

COMPREHENSIVE
GUIDE TO A BAND 7.0
FOR DUMMIES



IELTS
Reading Module



VICTOR DANIEL

INTRODUCTION

Hey wait there!

I know what's going on in your mind right now...

...to skip this part to the other chapters, right?

But I'll advise that you take it gently, one step at a time.

At least get to know me. 😊

Okay, my name is Instructor Daniel, and I am an exam trainer with 3 years of teaching experience.

And within this period, I have been able to coach over 6,000 people in my free classes and over 500 successful IELTS candidates in my Masterclasses.

Over the years, I have spent much time practicing, and testing strategies that can help people beat this exam with lesser efforts and I can beat my chest that I have found the CRACK CODE.

I'd like to share it with you; hence, the writing of this book.

This book is my little way to contribute to your onward success, and I hope and pray that the information that you'll be reading here will help you achieve your dream band score, at least in the Reading Module, just as it has helped others in the past.

Won't you say amen? 😊

Now you're following. 😎

Alright, let me quickly give you a breakdown of what this book covers.

First, I'll be telling you what the IELTS is all about, then I'll go on to tell you about the different things that can guarantee your high performance in this module.

After that, I'll show you a quick overview of what the Reading Module question types entails, and as though that's not enough, I'll show you my step-by-step process on how you can excel in each of the question types.

Then, I'll be dropping my 2 cents (counsel/advice whatever you may call it), then I'll be adding various questionnaires that you can use for your practice session.

Finally, even though I think this should be the first thing that you must have done - gain access to our Telegram Community.

That's the only litmus test that you truly bought this book.

So if you paid for this book, and you didn't get access to Telegram community, reach out to me via our email address below

Apexieltsacademy33@gmail.com

And I'll add you to it, if I deemed you fit.

Now let's dive into the deep waters of the IELTS Reading Module.



Chapter 1

Introduction to the IELTS Reading Module

Let me start by introducing the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) Reading Module to you.

One thing I must spell out emphatically is that the IELTS Reading Module is a crucial component of the IELTS exam that is designed to assess your reading skills in the English language.

Whether you're aiming to study abroad, work in an English-speaking country, or simply improve your language proficiency, gaining mastery of the IELTS Reading Module should be a priority if you plan on getting your dream score.

The most important thing you should know about this module is that it is specifically designed to evaluate your ability to comprehend and extract information from a variety of texts, ranging from

everyday language (General Training Reading Texts) to more complex academic or specialized content (Academic Reading Text).

It is also important to know that the IELTS Reading test is available in both the Academic and General Training versions, and each of them is tailored to suit the specific needs of the supposed test takers.

Overview of Question Types

Now let me give you a surface insight into what the IELTS Reading Module Question Types is all about.

Listen, it will interest you to know that within the IELTS Reading Module, you'll encounter a diverse range of question types that challenge different aspects of your reading skills.

These question types include:

1. **Multiple Choice**: These questions require you to select the correct answer from a set of options.

2. **True/False/Not Given**: You need to determine if statements provided in the text match the information given, are false, or are not mentioned.

3. **Yes/No/Not Given**: You need to determine if the statement given as the writer's claim matches the information in text as yes, no or not even mentioned at all.

4. **Matching Information to Paragraphs**: These questions require you to match information or features to a list provided in the text.

5. **Matching Headings to Paragraphs**: This type of question involves matching headings or titles to specific paragraphs or sections of the text.

6. Matching Features and Classifications: You'll be given a list of features or classifications, and you'll be required to match the statements or information given to you in the question area to the features/classifications given.

7. Matching Sentence Endings: You will be presented with a set of incomplete sentences or sentence stems, often numbered or lettered, and a list of possible endings or completions, and you'll be required to match the the sentence stem to the most suitable endings that corresponds with the information in the text.

