ISE I Reading and writing exam
Questions 1-5 video transcript

Hello, I’m Tom Ottway and I offer academic support for Trinity. I’m going to help you prepare for the ISE I exams. And right now we’ll be looking at the Long reading – questions 1-5. I’ll give you some tips and then I want you to pause this video when I say and try questions 1-5 of the practice test.

This task asks you to match the best paragraph title to each paragraph. Note that you also need to find which title or heading you do not need. Here are some tips.

How to: Questions 1-5.

Before your read the text, think for yourself before the read the paragraph headings. Identify topic sentences: the sentences with key information or story of the paragraphs. Don't read the titles just yet.

Read and think of the title first and write it on the paper. Also, start thinking about which title is not needed.

OK, now read the text and do the things I asked you to. And remember, you can pause this video whilst you read and also think of paragraph titles.

Remember, you can pause and rewind as often as you like. However, try spending between five and ten minutes doing this. You will get quicker with practice.

OK, I hope that went well. Now let’s look carefully at the answers. So first of all what do these colours mean here? Well the purple means it’s a topic sentence with the key information or the story of the paragraph. Blue shows the answers and also the supporting information here.

This supporting information in the text helped us to get the right answer. I’ll explain a bit more about that. Let’s look at the ideas which I wrote and see if they were close to the correct answers in blue and let’s also look at how the key, or topic, sentences helped us decide.

So, the idea for paragraph 1 I had was: ‘Positives and negatives of being a tour guide’.

Paragraph 2: ‘Types of tourists changing – internet and traveller’.

Paragraph 3: ‘Additional, new type of tour guide’.

Paragraph 4: ‘Advantages of being a step-on guide’.

Paragraph 5: ‘Traveller’s needs – flexible active experience’.

I wonder how you got on? Did you find similar answers? Because doing this can help us think before we actually read these here.

Now let’s have a look in more detail at the answers. We know that paragraph 1 was D: ‘The perfect Job?’

So we are looking for both positive and negative information. We’re not sure, is it a perfect job or not? My answer I gave for the idea for Paragraph 1 I was: ‘Positives and negative of being a tour guide’.

So let’s look at the positive and negative information. So, here we go: ‘tour guide seems’ – we’re not sure but – ‘seems to be the ideal way to make money. It’s like a paid holiday’. And we also have some nice adjectives here: ‘wonderful places’, ‘interesting people’.

So it seems all good but in reality: ‘it can be (here are the negatives) tiring, boring and stressful’ having to do various things.

So the answer here is D because we have the positive and negative together, it's not perfect.

Paragraph 2, the answer is B. And B we know is ‘a new type of tourist’.
05.22 So the key word here is ‘tourist’. We’ve got this in blue. Its telling us why it’s the answer. But we want to ask ourselves the question, what is this new type of tourist? Well, it’s a tourist who wants something different. Let’s just read the topic sentence through: ‘It seems that tourists these days’ – these days tells you it’s not the same as the past – ‘demand more and more. This is partly because of the internet’.

05.58 So you always read the topic sentence – the main sentence – first to get the general meaning.

06.05 So we know that these tourists want something different and special as well. And we have another time marker here: ‘today’s well-informed traveller prefers culture and seeing something of people’s real way of live in the place they’re visiting’. So that’s why we’ve got the new type of tourist.

06.30 Paragraph 3, we know the answer is F which is: ‘A guide with a difference’.

06.38 Well, for paragraph 3 I wrote ‘Additional, new type of tour guide’, so that’s pretty similar. So the words we’re really looking for here are these new kind of tour guide.


07.02 I think this is a really good example, it doesn’t always work, but when you think before you read and before you read the titles, you can really get what the examiner is looking for.

07.15 So the advantage here is in the topic sentence. ‘Being a step on guide can give you all the fun of being a tour guide without all the problems’. So that’s the advantage.

07.32 Paragraph 5, the answer is E, over here, ‘Becoming a better step on guide’.

07.40 The key here is in the topic sentence in paragraph 5 in purple here: ‘Being a successful step on guide depends on getting to know what travellers really want’. So, doing this you’re becoming better and there’s a clue here in the ‘ing’, becoming – it’s a process. Here, you’ve got ‘being successful depends on the process of getting to know what travellers want’.

08.12 The only one we haven’t talked about is C, and C is what we call the distracter. So this one is wrong because in the text we do not read about the problems of tourism. We hear about the advantages of disadvantages of being a guide, but not of tourism in general.