

Course Overview

IELTS LAUNCH

CEFR Equivalent

B1 Outcomes at this level

- Can maintain interaction and get across intended point in a range of contexts
- Can follow the main points of extended discussion around him/her, provided speech is clearly articulated in standard dialect; express the main point he/she wants to make comprehensibly; keep going comprehensibly, even though pausing for grammatical and lexical planning and repair is very evident, especially in longer stretches of free production.
- Can cope flexibly with problems in everyday life, for example cope with less routine situations on public transport; deal with most situations likely to arise when making travel arrangements through an agent or when actually travelling; enter unprepared into conversations on familiar topics.

Objectives for the IELTS course

- To understand IELTS exam components
- To work with different texts
- To recognise the full range of IELTS question types
- To produce model writing texts based on IELTS requirements
- To support writing with relevant grammatical structures
- To improve and practise speaking skills
- To develop strategies for dealing with listening tasks, such as prediction

Description for Students

LAUNCH (IELTS preparation) [5 - 6]

Students in the LAUNCH class focus on strategies and techniques for the exam. They also work on their Academic English, with a strong emphasis on learning synonyms and using paraphrase – both of which are crucial for the exam. The class will often use authentic exam materials.

This syllabus is based upon a 20-hour week with 4 hours devoted to each of the exam sections (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing) plus 4 hours for assessment and review/target setting.

The key course books used are *IELTS Foundation*, 2nd ed. (Macmillan, 2011), *On Course for IELTS*, 2nd ed (Oxford,), and *The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS* (Cambridge, 2014). *Ready for IELTS* (Macmillan, 2010), the *Improve Your IELTS* series, *IELTS Trainer* and *National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS* (2015) are also used to consolidate work in all areas.

The expectation is that the first session each Monday morning will focus on developing vocabulary related to the topic. The second session on Monday will address the fortnight's grammatical/language focus. For the rest of the week, the core text(s) will typically be used to introduce key exam skills in the first session, and develop them further in the second. Fridays will always focus on assessment, review, and target setting.

Teachers are encouraged to supplement classes with their own resources or authentic exam materials.

Map of a typical fortnight

Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25

Monday 1: Topic intro: Reading + vocab

Monday 2: Writing + grammar focus

Tuesday 1: Listening + grammar focus

Tuesday 2: Speaking + vocab

Wednesday 1: Reading

Wednesday 2: Speaking

Thursday 1: Listening

Thursday 2: Writing

Friday 1: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW

Friday 2: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW

Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24

Monday 1: Topic Intro: Speaking + vocab

Monday 2: Reading + vocab

Tuesday 1: Writing + grammar focus

Tuesday 2: Listening + grammar focus

Wednesday 1: Speaking

Wednesday 2: Reading

Thursday 1: Writing

Thursday 2: Listening

Friday 1: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW

Friday 2: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 1 and 2

Topic: Studying Overseas

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 1: Studying Overseas

Supplementary Texts

On Course for IELTS Unit 1: First Class

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills: Unit 4: Education

National Geographic: The Complete Guide To IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to education, cultural exchange, culture shock, and the practicalities of travel and living abroad.

Form and distinguish between adjectives ending in *-ed* and *-ing*.

Use a range of quantifiers.

Use adjective + noun collocations.

GRAMMAR

Identify different parts of speech.

Recognize, form, and use dependent prepositions.

Distinguish between countable and uncountable nouns.

READING

Predict what a text will be about using subheadings etc.

Skim for overall meaning.

Identify stages in an explanatory text.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **multiple choice** questions (identifying differences between options and analysing stems).

LISTENING

Predict required part of speech in answers.

Transcribe names and numbers accurately.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **form** completion, table completion, and summary completion questions (sections 1 and 2)

WRITING

Understand and interpret different kinds of visual data: line graph, bar chart, pie chart, table.

Describe data related to higher education.

Use adjective+noun and verb+adverb constructions flexibly.

Exam Specific Skills

Write an opening paragraph (paraphrase of task topic + overall statement) for Task 1.

SPEAKING

Talk fluently about personal experience.

Use gerunds and infinitives accurately in speech.

Expand answers by giving reasons and examples (Part 1)

Describe a school subject (Part 2)

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 3 and 4

Topic: Earth Today

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 2: Earth Today

Supplementary Texts

On Course For IELTS Unit 10: Creatures Great and Small

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit 8: Nature

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to the environment: specifically global warming, congestion, and recycling.

GRAMMAR

Ensure that subject and verb agree in every sentence.

