Getting Ready

IELTS Course · Day 1 · The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS

LISTENING 1

Getting ready to listen

Context · spelling · numbers

Book p15–17

SPEAKING 1

The Speaking test, Part 1

Familiar topics · the right tense

Book p136–138

Today we learn how the Listening and Speaking tests work, and we practise spelling, numbers and the present simple.

Lead-in | Text | Presentation | Controlled | Semi-controlled | Free | Production | Bridge | Homework

Today's plan

2 hours

Start · 10 min

Welcome

Your goals for this course

This week's plan

Part 1 · 50 min

Listening Unit 1

Book p15–17

Target 1 · spelling

Target 2 · numbers

Break + Bridge · 10 min

5-minute break

Quick check of Part 1

Notice the grammar for Part 2

Part 2 · 50 min

Speaking Unit 1

Book p136–138

"th" warm-up

Target 3 · be + verb -s

Mock Speaking Part 1

Homework

Your first week

2 hours a day

Day 1 · today

Listening 1

Getting ready to listen

p15–17

Speaking 1

Part 1

p136–138

Day 2

Reading 1

Reading strategies

p44–47

Writing 1

Task 1 · charts

p93–97

Day 3

Listening 2

Following a conversation

p18–21

Speaking 2

Part 2 · a talk

p140–143

Day 4

Reading 2

Descriptive passages

p48–50

Writing 2

Task 1 · comparing

p100–104

Day 5

Review

Spelling test

Mock Speaking Part 1 + 2

Timed Task 1 paragraph

Every day, 15 minutes: a verb in every sentence · verb + s · your spelling list · the "th" sound

Your goals

From your level report

Now

IELTS 3.5

CEFR A2

Next goal

IELTS 4.5

CEFR B1

Talk with your teacher

Why do you need IELTS?

What score do you need?

When do you want to take the test?

Which skill is the most difficult for you?

Three habits for every lesson

1 Every sentence needs a verb: Riyadh is hot.

2 He / she / it → verb + s: She works.

3 Spelling counts. A wrong letter = a wrong answer.

IELTS Listening: true or false?

Extra · 5 min

1 There are four parts.

2 You hear each recording two times.

3 There are 40 questions.

4 A spelling mistake is OK if the meaning is right.

5 You can write more words than the instructions say.

6 Part 4 is a talk by one speaker, like a lecture.

Type in the chat

1 T 2 F 3 …

Then we check.

TYPE IN THE CHAT

IELTS Listening: answers

Extra

Answers

1 True. Four parts, 10 questions each.

2 False. You hear each recording only once.

3 True.

4 False. A spelling mistake = a wrong answer.

5 False. Too many words = a wrong answer.

6 True. Part 4 is the most difficult part. Never leave it empty: always write a guess.

Who? Where? What kind of word?

Extra · before p15

Riverside Sports Centre · New member form

Name: Emma 1 _____

Phone number: 2 _____

First class (day): 3 _____

Class: 4 _____ swimming

Cost per month: £ 5 _____

Start date: 6 _____

Before you listen

Who is talking?

Where are they?

Look at each gap. What kind of word is it?

A name? A number? A day? A date? A price?

Don't listen yet. We use this form later.

Predict the context

Book p15 · 1.1 · Audio 2

1.1 **Read the questions. Choose the context A–F for each section.**

Section 1: Total number of guests: ___ · Susie will organise invitations and ___

Example: C

Section 2: What type of gift does the speaker recommend for a child's birthday?

Section 3: The students chose this topic because A they have a lot of information about it. B they would like to learn more about it. C they think they will get a higher mark.

Section 4: Aim: to assess the impact of loss of habitat on native animals. Methods: calculate the current numbers of native animal species · study their movements by attaching ___

Contexts

A shopping for food

B discussing an assignment

C organising a party

D describing a research project

E buying presents

F explaining how something works

Test tip

You get 30–45 seconds to read the questions. Use them to predict.

Predict the context: answers

Book p15 · 1.1

Answers

Section 1 C organising a party (example)

Section 2 E buying presents

Section 3 B discussing an assignment

Section 4 D describing a research project

A and F are not used.

How many speakers?

