



What is IELTS?

IELTS is the **International English Language Testing System** which tests English proficiency across the globe. Conducting 1.4 million tests annually, IELTS is the world's most popular English testing system. An IELTS score of **6.5** is required for entry to most UK universities.

Language Skills Tested:

- ✓ **Listening:** dialogues, instructions, lectures
- ✓ **Speaking:** conversation, presentation, discussion
- ✓ **Reading:** technical and academic texts
- ✓ **Writing:** academic reports and essays

IELTS Topics:

History and Society	Architecture and Engineering
Science and ICT	Urbanisation and Globalisation
The Environment	Business and Law
Space and the Planets	Health and Fitness
Language and Linguistics	Travel and Tourism
Media and the Arts	The Natural World

IELTS Test Structure:

Listening 30 minutes	Reading 60 minutes	Writing 60 minutes	Speaking 14 minutes
4 Sections 40 Questions	3 Sections 40 Questions	Report (150 words) Essay (250 words)	Conversation, Presentation, Discussion

IELTS levels:

Every week you will do practice tests and your progress will be tracked throughout the year.

- 9: Expert User
- 8: Very Good User
- 7: Good User
- 6: Competent User
- 5: Modest User
- 4: Limited User
- 3: Extremely Limited

IELTS Levels required for academic study at Rastrick International College

One year GCSE Programme	IELTS 4.5
Two year A-level Programme [AS/A2]	IELTS 5.0
18 month A-level Programme [AS/A2]	IELTS 5.5

Students must achieve the required level in all 4 elements of the IELTS test unless permission is given by the Principal.

IELTS level required for entry to university in the UK:

All students on IELTS courses at Rastrick International College must continue to study IELTS until they achieve an overall score of **6.5** or above. This is to ensure that you have the required level for entry to university. However, some competitive university courses such as medicine, dentistry or law may require students to achieve higher levels in one or more of the skills. We can provide extra classes if necessary to help you to achieve your required score. The new UKBA guidelines, which came into force on 21st April 2011, require all students to achieve an IELTS score in each element of at least **5.5** in order to receive a visa to study at a UK university.

Taking the IELTS test You must take the IELTS test at an official IELTS centre.

You should ask your teachers for advice about when to take your test and try to book it as early as possible. Test centres can become fully booked, especially in June and July, so leaving it to the last minute may result in you having to travel to another city or even to take it in your home country.