinions, or challenge an argument or idea.

You will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Task Response
- Coherence and Cohesion
- Lexical Resource
- Grammatical Range and Accuracy

N.B. Writing Task 2 is worth twice as many marks as Writing Task 1.

IELTS Listening

How long is the Listening paper?

The Listening paper is the same in both the Academic and the General Training modules of the IELTS test. It lasts approximately 30 minutes and you are given an extra 10 minutes to write your answers onto a separate answer sheet.

What type of information will I hear?

The Listening paper has four separate sections. Each section is a little more difficult than the one before. They feature speakers from a variety of English-speaking countries. Each section has a different focus.

- In **Section 1**, you will hear a conversation between two people (e.g. finding out information about travel).
- In **Section 2**, you will hear a monologue on a general topic (e.g. a radio broadcast).
- In **Section 3**, you will hear a conversation between two or three people in an academic context (e.g. discussing an assignment).
- In **Section 4**, you will hear a monologue in an academic context (e.g. a lecture).

Will I hear the recording more than once?

It is important to remember that you will hear the recording **only once**. To help you prepare, you will be given some extra time at the start of each section. During this time, you should read the questions carefully.

How is the Listening paper assessed?

You will be asked a total of 40 questions. In order to assess how much of the recording you understand, the questions will usually paraphrase (use different words with a similar meaning) the words that are in the text.

What types of question will I need to answer?

There are 10 questions in each section, and there is a variety of question types. For some types, you need to write words or numbers that you hear.

- forms/notes/table/flow-chart/summary completion
- short-answer questions
- sentence completion

For other tasks, you need to choose an option from a list and write a letter on your answer sheet.

- labelling a diagram/plan/map
- matching
- multiple choice

How do I answer the questions?

The instructions and the questions will tell you what type of information you need to listen for, and the type of answer you need to give. Listen carefully to any instructions you hear on the recording. Follow the instructions on the question paper carefully. In this unit, you will be able to practise all of these question types.

How can I improve my Listening paper score?

You can improve your score by following the instructions carefully, and remembering the Test Tips in this unit. This unit will also tell you the skills you need in order to achieve your highest score. Before the test, try to listen to accents from a variety of English-speaking countries. Studying all aspects of English (including vocabulary and grammar) will also help improve your IELTS score. If you make any mistakes in the practice exercises, make sure that you listen to the recording again and check your answers carefully in the Answer Key.

Listening skills

1 Getting ready to listen

In this unit you will practise:

- understanding the context
- listening for specific details
- using correct spelling
- understanding numbers

1 Understanding the context

In the introduction to the Listening section, you will be told who the people are, what they are talking about and why. This information is called the context. It helps you understand the topic. It is not written on the question paper.

After the introduction, you will be given a short time to look at the questions. Studying the questions before you listen can help you predict what the speakers will talk about.



Test Tip Before you do each section, you will be given 30–45 seconds to look at the questions. Use this time to study the questions and try to predict what you might hear.

- 1.1** You are going to hear the introductions of four IELTS Listening sections. Before you listen, try to predict the context by reading the questions in the table below. Choose **FOUR** answers from the box and write the correct letter, A–F, in the table.

Section	Listening test questions	context
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of guests: _____ • Susie will organise invitations and _____ 	C
2	What type of gift does the speaker recommend for a child's birthday?	
3	The students chose this topic because A they have a lot of information about it. B they would like to learn more about it. C they think they will get a higher mark.	
4	Aim: To assess the impact of loss of habitat on native animals Methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculate the current numbers of native animal species • Study their movements by attaching 	

Contexts

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| A shopping for food | D describing a research project |
| B discussing an assignment | E buying presents |
| C organising a party | F explaining how something works |

- 1.2** Listen again. Decide how many speakers you will hear in each of these sections. Try to write down who the speakers will be.

2 Using the correct spelling

In Listening Section 1, you may need to listen for the name of a person or a place. Often, the names will be spelt out for you. You need to recognise the letters of the English alphabet well, so that you can write the letters you hear quickly. You will only hear the spelling once.

