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COLLEGE

Step Forward

IELTS in the ESL Classroom

Created by Gavin Palmer
Revised by Monica Fraser and Niranjana Macwan







Outcomes

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:


- better understand the IELTS exam
- answer their students inquiries about the IELTS exam
- connect ESL activities with IELTS practice







What is the missing word?

During a test, students look up for inspiration, look down in desperation and look left or right for _____.



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English Proficiency Exams

- TOEFL iBT (Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet Based)
- CELPIP (Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program)
- CLBPT (Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Test)



IELTS International English Language Testing System



What is IELTS?

It is a standardized test designed to assess the language ability of candidates who need to study or work in an English speaking country.

What is IELTS? 

- Founded in 1980
- Jointly owned and operated by [British Council](#), [IDP: IELTS Australia](#) and [Cambridge English Language Assessment](#)
- 7000 organizations accept IELTS scores
 - 1.9 million test-takers in 2012


An International Standard 

IELTS conforms to the highest international standards and security

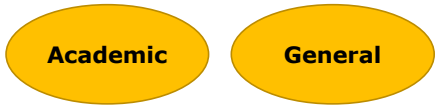
- new content is constantly being created
- attention is paid to content relevance throughout the English-speaking world




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The Two Faces of IELTS 


- There are 2 different versions of the test



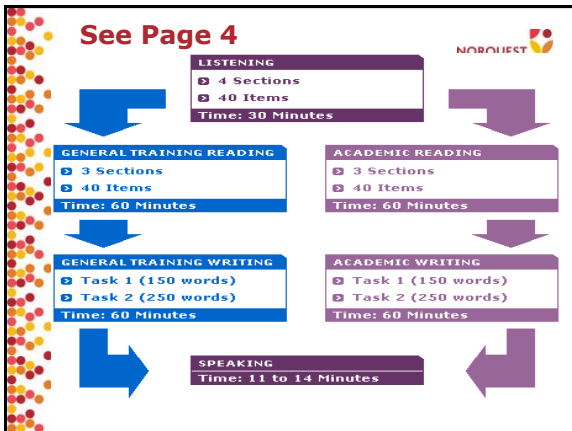
Academic **General**

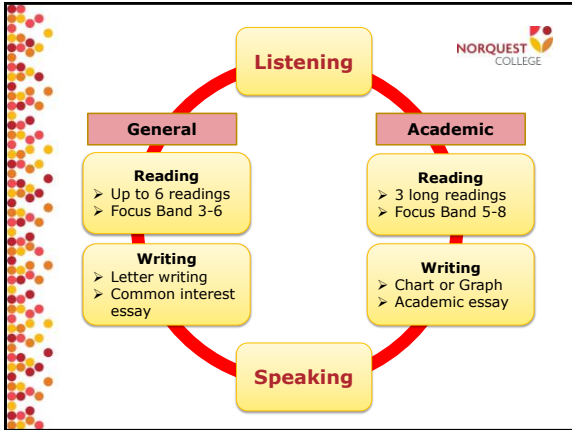
Academic Test 

- study at university at an undergraduate or postgraduate level.
- join a professional organization in Canada

General Test 

- train or study at below degree level
- work or undertake work-related training in an English-speaking country
- emigrate to an English-speaking country (accepted by [Citizenship & Immigration Canada](#))





Band Titles

9 Expert User	4 Limited User
8 Very Good User	3 Extremely Limited User
7 Good User	2 Intermittent User
6 Competent User	1 Non User
5 Modest User	0 Did Not Attempt the Test

Bands can be awarded in 0.5 intervals.
Test results will be posted 13 days after test completion.

