IELTS™

The test that's trusted around the world

QS World Rankings

Dublin, 2012

Stephen Carey

"We want qualified, applicants who are able to communicate effectively and excel in their work. The IELTS examination is a strong and well-constructed English proficiency test that caters to this demand."

Graduate Program Administrator, Brigham Young University

IELTS™

The International English Language Testing System

Jointly owned by 3 partners:

BRITISH COUNCIL

idp IELTS AUSTRALIA

UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE ESOL Examinations

www.ielts.org

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What is IELTS?

- A test of your ability to communicate in English:
  - for study or work in English
  - tests all four language skills – listening, reading, writing and speaking
- A test of the full range of proficiency levels:
  - from non-user to expert user, reported with an overall band score
- A test of international English:
  - cultural or linguistic bias minimised
  - content produced and checked internationally
  - variety of accents used

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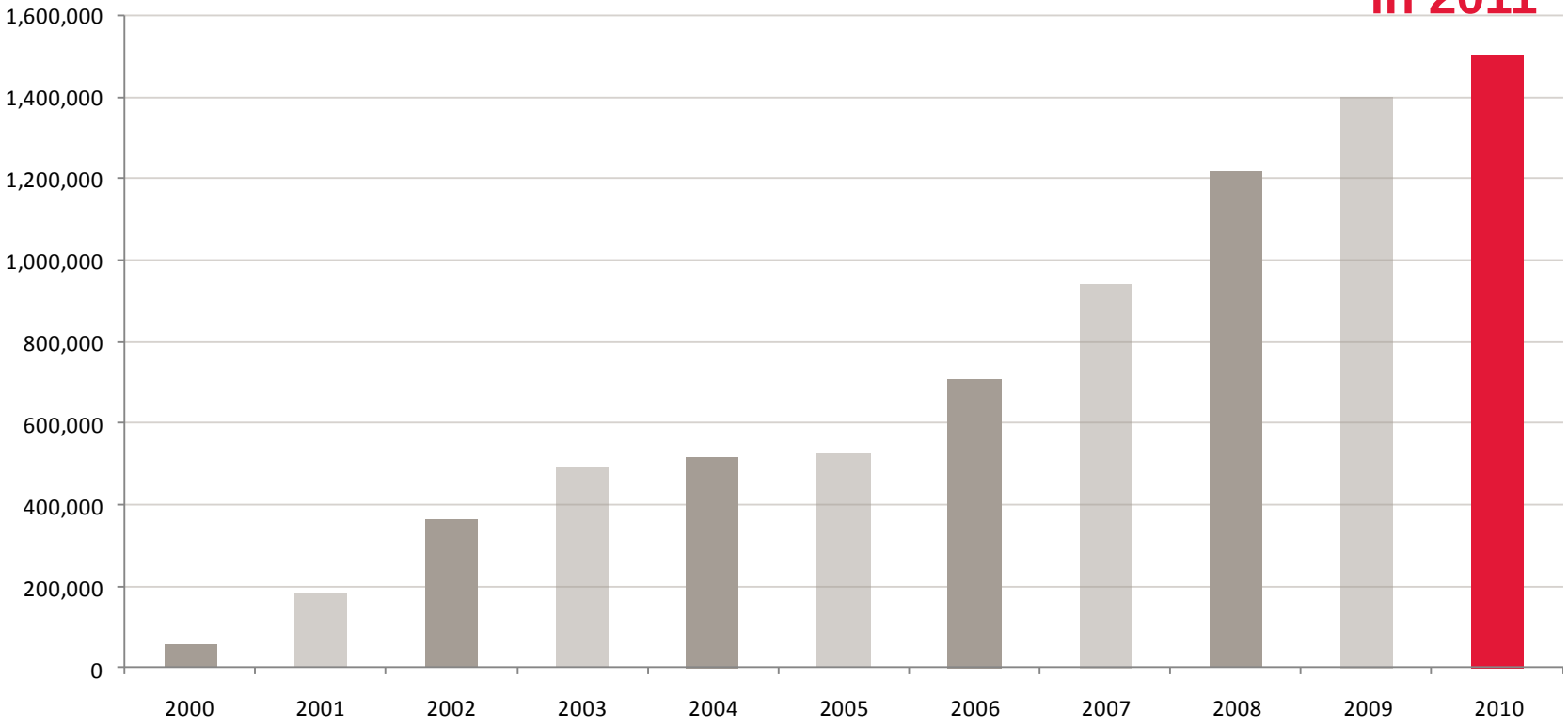
Increasing popularity of IELTS

