

***IELTS-Chat.com online meet 15 April 2012 with guest Ben Worthington of  
IELTSPodcast.com***

(21:12:11) Ryan: Let me start with an introduction...

(21:12:15) Ryan: Ben is a British IELTS instructor in Valencia, Spain. He is the host of IELTS Podcast. On IELTS Podcast, Ben talks to a number of IELTS professionals and examiners and asks them for advice on how students can maximize their score on the IELTS exam.

(21:12:25) ~Daniel~: I am from South Korea. good to see u all

(21:12:37) Ryan: It is a pleasure to have you here, Ben!

(21:12:53) Ryan: So let me explain how the evening is going to work.

(21:12:54) ~varshaa~: Hi I am from India and I belongs to nursing profession

(21:12:56) ~BAR~: Hi!... new friends ... U all are welcome...

(21:13:00) ~zeeshan~: hello Ben...welcome....

(21:13:08) Ryan: We've got the next hour to chat with Ben about what he's learned through his interviews regarding the four different sections of the exam.

(21:13:14) Ben: Hi Ryan!! It's great meeting everone!

(21:13:22) ~sarah\_genius~: I am a Dr.and trying to pursue my career in Uk aa a Dr.but in my last 3 attempmts I was poor in writing and reading

(21:13:25) Ryan: Our hour will be divided into 4 x 15 minute sessions. We'll talk about the sections of the exam in this order: Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking

(21:13:28) Ben: (even natives spell wrong sometimes hehe)

(21:13:50) Ryan: I'll try to keep us on schedule as much as I can.

(21:13:53) ~buzz~: cool I can go sleep after the first 2

(21:13:56) ~BAR~: It is good... Ryan

(21:14:03) Ryan: ^But so far, I'm not doing a good job. :)

(21:14:18) Ryan: Each session will start with Ben answering the questions that were submitted to me by email last week. Following this, we'll have a few minutes of free chat about this section of the exam, and you'll have the chance to ask your questions.

(21:14:32) Narrator: ~dil~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:14:37) Ben: OK, sounds good. Reading first. You're doing a great job!

(21:14:40) Ryan: Our first section is Reading.

(21:14:41) ~jaypoy~: you are doing well Ryan. Keep it up. I am following you

(21:14:43) ~pari~: hi every body

(21:15:01) ~sarah\_genius~: reading

(21:15:01) Ryan: Our first question is from Jay in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia...

(21:15:02) ~BAR~: Ryan... can you come to Sri Lanka.. there is a big demand for English teaching here...

(21:15:22) Ryan: Jay says, I am still having a hard time in the reading area. Do you have any suggestions for how I can improve my reading speed? How can I improve my reading comprehension?

(21:15:30) ~varshaa~: I am going to take up my ielts exam on April'28 2012.I feel i am poor in reading section.I must score band 7.Give me suggestions to improve myself

(21:15:52) Narrator: ~rW~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:15:53) Ben: For the reading, I'm not preparing for an exam but I prefer to read fast, I use this, I love it!

<http://www.zapreader.com/reader/>

(21:15:55) Narrator: ~rW~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:15:58) ~pari~: Ryan plz send more video to me they are really useful

(21:15:58) ~anna~: i am fr bangladesh ,my Q is,(1)in academic writing module, do we get "letter writing" ? (2) for reading section, there may be 3 or 4 sets of Q (total 40 q).are there answers in sequence? or scattered ?

(21:16:09) Ben: The reason is there are over 300 words, so you need to read fast.

(21:16:13) Ryan: What is zapreader?

(21:16:14) Narrator: ~abhi~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:16:18) Narrator: ~puja~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:16:22) Ryan: OK, great

(21:16:42) ~dil~: I am dil I am poor in writing

(21:16:54) Ben: It's a website where you copy paste the text and it just flashes it up in 3-4 word groups. It's awesome.

(21:16:55) Ryan: Can you explain how it works and how it can help an IELTS student?

(21:17:00) Narrator: ~RA~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:17:03) Narrator: ~RA~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:17:11) Ryan: Ah, I see. Great!

(21:17:26) Narrator: ~ra~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:17:28) Narrator: ~ra~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:17:40) Ben: Good question, well with so much reading in one hour, students need to develop extra skills. One of these skills is speed reading.

(21:17:55) Narrator: ~r~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:17:58) Narrator: ~r~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:18:00) ~BAR~: Actually, i am OK in English language to some extent, i am planning to face IELTS/general in a couple of months(i have enough time).. actually, i need to know as to how to organize words or sentences in writing ...please help me...

(21:18:09) ~sarah\_genius~: truly

(21:18:15) Ben: Zapreader, is an excellent place to start, plus you choose the text.

(21:18:36) ~rawshan~: nice reading source

(21:18:40) Ryan: So ZAPreader can help students learn to speedread?

(21:18:47) Ryan: speed read\*

(21:18:47) Narrator: ~r~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:18:51) Narrator: ~r~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:18:55) Ben: Hi BAR, great question but I think the next section is writing, first we'll discuss reading.

(21:19:00) Narrator: ~jess~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:19:03) Ben: YES

(21:19:05) ~Mitsu~: Rapid reading is one of the problems I have.

(21:19:11) Ben: it's really good,

(21:19:15) ~BAR~: OK... Sir... Ben

(21:19:17) Ryan: Great. Now what would you suggest Jay to to increase his comprehension?

(21:19:19) Ben: I use it quite a lot,

(21:19:37) ~Mitsu~: So I looked for a news ticker on the internet, but in vain.

(21:19:39) Ryan: OK, great tool. I hadn't heard of ZAPreader.

