

IELTS Key Principles

Reading

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Introduction



This download is a companion to Lesson 1 of IELTS Key Principles.

It is designed to help you apply what you've learned in that lesson. Application of key learning principles will lead to real improvement.

Remember, this download is not useful unless you have already watched Lesson 1.



Contents



Key Lessons and Principles.



How to know if you're ready to get the score you need.



How to practice strategically at home for free.



Vocabulary Improvement Plan.



Practice Test and Targeted Feedback.

Summary of 3 Key IELTS Writing Principles



Skimming and Scanning



Skimming

can help you UNDERSTAND the general meaning of the text.

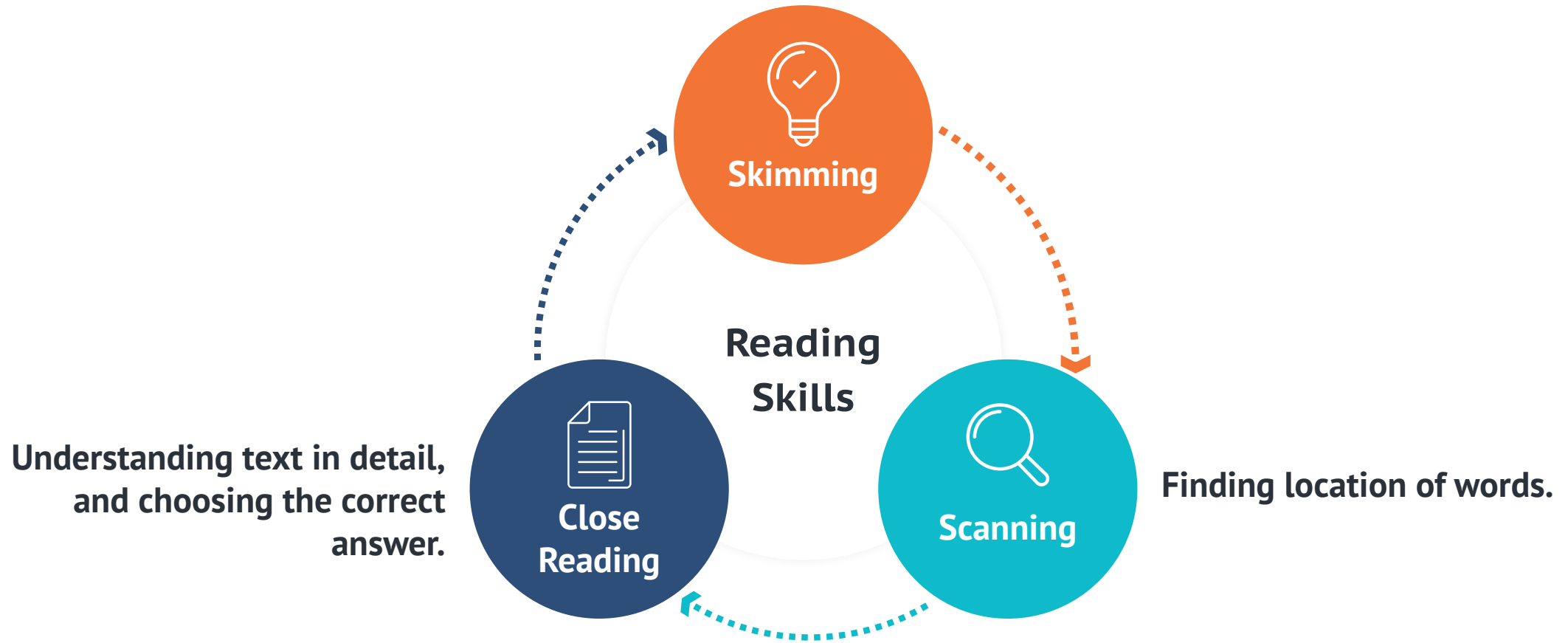


Scanning

can help you LOCATE where the answer is.

However, NEITHER help you choose the correct answer.
That is the most important skill.

Quickly looking and understand general meaning of each paragraph.



Your Vocabulary Improvement Plan



Our Vocabulary Improvement Plan has helped thousands of students improve their vocabulary sustainably and effectively.

You can download it by [clicking here](#).

Students who make vocabulary improvement a habit improve their IELTS scores and improve their overall communication skills for the rest of their lives.

Strategies



Remember that each type of IELTS question tests different reading sub-skills in different ways.

They, therefore, require a unique strategy.

The key thing to remember is that you cannot simply look at a strategy and improve your reading score; you must master that strategy.

You will have mastered the strategy when you can teach it to someone else without thinking about it.

