

100 Common IELTS Topic Vocabulary Items (Mini-Lists)

Compact topic banks for Speaking and Writing. Learn chunks, not isolated translations.

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Tip: highlight 8-12 items this week, practise them in a timed mock, then unlock Pro for fuller banks and AI feedback.

Education

Campus life, assessment and lifelong learning.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
tuition fees	Education	rising tuition fees / pay tuition fees
academic pressure	Education	under academic pressure before exams
distance learning	Education	study via distance learning
critical thinking	Education	develop critical thinking skills
rote learning	Education	rely on rote learning instead of understanding
extracurricular activities	Education	join extracurricular activities
literacy rate	Education	improve the national literacy rate
vocational training	Education	offer vocational training for school leavers

Environment

Climate, waste and protecting natural systems.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
carbon footprint	Environment	reduce your carbon footprint
greenhouse gases	Environment	cut greenhouse gas emissions
renewable energy	Environment	invest in renewable energy
deforestation	Environment	halt deforestation in tropical regions
biodiversity loss	Environment	prevent biodiversity loss
sustainable development	Environment	promote sustainable development
plastic pollution	Environment	tackle plastic pollution in oceans
climate resilience	Environment	build climate resilience in cities

Technology

Digital life, AI and how tech changes work and study.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
artificial intelligence	Technology	artificial intelligence in healthcare
digital literacy	Technology	improve digital literacy among older adults
data privacy	Technology	protect data privacy online
remote collaboration	Technology	enable remote collaboration tools
automation	Technology	job losses due to automation
cybersecurity	Technology	strengthen cybersecurity measures
screen time	Technology	limit children's screen time

technological breakthrough	Technology	a major technological breakthrough
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Health

Lifestyle, public health and healthcare systems.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
preventive care	Health	invest in preventive care
mental well-being	Health	support mental well-being at work
sedentary lifestyle	Health	a sedentary lifestyle raises health risks
balanced diet	Health	maintain a balanced diet
life expectancy	Health	average life expectancy has risen
healthcare access	Health	unequal healthcare access
chronic disease	Health	manage chronic disease through lifestyle
public health campaign	Health	launch a public health campaign

Work and careers

Employment, skills and workplace change.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
job security	Work	lack of job security in gig work
work-life balance	Work	achieve a better work-life balance
professional development	Work	invest in professional development
flexible working	Work	offer flexible working arrangements
skill shortage	Work	address a skill shortage in engineering
career progression	Work	limited career progression
gig economy	Work	workers in the gig economy
entrepreneurship	Work	encourage entrepreneurship among graduates

Cities and housing

Urban life, transport and living space.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
urban sprawl	Cities	control urban sprawl
affordable housing	Cities	shortage of affordable housing
public transport network	Cities	expand the public transport network
traffic congestion	Cities	ease traffic congestion
green spaces	Cities	protect urban green spaces
overcrowding	Cities	overcrowding in city centres
infrastructure	Cities	ageing transport infrastructure
commute time	Cities	long daily commute time

Culture and the arts

Heritage, creativity and cultural exchange.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
cultural heritage	Culture	preserve cultural heritage
cultural diversity	Culture	celebrate cultural diversity
fine arts	Culture	funding for the fine arts
traditional customs	Culture	keep traditional customs alive
cultural exchange	Culture	promote cultural exchange programmes
performing arts	Culture	support the performing arts

national identity	Culture	language and national identity
creative industries	Culture	growth of creative industries

Crime and law

Safety, justice and social order.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
crime rate	Crime	a falling crime rate
law enforcement	Crime	strengthen law enforcement
rehabilitation	Crime	focus on rehabilitation of offenders
deterrent	Crime	act as a deterrent to crime
cybercrime	Crime	rise in cybercrime
community policing	Crime	invest in community policing
juvenile delinquency	Crime	tackle juvenile delinquency
white-collar crime	Crime	prosecute white-collar crime

Media and communication

News, social platforms and public opinion.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
mainstream media	Media	coverage in mainstream media
fake news	Media	spread of fake news
freedom of the press	Media	protect freedom of the press
social media influence	Media	social media influence on voters
biased reporting	Media	accuse outlets of biased reporting
public opinion	Media	shape public opinion
media literacy	Media	teach media literacy in schools
breaking news	Media	follow breaking news online

Family and society

Households, generations and social change.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
nuclear family	Family	the traditional nuclear family
extended family	Family	live with the extended family
generation gap	Family	bridge the generation gap
childcare	Family	affordable childcare provision
ageing population	Family	challenges of an ageing population
gender roles	Family	changing gender roles at home
social mobility	Family	improve social mobility
sense of belonging	Family	a strong sense of belonging

Travel and tourism

Holidays, mobility and visitor impact.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
package holiday	Travel	book a package holiday
eco-tourism	Travel	promote eco-tourism
tourist attraction	Travel	a major tourist attraction
cultural tourism	Travel	growth of cultural tourism
overtourism	Travel	manage overtourism in historic cities

travel itinerary	Travel	plan a detailed travel itinerary
budget traveller	Travel	popular with budget travellers
hospitality industry	Travel	jobs in the hospitality industry

Food and consumption

Diet, farming and everyday spending habits.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
organic produce	Food	prefer organic produce
food security	Food	ensure national food security
processed food	Food	cut back on processed food
fast food culture	Food	the rise of fast food culture
dietary habits	Food	change unhealthy dietary habits
food waste	Food	reduce household food waste
local produce	Food	support local produce
consumer demand	Food	meet growing consumer demand

Global issues (extra items to reach 100)

Cross-topic chunks that appear often in Task 2 and Part 3.

Word / chunk	Topic	Example or collocation
globalisation	Global	the effects of globalisation
income inequality	Global	widen income inequality
international cooperation	Global	need for international cooperation
developing countries	Global	support developing countries

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