

## Video 4 transcript: “IELTS scoring bands and applications”

Hello and welcome to the last video in this series “Introduction to the IELTS test”. In this part I want to look at the IELTS scoring scale and what to consider when preparing for the test.

First, the IELTS exam is not really a “pass/fail” test in the strictest sense. It just confirms your present level of English language proficiency.

As mentioned before, the test assesses all four skillsets: Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. Each skillset is scored individually and contributes with 25% to the overall score.

The level of proficiency is divided into 9 bands, with 9 being the highest. All four skillsets are marked according to that scale, and their average would then result in the overall score.

As you can see in this chart, IELTS band 4 to 5 correspond to the CEFR level B1, band 5.5 to 6.5 to the CEFR level B2, band 7 to 8 correspond to the CEFR level C1 and band 9 would then be CEFR level C2.

### **So, what score would I need for my objectives?**

Well, there’s no general answer to this question and I strongly advise to check with the university, school, employer or institution that asks you to provide an IELTS test score.

However, I will try to give you an approximate idea of what to aim at:

- Most universities in Canada, Australia, the US and the UK require an IELTS score between 5.5 and 7.0, top universities may require more.
- In many other countries, universities may require a score between 4.5 and 6.0.
- For immigration purposes and work permits, an IELTS score may start from 4.0 but it is probably a good idea to aim at a score between 5.0 and 6.0.

Of course, this overview is neither complete nor very detailed, but it might give you at least an approximate idea of what to aim at.

Oh, one last thing: Before you consider taking the test please remember that the test is only valid for two years so program you time accordingly.

Thanks for watching and I hope that these videos were helpful and have given you a general idea about the IELTS exam. You can download all transcripts of the videos from my website: [claque.net](http://claque.net).

In my upcoming videos I will explain the single parts of the IELTS exam and how to prepare for them in more detail. Please subscribe to [claque.net](http://claque.net) to stay up to date on my projects. Bye for now and see you soon!