



IELTS PREPARATION – How long will it take?

You generally need an IELTS score of 6.5 before going to University or 5.5 if you wish to take a foundation course or a vocational programme. It normally takes 12 weeks to complete each level and improve your IELTS score by 1 point, so it is important that you know what level you are now and that you work out realistically how long it will take you to reach your goal.

Level	Pre-Intermediate (A2)	Intermediate (B1)	Upper-Intermediate (B2)	Pre-Advanced (C1)
	12 weeks	12 weeks	12 weeks	12 weeks
IELTS score	3.5	4 4.5	5 5.5	6 6.5
Courses	General English		IELTS preparation / Academic English	
			Vocational courses	
			University foundation programme	
			University graduate, post-graduate and doctorate programmes	

WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL NOW?

Level (CEF*)	Can do	Cambridge exam**	IELTS**
Elementary (A2)	Can understand basic sentences and frequently used expressions. Can communicate in simple situations.		
Pre-Intermediate (A2)	Can understand and communicate in routine situations. Can read and write about simple subjects.		3
Intermediate (B1)	Can make effective and independent use of the language in familiar situations although communication is still sometimes difficult.	PET Preliminary English Test	4
Upper-Intermediate (B2)	Can understand the main ideas of complex text. Can interact with fluency and spontaneity without strain and produce clear, detailed writing on a range of subjects.	FCE First Certificate in English	5
Pre-Advanced (C1)	Can understand a wide range of longer, demanding texts. Can speak accurately, fluently and spontaneously and produce clear, well-structured writing on complex subjects.	CAE Certificate of Advanced English	6
Advanced (C2)	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can produce language spontaneously, fluently and precisely when speaking and writing.	CPE Certificate of Proficiency in English	7 8

* Common European Framework

** Details of exam dates and fees are in the enrolment form.

Students should be at least upper-intermediate (B2) level before joining the IELTS Preparation / Academic English course.