Distinguish between and use present simple and present continuous accurately and appropriately.

READING

Predict content in a text using headings and visuals.

Locate information in a text (using skimming and scanning).

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **yes/no/not given** questions.

LISTENING

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **short answer** and sentence completion questions (sections 1 and 2).

WRITING

Write topic sentences.

Organize and write introductions and conclusions.

Edit/proof read in order to correct errors.

Exam Specific Skills

Planning and structuring Task 2 essays.

SPEAKING

Talk fluently about personal experience.

Use gerunds and infinitives accurately in speech.

Exam Specific Skills

Expand answers by giving reasons and examples (Part 1)

Describe a school subject (Part 2)

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 5 and 6

Topic: All Around the World

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 3: All around the world

Supplementary Texts

On Course For IELTS Unit 4: Well-connected – Transport, Communications, Development

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to the themes of travel and tourism, including different kinds of destination and holiday, and modes of transport.

GRAMMAR

Use articles correctly: understanding their relation to singular & plural/countable & uncountable nouns, and the difference between 'a/an', 'the', and no article.

READING

Predict the content of a reading text.

Skim for general meaning.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **matching headings** and short answer questions.

LISTENING

Predict the general topic of a recording and the kind of answer required.

Listen for gist.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **table completion**, diagram labelling, multiple choice, and classification questions (Sections 1 & 2).

WRITING

Interpret and describe data relating to tourism in different countries.

Select and report the main features of a graphic.

Describe trends and changes over time.

Add specific details to general statements.

Exam Specific Skills

Write 'overall' statements for Task 1.

Support main points with accurate detail in Task 1.

SPEAKING

Describe a tourist destination.

Give a short presentation.

Exam Specific Skills

Make effective notes in preparation for talking on part 2 topic.

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 7 and 8

Topic: Crime and Punishment

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 4: Crime and Punishment

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 11: By law

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to crime and punishment and the effects on modern society.

GRAMMAR

understand and use defining relative clauses.

distinguish between when to use present perfect and past simple, using both tenses accurately and appropriately.

READING

scan for information.

predict the text type, structure, and audience of a given text.

LISTENING

predict the part of speech and kind of word required for certain answers.

WRITING

plan essays.

generate main ideas.

add supporting information.

SPEAKING

develop language for use in two-way discussion.

Exam Focus

READING

true/false/not given

table completion

classification

WRITING

Understanding the question

Planning (whole essay and individual paragraphs)

Editing work (TASK 2).

LISTENING

note completion

multiple choice (section 2)

table completion

matching (section 3)

SPEAKING

Give opinions about crime and punishment (Part 3).

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 9 and 10

Topic: A Career or a Job?

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 5: A Career or a Job?

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 3: Work to Live

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS Unit 7: The world of work and training

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit 5: Youth

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to employment, employability skills, advice on job applications, and unemployment rates in different countries.

Produce and use vocabulary to describe skills and qualities.

Understand how suffixes can indicate which part of speech a word belongs to.

GRAMMAR

Use future tenses accurately and appropriately.

Use comparatives and superlatives accurately and appropriately.

READING

skim for the main purpose of each paragraph.

LISTENING

Take notes accurately and efficiently while listening.

Listen for distractors.

WRITING

Understand data in different kinds of chart.

Distinguish between data that illustrates changes over time and fixed-time information.

SPEAKING

Describe a dream job and talk in general about employment.

Exam Focus

READING

Matching headings

Diagram labelling

WRITING

Comparing and contrasting data.

Using linking words. (Task 1)

LISTENING

Multiple-choice

Diagram completion (Section 1)

Table Completion

Flow chart completion (Section 2)

SPEAKING

Two-minute description of a job you'd like to do (Part 2).

Discussion of different aspects of employment (Part 3).

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 11 and 12

Topic: Globalization

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 6: Globalisation

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 8: Sugar and Spice

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS

Improve Your IELTS Listening and Speaking Skills 10: Individual and Society

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to globalization, global markets, the economy, trade and industry.

GRAMMAR

Form and use non-defining relative clauses.

Use the passive accurately and effectively to describe a process.

READING

Scan to locate specific information within a text.

Identify the writer's purpose.

Guess meaning from context.

LISTENING

Recognize signposts to help follow the structure of a lecture.

WRITING

Describe a process.

Use sequencing words to introduce stages.

SPEAKING

Describe a successful company.

Discuss issues related to globalization.

Exam Focus

READING

True, False, Not Given questions.

Sentence Completion questions.

LISTENING

Section 4: **multiple choice.**

Table completion.