Book p15 · 1.2 · Audio 2

1.2 **Listen again. How many speakers will you hear in each section? Who are they?**

Section 1: ___ speakers · who? _____

Section 2: ___ speakers · who? _____

Section 3: ___ speakers · who? _____

Section 4: ___ speakers · who? _____

Remember

Sections 1 and 3: a conversation.

Sections 2 and 4: usually one speaker.

The introduction tells you who is talking.

1

Target 1 of 3

Spelling names and words

In the test you hear:

"My surname is Thornton. That's T-H-O-R-N-T-O-N."

"It's Jessop, J-E, double S, O-P."

The alphabet: groups by sound

Book p16 · Extra

/eɪ/ like "day"

A H J K

/iː/ like "see"

B C D E G P T V

/e/ like "bed"

F L M N S X Z

/aɪ/ like "my"

I Y

/əʊ/ like "go"

O

/uː/ like "you"

Q U W

/ɑː/ like "car"

R

Listen for

"double S" = SS

"capital M" = M

WITH TEACHER

Letters and words to watch

Extra

Letters people often confuse

A or E or I ?

G or J ?

E or I ?

U or W ?

M or N ?

From your practice test

shoping → shopping (double P)

websait → website

villag → village

managment → management

photograph → photographs (plural -s)

WITH TEACHER

Write the letters

Book p16 · 2.1 · Audio 3

2.1 **Listen and write the letters you hear.**

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

Test tip

Always check your spelling.

A spelling mistake in the Listening test = a wrong answer.

Ways to help someone spell

Book p16 · 2.2 · Audio 4

2.2 **Complete the notes. NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER.**

1 Name: Mr Andrew _____

2 Address: 63 _____ Road, Birmingham

3 Website address: www. _____ .com

4 Meet at the _____ Hotel

5 Registration number: _____

Test tip

People help with spelling in different ways, not only letter by letter.

A registration number can mix letters and numbers.

Listen again: useful phrases

Book p16 · 2.3 · Audio 4

2.3 Listen again and complete the extracts.

Conversation 1 a Is that _____ colour?

b Yes, but _____ .

Conversation 2 c Sorry, _____ N or M?

Conversation 3 d That's right, _____ lower case.

Conversation 4 e Oh, it's the Rose Hotel, _____ .

Conversation 5 f It's just _____ . It's HLP 528.

Study tip

Practise saying the letters of the alphabet.

Spell words for a friend to write down.

Listen and write

Extra · optional · 6 min

Your teacher spells or says 8 words. Write them in the chat.

Names (your teacher spells them):

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

Words (your teacher says them, not spells them):

5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

Tips

Write capital letters for names.

Listen for "double".

Check: is the spelling correct?

Target 1 of 3 · Spelling names and words

TYPE IN THE CHAT

Listen and write: answers

Extra

Answers

1 Harper 2 Jessop 3 Gilbert 4 Yardley

5 shopping 6 village 7 website 8 management

Any mistake? Add the word to your spelling list.

Spell it to me

Extra · 6 min

Spell these words out loud

Wednesday

February

necessary

accommodation

environment

government

How to do it

Say each letter clearly.

Your teacher types exactly what you say.

Is it correct? If not, try again.

These words are common in IELTS answers.

At the library

Extra · role play · 5 min

You want to join a library

Your teacher is the receptionist.

Answer the questions.

Spell your name and your street.

Give your email address.

Useful language

My surname is … That's …

It's double …

My email is … at … dot com

Sorry, can you repeat that, please?

2

Target 2 of 3

Numbers, dates and prices

In the test you hear:

"It's oh-seven-nine-four-five, double three, two ..."

"The class costs thirty-five pounds a month."

How we say numbers

Book p17 · Extra

Phone numbers

0 = "oh"

33 = "double three"

Prices

£3.50 = "three fifty"

£35 = "thirty-five pounds"

Dates

"the thirteenth of May"

Write: 13 May

13 or 30? Listen to the stress

thir-TEEN (stress at the end)

THIR-ty (stress at the start)

In the test

Write numbers as digits: 1,500 not "one thousand five hundred".