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Purpose of the Listening Test



The IELTS Listening test is designed to assess a wide range of listening skills, including how well a candidate

- understands main ideas and specific factual information
- recognizes the opinions, attitudes and purpose of a speaker
- follows the development of an argument

IELTS Listening



- Identify the purpose, main ideas, factual details, and implied meanings of requests, reminders, orders and pleas
- Distinguish facts from opinions in informal presentations
- Identify factual details, main ideas, supporting details, explanations/opinions and implied meanings in informal presentations with the use of visuals

IELTS Listening



Questions

There are 40 questions. A variety of question types is used, and candidates may be asked to:

- answer multiple choice questions
- label a plan, map or diagram
- fill in a form
- complete a table
- complete a flow-chart
- give short answers

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IELTS Listening


Outcomes that align with CLB 6 & 7

- identify the main ideas
- identify specific information and roles of speakers
- distinguish facts, opinions and/or explanations

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Listening

Band Score	Raw Score out of 40
5	16
6	23
7	30
8	35



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Listening Tips

1. Pre-read the questions.
2. Read the whole question.
3. Read as you listen.
4. Look for clues in the questions.
5. Listen for repeated words.
6. Don't wait to write.
7. Don't leave any answers blank!!
8. Do as many practice tests as you can.



IELTS General and Academic Reading

1. Similarities
2. Differences
3. Connection to ESL

General and Academic Reading Similarities

- 60 minutes (including transfer time)
- 3 sections (increasing levels of difficulty)
- 2150-2750 words
- 13-14 questions for each section
- 40 questions
- each question receives one mark
- the correct answers are converted into band scores

Reading

Academic	
Band	Raw Score out of 40
5	15
6	23
7	30
8	35

General	
Band	Raw Score out of 40
4	15
5	23
6	30
7	34

General and Academic Reading Similarities Question Types


- Multiple choice questions
- Short answer questions
- Completion questions: Completing sentences
- Completing notes
- Completing a summary (no word bank)
- Completing a summary (with word bank)
- Completing a diagram, flow chart, and/or table

General and Academic Reading Similarities Question Types


- Matching headings to identify paragraphs or parts of text
- Matching a bank of writers' views/claims/information with the writer
- Identification of information in the text: yes/no/not given questions true/false/not given questions
- Matching lists/phrases
- Classification questions

General and Academic Reading Differences Content

General	Academic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has 3 sections (Sections 1-2 has several texts and Section 3 has one longer text) • extracts from books, magazines, newspapers, notices, advertisements, company handbooks and guidelines. • materials likely to be encountered on a daily basis in an English speaking environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three long texts which range from the descriptive and factual to the discursive and analytical. • texts are authentic and are taken from books, journals, magazines and newspapers. • appropriate for anyone entering undergraduate or postgraduate courses or seeking professional registration.




IELTS—ESL Reading




IELTS tests a variety of reading skills that are already built in the ESL curriculum:

- Reading for gist
- Reading for main ideas
- Reading for detail
- Skimming
- Understanding logical argument
- Recognizing writers' opinions, attitudes and purpose



IELTS—ESL Reading




IELTS General—CLB 5/6


- Ex. SLO: **3.2** articulate the main idea and factual details of printed/electronic descriptive or narrative texts (GTD-CLB 5)

IELTS Academic—CLB 7/8

- Ex. SLO: **1.4** identify the writer's purpose, intent, mood, and attitude (GTD-CLB 7)



Enhancing the IELTS Reading Scores




- Read, Read, Read, and Read!
- Timed readings
- Read for pleasure
- Open-book IELTS readings
- Newspapers and research papers
- Scanning practice
- Others?




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IELTS General and Academic Writing




General and Academic Writing Similarities

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- 60 minutes
- 2 tasks
- 1st task 150 words; 2nd task 250 words
- task 2--essay
- grading criteria




Writing




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Criterion	Weighting
Task Achievement (Task 1)/ Task Response (Task 2)	25%
Coherence and Cohesion	25%
Lexical Resource	25%
Grammatical Range and Accuracy	25%




IELTS General Task 1 

Task Focus


- to follow English letter writing conventions (i.e. what order to put information in, what style to use, how to start and finish a letter), to use language accurately and appropriately and to organise and link information coherently and cohesively.