8. Short Answer Questions: These questions require you to answer questions using a few words or a short phrase.

9. Summary Completion: You'll complete a summary of the text using words from the passage.

10. Completion Tasks: You'll be asked to complete sentences by filling in the missing words.

Scoring Criteria and Band Descriptors

Now let's talk about how you can end up scoring a minimum of 7.0 band score.

You should know that your performance in the IELTS Reading Module will be assessed based on a holistic assessment of various reading skills.

This in turn dictates the number of correct answers you'll be getting at the end of the day, as it should also be in line with the band scores you'll get at the end of the test.

But why is this important you may ask?

Well, the truth is, as long as you want to achieve something, you need to make it a S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time bound) goal.

Which is why I decided to show you an approximate breakdown of the number of correct answers you'll need to get if you intend on hitting your dream band score.

For those taking the Academic IELTS:

- Band 9: 39-40 correct answers out of 40
- Band 8: 37-38 correct answers
- Band 7: 34-36 correct answers
- Band 6: 30-33 correct answers
- Band 5: 23-29 correct answers
- Band 4: 16-22 correct answers
- Band 3: 10-15 correct answers
- Band 2: 6-9 correct answers
- Band 1: 3-5 correct answers
- Band 0: 0-2 correct answers (or did not attempt the test)

While for those taking the General Training IELTS:

- Band 9: 40 correct answers out of 40
- Band 8: 38-39 correct answers
- Band 7: 34-37 correct answers
- Band 6: 30-33 correct answers
- Band 5: 23-29 correct answers
- Band 4: 15-22 correct answers
- Band 3: 10-14 correct answers
- Band 2: 6-9 correct answers
- Band 1: 3-5 correct answers
- Band 0: 0-2 correct answers (or did not attempt the test)

By now, you should know the number of correct answers you'll need to get in order to get your desired band score, right?

Now let's move on to the part where I show you how to get it done.

Chapter 2

Developing Effective Reading Strategies

In order to excel in the IELTS Reading Module and achieve that coveted Band 7.0+ score, it's important to develop a set of effective reading strategies.

These strategies not only enhance your comprehension skills but also help you manage your time efficiently during the test.

Let's explore some key techniques that will set you on the path to success.

SKIMMING

You need to know how to SKIM effectively.

This means that you should be able to read the text in such a way that your focus is not on WORDS as that might slow you down.

Instead, your focus should be on the main idea of sentences.

For example:

"After completing his degree, John decided to pursue further studies in a different field, which he believed would enhance his career prospects."

You'll agree with me that the main idea behind the complex sentence above is that John has made a decision to further his studies in a different field after completing his degree. Right?

That's how your skimming should look like.

Which is why it is safe to say that:

Skimming = Comprehension/Understanding.

So to say...

Your skimming is not complete unless you have an understanding of what the passage entails.

→ **SCANNING**

You need to know how to SCAN

Before I say anything about scanning, you need to know that:

Scanning = Finding/Searching

The reason why I am explaining it this way is so that you can assimilate what I am saying irrespective of your current level of English proficiency.

Understood?

Okay, let's continue.

You need to know that because the IELTS Reading Module texts (especially the academic texts and the 3rd section of the general training test) are quite lengthy...

...you'll need to develop the skill of searching for information that is relevant to the questions that you want to answer from the text.

Which is why you may need to take time (in your practice sessions) to master the scanning style that best suits you.

For instance, you can choose to underline, place asterisks, circle, or shade certain information that you deem as keywords or relevant information to the questions you have seen in the question area as you skim through the passage(s).

That way, it will be way easier for you to locate any information you need in the lengthy text in the IELTS Reading Module Test.

The next thing you need to be aware of is...

→ **PARAPHRASING**

You need to know how to Paraphrase.

You see, without this PRINCIPAL skill, you may likely not do well in the first two skills mentioned above, as they are all predicated on this particular skill (paraphrasing skills).

But unlike the other skills, you may need to spend some time building it as it is largely dependent on your vocabulary.

Yes.

You heard me right.

You'll need to build your paraphrasing skill.

So how do you apply this skill?

