

What to expect on test day

The IELTS test has four components. Three components – Listening, Reading and Writing – are always taken on the same day, in the same session. The Speaking test may be sat the same day or taken up to seven days before or after the other tests, depending on your test centre.

The IELTS test implements sophisticated, biometric security measures which protect candidates and organisations from attempts to cheat. You will go through the processes described below when you register on test day.



Arrive early

You should arrive early for your test in order to allow time for you to register and be seated for the test. Please refer to your booking confirmation for details.

If you arrive late, you may not be allowed to take the test.

Check-in your personal items

No personal items to be taken into the test room (except for religious reasons). Test day staff will collect and safely store your personal belongings. Items which are forbidden from the test room include: mobile phones, hand-held computers, cameras, hats, scarves, wallets, books, notes or food.

ID Check

When you register on test day, a member of staff will check your **identification** (ID). Your ID must be the same ID that you used when you booked the test. It must also be valid (unexpired) and a recognisable photo of yourself.

If you booked your test at a test centre then a **photograph** and **finger scan** may have been taken already. If not, these will be taken when you arrive on test day. Before you enter the test room, your finger will be scanned again to verify your identity.

Entering the test room

When it is time to enter the test room, a test invigilator will guide you to your seat. Do not write any notes. You are not permitted to speak to any other candidates. If you have a question, put up your hand and a member of staff will assist you.

On your desk, you are only allowed to have your identification, pens/pencils, eraser and a drink in a transparent bottle.

After the test

Collect your belongings. Your provisional results will be available online 13 days after the test at <https://results.ielts.org>. Your official results will appear on your Test Report Form which will also be ready after 13 days. You can collect it from the test centre or have it posted to you – depending on what was specified at the time of registration.

End of the test

You cannot leave your seat until your papers have been collected and you have been told to leave. If you finish the test early you must wait quietly until the test is finished and you are advised that you can leave. You must leave any notes and materials on the desk.

Asking for help

If you have a problem (for example if you think you have been given the wrong paper, you cannot hear the instructions, or you feel ill) raise your hand to attract the attention of the invigilators.

Please note that the invigilator will not provide any explanation of the questions.

Breaks

You are not permitted to leave during the first or last 5-10 minutes of either component of the test.

If you need to leave the test room to go to the bathroom at any other time, raise your hand and ask a member of staff.