**IELTS AND OET**

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is a test that measures your English language proficiency for **studying, working or migrating** to a country where English is the main language of communication.

The Occupational English Test (OET) is specifically designed for those who wish to register and work in the healthcare profession. The test **simulates real workplace tasks and the appropriate language skills**.

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<th>Make a plan….</th>
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| **1. Know which test is required** | IELTS [https://www.ielts.org/](https://www.ielts.org/)
- For **Study**
- For **Work** [sometimes accepted for pre-registration–check with your profession’s registration requirements]
- For **Migration**
- **IELTS Academic**
- **IELTS General Training** |
| OET [https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/](https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/) | The OET is applicable to 12 healthcare professions:
- Dentistry, Dietetics, Medicine, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Radiography, Speech Pathology, and Veterinary Science |
| **2. Know what is expected** | • Read the test information in detail, making note of all **sub-skills tested**, **test format**, **key dates** (including registration for test) and **test scoring/criteria** |
| **3. Make a plan**  
**Time management is key to any success** | Test preparation starts from day one…it involves getting organised:
- Use a timetable – record the due date for the test and plan your study backwards from that date
- Use a study planner - allocate some time each day for focused reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Allocate some time each week to practise sample test questions:  
  - IELTS
  - OET |
| **4. Be engaged** | • Read widely, follow news in general and stories related to your discipline. (IELTS particularly will use non-controversial current events for topics in their tests; OET uses generic health-related and discipline-specific topics)
- Actively listen to radio programmes, current events and news – takes notes, frame questions around the topic, write summaries, raise the topic in conversation with a friend/peer, note new vocabulary and use it
- Read different perspectives on the same topic–write summaries, synthesising |
| the information/arguments | • Practise unfamiliar/difficult grammar  
| | • Build a vocabulary bank  
| | • Build a phrasebank  
| | • Test yourself under timed conditions [IELTS; OET]  
| | • Review your answers and compare them to model answers (if available) |

5. Regularly review  
- Review your weekly and study planners...adjust where needed to ensure all sub-skills are practised

6. Ask for guidance  
- There are many professional and learner forums and blogs available to assist you/offer feedback

Useful strategies...  
- **Topic summaries** - reduce the main ideas from readings to a number of key points. Making connections between key points will help you to recall information in the exam  
- **Recall cards** - develop a glossary of terms or definitions. On one side write the word and write the description/definition/example/diagram on the other, as you do this you will ensure that you have ‘understood’ the topic/concept. Cards are easy to carry around and use  
- **Concept maps** - a visual picture of connected details. Write a key idea at the centre of a page, then surround it with connected information. This visual representation in your mind aids memory recall.  
- **Form a study group** with others who are taking the test (online or face-to-face), talking through topics/current events to clarify understanding/develop an argument

Useful links:  
**IELTS**  
- Develop your English [https://www.jcu.edu.au/students/learning-centre/develop-your-english](https://www.jcu.edu.au/students/learning-centre/develop-your-english)  
- http://www.ielts-exam.net/practice_tests/  
- Grammar for IELTS [http://www.ielts-exam.net/grammar/](http://www.ielts-exam.net/grammar/)

**OET**  
- OET Preparation Courses (online) [http://oetonline.net.au/](http://oetonline.net.au/)  
- Occupational English Test Preparation http://www.oetprep.com/hints-for-the-oet.html

Other Useful links:  
- The AWL Highlighter [http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/alzsh3/acvocab/awlhighlighter.htm](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/alzsh3/acvocab/awlhighlighter.htm)  
- The AWL Gapmaker [http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/alzsh3/acvocab/awlgapmaker.htm](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/alzsh3/acvocab/awlgapmaker.htm)  
- Academic Phrasebank [http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/](http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/)