

**Listening** 40 Questions, all carry 1 mark; Approximately 30 minutes (plus 10 minutes' transfer time)

Paper Format	Task Types	Answering
<p>Four sections, each with ten questions. The questions are designed so that the answers appear in order in the listening. The recordings are heard once only. They include a range of accents, including British, Australian, New Zealand and American.</p> <p>The first two sections deal with situations set in everyday social contexts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There is a conversation between two speakers in Section 1 (for example a conversation about travel arrangements)</li> <li>2. and a monologue in Section 2 (for example, a speech about local facilities).</li> </ol> <p>The final two sections deal with situations set in educational and training contexts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. In Section 3 there is a conversation between two main speakers (for example, two university students in discussion, perhaps guided by a tutor)</li> <li>4. and Section 4 is a monologue on an academic subject.</li> </ol>	<p>A variety of questions is used, chosen from the following types:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. multiple choice</li> <li>2. matching</li> <li>3. plan/map/diagram labelling</li> <li>4. form/note/table/flow-chart/summary completion</li> <li>5. sentence completion</li> <li>6. short answer</li> </ol>	<p>During the Listening test candidates write their answers on the question paper as they listen and at the end of the test are given <b>10 minutes to transfer their answers</b> to an answer sheet.</p> <p>Care should be taken when writing answers on the answer sheet as poor spelling and grammar are penalised.</p>

**Academic Reading** 40 Questions, all carry 1 mark; 60 minutes

Paper Format and Sources	Task Types	Answering
<p>Three reading passages with a variety of questions using a number of task types.</p> <p>Texts are taken from books, journals, magazines and newspapers and have been written for a non-specialist audience. All the topics are of general interest. They deal with issues which are interesting, recognisably appropriate and accessible to candidates entering undergraduate or postgraduate courses or seeking professional registration.</p> <p>The passages may be written in a variety of styles, for example narrative, descriptive or discursive/argumentative. At least one text contains detailed logical argument. Texts may contain non-verbal materials such as diagrams, graphs or illustrations. If texts contain technical terms then a simple glossary is provided.</p>	<p>A variety of questions are used, chosen from the following types:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. multiple choice</li> <li>2. identifying information</li> <li>3. identifying writer's views/claims</li> <li>4. matching information</li> <li>5. matching headings</li> <li>6. matching features</li> <li>7. matching sentence endings</li> <li>8. sentence completion</li> <li>9. summary note, table, flow-chart completion</li> <li>10. diagram label completion</li> <li>11. short-answer questions</li> </ol>	<p>Candidates are required to transfer their answers to an answer sheet. Candidates must transfer their answers during the time allowed for the test. <b>No extra time is allowed for transfer.</b></p> <p>Care should be taken when writing answers on the answer sheet as poor spelling and grammar are penalised.</p>

**Academic Writing** 2 writing tasks, 60 minutes; Task 2 contributes twice as much to the final writing band score as Task 1

Task Types	IELTS Academic Writing in Detail	Answering
<p>In Task 1 candidates are asked to describe some visual information (graph/table/chart/diagram), and to present the description in their own words. They need to write 150 words in about 20 minutes.</p> <p>In Task 2 candidates are presented with a point of view or argument or problem. They need to write 250 words in about 40 minutes.</p>	<p>In Writing Task 1, candidates may be asked to describe facts or figures presented in one or more graphs, charts or tables on a related topic; or they may be given a diagram of a machine, a device or a process and asked to explain how it works. Candidates should make sure to include the most important and the most relevant points in the diagram. Some minor points or details may be left out.</p> <p>In Writing Task 2, candidates are given a topic to write about. Answers should be a discursive consideration of the relevant issues. Candidates should make sure that they read the task carefully and provide a full and relevant response. For example, if the topic is a particular aspect of computers, they should focus on this aspect in their response. They should not simply write about computers in general.</p>	<p>They should write in an academic or semi-formal/neutral style.</p> <p>Answers must be given on the answer sheet and must be written in full. Notes or bullet points in whole or in part are not acceptable as answers.</p> <p>Candidates may write on the question paper but this cannot be taken from the examination room and will not be seen by the examiner.</p>

**Speaking** 3 speaking parts, 11-14 minutes total

Task Type	Task Format	Task Focus
<u>Part 1</u> Introduction and interview 4-5 minutes	In this part, the examiner introduces him/herself and checks the candidate's identity. Then the examiner asks the candidate general questions on some familiar topics such as home, family, work, studies, interests. To ensure consistency, questions are taken from a scripted examiner frame.	This part of the test focuses on the candidate's ability to communicate opinions and information on everyday topics and common experiences or situations by answering a range of questions.
<u>Part 2</u> Long turn 3-4 minutes	<p>The examiner gives the candidate a task card which asks the candidate to talk about a particular topic, includes points to cover in their talk and instructs the candidate to explain one aspect of the topic. Candidates are given 1 minute to prepare their talk, and are given a pencil and paper to make notes.</p> <p>The examiner asks the candidate to talk for 1 to 2 minutes, stops the candidate after 2 minutes, and asks one or two questions on the same topic.</p>	This part of the test focuses on the candidate's ability to speak at length on a given topic (without further prompts from the examiner), using appropriate language and organising their ideas coherently. It is likely that the candidate will need to draw on their own experience to complete the long turn.
<u>Part 3</u> Discussion 4-5 minutes	In Part 3, the examiner and the candidate discuss issues related to the topic in Part 2 in a more general and abstract way and – where appropriate – in greater depth.	This part of the test focuses on the candidate's ability to express and justify opinions and to analyse, discuss and speculate about issues.