

# INTRODUCTION TO IELTS

The International English  
Language Testing System

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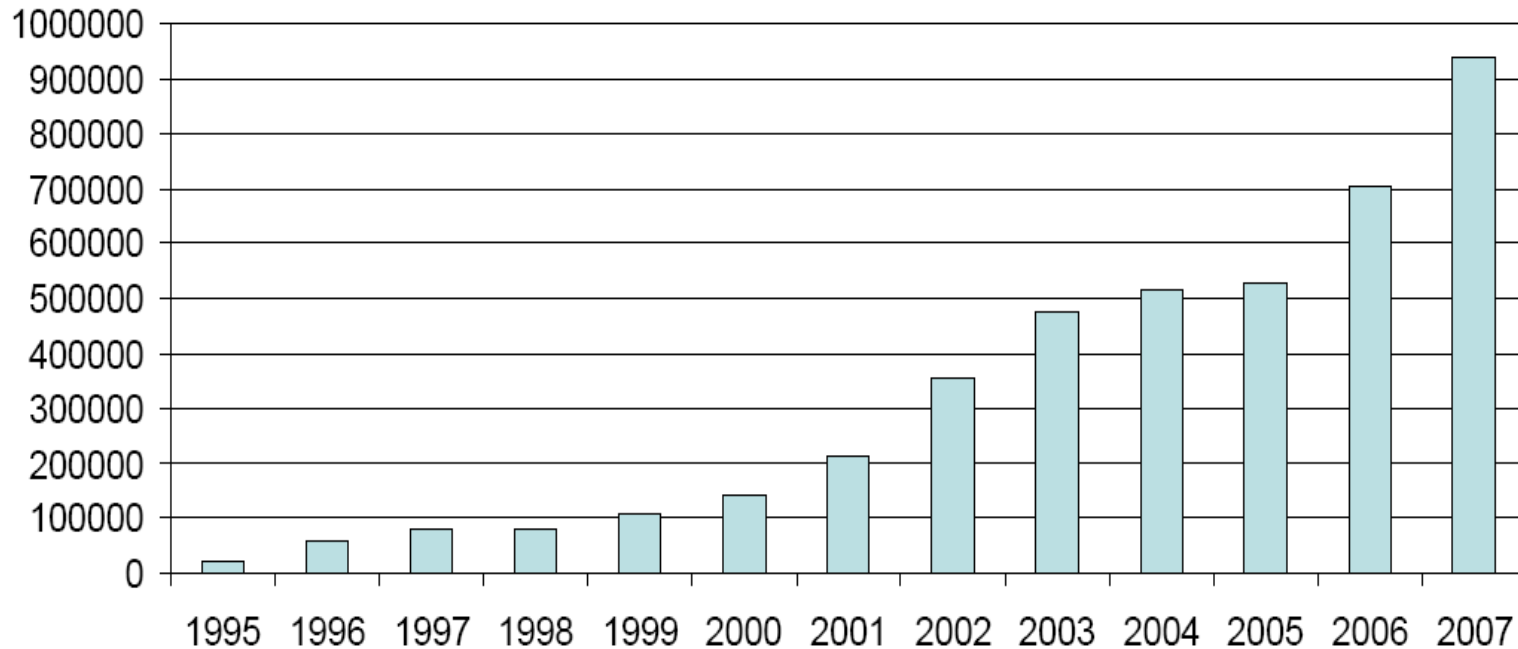
# WHAT IS IELTS?

- ◉ IELTS is the **International English Language Testing System**
- ◉ Designed to assess the English language ability of people who intend to study or work where English is the language of communication

# WHAT IS IELTS?

- ◉ Original four-skills English language test - since 1989. Covers all four skills - listening, reading , writing, speaking - and includes a face-to-face speaking test to ensure that candidates can really communicate effectively in English
- ◉ Test of communicative proficiency in English - not a test of grammar

# THE POPULARITY OF IELTS



- In 2009 alone, over 1.4 million candidates took the IELTS.