WRITING

Task 1: Describing a process.

SPEAKING

Part 2: description.

Part 3: balancing an argument.

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 13 and 14

Topic: Gadgets and Gizmos

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 7: Gadgets and Gizmos

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 5: The Games People Play

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit 3: Machines, cycles, and processes

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to the topic of technology, with a focus on robots, various gadgets, and how a hot air balloon works.

use a range of phrasal verbs with both literal and non-literal meanings.

use a range of vocabulary to describe objects.

GRAMMAR

use dependent prepositions.

use purpose clauses accurately and appropriately.

READING

scan for specific information.

locate information within a text.

LISTENING

use prior knowledge to predict purpose and argument of a presentation.

use keywords to predict the kind of answer required for different question types.

listen for detail.

WRITING

describe how an appliance/piece of equipment works.

organize short-essay answers appropriately.

SPEAKING

describe an item of technology.

discuss modern technology.

Exam Focus

READING

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple choice questions (including **multiple choice questions that require more than one option**).

LISTENING

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer table completion, multiple-choice, and note completion questions.

WRITING

Understand, plan, and write task 1 questions on how things work.

SPEAKING

Part 2: describing an item of technology.

Part 3: discussing modern technology.

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 15 and 16

Topic: Health and Medicine

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 8: Health and Medicine

*Principle focus is population growth, but attention to birth and death rates and health issues related to overpopulation can be tied into the main topic.

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 9: The First Seven Billion*

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit 9: Health

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to health, medicine, alternative remedies, illnesses and diseases, healthy lifestyles, parts of the body, and medical breakthroughs.

GRAMMAR

Use real conditionals (0 and 1) accurately and appropriately.

Use unreal conditionals (2 and 3) accurately and appropriately.

Use adverbs to express attitude, surprise, and expectation.

READING

scan to locate information.

read intensively to check statements against a passage.

Exam Specific Skills

Classification

True, False, Not Given

Summary Completion

Multiple Choice

LISTENING

follow a conversation

identify the views of different speakers.

Exam Specific Skills

Section 3: Note Completion

Multiple choice

WRITING

express impersonal views in suitably formal language.

prepare to write by learning different approaches to planning.

Exam Specific Skills

Plan and write a Task 2 opinion essay.

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 17 and 18

Topic: All in the Mind

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 9: All in the Mind

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 9: No man is an island

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit 4: Education

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to the theme of intelligence – especially animal intelligence and the idea of multiple intelligences.

use expressions to describe skills.

use lexical links.

use idioms relating to the mind and brain (with appropriate collocation).

GRAMMAR

use and distinguish between *-ing* form and the infinitive.

READING

Jigsaw reading: taking notes and reporting back.

Exam Specific Skills

Note completion questions.

LISTENING

listen for specific information.

Exam Specific Skills

Summary completion questions.

Multiple choice questions with more than one option. (Section 4)

Note completion. (Section 3)

WRITING

Organize an essay.

Use linking words for cohesion.

Paragraphing.

Exam Specific Skills

Organizing an agree/disagree Task 2 essay.

SPEAKING

Describe a time when you learned something new (Part 2).

Discuss learning environments and kinds of intelligence (Part 3).

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 19 and 20

Topic: Leisure Time

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 10: Leisure Time

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 7: Telling Tales

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS

Improve Your IELTS: Listening and Speaking Skills Unit 6: Culture

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to the theme of leisure, considering it from different angles: leisure activities and sports, technology and the internet, and developing leisure trends.

use negative prefixes to help work out meaning of unfamiliar words.

GRAMMAR

Use *-ing* form and infinitive to talk about likes and preferences.

Use expressions with future meaning.

READING

scan for specific information.

follow a description in order to label a diagram.

LISTENING

listen for key information.

identify opinions of different speakers.

WRITING

describe problems and suggest solutions.

SPEAKING

describe leisure activities.

discuss changes in leisure activities over time.

Exam Focus

READING

Multiple choice.

Summary completion.

Labelling a diagram.

LISTENING

Form completion (section 1).

Short answer questions.

Sentence completion.

Matching. (Section 3).

WRITING

Problem and Solution essays – task 2.

SPEAKING

Parts 2 and 3 – describing and discussing leisure activities.

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 21 and 22

Topic: The art of advertising

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 11: The Art of Advertising

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 2: It never rains but it pours. (The unit is largely about the branded and increased popularity of bottled water, which could be linked to the fortnight's main topic of advertising).

