TEACHING IELTS READING: STRATEGIES AND TECHNIQUES FOR SUCCESS

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Abstract: Generally, preparing students for the IELTS Academic Reading test requires lots of efforts and strategic approach. This article will provide educators with practical methods and ways to improve learner's understandings of reading skills and performance of exam. It will suggest comprehensive methods for improving skimming and scanning abilities, vocabulary acquisition, time management, and mistake analysis.

Key words: reading, methods, scanning and abilities.

Аннотация:Как правило, подготовка студентов к сдаче теста IELTS Academic Reading требует значительных усилий и стратегического подхода. В данной статье будут предложены преподавателям практические методы и способы повышения понимания навыков чтения и результатов экзамена у учащихся. В ней будут представлены комплексные методы улучшения навыков беглого и выборочного чтения, пополнения словарного запаса, управления временем и анализа ошибок.

Ключевые слова: чтение, методы, выборочное чтение и навыки.

Introduction:

Initially, it is better to start explaining by giving short information about the test itself. The IELTS Academic Reading test includes three long passages with 40 questions which test comprehension skills such as multiple choice, True/False/Not Given and so on. Candidates will have 60 minutes to complete the reading task. After having explained, teachers have to give details about each type test passage. Like in this following order:

1. Multiple-choice questions: Candidates ought to select the best answer from a list of options;

2. Matching headings: Test takers are supposed to match headings to paragraphs or sections;

3. Sentence completion: Candidates ought to fill in gaps in sentences with words from the text;

4. True/False/Not Given: Students ought to determine whether statements are true, false, or not given in the text;

5. Short-answer questions: Candidates have to answer questions clearly and shortly by using words from the text;

6. Identifying information: Learners have to find specific information within the text;

7. Summary completion: Filling in gaps by using words from the text;

8. Flowchart completion: Completing a flowchart by summarizing a process described in the text. After diving details about each type of reading task, teaching strategies will be provided below.

- Pre-reading Strategies:It is the best way to clarify the questions.

Teachers have to make students preview texts before reading in detail.

This includes quickly reviewing the text to understand the main topic and finding for specific words or information;

- Post-reading Strategies: This method mainly focuses on making students check their answers against the text. Additionally, if mistakes are found, they also should be analyzed, so students will not do those mistakes again;

- Underlying key words and logical thinking are also suggested. Teachers should teach their students to underline key words of each question to make the task easier. Importantly, just underlying key words is not enough, critical thinking and logical thinking are also needed in successful reading.

Conclusion:

The success in IELTS Academic Reading requires a strategic approach including with dedicated effort. This article has provided educators with effective methods to enhance students' reading skills and exam performance. By using these techniques, teachers can help students to achieve their full potential on the IELTS Reading test.

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