



# IELTS-READING (SKIMMING AND SCANNING)

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# IELTS-Reading-Test Format- FAQs

## **1. *How long is the Reading paper?***

Ans: The Reading test lasts 60 minutes.

## **2. *How many questions do I have to answer?***

Ans: There are 40 questions in the test. Each question is worth one mark. You have to do that during the 60 minutes of the test.

## **3. *What do I have to read?***

Ans: There are three reading passages in the test. Each one is up to 900 words long and the passages are taken from 'books, journals, magazines and newspapers, and have been written for a non-specialist audience.' The texts might contain images or diagrams but they won't be very specialised or take any specialized knowledge to be able to understand them.

## **4. *What kind of questions do I have to answer?***

Ans: There are several different task types, including multiple choice, matching headings, sentence completion and more.

# What makes reading difficult?

- the amount of vocabulary you have to deal with
- time management
- some of the difficult task types
- strategies for dealing with difficult tasks

Any other (Please share your thoughts on the chat)

# A Strategy for Success

1. Vocabulary Load: You have to read up to 2700 words in the 60 minutes of the Reading test.

Think now about:

- What do you already do to increase your vocabulary?
- How do you store new vocabulary that you learn?
- How do you deal with unfamiliar vocabulary?

## 2. Time pressure

Think now about:

- What techniques can you use to deal with time pressure?
- How do you cope with time pressure in other areas of your life?

# Skimming

- Skimming means reading a text quickly to get the general meaning of the text without thinking about detail.

**Try this activity to practise skimming a text.**

The video shows four paragraphs and you'll see each paragraph for only 30 seconds. Read the paragraphs to get a general idea of what the text is about – don't worry about trying to remember every detail. After you've watched the video we're going to ask you some questions about it.

# Skimming Practice- Questions

1. What is the text about?
2. Summarise the debate among mountaineers about the use of technology.
3. Which paragraph shows the argument moving from Europe to North America?
4. Which paragraph mentioned environmental arguments against the use of climbing technology?

# How to skim read

1. Look for 'topic sentences'
2. Look at the final sentence
3. Signposting
4. Content words
5. Don't waste time on unknown words
6. Know how much you need to know

# Skimming Practice

- Refer to the word file

# Nest Session: Scanning

- Any Questions?

# Reference

Source: Future Learn: Understanding IELTS Reading: British Council