

Vocabulary

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Vocabulary for IELTS is a much talked about topic. There is so much advice out there on how to attain the vocabulary needed for the exam.

However, I am not in the habit of re-inventing the wheel, so I am going to add my opinion and advice to what is already out there.

The best approach to vocabulary is reading, reading, and more reading. The most popular topics within IELTS are: (c/o www.ieltsmaterial.com)

Top 9 most common topics

1. Health
2. Education
3. People
4. Crime
5. Energy and Environment
6. Media
7. Home
8. Work
9. Traffic

Vocabulary!

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website: <http://ieltsmaterial.com>

This is by no means a definitive list, but by reading about the topics listed here, you will come across a wide range of vocabulary, which will aid you when not only speaking, but also when writing.

Sources:

Newspapers, magazines, blogs, novels, Specialist books, the internet, and more.

Reading material is all around you, but it is up to you to search for the sources and start reading.

Another way to build up your vocabulary is to look at word forms.

Prefixes and suffixes.

Prefixes are letters (2 or 3 usually), which come before words, and suffixes are letters, which come after words.

Il, un, in, dis, re, um, mis - are all common prefixes. With prefixes you are getting '2 for the price of one' that is, you get 2 new words instead of one.

Dis - agree, illusion, parity, joint, appear,

Il – legal, legible, literate, legitimate, logical.

In – visible, tolerable, action, accessible, active.

Im – possible, polite, balance, material, mature.

Re – do, make, write, sit, open, activate, admit.

Mis – place, read, align, understand, behave, diagnose.

Suffixes.

Comfort, wash, wear, use, attain, - **able**.

Sad, happy, good, dark, tired, ill, blind, kind - **ness**.

Govern, intern, nourish, treat, manage, arrange – **ment**.

Danger, marvel, courage, mountain, poison, fame - **ous**.

Use, care, regard, speech, law, home, help, end - **less**.

Use the guide on the next page to practice using both suffixes and prefixes in your vocabulary and watch it grow!

SUFFIXES; Changing Words into Adjectives

| _able / ible V + ~ | _al N + ~ | _ic N / V + ~ | _ly N + ~ | _ful N / V + ~ | _less N + ~ | _ous N + ~ | _y N + ~ | _ive V + ~ | _ing V + ~ | _ed V + ~ |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| drink understand comfort count enjoy return accept rely reason eatable/edible bear change | music nation magic person herb bride form profession accident condition face | cube artist optimist realist poet economy horrify dramatise | love day week night friend death | beauty care doubt pain use harm law success fear hand joy | home care help penny use regard end leg tact | danger poison mystery fame fury nerve ambition mountain anonym courage advantage | dust dirt mud cloud sun wind luck hair hunger anger | create sedate relate alternate affect digest act attract | confuse amusing worry bore excite tire interest frighten | created sedated related confused amused worried bored excited tired interested frightened |

SUFFIXES; Changing Words into Nouns - 1

| _al V + ~ | _ance/ence V/ADJ + ~ | _ion/sion V + ~ | _tion/ation V + ~ | _ant/ent V + ~ | _ment V + ~ | _ty / ity ADJ + ~ | _ness ADJ + ~ | _age V / N + ~ | _ary/ery/y V / N + ~ | _ing; V + ~ = GERUND |
|--|--|---|--|--------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| refuse survive arrive bury try recite | occur perform insure enter appear differ defend exist prefer confide patient | elect invent direct suggest confess confuse discuss | invite present describe invite act connect exhibit examine imagine explain continue pronounce | assist deter study | treat arrange state govern manage excite advertise replace achieve argue | cruel safe similar equal possible regular responsible able popular active generous curious | dark weak sad ill dry mean blind kind | carry break use host mile marry post shrink | burglar injure cook baker potter machine jewel | read wait care talk fit wash ironing board cooking calculate understand belong |