Well, you should know that one common trick the IELTS examiners are fond of pulling is the stunt of LEAVING YOUR ANSWERS IN SYNONYMS!

And it takes a good understanding of English words to notice that the word (answer) that you're looking for, has been paraphrased.

Which is why I like to advise candidates to spend time building vocabularies as they prepare for the IELTS, because it plays a crucial role in the Writing, Speaking, Listening, and most especially in the Reading Module.

NB: More than 90% of the time, your answer in the Reading texts will be paraphrased, so if you're training yourself to look for the exact keyword in the question area, you'll end up with the wrong answer.

→ **NOTE-TAKING**

Note-taking is another valuable strategy that aids comprehension and retention.

Here, you'll need to jot down key points, unfamiliar words, or any insights that arise while reading. These notes can be very helpful when answering questions or summarizing the text later.

The next thing you need to know, which may not necessarily be a skill, but it's equally important that you know it as you prepare for this exam is...

→ **IDENTIFYING QUESTION TYPES**

You need to know the different IELTS Reading Module Question Types.

One thing I have found among a lot of IELTS candidates when it comes to the reading module is that...

...they show ignorance on how to go about the various reading module question types.

Some can not even identify the question type they are dealing with per time.

But you, my friend, need to understand that with each question type, comes a different approach.

For instance, your approach to the Matching Information question type should be different from how you deal with the Multiple Choice question type.

You get it?

Now listen to what I want to say next before I open another layer to this IELTS reading module thingy...

→ **TIME MANAGEMENT**

You need to understand HOW TO MANAGE YOUR TIME.

You see, your time is your greatest asset if you must succeed in this test, and your ability to manage it effectively will help you crush a high band score.

If you fail to learn how to manage your time you may end up not completing your test or you may have to give random guesses as answers.

And trust me, that's not a good position to put yourself in.

Remember that these strategies are not isolated; they work together to enhance your overall reading experience and comprehension.

So as you practice and hone these techniques, you'll become more efficient in extracting information, understanding complex texts, and confidently answering a variety of question types.

Later on, we will dive deeper into specific question types and explore how to apply these strategies effectively.

But remember that consistent practice and a proactive approach to learning will be your allies in conquering the IELTS Reading Module and achieving your goal of a Band 7.0+ score.

Chapter 3

Mastering Vocabulary and Context Clues

I felt the need to add this part to the book because I know that an expansive vocabulary is a powerful tool in the IELTS Reading Module. In fact, it enables you to understand the texts more accurately, infer meanings from context, and tackle complex language structures.

In this chapter, I will guide you through strategies to build a strong vocabulary and employ context clues effectively to deduce word meanings.

Building a Strong Vocabulary

✓ **Read Widely:** For you to build a robust vocabulary, you need to be exposed to a variety of reading materials, such as books, articles, and essays, as they can help you encounter new words in different contexts. Especially, if you have a lot of time at hand to prepare for this exam.

✓ **Use a Thesaurus:** A thesaurus is a valuable resource for finding synonyms (words with similar meanings) and expanding your vocabulary.

✓ Language Apps: You can also utilize language learning apps that offer vocabulary-building exercises and activities. Examples of such apps are like Duolingo app, FluentU, Hello English, etc.

✓ Using Context Clues to Infer Meaning

Context clues are the hints you'll get within a sentence or paragraph that provide insights into the meaning of an unfamiliar word.

Effective context clue usage involves:

👉 Immediate Context: Look at the words and sentences surrounding the unfamiliar word. These can provide clues about the word's meaning.

👉 Definition Clues: Sometimes, a direct explanation or definition of the word is provided within the text.

👉 Example Clues: The text might contain examples that illustrate how the word is used in different contexts.

👉 Contrast Clues: Sometimes, the author contrasts the unfamiliar word with other words to highlight its meaning.

Synonyms, Antonyms, and Paraphrasing

Understanding synonyms (words with similar meanings), antonyms (words with opposite meanings), and paraphrasing (rephrasing a sentence or idea using different words) is crucial for IELTS Reading success.