(21:20:01) Ben: To increase comprehension, try the online tests.  
<http://www.pearsonlongman.com/ae/marketing/sfesi/practicereading.html>  
It is basic, but if you are having problems it's probably a good idea to start slowly. Then build up to something like this:  
[http://www.examenglish.com/FCE/fce\\_reading.htm](http://www.examenglish.com/FCE/fce_reading.htm)  
Then do I'd do a search for IELTS practise reading tests.  
The good thing about these is that they are timed, so you can monitor any improvements.

(21:20:02) ~jaypoy~: I dont know how to use ZAp Reader, Ben. It's quite interesting though

(21:20:05) ~sarah\_genius~: its really brilliant

(21:20:29) ~zeeshan~: any sugesstion to increase reading skill?

(21:20:30) Narrator: ~meetu~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:20:34) Ryan: Great tips, thanks.

(21:20:39) Ben: Jaypoy, Zapreader takes a afew minutes to sort out, but it is handy.

(21:20:48) Ben: You're welcome.

(21:21:04) ~abhi~: hi.. I tend to finish my general reading section around 15-16 early but i stil find some difficulty in true, flase not geiven ques .. any advise how to handle it

(21:21:05) Ryan: OK, next question...

(21:21:10) ~zeeshan~: these all links are just going on...i mean can we access them after this session of chat?

(21:21:38) Ryan: Kathy in Korea writes: What should I do if I come across vocabulary that I do not recognize?

(21:21:40) ~anu~: I always make mistakes in true or false

(21:21:51) Ben: Zeeshan, I think you could scroll up later.

(21:21:54) ~BAR~: Mitsu... are U from Myanmar?

(21:22:00) Ben: OK Kathy's question

(21:22:08) Ben: This is a tricky one, I would either make an educated guess, try and identify the root of the word:  
try and deduce – however if it isn't fundamental just skip it, time is the key, Bronwyn (ex-examiner) told me that pacing your self is key (organising your time effectively).

(21:22:10) ~sarah\_genius~: Good Question from Katty in Korea

(21:22:11) ~zeeshan~: o..great thanks...

(21:22:28) ~Mitsu~: Nope. I'm from Japan, now living in Sydney.

(21:22:30) Narrator: ~2~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:22:33) ~rawshan~: Ben can you recommend any specific books with a lot of reading texts only so i could practice a lot

(21:22:41) Narrator: ~arezoo~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:22:45) Ryan: Yes, I get this sort of question from students a lot, too.

(21:22:47) ~BAR~: OK.. thanks  
(21:22:53) Narrator: ~2~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).  
(21:22:57) Ryan: Identifying the base word really is key.  
(21:22:57) Narrator: ~ayaanle~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(21:23:16) Ryan: I'd add trying to guess the word based on the context you see it in, too.  
(21:23:22) Ben: I've had the question before, do you recommend the same Ryan?  
(21:23:26) ~sarah\_genius~: Its just about increasing Vocabulary in Academic English  
(21:23:31) ~zeeshan~: Mr. Ryan: Why dont u write some book on listening, reading and speaking...?  
(21:23:34) Narrator: ~476307~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(21:23:43) ~rawshan~: :)  
(21:23:45) ~476307~: I am being logged out automatically...help  
(21:23:54) ~anna~: for reading section, there may be 3 or 4 sets of Q (total 40 q).are there answers in sequence? or scattered ?  
(21:23:58) Ryan: Sometimes different parts of the sentence can help, too.  
(21:24:05) Ryan: Yes, I would recommend the same, Ben.  
(21:24:12) Narrator: ~476307~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).  
(21:24:18) Ryan: For example, if we take the sentence: Person A was historically insignificant, but person B played a dire role.  
(21:24:24) ~anu~: I think all the tips are equal to practice for reading  
(21:24:25) Ryan: Perhaps 'dire' is a new word.  
(21:24:33) Ben: zeeshan, you asked for a book recomendation, I'd go online and google reading tests,  
(21:24:35) Ryan: but...  
(21:24:57) Narrator: ~340431~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(21:24:58) ~sarah\_genius~: If we search for a list of Academic English wrods from Google and try learn it  
(21:24:58) ~abhi~: hi. Ben Rayan. I tend to finish my general reading section around 15-16 early but most of the time i find some difficulty in true, false not given ques .. any advise how to handle it  
(21:24:59) ~Mitsu~: It reads "but"  
(21:25:08) Ryan: the word 'but' tells us that 'dire role' should be in opposite to 'historically insignificant'  
(21:25:16) Ryan: Exactly, Mitsu.  
(21:25:19) ~BAR~: Dire means awful...  
(21:25:23) ~arezoo~: Hello Ryan  
(21:25:23) ~ayaanle~: Hello Ryan  
(21:25:24) Ben: That's a good insight Ryan.  
(21:25:28) Ryan: So, I think context is a very powerful tool.  
(21:25:45) Narrator: ~dil~ has been logged out (Timeout).  
(21:25:53) ~jaypoy~: I agree with you Ryan. Thanks  
(21:25:59) ~sarah\_genius~: hmmm.....  
(21:26:03) Ryan: Ben, I am curious: What strategies should students follow when engaging the questions?

(21:26:10) ~Mitsu~: If you don't know the meaning of an adjective, just understanding positive or negative really helps.

(21:26:24) Ryan: Yes, Mitsu. Thanks for sharing

(21:26:40) Ben: When I was writing my answer I thought in a more 'general' aspect, the overall idea about the paragraph and text, but I like your idea as well.

(21:26:57) Ben: Yes, good point also from Mitsu.

(21:26:58) ~sarah\_genius~: Yes Indeed

(21:27:01) Narrator: ~340431~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:27:03) ~arezoo~: My biggest problem in reading is related to summary and True False NG questions. I usually get confused.