Ready For IELTS Unit 14: Money and Happiness

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to the theme of advertising, including questions of global marketing and newer forms of advertising such as stealth and guerrilla marketing.

Use a wide range of more academic synonyms for common words, and use a formal style.

Use synonyms that collocate differently, eg: 'a major problem', 'a fundamental right'

GRAMMAR

Use modals of obligation and prohibition appropriately and accurately.

READING

Identify beliefs, opinions, and arguments in a text.

LISTENING

identify opinions of different speakers.

listen for key information.

WRITING

use a formal and academic style.

present a balanced argument.

understand verbs in essay titles.

SPEAKING

Describe an advert.

Discuss the benefits and drawbacks of advertising and brands.

Exam Focus

READING

Matching headings.

Note Completion.

Multiple choice.

Matching sentence endings.

LISTENING

Classification.

Table completion (Section 3).

WRITING

Refutation and concession in Writing Task 2.

SPEAKING

Parts 2 and 3 – describing and discussing adverts.

IELTS LAUNCH

Weeks 23 and 24

Topic: Success and Achievement

Core Texts

IELTS Foundation Unit 12: Success and Achievement

Supplementary Materials

On Course For IELTS Unit 12: Where to next?

Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

Ready for IELTS Unit 5: The Future

National Geographic: The Complete Guide to IELTS

IELTS Trainer

By the end of this fortnight, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary focused on different types of success and achievement.

use – and effectively revise – vocabulary learned in the previous 22 weeks of this course.

use collocations related to success.

talk about ability.

GRAMMAR

Use – and effectively revise – all of the grammatical constructions covered in the previous 22 weeks.

READING

scan for specific information.

identify opinions and arguments.

LISTENING

listen for key information.

identify opinions of different speakers.

WRITING

Summarize information.

Express opinions and support them with examples.

SPEAKING

Talk about familiar topics.

Describe a successful situation.

Talk about success.

Exam Focus

READING

Multiple choice.

Summary completion.

Yes, No, Not Given.

+ **summary completion from a list** (additional to *Foundation* tasks)

LISTENING

Multiple Choice (section 2).

Sentence completion.

Note Completion.

Table Completion. (Section 3).

WRITING

Task 1 revision – describing data.

Opinion essays– task 2.

SPEAKING

Full test review.

Week 25

Topic: Student Choice and Authentic Exam Practice

Core Text

SS to choose from topics not previously addresses from *Ready for IELTS* or *On Course for IELTS*.

Supplementary Texts

Vocabulary for IELTS

Grammar for IELTS

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to chosen topic.

Improve lexical resource score in all parts of the exam,

Improve spelling to ensure no marks are lost in Reading and Listening Sections.

GRAMMAR

Improve Grammatical Range and Accuracy in all parts of the exam.

Increase awareness of parts of speech.

READING

Consolidate strategies for each kind of reading question.

LISTENING

Consolidate strategies for each kind of listening question.

SPEAKING

Improve and develop fluency.

Improve and develop pronunciation.

Structure answers effectively, especially in parts 2 and 3.

WRITING

Improve and develop task accomplishment and task response scores.

Improve and develop coherence and cohesion.

Course Overview

IELTS TARGET

CEFR equivalent

B2-C1: Outcomes at this level

Can account for and sustain his/her opinions in discussion by providing relevant explanations, arguments and comments; explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options; develop an argument giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view; take an active part in informal discussion in familiar contexts, commenting, putting point of view clearly, evaluating alternative proposals and making and responding to hypotheses.

Can understand in detail what is said to him/her in the standard spoken language even in a noisy environment; initiate discourse, take his turn when appropriate and end conversation when he/she needs to, though he/she may not always do this elegantly; interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without imposing strain on either party.

Objectives for the IELTS course

- ☑ To build a comprehensive understanding of the IELTS exam structure.
- ☑ To analyse a wide range of reading text types.
- ☑ To efficiently recognise and answer the full range of question types in all four sections of the exam.
- ☑ To produce high standard and accurate writing texts based on IELTS requirements.
- ☑ To support writing with relevant grammatical structures.
- ☑ To improve and practise speaking skills in response to spontaneous IELTS questions.
- ☑ To develop strategies for dealing with listening tasks, such as prediction.

Description for students

TARGET (High Level IELTS preparation) [6+]

TARGET students will already be highly familiar with the usual IELTS strategies and techniques. They will usually have taken the exam before, achieving a band score of 6 or above, and will be looking for scores of 6.5 or above. They will learn more advanced Reading and Listening strategies (with an emphasis on academic vocabulary), and will work at making their Writing and Speaking more sophisticated. The class will make extensive use of authentic exam materials, but will also help to prepare students for academic life beyond the exam. When a student has successfully achieved the band score they need, they will return to General English at B2 or C1.