Any spellings that you hear will be in the context of a normal conversation, so you need to be able to hear the difference between letters and words.

2.1 Listen and write the letters you hear.

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | |

2.2 There are several ways to help you spell a word. Listen to five short conversations and complete notes 1–5 with **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER**.

- Name: Mr Andrew _____
- Address: 63 _____ Road, Birmingham
- Website address: www. _____ .com
- Meet at the _____ Hotel
- Registration number: _____

2.3 Listen again and complete extracts a–f from the conversations.

Conversation 1

- Is that _____ colour?
- Yes, but _____.

Conversation 2

- Sorry, _____ N or M?

Conversation 3


- That's right, _____ lower case.


Conversation 4


- Oh, it's the Rose Hotel, _____.

Conversation 5

- It's just _____.
It's HLP 528.


 **Test Tip** Always check your spelling. If you make a spelling mistake in the IELTS Listening paper, your answer will be marked wrong.

 **Test Tip** Listen carefully, as there are several ways of helping people to spell a word without simply spelling it out. If you need to write something that is not a name (e.g. the registration number of a car), you may hear a combination of numbers and letters.

 **Study Tip** Practise saying the letters of the English alphabet. For example, spell words out for a friend to write down.

3 Writing numbers

In Section 1 of the Listening paper, you need to listen for specific details.

3.1  **5** Listen and circle the number you hear in each pair (a–j).

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| a 1st / 3rd | f 15 / 50 |
| b \$10.50 / \$10.15 | g 52 / 62 |
| c 6th / 5th | h £110 / £810 |
| d 17 / 70 | i 31st / 33rd |
| e 19 / 90 | j 22nd / 27th |

3.2 Listen again and practise saying the numbers.


3.3  **6** Listen and complete the information below.

- How much does the woman pay for her room? £ _____
- New students need to bring \$ _____
- Garage width: _____ m height: _____ m
- How much does the woman pay for the bus tickets?
A \$25 B \$55 C \$75
- Party date: _____

tailieutienganh.net | IELTS materials

3.4 Listen again and write the other numbers you hear and the reason they are incorrect.

- £80 *this is the amount she paid last time*

3.5  **7** Listen to extracts from four different talks and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

- The survey found that the majority of students drink
A water. B coffee. C tea.
- What point does the speaker make about skiing?
A A small percentage of the US is suitable for skiing.
B A surprisingly large number of Americans like skiing.
C A relatively small proportion of Americans have tried skiing.
- The number of wild elephants in Africa is estimated to be at least
A 53,000. B 470,000. C 690,000.
- According to the speaker, which two can weigh the same?
A the tongue of a blue whale and an elephant
B an elephant and a blue whale
C a bus and an elephant

Listening skills

2 Following a conversation


In this unit you will practise:

- identifying the speakers
- identifying function
- understanding categories
- matching items
- completing notes
- completing a table

1 Identifying the speakers

For Sections 1 and 3, each speaker will have a different voice to help you tell them apart (e.g. male/female; younger/older). Both speakers will talk equally, and you will hear answers from **both** speakers.

For Section 1, there is normally one person who has to find out information from the other.

1.1  **8** You will hear three short extracts from Listening Section 1. Listen and identify what makes each speaker different, and what information they want to find out.


	people	description	information wanted
1	travel agent	<i>older female</i>	The customer would like information about ...
	customer		
2	hotel receptionist		The receptionist needs to find out the guest's ...
	guest		
3	interviewer		The applicant would like to know about ...
	job applicant		



Test Tip In the IELTS Listening paper, Sections 1 and 3 are conversations between two or three people. Sections 2 and 4 are monologues with only one main speaker. Sometimes, you may hear another speaker introducing the talk or asking questions.



Study Tip You will hear native speaker accents from several English-speaking countries in the test. These may include British, American, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand accents. Search online for **non-commercial national radio stations** in these countries, and try to listen to a variety of them. National stations often have talk or current affairs programmes that can help you practise for IELTS.