1.7 million tests taken in 2011



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Why is IELTS the world's most popular test for education and emigration?

- Availability: offered in over 800 locations in 135 countries
- Accepted worldwide: 7,000 organisations accept IELTS scores
- Frequency: up to 48 test dates per year (4 per month)
- Format: paper-based allows for testing in remote locations
- Fast results: released 13 days after test
- Two test versions: Academic and General Training
- Excellent customer service from test centre staff
- Test Report Form can be sent directly to receiving organisations
- Band scores at 9 levels with half-band scores

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The real-life test for the real world

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IELTS 9-Band Scale

9	Expert user	Has fully operational command of the language: appropriate, accurate and fluent with complete understanding.
8	Very good user	Has fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies and inappropriacies. Misunderstandings may occur in unfamiliar situations. Handles complex detailed argumentation well.
7	Good user	Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.
6	Competent user	Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.
5	Modest user	Has partial command of the language, coping with overall meaning in most situations, though is likely to make many mistakes. Should be able to handle basic communication in own field.
4	Limited user	Basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Has frequent problems in understanding and expression. Is not able to use complex language.
3	Extremely limited user	Conveys and understands only general meaning in very familiar situations. Frequent breakdowns in communication occur.
2	Intermittent user	No real communication is possible except for the most basic information using isolated words or short formulae in familiar situations and to meet immediate needs. Has great difficulty understanding spoken and written English.
1	Non user	Essentially has no ability to use the language beyond possibly a few isolated words.
0	Did not attempt the test	No assessable information provided.

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IELTS Academic and General Training

Academic:

- Entry to University / College / professional registration / recruitment
- Assesses ability to study or train at undergraduate or postgraduate level

General Training:

- Immigration, vocational, secondary education, language training and work experience
- Assess survival skills in a broad social and educational context

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Test Format

Academic version

Listening
30 minutes,
4 sections, 40 items

Reading
60 minutes,
3 sections, 40 items

Writing
60 minutes, 2 tasks

Speaking
11 - 14 minutes,
3 parts

General Training version

Listening
30 minutes,
4 sections, 40 items

Reading
60 minutes,
3 sections, 40 items

Writing
60 minutes, 2 tasks

Speaking
11 - 14 minutes,
3 parts

Total test time

2 hours 44 minutes
(+ 10 minutes transfer time)

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Test results notification

- Test takers receive one personal copy of the Test Report Form (TRF)
- Five additional copies can be sent for the original fee by mail, messenger service or electronically directly from test centres to institutions
  - Additional copies can sent for a small administration fee up to two years following the test date
- **Never** accept a test taker's personal copy or a copy/fax/unofficial copy of a TRF
- TRFs are available up to two years following the test date

On-line TRF Verification Service (TRFVS)

- Log in at www.ielts.org/TRF and click on “TRF Query”
- Sign up online or pick up the TRFVS brochure

Centre Number:	10294
Centre Name:	International House, London
Candidate Number:	001234
Candidate ID:	A1234
Family Name:	Moulding
First Name:	Carly
Date of Birth:	1980-01-01
Sex (M/F):	F
Repeating IELTS:	N
Previous Test Date:	
Previous Test Centre:	

Test Results	**Overall Band 6.5** Band Scores Explained

Date of Examination:	2007-08-16
TRF Number:	0710001234SAMJ294A
Listening	Band 7.5
Reading	Band 5.5
Writing	Band 6.5
Speaking	Band 6.5