(21:27:16) Narrator: ~566073~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:27:21) Narrator: ~566073~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(21:27:22) ~zeeshan~: I would strongly recommend to have a voice chat among you all wonderful guys.....

(21:27:33) ~sarah\_genius~: hmm..same as arezoo

(21:27:57) ~sarah\_genius~: good idea zeeshan

(21:28:02) ~rama~: I guess thats a very common problem for all true, false not given...explanation on that will be really helpful.

(21:28:02) Ben: Yes I't might be on the cards in the future, we'll see:)

(21:28:10) Ryan: OK, guys. Let's open the floor up.

(21:28:14) ~BAR~: Dear Sir... My weather is troubling me(Lightening and thunderbolt).. i want to meet U both again one day ... please let me know...thanks a lot...

(21:28:22) Ryan: What questions regarding the reading section do you have for Ben and I?

(21:28:34) ~abhi~: hi.. I tend to finish my general reading section around 15-16 early but i stil find some difficulty in true, flase not gegiven ques .. any advise how to handle it

(21:28:45) ~pari~: my problem is in finding heading

(21:28:48) ~BAR~: byr for now...

(21:28:58) ~rama~: how to go about the reading section witj those having true , false and ng???

(21:29:17) Ben: Abhi, If you are finishing 15minutes early, that's bad. You really need to organise your time.

(21:29:25) Ryan: The T, F NG type questions can be tricky.

(21:29:32) Ryan: I find they really challenge your lexical resources.

(21:29:38) ~jaypoy~: Sir Ryan and Sir Ben, how to deal with fill in the blanks? especially if it require two or three words to fill in..

(21:29:39) Ben: Organise to take more time answering questions, allocate a few minutes to each part.

(21:29:40) Narrator: ~BAR~ logs out of ielts-chat.

(21:29:40) Narrator: ~jess~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(21:29:45) ~kulsoom~: in my experience reading the questions first and searching the answers from passages really works..is that a right approach?

(21:29:50) ~sarah\_genius~: My query is,sometime I locate the answer especially in Passage 3 but I can not find right answer instead pick the wrong one

(21:30:00) Ryan: Often the questions that make you think the answer is 'Not Given' may simply be worded in another way.

(21:30:23) Ryan: So, I really think the best way to tackle these questions effectively is to bolster your vocabulary properly before you engage the exam.

(21:30:42) Ben: Great point, Ryan.

(21:30:54) ~anu~: There is good chance of confusion among no Not given

(21:30:59) Ryan: This means being a master in a variety of different lexical resources - ie medically related words, environment, society, culture, countries, recreation, sports, hobbies, history...

(21:31:01) Ryan: etc etc

(21:31:15) ~buzz~: I think if you know that false means there is a statement in the passage that contradicts

(21:31:16) ~zeeshan~: hmm any suggestion or reference to bolster our vocabulary?

(21:31:18) ~arezoo~: So, for T F NG type questions, vocabulary is the key.

(21:31:20) ~rawshan~: good good point "bolster your vocabulary"

(21:31:22) Ben: I was just about to post the same!

(21:31:29) Ryan: Students who get confused by the T, F, NG question types are only confused because their vocabulary is underdeveloped.

(21:31:37) Narrator: ~Pro~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:31:46) Ryan: (My honest opinion)

(21:32:00) ~buzz~: I got confused.. not sure about my vocabulary :(

(21:32:03) Ryan: zeeshan, I strongly recommend you write your own dictionary.

(21:32:16) ~abhi~: okay... let me try improving my lexical resource

(21:32:16) Ryan: Yes, you heard me: WRITE YOUR OWN DICTIONARY

(21:32:18) ~Pro~: Hi

(21:32:26) Ben: :)

(21:32:41) ~arezoo~: How about summary questions?

(21:32:46) ~anna~: for reading section, there may be 3 or 4 sets of Q (total 40 q).in reading passages-are there answers in sequence? or scattered ?

(21:32:51) ~zeeshan~: hmm...but takes time.....seems difficult specially in quite tough work routine here in QATAR

(21:32:51) Ryan: This means noting every word you see that is new and writing the context in which you see it. Write the entire sentence out that you see it in.

(21:32:53) Ben: Write down every new word you come across.

(21:32:53) ~anu~: Ryan good idea to write our own dict

(21:32:59) ~buzz~: I think we are traditionally used to true or false.. and then they throwin Not given!

(21:33:08) Ryan: Yep, exactly what Ben says.

(21:33:11) ~sarah\_genius~: :( are my comments invisible

(21:33:28) Ryan: Write down everyone new word. And when you see it again somewhere else, write down the new context you saw it in.

(21:33:36) ~kulsoom~: i second sarah..

(21:33:51) Ben: Sarah, paste your question again.

(21:34:05) Ryan: Yes, Sarah. I do not see any comments from you.

(21:34:07) ~rama~: One more doubt, will the questions be in order according to the passage or will it be mixed up, for example for q2 can we just look into para 1 or 2 !!! something like that.

(21:34:13) Ben: Good advice Ryan

(21:34:17) ~sarah\_genius~: ohhhhh

(21:34:31) ~anu~: that true rama

(21:34:34) ~sarah\_genius~: no problem

(21:34:42) Narrator: ~arezoo~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(21:34:45) Ryan: Hi rama, sometimes questions will refer to data in various sections of the reading. but for the most part they are chronological.

(21:35:07) Ryan: OK, guys. We need to keep moving.

(21:35:08) ~kulsoom~: is that a right approach to read questions first and search the answers from passages,Ryan??

(21:35:14) Ryan: I really want to ask Ben some more questions.

(21:35:16) ~zeeshan~: OK by now, i starting my own Dictionary....thank Ryan... great idea...

(21:35:21) Ryan: So let's move on to the writing section.