- 1.2**  **9** You need to listen to both speakers carefully. Listen to the rest of the conversations from 1.1 and answer the questions below. Ignore the final column for now.

1	NOTES:	travel agent customer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No need to book the 1 _____ from the airport the customer wants me to organise 2 _____ 	travel agent customer
2	1 How many nights will the man stay? A one night B two nights C three nights	hotel receptionist guest
	2 Which of the following is on the 10th floor? A the gym B the business centre C the restaurant	hotel receptionist guest
3	1 Which country has the applicant worked in most? _____	interviewer job applicant
	2 What department would the applicant like to work in? _____	interviewer job applicant

- 1.3** Listen again and look at the final column in the table. Circle the person who provided the answer. Sometimes both are possible.

2 Identifying function

Each speaker has a specific purpose in mind when they talk. We say their language has a **function**. We use different language for different functions.


- 2.1**  **10** Listen to seven short extracts from different conversations. Complete extracts 1–7.

- _____ getting her a new bike?
- _____. We arrive on 22nd July.
- That sounds great. _____.
- _____ I'd enjoy that one.
- You said you'd prefer to have the party outside, _____?
- _____, it's just gone up to \$250.
- _____, _____ accommodation?
Where would you like to stay?

2.2 What is the function of the phrases you wrote in 2.1? Match extracts 1–7 to the correct function (A–H). There is one extra letter that you do not need to use.

Functions

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A agreeing | E confirming |
| B correcting | F moving to a new topic |
| C rejecting an idea | G checking information |
| D suggesting | H showing anger |

2.3  Listen to extracts from two conversations: one from Section 1 and one from Section 3. Choose the correct answers (A, B or C).

Listening Section 1

1 What food do the speakers decide to prepare for the party?

- A pizza
- B sandwiches
- C hot dogs

2 What will they do next?

- A go shopping
- B decide on the music
- C sort out the invitations

Listening Section 3

3 What aspect of pollution do the students decide to concentrate on?

- A water pollution
- B air pollution
- C industrial pollution

4 What do the students decide to do next?

- A contact their tutor for more help
- B visit the library to find more resources
- C check which topic other students have chosen

2.4 Look at the phrases below. Listen again and decide whether the phrases are in Extract 1 or Extract 2.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| a That's a good idea. | i You're right ... |
| b Actually, I think we're better off looking online. | j That's right. |
| c Why don't we ... ? | k So we could just do that? |
| d We could look at ... | l We'd better not. |
| e What about a ... ? | m We'd better start ... |
| f Let's ask them. | n Now, we also need to ... |
| g Pizzas it is, then! | o So, what else do we need to do? |
| h Shall we go to ... ? | p But we always do that. |

3 Understanding categories

In the Listening paper, you may be asked to complete a table. The headings in the table tell you the type of information you will hear and need to listen for. They can also help you to follow a talk or conversation.

3.1 Complete the table below with the correct words from the box.

juice	picnic	tent	barbecue	tram
coffee	cabin	flat	theatre	lemonade
coach	cinema	buffet	concert	ferry

accommodation	transport	entertainment	food	drink

To complete a table or a set of notes or a sentence, you need to write words that you hear in the recording. You will be told how many words to write.

3.2 Listen to an extract from a conversation and answer the question below.

Complete the sentence below with **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER**.

The expo will be useful because there will be more than _____ experts there.

3.3 Now look at the answers that different candidates wrote. Tick the correct answers. Why are the other answers incorrect?

- two hundred and fifty computer
- 250 computer
- two hundred and fifty computers
- over 250 computer
- 250 computer experts
- over 250 experts
- two hundred and fifty computer
- 250



Test Tip Pay attention to the number of words you need to write. **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** means that you may need to write one word or two words. **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** means that if you write two words or more, then your answer will be wrong. Each of the following is an example of **ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER**: 16th June / three books / 6.11.12 / twenty-four cats / \$450.50.

