

Road to IELTS - Academic syllabus

Unit 1: Leisure and entertainment

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about leisure activities, sports, games and equipment.
Listening	a talk about places to eat out in a town and a conversation about a survey on popular forms of physical activity.
Academic Reading	an article about the history of board games and an article about games played by indigenous people in various parts of the world.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on static charts.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions discussing advantages and disadvantages.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for answering general questions about yourself in Part 1.

Unit 2: Language and communication

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about language and varieties of language.
Listening	a talk about ways to improve your English and a conversation about endangered languages.
Academic Reading	a book extract comparing animal communication with human language and a book extract describing the role that the brain plays in human language.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on dynamic charts.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for talking about a topic in Part 2.

Unit 3: Travel, tourism and transport

Word Power	phrases to talk about traffic-related problems and solutions, and words and phrases to talk about air travel.
Listening	a conversation about a plane trip and a lecture about a tribe of Native Americans.
Academic Reading	an article explaining how new technology could improve air safety and an article describing recent changes in the travel industry.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on tables.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for taking part in a discussion in Part 3.

Unit 4: Environment

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about environmental problems and geographical features.
Listening	a conversation about adopting a zoo animal and a lecture about the structure of the Earth.
Academic Reading	an article about global warming and an article discussing animal extinctions.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on diagrams showing objects.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for answering general questions about yourself in Part 1.

Unit 5: Art and culture

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about art, cinema, theatre and national treasures.
Listening	a telephone conversation about booking theatre tickets and a lecture on the history of British cinemas.
Academic Reading	an article about artists who painted self- portraits and an article discussing the value of studying ancient cultures
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on static charts.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions discussing advantages and disadvantages.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for talking about a topic in Part 2.

Unit 6: Mass Media

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about television, newspapers and jobs in the media.
Listening	a talk given by a guide to visitors to a media museum and a conversation about news consumption.
Academic Reading	an article describing the effects of television on children and adults and an article explaining why newspapers are not threatened by competition from television or the Internet.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on dynamic charts.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions discussing arguments for and against.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for talking part in a discussion in Part 3.

Unit 7: Health and fitness

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about medical conditions and symptoms, food-related vocabulary, and words to talk about the causes, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.
Listening	a talk about keeping healthy in winter and a conversation about insects and human diseases.
Academic Reading	an article describing how viruses trapped in the polar ice caps may be released into the atmosphere and an article discussing the sun protection factor in sunscreen products.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on tables.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions giving an opinion.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for answering general questions about yourself in Part 3.

Unit 8: Work and business

Word Power	verbs we use at work and words and phrases to talk about a variety of work-related issues.
Listening	a talk about writing a CV and a conversation about changes in women's employment.
Academic Reading	an article explaining why knowing a foreign language is important in business and an article discussing how changes in business could lead to the disappearance of management structures.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for reports on diagrams showing processes.
Academic Writing	practice exercises for compositions discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for talking about a topic in Part 2

Unit 9: Society and social issues

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about social issues and crime and punishment.
Listening	a telephone conversation between a student and a campus security officer about a burglary and a lecture about old age and society.
Academic Reading	a book extract comparing the main characteristics of bands, tribes and chiefdoms and an article discussing the effects of modern means of transport and communications on society.
Academic Writing	revision exercises for Writing Task 1.
Academic Writing	revision exercises for Writing Task 2.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for taking part in a discussion in Part 3.

Unit 10: Education

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about the education system and university education.
Listening	a conversation between an admissions officer at an evening school and a prospective student and a talk about methods of study at universities in the UK.
Academic Reading	an article discussing factors affecting student motivation and an article discussing the importance of playtime for school children.
Academic Writing	a report based on a table and a static chart, and a composition discussing arguments for and against.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for answering general questions about yourself in Part 1.

Unit 11: Developing world

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about a variety of development issues and aid.
Listening	a radio talk about an international charity and a discussion about a British invention.
Academic Reading	an article about terrace farming in Nepal and an article describing a water disinfection system highly suited for use in developing countries.
Academic Writing	a report based on a table and a dynamic chart, and a composition giving and justifying your opinion.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for talking about a topic in Part 2.

Unit 12: Science and technology

Word Power	words and phrases to talk about the Internet, astronomy, sciences and scientists.
Listening	a telephone conversation about a faulty washing machine and a lecture about setting up a web site.
Academic Reading	an article describing research into methods of controlling insects electronically and an article discussing the possibility of life on other planets.
Academic Writing	a report on a diagram showing a process, and a composition discussing the causes of a problem and suggesting solutions.
Speaking	video clips and practice exercises for taking part in a discussion in Part 3.