

IELTS

International English Language Test System

Writing

Lesson 1 Introduction to IELTS Writing

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PART ONE

About IELTS Writing

Class time: ≤ 15 minutes

About IELTS Writing

5 minutes



Timing:

- You have **60 minutes**.



Tasks:

- There are **2 tasks**. You are required to write at least **150 words** for Task 1 and at least **250 words** for Task 2.



Skill Assessed:

In both tasks, you are assessed on your ability to write a response which is appropriate in terms of:

- ✓ Content
- ✓ The organization of ideas
- ✓ The accuracy and range of vocabulary and grammar

About IELTS Writing

5 minutes



Test Parts:

IELTS Academic Writing (A):

Task 1: (20 minutes)

- You are presented with a graph, table, chart or diagram.
- You are asked to **describe, summarize or explain the information** provided in your own words (≥ 150 words).
(e.g. to describe and explain data; to describe the stage of a process; to describe how something works; to describe an object or event)

Task 2: (40 minutes)

- You are asked to **write an essay** (≥ 250 words) in response to a point of view, argument or problem.

The issues raised are of general interest to, suitable for and easily understood by test takers entering undergraduate or postgraduate studies or seeking professional registration.

Responses to Task 1 and Task 2 should be written in **an academic, semi-formal/neutral style**.

About IELTS Writing

5 minutes



Marking:

Your responses are assessed on:

- ✓ Task achievement (任务完成要求情况)
- ✓ Coherence and cohesion (统一性和连贯性)
- ✓ Lexical Resource (词汇量)
- ✓ Grammatical Range and Accuracy (语法范围/多样性和准确性)

Task 2 contributes twice as much as Task 1 to the Writing score.

Scores are reported in whole and half bands. (The round-up rule applies.)

The writing answer booklet is as below. When doing the writing section, you should pay attention to the page number of the booklet. (**Don't write the Task 2 essay on pages assigned for Task 1 and vice versa!**)



PART TWO

Tips for Writing

Class time: ≤ 10 minutes

Tips for Writing

4 minutes

In Task 1, depending on the type of information given, you are assessed on your ability to:

- ✓ organize, present and possibly compare data
- ✓ describe the stages of a process or a procedure
- ✓ describe an object or event or sequence of events
- ✓ explain how something works
- ✓ engage in personal correspondence in order to:
- ✓ elicit and provide general factual information
- ✓ express needs, wants, likes and dislikes
- ✓ express opinions (views, complaints, etc.).

Tips for Writing

4 minutes

In Task 2, depending on the task type, you are assessed on your ability to:

- ✓ present a solution to a problem
- ✓ present and justify an opinion
- ✓ compare and contrast evidence, opinions and implications
- ✓ evaluate and challenge ideas, evidence or an argument
- ✓ provide general factual information
- ✓ outline a problem and present a solution
- ✓ present and possibly justify an opinion
- ✓ evaluate and challenge ideas, evidence or an argument

Tips for Writing

3 minutes

- ☞ Get familiar with the Answer Sheet:

IELTS Writing Answer Sheet – TASK 1

Candidate Name: _____

Centre Number: _____ Candidate Number: _____

Module (shade one box): Academic General Training

Test date: D D M M Y Y Y Y

TASK 1

Do not write below this line

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Candidate Number:	TA	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 2 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible
Candidate Number:	TA	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 1 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible

1009130

SAMPLE

IELTS Writing Answer Sheet – TASK 1

Do not write below this line

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Candidate Number:	TA	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 2 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible
Candidate Number:	TA	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 1 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible

SAMPLE

IELTS Writing Answer Sheet – TASK 2

Candidate Name: _____

Centre Number: _____ Candidate Number: _____

Module (shade one box): Academic General Training

Test date: D D M M Y Y Y Y

TASK 2

Do not write below this line

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Candidate Number:	TR	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 2 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible
Candidate Number:	TR	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 1 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible

1009130

SAMPLE

IELTS Writing Answer Sheet – TASK 2

Do not write below this line

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Candidate Number:	TR	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 2 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible
Candidate Number:	TR	CC	LR	GRA		
Examiner 1 Number:	Underlength	No. of words	Penalty	Off-topic	Memorised	Illegible

SAMPLE

PART THREE

After-class Reading

After-class reading

No class time allocated for this part unless upon special request

A more detailed account on IELTS Writing will be given in your future lessons.

Before you start to learn more about IELTS Writing skills, you have to be aware:

1. The speed of typing 250 words on computer is greatly different from that of writing 250 words on paper by hand (with a pencil). In order to survive in IELTS, you are expected to finish your writing assignments and mock writing tests by means of **HANDWRITING**, scan or take photos of your pieces of work and submit them in the format of JPG or PDF to your tutor. (If you have a web camera when taking lessons, you can try to show your work to your tutor in class via the camera.)
2. As this is a time when computer programs seem to be replacing pen and papers, some people's handwriting has degraded terribly. If your handwriting also looks poor, start practicing from now on. At least you should be able to write clearly and neatly so that the raters can understand what you write!

After-class reading

No class time allocated for this part unless upon special request

Basic Strategies for Task 1

- **Do Task 1 first.** You might have noticed that in the previous lesson we say Task 2 contributes twice as much as Task 1 to the score, and therefore think you should do Task 2 first to secure a higher score in case you are not able to complete both the two writing tasks within 60 minutes. But there is a reason why it is Task 1! From the psychological point of view, **it gives you a sense of accomplishment** when you have finished it.
- A common feature of the writing process is the concept of getting oneself going. With the shorter Task you can get yourself into your stride in writing. By the time you start Task 2, you will then be much more alert and perform Task 2 much more efficiently.
- **Spend 20 minutes on this task.** A common mistake which candidates make is to spend longer than Task 2 and leave themselves 15 minutes or less to complete Task 1.
- Take Task 1 seriously, even though Task 2 carries double the marks.
- Skim the instructions and **study the diagram** (/graph/chart/table). Use the general statement about the data to help you interpret it.

After-class reading

No class time allocated for this part unless upon special request

- Spend the recommended 20 minutes as follows:
 - 2–3 minutes analyzing and planning
 - 14–15 minutes writing
 - 2–3 minutes checking
- Check the values and numbers on the **vertical** and **horizontal** axes.
- Work out how many lines 150 words are in your handwriting, e.g. if you write about 10 words per line, then you will need to produce at least 15 lines. **Aim to write no more than 170/180 words.**
- Check that you have written **at least 150 words**. If you write less, it will affect your score.
- **Compare general trends, differences, etc.** and **support this** with information from the diagram. Avoid focusing too closely on the details.
- If you have more than one graph or chart or mixture, link the information.
- Make sure you **write in paragraphs**: an **introduction**, one or two **paragraphs** for the body of the text, and a brief **conclusion**.

After-class reading

No class time allocated for this part unless upon special request

Introduction

- Introduce the topic and give a brief overview of the findings/trend. (1–3 sentences)

Main body

- Describe findings after you have analysed the data.

Conclusion

- Briefly summarise the findings. (1–3 sentences)

Self-analysis checklist

- I know what IELTS Writing Test is mainly about.

- I know the tips I can use in IELTS Writing Test.



You're going to learn strategies for each task in IELTS Writing in the next lesson.