Listening skills


3 Recognising paraphrase

In this unit, you will practise:

- identifying distractors
- recognising paraphrase
- selecting from a list
- matching items
- sentence completion


1 Identifying distractors

Distractors are the incorrect answers to a question. Identifying distractors helps you to choose the correct answer and shows you have understood the Listening text.

- 1.1**  **13** Listen to extracts from each Section of the Listening paper. Answer the questions in the table below. Write *ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER*.

Test Tip For most questions in the Listening paper, you will hear two or more potential answers to each question, but only one will be correct. The incorrect answers are called distractors.

	questions	distractors
1	What date will they leave? _____	
2	What day will the tour visit a farm? _____	
3	The students decide to do a project about _____	
4	Problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• poor weather• a lack of _____	

 **Study Tip** To improve your concentration, when you are doing the Practice Tests in this book, try to write down each possible answer. Cross out the incorrect answers as you listen, based on what the speakers say. (Note that you may not have time to do this in the exam, however.)

- 1.2** Listen to the extracts again. Write down each possible answer and cross out the incorrect ones. Write the distractors in the table.

2 Recognising paraphrase

The speakers you will hear in the Listening paper often use different words to those in the questions. For example, you may hear a **synonym** (a word with a similar meaning).

2.1 Match words/phrases 1–8 with their synonyms a–h.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1 a price | a money |
| 2 a location | b to carry |
| 3 funding | c a drawback |
| 4 dangerous | d a fee |
| 5 a solution | e a place |
| 6 to transport | f risky |
| 7 disadvantage | g an impact |
| 8 an effect | h an answer |

The questions may **paraphrase** an idea that you will hear (express the same idea in a different way).

2.2 14 Listen to more extracts from each Listening Section. Complete the first column by choosing the correct answer.

		synonyms/paraphrase	reasons the other options are incorrect
1	What do they decide to organise first? A a <u>place to stay</u> B their <u>airfares</u> C <u>car hire</u>		
2	What change will they make in the garden? A <u>improve the shade</u> B <u>remove plants</u> C add a <u>water feature</u>		
3	What do the students agree they need to do with their project? A do more <u>research</u> B <u>make some cuts</u> C <u>add some visual effects</u>		
4	The scientists are studying A <u>how snow forms</u> in different conditions. B the <u>effect</u> that snow has on our <u>climate</u> . C the <u>effect</u> different clouds have on snow.		

2.3 Listen again and complete the table on the previous page. First, write the synonyms or paraphrases you hear for the underlined words and phrases. Then explain why the other possible answers are incorrect.


3 Selecting from a list

Sometimes, you need to choose an answer from a longer list. All of the ideas in the list will be mentioned, but only two or three options are correct. To help you concentrate, it can help to underline key words before you listen. **Key words** are important words in the question (or the words or phrases in an option that make it different to the others).

3.1 Look at the question and list of possible answers. Before you listen, underline the key ideas you need to listen for.

What TWO disadvantages of the new mobile phone does the speaker mention?

- A it isn't very user-friendly
- B it is very expensive
- C it can't take photographs
- D it has a short battery life
- E it is quite big

3.2  **15** To help practise scanning a list, listen and put options A–E in the order they are mentioned. Don't answer the question yet. Remember, the ideas will be paraphrased, so you may not hear the same words you see in the options.

- A it isn't very user-friendly
- B it is very expensive
- C it can't take photographs
- D it has a short battery life
- E it is quite big 1

3.3 Listen again and put a ✓ or a X next to each option A–E, depending on whether or not it matches the information in the recording. Which TWO options are correct?



Test Tip The questions in the Listening paper are in the same order as the information you hear. This means that you will hear the information you need for Question 1 before you hear the information for Question 2, etc. However, in questions where you have to choose an **option** from a list, (e.g. multiple choice or matching items) the list of possible options will be in random order.