Test Report Form Verification Service (TRFVS)

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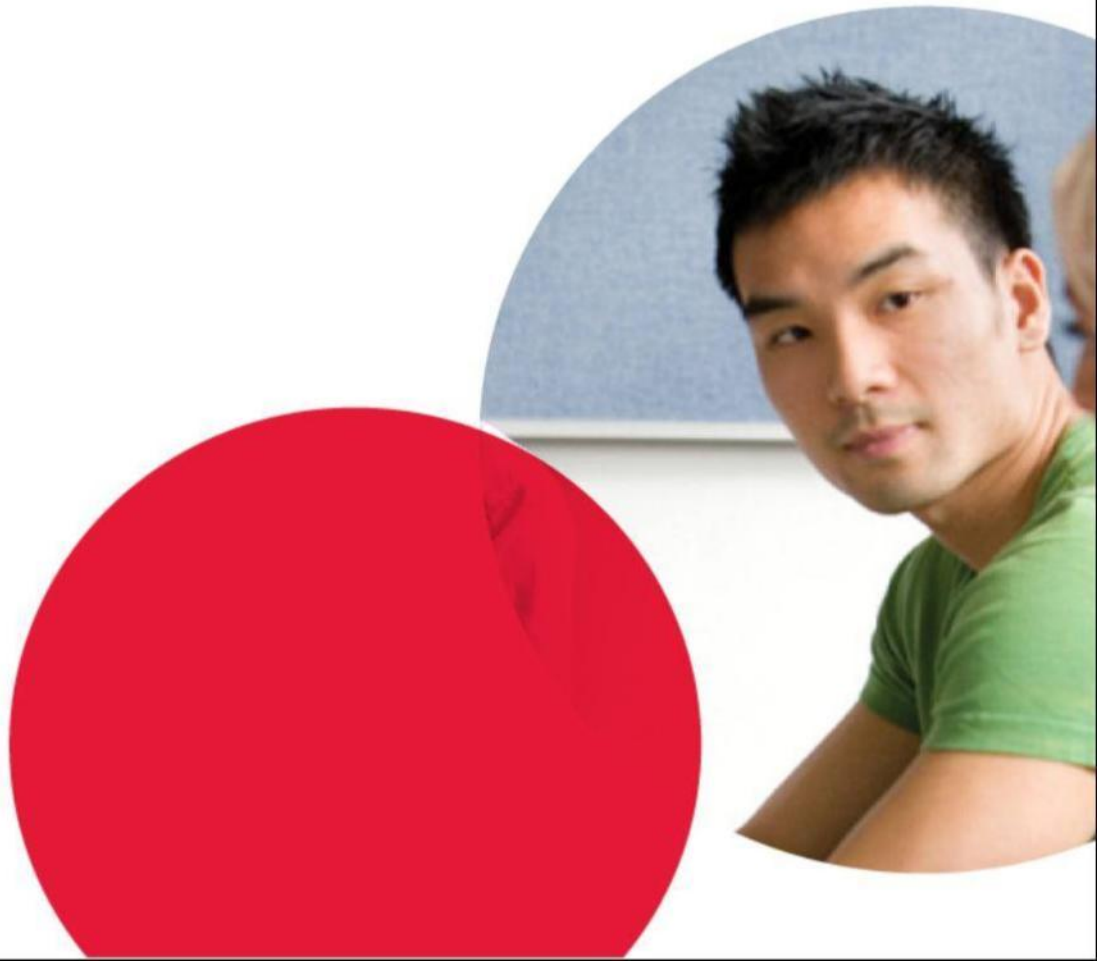
Enhanced security features



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Identity Authentication Management (IAM)

- Initial biometric information will be captured
- Verification must be conducted at every entrance to a secure area
- Documented audit trail of all system actions

IAM Benefits

- Test Centre
- Candidate
- Stakeholder

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Any questions?

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