

☀ LUMI ENGLISH ACADEMY

IELTS & PTE

Complete Study Pack

Strategies • Sample Questions • Band 8–9 Model Answers

IELTS Academic • IELTS General Training • PTE Academic

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How to use this pack

This study pack is your printable companion to the free Lumi English Academy courses. It gives you the exact structure of each test, the strategy for every skill, real sample questions, and Band 8–9 model answers you can learn the technique from.

The best way to improve: read the strategy, study the model answer, then practise your own version and get it scored free at lumi-english.pages.dev.

TIP

Don't memorise model answers word-for-word — examiners recognise them. Instead, copy the structure, the linking phrases, and the way ideas are developed, then use your own ideas.

Part A · IELTS Academic

For university, college and professional registration. You sit Listening, Reading and Writing back-to-back (about 2 hours 45 minutes), with the Speaking interview on the same day or within a week.

Skill	Time	What you do
Listening	~30 min + transfer	4 recordings, 40 questions, heard once
Reading	60 min	3 academic passages, 40 questions
Writing	60 min	Task 1: describe a graph (150w). Task 2: essay (250w)
Speaking	11–14 min	3-part face-to-face interview

Scoring: each skill 0–9 in half steps; overall = average of the four, rounded to the nearest half band (6.25 rounds up to 6.5).

Listening — strategy

- Read the questions in the silence before each section and predict the answer type (number, name, place).
- Listen for synonyms — the answer is rarely the exact word from the question.
- Catch corrections: 'It's Tuesday... sorry, Thursday' — the answer is Thursday.
- Obey the word limit and spell correctly; a right word spelled wrong scores zero.
- Never leave a blank — wrong answers are not penalised.

Reading — strategy

- Skim first for the map of the passage, then scan for keyword synonyms; answers usually appear in order.
- Answer only from the text, never from your own knowledge.

True / False / Not Given: True = text agrees; False = text says the opposite; Not Given = text is silent. If the passage doesn't actually contradict the statement, it's Not Given.

Writing Task 1 — describe a graph (150+ words)

Structure: (1) Introduction — paraphrase the question. (2) Overview — the 2–3 biggest trends, no numbers. (3) Detail paragraph. (4) Detail paragraph with comparisons.

SAMPLE QUESTION

The chart shows the percentage of households with internet access in three countries in 2005, 2012 and 2020. (Country A 30→65→88%; B 45→70→90%; C 12→40→75%.) Summarise the main features and make comparisons.

MODEL ANSWER

The bar chart illustrates how the proportion of households with internet access changed in three countries — A, B and C — across three years: 2005, 2012 and 2020.

Overall, internet access rose sharply in all three countries. While Country B led at the start, all three had converged to broadly similar, high levels by 2020, with Country C showing by far the steepest growth.

In 2005, Country B had the widest access at 45%, followed by Country A at 30%, whereas only 12% of households in Country C were connected. By 2012 the gap had narrowed: Country B reached 70% and Country A 65%, while Country C more than tripled to 40%.

By 2020 the three had almost equalised. Country B remained marginally ahead at 90%, with Country A

close behind at 88%. Country C, despite starting lowest, surged to 75% — a rise of 63 percentage points, the largest of any country.

Writing Task 2 — the essay (250+ words)

Structure: Introduction (paraphrase + your position) → Body 1 (idea + example) → Body 2 (idea + example) → Conclusion (restate, no new ideas).

SAMPLE QUESTION

Some people believe university education should be free for all students. Others think students should pay for it themselves. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

MODEL ANSWER

The question of who should fund higher education — the state or the individual — is increasingly debated. While some argue university should be free to ensure equal opportunity, others maintain that students who benefit should bear the cost. In my view, a mixed system that keeps tuition affordable is fairest.

Those who support free education point to fairness and social benefit. When cost is removed, talented students from poorer families can attend on merit alone. Society gains too: more doctors, engineers and teachers make a country more productive. Germany, where public universities charge no tuition, shows that widening access need not lower quality.

On the other hand, free education is expensive and funded by taxpayers, many of whom never attend university. Graduates earn significantly more over their lifetimes, so it is reasonable for them to contribute to a qualification that mainly benefits them, and fees can encourage students to take study seriously.

In my opinion, neither extreme is ideal. The most equitable approach is to subsidise tuition heavily so no capable student is excluded, while asking graduates to repay a modest, income-linked share once earning. This balances opportunity with responsibility.

In conclusion, although both positions have merit, a partially funded model — affordable for students yet sustainable for the state — best serves individuals and society alike.

Speaking — 3 parts

Part 1 (interview): answer in 2–3 sentences using answer → reason → example.

SAMPLE QUESTION

Part 2 cue card: Describe a skill you would like to learn. Say what it is, why you want it, how you'd learn it, and how it would change your life. (1 min prep, 1–2 min talk)

MODEL ANSWER

The skill I'd love to master is public speaking. I've always admired people who can stand in front of a crowd and speak with confidence. The main reason I want to learn it is that it would help me in my career — I often have good ideas in meetings but hold back because I get nervous.

I'd start by joining a group like Toastmasters, where you practise regularly in a supportive setting, and I'd record myself to track progress. Honestly, I think it would be life-changing: expressing myself clearly would open doors professionally and make me far more self-assured in everyday situations.

TIP

Part 3 band-7+ phrases: 'I'd argue that...', 'On the one hand... on the other...', 'It depends largely on...'

'That said,...', 'A good example would be...'

Part B · IELTS General Training

For migration, work and school. Same Listening and Speaking as Academic — only Reading and Writing differ. GT Reading uses everyday and workplace texts; GT Writing Task 1 is a letter.