Test Tip Make sure that you pay close attention to any negatives in the options, as well as any adjectives. With matching or multiple choice tasks, pay careful attention to the question, as well as the options. The question will tell you how many answers you have to choose, as well as what you need to listen for (e.g. problems, solutions, advantages, etc.).

Listening skills

4 Places and directions

In this unit, you will practise:

- understanding a description of a place
- following directions
- labelling a map
- multiple choice

1 Describing a place

For some questions in the Listening paper, you need to look at a map of a place, or a plan of a building.

1.1 Look at drawings A–F and decide what the images are.

A



D



B



E



C



F



Test Tip For labelling a map or plan in IELTS, you may need to follow directions, or you may hear a description of a location.




Test Tip You should study the map or plan carefully **before** you listen. Having a clear image in your mind will help you understand what you hear.

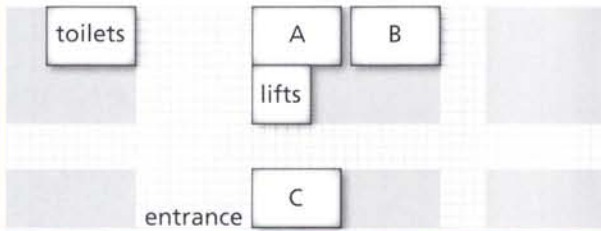
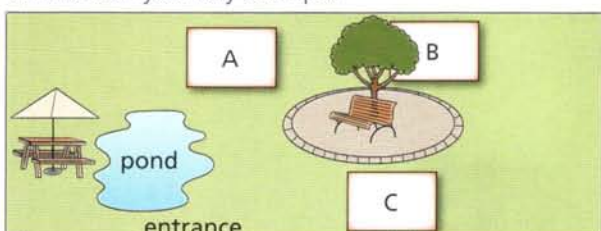
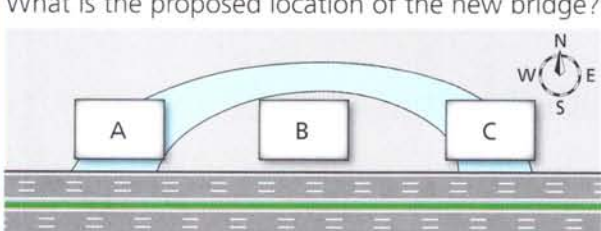

1.2 Study the map in section 3.3 for 30 seconds.

1.3 Try to answer questions 1–4 without looking back at the map.

- 1 What is it a map of?
- 2 Name three landmarks on the map.
- 3 Where is the entrance?
- 4 What is in the centre of the map?


Features already on the map are often used as landmarks to help you find your way.