This syllabus is based upon a 20-hour week with 4 hours devoted to each of the exam sections (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing) plus 4 hours for assessment and review/target setting.

The two key course books used are *IELTS Graduation* (Macmillan, 2007) and *The Complete Guide to IELTS* (National Geographic, 2015). *Listening for IELTS* and *Speaking for IELTS* (HarperCollins, 2011) are also used to consolidate speaking and listening topics.

The expectation is that the first session each Monday morning will focus on developing vocabulary related to the topic. The second session on Monday will address the fortnight's grammatical/language focus. For the rest of the week, *The Complete Guide to IELTS* will typically be used to introduce key exam skills in the first session. *IELTS Graduation* will be used in the second session, allowing students to apply the skills they have learned in relation to the fortnight's topic. Fridays will always focus on assessment, review, and target setting.

Teachers are encouraged to supplement classes with their own resources or authentic exam materials.

Map of a typical fortnight

Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25

Monday 1: Topic intro: Reading + vocab

Monday 2: Writing + grammar focus

Tuesday 1: Listening + grammar focus

Tuesday 2: Speaking + vocab

Wednesday 1: Reading
Wednesday 2: Speaking

Thursday 1: Listening
Thursday 2: Writing

Friday 1: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW
Friday 2: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW

Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24

Monday 1: Topic Intro: Speaking + vocab
Monday 2: Reading + vocab

Tuesday 1: Writing + grammar focus
Tuesday 2: Listening + grammar focus

Wednesday 1: Speaking
Wednesday 2: Reading

Thursday 1: Writing
Thursday 2: Listening

Friday 1: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW
Friday 2: ASSESSMENT & REVIEW

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 1 and 2

Topic: Learn to Succeed

Core Texts

READING: *Graduation* Unit 1: Learn to Succeed

National Geographic Reading Task Type 4: Matching Headings

LISTENING: *Graduation* Unit 1

Listening for IELTS Unit 5: Starting University

SPEAKING: *Graduation* Unit 1

Speaking for IELTS Unit 1: People & Relationships

WRITING: *Graduation* Unit 1

National Geographic Writing Overview (pp. 180-181); Task 1: Line Graphs (pp. 184-193)

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 6: Education

Course Objectives

By the end of the fortnight, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to education, educational institutions, studying abroad, and gender differences.

deduce the meaning of new vocabulary by identifying prefixes and familiar root words.

use synonyms and parallel expressions for words to do with a) learning and b) similarities and differences.

GRAMMAR

use past, present, and future tenses appropriately and accurately.

use unreal sentence subjects (There is / There was).

READING

preview and predict content using headings, subheadings, and visual information.

skim for the main idea

scan for opinions

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **multiple choice**, sentence completion, matching headings, and matching features questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies

LISTENING

Listening for detail

Following directions

Exam Specific Skills

Show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **form completion**, map labelling (Section 1), and short answer questions

WRITING

paraphrase

organize and write a short essay

revise and edit their writing

Exam Specific Skills

describe changes over time in a diagram

plan paragraph content for Task 1.

SPEAKING

Describe a course of study (Part 2)

Describe a teacher (Part 2)

Discuss and compare developments in education (Part 3)

IELTS TARGET

WEEKS 3 and 4

TOPIC: LIVING TOGETHER

Core Texts

READING: *Graduation* Unit 2: Living Together

National Geographic Reading Task Type : Summary Completion

LISTENING: *Graduation* Unit 2

Listening for IELTS Unit 2: Being Young

SPEAKING: *Graduation* Unit 2

Speaking for IELTS Unit 8: Youth

WRITING: *Graduation* Unit 2

National Geographic Task 2: Agree/Disagree essays

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 2: Conflicting Interests

By the end of the fortnight, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to physical and mental health, teenagers, and social issues.

use collocations.

deduce the parts of speech of new vocabulary by identifying suffixes.

use both the noun and verb forms of common academic words.

GRAMMAR

Identify the subject of any given sentence and ensure that their own sentences have clearly defined subjects.

Write sentences using word order accurately.

Use numerical expressions accurately (two-thirds, two in three etc.)

Identify parts of speech accurately in reading, and not confuse them in writing.