➡ Synonyms: Identifying synonyms can help you grasp the meaning of unfamiliar words. The IELTS examiners may use synonyms to reiterate or explain concepts in the reading texts .

➡ Antonyms: Antonyms can provide context that helps you deduce the meaning of a word. The relationship between opposites can shed light on a word's definition.

→ **Paraphrasing:** Just to iterate since I have extensively spoken about it before, you need to recognize the fact that writers often rephrase sentences or ideas using different words. Therefore, recognizing these paraphrases helps you understand the content of their writings even if you're unfamiliar with specific vocabulary.

Which is the more reason you should practice using these strategies by reading different kinds of texts and identifying unfamiliar words.

Also attempt to infer their meanings from context before checking a dictionary. This active engagement with the text will enhance your vocabulary acquisition and comprehension skills.

And as you continue your journey towards a Band 8.0 score, remember that mastering vocabulary is a gradual process.

Consistent effort, exposure to diverse materials, and strategic usage of context clues will contribute significantly to your success in the IELTS Reading Module.

In the next chapter, we will delve into specific question types, demonstrating how a robust vocabulary and adept context clue usage can lead you to accurate and confident answers.

Chapter 4

Tackling Different Question Types

The IELTS Reading Module presents a wide range of question types that test various aspects of your reading comprehension.

Mastering each question type is essential for achieving a Band 8.0 score. But before we progress into how you can answer any of these question types, let me share with you a **CHEAT CODE** that you can apply when you are dealing with questions in the Reading Module.

The first thing I want you to know is that you can categorize the Reading Module question types into 2 categories

1. Question Types that comes in order of the text (Sequential Question Types)

For example:

👉 Multiple Choice (with one correct answer)

👉 Matching Sentence Endings

👉 Sentence Completions

👉 True/False/Not Given

👉 Yes/No/Not Given (with exception to those that are at the end of section 3)

2. Question Types that are not in order of the text (Non-Sequential Question Types)

For example:

👉 Matching Information

👉 Matching Features and Classifications

👉 Matching Headings

👉 Multiple Choice (with more than one answer option)

👉 Questions found in the last section of the Reading Test.

Once you have successfully grouped them into these sets, you can now decide on the question type to attend to FIRST when you're answering questions in a particular section.

For instance, since you can find 12 to 13 questions in each section, there is a possibility of meeting at least 2 different question types.

Now, as a smart student, you should start with the question type that comes in order of the text.

Take for example a section where you have both multiple Choice questions and Matching Information questions, as a good student, it will be best that you start with the...

...question type that has its answers arranged in the text SEQUENTIALLY, before attending to the questions that have their answers randomly positioned in the text.

That way, you'll easily effect the skimming and scanning, coupled with other tips that will direct you to the answer of each question.

I hope you get it now?

Okay.

Now let's proceed to talk about the various question types that we have in the IELTS Reading Module.

✓ Multiple Choice Questions

The Multiple choice questions typically consist of a question stem followed by a list of options or choices. Here, you'll be required to select the correct answer from the provided options.

Most times you may be given 4 options to pick 1 correct answer, at others you may be given 5 or 7 options to pick 2 or 3 answers respectively.

Which is why you need to pay attention to the following things that I'll be saying if you intend on CRUSHING this question type

→ Carefully read both the instructions first, that way, you'll be able to tell if you're supposed to provide one, two or even three answers out of the given options.

→ In the list of options, there will always be wrong answers which I call distractors. So make sure you read the questions and the options before reading the passage for clarity sake.

→ Look for keywords in the question that indicate what information you need to find in the passage.

→ Like I pointed out earlier that there will always be distractors in the list of alternatives, therefore ensure you eliminate the obviously incorrect options so as to narrow down your choices.

→ Pay attention to synonyms or paraphrased versions of words in the passage that match the options as there is a high possibility that your answer in the text has been paraphrased.