(21:35:26) Ben: OK

(21:35:28) ~anu~: we have to read the questions first? is that true?

(21:35:30) Ryan: So Ben...

(21:35:39) ~sarah\_genius~: Sir in passage 3,I locate the answer but unfortunately make wrong answer

(21:35:41) Narrator: ~bijoy~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:35:51) ~Pro~: In reading is it good if v start with the last para n then do rest as my frEnds says the last one are the hardest ever

(21:35:59) Ryan: Vitaliy writes: I listened to an interview Ben did. The person being interviewed stated that students should share their opinion at the beginning of the essay. When is it alright to use personal pronouns in an essay?

(21:36:25) Ryan: She writes this because I often tell students to avoid personal pronouns in their writing.

(21:36:32) ~sarah\_genius~: Yes,even I heard so

(21:36:37) Ben: This is a great question,  
Write with a passive voice, avoid personal pronouns, however the question can ask for personal opinions. So keep it to a limit, state the personal example then switch it back to a more professional /academic style afterwards.

(21:36:45) Narrator: ~alee2k~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:36:56) Ryan: Yes, I totally agree.

(21:37:02) Ryan: Good point, Ben.

(21:37:19) Ben: Basically, sometimes it's inevitable to use the personal pronouns.

(21:37:23) ~rawshan~: yes agree

(21:37:25) ~buzz~: is this valid for general as well or only for academic?

(21:37:25) Ben: Thanks:)

(21:37:32) ~zeeshan~: any sugestion to divide our time in reading section....

(21:37:38) ~Mitsu~: Use personal pronoun only when you state your own opinion?

(21:37:48) Ryan: If the question explicitly asks you for your personal experience (or something of this nature), then it is OK..

(21:37:49) ~anu~: Are we talking about writing  
(21:37:55) Ryan: Otherwise, avoid personal pronouns  
(21:38:01) ~zeeshan~: reading !  
(21:38:16) ~sarah\_genius~: In introduction paragraph we need to give our personal statement  
(21:38:22) Ryan: Mitsu, sometimes it is possible to state your own opinions without personal pronouns.  
(21:38:26) ~sarah\_genius~: sorry statement  
(21:38:30) ~rawshan~: May I include contrast sentence after discussion sentence. Which would look like this

Additionally, being raised in a city children are exposed to many opportunities.  
(Topic Sentence 2) For instance, cities have variety of chances to find the specific job that children can utilize such as factory jobs, service jobs or vacancies in a corporate environment. (Example Sentence 2) So it can be said that every child is able to find careers that exactly will suit his skills. (Discussion Sentence 2. On the contrast, it is very difficult to be hired in the country simply because of lack of job variety. (Contrast sentence)

(21:38:36) Ryan: Example: It is argued that A is superior to B.  
(21:38:45) ~zeeshan~: ne it should be passive....other then thesis as suggested by Ryan  
(21:38:45) ~jaypoy~: I got you.  
(21:38:58) Ben: Sarah, that's a good style. Starting of with your opinion at the start. It makes it easy to follow afterwards.  
(21:39:38) ~sarah\_genius~: Thanks Ben  
(21:39:44) Ryan: I agree with Ben. It is important the reader knows exactly what you are saying in the essay. You need to tell them in the introduction.  
(21:39:57) Ryan: Ben, I've got a question for you...  
(21:39:58) ~Pro~: Hi can you guys see my comments ??  
(21:40:03) ~sarah\_genius~: Am sure its difficut for u to answer all of us  
(21:40:03) Ben: Ok  
(21:40:20) ~zeeshan~: should this POV come in Thesis...?  
(21:40:25) Ryan: When you were speaking to the former IELTS examiner, did they share any info about the written portion of the exam you think the average IELTS students doesn't know?  
(21:40:33) Ben: Yes, the logistics of all the question is tough, but I'm enjoying it.  
(21:40:43) Ben: OK Ryan give me a second.  
(21:40:45) Narrator: ~Kavi~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(21:40:49) Ryan: :D I think the students will appreciate this question.  
(21:40:58) Ryan: Let us know some inside secrets. :)  
(21:41:00) ~buzz~: yes :)  
(21:41:07) ~zeeshan~: or :D  
(21:41:11) ~kulsoom~: indeed a great question Ryan!  
(21:41:14) ~rama~: that will be really gr8..!!!  
(21:41:20) Ryan: Hehe :D  
(21:41:23) Narrator: ~827138~ logs into ielts-chat.