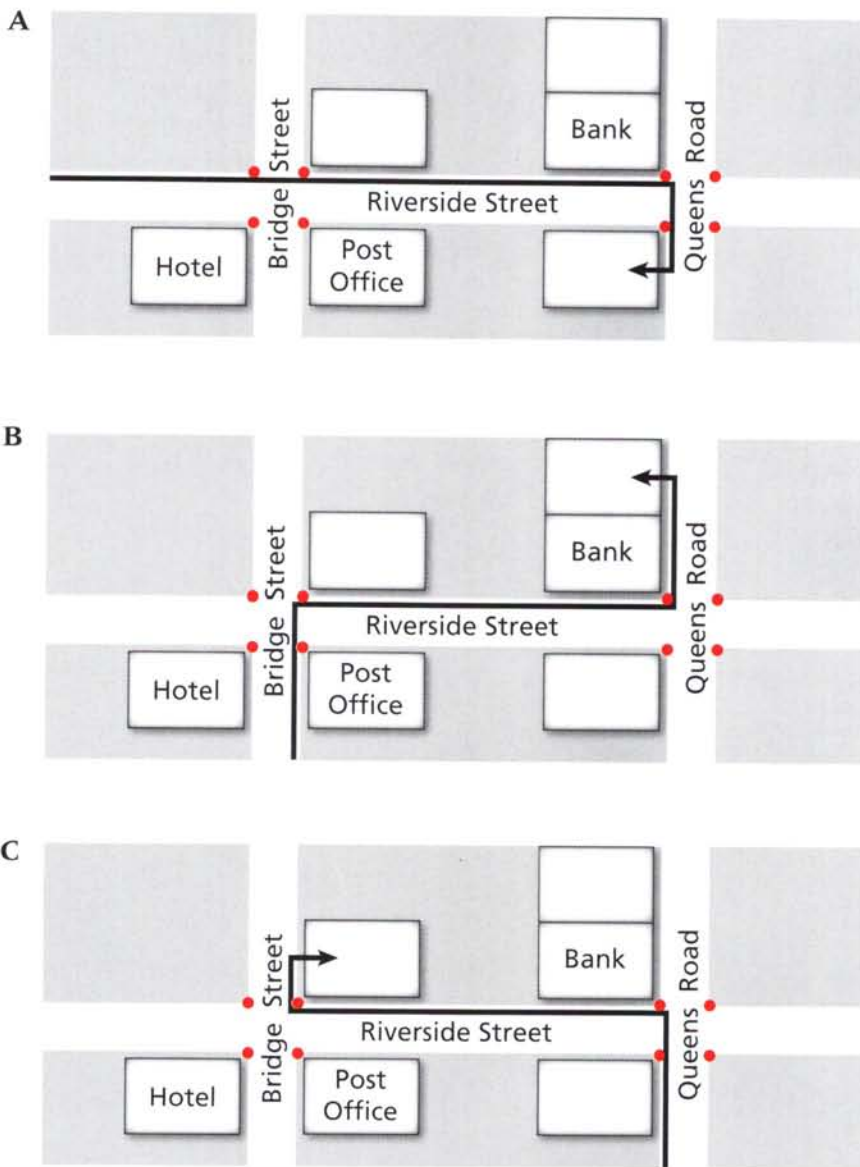
1.4  **16** Listen to extracts from the four sections of the Listening test. Complete the first column in the table by choosing the correct letter (A, B or C).


		landmark(s)	locating words/phrases
1	<p>Where is the gift shop?</p> 	lifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The entrance is _____ • Then go _____ • The shop you want is _____ • _____ lifts
2	<p>Where can you buy stamps?</p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In _____ resort, you'll see a ... • _____ courtyard, you'll find a ... • It's just _____ tree
3	<p>What is the proposed location of the new bridge?</p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was thinking of putting it _____ • I think it would be better if it's _____ motorway
4	<p>Where is the ideal habitat for the Traviston Frog?</p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ... it is unable to live in _____ of a pond • ... it does need to live in _____ to water • ... in a tiny burrow _____ bushes


- 1.5** Listen again and complete the table on the previous page. Write down the landmarks mentioned and fill in the gaps in the phrases that help you to locate the correct answer.

2 Following directions

- 2.1**  **17** Listen and decide which diagram (A, B or C) shows the directions described by the speaker.



 **Test Tip** You may need to follow directions to locate a place on the map or plan. Marking the way directly on the map can be helpful.


 **Test Tip** The distractors for this type of task might be extra buildings marked on the map, or they might be extra options in a list of possible answers.

- 2.2** Listen again and make a note of any words or phrases that are used to give directions.

3 Labelling a map

Sometimes, a map completion task asks you to identify an area on a map then choose an answer from a list. For this type of question, you need to familiarise yourself with both the list of options and the features on the map before you start.

3.1 Look at this map completion task. Which landmarks might be used to help you to find your way around?

3.2  **18** Listen and label the map with the correct letter (A–F).

3.3 Check your answers, then listen again.

Test Tip Before you listen, read the options several times so that you become familiar with the information you need to listen for. Don't cross out any options unless you are sure they are wrong. If you can't decide between two answers, write both down and decide later.

