

## Mesleki İngilizce - Technical English

Dr. Görkem SERBES

1

11

- Notes:
  - In the slides,
    - You will find information about the **IELTS** (The International English Language Testing System).
    - You will learn how to be successful in academic writing tasks.

2

### IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

- **IELTS** is the International English Language Testing System, the world's most popular English language test.
- It is designed to determine the level of English skills of people whose first language is not English. IELTS is the most demanded test of English for study and immigration, being taken by more than **2 million people each year**.
- IELTS is jointly owned by **British Council, IDP: IELTS Australia and Cambridge English Language Assessment** through more than 1,000 test centres and locations in over 140 countries.

3

### Why take IELTS?

#### 1. General recognition

- IELTS is the world's **most popular English proficiency test**. It is accepted by more than 9,000 organisations worldwide. So after taking IELTS your level of English will be confirmed and recognized worldwide!

#### 2. Education

- IELTS is required to study:
  - in the universities and colleges of UK, Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand;
  - in other universities where subjects are taught in English;
  - on the foundation program.

4

### Why take IELTS? (Cont.)

#### 3. Work

- IELTS is usually required to work:
  - in English-speaking countries;
  - in organizations where knowledge of English is important.

#### 4. Immigration

- IELTS is required for immigration in UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

5

### Academic vs. General

There are two versions of IELTS: **Academic** and **General**.

1. Certificate of **Academic IELTS** is used for admission to schools, colleges and universities in English-speaking countries.
  2. The certificate **General Training IELTS** (and sometimes Academic IELTS) is mandatory for all who wish to immigrate to or work in UK, Canada, Australia, USA, New Zealand, etc.
- It is advised not to consider a report older than two years to be valid, unless the user proves that he/she has worked to maintain his/her level of English.

6

## IELTS Parts

IELTS consists of 4 parts:

### Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking

- The total time of IELTS is 2 hours 45 minutes. The listening, reading and writing parts are completed in one sitting in a common exam auditorium, while the speaking part is taken individually with an examiner on the same day or up to week before or after the other tests.
- Listening and Speaking modules *are the same* for Academic and General IELTS, while Reading and Writing modules *are different*.
- All the parts are evaluated on a scale from 0 to 9 points. The **total score** is counted as arithmetic mean of the four section scores.

7

## IELTS results

- The results are issued 13 days after the test.
- There is no minimum score required to pass IELTS. **IELTS score is evaluated on a scale from 0 to 9 points.** The IELTS certificate is a **Test Report Form**. It is issued to all test takers with a score from "band 1" (non-user) to "band 9" (expert user) and each institution sets a different threshold.
- Most top universities require 6.0-7.0 overall IELTS score for admission.
- Each IELTS score corresponds to some level of English proficiency. Bands are described as follows:

8

## IELTS results

Band	Description
9.0	Expert user
8.0	Very good user
7.0	Good user
6.0	Competent user
5.0	Modest user
4.0	Limited user
3.0	Extremely limited user
2.0	Intermittent user
1.0	Non user

9

## IELTS Writing

- IELTS Writing test is made to assess your writing skills and techniques.
- There are two IELTS Writing modules: **Academic** and **General**. If you plan to **study abroad**, then you should take IELTS **Academic module**. And if you wish to **work abroad**, then you should take **IELTS General module**.
- **IELTS Writing test lasts 1 hour and consists of 2 parts:** task 1 and task 2.
- Writing task 1 is different for Academic and General IELTS, but Writing task 2 is the same for both modules.

10

## IELTS Writing

- In Academic Writing task 1 you're asked to describe a graph, chart or diagram.
- And in General Writing task 1 you have to write a letter to someone.
- In Writing task 2 you have to write an essay on a given topic.

11

## IELTS Academic Writing

- IELTS Academic Writing module lasts 60 minutes and has 2 tasks, which must both be completed.
- Although it is recommended to spend approximately 20 minutes on task 1 and about 40 minutes on task 2, you can divide your time between two sections the way you prefer.