Use a full stop for decimals: 1.50

Circle the number you hear

Book p17 · 3.1 · Audio 5

3.1 **Listen and circle the number you hear in each pair.**

a 1st / 3rd

b $10.50 / $10.15

c 6th / 5th

d 17 / 70

e 19 / 90

f 15 / 50

g 52 / 62

h £110 / £810

i 31st / 33rd

j 22nd / 27th

Listen for

-TEEN: strong at the end

-TY: strong at the start

1st, 2nd, 3rd: the ending

BOOK + AUDIO

Say the numbers

Book p17 · 3.2 · Audio 5

3.2 **Listen again and practise saying the numbers.**

Then: say ONE number from each pair a–j.

Your teacher writes what she hears.

Did she write the number you said?

Remember

0 in phone numbers = "oh"

Write prices with a full stop: $10.50

th: thir-TEEN, THIR-ty, three

WITH TEACHER

Complete the information

Book p17 · 3.3 · Audio 6

3.3 Listen and complete the information.

1 How much does the woman pay for her room? £ _____

2 New students need to bring $ _____

3 Garage width: _____ m height: _____ m

4 How much does the woman pay for the bus tickets?

A $25 B $55 C $75

5 Party date: _____

Careful

You hear more than one number.

Which one is the answer?

Why is it wrong?

Book p17 · 3.4 · Audio 6

3.4 **Listen again. Write the other numbers you hear and why they are incorrect.**

1 £80 this is the amount she paid last time (example)

2 _____ _____

3 _____ _____

4 _____ _____

5 _____ _____

Why?

The speaker changes their mind.

It's an old price or date.

It's for someone else.

Numbers in talks (1–2)

Book p17 · 3.5 · Audio 7

3.5 **Listen to extracts from four talks and choose the correct answer: A, B or C.**

1 The survey found that the majority of students drink

A water. B coffee. C tea.

2 What point does the speaker make about skiing?

A A small percentage of the US is suitable for skiing.

B A surprisingly large number of Americans like skiing.

C A relatively small proportion of Americans have tried skiing.

Numbers in talks (3–4)

Book p17 · 3.5 · Audio 7

3.5 Continue: choose A, B or C.

3 The number of wild elephants in Africa is estimated to be at least

A 53,000. B 470,000. C 690,000.

4 According to the speaker, which two can weigh the same?

A the tongue of a blue whale and an elephant

B an elephant and a blue whale

C a bus and an elephant

Complete the form

Extra · Section 1 style · 8 min

Riverside Sports Centre · New member form

Name: Emma 1 _____

Phone number: 2 _____

First class (day): 3 _____

Class: 4 _____ swimming

Cost per month: £ 5 _____

Start date: 6 _____

Rules

ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER

You hear it once.

Be careful: people change their minds!

Then type your answers in the chat.

ON YOUR OWN

Complete the form: answers

Extra

Answers

1 Thornton
2 07945 332018
3 Thursday
4 beginners
5 35
6 13 November

Traps: Tuesday → Thursday (she changed her mind). 30 → 35 (last year's price). 30th → 13th.

Book a class

Extra · 5 min

Now you are the customer

Call a language school and book an English course.

Your teacher completes a form with your details.

Give: your name (spell it), a phone number, a day, a time, a start date.

Ask about the price.

At the end

Your teacher shows you the form.

Is every detail correct?

If not: what did you say? What did she hear?

Quick check

2 min

1 How do people say "0" in a phone number?

2 What does "double L" mean?

3 Thirteen or thirty: which one has the stress at the end?

4 Is "shoping" correct?

Answers next

Type your answers first.

TYPE IN THE CHAT

What's wrong?

Noticing · 3 min

A student answers a Speaking Part 1 question

Examiner: Tell me about your family.

"My family big. My father work in a shop.

My sister study at university.

We is very happy together."

Find 4 mistakes

Look at the verbs.

What is missing?

What is wrong?

We learn this in Part 2.

The IELTS Speaking test

Book p136

Part 1 · 4–5 min

Questions about you:

home, work, study, free time

Part 2 · 3–4 min

A talk for 1–2 minutes

You get 1 minute to prepare

Part 3 · 4–5 min

A discussion

Bigger, more general questions

Today: Part 1. Answer in 2–3 sentences, not one word.



Warm-up: the "th" sound

Extra · 5 min

How to say it

Put your tongue between your teeth.

Blow air out gently.

