

# IELTS™

## IELTS Online

**Take it anywhere  
—to make it anywhere**

Guide for test takers





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# What is IELTS Online?

**IELTS Online is a new convenient way to take IELTS Academic.\***

It has the same test content as IELTS on computer and IELTS on paper taken in a test centre, but you can take it from the comfort of your own home or private space.



\*IELTS Online is for IELTS Academic only. It is not suitable for immigration purposes.

# Why choose IELTS Online



## Four skills

Tests all four skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking



## Flexible

Offers a range of test dates to choose from



## Human

Includes an online Speaking test with a human Examiner



## Secure

Is remotely proctored to ensure fair results that reflect your ability



## Accessible

Can be taken from any private space with a stable internet connection






## Fast results

Delivers electronic results within 3–6 days



# How is IELTS Online different from IELTS in a test centre?

Feature	 <b>IELTS Online</b> (taken at home or a private location)	 <b>IELTS on computer</b> (taken in-centre)	 <b>IELTS on paper</b> (taken in-centre)
Covers all 4 English skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking	✓	✓	✓
Face-to-face Speaking test with an official IELTS Examiner	✓	✓	✓
Available for IELTS Academic test	✓	✓	✓
Available for IELTS General Training test	✗	✓	✓
Available for UKVI (UK Visas & Immigration) and other migration purposes	✗	✓	✓
Results within	3–6 days after the test	3–6 days after the test	13 days after the test
Globally accepted	✓ Not for immigration	✓	✓
Receive a Test Report Form	✓ Electronic only	✓	✓
Listening and Reading tests marked electronically	✓	✓	✗
Writing and Speaking tests marked by official IELTS Examiners	✓	✓	✓
Globally available	✓ From 2022	✓	✓
Can be taken anywhere	✓ Private room with stable internet connection	✗ Must be taken in-centre	✗ Must be taken in-centre

# Preparation for your IELTS Online test

**The best way to get the score you need with IELTS Online is to prepare for it.**

We have created a range of preparation materials so that you know what to expect to perform your best on test day:



Watch How the Speaking test works online



Watch IELTS Online tutorial videos



Purchase IELTS Progress Check



Practise with IELTS Sample test questions



# Before the test

## Setting up



### Create the right environment:

- secure a quiet, private space
- ensure it is well lit
- make sure you will not be interrupted.



You should have your computer/laptop with working speakers, microphone and camera.

Make sure your computer/laptop is charged and is connected to the charger during the test.

You will also need a mobile phone or tablet with a camera for use during the room scan.

To log in to your test you will need your username, password and PIN. Take a photo of these with your mobile phone or tablet.



Make sure no one else is in the room with you.



Headphones are not allowed for any part of the test.



### Items NOT allowed during the test:

- watches or jewellery
- electronic devices
- paper, pens or pencils
- reference materials.



### Items you ARE allowed during the test:

- water contained in a transparent glass or plastic bottle (without any labels).

You MUST have:

- your passport used for booking the test
- a mobile phone or tablet with a camera for the room scan (must be moved out of reach after the room scan).



# Before the test

## Setting up

The basic requirements for taking the test are:

### Technical requirements

Most Windows and Mac computers are suitable for IELTS Online.

We encourage you to check our technical requirements for taking IELTS Online, which include:



- speed of internet connection
- computer model and operating system
- downloading Inspira Exam Portal software
- internet browser updates.

Check the full list of technical requirements on our website:

[ielts.org/ielts-online-requirements](https://ielts.org/ielts-online-requirements)

### Download Inspira Exam Portal



Once you have booked your test, you will be emailed a link to download the Inspira Exam Portal. We recommend you do this at least a day before your test to carry out pre-test system checks. If your pre-test system checks fail, restart your device and make sure no additional screen is connected to your computer/laptop. If the problem persists, contact our support team.



# Before the test

## Understanding the format

It is important to understand the test format before you sit your test:

- The Speaking test usually comes first, and is taken on its own, at a time you select.
- Your Listening, Reading and Writing tests are all taken together, at a separate time you select.

The duration and format of each test is the same as IELTS taken in a test centre.



