

IELTS Academic Reading Vocabulary List

As you know, the [IELTS vocabulary](#) amounts to 25% of the academic reading test. So, keep yourself updated with the **IELTS academic reading vocabulary list**.

Words/Phrases	Meaning/Synonyms	Examples
Community	Part of society	We must build a strong community to ensure security.
Favourite	Something which is liked	This is my favourite song of the year.
Commercial	Meant for profit	Our service is purely commercial.
Pattern	Trend	The data shows a similar pattern.
Indigenous	Native	We must support our indigenous people.
Instrument	Equipment	To repair, we need instruments.
Traditional	Existing for a long time	Everyone must wear traditional dresses for Christmas.
Exist	Something that is present	Languages have existed for a long time.
Folk song	Country song	I am dancing to a folk song at this function.
Discuss	Talk to others about something	We must discuss the possible solution for climate change.
Glimpse	summarise	John gave us a glimpse of the event.
Theme	Main essence	We will suggest a random theme for his wedding.
History	The past	We must learn about Indian history.
Artistic	Stylist	The photography was artistic.
Quilt	Join fabrics or clothes (bed cover)	He was quilting the bed cover before going to sleep.
Shop	A place which sells products	The nearby shop is open.
Ordinary	Authentic	We give original honey.
Fold	To rap something	She folded the clothes
Handicraft	Handmade goods	Give a handicraft for her birthday.
Rural	Village	Rural areas in India are underdeveloped.
Craft	An activity that requires hand skills	He crafted this masterpiece.
Ethnic	Colour of skin	We protect all ethnic groups in the society.
Pair	Two identical things	Give me a pair of sandals.
Maturity	Mental optimal level	Older people have more maturity.

Forest	A place with wild flora and fauna	The Amazon is one of the largest forests.
Thread	A long, thin fibre for sewing.	We built this net using thick thread.
Snacks	Lite food	We don't have snacks here.
Delicious	Tasty	I cook delicious food.
Latter	Between two things, the last one.	I chose the latter book.
Vary	Deviate	People vary based on their locations.
Cuisine	Cooking style	Indian cuisines are spicy.
Pass time	Leisure time	What do you do for pass time?
Hunting	Killing animals for survival	Wild animals hunt for a living.
Utensil	A tool for cooking purpose	Buy new utensils for this year.
Lifestyle	The way of living	We are not living a healthy lifestyle.
Poultry	Household farm of chicken	Poultry is now growing rapidly in rural areas.
Manage	Organise	You must manage your work.
Hill tracts	Hill region	Running in the hill tracts is risky.
Spices	Seed, fruit, root or plants	Indonesia is famous for spices.
Silent	Without sound	Students keep silent.
Provisional	For present, will be changed later.	Keep your provisional certificates ready for the admissions.
Casual	Not formal	He is a casual person.
Describe	To explain elaborately	Describe your working experience
Structure	Frame work	The structure of the plan is good.
Nutrition	Food values	Biscuits have less nutrition.
Partner	Associate	He is my business partner.
Entire	whole	The entire stadium is crowded.
Socks	A garment for foot	My socks are wet.
Streams	Tide	The stream of padma is dangerous.
Sweet	Pleasant, sugary	I bought sweets for Diwali.
Popular	famous	Who is your favourite sportsperson?
Remember	To memorise, recall	Remember your mobile number.
Properly	rightly	The essay was properly written.
Certain	Something that is predictable	Hard work certainly gives success.

Paternal	From father side	He is my paternal uncle.
Yield	Result	Yield was high this season.
Recreation	entertainment	Recreational activities are good for adults.
Prescribe	To assign	Take prescribed medicines.
Tragedy	sorrow	My planning was a tragedy.
Untimely	inappropriate	Your untimely submission has been rejected.
Isolate	Left lonely	He was isolated from the group.
Contagious	Spreads by touch	Covid-19 is contagious.
Fortnight	After 14 days (two weeks)	I go to a temple every fortnight.
Tidy	Not spending too much	Be tidy in your work.
Preface	Introductory note	Learn how to write a preface.
Heritage	Cultural and physical structure of a society	India has a rich heritage.
Fitful	Not often happening	The rain is fitful.
Envious	Be jealous	Don't be envious of others.
Typical	normal	She is a typical hard-working woman.
Defying	Refuse to obey	He is defying our order.
Boutique	Home cloth products	Boutiques are expensive.
Chores	Household work	Chores are gender neutral.
Heed	Pay attention	Take good heed.
Nip	bite	The dog nipped him.
Wisdom	knowledge	He has wisdom in life.
Stunned	shocked	I was stunned by the results.
Admiration	Praise	I admire great leaders.
Fascinated	enthusiastic	I was fascinated by the idea.
Astonish	surprise	Astonishingly, people live longer than expected.
Vain	fail	The efforts went in vain.
Unstitched	unsewn	The pants are unstitched.
Grudge	A persistent ill will	Do not have grudges against opponents.
Greedy	Wanting more than enough	Greedy people won't be satisfied.
Unfortunate	unlucky	Unfortunately, the company is closed.
Abuse	humiliate	Stop abusing others.