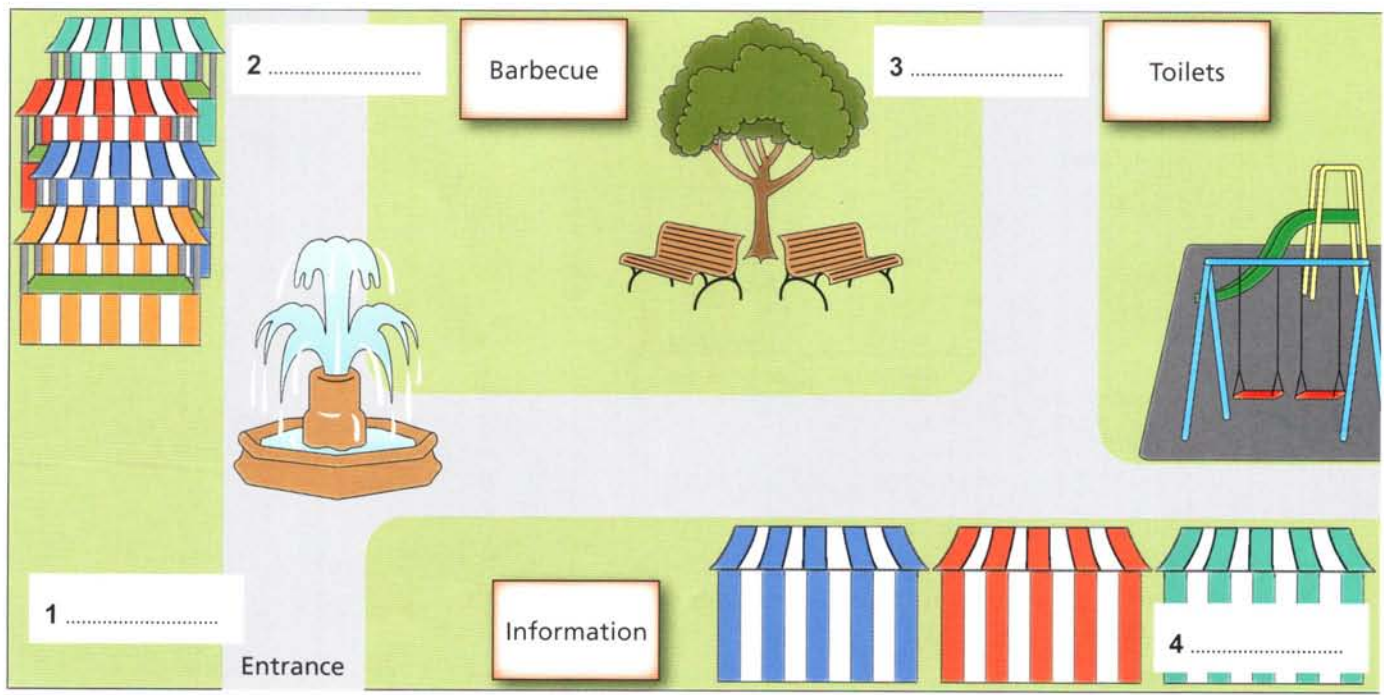
Questions 1–4

Label the map below.

Choose the correct letter **A–F** and write the answers next to questions 1–4.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| A farm animals | D picnic area |
| B fresh bread | E second-hand book stall |
| C ticket booth | F cookery shows |

Brookside Market



Listening skills

5 Listening for actions and processes

In this unit you will practise:

- understanding mechanical parts
- describing a process
- describing actions
- labelling a diagram

1 Understanding mechanical parts

For diagram completion tasks, you may need to listen and label the parts of a machine or device.

1.1 Look at the images below. What machine parts can you see?

1



4



2



5




3



6



1.2  **19** Listen to extracts A–F from different talks. Match them to pictures 1–6 and check your answers to 1.1.

A At the bottom of the system there is a storage tank ...

D The water in the pool was becoming quite polluted so a pump ...

B A small spring in the centre causes the toy ...

E There is a very fine grille at different points ...

C The water passes through the pipe and ...

F There is a wheel on the side, which is attached to ...