Don't say /s/, /t/, /z/ or /d/.

Check in your camera: can you see your tongue?

Say these pairs

sink → think tree → three day → they

tank → thank zis → this dose → those

Say this sentence three times

I think there are three theatres in this city.

The examiner's script

Book p136 · 1.1 · Video 1

1.1 Watch and complete the examiner's script.

Can you tell me your 1 _____ , please?

Thank you. And what 2 _____ ?

And can you tell me 3 _____ ?

Can I see your 4 _____ , please?

Thank you, OK, that's fine.

Now, in this first part, I'd like to ask you 5 _____ .

Let's talk about 6 _____ .

Why is this useful?

Every test starts the same way.

Learn these questions and you will feel calm at the start.

What do you need to bring?

Book p136 · 1.2

1.2 What do you need to bring to the Speaking test?

Tell your teacher.

Look at the script on the last slide. Which question helps you?

Think

What does the examiner ask to see?

WITH TEACHER

Watch Sanem

Book p136 · 1.3 · Video 1

1.3 Watch again. Focus on Sanem, the candidate.

1 Choose the best adjectives to describe Sanem:

shy · anxious · friendly · tense · calm · abrupt · confident

2 Which TWO descriptions apply to Sanem?

A She often looks down and avoids looking at the examiner.

B She makes good eye contact with the examiner.

C Her body language shows she is listening carefully.

D Her body language shows how nervous she is.

E The way she is sitting makes her seem a little rude.

Test tip

Make good eye contact from the moment you enter the room.

Answer in a polite and friendly way.

Good or bad in the test?

Book p137 · 1.4

1.4 **Tick (✓) or cross (×): which are appropriate in the Speaking test?**

A chewing gum because it helps you to stay calm

B drinking from a bottle of water

C checking your mobile phone

D using your mobile phone to time your interview

E wearing jeans and a T-shirt

F asking the examiner your score at the end of the test

G shrugging your shoulders to show you don't know or understand

H asking to leave the room for a moment during the test

Test tip

Arrive early so you are not hurrying.

If possible, visit the test centre before the day of your test.

TYPE IN THE CHAT

Let's talk about where you live

Book p137 · 2.1

2.1 Think: how would you answer these questions?

What do you like most about your home town/city? [Why?]

Is your home town/city a popular place for tourists to visit? [Why/Why not?]

Do you think your home town/city has changed much in recent years? [Why/Why not?]

Part 1

About 5 minutes.

Familiar topics: your family, your home, your likes and dislikes.

WITH TEACHER

The questions in brackets

2.2 **At the end of each question there are follow-up questions in brackets.**

Why do you think the examiner sometimes uses them?

[Why?] [Why/Why not?]

Discuss

When does the examiner NOT need them?

WITH TEACHER

Watch Emanuele

Book p137 · 2.3 · Video 2

2.3 **Watch Emanuele answer the questions. Which statement is true?**

A His answers are a little too short: the examiner needs to ask follow-up questions.

B He is clearly giving a prepared speech.

C He answers naturally and fully.

Test tip

The test is a natural conversation.

A prepared speech? The examiner will stop you and ask a different question.

3

Target 3 of 3

Present simple: be and verb + s

In Part 1 you talk about your life now:

"My hometown is very green. My brother works in a bank."

"I don't have much free time, but I like reading."

Watch Saida

Book p138 · 3.1 · Video 3

3.1 **Watch Saida answer questions about writing and music. Complete the examiner's questions.**

1 What different types _____ ?

2 Do you prefer _____ ?

3 Do you write _____ ?

4 Do you like to _____ ?

5 Let's talk about _____ .

Grammatical Range and Accuracy

One of the four things the examiner scores.

Use different tenses correctly.

Target 3 of 3 · Present simple: be and verb + s

BOOK + AUDIO

Which tense?

Book p138 · 3.2 · Video 3

3.2 What tense should you use to answer each question?

Look at questions 1–5 on the last slide.

Write the tense for each one.

Listen again. Does Saida use a range of tenses?

Test tip

Listen carefully to the tense in the question.

Yes / no question? Don't just say yes or no: give a reason.

The rules

Book p138 · Extra

be

I am

he / she / it is

you / we / they are

Every sentence needs a verb:

My family is big.

