



# IELTS Writing Community

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Lecture 29 Last Minute Troubleshooting to Achieve a 7+



# Doing the IELTS exam over and over

Some students think that if they just keep doing the test, they will get lucky and score a Band 7 or more.

In fact they only end up more and more frustrated and stressed.

Ask yourself questions and be specific.

- Which part of the writing is causing the trouble, task 1 or task 2?
- Do I have enough topic specific vocabulary?
- Is the problem with grammar? What are my grammar problems exactly?
- Is my structure poor? How is my time management?
- Am I having trouble thinking of ideas? Am I answering the issues in the task question?
- Am I trying to use complicated and 'high level' ideas in my writing?
- Is my writing easy to read?

# Consuming too much information

Are you consuming too much information  
and not taking real action?

With so many sources of information and so many hours spent going through books and videos, most often you will end up getting conflicting advice which then leaves you even more confused.

Find an expert who can give you detailed feedback  
and stick to their advice.

## Mindset issues

Shifting your whole mindset is crucial to doing well in anything, not just IELTS Writing. Here are some examples:

I don't think I can ever get a Band 7 in writing! It's just impossible, I can't get past Band 6.



I know that IELTS is hard work but it is not impossible. Worldwide, thousands of students every week get their desired Band score.

I've taken the test 8 times and I can't raise my score. I'm still at Band 6.



I am not going to take the exam again until I have identified and fixed all my weak areas.

## Being unrealistic

Some IELTS students have unrealistic expectations.

Some students who are at a Band 5 expect to jump to a Band 7 in a couple of weeks, this is being unrealistic. It is not impossible but it takes work.

You will need to think about a study plan and dedicate a few months to your IELTS studies.

## Focusing too much on Writing task 2

Although writing task2 carries twice the amount of points as task1, **you should not neglect writing task 1** as this is important to get right to give your overall writing balance.

If you write a good task 2 essay and write a poor task 1, then you could still end up with a Band 6.

**Get your plan right, make sure you leave enough time to invest on write task 1.**

# Contact me

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