Writing Task 1 — the letter (150+ words)

Match the tone to the reader: formal (Dear Sir or Madam / Yours faithfully), semi-formal (Dear Mr Khan / Yours sincerely), or informal (Dear Sam / Best wishes). Cover all three bullet points.

SAMPLE QUESTION

You recently stayed in a hotel and left an item behind. Write to the manager: explain when you stayed and what happened; describe the item; say what you'd like the manager to do.

MODEL ANSWER

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing regarding a personal item that I believe I left in my room during a recent stay at your hotel. I stayed in Room 214 on the night of 3 July and checked out the following morning.

Unfortunately, in the rush to catch my flight, I left behind a black leather wallet. It contains my driving licence and several bank cards, so it is both valuable and important to me. I think it may have been left in the drawer of the bedside table on the left-hand side of the bed.

I would be extremely grateful if you could arrange for your staff to check the room and hold the wallet safely. If it is found, please contact me by email so I can arrange to have it couriered to my home address, and I am of course happy to cover any costs.

Thank you very much for your help. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully, Ahmed Raza

TIP

Common GT Task 1 mistakes: wrong tone (too casual to a manager), missing one of the three bullets, or writing an essay instead of a letter.

Writing Task 2 — the essay

Identical to Academic: paraphrase + position → two developed body paragraphs with examples → conclusion. See the Part A model essay for the full technique. GT topics are everyday (work, family, community, technology).

SAMPLE QUESTION

In many countries people are working longer hours than in the past. What are the causes of this, and what effects does it have on family life?

MODEL ANSWER

In recent decades, employees in many nations have found themselves spending more time at work than previous generations. This essay examines the main reasons behind the trend and its consequences for family life.

The causes are largely economic and technological. A rising cost of living pushes people to earn more, a competitive job market discourages leaving on time, and 'always-on' technology blurs the line between

work and home.

The effects on family life are significant. Parents have less quality time with children and partners, and chronic stress can strain relationships — though in some cases a higher household income does improve opportunities.

In conclusion, longer hours stem mainly from financial pressure and technology, and while they can raise income, they often come at a real cost to family closeness, suggesting a need for better work–life balance.

Part C · PTE Academic

Computer-based and AI-scored, in one ~2-hour sitting, with results in about 2 days. It has 22 task types (including two new 2025 speaking tasks) across three parts. Scores run 10–90 overall and per skill. Because tasks are integrated, one task can score more than one skill (e.g. Read Aloud → Reading + Speaking).

Part	Time	Task types
Speaking & Writing	~76–84 min	9 scored types (+ unscored intro)
Reading	~22–30 min	5 types
Listening	~31–39 min	8 types

NEGATIVE MARKING

Three tasks deduct points for wrong choices: Reading Multiple Choice (Multiple Answers), Listening Multiple Choice (Multiple Answers), and Highlight Incorrect Words. Only select options you are confident about.

Describe Image — template

An image appears; 25s to prepare, 40s to speak. Fluency matters more than covering every detail — keep talking for the full 40 seconds.

MODEL ANSWER

This image shows [a bar chart / map / process] about [topic]. The most noticeable feature is that [biggest point]. In addition, [a second detail], while [a third detail or comparison]. Overall, it is clear that [general conclusion].

Summarize Written Text — one sentence, 5–75 words

Read a passage and write ONE sentence capturing the main idea. Two sentences = zero on form.

MODEL ANSWER

While [main point], [second idea], which means that [conclusion].

Write Essay — 200–300 words, 20 minutes

Structure: Intro (paraphrase + position) → Body 1 (reason + example) → Body 2 (reason + example) → Conclusion (restate + recommendation).

SAMPLE QUESTION

Some people think technology has made our lives more complicated. To what extent do you agree or disagree?

MODEL ANSWER

It is sometimes argued that modern technology has complicated our daily lives rather than simplifying them. While I acknowledge that technology brings certain challenges, I largely disagree, as its benefits to convenience and connection far outweigh the drawbacks.

On the one hand, technology can create complications. The constant flow of emails and notifications can

blur the boundary between work and rest, leaving people feeling permanently 'on call', and learning new software can be frustrating, especially for older generations.

However, the advantages are far greater. Tasks that once took hours — banking, shopping, contacting family abroad — now take minutes. A single smartphone replaces a map, camera, diary and telephone. Technology has also made healthcare and education accessible to people previously excluded, a profound simplification of their lives.

In conclusion, although technology introduces minor complications, these are outweighed by enormous gains in efficiency and access. Used sensibly, technology makes life considerably easier, not harder.

Write from Dictation — the highest-value task

A short sentence is read once; type it word-for-word with correct spelling. It scores both Listening and Writing, and every correct word earns marks.

SAMPLE QUESTION

Audio: 'The university library extends its opening hours during examination periods.'

MODEL ANSWER

Type exactly: The university library extends its opening hours during examination periods. Every word counts — a misspelled 'examination' or a missing 'its' loses marks.

TIP

Method: listen for meaning, jot the first letter of each word, then reconstruct the full sentence. Even a partial sentence scores per correct word.

Keep going — you've got this

Reading strategy is step one. Real improvement comes from practising and getting honest feedback. Use the free Lumi tools as often as you like:

- Free Band Checker — paste any Writing answer or record a Speaking response for an instant band on every criterion, with fixes explained in your language.
- AI Speaking Coach — a full 3-part speaking mock with a real voice that scores you and points out your exact mistakes.
- Free Courses & Resources — the complete IELTS & PTE courses, model essays, templates and word lists.

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Note: band scores from Lumi tools are AI practice estimates (± 0.5 band), not official results. PTE task list reflects the August 2025 update.