Ill fated	hardluck	He is ill fated.
Outward	outgoing	The flood is outward.
Sapling	A young tree	Saplings are necessary for climate change.
Passion	Love to do something	He is a passionate person.
Farthest	Most distant	Our house is located farthest from the city.
Scorching	Very hot	The summer is scorching hot.
Fallow land	A land left unused	Fallow land is now being used.
Fodder	Food, like straw	Fodder is taken to the cattle.
Enormous	Huge	The lion was enormous in the zoo.
Grumpy	Angry	The grumpy old woman fell sick.
Generous	Kind-hearted	He is a generous person.
Flattery	Praising to gain something	Flattery is weak.
Dove	A kind of duck	Doves are beautiful.
Sly	cunny	He is very sly.
Mighty	big	How mighty this machine looks.
Insincere	Not obedient	You are insincere.
Urge	persuade	I urge you to help the poor.
Grateful	thankful	I'm grateful for everything.
Noble	Honourable	Teaching is a noble profession.
Echo	Own sound returning	You will get an echo when you are in a cave.
Vicious	Very bad	Paradox of thrift is a vicious cycle.
Wisest	Knowledgeable	He is the wisest person.
Pledge	A personal promise	We pledge now to save the environment.
Steadfastness	Inflexible	Steadfastness is sometimes a weakness.
Worthless	valueless	Some actions are worthless.
Delight	joy	It was a delightful experience.
Lounge	Lie, sit or stand	Lounge can be an unaware movement.
Expire	Out of death	The milk expired.
Departure	Going away	The departure was sudden.
Seize	stop	The car was seized.
Enclosed	encircled	The area was fenced.
Lavatory	toilet	Use the lavatory on the right.

Descend	Downward path	The road descended.
Approximate	Very close	The approximate time is 12 pm.
Upright	vertical	The upright portion of the building is wet.
Turbulence	unstable	The wind is turbulent.
Fasten	To tie	Fasten your seatbelt.
Hesitate	Not doing an action	He is hesitant to tell the truth.
Fountain	A place where water is gushing out	The fountain looks beautiful.
Roasted	fried	The peanut was roasted.
Mythology	Old stories and beliefs	Adonis is involved in mythology.
Ancient	Very old	We have ancient texts.
Hazardous	harmful	This field of work involves hazardous substances.
Shoals	A kind of fish	Shoals are not delicious.
Knight	An honoured soldier	The knight is still alive.
Rely	Depending upon something	Don't rely on today's weather.
Oyster	A sea animal	Oysters are expensive.
Nomad	A person who has no permanent place to live	Nomads are increasing in the recent past.
Toddler	A baby who barely walks	Toddlers are active at home.
Herbal	Prepared from herbs	Herbal medicines are good.
Maternal	From the mother's side	My maternal relatives are awesome.
Bedey	Who do business using snakes	Bedey are commonly seen in Bangladesh.
Compartment	chamber	Take any one compartment from the building.
Benign	Gentle or kind	We cannot be benign against the criminals.
Correspond (with/to)	To be similar to something	Politicians don't correspond with their words.
Disposal	The act of arranging or distributing	Police are trained for effective disposal of duties.
Distinct	Having easily-identifiable characteristics	Dark chocolate is distinct from other varieties.
Erode	To destroy slowly	Many ancient texts were eroded.
interpretation	An explanation	Literature has various interpretations.
Legislation	The process of making laws	The new legislation benefits the country.
Majority	The greater part or number	The majority of the group ask for a leave.
Maximise	To use to maximum effect or	The goal of any business is to maximise its profits.

