



## THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

### Network of English Language Enhancement

#### COURSE SPECIFICATION

**Name of the course**

IELTS Advanced Writing B2–C1

**Course description**

This course is designed for staff members with a B2–C1 level of English students who are aiming for an IELTS score of 6.5 or higher and need further support with the writing part of the test.

Each week of the course focuses on a different type of question you may face in the IELTS Academic or General Training writing tests.

You will look in detail at sample papers so you can see what is required to achieve a high 6.5-8.0 band score and receive guidance on how to write your answer.

You will also receive individual feedback on your writing from your course tutor, a trained IELTS examiner, who will indicate your current level and provide recommendations for improvement.

You will be expected to commit to three hours a week for six weeks. You will be able to complete the course in your own time. The course can be completed on any internet-enabled device, including smartphones and tablets.

**Course rationale**

Employers, professional bodies, and associations accept IELTS as evidence of English language proficiency. IELTS is also widely accepted by education providers and by government organizations for migration to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

The IELTS test can be taken through local British Council centres in Pakistan, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

This course is particularly useful for course participants who have completed IELTS Preparation but require further support and practice in the writing part of the test in order to achieve their desired band score.

**Course structure and content**

You will be expected to commit to studying three hours a week (online) for six weeks.

You will learn using web-based teaching materials and interactive tasks. This will include multimedia presentations, video tutorials, forums, quizzes, articles and use of sample test papers. You will receive detailed feedback and an estimated IELTS band from your course tutor on your writing test practice.

Course topics will include all the types of questions asked in IELTS Academic and General Training.

- Advantages and disadvantages essays
- Problem and solution essay
- Opinion essays
- Personal response to a situation
- Describe visual information

### **Learning outcomes**

By the end of the course you will;

- recognise the different types of questions you may be asked in the IELTS writing test and explain how to best approach answering them
- identify the language and organisational features of test samples which have gained an IELTS band score of 6.5 or more
- use a wide range of grammar structures and vocabulary with a very high level of accuracy
- choose the appropriate word, spelling and form to complete example texts at a level of 6.5 or more
- write responses to sample IELTS writing tasks under timed conditions
- evaluate your writing strengths and weaknesses with your course tutor and design a learning plan to progress further

### **Course delivery**

This is an online, tutor moderated course. It will be delivered using the AKU VLE so you will be able to access the course materials at your convenience. Your course tutor will provide online support and feedback on all writing task submissions.

There will be a live group video session with your course colleagues and tutor once a week. This will be an opportunity for you to ask questions about that week's topic and feedback on your writing practice.

This course can be completed on any internet-enabled device, including smartphones and tablets.

### **Course assessment**

To be eligible for an ELE\_net Certificate of Completion and Performance Report, you must complete 80% of the course activities.

### **Course evaluation**

You will be asked to share your experience of the course by completing an online end of course survey. ELE\_net will use your responses to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the course. The success of the course will be measured by the activity levels of course participants so your participation will be closely monitored and reported on.

### **Course participant agreement**

You can expect ELE\_net to:

- provide clear information about your course and about our expectations of what you need to do in order to complete the course successfully
- provide high standards of teaching, support and guidance in order to complete this course and enhance your English language skills
- monitor your progress and provide feedback on your performance and level in a timely manner

- ask for your feedback on the course

ELE\_net expects you to:

- take responsibility for your own learning
- complete at least 80% of the course, including class attendance and online activities
- actively participate in your course, ensuring you spend the required time in weekly private study
- complete coursework and submit assignments by the stated deadlines
- participate in feedback activities designed to enhance the quality of the course