

# HOW IS THE IELTS SPEAKING EXAM SCORED?

On the speaking section, you can score anywhere between a 0 and a 9 with “.5” (e.g. 6.5) scores.

## 4 CATEGORIES OF SCORING

01

### FLUENCY AND COHERENCE

The student speaks fluently and comprehensibly with fluidity and with little self-correction. The student can fully develop a topic and speak at length with smooth transitions using complex forms of communication by sounding like a natural speaker.

### LEXICAL RESOURCE VOCABULARY

The student is able to use a wide range of vocabulary naturally and with flexibility. The student has a diverse vocabulary and can also use idiomatic language and paraphrasing accurately.

02

03

### FLUENCY AND COHERENCE

The student speaks fluently and comprehensibly with fluidity and with little self-correction. The student can fully develop a topic and speak at length with smooth transitions using complex forms of communication by sounding like a natural speaker.

### PRONUNCIATION

The student can use a wide range of pronunciation techniques skillfully and accurately. The student has the ability to use intonation accurately in their voice. It requires little effort to understand the student.

04



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**Your score  
is rounded  
to the nearest half  
(.5) point.**

#### EXAMPLES:

$$6 + 5.5 + 6.5 + 6.5 = 6.125$$

**Score: 6**

$$6 + 7 + 7 + 7 = 6.75$$

**Score: 7**

$$7 + 7 + 8 + 7.5 = 7.375$$

**Score: 7.5**

## Band Score Explanations

### EXPERT USER

**7.5 - 9**

You have a full command of the language with virtually no errors. You can speak at length with little self-correction or repetition. You can also use a wide range of complex vocabulary and sentence structures.

### GOOD USER

**5.5 - 7**

You have a good command of the language with little error. You can speak at length with some self-correction or repetition. You also use a wide range of complex vocabulary and sentence structures.

### AVERAGE USER

**4 - 5**

You have a good command of the language with some error. You can speak at length with but may have some self-correction or repetition. You also use a wide range of vocabulary and sentence structures, but lack complexity.

**below  
4**

### BELOW AVERAGE USER

You have a poor command of the language with a lot of errors. You have trouble speaking at length and have some self-correction or repetition. You also struggle to use a wide range of vocabulary and sentence structures and lack complexity.