	potential	
Minimise	To reduce	In any work you do, try to minimise the risk.
Obtain	To get or receive	Obtain respect from others.
Obvious	Clear and easy to predict	It's obvious that people feel lonely these days.
Occur	To happen or take place	An earthquake might occur this year.
Option	A choice	There are plenty of options in engineering.
Participate	To take part in something	Students must participate in sports.
Period	A portion of time	During the modern period, countries suffered a lot.
Prospect	A potential candidate	We have different prospects based on the eligibility.
Psychological	Relating to the mind	Psychological health is more equally important.
Purchase	To buy	Purchase those materials for today's event.
Pursue	To do something	I'm pursuing my goals.
Relevant	Related to	Give relevant answers to the questions.
Reliable	Able to trust	Always refer to reliable sources for exams.
Requirement	Demanded	You must meet these requirements to join our company.
Resource	A support, supply or an aid of something	We need more resources to complete this task.
Retain	To remember	When you learn, try to retain the information.
Role	A position or customary function	The role of a father is important in a man's life.
Sector	A part or subdivision	It is the government sector.
Secure	safe	Children feel secure with their parents.
Significant	important	There is a significant improvement in your learning.
Status	Someone's position in relation to other people	People seek status in society.
Symbolise	To represent or be a symbol for something	In most cultures, it is understood that the dove symbolises peace.
Technique	A specific way of doing things	I used this technique to solve my problems.
Transform	To change into a different form	The internet has transformed to another level.
Veritable	Being truly or very much so	I felt a veritable pain in my body.
Visible	Able to be seen	There has been a visible shift in public opinion towards the government.
Wane	To decrease in strength, intensity, and so on	My interest towards football has waned.

IELTS General Reading Vocabulary List

The IELTS General test mainly focuses on a candidate's English language proficiency to understand and converse in everyday life and employment. To express your views clearly, use the **IELTS General Reading vocabulary list** given below, as it will help you a lot.

The important words for IELTS General are:

- Understanding
- Incurable
- Mischievous
- Tolerant
- Fantastic
- Intelligent
- Unbelievable
- Efficient
- Outstanding
- Indispensable
- Reasonable
- Stringent
- Outstanding
- Impatient
- Impure
- Constant
- Revert
- Revoke
- Instigate
- Venture
- Absurd
- Amazing
- Adventurous
- Reserved
- Severe
- Discreditable
- Organized
- Dedicated
- Explicit
- Extravagant
- Introvert
- Inexperienced
- Generous
- Responsible
- Sentimental
- Assertive
- Tempting
- Tangible
- Eminent
- Spontaneous

- Answer
- Awful
- Bad
- Begin
- Big
- Break
- Calm
- Come
- Cool
- Cut
- Dangerous
- Decide
- Definite
- Delicious
- Describe
- Destroy
- Difference
- Dull
- End
- Explain
- Ego
- Fall
- Famous
- Fans
- Wrong
- Will
- Whisper
- Withdraw
- Withhold
- Withstand
- Wind
- Use
- Upbringing
- Understood
- Tell
- Truth
- Tough
- Teaching
- Tutor
- Traverse
- Tidiness
- Show
- Swim
- Sightseeing
- Skills
- Place
- Palace
- Print

- Polish
- Polite
- Old
- Orchestrate
- Oligarchy
- Open up
- New
- Netizen
- Neurology
- Networking
- Move
- Massive
- Munch
- Love
- Liberty
- Locate
- Liaison
- Little
- Intriguing
- Innocent
- Informal
- Invariable
- Incarceration
- Imprisonment
- Idea
- Hide
- Hitchhiking
- Holocaust
- Get
- Great
- Giving
- Goosebump

Topic-wise IELTS Reading Vocabulary

The main topics for IELTS reading vocabulary are as follows: –

- Travel
- Education
- Information Technology
- Advertisement
- Business and Work
- Food, Diet and Fitness
- Crime
- The Arts and Culture
- Environment and Science
- Fashion

- Personality
- Covid-19

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Travel

Words	Meaning	Examples
Tourism	The business of providing services for tourists who are visiting a place.	Tourism is an important industry in every country.
Vacation	Holiday; a time period when universities/courts are closed.	We must plan for a long vacation this time.
Take off	The aircraft leaves the ground to fly.	The flight is scheduled to take off at 5 pm.
Freeway	A two-carriageway road, where one has controlled access.	We'll have to take the freeway to reach the destination.
Cruise	Travelling by boat with a group of people on a holiday.	We will take photos during our cruise through the Mediterranean.
Sailboat	A boat propelled by sails, tides and wind.	The sailboat needs wind, not fuel.
Voyage	A long trip by sea or in space.	The voyage to Alaska took a couple of days.
Bicycle	A vehicle with two wheels.	Use a bicycle to keep yourself fit.
Motel	A hotel near a main road.	I booked a motel for tonight.
Camp	A place where people live in tents.	I like going camping with friends.
Check in	The act of recording your arrival	Reach the airport 2 hours before the check in.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Education

