

## Rule #4 How to prepare

### By Yourself

**1. Read as much as possible:** news articles on the Internet on a daily basis, IELTS textbooks, magazines, anything and everything written in English.

**2. Work on your listening:** because if you don't understand the questions, you can't answer them! Watch movies with English subtitles (No Uzbek!), listen to the BBC on the Internet, and get some material for IELTS listening.

**3. Read this manual slowly and carefully.** Take notes if needed. Highlight the new words or the structures you find useful.

**4. Talk to yourself, especially for Part 2 of the test. Speak out loud.** Don't worry about making mistakes. You should be more concerned with fluency and the vocabulary you use in your answers. Whenever you realize you can't say a word in English, paraphrase using other words to express the meaning you are looking for. Later on, you can look it up in the dictionary and learn new vocabulary.

**5. Prepare 5 points (5 main ideas) for as many Part 2 topics as possible.** Once you figure out how to plan these ideas, you will realize it's a similar process for most topics. Once you have your 5 points, you develop 2 or 3 sentences for each of the 5 ideas, and you will find out it takes you 2 minutes: perfect! Practice again and again until you feel comfortable (See page 20).

**6. Time yourself for Part 2.** You only have 2 minutes. When time is up, the examiner will interrupt you. The more Practice you do at home, the better you will get at time management. Two minutes go by fast. Make sure you don't repeat yourself though (hence the importance of planning your ideas). Don't forget to use words like: 👉 👉 👉 👉

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| <p><b>First.....</b><br/><b>In addition.....</b><br/><b>On top of this.....</b><br/><b>However.....</b><br/><b>In the future....</b></p> |
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**7. Read as many Part 3 questions as Possible (and the answers in this book)** in order to avoid surprises. Practice answering using the linking words "In addition.... On top of this.... However...."

**8. Make a plan for yourself** or follow the plan given to you in this book.

**9. Go on an IELTS training center, and ask to have your speaking level assessed by a teacher.** It should not take the teacher more than 5 minutes to find out what your level is

**If you are estimated a band- 4 student, you need 3-4 month of intensive work to get to 6 points.**

**If you are estimated a band - 5 student, you need 2-3 month of intensive work to get to 6 points**

**If you are estimated a band - 6 student, you need 2 month of intensive work to get to 7 points.**

### **With A Partner**

In order to improve your speaking, **YOU MUST SPEAK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE**. Most students worry too much about the mistakes they might make, instead of focusing on pronunciation, clarity and fluency. Speak to a partner, a classmate, your mother, anyone whose English level is similar to yours, and make sure that your partner understands what you are saying.

**1. Get in pairs, and ask each other questions.** Speaking books give you almost a thousand questions categorized in different sections. Jump from one topic to another. You need at least 40 minutes of pair work in order for the practice to be efficient. Remember: the more, the better !

**2. USE ENGLISH ONLY !** It's your chance to practice, and you already have all the questions given to you in this book. If you don't understand what your partner is saying, ask him/her to rephrase in English once again. Pretend to be the examiner. It will be fun, and most important, very useful!

**3. Surprise each other with unexpected questions.** The IELTS speaking module could be about anything and everything. You never know what is going to come up. So definitely surprise each other ! Open the book at random, and ask your partner the first question you see. Encourage your classmate to develop his/her answers. Make sure he/she explains everything clearly (Why? How?)

**4. Focus on particular question types :** Ask "How often... ?" questions for 10 minutes. Ask "Why... ?" questions for 15 minutes. Concentrate on one structure and hammer it into your brain ! Drill, drill, drill ! Check the Question Types right after this section.

**5. Focus on the PAST TENSE for Part 2:** get some topics about your childhood or whatever is related to the past (something difficult you did well; a trip you took; a gift you received...). Ask your partner to answer, and interrupt him/her every time you notice he/she doesn't use the past tense.

**6. Go to English corners** organized at Leaders IELTS and in other training centers all over your city. Go with a partner just in case the teacher in charge organizes pair work during the session.

**7. Make sure you understand what your partner is saying.** Pronunciation is fundamental! If you don't understand, make him/her repeat. Clarity is essential !

**8. Be spontaneous !** Don't be afraid to make mistakes. Everyone does. I have been speaking English every day for the last 10 years and I still get confused with some prepositions or the stress in words I don't often use.

**RELAX, BE YOURSELF, BE CLEAR and TALK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE,  
AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE !**