

HOW TO
GET A BAND 8.0
ON THE IELTS SPEAKING TEST

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The story behind Andy's "How to get a Band 8.0 on the IELTS Speaking Test"...



Hello!

I'm Andy Turner, and I'd like to tell you the story behind my e-book.

You may know me as an online teacher who helps students get the IELTS score they need the first time. My students save money and time, and can move on to the next stage of their life!

When I started teaching IELTS in 2008, I read textbooks, watched YouTube and learned all I could about the exam. However, these generic resources fail the majority of students. I realized that my students needed more personalized and individual advice.

In 2009, I hired an IELTS examiner to help me develop a unique course. As a result, hundreds of students received the scores they needed and won places at top universities. You can see some of the universities they attended here.

Stop wasting your time with the generic lessons found in IELTS textbooks or on YouTube. Read my e-book and discover a better way to get the score you need!

Click here to read the success stories of some of my students.

To your success!

Andy

HOW TO GET A BAND 8.0 ON THE IELTS TEST

Struggling to raise your score to a band 8.0?

After multiple attempts, you find it impossible to get the score you need.

Sound familiar? I'm here to help you find the reasons for those failures.

Everyone has different weaknesses. Focusing on the specific areas holding you back will bring you the success you need.

Focusing on the wrong areas will result in repeated failure, delaying or ending your chances of moving forward.

Let's make a start on identifying the areas in which your weakness might lie!

HOW YOU ARE GRADED

First of all, you need to understand how IELTS examiners grade you. They grade you using **descriptors** - lists of criteria you must pass to get the band you need.

There are four categories of *descriptors* in the IELTS test...

- ***Fluency and coherence***
- ***Lexical resource***
- ***Grammatical range and accuracy***
- ***Pronunciation***

For each area, an examiner will give you a band score from 1-9. These scores are then averaged out to produce your final score.

You must try and score a band 8.0 in each of these categories, anything less than a 7.0 will make your task next to impossible!

Here's what you must do to get the elusive band 8.0...

FLUENCY AND COHERENCE

Speaking without effort marks the difference between a band 6.0 and 8.0. The number one reason for high-level candidates failing to get the score they deserve? Pausing too much to think about vocabulary or grammar.

By test day, you should be very comfortable with the vocabulary and grammar you will use. You might know higher-level words, but don't use them if they will cause you to hesitate or pause.

My number one tip - just speak! Use phrases you are comfortable with, don't strain to remember words you don't yet own.

If you do pause - pause between sentences. The examiner will interpret this as pausing to think for ideas. Pausing mid-sentence will give the impression you lack fluency or vocabulary.

LEXICAL RESOURCE (or vocabulary)

You might be surprised to learn that band 6.0 and band 8.0 students know almost the same amount of words. It's **the way** in which they use those words that marks the difference in their band score.

Band 8.0 students tend to combine words into more natural expressions. For example, instead of saying '*I started that job because my dad does it,*' they might say '*I got into that line because of my father.*' Each word in these examples comes from the top 1000 English words. However, the latter expression sounds more like a native speaker.

Don't throw away your vocabulary app - but ***start to focus more on idiomatic phrases than just simple vocabulary!***

PRONUNCIATION

Want to know one of the most common reasons a high-level candidate loses pronunciation marks? They speak too fast!

I have met exam candidates who speak at three times my speed. But, speaking too quickly in the IELTS test will confine you to a band 6.0 for pronunciation!

My top tip here - slow down!

Speak at the same pace as the rest of the world! Remember to use intonation and word stress to emphasize the most important words in a sentence.

GRAMMATICAL RANGE AND ACCURACY

I knew a candidate who spoke without any grammar errors. He received a band 4.0!

The problem? He only used very simple sentences. The IELTS test requires accuracy **AND** range!

Ninety-nine percent of the time, the examiner's questions will use the same grammar you should use in your reply. Hence, he will use a range of grammar in the questions he asks. So listen carefully to how he forms his questions!

To score an IELTS 8.0, you must use simple and complex (multi-clause) sentences with accuracy. A band 7.0 means you produce error-free sentences at least a third of the time, and **a band 8.0 means you speak without error most of the time.**

Don't despair if this sounds impossible! Most students only need to correct two or three areas of their grammar.

For example, if you always use articles incorrectly, almost every sentence you speak will contain a mistake. However, if that's your only problem, understanding articles will soon lift you into a band 8.0!

WHAT NEXT?

For this reason, I give my students a **Hit List** of their most common mistakes from their very first lesson! **My students focus their time on the areas they need to improve.** They don't waste time on the generic lessons found in IELTS textbooks or on YouTube.

The most successful people use their time efficiently,

targeting only the areas they need. They seek out and take expert advice and help!

You have taken a critical first step!

CHOOSE A TEACHER

Avoid anyone who advertises that they have been an examiner. Real examiners (former or otherwise) are forbidden to advertise this status.

Examiners do tend to make the best teachers, and they can reveal their status when asked. Finding a good teacher is a matter of looking for experienced teachers, and then asking if they are an examiner. (Ask for proof if you are suspicious!)

Ready to start?

To start studying English with an Expert and receive your own personalized **Hit List**, [contact me](#).

Still confused?

Not sure whether you are ready to start studying for an IELTS 8.0? Click here to take a [short quiz](#).