IELTS General Task 1 


There can be several purposes for writing letters:

- giving/requesting information
- giving instructions, including directions
- relating an event
- giving good/bad news
- complaining—a mild or strong complaint
- describing advising and suggesting




IELTS General Task 1 and ESL 


- Corresponds to writing SLO's of CLB 5/6
- Ex. SLO—5.1 write/respond to requests in one paragraph using appropriate content, language, and format relevant to the situation and audience (GTD-CLB 5)




IELTS Academic Task 1



- write a summary of at least 150 words in response to a particular graph (bar, line or pie graph), table, chart, or process (how something works, how something is done).
- This task tests candidates' ability to select and report the main features, to describe and compare data, identify significance and trends in factual information, or describe a process.




IELTS Academic Task 1 and ESL




Corresponds to writing SLO's of CLB 7/8


- **SLO 6.3** summarize a 2-page printed/electronic text using correct format
- **SLO 6.4** record essential information using language format appropriate to the audience
- **SLO 6.5** record details such as names, addresses, dates, times, and directions with correct spelling




Writing Task 2



General	Academic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discursive essay on general topic of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> discursive essay on academic topic
<p>Example Topic Young people are encouraged to travel or work for one year after high school and before university studies. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages.</p>	<p>Example Topic The threat of nuclear weapons maintains world peace. Nuclear power provides cheap and clean energy. The benefits of nuclear technology far outweigh the disadvantages. To what extent do you agree or disagree?</p>




IELTS General and Academic Task 2 and ESL (CLB 7/8) 


- **7.1** express ideas and details in a 4 to 5 paragraph essay/report relating a familiar sequence of events, making a comparison, or providing a detailed description of a person, system, routine, or procedure
- **7.2** write paragraphs that are coherent and connected
- **7.3** provide accurate and detailed descriptions, explanations, or accounts of events in a clear sequence
- **7.4** use connective words and phrases to form a cohesive text



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IELTS Speaking



IELTS Speaking 

Purpose of the test
 The IELTS Speaking test is designed to assess a wide range of skills.
 The examiner will want to see how well a candidate can

- Communicate opinions and information on everyday topics and common experiences; to do this you will need to answer a range of questions
- Speak at length on a given topic using appropriate language
- Organize your ideas coherently
- Express and justify your opinions
- Analyze, discuss and speculate about issues



Format of Speaking Test

Section 1 (4-5 minutes)


- general introductory questions, personal questions, two topics of general interest

Section 2 (3-4 minutes)

- monologue; topic given by examiner; candidate has 1 minute to prepare; talk for 1 to 2 minutes

Section 3 (4-5 minutes)

- examiner asks questions related to the subject spoken about in Section 2



IELTS Speaking and ESL CLB 6 & 7

- Provide reasons and predict consequences of not following through
- Use modals with the appropriate level of politeness
- Use a range of everyday vocabulary (topic specific), which may include some idioms and a few common cultural references
- Use some variety of grammatical structures, with developing control of more complex structures (compound/complex sentences)




IELTS Speaking and ESL CLB 6 & 7

- Present information using connected discourse and connective words and phrases appropriately
- Produce correct pronunciation of words
- Produce effective intonation and syllable stress

Speaking

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Criterion	Weighting
Fluency and Coherence	25%
Lexical Resource	25%
Grammatical Range and Accuracy	25%
Pronunciation	25%




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Enhancing the IELTS Speaking Scores

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- Classroom conversations
- Presentation work
- Oral readings
- Pronunciation exercises
- Picture descriptors
- Described drawing
- Student interviews
- Other ideas?




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Conclusion

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- What key principles for connecting ESL activities with IELTS practice did you gain from this workshop?
- Questions



Thank You

Please come see Niranjana or
Monica for any resources or
information regarding the IELTS.