### Speaking

**11–14 minutes**  
**3 parts**



### Listening

**30 minutes**  
**4 parts**  
**40 items**



### Reading

**60 minutes**  
**3 sections**  
**40 items**



### Writing

**60 minutes**  
**2 tasks**

**Total duration 2 hours 30 minutes**

# Speaking test

The IELTS Online Speaking test is with a human Examiner, delivered in real time via an online video call.

## The Speaking test is in three parts:



Introduce yourself.  
Part 1 lasts for 4–5 minutes.



You will be given a particular topic. You then have 1 minute to prepare (you will be able to type notes) before speaking for up to 2 minutes.  
Part 2 lasts for 3–4 minutes.



Discuss the topic of Part 2 in more detail with the Examiner.  
Part 3 lasts for 4–5 minutes.



Watch an overview of the **online Speaking test** on our YouTube channel.



# Listening, Reading and Writing tests

## 2 hours 30 minutes



### Listening 30 minutes

The Listening test consists of four recordings, each accompanied by 10 questions. You will hear the recordings only once. The recordings include:

- an everyday conversation between two people
- a monologue set in an everyday social context
- a conversation between up to four people set in an educational or training context
- a monologue on an academic subject.

The 40 questions are in a range of formats, which you can learn more about here:

[ielts.org/for-test-takers/test-format](https://ielts.org/for-test-takers/test-format)





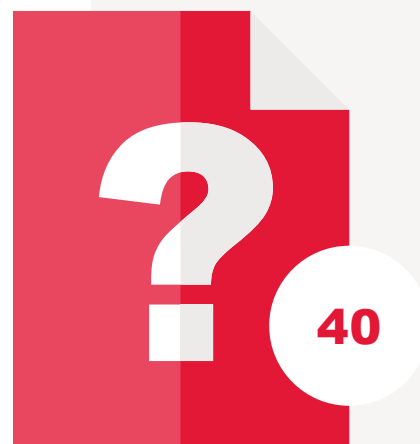
## Reading 60 minutes

The Reading test has 40 questions.

It has three texts each with 13 or 14 accompanying questions. The texts are taken from a range of sources including books, journals, magazines and newspapers.

A variety of question types are used, chosen from the following: multiple choice, identifying information, identifying the writer's views/claims, matching information, matching headings, matching features, matching sentence endings, sentence completion, summary completion, note completion, table completion, flow-chart completion, diagram label completion and short-answer questions. You can learn about these question types in more detail here:

[ielts.org/for-test-takers/test-format](https://ielts.org/for-test-takers/test-format)



## Writing 60 minutes

The Writing section consists of two tasks, both of which must be completed.

**Task 1** – Describe visual information such as a graph, table, chart or diagram in your own words (recommended timing: 20 minutes)

**Task 2** – Respond to a point of view, argument or problem (recommended timing: 40 minutes)

You can learn about these tasks in more detail here:

[ielts.org/for-test-takers/test-format](https://ielts.org/for-test-takers/test-format)



# Test day

## Preparation checklist

Use this checklist to make sure you have everything you need for your IELTS Online test.



### On the day of your test...

- ✓ **Check the emails** you received about IELTS Online and have your **username, password** and **PIN codes** ready. Please note there are **two PIN codes**: one for Speaking, and another for Listening, Reading and Writing.
- ✓ Make sure you have downloaded the **Inspera Exam Portal** and completed your **pre-test system checks**.
- ✓ Double check your **test start time**.
- ✓ **Close all browser windows**.