READING

preview and predict content using headings, subheadings, and visual information.

skim for genre (text type) and purpose

scan for synonyms

scan for figures

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple choice, **summary completion from a list**, and True/False/Not Given questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for keywords

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer note completion, **short answer**, matching (Section 2), multiple choice, and table completion questions

WRITING

link paragraphs

organize overall essay structures

Exam Specific Skills

Write balanced argument essays

Support a point of view

Plan paragraphs (TASK 2)

SPEAKING

Identify stressed syllables and pronounce them correctly

Describe a person (Part 2)

Describe a place (Part 2)

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 5 and 6

Topic: Costing the Earth

Core Texts

READING: *Graduation* Unit 3: Costing the Earth

National Geographic Reading Task Type: Matching Features

LISTENING: *Graduation* Unit 3

Listening for IELTS Unit 7: Alternative Energy

SPEAKING: *Graduation* Unit 1

Speaking for IELTS Unit 4: The World Around Us

WRITING: *Graduation* Unit 3

National Geographic: Writing Task 1: Bar Charts

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 7: Science

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to environmental issues, including recycling, the use of renewable resources, and the availability and use of oil and alternative fuels.

use collocations.

recognize, form, and use compound adjectives.

GRAMMAR

recognize, form, and use comparatives and superlatives.

use dependent prepositions.

READING

guess the meaning of unknown vocabulary from context.

scan for detailed information.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple choice and **matching features** questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for detail

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **multiple choice** and summary completion questions (section 3)

WRITING

Summarize information in diagrams

Make comparisons

Exam Specific Skills

Understand and paraphrase writing task 1 questions

Select the most significant information in a chart

Describe and compare information in a fixed-time diagram. (TASK 1)

SPEAKING

Pronounce final consonants correctly (/s/ /z/ /d/ /k/ /n/ /l/)

Introduce and organize opinions.

Introduce an opinion and support it with examples. (Part 3)

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 7 and 8

Topic: Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

Core Texts

READING: *Graduation* Unit 4

National Geographic: Reading Task Type: True/False/Not Given

LISTENING: *Graduation* Unit 4

Listening for IELTS Unit 9: At the Gym

SPEAKING: *Graduation* Unit 4

Speaking for IELTS Unit 2: A Healthy Body

WRITING: *Graduation* Unit 4

National Geographic Writing Task 2: Opinion Essays

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 3: Fitness and Health

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to health issues including diet, nutrition, illness, medical treatment, health care, and food production.

recognize and use suffixes with increasing sophistication.

GRAMMAR

use defining and non-defining relative clauses.

Use past and present participle clauses (-ed/-ing)

READING

Skim a text for purpose and organization.

scan for detail.

scan for argument.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer matching headings, table completion, multiple choice, **true/false/not given** and short answer questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for detail

predict the part of speech and kind of word required for certain answers and

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple choice, note completion, and summary completion questions (section 3)

WRITING

Generate ideas through perspective

Express opinions

Exam Specific Skills

Plan paragraph structures for argument/opinion essays

SPEAKING

Introduce and organize opinions.

Describe and discuss food (Part 2)

Give opinions about food. (Part 3)

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 9 and 10

Topic: The World We Live In

Core Texts

READING: *Graduation* Unit 5: The World We Live In

National Geographic Reading Task Type: Diagram Labelling

LISTENING: *Graduation* Unit 5

Listening for IELTS Unit 3: Climate

SPEAKING: *Graduation* Unit 5

Speaking for IELTS Unit 9: Home

WRITING: *Graduation* Unit 5

National Geographic: Task 1: Describing Processes

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 10: The Natural World

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to natural disasters, natural processes, ecology, man's interaction with nature, natural phenomena, endangered species, and global warming.

produce and use sequencing words as discourse markers to order a text
demonstrate flexibility of lexical resource by using both adjective and noun forms of words

GRAMMAR

use the passive accurately and appropriately

READING

Skim a text for purpose and organization.

scan for detail.

