

Figure 1. Indicative Relationship Between OET and IELTS Scores.

Listening		Reading		Speaking		Writing	
OET	IELTS	OET	IELTS	OET	IELTS	OET	IELTS
C	5.5	C	5.5	C	5.5	C	5.5
	6.0				6.0		
	6.5		6.0		6.5		6.0
B	7.0	B	6.5	B	7.0	B	6.5
	7.5		7.0		7.0		6.5
	8.0		7.5		7.5		7.0
	8.5		8.0		8.0		7.5
A	8.5	A	8.5	A	8.0	A	7.5
	9.0				8.5		8.5
			9.0		9.0		9.0

Something that has become clear to CBLA as a result of the study reported here is that the current OET score reporting system (A-E) could use greater granularity, so that candidates within each grade can be further distinguished. A grade of C, for instance, spans the ability range covered by IELTS bands 5.5 to 6.5, and the need has indeed arisen among some users of the test to identify people who are at IELTS 6.5. With that in mind, based on the information this study provides, a grade of C+ has been introduced that is comparable to that IELTS band score.

Thus, following this study, the best approximate overall IELTS score ranges covered by each OET grade at present are as follows:

OET	IELTS
A	8.0 – 9.0
B	7.0 – 7.5
C+	6.5
C	5.5 – 6.0
D	4.0 – 5.0*

*see Results section

References

- American Educational Research Association, American Psychological Association, & National Council on Measurement in Education. (1999). *Standards for educational and psychological testing*. Washington, DC: American Educational Research Association.
- Angoff, W.H. (1971). Scales, norms, and equivalent scores. In R.L. Thorndike (Ed.), *Educational Measurement* (2nd ed., pp. 508-560). Washington, DC: American Council on Education.