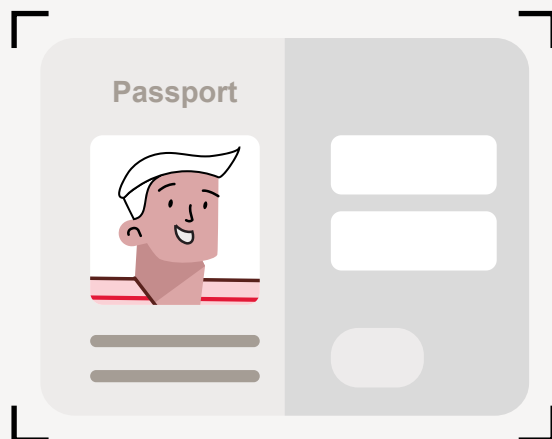
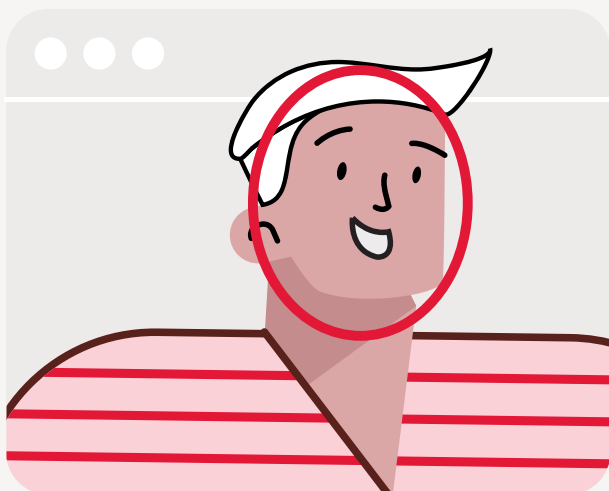
You may need to take a **photo** of these to use when logging in.



### Just before you begin...

- ✓ Make sure your **speakers** and **microphone** are on.
- ✓ Check your **camera** is switched on and uncovered.
- ✓ Make sure your **face is visible**.
- ✓ Have the **passport** you registered with to hand.
- ✓ Have a **mobile phone** or **tablet** with a **camera** to assist with the room scan. This must be turned off and moved out of reach once the room scan is complete.
- ✓ Remove from your desk area any **prohibited items**, which are listed in the IELTS Online Test Taker Terms and Conditions.





**Take photo**



## Taking your photo

To confirm your identity you will be asked to take a photo of yourself and the photo page of your passport with the camera on your laptop or desktop computer.

**To make sure your photo is accepted follow these simple steps:**

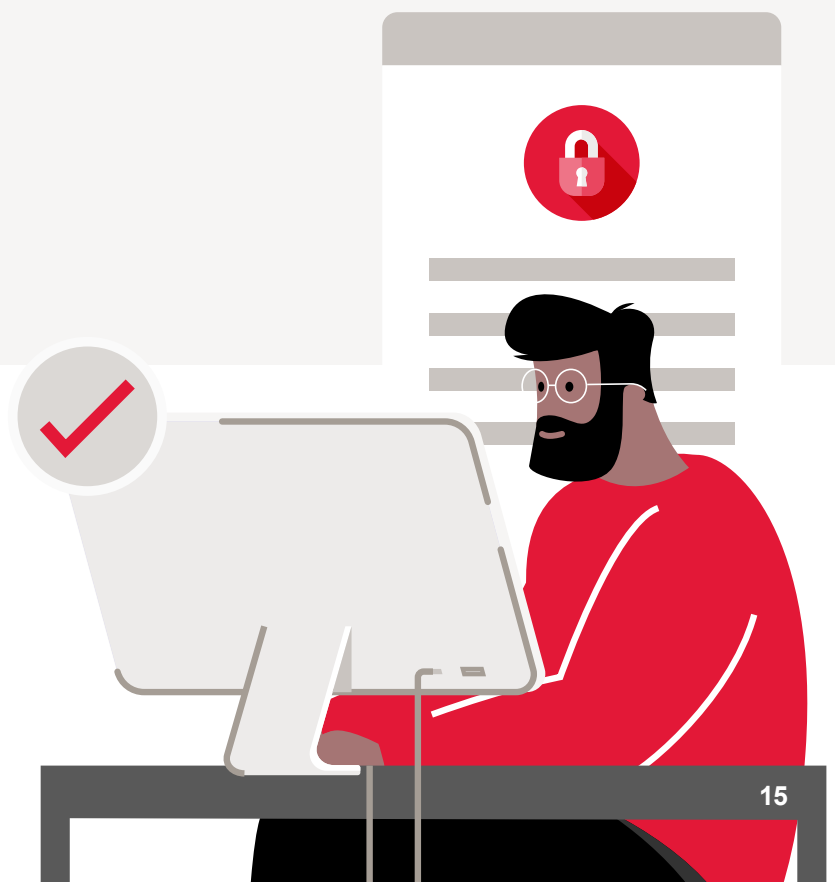
- 1 The room must be well lit. Make sure your light is on and you can be clearly seen.
- 2 Your face should be visible.
- 3 Position your face in the centre of the frame on the screen and click 'Take photo'. You will get a notification that it is approved or needs to be taken again.
- 4 Position the photo page of your passport in the frame on the screen and click 'Take photo'. You will get a notification that it is approved or needs to be taken again.

