

How to use this self-study programme for IELTS preparation

This programme is divided into 5 sections:

- Listening
- Reading
- Academic Writing Task 1
- Writing Task 2
- Speaking

Each section has between 2 and 3 hours of activities and work per day for 5 days. It has been laid out so that you can focus on one skill per week. But, of course, you should choose the pattern of study, and the number of hours you do that suit you best. There is self-study material for both Academic and General Training IELTS.

Which IELTS test should I take: Academic or General Training?

Are you planning to study at degree level or higher? If **yes**, take Academic IELTS.

Are you planning to work in a professional capacity (e.g. doctor, lawyer, architect)? If **yes**, take Academic IELTS.

Are you planning to live or work in an English-speaking country? If **yes**, take General Training IELTS.

If you are not sure, contact the receiving institution (e.g. university) or immigration department and check which test they advise you to take.

Should I take the paper-based or computer-delivered IELTS test?

This depends on which format you personally feel most comfortable with. The content of the test is **exactly the same**.

Some advice:

- set yourself sensible targets for how much study you do each day
- little and often is better than setting unrealistic targets
- focus on those skills and areas that you think you need more help with
- continue to read and listen to English for pleasure outside of this programme. Watch films, series, TED talks, the news, and music in English. Read the news online and find articles on subjects that interest you.

Take care of yourselves, stay well, and good luck with your studies!