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer matching headings, summary completion, **diagram labelling**, and short answer questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for detail

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **flow chart completion**, short answer, and matching questions (section 2)

WRITING

Identify and describe processes

Exam Specific Skills

Describe man-made processes

Describe natural processes

SPEAKING

Correctly pronounce stressed syllables and schwa /ə /

Describe and discuss animals and their natural environments (Part 2)

Give fully developed/expanded responses. (Part 3)

IELTS Target

Weeks 11-12

Topic: Going Places

Core Texts

READING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 6: Going Places

National Geographic Reading Task Type: Multiple Choice

LISTENING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 6

Listening for IELTS Unit 1: On the Move

SPEAKING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 6

Speaking for IELTS: Unit 11: On the Move

WRITING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 11: The Car

National Geographic: Writing Task 2: Problem/Solution Essays

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 1: Cultural Differences; Unit 9: Social Issues

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to the themes of travel and tourism, including student travel, transport systems, the cultural, and the economic and ecological effects of tourism.

produce and use linking words to indicate cause/effect and problem/solution

extend their bank of synonyms for words related to travel

GRAMMAR

use reference and substitution accurately and appropriately

form first and second conditional accurately; use them appropriately

use modality to express possibility and probability

READING

scan for opinion

find parallel expressions in a text

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple choice, map completion, and sentence completion questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for detail

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer **YES/NO**, short answer, multiple choice (section 2), table completion, and summary completion questions.

WRITING

Plan and write introductions

Paraphrase

Organize and write essays

Exam Specific Skills

Plan and write problem/solution essays (Task 2)

SPEAKING

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different forms of transport (Part 2).

Discuss travel and tourism in the past, present, and future (Part 3).

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 13 and 14

Topic: The world of work

Core Texts

READING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 7: The World of Work

National Geographic: Task Type: Note Completion Questions

LISTENING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 7

Listening for IELTS Unit 10: At the Office

SPEAKING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 7

Speaking for IELTS: Unit 7: Hobbies

WRITING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 7

National Geographic Writing Task 1: Pie Charts & Multiple Diagrams

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 5: Work and Business

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to employment, the workplace, international trade, globalization, stress, and disability.

extend their bank of synonyms for words related to people and professions.

GRAMMAR

use defining relative clauses introduced by *that*

use complex sentence structures

READING

use prior knowledge to predict purpose and main argument of a text

use keywords to predict the kind of answer required for different question types

scan for detail

scan for opinion

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer true/false/not given, flow chart, short answer, and note completion questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

Use prior knowledge to predict purpose and argument of a presentation

Use keywords to predict the kind of answer required for different question types

listen for detail

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer sentence completion, short answer, and table completion questions.

WRITING

describe and compare data in diagrams

organize and write essays

Exam Specific Skills

Understand, plan, and write task 1 questions with multiple diagrams

SPEAKING

Talk about predictions for the future (Part 3).

Express certainty / uncertainty.

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 15 and 16

Topic: Art and the city

READING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 8: Art and the City

National Geographic: Task Type: Summary Completion (no list)

LISTENING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 8

Listening for IELTS: Unit 6: Fame

SPEAKING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 8

Speaking for IELTS: Unit 10: Culture

WRITING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 8

National Geographic – review agree/disagree essays + authentic exam materials

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 4: The Arts; Unit 12: Engineering and Innovation

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to the themes of architecture, buildings, town planning, visual art, performing arts, funding for artists and cultural facilities for the public.

GRAMMAR

use prepositions accurately and appropriately

use language of concession in appropriately balanced sentences

READING

Distinguish fact from opinion

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer matching (people and descriptions), summary completion, and summary completion from a list questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for signposting

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple-choice, short answer, note completion and sentence completion questions (Sections 3 and 4).

WRITING

Refute opposing arguments

Write effective conclusions

Exam Specific Skills

Plan and write balanced argument and opinion essays (Task 2)

SPEAKING

Structure a short talk for part 2.

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 17 & 18

Topic: Tomorrow's World

Core Texts

READING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 9: Tomorrow's World

National Geographic Task Type: YES/NO/NOT GIVEN

LISTENING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 9

Listening for IELTS Unit 4: Family Structures

SPEAKING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 9

Speaking for IELTS Unit 6: Technology

WRITING: *IELTS Graduation*: Unit 9

National Geographic: Writing Task 1: Maps

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 8: IT and Communications

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to issues of population growth, sustainability, the predicted future of the planet, technological developments, and natural resources.

employ more academic synonyms for common words.

Extend and consolidate their knowledge of prefixes and how they affect meaning.

GRAMMAR

use future tenses accurately and appropriately

use appropriate forms and structures to talk about hypothetical situations

READING

Identify the writer's purpose

Identify argument

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer yes/no/not given and matching (people with arguments) questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for dates and numbers

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer dates and numbers (Section 2), and summary completion, diagram completion, and sentence completion questions (Sections 3 and 4).