# Test day

## Log in to the Speaking test

- 1 Launch the **Inspera Exam Portal** 15 minutes before your test start time
- 2 Log in with your **username** and **password**
- 3 Select the Speaking test and enter the **Speaking PIN code\***
- 4 Check your audio and video
- 5 To **confirm your identity**:
  - take a photo of yourself
  - take a photo of the photo page of the passport you registered with.
- 6 Join the waiting room, and wait to be told when you are entering the test environment
- 7 Present your passport to the Speaking Examiner
- 8 Take your test with the Examiner (11–14 minutes, once admitted)
- 9 Exit the test when the Examiner says the test has finished

**Test day support:** There is a Live Chat option available during the test to support you.



\*You will receive two different PIN codes: one for your Speaking test and another for your Listening, Reading and Writing tests.

# Test day

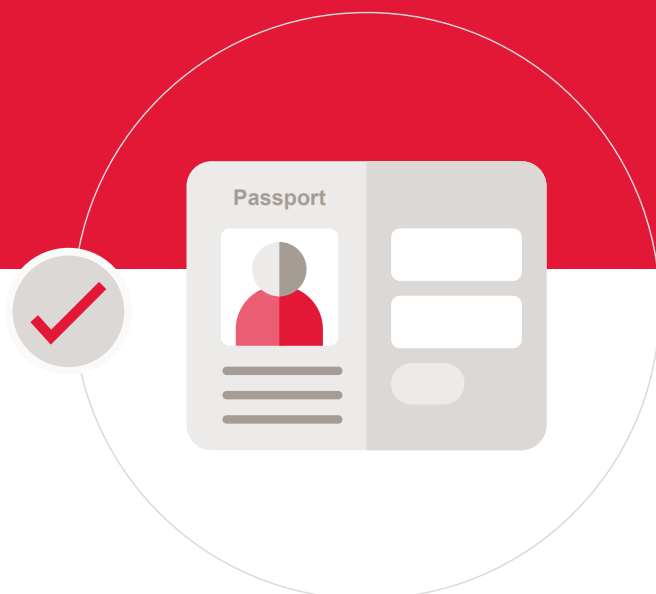
## Log in to the Listening, Reading and Writing tests

**These three tests are taken together.**

- 1 Launch the **Inspira Exam Portal** 15 minutes before your test start time
- 2 Log in with your **username** and **password**
- 3 Select the Listening, Reading and Writing test and enter the **Listening, Reading and Writing PIN code\***
- 4 Complete the system checks, which are done automatically by **Inspira Exam Portal**
- 5 Your test recording and proctoring begins now
- 6 To **confirm your identity**:
  - take a photo of yourself
  - take a photo of the photo page of the passport you registered with.
- 7 Join the waiting room, and wait to be told when you are entering the test environment
- 8 Meet your IELTS proctor. They will check your identity, complete a room scan and go through the test day rules
- 9 Once the test starts, your browser and operating system will be locked down. You will not be able to access anything other than the test platform
- 10 During the test do not click the 'Exit' button unless you are instructed to do so. At the end of the test do not shut down your computer until **Inspira Exam Portal** has fully closed

**Test day support:** There is a Live Chat option available during the test to support you.

\*You will receive two different PIN codes: one for your Speaking test and another for your Listening, Reading and Writing tests.



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# Test day

## Security during the test

To ensure the validity of your IELTS Online test result, we have a number of security measures in place.



These include:

**1 Secure test design**

**3 Passport verification**

**2 Remote proctoring**

**4 Browser and system lockdown**  
You cannot access other programs on your computer during the test.

# Test day

## Security during the test

### Remote proctoring explained

#### What is a remote proctor?

An IELTS invigilator who will monitor your Listening, Reading and Writing tests online, just as they would if you took your test at a test centre.