(21:41:25) Narrator: ~arezoo~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(21:41:28) ~827138~: hi  
(21:41:29) ~Mitsu~: I'm all ears.  
(21:41:32) ~anu~: In writing my levels of performance was same in the past when compared to now where, i got 7.5 in writing and now i scored only 6. Im not at all clear about that what do they expect from us  
(21:41:43) Ben: Well, I'm sorry they aren't as juicy as that.)  
(21:41:48) Ben: One interesting point, she recommended was ignoring the time element when preparing at home students should really concentrate on writing their target band essay, even if it takes all day, just focus on this, because once you get up to that level you aren't going back.  
However -of course- getting your essay checked along the way.  
(21:41:53) ~sarah\_genius~: [color=fuchsia][[/color]hmm  
(21:42:06) ~anu~: I hope I will get the answer  
(21:42:17) Ryan: That is great advice: ignore the time limit when studying at home  
(21:42:26) Ryan: Until you get to a certain skill level  
(21:42:33) Ben: Another point she said was, if you take a bottle of wine and give it to the examiner you get extra points  
(21:42:41) Ryan: Just focus on perfecting your style.  
(21:42:44) ~zeeshan~: how can we check our own written essay....any sugestion?  
(21:42:45) Ben: hehe:) just joking:)  
(21:42:46) Ryan: Haha  
(21:42:54) ~buzz~: I also use my thesaurus to come up with more synonyms  
(21:42:59) ~abhi~: :)  
(21:43:04) ~jaypoy~: time can is really pressuring me. that's a great idea. Thanks  
(21:43:12) ~Kavi~: Hi ryan and Ben  
(21:43:15) ~Mitsu~: Do you know what brand of wine they like?  
(21:43:18) Ryan: Yes, develop your skill first.  
(21:43:21) ~sarah\_genius~: hehe  
(21:43:25) Ben: Yes perfecting your style, and really getting to grips withproblems you have.  
(21:43:26) Ryan: My online students and I work this way, too.  
(21:43:28) ~zeeshan~: hahhahaa.....  
(21:43:35) ~jaypoy~: hahaha.. you are funny, Ben.  
(21:43:46) ~Kavi~: Thanks for this chat .... It is great help for student  
(21:43:52) Ben: :)  
(21:44:00) Ryan: OK, great advice, Ben. Thanks.  
(21:44:26) Narrator: ~anna~ logs out of ielts-chat.  
(21:44:28) Ryan: OK, let's open the floor up. What questions do you have about this section of the exam (writing)?  
(21:44:30) ~zeeshan~: gays...give us ur skype or msn ids.....wanna video/voice chat..  
(21:44:32) ~sarah\_genius~: great  
(21:44:34) Ben: This is great the chat. Great idea Ryan, it's good to hear from online students.  
(21:44:49) Ben: zeeshan, we are Guys, not gays.

(21:44:56) ~Kavi~: I am scoring 6.5 in writing I need seven I really don't know where I need to improve

(21:45:00) ~kulsoom~: hehe

(21:45:04) ~zeeshan~: oohh...

(21:45:06) Ryan: Yes, I am enjoying this, too. However, it is a little hard to focus on what we're all saying. :)

(21:45:06) ~rawshan~: question to Ryan. Is it ok to add contrast sentence in a paragraph after discussion sentence?

(21:45:08) ~puja~: I am being told that sometimes my words don't fit in right context. How can it be improved?

(21:45:19) ~arezoo~: Please give me a helping hand about summary questions in reading part.

(21:45:31) Ryan: Hi rawshan, you are probably referring to a discussion style essay

(21:45:32) ~sarah\_genius~: If we write in simple English but good structure then can we score good band

(21:45:38) ~Daniel~: Ryan, You recommended to include example in most essay. Is it always necessary for achieving better score?

(21:45:40) ~rawshan~: yea

(21:45:44) Ryan: or an 'advantages/disadvantages' style essay

(21:45:48) Narrator: ~827138~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(21:45:50) ~zeeshan~: writing mistake...that's asking...as it's difficult to write and read at the same time..

(21:45:55) ~rawshan~: argument essay

(21:45:56) Narrator: ~Mitsu~ logs out of ielts-chat.

(21:45:56) ~anu~: My writing score are fluctuating from 7.5 to 6, I don't know what exactly they expect from us

(21:45:59) ~jaypoy~: good question, Kavi. My friend took twice the exam and writing is his problem. 6.5 for both attempts, the rest are okay

(21:46:19) ~puja~: same here

(21:46:20) Ryan: Yes, it would be OK. But I prefer to separate these sorts into different paragraphs (as you see in my videos)

(21:46:22) ~rawshan~: here look at this

Additionally, being raised in a city children are exposed to many opportunities. (Topic Sentence 2) For instance, cities have variety of chances to find the specific job that children can utilize such as factory jobs, service jobs or vacancies in a corporate environment. (Example Sentence 2) So it can be said that every child is able to find careers that exactly will suit his skills. (Discussion Sentence 2. On the contrast, it is very difficult to be hired in the country simply because of lack of job variety. (Contrast sentence)

(21:46:59) Ryan: In argument essays, I do not suggest looking at the 'opposing' point of view. Just focus on what you are arguing in your thesis.

(21:47:01) ~sarah\_genius~: If we write in simple English but good structure then can we score good band

(21:47:18) Ben: There's a lot of questions going on. I think Ryan and me can look back at these after and put them in a blog post.

(21:47:19) Ryan: Students that try to look at the opposing point are just wasting their time. The essay question is not asking you to do this.

(21:47:24) ~bijoys~: is it good to use examples from our personal point of view

(21:47:39) ~rawshan~: ok got it, thank you a lot Ryan

(21:47:41) Ben: Good point Ryan.

(21:48:05) ~rama~: Any idea how they grade the writing tasks?? they sat task 2 carries more mark than 1, so how are the marks really divided among them?

(21:48:06) Ryan: bijoys, yes, you can. But I suggest only doing this if the essay question asks for it.

(21:48:08) ~anu~: i need 7 badly in writing, what are the criteria for BAND 7, hope i will get the answer for my question

(21:48:11) ~kulsoom~: hopefully i will find my answers in blog:)

(21:48:18) Ryan: rama, I have an inside tip

(21:48:25) Ryan: An examiner told me this

(21:48:31) ~zeeshan~: is it necessary to always go for four paragraphs...as mostly Ryan suggests?

(21:48:32) ~sarah\_genius~: Another question in argument essay, what is good-> argument 'For' written first or 'Against'?

(21:48:32) ~jaypoy~: I agree with you Ryan. "Thesis" is our map of our essay.

(21:48:44) ~rama~: Listening..!!!!

