



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.

Make a plan	What to do
1. Know which test is required	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ IELTS<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For Study• For Work<p>Sometimes accepted for pre-registration. Check with your profession's registration requirements.</p>• For Migration• IELTS Academic• IELTS General Training▪ OET: 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Time management is key to any success.▪ Test preparation starts from day one and involves getting organised:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ IELTS○ OET
4. Be engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Read widely and follow news in general and stories related to your discipline:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. Take 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



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synthesising the information or arguments.

- Practise unfamiliar or difficult grammar.
 - Build a vocabulary bank.
 - Build a phrase bank.
 - Test yourself under timed conditions ([IELTS](#), [OET](#)).
 - Review your answers and compare them to model answers if they're 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 online to assist you and provide 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 on the other write the description/definition/example/diagram. As you do this you will ensure that you have 'understood' the topic/concept. Cards are easy to carry around and use.
- Concept maps: Produce a visual illustration 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: Connect with others who are taking the test (online or face-to-face), and talk through topics and current events to clarify understanding and practise developing an argument.

Useful IELTS and OET links:

- IELTS
 - [Tips for Preparing for Exams](#)
 - [Develop your English](#)
 - [Free IELTS Practise Resources](#)
 - [Free IELTS Practise Tests](#)
 - [Vocabulary for IELTS](#)
 - [Grammar for IELTS](#)
- OET
 - [OET Online Preparation Courses](#)
 - [Free OET Practice Materials](#)
 - [Grammar and Vocabulary Clinic](#)



Other useful links:

- [Academic Word List \(AWL\)](#)
- [Vocabulary Exercises for the AWL](#)
- [The AWL Highlighter](#)
- [The AWL Gapmaker](#)
- [Vocabulary in EAP](#)
- [Academic Phrasebank](#)