WRITING

describe and define visual information

use cohesive devices and linking words

understand question task words

Exam Specific Skills

Describing illustrations

Describing and comparing maps (Task 1)

SPEAKING

Pronounce weak forms

Express likes and dislikes (Part 1)

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 19 and 20

Topic: From Me to You

Core Texts

READING: *IELTS Graduation* Unit 10

National Geographic Reading Task Type: Multiple-Choice (more than one option)

LISTENING: *IELTS Graduation:* Unit 10

Listening for IELTS: Unit 11: Local Languages

SPEAKING: *IELTS Graduation:* Unit 10

Speaking for IELTS: Unit 5: Communications

WRITING: *IELTS Graduation:* Unit 10

National Geographic: Review Writing Task 2 types and authentic materials

Supplementary Text

IELTS Masterclass Unit 8: IT and Communications

By the end of this week, students should be able to:

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary related to communication: mass media, electronic media, newspapers, advertising, freedom of the press, and censorship.

GRAMMAR

distinguish between countable and uncountable nouns

use articles appropriately and accurately

READING

Identify the main idea and supporting information

Scan for detail

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple-choice, summary completion, sentence completion, and yes/no/not given questions. Some students will be confident about using these strategies.

LISTENING

listen for instructions and suggestions

Exam Specific Skills

show familiarity with the strategies required to answer multiple choice (diagrams), sentence completion (Section 1), multiple option, table completion, and summary completion questions (Section 3).

WRITING

Analyze essay questions

Organize essays clearly and logically

State a view/position

Exam Specific Skills

Identify the focus of a task 2 question

Plan, structure, and write each type of task 2 question (Task 2)

SPEAKING

Analyze exam answers (all sections)

Use idiomatic expressions

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 21 and 22

Topic: Full Vocabulary and Grammar Review

Core Texts

READING: *Vocabulary for IELTS*
Grammar for IELTS

LISTENING: *Vocabulary for IELTS*
Grammar for IELTS

SPEAKING: *Vocabulary for IELTS*
Grammar for IELTS

WRITING: *Vocabulary for IELTS*
Grammar for IELTS

Specific focus for the two weeks to be agreed with the students on Monday morning of week 21.

By the end of the week, students should be able to

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

produce and use vocabulary learned over the previous 20 weeks with confidence.

GRAMMAR

Identify areas of specific weakness in relation to grammar and make significant progress towards fixing them

Use a wide range of tenses (including conditionals) with confidence

Use complex sentences with confidence

READING

Develop ability to guess meaning from context

Improve and develop awareness of word-formation to aid comprehension

LISTENING

improve ability to predict answers based on necessary part of speech

SPEAKING

Improve and develop lexical resource

Improve and develop grammatical range and accuracy

WRITING

Improve and develop lexical resource

Improve and develop grammatical range and accuracy

IELTS TARGET

Weeks 23 and 24

Topic: Full Exam-Specific Skills Review

Core Texts

READING: *National Geographic*

LISTENING: *National Geographic*

SPEAKING: *National Geographic*

WRITING: *National Geographic*

Specific focus for the two weeks to be agreed with the students on Monday morning of week 23.

By the end of the week, students should be able to

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Improve lexical resource score in all parts of the exam

Improve spelling to ensure no marks are lost in Reading and Listening Sections

GRAMMAR

Improve Grammatical Range and Accuracy in all parts of the exam

Increase awareness of parts of speech

READING

Consolidate strategies for each kind of reading question

LISTENING

Consolidate strategies for each kind of listening question

SPEAKING

Improve and develop fluency

Improve and develop pronunciation

Structure answers effectively, especially in parts 2 and 3

WRITING

Improve and develop task accomplishment and task response scores

Improve and develop coherence and cohesion

IELTS TARGET

Week 25

Topic: Student Choice and Authentic Exam Practice

Core Text

SS to choose from topics not previously addresses from *IELTS Masterclass*: Unit 7 – Science, Unit 11 – Psychology, Unit 13 – History and Archaeology, Unit 14 – Language.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

VOCABULARY AND WORD FORMATION

Produce and use vocabulary related to chosen topic.

Improve lexical resource score in all parts of the exam,

Improve spelling to ensure no marks are lost in Reading and Listening Sections.

GRAMMAR

Improve Grammatical Range and Accuracy in all parts of the exam.

Increase awareness of parts of speech.

READING

Consolidate strategies for each kind of reading question.

LISTENING

Consolidate strategies for each kind of listening question.

SPEAKING

Improve and develop fluency.

Improve and develop pronunciation.

Structure answers effectively, especially in parts 2 and 3.

WRITING

Improve and develop task accomplishment and task response scores.

Improve and develop coherence and cohesion.