(21:48:49) ~rama~: ;)

(21:48:54) Ben: Hi Anu, I would go to the official ielts website and download the pdf they have for the criterias

(21:48:55) Narrator: ~Pro~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(21:49:06) Ryan: the marking criteria for the written portion of the exam is very (and she meant VERY) similar to the PUBLIC IELTS writing bands descriptor you see on <http://www.ielts.org>

(21:49:28) Ryan: so if you study this closely, you will know exactly what your examiner is looking for

(21:49:30) ~sarah\_genius~: If we write in simple English but good structure then can we score good band

(21:49:40) Ryan: OK, guys. I am sorry we keep moving along.

(21:49:50) ~puja~: does the number of paragraphs affect the band score?

(21:50:09) Ryan: As Ben pointed out, there are plenty of questions coming in that are going unnoticed. So we will have to address these in upcoming blog posts.

(21:50:13) Ryan: puja: No

(21:50:19) ~sarah\_genius~: Another question in argument essay, what is good-> argument 'For' written first or 'Against'?

(21:50:21) Ryan: Sarah: yes

(21:50:21) ~zeeshan~: @ Sara: some universal words....can also help in such case

(21:50:38) Ryan: OK next section: Listening

(21:50:39) ~rama~: Ryan marks distribution???

(21:50:46) ~abhi~: Today many people are travelling than even before. Why is this the case?  
What are the benefits of travelling for the traveller?

(21:50:54) Ben: I'd like to suggest that you leave your emails at our websites then we can email you when we've answered your questions.

(21:50:58) ~abhi~: ryan how do we recognise this kind of que

(21:51:09) ~abhi~: whether its a argu / disc essay

(21:51:19) Ryan: Rama, four sections - Task Achievement, Coherence and Cohesion, Lexical Resources, Grammar. Know them well and get your 9

(21:51:22) Ryan: OK, listening

(21:51:28) Ben: OK Listening.

(21:51:31) Ryan: Ben, are you ready for another question?

(21:51:34) ~abhi~: Ryan just las que of writting

(21:51:40) ~abhi~: :Today many people are travelling than even before.

Why is this the case?

What are the benifits of travelling for the traveller?"

(21:51:43) Ben: Yes.

(21:51:54) ~abhi~: how to identify if tjis is agu / dis

(21:51:56) Ryan: abhi I have a video on that, please search

(21:52:01) Ryan: OK, question is

(21:52:06) ~rawshan~: he has nice video of identifying argu or dis

(21:52:08) ~rama~: Ryan I was asking about the distribution among task 1 and 2?

(21:52:23) Ryan: Jim in Vietnam asks: Listening is the hardest part of the exam for me. What is the most effective way to prepare for this part of the exam?

(21:52:27) ~buzz~: goodnight

(21:52:32) ~abhi~: i saw most of the video.. but still got this issue

(21:52:37) Ben: My advice here is for the student to find a topic they love, personally, maybe the premier league, the Royal Family, finance, medicine, whatever then find podcasts on this. The next step is to listen non stop, on the bus, while having breakfast, and if it's difficult aim for repetition, not the transcript! One expert said you have to put 60% of your life in the language you want to learn.

(21:52:39) ~anu~: thanxx, byee

(21:52:43) Ryan: (rama, distribution is not equal)

(21:53:08) Ryan: OK, great advice. Thanks, Ban

(21:53:28) ~zeeshan~: yes...i am doing same...and improved a lot

(21:53:29) Ben: Thanks Ryan

(21:53:31) Ben: If you love the topic it makes it so much easier. In all honesty there has never been a better time to learn English.

(21:53:40) ~sarah\_genius~: Good advice Ben

(21:53:43) Narrator: ~shs~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:53:43) Ryan: So, Ben is suggesting listening to what you love.

(21:53:47) ~puja~: shold POV be balanced with counter arguments

(21:53:49) Ryan: And listen to it a lot

(21:53:53) Ben: Great Zeeshan, there is so much info out there.

(21:54:06) Ben: EXACTLY

(21:54:13) Ryan: I am personally really into podcasts these days.

(21:54:24) Ryan: Anyone else listening to podcasts regularly?

(21:54:25) Ben: sometime I wish I was learning English:)

(21:54:47) Narrator: ~buzz~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(21:54:51) ~abhi~: u can also learn from watching english serials with subtitles  
(21:54:51) ~Kavi~: I didn't get any reply ..... :(  
(21:54:54) ~shs~: Thank you Ben for your helpful advice.  
(21:54:54) ~sarah\_genius~: hmm..I do listen to podcasts  
(21:54:57) ~jaypoy~: I wish I can speak like native speakers do.  
(21:55:01) ~zeeshan~: i m listning good stuff on project management...if any body want i can recomend later....  
(21:55:02) ~shs~: Hi everyone  
(21:55:03) ~abhi~: I learn a lot this way  
(21:55:22) Ben: Abhi, be careful with subtitles because your ears don't work as hard.  
(21:55:52) Ryan: I listen to a couple history podcasts. I bet they would be helpful, too.  
(21:55:55) ~sarah\_genius~: I have American accent but I am residing in UK,in fact Yorkshire accent is very different and sound slan  
(21:56:00) ~pari~: how we can find good podcasts?  
(21:56:00) ~zeeshan~: i would like to ask some trick to answer multiple options while listening...as we know...it require more time to read a lot of words....  
(21:56:18) Ben: haha Sarah, I'm from Yorkshire!  
(21:56:22) Ryan: I like these ones: <http://russianrulers.podhoster.com/>  
<http://chinahistorypodcast.com/>  
(21:56:30) ~sarah\_genius~: oh really  
(21:56:30) ~varshaa~: Is there any difference in accent between Idp and British ielts exams  
(21:56:34) ~jaypoy~: I think we have to focus on the different types of questions being ask in listening area.  
(21:56:38) Narrator: ~anu~ logs out of ielts-chat.  
(21:56:48) Ryan: 's got some great resources for listening, too:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/>  
(21:57:08) ~zeeshan~: i m pakistani and have little different accent to UK/ USA.....will it effect on my speaking score....  
(21:57:12) Ryan: varshaa, it all depends on where your examiner is from  
(21:57:27) Ryan: I meant to type 'BBC'  
(21:57:31) ~abhi~: i thinks we have some podcast on British counsel site also  
(21:57:32) ~sarah\_genius~: Intially I couldnt understand Yorkshire but with time am able to reply but how bad people start thinking that u dont know English  
(21:57:34) Ben: Zeeshan, to get the skill you mentioned (listening, understanding and writing) I think it just comes with practise.  
(21:57:36) ~Kavi~: I too recommend this is good site to learn  
(21:57:41) ~pari~: thanks  
(21:57:54) Ryan: I also highly recommend these guys: [www.rachelsenglish.com](http://www.rachelsenglish.com)  
[www.englishwithjennifer.com](http://www.englishwithjennifer.com)  
(21:58:07) ~sarah\_genius~: is it helpful talking with native speaker  
(21:58:08) ~rawshan~: nice nice  
(21:58:14) Ben: Yes, Yorkshire accent is tough at first, but not as bad as scouse or geordie:)