Words	Meaning	Examples
Academic year	It's the time when students attend university or school.	I'm planning to join this course in the next academic year.
Assignment	It's a work assigned by authoritative figures.	We have given three assignments to complete.
Credit	It is the recognition of having undertaken a course.	To pass this exam, you must obtain the credits.
Curriculum	It stands for the subjects comprising a course of study.	Their curriculum contains practical subjects.
Curriculum Vitae	It is a formal document having a person's academic, professional background.	Prepare your curriculum vitae for tomorrow's interview.
Discipline	An area of study.	I'm interested in the Psychology discipline.

Doctorate	It is the highest degree awarded to an individual.	She has completed her doctorate successfully.
Literacy	It is the ability to write and read.	Children lack the basic literacy in English.
Scholarship	It is an amount given to students for financial support.	The scholarship amount is credited to students.
Secondary education	It is the stage of education following primary education.	Children must concentrate more in their secondary education.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Information Technology

Words	Meaning	Examples
Monitor	The action of keeping watch over a fault.	The technical team will monitor the output.
Connect	The communication between two or more people.	Let's connect on Zoom to discuss the plan.
Install	To set up or make an application ready for use.	First install the software and use the free version.
Boot	To turn on a computer.	My laptop wouldn't boot up this morning.
Access	To enter into a computer, website or an app.	This room has restricted access.
Log In	The act of logging in to a computer, database, etc.	To open the file, log in the computer and click Enter.
Download	The act of copying data from a large computer to a smaller one.	All photos are downloaded from the mobile.
Upgrade	Improve the standards.	Our website is upgraded with new features.
Analyse	To look at something carefully and understand it completely.	We will analyse the data and come up with an idea.
Browse	To search for information in computer files.	If your browser doesn't work, refresh it once.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Advertisement

Words	Meaning	Examples
Commercial	Related to buying and selling	People get attracted to TV commercials.
Coupon	A small piece of paper used to purchase goods at a lower price.	Use this coupon to get the discounted price.
Eye-catcher	Something that attracts someone's attention.	The last ball six is an eye-catcher.
Features	Noticeable part of something	The movie has 3D features.

Hoarding	Storing large quantities of something (secretly)	We are hoarding tons of weapons.
Poster	A large size picture or a notice in a public place.	The poster for the advertisement is ready.
Target	An outcome that you try to achieve.	The soldiers reached the target.
Endorsement	Officially supporting someone or something publicly.	Brands having celebrity endorsement boosts their market.
Subliminal	A mental process below the state of consciousness.	He reached the subliminal stage during the pandemic.
Telemarketing	Selling products or services over the phone.	We handle telemarketing business for revenue.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Business and Work

Words	Meaning	Examples
Bonus	A payment that is added to what is usual.	This year, employees will get an extra bonus for their hard work.
Dismiss	Leaving the place.	Let's dismiss this meeting now.
Employer	Company	My new employer is IBM.
Interview	A formal meeting between a candidate and the employer to find out if he/she is suitable for a job.	I have an interview this evening.
Redundant	A person is no longer needed for a job role.	When an MNC closes, all employees would become redundant.
Maternity Leave	A period of leave from work given to a mother before and after the birth of a child.	Government announces new rules for maternity leave.
Notice period	A time period where the employee must work after saying that they're leaving.	We have 2 months of notice period.
Perk	Something an employee gets from the company other than the salary.	There are many perks and privileges available.
Promotion	A move to a higher position	I got a promotion.
Union	A group of people joining for a cause or a situation.	The labour union is on a strike.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Food, Diet and Fitness

Words	Meaning	Examples
Abnormal	Not looking normal or usual.	You're looking abnormal.