#### Why do we need remote proctors?

Having remote proctors ensures that IELTS Online maintains the high security standards set by IELTS and trusted by recognising organisations.

#### Will I see the remote proctor?

No. They will only appear if something seems wrong, or if you raise your hand to take a bathroom break or to ask a question.

#### Can I speak to the proctor?

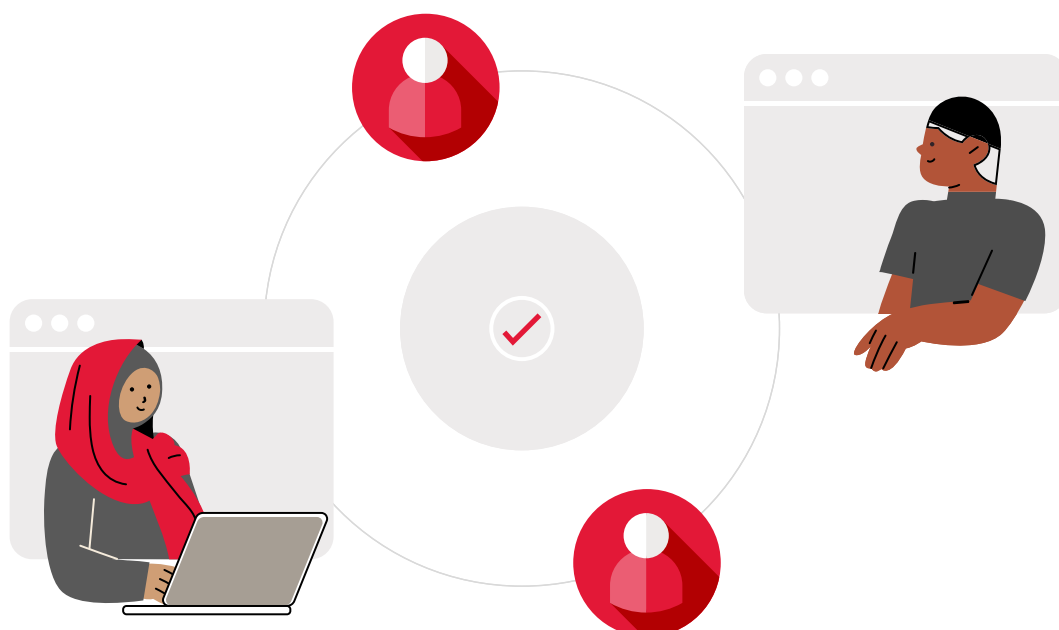
Yes, you can contact the proctor by raising your hand and waiting for them to contact you.

#### Why is there no remote proctor for my Speaking test?

Your Speaking test takes place with an IELTS Examiner via an online video call. The Examiner performs all the necessary checks themselves.

#### Can the proctor still see me after the test?

The proctor will only be able to see you during the test. Once your time is up, both you and the proctor will exit the Inspera Exam Portal and access to your camera will be stopped.





