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STEP UP TO IELTS

VANESSA JAKEMAN and CLARE McDOWELL

Student's Book



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Who is Step Up to IELTS for?

Step Up to IELTS has been written with two groups of students in mind. On the one hand, it is a short IELTS preparation course for use in the classroom with intermediate to upper-intermediate level students requiring a Band 5 to Band 6 in the Test. On the other hand, it could also be used by more advanced level students requiring fast familiarisation with the exam, as it covers all parts of the exam and presents authentic exam-level tasks. It is also just as useful for students studying on their own, who want to increase their language competence and IELTS test-taking strategies.

If you are studying alone we strongly recommend that you try and find a study partner with whom you can practise the Speaking material and some of the other partner activities, marked with the symbol  in the book.

In addition to the core text, there is also a *Personal Study Book*, which provides supplementary exercises for extra class practice or homework. Together these form a comprehensive course, designed to lead you from a pre-IELTS level up to the realistic level of the Test.

How will Step Up to IELTS help me prepare for the Test?

Step Up to IELTS is highly focused on the IELTS Test – every activity is relevant to the Test and designed to help you with a specific aspect of the test. We recommend that you work your way systematically through the book to make the most of its progressive structure. If you want to vary this, however, you will find a comprehensive *Map of the Book* outlining the content of each unit, to allow you to select material as required.

An overview of the IELTS Test is given on page 112.

Special features of *Step Up to IELTS* are:

- The 16 units cover a range of topics that commonly occur in the IELTS Test so that you can build vocabulary and ideas related to these. The *Useful words* and *Useful expressions* boxes that appear throughout also help you with this.
- Practice is given in the range of IELTS question types and tasks that can be found in each of the modules: Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking.
- *General Training Reading* and *Writing* modules are covered in addition to the *Academic* modules.

- A unique feature of the book is the **Step Up** activity in each unit, which gives you a step-by-step approach to IELTS question-types and tasks in each section of each module of the Test. These build test skills gradually, with shorter, lower level achievable test-type tasks for practice, leading to more challenging tasks at the authentic test level.
- **Language check** pages revise useful points of grammar. *Grammar boxes* throughout the book also focus on key language points.
- **Reading** pages encourage you to analyse the texts and understand the skills that are being tested and this will help you approach the questions in the Test more effectively. All the task types covered in the book relate to both the *Academic* and *General Training* modules.
- **Listening** and **Writing** pages build your competence in the specific skills required in these areas.
- **Speaking** pages cover all aspects of the interview, with ideas on how to approach the examiner's questions.
- You will find numerous **Test tips** on how to avoid losing marks through inaccuracies or failing to answer the questions correctly. The **Test tips** also offer advice on how to maximise your band score.
- The **Test practice** sections at the end of each unit are authentic IELTS-type test papers. They can be used to form a complete sample test.
- The *Personal Study Book* provides extra vocabulary, grammar and writing practice and makes an ideal supplementary text.
- The *With Answers* edition of the Student's Book includes a full key to all questions, including the IELTS Test Practice at the end of each unit, and there is a recording script for the listening sections, with the answers underlined. Sample Band 9 answers are provided for the Writing Tasks, as models of how to tackle these questions, but we would emphasise that these are only samples, and many other answers would be possible.

Remember

When you enrol, you must decide whether to sit the Academic or the General Training version of the test. You cannot sit both at the same time. The two versions do not carry the same weight. Check the IELTS Handbook for details.