→ It's important to note that the answers to the Multiple Choice questions come in order of the text. Which means, if you found your first answer in paragraph B, you have no business with paragraph A again, in search of your answers.

NB: This rule only works for multiple choice questions with 4 options to pick one answer. Also, it may not apply to multiple choice questions in the 3rd section. Which is why the emphasis should be on your ability to scan through the passage to get your answer!

✓ True/False/Not Given (Yes/No/Not Given)

As much as I'd love to separate the True/False/Not Given Question Types in different rows, you ought to understand that although they are quite different, the T/F/NG and Y/N/NG are very much alike in every aspect.

However, you must understand that you'll be presented with statements based on the information in the reading passage.

You must determine whether each statement is true, false, or not given (yes/no/not given) based on the information provided in the passage.

Your answer can be:

- True: If the statement matches the information in the passage and is supported by evidence.
- False: When the statement contradicts the information in the passage or is not supported by evidence from the text.
- Not Given: The statement cannot be verified based on the information in the passage. This does not mean the statement is false; it simply means there is insufficient information in the text to determine its truthfulness.

While for the Y/N/NG questions, your answer can be:

- Yes: If the information in the statement matches the information in the passage and is supported by evidence.
- No: When the information in the statement contradicts the information in the passage or is not supported by evidence.
- Not Given: When the statement cannot be verified based on the information in the passage.

Now pay attention to the next things that I want to say as they can help you get right answer when dealing with this question type:

- Read the instructions CAREFULLY to be sure if you're dealing with the t/f/ng or the y/n/ng

- Do not give True or False in the place of Yes or No. Vice-versa, as you'll be marked down.

- You can represent your answer as a T for True, F for False, Y for Yes and so on. Also know that you can choose to use uppercase (capital letters) or lowercase (small letters) as you please while answering these questions.

- The answers to this question type come in order of the text, which means you can start from paragraph A to search for the answer to your first question. If for any reason you get it in paragraph B, you have no reason to go back to paragraph A again.

- Since you may need to understand if the statement in the question area is in agreement or not, you may want to scan the passage to get the exact place where the statement was made and read slowly for comprehension before deciding on your answers.

- Check for consistency between the statement in the question area and the information in the text before deciding on your answer.

- Focus on the keywords in the statements and the passage, as they will give you hint on what your answer should look like.

- Pay attention to negative words such as "not" or "never" in the statements, as they can change the meaning of the statement. In addition, be mindful of qualifiers such as "some," "most," or "all" in the statements, as they can affect the accuracy of the statement.

- Remember that "Not Given" means the information is not mentioned in the passage. Also, if you can not SPECIFICALLY point if a statement is True or False (Yes or No) from the text, then it's most likely that the answer to that statement/question is NOT GIVEN.

✓ Matching Information to Paragraphs

In Matching Information to Paragraphs questions, you are provided with a list of paragraphs or sections of the reading passage and a set of information or statements.

Your task is to match each piece of information or statement with the paragraph or section of the passage where it can be found.

→ Read the instructions CAREFULLY before taking on this task, as you need to be sure that you're dealing with the Matching Information question type.

→ Check for keywords in the question, and the paragraphs of the text for keywords or phrases that match. These could be specific names, dates, numbers, or key concepts. Remember, they will most likely be paraphrased in most cases.

→ Identifying the main ideas or topics presented in each paragraph will help you determine which pieces of information in the text that will most likely to match with any of the paragraphs in the passage.

→ You should also know that one paragraph can contain more than one answer.

→ Once you have made your matches, double-check each one to ensure it accurately reflects the content of the passage.

→ Lastly, I'd advise that when you come across the matching information question type in a section, do it last because the answers are positioned randomly in the text.

✓ Matching Headings to Paragraphs

In this question type, you'll be required to read specific paragraphs, deduce the main idea behind the paragraph, and pick from a list of headings given to you as options.

Now you must understand that it is very common to find the List of Headings similar to each...