(21:58:16) Ryan: Sorry, <http://www.rachelsenglish.com>  
<http://www.englishwithjennifer.com>

(21:58:27) Ben: Good sites Ryan.

(21:58:43) Ryan: Yes, I think they are great resources, too.

(21:58:52) ~jaypoy~: thanks

(21:58:57) Ryan: sarah, do you have access to native speakers where you are?

(21:58:58) ~sarah\_genius~: good sites

(21:59:12) Ryan: I would also recommend listening to a tech podcast like TechZing

(21:59:22) Ryan: Just download iTunes and go to the iTunes store

(21:59:29) ~sarah\_genius~: hmm Ryan,I have this opportunity

(21:59:37) Ryan: search for a podcast that is on a topic you enjoy

(21:59:38) ~bijoy~: thanks alot

(21:59:52) Narrator: ~Mitsu~ logs into ielts-chat.

(21:59:55) Ryan: (in keeping with Ben's advice of listening to something you love)

(22:00:13) ~zeeshan~: sharing with u my MSN ID: shani\_67@hotmail.com.....every body is welcome to chat..and practice spoken english...please share ur Ids...

(22:00:16) Ben: When I was learning Spanish, I couldn't find any podcasts on the topics I love, all the podcasts are in English!

(22:00:21) Ryan: Ben, are you OK for time? I know we said we were going to wrap up at 10 pm. Can you stay another 15 minutes to talk about the speaking exam?

(22:00:33) Narrator: ~Kavi~ has been logged out (Invalid IP address).

(22:00:35) Ben: Yes of course:)

(22:00:43) Ben: It's great fun.

(22:00:48) Narrator: ~Kavi~ logs into ielts-chat.

(22:00:58) Ryan: OK, great. Yes, it is hard to find podcasts that are not in English!

(22:01:26) ~sarah\_genius~: Ryan and Ben->I have attempted IELTS Academic 3 times taking my two years but Now I believe with ur help,will be successful

(22:01:26) ~jaypoy~: Okay. Assuming that you are good in listening. I mean you understand the audio, what they are talking about. But the problem is, sometimes you are lost if you are looking at the questions at the same time. how to deal with it?

(22:01:28) Ryan: So guys, get listening to topics you love.

(22:01:35) ~zeeshan~: Ryan: i do request you to plz arrange similar chat room in future...its great

(22:01:43) Ryan: Great, sarah. I hope you will be successful, too!

(22:02:07) Ryan: Thanks, zeeshan. I hope so, too.

(22:02:20) Ben: Thanks Sarah and Zeeshan:)

(22:02:21) ~sarah\_genius~: hopefully because I never prepared anything like these mentioned

(22:02:42) Ben: Jaypoy, It comes down to practice.

(22:02:58) ~sarah\_genius~: Irony,I cant appear in PLAb exam unless qualify 7.5 in all modules

(22:03:01) ~jaypoy~: thank you Ben..

(22:03:05) Ryan: jaypoy, yes that can be difficult. It is important to practice, practice, practice (I know you hate to hear this, but it is true).

(22:03:05) ~puja~: good tips given for all parts of exam.Thanks a lot.

(22:03:23) Ryan: OK, let's talk about speaking, shall we?