Nº	Task	Words minimum	Recommended time
<b>Task 1</b>	Describe a graph, table, chart or diagram	150 words	20 minutes
<b>Task 2</b>	Write an essay giving your opinion and justifying it	250 words	40 minutes

12

## Academic IELTS Writing Task 1

- In this task you need to describe or summarize visualized data, such as graph, chart, table, diagram, process or scheme. You should write **at least 150 words** in this task.

You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

The graph below shows tourism statistics among Venezuelan students from 2011 to 2014. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.

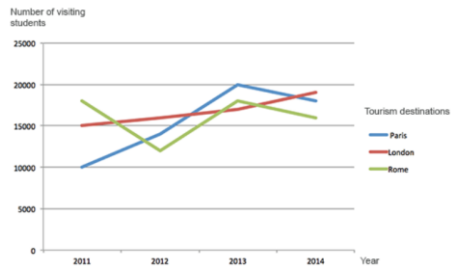
Write at least 150 words.



This is how your question card for Writing task 1 will look like

13

## Academic IELTS Writing Task 1 (Cont.)



14

## Academic IELTS Writing Task 2

- This task is the same for Academic and General modules.
- This is more challenging task. You should write an essay on a given topic, presenting your point of view and supporting it with relevant arguments. You should write **at least 250 words** in this task.

You should spend about 40 minutes on this task.

Write about the following topic:

**Does Internet need to be controlled by the government?**

Justify your answer.

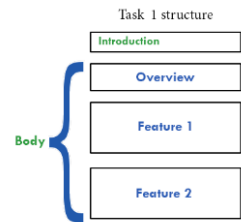
Write at least 250 words.

15

## How to answer IELTS Academic Writing task 1?

To get the highest score, you can follow this answer structure:

1. Introduction
2. General overview
3. Specific features

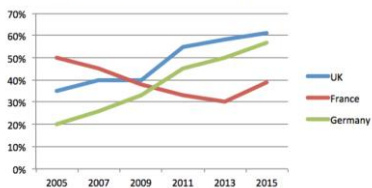


16

## IELTS Academic Writing task 1 - Example

The line graph below shows the household recycling rates in three different countries between 2005 and 2015. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Regional household recycling rates



17

## Writing task 1 - Introduction

- The first paragraph you need to write is your introduction.
- For the introduction you need simply to **paraphrase the information from your topic** (make sure that you mention what your graph shows and for what period of time).
- It shouldn't be longer than 2 sentences.

- And this is a possible way to write your introduction:

*The line graph illustrates the regional household recycling rates in the UK, France and Germany from 2005 to 2015.*

18

## Writing task 1 - Introduction

Original:

The **line graph** below **shows** the household recycling rates in **three different countries** **between 2005 and 2015**.

*Your Introduction:*

*The **line graph** illustrates the regional household recycling rates in the **UK, France and Germany** from 2005 to 2015.*

19

## Writing task 1 - Overview

- When **giving a general overview**, you shouldn't state any specific details, you should simply write what's happening on the graph overall.
- It's a good technique to write 'Overall,' before giving an overview.

- **In this example it could be done as follows:**

*Overall, the recycling rates of the UK and Germany showed a steady but significant rise over the period, while the percentage of recycled waste in France experienced a downward trend.*

- Basically, you're saying that UK and Germany's rates ↑ , France's rates ↓ . It's very important to give an overview, your essay will score much lower without it!

20

## Writing task 1 - Specific features

- After you've given the overview, you should **group data by some feature** and **give specific details**. In this line graph you can group data in two ways:

**a) by country**

Describe each country's recycling rates in a separate paragraph

**b) by similar trend**

As you can see, the UK and Germany followed a similar trend: their recycling rates were increasing throughout the period, while recycling rates of France experienced a fall. So you can describe an **"increase pattern"** in the first paragraph and a **"decrease pattern"** in the second paragraph.

