

What is Scanning in IELTS Reading?

Worksheet

Scanning is searching for particular information (keywords, dates, names, statistics) by letting your eyes move rapidly over text until they find the target. It follows skimming to locate specific details and save time during IELTS reading.

Questions

1. What is the primary purpose of scanning?

- A) To understand the entire passage
- B) To find specific facts or words quickly
- C) To memorize every detail
- D) To practice slow reading

2. What should you scan for?

- A) All adjectives
- B) Specific keywords, names, dates, or numbers you need
- C) Only verbs
- D) The longest sentences

3. When should you scan in IELTS reading?

- A) Before skimming
- B) After skimming, when searching for specific question answers
- C) Instead of skimming
- D) Only if running out of time

4. After you scan and find a keyword, what next?

- A) Move to the next question
- B) Skip to the answer choices
- C) Read surrounding context carefully
- D) Guess the answer

5. Question: 'When was the museum established?' You need to find a date. Text includes: 'The museum was opened to the public in 1952 and underwent renovation in 2005.'

6. Question: 'Who was the lead researcher?' Text: 'Professor James Martinez led a team of 12 scientists studying renewable energy solutions...'

7. Question: 'How many participants attended the conference?' Text contains: 'Over 500 delegates from 45 countries joined the annual technology summit...'

8. Define: What is scanning?

9. Define: What should you scan for?

10. Define: How is scanning different from skimming?

Answer Key

1. B) To find specific facts or words quickly — Scanning targets specific information; skimming gives overall meaning.
2. B) Specific keywords, names, dates, or numbers you need — Scanning focuses on information relevant to your specific question.
3. B) After skimming, when searching for specific question answers — Skim first for structure; then scan to locate specific details.
4. C) Read surrounding context carefully — Finding the keyword is step one; reading the context answers your question.
5. Skim the passage to understand it's about a museum. Identify your target: a founding/establishment date. Scan for keywords: 'opened', 'established', 'founded', '19XX' or '20XX'. You spot '1952' connected to 'opened'. Read context: 'opened to the public in 1952'. Answer: 1952.
6. Skim to know it's about research. Target: a person's name, likely with 'Professor' or 'Dr.'. Scan for capitalized names: you find 'James Martinez'. Read around it: 'Professor James Martinez led a team'. Answer: James Martinez (or Professor Martinez).
7. Skim to identify it's about a conference/summit. Target: a number related to attendance. Scan for numbers: you spot '500'. Read context: 'Over 500 delegates'. Answer: 500 (or 'over 500' depending on task format).
8. Rapidly searching for specific words, numbers, or facts without reading word-by-word.
9. Keywords, names, dates, numbers, or any specific information your question requires.
10. Skimming gets overall meaning; scanning finds specific facts.

Bounlu

All cards, step-by-step solutions and an AI tutor are in the Notek app.
Promy turns exam dates into automatic reminders.