

Special events: using headings to locate information

By the end of the lesson I will be able to:

- understand how to use multiple sources in the IELTS General Training Reading test.
- use headings to locate information.
- understand vocabulary relating to special events.
- deal confidently with categorisation questions.



INTRODUCTION

1. Imagine you are hiring a venue for a celebration. The following things affect how successful the event will be. Work with a partner and decide how to rank them in order of importance (1–5).

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| A. Catering facilities | _____ | D. Entertainment facilities | _____ |
| B. Location (e.g. views) | _____ | E. Style of decoration | _____ |
| C. Size of venue | _____ | | |



GET TO KNOW IELTS

2. The IELTS General Training Reading test is divided into three sections. Put the reading texts from the box into the correct section in the table below. The first one has been done for you.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| a notice about parking restrictions | a job description | an encyclopaedia entry |
| an advertisement for furniture | a train timetable | an employment contract |
| a magazine article | a manual for new staff | an extract from a novel |

Section 1: Social survival	a notice about parking restrictions
Section 2: Workplace survival	
Section 3: General reading	

3. Look at the two reading passages at the end of this lesson. Which two sections of the IELTS General Training Reading test are they taken from?



IELTS SKILLS

4. Match the venues (A–D) with the descriptions (1–4).

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Carpham Mansion and Gardens | 1. An outdoor venue |
| B. Everbury Castle | 2. A historic venue |
| C. Runnels Beach | 3. An underground venue |
| D. The Caves | 4. A luxurious venue |

5. At which of the venues from activity 4 might you see the following things? More than one answer is possible in some cases.

1. A large area of water
2. A lighting system
3. A stream
4. A sunset
5. An old staircase
6. A forest

6. Scan the Wedding venue guide reading passage and check your answers to activity 5.



TASK FOCUS

7. Match the words from activity 8 (1–8) with the synonyms (A–H).

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. natural light | A. town hall |
| 2. entertaining | B. daylight |
| 3. administrative building | C. upstairs |
| 4. plants | D. by boat |
| 5. first floor | E. a stream |
| 6. period clothing | F. fun |
| 7. across water | G. costumes |
| 8. moving water | H. flowers |

8. Predict the answers to the questions on the Wedding venue guide reading passage. Then complete the activity.

Look at the four wedding venues A–D.

For which venue are the following statements true?

Write the correct letter, A–D next to each statement.

Note: You may use any letter more than once.

1. It has little natural light. _____
2. It provides entertaining outdoor activities. _____
3. It is close to an administrative building. _____
4. It has an impressive display of plants. _____
5. It hosts ceremonies on the first floor. _____
6. It has staff who wear period clothing. _____
7. It can be accessed across water. _____
8. It has moving water inside. _____



IELTS PRACTICE

9. Read the Conference programme – at a glance passage and answer the questions

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the reading passage? Write:

TRUE *if the statement agrees with the information*

FALSE *if the statement disagrees with the information*

NOT GIVEN *if there is no information on this*

1. Welcome packs cannot be collected before 9.00 a.m.
2. Delegates can send questions for the keynote speaker.
3. Free snacks are available in the networking break.
4. Delegates should book a place if they want to attend the 11.00 a.m. workshops.
5. There are restaurants inside the conference venue.
6. Delegates should bring their welcome packs to all of the sessions.
7. Delegates can eat lunch near water.



USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR IELTS

10. Decide if the nouns below are indoor places (I), outdoor places (O), people (P) or events (E). The first one has been done for you.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. address <u> E </u> | 5. exhibition <u> </u> | 9. lawn <u> </u> |
| 2. ballroom <u> </u> | 6. gazebo <u> </u> | 10. staircase <u> </u> |
| 3. ceremony <u> </u> | 7. grounds <u> </u> | 11. suite <u> </u> |
| 4. delegate <u> </u> | 8. guest <u> </u> | |

11. Complete the sentences below with words from activity 10.

1. Play games on the _____.
2. Attend a formal _____.
3. Be a _____ at a conference.
4. Walk up the beautiful old _____.
5. Walk around the extensive _____.
6. Stand in the _____ and look at the view.
7. Be a _____ at a wedding.
8. Visit the stands at an _____.
9. Watch the dancing in the _____.
10. Listen to the president's annual _____ to parliament.
11. Sleep in a luxurious _____ of rooms.



SELF-STUDY

Answer the questions on this IELTS General Training Reading paper. <https://tinyurl.com/ydbg2o4h>

Wedding venue guide

A. Carpham Mansion and Gardens

Tie the knot in style at this beautiful country house. Select one of the many staterooms available for the ceremony and then descend the famous old staircase like royalty to your waiting guests below. While they then enjoy refreshments on wide, spacious lawns, photos can be taken in the landscaped gardens (whose 32,000 bulbs bloom spectacularly in the spring) or in the intimacy of the walled garden and maze. There are rooms to suit every size of celebration. The Pavilion Suite is great for larger parties of up to 110 people. All bedrooms overlook the grounds and guests can awake to a banquet-style wedding breakfast.



B. Everbury Castle

Backdrop to many films and displays of jousting and chivalry, this iconic castle sits on the edge of a wild and romantic forest overlooking 300 acres of woodland. Ceremonies can either take place outside on the shores of the peaceful loch or, for a more traditional indoor venue, it's just a short carriage ride to the beautiful town hall in nearby Wrotham. Back inside the castle, a costumed master of ceremonies will create a period feel to the celebrations, enhanced by the splendour of the eighteenth century castle ballroom. You and your guests will be well and truly enchanted.



C. Runnels Beach

This private, secluded beach offers a relaxed, informal and friendly atmosphere for your wedding. Despite opening recently it has already become one of the country's leading venues. Ceremonies take place under a thatched gazebo which overlooks the sea, allowing you to begin your future together against a backdrop of rugged coastal scenery and spectacular sunsets. The beach can be accessed from the clifftop carpark, though couples can be flown in by helicopter or transported to the beach by boat from the nearby lighthouse. Afternoon entertainment may include the hire of an ice cream tricycle, giant deck chairs, and donkey rides!



D. The Caves

Why not wow your guests in a uniquely atmospheric underground wedding venue? These ancient caves lie beneath cobbled streets in the heart of Morkham City's Old Town. The venue's numerous vaulted rooms contain the remains of settlements that predate the city itself, and ancient streams running through the caves provide a natural acoustic accompaniment. The caves are lit by a colourful modern lighting system and the main stage (where the ceremony takes place) is overlooked by a spacious balcony, the perfect place to take photographs from. The caves have an impressive sound system often used for live music events, which ensures your wedding celebration will be one to remember.



Conference programme – at a glance

8.45 a.m. Registration

Delegates are invited to collect their badges and welcome packs in the main foyer of the conference centre.

9.15 a.m. Introductions and welcome

The chair of the Technologies in Education group will welcome delegates and introduce the keynote speakers.

9.30 a.m. Session 1: keynote speech

It's easy to get carried away with the next-generation learning technologies that are available today. How do we implement them successfully? This keynote speech will look at various models of implementation. It will be followed by a question and answer session. Please submit questions to the conference message board during the address.

10.30 a.m. Networking break

A chance to digest the main points of the keynote speech and to browse the displays at the conference exhibition in the main hall. Free tea and coffee for badge holders. Snacks are available for purchase.

11.00 a.m. Session 2: workshops

Pre-booked workshops. Note that these are only available for participants who have registered online. Additional places may be offered at the discretion of the organisers.

12.30 p.m. Lunch

A variety of popular eateries are located within a short walking distance of the conference centre. We recommend taking the tram from the main entrance into the port district to enjoy some waterfront dining.

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