...and that's what a lot of candidates find difficult.

They are unable to pick the best heading that resonates with the main idea of a paragraph because they all look alike.

But I'll be showing you how to go about this question type (Tips/Hacks).

→ First, read the instruction carefully to be sure that you're dealing with a Matching Headings to Paragraph question type.

→ You don't need to read all the passages for you to answer this particular question type, since you only need to focus on a given list of paragraphs.

So I'd advise that you start with the SHORTEST paragraph, followed by the longer paragraph until you get to the longest subtext.

→ Because of the time constraints, you may want to settle with reading the first, second, and last sentences in the paragraph.

Why? Usually, the main idea is usually discussed in the first two sentences of a paragraph, while the last sentence mostly serves as a summary of the whole discussion.

So by focusing on these sentences, you should be able to get the focal point of that paragraph, but if for any reason you failed to get the main idea behind the paragraph, then I'll suggest that you read the entire paragraph for deeper and clearer understanding.

→ Focus on Keywords both in the paragraph and in list of headings for hint on what your answer should be.

→ You'll be given more options than the number of the questions, and it will best you try eliminating the options that doesn't seem to represent the main idea in the given paragraphs

→ When you come across 2 headings to STRONGLY look alike, thus making your answer decision hard, I'll advise that you focus on their differences instead of their similarities.

That way, you should easily decode the answer.

✓ Matching Sentence Endings

In the Matching Sentence Endings question type, you'll be provided with a set of incomplete sentences or sentence fragments and a list of options to complete each sentence.

Your task in this question type is to match each incomplete sentence with the most suitable option from the list.

Now listen...

...for you to easily navigate through this question type, here are some tips that should guide you around it:

→ Like always, make sure you read the instructions CAREFULLY before attempting the questions

→ Then begin by reading all the incomplete sentences or sentence fragments provided. As this will give you an overview of the information you need to complete.

→ Next, you need to look for keywords or phrases in the incomplete sentences that will help guide you in selecting the appropriate endings that is in line with the information in the text.

→ Take your time to read all the options provided for each incomplete sentence. Look for options that grammatically and logically complete the sentence. While at it, If you come across an option that is clearly irrelevant or does not make sense in the context of the incomplete sentence that you're trying to match an ending to, eliminate it so that you can narrow down your choices.

→ Once you have matched all the incomplete sentences with endings, review your choices to ensure they make sense, and they accurately complete each sentence, plus the fact that it **MUST** be in line with the information in the text.

→ You should know that one sentence ending can fit into more than 1 stem (incomplete sentence).

→ Lastly, the answers to the matching sentence endings comes in order of the text.

✓ Short Answers

Short Answer Questions typically consist of a set of questions (usually numbered) and a space or line for you to write your answers.

Each question may be followed by specific instructions, such as limiting your answer to a certain number of words or requiring you to use information directly from the passage, so try as much as possible yo stay within the confine of the limited number of words.

Now here's how you should go about answering this question type

→ Read the instructions first before answering any question. This will give you hints on if the question is actually a short answer question type, and how you should answer it.

→ Take your time to understand what each question is asking for before you start reading the text. Also look for keywords that indicate the specific information you need to provide as your answer.

→ Quickly skim through the passage to get an overview of the content and locate where the relevant information may be found as you do not have a lot of time to read every words in the passage.

→ As you read the passage, underline or highlight important names, dates, numbers, or other details that may be relevant to the questions.

→ Make sure you don't go over the word limit given to you in the instruction area, else you'll be failing that question.

→ Don't give your opinion as the answer. As a matter of fact, all your answers must be based upon the information in the passage.

→ The answer to short answer questions usually comes in order of the text.

→ Always check for consistency between the question and the answer that you're choosing, for you to be certain of your answers choices.

✓ Summary Completion

Summary Completion questions typically consist of a summary of a section of the passage, with some parts missing and replaced by blank spaces.