	Topic	Listening	Reading	Writing
UNIT 1	Take a break	Working out the topic Short-answer questions	Introduction to skimming and scanning	Introduction and tone of letters Salutations and endings of letters Opening and closing letters
UNIT 2	What's on the menu?	Working out the situation Short-answer questions	Skimming and scanning short extracts <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Short-answer questions and multiple matching	
UNIT 3	On the road	Understanding description <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Section 1 Form filling	Getting the gist <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Summary completion	Describing a process or diagram Organising the information into paragraphs
UNIT 4	All at sea		Skimming for main ideas <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Sentence completion	Analysing charts Describing diagrams and pictures Writing a paragraph
UNIT 5	Come rain or shine	Understanding opinions and reasons Note completion		Describing tables Using comparatives to describe trends and highlight details <i>Step up to</i> IELTS General Training Task 1
UNIT 6	Value for money	Identifying trends Multiple-choice graphs	Following a sequence of events <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Flow chart / note completion	Trends and verb tenses Describing a bar chart using the correct tense / verb form <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Academic Task 1 Describing a bar chart
UNIT 7	Ignorance is bliss		<i>Step up to</i> IELTS Paragraph headings	Forming ideas Brainstorming opposing ideas Writing paragraphs
UNIT 8	Fit as a fiddle	Listening for specific information <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Section 2		Describing the data using noun phrases
UNIT 9	The driving force		Recognising the structure of a passage <i>Step up to</i> IELTS True / False / Not Given Summary with box	Comparing data Describing bar charts Highlighting significant features
UNIT 10	The silver screen	Reading ahead Listening and note taking	Dealing with longer passages <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Picking from a list True / False / Not Given Global multiple choice	
UNIT 11	The written word		Identifying main and supporting ideas in paragraphs Multiple-choice questions	Paragraph building
UNIT 12	Down to Earth	<i>Step up to</i> IELTS Section 3 Short-answer questions Selecting words from a list Matching		Balancing your views
UNIT 13	Safe as houses	<i>Step up to</i> IELTS Section 4 Note completion Picture multiple-choice questions		Analysing the question <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Academic and General Training Writing Task 2
UNIT 14	On the face of it	Recognising feelings and identifying views	Dealing with research-based texts Summary <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Matching people to statements	
UNIT 15	As far as I can see		Following the writer's argument <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Locating information in paragraphs	Referring back Checking an answer
UNIT 16	Mother tongue		Understanding the writer's views <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Yes / No / Not Given	Task 2: For and against Organising your answer Writing a complete answer

Speaking	Language / Grammar	IELTS Test practice
Introducing yourself Talking about your hobbies and interests <i>Step up to</i> IELTS Speaking Part 1	<i>go</i> and <i>play</i> Adverbs and expressions of frequency <i>-ing</i> and <i>-ed</i> adjectives <i>really, so, very</i>	READING General Training Section 1 Short-answer questions Matching information to paragraphs
Expressing likes and dislikes Using facial expression, intonation and word stress Giving a full answer	<i>too + for / to</i> <i>so / such ... that</i> Past continuous for change of plans	READING Academic Section 1 Sentence completion Multiple-choice questions Short-answer questions
	Use of the passive	LISTENING Section 1 Table and note completion
Expressing preferences	Comparative and superlative adjectives <i>while, whereas, on the other hand</i>	WRITING Academic Task 1 Describing a diagram
Expressing feeling – word and syllable stress Agreeing and disagreeing	Joining different ideas	WRITING General Training Task 1
	Tenses for Writing Task 1	WRITING Academic Task 1 Describing a graph and pie chart
Pronunciation check: <i>-ed</i> endings Talking for one minute	Narration and past tenses <i>used to + infinitive</i>	READING General Training Section 2 Sentence completion Paragraph headings
<i>Step up to</i> IELTS Speaking Part 2	<i>will / would</i> (conditionals 1 and 2) <i>can / could</i> Noun phrases	READING Academic Section 2 Paragraph headings Summary Short-answer questions
Expanding your answer – giving reasons Part 1 review	Linkers <i>so, because, because of, as, since</i> Superlative forms Linkers <i>also, as well, too, however, similarly</i>	LISTENING Section 2 Note and table completion
Expressing and justifying views Part 2 review	Tense revision Simple past, present perfect and present perfect continuous <i>as long as / provided that</i>	WRITING General Training Task 2 (<i>This is also a suitable practice for Academic Writing.</i>)
<i>Step up to</i> IELTS Speaking Part 3	Adverb formation and use	SPEAKING Test
Discussing abstract topics Pronunciation check: / pr / and / v /	<i>stop + -ing</i> <i>stop / prevent from + -ing</i>	LISTENING Section 3 Listing Table completion Short-answer questions
Comparing and contrasting Supporting a view Pronunciation check: contractions		WRITING Academic Task 2 (<i>This is also a suitable practice for General Training Writing.</i>)
Expressing feelings and opinions	<i>should / ought to</i>	SPEAKING Test
Talking about the future Predicting and speculating Pronunciation check: word stress	<i>this / these + noun</i> <i>such (a/an) + noun</i>	LISTENING Section 4 Labelling a diagram Note and diagram completion
Language quiz Expressing certainty or doubt Indirect statements	Indirect statements with <i>if</i> and <i>whether</i>	READING Academic Section 3 Yes / No / Not Given Classification Multiple-choice