# WHY IELTS?

- ◉ International standard
- ◉ Reliable
- ◉ Comprehensive
- ◉ High penetration rate
- ◉ The most recent & accurate English assessment
- ◉ Cost Saving

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

- ◉ 300 test centres in 120 countries
- ◉ Recognized by organizations, institutions, government all over the world  
e.g. US government
- ◉ Global recognition system:  
[www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

# RELIABLE

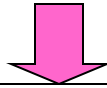
- ◉ Development and research
- ◉ Extensive program of research, validation and test development
- ◉ Test material - Cambridge ESOL

# TEST QUESTION PRODUCTION

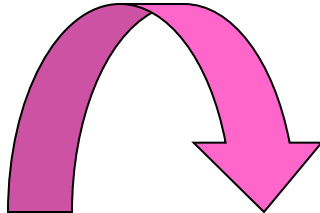
- 1. Commissioning**
- 2. Editing**
- 3. Pre-testing**
- 4. Analysis and banking of material**
- 5. Standards fixing**
- 6. Question paper construction**



**Recruitment & Induction**

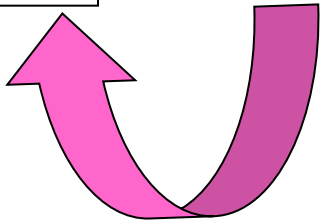


**Training & Certification**



**Year 1**  
Monitoring

**Year 2**  
Standardization &  
Recertification



**Examiner Administration**

# PERFORMANCE OF IRANIAN CANDIDATES

## Academic Candidates

Band Score	-4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9
Iran	0%	1%	4%	11%	21%	26%	20%	10%	4%	1%	0%	0%

## General Training Candidates

Band Score	-4	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9
Iran	1%	2%	6%	13%	22%	24%	17%	9%	4%	1%	0%	0%

# PERFORMANCE OF IRANIAN CANDIDATES

## Academic Candidates

Section	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Iran	5.8	5.7	5.7	6.3	6

## General Training Candidates

Section	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking	OVERALL
Iran	5.7	5.4	5.8	6.3	5.9

# COMPREHENSIVE

Access and report performance in all four language skills:

## Listening

30 minutes  
40 questions

## Reading

1 hour  
40 questions  
3 articles

## Writing

1 hour  
2 tasks

## Speaking

11-14 minutes  
3 parts

**INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM**  
**Test Report Form**

ACADEMIC

**NOTE** Admission to undergraduate and postgraduate courses should be based on the ACADEMIC Reading and Writing Modules.  
*GENERAL TRAINING Reading and Writing Modules are not designed to test the full range of language skills required for academic purposes.  
It is recommended that the candidate's language ability as indicated in this Test Report Form be re-assessed after two years from the date of the*

Centre Number 56355 Date 25/APR/2009 Candidate Number 000988

**Candidate Details**

Family Name TAHASSONI  
First Name EBRAHIM  
Candidate ID 0941544801



Date of Birth 07/05/1982 Sex (M/F) M Scheme Code British Council

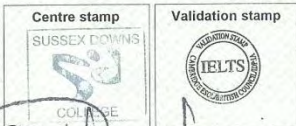
Country or Region of Origin Iran First Language Farsi

Repeating IELTS (Y/N) N Previous Test Date Previous Test Centre

**Test Results**

Listening 8.5 Reading 9.0 Writing 9.0 Speaking 8.5 Overall Band Score 9.0

**Administrator Comments**



Writing Examiner Number 998313

Administrator's Signature

Speaking Examiner Number 998987

Date 01/05/2009 Test Report Form Number 0956000938TAHE355A



The validity of this IELTS Test Report Form can be verified online by recognising organisations at <https://ielts.ucles.org.uk>

# The IELTS TRF (Test Report Form)

# THE 9 BAND SCALE

- 9 - expert user
- 8 - very good user
- 7 - good user
- 6 - competent user
- 5 - modest user
- 4 - limited user
- 3 - extremely limited user
- 2 - intermittent user
- 1 - non-user

# INTERPRETING IELTS BAND SCORES

- ◉ Understanding IELTS Band Scores
- ◉ Band Score components for Speaking
- ◉ Band Score components for Writing

# 1.UNDERSTANDING IELTS BAND SCORES

## 1.1. MODULE SCORE: 1-9

- Each module (i.e., Listening, Reading, Writing & Speaking) will be awarded a score from 1-9.
- The score can be presented in \*whole\* or \*half\* bands.



## 1.2. OVERALL BAND SCORE: 1-9

- ⦿ Each candidate will be awarded a band score from 1-9
- ⦿ Band 1 (Non-user) to Band 9 (Expert User)  
[→ handout: IELTS Band Scores]
- ⦿ No fixed pass mark (criterion-based)