Each blank space is followed by a set of options (usually numbered or lettered) from which you must choose the best option to complete the summary.

Let me show you the best way to go about answering this question:

→ Read the instructions to the questions very carefully as they will always giving the hint on the exact question type that you're dealing with per time.

→ Next, you need to skim through the summary. This time, ignore the blanks to understand its general meaning.

→ Predict the right answers before looking at the options. Remember that the predicted answer must make logical and grammatical sense in line with the sentence stem and the blanks.

→ Don't waste time looking at parts of the passage that are not included in the summary as you have a limited time to undertake this whole reading test.

→ You need to focus on keywords before and after the blank. That way, it will be easier to get the answer that you're looking for.

→ You can use your keyword strategy to identify the correct part of the passage but remember you are looking for synonyms and not the exact words.

→ The answers are mostly in order of the text. Sometimes they'll all be in order; but once in a while, there will be an answer that comes before another answer. However, don't worry about this because the keywords are specific and easy to find.

✓ Completion Tasks

The completion tasks refer to question types where you are required to complete a given text by filling in the missing information.

There are several subtypes of Completion Tasks, including Sentence Completion, Summary Completion, and Note/Table/Flowchart/Diagram Completion.

The reason I grouped all of them together is because they all share the same underlying principle.

Which means, the same tip that worked for note completion is also valid for flowchart completion too.

So here's how to answer any of the completion task questions:

→ There will be a word limit, so please read the instructions carefully and see the word limit that you need to write in order to fill in the gaps. There will usually be **NO MORE THAN ONE WORDS, TWO WORDS** or **THREE WORDS**, so underline this and remember while you fill in the exercise.

→ Secondly, usually for most tasks in IELTS reading, the questions in the tasks and the gaps are followed in the same order as they will appear in the text. However, please remember and keep in mind that when you see a completion task, the questions and the gaps will not **NECESSARILY** follow the order that they will be shown in the text.

→ You should copy the words that you find in the text exactly the same way in order to fill in the gaps. Hence, they have to both fit grammatically and syntactically.

→ Try to predict what kind of words are missing, for example, a noun, a verb, an adjective or an adverb. The words before and after the gap help you understand what is missing.

→ You should underline key words that precede gaps. These keywords are going to guide you through the text in order to find where the correct answer is located. You should be careful of paraphrasing.

→ In IELTS, you should always concentrate on meanings, not on words. That is always helpful to be good at skimming and scanning techniques.

Now that's all for the tips that should help you navigate your way around the various IELTS Reading Module Question Types.

As you practice each question type, you'll become more comfortable with the strategies that work best for you.

So ensure you stay consistent with your practices and keep a keen focus on the details as it will contribute to your confidence and accuracy when answering different question types.

Remember that understanding the question type and using these effective techniques are the key factors in achieving a Band 8.0 score in the IELTS Reading Module.

Chapter 5

Dealing with Complex Texts

As you progress in your journey toward mastering the IELTS Reading Module and achieving a Band 8.0 score, you'll encounter texts that vary in complexity and subject matter.

In this chapter, I will like to equip you with strategies to tackle complex texts, whether they're part of academic reading or the general training reading.

Academic vs. General Training Reading

The IELTS Reading Module includes two versions: Academic and General Training.

Understanding the key differences between them is crucial:

✓ **Academic Reading**: This version contains texts from academic sources such as journals, research papers, and textbooks. The language is more specialized and suited for those pursuing higher education.

✓ **General Training Reading**: The texts in this version are more varied and cover topics relevant to everyday life. They might include advertisements, brochures, or general-interest articles.

When dealing with complex texts in the Academic version, be prepared for advanced vocabulary and intricate sentence structures. In the General Training version, focus on extracting essential information efficiently.

Understanding Complex Sentence Structures

Complex sentence structures are common in academic and specialized texts.

Here's how I'd suggest that you navigate through them:

→ **Break Down Sentences**: Read long sentences in sections, focusing on one part at a time to understand the overall meaning.

