

100 Most Misspelled IELTS Words

Common spelling errors that cost you marks

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Why Spelling Matters

In IELTS Writing, spelling errors directly affect your Lexical Resource (LR) score. The Band 7 descriptor requires 'few errors in spelling'. Even Band 6 expects 'some errors but they do not impede communication'. Every misspelled word pushes you down.

These 100 words are the most commonly misspelled by Arabic-speaking IELTS candidates. Study them, test yourself, and eliminate these errors before your exam.

The 100 Words

WRONG (X)	CORRECT
accomodation	accommodation
acheive	achieve
accross	across
adress	address
agressive	aggressive
analize	analyse/analyze
arguement	argument
attemp	attempt
basicly	basically
beleive	believe
benifit	benefit
buisness	business
calender	calendar
catagory	category
chalenging	challenging
changable	changeable
committed	committed
comparision	comparison
competion	competition
conciuous	conscious
convient	convenient
critisism	criticism
definatly	definitely

develope	develop
diffrent	different
disapear	disappear
disappointed	disappointed
enviroment	environment
equipement	equipment
esential	essential
exagerate	exaggerate
excelent	excellent
excercise	exercise
existance	existence
expirience	experience
explian	explain
familiar	familiar
finaly	finally
foriegn	foreign
fourty	forty
freind	friend
goverment	government
grammer	grammar
gurantee	guarantee
happend	happened
hieght	height
immediatly	immediately
importent	important
independant	independent
intresting	interesting
knowlege	knowledge
language	language
libary	library
maintainance	maintenance
mispell	misspell
neccessary	necessary
noticable	noticeable
occassion	occasion
occured	occurred
offical	official
opertunity	opportunity

orginal	original
parliment	parliament
particulary	particularly
percieve	perceive
performence	performance
permision	permission
persue	pursue
peice	piece
politicion	politician
posession	possession
potencial	potential
practicle	practical
prefered	preferred
priviledge	privilege
proffesional	professional
programe	programme/program
pronounciation	pronunciation
psycology	psychology
publically	publicly
realy	really
recieve	receive
recomend	recommend
referred	referred
relevent	relevant
religous	religious
repitition	repetition
resturant	restaurant
rythm	rhythm
saftey	safety
seperate	separate
similer	similar
sinceerly	sincerely
speach	speech
strenght	strength
successfull	successful
sugest	suggest
suprise	surprise
tecnology	technology

tommorow	tomorrow
tradional	traditional
unfortunatly	unfortunately
untill	until
vaccume	vacuum
vegatable	vegetable

Spelling Tips for Arabic Speakers

Double letters: English doubles consonants in ways Arabic doesn't. Watch: accommodation (mm), committed (mm+tt), occurred (cc+rr), successful (cc+ss).

Silent letters: Words like 'knowledge' (k), 'psychology' (p), 'foreign' (g) have letters you don't pronounce.

-tion vs -sion: 'Education' uses -tion. 'Permission' uses -sion. The sound is similar but the spelling differs.

ie vs ei: 'Receive' follows 'i' before 'e' except after 'c'. 'Believe' follows the standard rule.

Pro tip: Write each word 5 times. Then test yourself the next day. Spaced repetition is the fastest way to fix spelling.