Ache	Pain	I'm having a headache.
Achievement	The act of accomplishing something.	When you climb this mountain, it'll become an achievement.
Genetics	The study of heredity and variations in human organisms.	High blood pressure might come through genetics.
Hygiene	Clean environment	Children must be hygienic.
Immunity	The state where an organism can fight diseases.	Eat green vegetables to increase your immunity.
Infirm	Lacking strength or vitality	After recovering from covid-19, people felt infirmity.
Massage	Kneading or rubbing the body to relax.	I had a head massage.
Moisture	Wetness due to water.	Apply this cream to maintain moisture on your skin.
Performance	The act of doing something.	It was a great performance.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - The Arts and Culture

Words	Meaning	Examples
Preserve	Keeping something safe.	We must preserve the test samples.
Rituals	An action or process which is done for a purpose.	Are rituals necessary in a marriage?
Parades	A group of people walking for a cause.	Military parades look nice to watch.
Socialise	Connecting with people.	Introverts don't socialise much.
Cultural traditions	Identifying a person's heritage	Youngsters must know their cultural traditions.
Myth	A story that is manipulated.	There are many myths about religions.
Ceremonies	Functions	We celebrated wedding ceremonies luxuriously.
Legends	An expert in a field.	Legends have dealt with failures.
Folklore	Traditional stories and beliefs.	I am going to learn folklore music.
Inheritance	The assets that an individual bequeaths to their close ones after they pass away.	People value inheritance.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Environment and Science

Words	Meaning	Examples
Deforestation	Cutting down trees	Deforestation is prohibited in our region.
Cultivate	Use land for growing plants	Farmers use land only to cultivate crops.
Wetland	An area of land that is always	In the outskirts of Kolkata, there are many wetlands.

	wet	
Oxidised	To combine or make something with oxygen	The substance is oxidised.
Rainforest	A thick forest in tropical parts of the world that have a lot of rain	Rainforests are gradually decreasing in the world.
Acidification	The process of making or becoming acidic.	In Chemistry, take this liquid for acidification.
Emission	The discharge of something like gas or radiation.	Delhi is suffering from a lot of emissions.
Photosynthesis	The process of plants absorbing energy from sunlight.	Without photosynthesis, plants will die.
Grassland	A large area of open land covered with wild grass.	Insects are more in grassland than any other place.
Ecosystem	Plants and animals in an area together with their surroundings.	Plant trees to build a good ecosystem.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Fashion

Words	Meaning	Examples
Trendy	Fashionable	Children look trendy with new costumes.
Casual look	A dress code that looks relaxed and suitable for daily use.	I wear a casual look for the office.
Outfit	A set of clothes worn for an occasion.	There are various outfits related to marriage.
Wardrobe	A person's collection of clothes.	Fill your wardrobe with many dresses.
Accessories	An extra item added to be useful.	I need to buy new accessories for the reception.
Catwalk	Models walk to display clothes in fashion shows.	I tried doing a catwalk in the previous fashion show.
Aesthetics	Related to beauty or art.	Your painting is filled with aesthetics.
Retro	Back or backwards in fashion.	Retro outfits are reappearing now.
Silhouette	The dark shape of somebody/something placed across a light background.	I have a silhouette at home.
Embellishing	To make something more beautiful.	The bride's dress is embellished with beautiful colours.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Personality

Words	Meaning	Examples
Adventurous	Like to do new things that are quite risky.	It was an adventurous trip.
Aggressive	Ready to fight or argue.	He is very aggressive in sports.
Ambitious	A strong desire to be successful.	She is an ambitious woman.
Temper	Feeling angry instantly.	Control your temper to avoid conflicts.
Emotions	A strong feeling.	All have emotions in life.
Anxiety	A feeling of fear, dread and uncomfortableness.	I'm suffering from social anxiety.
Depression	A mood disorder that has a feeling of sadness.	During the lockdown, people had depression.
Enthusiastic	Full of excitement and interest in something.	When it comes to entertainment, I become enthusiastic.
Challenge	Something that motivates you to put effort on something.	Always challenge yourself to get the best output.
Charming	Very pleasing or attractive.	She is a charming individual.

IELTS Reading Vocabulary - Covid-19

Words	Meaning	Examples
Coronavirus	A deadly virus	Coronavirus has different variants.
Sanitize	Make clean and hygienic	Don't forget to sanitise your hands.
Facemask	A protective mask covering the nose and mouth.	Wear a facemask while travelling.
Pandemic	A disease spreading the whole world.	The pandemic is terrifying.
Epidemic	A large number of people or animals are suffering from a disease.	The epidemic took away many lives.
Illness	Feeling sick	If you have an illness, go to the doctor immediately.
Decay	Becoming bad or slowly destroyed	The body starts to decay once the person dies.
Corruption	Dishonest or immoral act in a profession.	Corruption is destroying society.
Hospitality	Taking care of guests and being friendly.	He gave great hospitality.
Symptoms	A change in your body	Check for symptoms like fever, dullness, etc before going to school.