→ **Identify Key Elements**: Identify subject, verb, and object to understand the core of the sentence.

→ **Look for Connectors**: Words like "although," "however," and "despite" connect different parts of a sentence, indicating contrasts or concessions.

Handling Technical and Specialized Vocabulary

Complex texts often use technical or specialized vocabulary related to a particular field.

Here's how you should manage such vocabulary:

→ **Use Context Clues**: Rely on surrounding words and sentences to deduce the meaning of unfamiliar terms.

→ **Refer to Headings and Subheadings**: These can provide a clue to the topic and the specialized vocabulary you might encounter.

→ Look for Definitions: sometimes writers do provide explanations or definitions of specialized terms in the text itself. That way, you as a reader can get a clearer context of what was being said in the first place.

Practice reading texts from various fields to become comfortable with different types of vocabulary. Don't be discouraged by unfamiliar terms; focus on extracting the main ideas and understanding the context.

By honing your ability to handle complex texts, you'll not only excel in the IELTS Reading Module but also develop a valuable skill that extends to academic and professional endeavors.

Chapter 6

Time Management and Pacing

Time management is a critical aspect of acing the IELTS Reading Module and achieving a Band 8.0 score.

Which is why I chose to use a full chapter to guide you through various effective strategies that will help you in setting a reading pace, allocating time for different sections, and overcoming time-related stress.

Setting a Reading Pace

Developing a consistent reading pace is essential for completing all the questions within the allocated time.

So here's how to find your optimal pace:

→ Practice Regularly: Regular practice improves your reading speed and comprehension.

→ *Start Slowly*: Begin at a comfortable pace and gradually increase your speed as you become more confident.

→ *Avoid Subvocalization*: Try to avoid reading aloud or mouthing the words, as it can slow you down.

Allocating Time for Different Sections

The IELTS Reading Module consists of multiple sections, each with its set of questions. Allocate your time wisely to ensure you have sufficient time for all sections:

→ *Skim the Passage First*: Spend a few minutes skimming the passage to understand its main ideas and structure.

→ *Prioritize Questions*: Start with questions that seem easier or have fewer options to choose from.

→ *Monitor Time*: Keep track of time and adjust your pace accordingly to ensure you don't spend too long on a single question.

Here's a general guideline for time allocation:

👉 Skimming: 2-3 minutes

👉 Multiple Choice Questions: 1.5-2 minutes per question

👉 True/False/Not Given Questions: 1-1.5 minutes per question

👉 Matching Headings to Paragraphs: 2-3 minutes per question set

👉 Completion Tasks:** 1-1.5 minutes per question

Overcoming Time-related Stress

Time-related stress can negatively impact your performance. To manage stress effectively:

→ **Practice Under Exam (Timed) Conditions**: Regularly simulate exam conditions during your practice sessions.

→ **Stay Calm**: If you find yourself stuck on a question, move on and return to it later.

→ **Don't Panic**: Remember that you don't have to answer every question correctly to achieve a high score like I have shown you in the scoring system in the early chapter.

During the actual exam, remember that managing your time strategically is a skill you've been developing. Trust your preparation and focus on maintaining a steady pace.

By mastering time management and pacing, you'll be better equipped to navigate the IELTS Reading Module efficiently, complete all the questions, and maintain your confidence throughout the test.

Conclusion

Thank you for purchasing, and reading through this comprehensive guide for dummies..

I can't tell you how excited I am knowing that I have emptied my mind in the pages of this book with the hope that it will help you CRUSH your IELTS exam, just as it helped others in the past.

By now you must have joined the Telegram support community, so feel free to drop any question that you have regarding the reading module and I'll gladly respond to you as fast as I can.

Once again, a big and hearty thank you for all the effort you're putting in.

I am proud of you, and your future self is more proud of the possibilities that passing the IELTS can bring you and your family.

PS: Click [HERE](#) to access a Reading Module test material that you can use for you personal practices.

Good luck.