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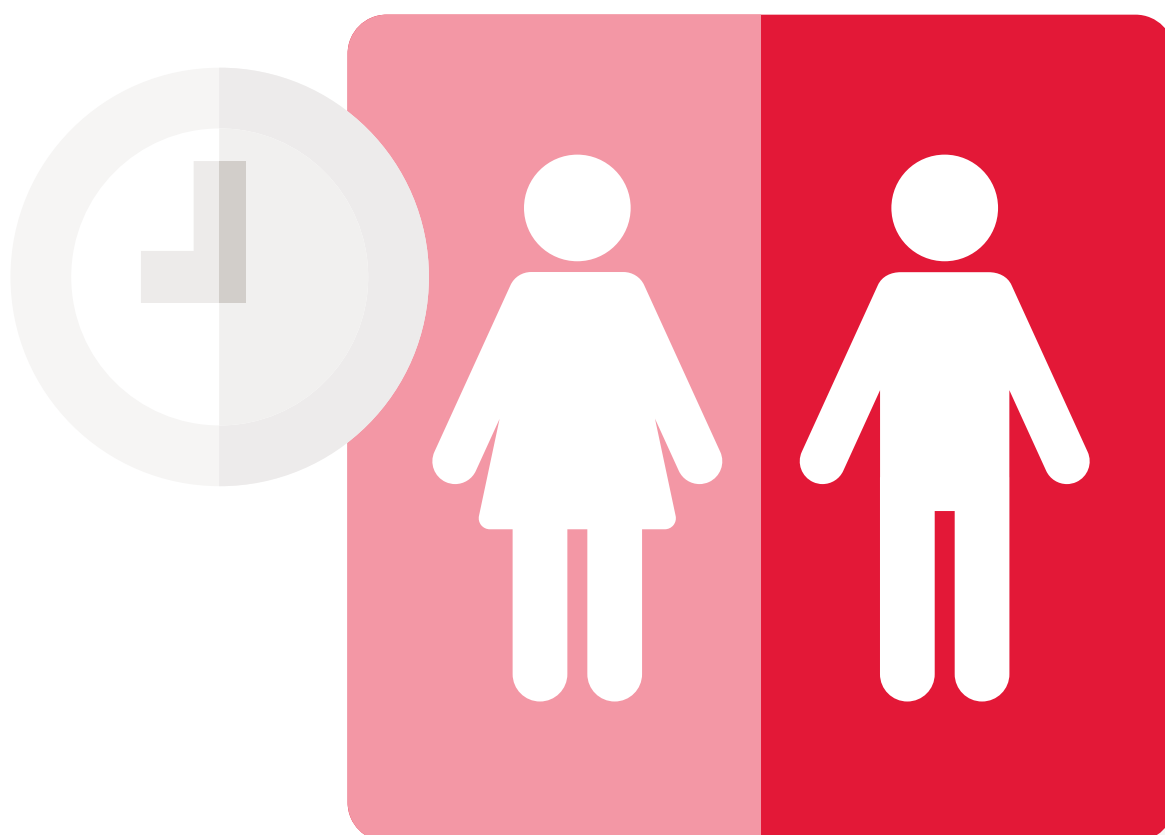
## Bathroom breaks

You are allowed one 5-minute bathroom break during your Listening, Reading and Writing tests.

This must be taken in between tests – e.g. between the end of the Listening test and the start of the Reading test.

To take a bathroom break, raise your hand and wait for the proctor to call you. Do not leave your desk without the permission of the proctor.

When you return from your bathroom break you will need to have your identity and room checked again.



## Dos and Don'ts



### Do

- ✓ Be in a private, clean, well-lit room
- ✓ Sit or stand at a desk so that you are comfortable for the whole test
- ✓ Have only one screen to take your test on
- ✓ Have a mobile phone or tablet with a camera to complete the room scan. This must be switched off and placed out of reach when the room scan is finished
- ✓ Have your camera on at all times
- ✓ Ensure your face is visible throughout the test
- ✓ Allow the proctor to inspect personal items as required
- ✓ Avoid looking away from the screen too frequently.



### Don't

- ✗ Have anyone else in the room with you
- ✗ Have any prohibited items (listed in the IELTS Online Test Taker Terms and Conditions)
- ✗ Be in a crowded space with other people and distractions around
- ✗ Use headphones
- ✗ Leave your desk at any point unless for a bathroom break authorised by the proctor.

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# After the test

## Your results and scoring

You will receive your results  
3–6 days after taking your test.

You will receive an email telling you  
your results are available and how  
to access them.

IELTS Online uses the same scoring  
system as IELTS in a test centre.

To read more about how IELTS  
is scored, visit [ielts.org/scores](https://ielts.org/scores)





## Contact and support

The email you receive after booking IELTS Online includes the details of who to contact for support.

We also have a Live Chat option during the test to support you.



## FAQs

For further information, please read the [IELTS Online FAQs](#)



# Always more choice with IELTS

Now available to take in a test centre  
(on paper or on computer) or online in  
a private location. You can choose how,  
when and where you take your test.  
IELTS gives you more ways than ever  
to succeed.

Find out more at [ielts.org](https://ielts.org)



[ieltsofficial](https://www.instagram.com/ieltsofficial)



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[ieltsofficial](https://www.youtube.com/ieltsofficial)



[ielts-official](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ielts-official)

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