21

## Writing task 1 - Specific features

**A possible example can be written as below:**

- *In 2005 the recycling rates of the UK and Germany were nearly 35% and 20% respectively. Germany's rate increased sharply throughout the period, exceeding France's rate in 2009 and reaching almost 60% in the end of the period. In the meantime, the percentage of recycled waste in the UK grew to 40% in 2007, and then remained steady until 2009. During 2009-2011 it experienced a rapid surge to more than 50% and continued with a gradual increase to 60% in 2015.*
- *In early 2005 the recycling rate of France (50%) was the highest among these three countries. However, it dramatically declined to 30% in 2013. Then, there was a growth of 10% in 2015, but France's recycling rate was the lowest in the end of the period.*

22

## How to answer IELTS Academic Writing task 2?

You can be asked to give your opinion, to state solutions to some problem, to describe advantages and disadvantages of something and so on.

Here is the question card:

Immigration has a major impact on the society.

What are the main reasons of immigration?

To what consequences can it lead?

23

## Academic Writing task 2 - Example

- To write a band 9 essay you should first of all choose your arguments to answer the questions from the topic.
- You don't have to find some complicated ideas. Remember: you won't be judged upon the quality of your thoughts, you will be judged upon the quality of your writing.
- So even simple, but well-written arguments can often give you a band 9 writing.

24

## Academic Writing task 2 - Example

- **In this essay you're asked about:**
  - Reasons why people immigrate
  - Results of immigration
- **Some of the possible arguments:**
  - *Reasons of immigration:*
    - People want to live in a safe country
    - People search better jobs with higher salaries
    - People escape from wars/disasters
  - *Results of immigration:*
    - People's expectations come true / don't come true
    - Immigrants face other difficulties
    - Countries of destination have to give money to support refugees
    - Overpopulation

25

## Writing task 2 - How to structure the answer?

- **Introduction:** simply rephrase the topic and say what this essay is about. When your essay question asks you about reasons/consequences or causes/solutions, you shouldn't try to describe all that in your introduction. Instead, state that you'll describe them later in your essay.
- **Body paragraphs:**
  - paragraph 1: main reasons of immigration
  - paragraph 2: main consequences of immigration
- **Conclusion:** sum up the ideas from body paragraphs and briefly give your opinion.

26

## Writing task 2 – Possible Answer

*Immigration has a significant impact on the contemporary society. Each year, more and more people from all over the world decide to leave their home countries and move to another place. This essay will examine the reasons and the consequences of immigration.*

*In my view, the main reason of immigration is a strong desire of better life quality and safe future. A lot of people from so-called Third World move to developed countries in search of better employment opportunities, and therefore, higher incomes. Moreover, living in a wealthy country implies living in a country with stable economy, so risks of losing their savings also lessen. For example, labour migration from Mexico to the USA is caused by these facts. Other reasons that force whole families to cross borders are wars and various cultural conflicts in their homeland. Many people migrate, seeking security and safe future for their children. For instance, most of the refugees who arrived in the European Union were escaping from wars.*

27

## Writing task 2 – Possible Answer

*However, sometimes immigration causes more problems than it solves, resulting in negative consequences for both immigrants and their countries of destination. First of all, most of the refugees can't find jobs because of the lack of language skills and difficulties in adaptation. That's why the countries have to run various refugee assistance programs to help those people. But disproportionate burden of maintaining the immigrants leads to tension in the society. Secondly, not all of the refugees receive proper asylum, food and medical care. So they are at risk even after crossing the border. Finally, even highly qualified specialists, who seek better employment, often don't get what they are looking for.*

*In conclusion, I think that people immigrate to have better life prospects. However, life after immigration may not always meet people's expectations. So it's very important to consider all the possible outcomes and decide whether leaving your homeland is worth it.*

28

## References

<http://ielts-up.com/writing>

29