

SET IELTS – Week 1:

What is the IELTS exam?

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Exam is a standardized test designed to assess the English language proficiency of non-native English speakers.

Test Format:

The IELTS Academic Exam consists of four parts: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. The total test duration is 2 hours and 45 minutes.

Listening: This part consists of four sections and lasts for 30 minutes. The test taker has to listen to a recording and answer the questions related to it.

The four sections are:

Section 1: A conversation between two people in an everyday social context.

Section 2: A monologue, such as a speech or presentation, on a general topic of interest.

Section 3: A conversation between up to four people in an educational or training context.

Section 4: A monologue on an academic subject, such as a university lecture.

The listening exam includes a variety of question types: multiple-choice, form completion, sentence completion, matching questions, map or diagram labelling, short answer questions, etc.

Reading: This part consists of three sections and lasts for 60 minutes. The test taker has to read three different passages and answer the questions related to them. The reading exam includes a variety of question types: multiple-choice questions, True/False/Not Given questions, matching questions, sentence completion, summary completion, diagram labelling, etc.

Writing: This part consists of two tasks and lasts for 60 minutes.

Task 1 requires the test taker to describe and interpret a graph, chart, or diagram by describing or summarizing the information presented in it. You should write over 150 words in about 20 minutes.

Task 2 requires the test taker to write an essay in response to a given topic by presenting an argument, analyzing a problem, or discussing a point of view. You should write over 250 words in about 40 minutes.

Speaking: This part consists of a face-to-face interview with an examiner and lasts for 11-14 minutes. The speaking exam is divided into three parts. In part 1, the examiner asks the test taker general questions about themselves, their interests, and their daily life. In part 2, the test taker is given a topic and is asked to speak about it for up to two minutes. The topic may be related to academic subjects or general issues. The test taker is given one minute to prepare their answer before speaking. In part 3, the examiner and test taker have a discussion related to the topic in the second

part. The discussion may involve further questions related to the topic or may explore related issues and ideas.

Scoring:

The IELTS Academic Exam is scored on a scale of 0-9, with each part (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking) receiving a separate band score. The overall band score is the average of the four part scores. A score of 7 or 7.5 is generally required to work in the medical profession in the UK.

Test Preparation:

There are many resources available for IELTS Academic Exam preparation, including practice tests, study guides, and online courses. It is recommended that test takers start preparing several months in advance of the exam date. Additionally, taking practice tests under timed conditions can help test takers become more comfortable with the format and pace of the exam.