Other verbs

I / you / we / they work

he / she / it works

study → studies

go → goes have → has

Negative & questions

I don't work.

She doesn't work.

Do you work?

Does she work?

After doesn't: no -s

Find the mistakes

Book p138 · 3.3

3.3 **THREE extracts from Saida's answers have a grammar mistake. Find and correct them.**

1 I prefer to email.

2 If you send a letter by yourself, it means you are very appreciate this person.

3 It depends on the situation. For example, for my studies, I prefer to type on a computer, but for my essays, I prefer to write by hand.

4 I think less, because technology nowadays are really go fast.

5 Not actually.

6 I listen to music because it gives me energy.

Look at the verbs

Is there a verb?

Is there one verb too many?

Singular or plural?

TYPE IN THE CHAT

Find the mistakes: answers

Answers

2 … it means you really appreciate this person.

appreciate is a verb: no "are" before it

4 … technology nowadays is moving really fast.

technology = singular → is; only one verb

The third mistake: check with your teacher.

am, is or are?

Extra · optional · 4 min

1 My name _____ Najmiye.

2 I _____ a student.

3 My parents _____ teachers.

4 Riyadh _____ very hot in summer.

5 The people here _____ friendly.

6 Everyone in my family _____ busy.

Type in the chat

1 is 2 …

TYPE IN THE CHAT

am, is or are? Answers

Extra

Answers

1 is 2 am 3 are

4 is 5 are 6 is

everyone / everything / nobody → is

Correct the sentence

Extra · 5 min

1 Social media important for young people.

2 My sister work in a hospital.

3 He don't like coffee.

4 People is very busy today.

5 Everythings needs time.

6 It make me happy.

Each sentence has ONE mistake

Type the correct sentence.

TYPE IN THE CHAT

Correct the sentence: answers

Extra

Answers

1 Social media is important for young people.

2 My sister works in a hospital.

3 He doesn't like coffee.

4 People are very busy today.

5 Everything needs time.

6 It makes me happy.

Answer + Reason + Example

Extra · 8 min

Model answer

Do you work or are you a student?

Answer:

I'm a student. I study English every day.

Reason:

I need IELTS because I want to study at university.

Example:

For example, I practise speaking for two hours each day.

Your turn: use A + R + E

1 Where is your hometown?

2 What do you do in your free time?

3 Do you like cooking?

Check: a verb in every sentence?

Your turn: Part 1

Book p138 · 2.4

2.4 **Answer the questions. Don't use notes or a prepared answer.**

What food is typical of your home country? [Why do you think that is?]

Are there any special festivals or celebrations in your town/city? [Can you tell me about that?]

What advice would you give to a visitor to your town/city? [Why?]

Check

Answer + Reason + Example

A verb in every sentence

Your teacher records you

Part 1 topics

Extra · optional · 8 min

Home

Do you live in a house or a flat?

What is your favourite room?

Would you like to change anything?

Work or study

What do you do?

Why did you choose it?

What do you like about it?

Free time

What do you do at weekends?

Do you prefer to stay home or go out?

What hobby would you like to try?

Food

What food do you like?

Who cooks in your family?

Is food in Riyadh different from home?

Target 3 of 3 · Present simple: be and verb + s



WITH TEACHER

Mock Speaking Part 1

4–5 min

Like the real test

Your teacher is the examiner.

You answer 8–10 questions.

Your teacher records it.

Use A + R + E. Speak for 2–3 sentences.

Feedback checklist

- ☐ Every sentence has a verb
- ☐ he / she / it + s
- ☐ "th" with the tongue between the teeth
- ☐ Answers are 2–3 sentences long
- ☐ Not too many long pauses
- ☐ 2.5: Did you answer fully, without the [questions in brackets]?

Homework

For Day 2

1 Spelling

Learn your 10 spelling-list words.

Spelling test at the start of Day 2.

2 Book

Finish any exercises we didn't finish (p15–17, p136–138).

1.5 (p137): video yourself answering Part 1 questions. Check your body language.

3 Speaking

Record 3 answers to Part 1 questions (1 minute each).

Send them to your teacher.

4 Writing

Write 8 sentences about your hometown.

Underline the verb in every sentence.