

## IELTS Reading Strategies Summarized

**Reading is a test of two skills:**

- 1. Scanning**
- 2. Comprehension**

<p><b>Fill the Blank</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question goes in ORDER</li> <li>2. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>3. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>4. Scan and find matching sentence to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>5. Find the language in the passage sentence that matches the language before/after blank line.</li> <li>6. Write the answer.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Sentence Completion</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question goes in ORDER (mainly)</li> <li>2. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>3. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>4. Scan and find matching sentence to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>5. Read sentence and look in book for answer with language that completes sentence.</li> <li>6. Heavily uses synonym language</li> </ol>
<p><b>Short Answer</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question goes in ORDER</li> <li>2. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>3. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>4. Scan and find matching sentence to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>5. Find the language in the passage sentence that answers the question.</li> <li>6. Write the answer.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Flow Chart (Fill Blank)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question goes in ORDER</li> <li>2. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>3. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>4. Scan and find matching sentence to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>5. Find the language in the passage sentence that matches the language before/after blank line.</li> <li>6. Write the answer.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Multiple Choice</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question goes in ORDER</li> <li>2. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>3. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>4. Scan and find matching sentence(s) to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>5. Note: sometimes for MC can use 2 sentences from passage</li> <li>6. Find the language in the passage sentence(s) that matches the language of one of the answer choices.</li> <li>7. Write the answer.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Yes, No, Not Given (True, False, Not Given)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Question goes in ORDER</li> <li>2. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>3. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>4. Scan and find matching sentence to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>5. Compare the passage sentence and the question sentence that is matches.</li> <li>6. You are comparing the question to the passage. NOT the passage to the question.</li> </ol> <p>Note:</p> <p><b>True:</b> all of the essential information from question is in the passage. Synonym Lang.</p> <p><b>False:</b> essential language from the question has been changed, made opposite, or is different in the passage.</p> <p><b>Not Given:</b> Info from the question is missing or maybe/maybe not when comparing into to the passage sentence.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch for starting point sentences.....</li> <li>• Watch for “;” and compound sentences</li> </ul>	<p><b>This applies to all In-Order Questions</b></p>

<p><b>Summary Question</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basically is a Fill Blank Question</li> <li>2. Difference: Sentences can come from multiple paragraphs.</li> <li>3. Difference: most of the time in order</li> <li>4. Read through questions and spot easiest to do first.</li> <li>5. Underline key words in questions</li> <li>6. Scan and find matching sentence to your 1<sup>st</sup> easiest question.</li> <li>7. Find the language in the passage sentence that matches the language before/after blank line.</li> <li>8. Write the answer.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Paragraph Location Question</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DO LAST if in a set. For general exam mainly in passage 3.</li> <li>2. Underline keywords in question statement.</li> <li>3. Pay attention to Topic Sentences as very often these point to if that paragraph has that question statement information.</li> <li>4. Question can be time consuming, which is why you should do other questions first so you can see a lot of the passage.</li> <li>5. Note: underline the keywords before moving on to other questions.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Matching Question</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note if instructions say name in box can be used more than once.</li> <li>2. Note: some names can appear more than once in a passage.</li> <li>3. Locate names in passage.</li> <li>4. Do the names that only appear once first.</li> <li>5. Read the sentence where you see name....look for what said or position of person.</li> <li>6. Look at sentences and see which one the information in passage for that person matches.</li> <li>7. Synonym Language</li> </ol>	<p><b>Which section are the following statements true for? Classification Question. (General)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basically a Paragraph Matching question.</li> <li>2. Mainly in Section/Passage 1 or 2</li> <li>3. You have to read question and then locate the section for which the sentence comes from or is true within.</li> <li>4. Important to underline the keywords in the questions, will help locate matching section with sentence information.</li> <li>5. The question sentence belongs to which reading section.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Headings Question: this question requires you to place a heading based on the main idea of paragraph.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quickly scan through the headings and underline key words in choices.</li> <li>2. Do the shortest paragraphs first.</li> <li>3. Go to Paragraph: Read First and Second sentence.</li> <li>4. Find answer that captures the main idea/controlling idea of paragraph. TOPIC Sentence.</li> <li>5. IF still cannot find answer read the last sentence.</li> <li>6. Key to this question is being able to pull out the controlling idea from the topic sentence.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Which section contains the following? (General)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Basically a Paragraph Location question.</li> <li>2. DO LAST if in a set. For general exam mainly is in passage 3.</li> <li>3. You have to find the paragraph that has the section information.</li> <li>4. Important to underline the keywords in the questions, will help locate matching section with sentence information.</li> <li>5. Pay attention to Topic Sentences as very often these point to if that paragraph has that question statement information..</li> <li>6. Question can be time consuming, which is why you should do other questions first so you can see a lot of the passage.</li> <li>7. Note: underline the keywords before moving on to other questions.</li> </ol>

**Which of the following statements (2-3) are mentioned in the passage?**

1. This question will give you several statements and ask from the 4-6 statements, which are actually mentioned in the passage.
2. Do this question last in the question set; **however**, you should in the very beginning underline the key words in the answer choices.
3. As you are going through the other questions for the passage, keep an eye out for the keywords that you underlined.
4. If you are doing the paper test, underline or note where you saw these keywords.
5. After you finish the other questions (Fill Blank, Matching) then go and try to answer which of the following statements are true.
6. **Note: The topic sentences can provide guidance for which paragraph to look and see if the statement is true.**

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