Strategy for Matching Headings

01

If this type of question is on the test, do it first.

02

Don't look at the headings.

03

Read each paragraph to understand general meaning.

04

Try to sum up the general meaning of each paragraph in one or two words.

05

Look at the headings and identify keywords within each heading.

06

Match any headings that are very obvious and you are sure about.

07

For the others, write 2 or 3 headings beside the paragraph. Identify the difference between each of the headings.

If you still can't pick one, move on. The answer will often reveal itself later.

Active Reading

The key is to **DO** something while you are reading and then **DO** something with what you read.

What do we need to **do** in the reading test?

01 Use reading skills.

02 Understand a wide range of vocabulary.

03 Use a strategy for each type of question.



The more we use these 3 during our practice, the **better we become.**

Active Reading Practice 1

01

Pick something you want to read.
Something you enjoy reading, or something related to Task 2 common topics.

02

Quickly skim to understand the general meaning of each paragraph.
Write down a title for each paragraph.

03

Scan for any unknown vocabulary.
Underline it.
Guess meaning from context.

04

Close read the entire passage and decide on meaning of the new words/phrases.

05

Note new words down in vocabulary notebook.

Active Reading Practice 2

01

Get an official practice test.

02

Do the test as slowly as you like.

The goal is to master the strategies first. Build speed up week after week.

03

Analyse your mistakes.

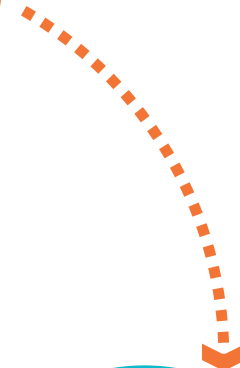
Why did you get each question wrong?

04

Work on improving your weakest areas.

- ✓ Spelling
- ✓ Timing
- ✓ Strategy
- ✓ Vocabulary
- ✓ Particular question types

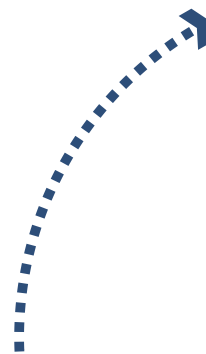
**Find our
weaknesses**



**Why did you get each
question wrong?**



**Turn weaknesses
into strengths**



Your Homework Task

01

Download our [practice test by clicking here](https://www.ieltsadvantage.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Key-Principles-Reading-Task-1.pdf) or copying this link -

<https://www.ieltsadvantage.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Key-Principles-Reading-Task-1.pdf>

02

Do it under exam conditions.

The goal is for you to understand what your IELTS reading score might be if you did the test today.

03

Analyse your mistakes.

Why did you get each question wrong?
See next page for how to do the analysis.

04

Decide if you are ready to do the test or not.

If you are consistently getting the score you need under exam conditions; you are ready.

If not, you should not book the test until you have improved your weaknesses.

Targeted Feedback



Targeted feedback is feedback you can give yourself, without the requirement of a teacher.

For IELTS Reading, this is more effective than having a teacher give you feedback because reading is a receptive skill.

In other words, only you know what you made each mistake because all of the processing is going on inside your brain.

The following analysis will help you find your weaknesses.

Timing



Usain Bolt was not the fastest runner in the world because he had good time management skills, or looked up some time management tips before the race.

He was the fastest runner because he was the best at running.

IELTS students do not run out of time during the Reading test because they lack time management skills; they do so because they need to improve their reading skills, vocabulary or strategy.

Turning Weaknesses Into Strengths



Knowing your weaknesses is an important step.

However, awareness without action will not lead to improvement.

You must now work on turning each weakness into a strength.

I will show you how to do this in the following slides.

Common Areas of Weakness 1 of 2

Weakness	How to Improve
Spelling	Click here to view my video on how to improve spelling .
Vocabulary	See Vocabulary Improvement Plan
Vocabulary	See Vocabulary Improvement Plan
Skimming	Practice skimming each day during your daily reading practice by summarising each paragraph with a short title.
Scanning	Practice scanning each day during your daily writing practice by scanning for new words or key information.

Common Areas of Weakness 2 of 2

Weakness	How to Improve
Close Reading	Read with the goal of fully understanding each paragraph during your daily reading practice.
Particular Question Type	Master the strategy for that question type.
Strategy	Master the strategy for all question types.
Strategy	Master the strategy for all question types.
Time	Work on your reading weaknesses.

Good Luck!

If you follow the advice in Lesson 1. and you take action, you will improve your Reading Scores.

If you have any questions, feel free to send us an email-

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