

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR GENERAL AND IELTS WRITING SKILLS: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE

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Abstract: This piece of writing seeks to ways to upgrade the level of writing in both general genres and in IELTS formats. It is clear that mastery of writing benefits in many different life situations.

Key words: academic, IELTS, extensive reading, clarity, grammar, practice.

In today’s competitive world it is essential to have strong writing skills for effective communication, success in your academic life and professional development. Improving your writing abilities both in general way or for IELTS exams will open new opportunities ahead. However, it is important to differentiate these two way of writing from each other.

General writing means an ability to write in a broad range of formats such as essays, letters, articles, reports and so on while in International English Language Testing System (IELTS) you are asked to write in a quite academic and formal way to be evaluated on standard criteria of testing. These can be giving your opinion, problemsolving, stating an argument.

It is often stated that the best way improve general writing skills is to read more and broadly. Extensive reading in a variety of genres expose you to different writing styles and new vocabulary. You can read anything you find, for example fiction, nonfiction, articles and academic papers. Although, all you can benefit from reading all of this, reading what you are most interested would be the most effective one. Clarity and coherence is the next step you should engage to be a good writer:

1. Clarity is the key
2. Clarity is the ultimate art of sophistication alongside with simplicity
3. What differentiates a great master from an amateur writer is the clarity
4. The best of a piece of work is always easy to read, easy-to-follow

These are not my personal sayings. It is what it is. You can encounter emphasises on clarity in Pauline Cullen’s most books. To provide it in your writing it is crucial to organize your thoughts logically, use effective transitional phrases, and structure your paragraphs. Furthermore, understanding grammar rules and expanding your

vocabulary range by using grammar reference books, learning new topic-related words strengthens this fundamental skill. While writing there may be times when you are dissatisfied with your own work and get stressed, and it is natural to fall before flying high. Revising your work again and again, refining the ideas can help you to get better results. Practice makes perfect, importantly right practice makes perfect. By editing the work, getting feedback from more experienced ones around, you too will be able to master the skill.

When it comes to IELTS writing skills, you should work a bit of strictly. This means instead of doing an extensive reading, reading more intensive books enhance the skill more. First of all, familiarize yourself with the task types. Learn how to identify argumentative, discursive or problem-solving prompts within the time. Secondly, time-management is crucial, which means you should have many practices under timed conditions. Do brainstorming, plan, write and review your responses. As abovementioned, coherence and cohesion makes the essay well-structured. Provide clear body paragraphs and utilize appropriate linking words and phrases. When it comes to task response, ensure that your responses directly address the given task. In achieving high scores in the IELTS covering all the questions, presenting relevant perspectives are essential. The last criteria is vocabulary and lexical resource, which implies that idiomatic expression, academic language are a part of academic, formal format of writing. Enrich your vocabulary by learning, studying new words, listening to podcasts every day. In essence, using a wide range of vocabulary in the IELTS exam is a key factor in excelling it, as it supports fluency, accuracy, and precision in the language, which are all essential for performing well across all sections of the test. Avoid unnecessary repetition and be concise. These were specific tips and structures on writing an essay.

Generally, by analyzing high band essays you can grasp the understanding of different structures and organizational patterns. In this process you also develop your own writing style. Before starting to write, analyzing the topic critically is important and observing others' work will gradually better your critical thinking. The experiences make you adopt to diverse writing topics. Another way of enhancing your writing is through reading more articles on broad range of topics. This makes the person stay informed, gain knowledge and new insights, which in turn can be integrated into your own writing.

Mastering writing skills gives a great range of opportunities across personal, academic and professional spheres. It will be easier to reach academic success by improving the ability to convey arguments, analyze information and organize thoughts. Even in the workplace writing skills are highly valued since reports, proposals and other documents are often asked there. Journalism, marketing, publishing require strong writing skills for success. Regular writing practice enhances overall language

proficiency., including grammar, vocabulary, style, which lead to better communication and comprehension skills.

In conclusion, improving your writing skills is far beneficial than only writing itself. Being a professional writer better your personal growth and ability to converse meaningfully with the people around.

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