

ORIENTATION SHEETS

For **Christchurch**



Teacher's Name: Mr. Ryan James Whitehouse (Kru. Jaem)
Class Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays (19.00~20.40)
Instructional language: English
Homework: Submit to thinkincafekk@gmail.com with your Student ID Number.

Hello Everyone!

My name is Ryan James Whitehouse (Kru Jaem). I'm an English and IELTS teacher, and I help students develop their skills to take the IELTS test for university entrance or to study abroad. I have experience teaching all four IELTS skills, which include Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking for both Academic and General Training students.

Today, I'll give you an overview of the IELTS test and explain the details of **IELTS Speaking**, which is suitable for both Academic and General test takers.

About IELTS

IELTS is an English proficiency test for those who plan to study at a university or an institution where English is the primary language of instruction. The test is divided into four main skills: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. Each part has its own format and structure.

Other Information

- To maintain the IELTS Guarantee 7.0, students must complete the required page numbers for each chapter listed in the Homework Schedule file before their IELTS test date.
- Every 6 weeks, there will be a 7-day break. You can find the exact dates listed on the LMS homepage. There are usually no classes public holidays.
- The LMS password is updated every month. Students will receive the new password in advance through LINE.
- Zoom recordings are typically uploaded to Google Drive a few hours after each class, along with all materials used during the lesson. These may also be announced via LINE.
- Please note that the most recent recordings are stored on Google Drive, not on the LMS website.

What is IELTS Speaking?

IELTS Speaking is a **face-to-face interview** between the test taker and a certified examiner. It lasts between **11 and 14 minutes** and is **recorded**. The test is designed to evaluate how well you can communicate in spoken English. It is the **same** for both Academic and General Training versions of the IELTS exam.

What Does It Test?

The Speaking test assesses your ability to:

1. Speak fluently and naturally
2. Use a wide range of vocabulary appropriately
3. Use grammar accurately and flexibly
4. Pronounce words clearly and naturally
5. Organise your ideas and respond appropriately to different types of questions

You are graded on **four criteria**, each worth 25%:

- Fluency and Coherence
- Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)
- Grammatical Range and Accuracy
- Pronunciation

Structure of the Test

The test is divided into **three parts**:

Part 1 – Introduction and Interview (4–5 minutes)

- You will answer general questions about yourself.
- Topics may include your hometown, studies, job, hobbies, and daily routine.
- This part is similar to casual conversation or small talk.

Part 2 – Long Turn (3–4 minutes total)

- You will receive a task card with a topic and 3–4 bullet points.
- You have **1 minute to prepare** and may take notes.
- You must speak on the topic for **1–2 minutes**, without interruption.
- The examiner may then ask one or two follow-up questions.

Part 3 – Discussion (4–5 minutes)

- You will have a more detailed conversation with the examiner.
- The questions will be related to the topic in Part 2 but more abstract or analytical.
- You are expected to give longer answers with examples and reasons.

Timing and Format

- Total time: 11 to 14 minutes
- One-on-one with a certified examiner
- The entire test is audio recorded
- No breaks between parts
- Conducted in person or via video call (depending on test centre)

Important Notes for Candidates

- Speak clearly, but naturally — do not memorise answers
- Expand your responses with explanations or examples
- Use a range of vocabulary and grammar structures
- Stay on topic and answer the question directly
- Don't worry about your accent, as long as you are understandable