

MINDSET ENGLISH

FREE PRACTICE PACK

IELTS Academic Mini Mock 01

Original Reading, Writing and Speaking practice with an answer key and review plan.

ORIGINAL

PRINTABLE

ANSWER KEY

Use this pack for learning and timed practice. It is not a prediction of live test questions and is not endorsed by the IELTS test owners.



How to use this mini mock

This is a shorter practice set, not a complete 2 hour 45 minute IELTS Academic test. Use it to rehearse task decisions, timing and review. For a full Listening experience with audio, use the current official IELTS sample-test library linked on the final page.

SECTION	SUGGESTED TIME	WHAT YOU WILL DO
Reading	24 minutes	One passage, 13 questions
Writing	60 minutes	Task 1 and Task 2
Speaking	11-14 minutes	Parts 1, 2 and 3 with a partner or recorder

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Use a timer. Do not check the answer key until the section is complete.
Record why each wrong answer looked attractive; that explanation is more useful than the score alone.

Academic Reading

Read the passage and answer Questions 1-13. Suggested time: 24 minutes.

Cooling the city, block by block

A

During Northbridge's hottest summer on record, city officials discovered that temperature maps were too broad to guide local action. Two streets only a few hundred metres apart could feel dramatically different. One had mature trees and shaded shopfronts; the other was dominated by dark roofs, parked cars and wide asphalt surfaces. The city therefore replaced its district averages with block-level measurements collected at the times when residents were most exposed.

B

The new survey combined fixed sensors with thermal cameras mounted on bicycles. Teams repeated the same routes before sunrise, in mid-afternoon and after dark. This mattered because a cool-looking park at noon could release stored heat slowly in the evening, while a shaded street might remain comfortable for longer. The data showed that shade was important, but the timing and duration of shade mattered just as much as its total area.

C

Tree planting was the most popular proposal, yet researchers warned that it could not be treated as an instant solution. Young trees provide limited shade and need water, suitable soil and years of maintenance. In narrow streets, roots and underground pipes can also restrict planting. Northbridge prioritised low-income neighbourhoods with little existing shade, but paired new trees with temporary fabric canopies so residents would benefit while the trees matured.

D

Surface changes produced faster results. Several schools painted roofs with a pale reflective coating, and a bus depot replaced part of its black yard with a lighter material. Indoor temperatures fell most clearly in top-floor rooms, although results varied with insulation and building design. Contrary to early fears, the monitoring team found no measurable rise in glare complaints around the trial buildings during the first year.

E

The most important lesson was administrative rather than technical. Small projects failed when no department accepted responsibility after installation. Filters clogged, shade cloth tore and newly planted trees died. The city now requires every cooling proposal to include a named maintenance team, a five-year cost estimate and a way for residents to report problems. Northbridge has not eliminated urban heat, but it has learned that durable cooling depends on maintenance as much as invention.

Reading questions

Questions 1-5: Matching headings

Choose the correct heading, i-vii, for paragraphs A-E. Two headings are not used.

- i Faster benefits from changing materials
- ii Measuring heat at different moments
- iii Long-term responsibility determines success
- iv Why neighbourhood averages were insufficient
- v A popular solution with practical limits
- vi Public opposition to reflective roofs
- vii Cooling public transport

1. Paragraph A
2. Paragraph B
3. Paragraph C
4. Paragraph D
5. Paragraph E

Questions 6-10: True, False or Not Given

Write TRUE if the statement agrees with the passage, FALSE if it contradicts the passage, or NOT GIVEN if the passage does not say.

6. Northbridge began collecting information at more than one time of day.
7. The survey found that the total area of shade was the only important factor.
8. Residents were paid to help bicycle teams collect temperature data.
9. Temporary canopies were used while new trees were growing.
10. Glare complaints increased significantly near the trial buildings.

Questions 11-13: Sentence completion

Complete each sentence with NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage.

11. Bicycle teams carried _____ to record surface heat.
12. New tree planting was focused first on _____ neighbourhoods.
13. Every new cooling proposal must identify a _____ team.



Academic Writing

Task 1 - suggested time: 20 minutes

The table shows the percentage of commuters using four forms of transport in the fictional city of Elmsford in 2010 and 2025. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

MODE	2010	2025
Private car	58%	39%
Bus	21%	24%
Rail	13%	23%
Bicycle or walking	8%	14%

PLAN FIRST

Write a one-sentence overview before selecting details. The strongest overview here should identify the large fall in car use and growth across every alternative mode.

Task 2 - suggested time: 40 minutes

Some cities are encouraging more people to work from home in order to reduce traffic. Do the advantages of this policy outweigh the disadvantages? Give reasons for your answer and include relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. Write at least 250 words.

Speaking mock

Record yourself or ask a partner to act as the examiner. Do not memorise a script. Extend answers with reasons, examples and comparisons.

Part 1 - Public places

1. What public place do you visit most often?
2. What makes a public place comfortable?
3. Have public spaces in your area changed recently?
4. Do you prefer quiet or busy places? Why?

Part 2 - Long turn

TASK CARD

Describe a public place that could be improved. You should say where it is, how people use it, what problems it has, and explain how you would improve it.

You have one minute to prepare. Speak for one to two minutes.

Part 3 - Discussion

1. Who should decide how public spaces are designed?
2. Why do some public projects receive opposition?
3. Should city centres give more space to pedestrians than cars?
4. How might technology change public spaces in the future?

REVIEW

Listen once for fluency and once for language. On the second listen, note one repeated word, one unclear sound and one answer that needed a stronger example.

Answer key and review

Reading answers

1	iv
2	ii
3	v
4	i
5	iii
6	TRUE
7	FALSE
8	NOT GIVEN
9	TRUE
10	FALSE
11	thermal cameras
12	low-income
13	maintenance

Three questions after marking

1. Which wrong answer came from reading too quickly?
2. Which wrong answer came from vocabulary or paraphrase?
3. What exact behaviour will you change in the next practice?

OFFICIAL PRACTICE

For complete official Academic sample tasks, current test information and Listening audio, visit: <https://ielts.org/take-a-test/preparation-resources/sample-test-questions/academic-test>