(22:03:27) ~jaypoy~: Thanks Ryan  
(22:03:31) ~rama~: can we move onto spking?  
(22:03:31) ~kulsoom~: sarah u and me in same train!  
(22:03:32) Ben: OK, sounds good.  
(22:03:34) ~sarah\_genius~: Oh Ben u will leave,sad. WE need more help  
(22:03:38) ~zeeshan~: Yeah sure....  
(22:03:52) Narrator: ~arezo~ has been logged out (Timeout).  
(22:03:53) Ryan: The first questions is ...  
(22:03:53) ~jaypoy~: yes. I am excited in speaking test.  
(22:03:55) ~zeeshan~: Lets talk on accent..  
(22:03:58) ~varshaa~: I have doubt in ielts valuation.For examplein the type of write more than 3 words the exact answer is the research methods but the student wrote only research methods whethther he gets mark or not  
(22:04:05) ~sarah\_genius~: oh really kulsoom  
(22:04:08) ~zeeshan~: do it effect..  
(22:04:17) ~sarah\_genius~: kulsoom where r u residing  
(22:04:21) ~kulsoom~: yes:)  
(22:04:24) Ryan: ...from Hamish in Uzbekistan, who writes: I often have trouble understanding my examiner during part 3 of the speaking exam. What phrases can I use to give myself time to think about what is being said? If I ask my examiner to repeat or simplify the question, will I lose marks?  
(22:04:32) ~kulsoom~: in london  
(22:04:46) Ben: I will be honest, I can not tell you if you will loose marks, however an ex-examiner gave me a great strategy to get around this problem. Here you can turn this weakness into a little strength, and even get extra points, by just saying this:  
Well I'm not quite sure this is what you are thinking about but, I think...  
You can check out a this pdf that I made for my students, obviously you can ignore the Spanish and just use the English.  
I posted it here: <http://www.ieltswritingtask.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/Speaking-BEC-pdf.pdf>  
(22:04:47) ~sarah\_genius~: oh great  
(22:04:57) ~Mitsu~: I can see how he feels.  
(22:05:17) Ryan: Great advice, thanks!  
(22:05:30) Ben: Cheers Ryan.  
(22:05:32) ~sarah\_genius~: fantastic  
(22:05:42) ~rama~: adding to the question is it possible to ask for a change of the cue card If we really dont know it?  
(22:05:47) Ben: I think with accent, a really quick fix, is to just slow down.  
(22:06:02) ~sarah\_genius~: Oh rama never do that  
(22:06:25) ~zeeshan~: hmm thanks Ben.  
(22:06:36) ~rama~: so that will lead to getting lower marks huh?  
(22:06:36) Ryan: From what I understand, clarifying a question will not lose a student marks  
(22:06:46) Ryan: rama, best not to do that  
(22:06:50) ~sarah\_genius~: @Kulsoom good that I found a Dr.like me hehe

(22:06:51) Narrator: ~senotriadi~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(22:06:59) ~rama~: ok .. thanx  
(22:07:05) ~jaypoy~: Can i ask a question? I am having problem to speak fluently. And my exam will be next month. But I am not fluent and my words are not on normal pace. how to improve this?  
(22:07:05) ~senotriadi~: good evening from Jakarta :)  
(22:07:21) Ben: A longer term method of improving accent is to start listening then immediately copying what you hear. (from the podcasts of course).  
(22:07:24) ~abhi~: is it necessary to use difficult words while speaking for task 2 (2 min part)  
(22:07:30) Ryan: What are some topics that people feel UNCOMFORTABLE talking about? (ie you feel your vocabulary is weak, etc)  
(22:07:53) ~kulsoom~: sports events  
(22:07:54) Ryan: Yes, Ben. I agree with you there. I usually recommend students download movie scripts and read along with their favourite movies. :D  
(22:07:54) ~varshaa~: If we ask for change of topic, whether the examiner will reduce mark?  
(22:08:04) ~sarah\_genius~: Ryan n Ben->is it true that every individual has a certain level in English  
(22:08:07) Ryan: ...try to mimic the accent  
(22:08:20) Ben: exactly Ryan  
(22:08:29) ~sarah\_genius~: but for the requirement we have to produce what we may not be  
(22:08:34) Ben: AND the intonation, the vocab, everything.  
(22:08:35) ~zeeshan~: yeah...Ben/Ryan.....i will do it now  
(22:08:38) Ryan: sarah: You can achieve any level you want with immersion and practice  
(22:08:47) ~Mitsu~: Talking about accent, American English is still fine for IELTS?  
(22:08:48) ~jaypoy~: Can i ask a question? I am having problem to speak fluently. And my exam will be next month. But I am not fluent and my words are not on normal pace. how to improve this?  
(22:08:59) Ryan: Mitsu: yes  
(22:09:03) Ryan: and American spelling is OK, too  
(22:09:13) ~sarah\_genius~: great  
(22:09:22) Ryan: jaypoy, you need to speak with native speakers, if possible  
(22:09:23) ~abhi~: Ben.. is it necessary to use difficult words/ vocab while speaking for task 2 (2 min part)  
(22:09:26) ~sarah\_genius~: immersion and practice  
(22:09:32) ~zeeshan~: i think this chat is a rehearsal of reading test...hehehehe  
(22:09:33) ~Mitsu~: Yes, but how about a mixture of AmEn and BrEn in one essay?  
(22:09:35) Ryan: if this is not possible, you need to speak as much as you can  
(22:09:37) Ben: Jaypoy, the myielts teacher, on the first podcast gave an excellent way to deal with that problem.  
(22:09:45) Ryan: join a support group  
(22:09:50) Ryan: Mitsu: mixing spellings is not a good idea  
(22:10:00) ~jaypoy~: i need native speakers then...



(22:10:10) Ryan: Haha, zeeshan. I agree with you there!

(22:10:16) Ben: abhi, by difficult words you mean, specialised vocab?

(22:10:23) ~abhi~: yeah

(22:10:30) Ryan: jaypoy, consider joining an English Toastmasters group in your area

(22:10:39) ~senotriadi~: I, too, also agree w/ zeeshan. lol

(22:10:47) Narrator: ~varshaa~ logs out of ielts-chat.

(22:10:49) ~abhi~: can we use genral use vocab ..daily life words

(22:10:52) ~senotriadi~: English Toastmasters?

(22:11:11) Ryan: (senotriad, please Google it) :)

(22:11:16) Ben: If you are comfortable using them, and you are sure they are correctly used then go for it. If not, be careful.

(22:11:19) Narrator: ~Kavi~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(22:11:20) ~sarah\_genius~: Sadly,if we use good vocab in normal incident,people will find us crazy

(22:11:22) ~rawshan~: IF YOU WANT TO UNDERSTAND U HAVE TO LISTEN, IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK YOU HAVE TO SPEAK :)

(22:11:37) Ryan: Good point, rawshan

(22:11:43) Narrator: ~rama~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(22:11:58) ~abhi~: But not using difficult vocab will not reduce my marks .. am i right

(22:12:15) Ryan: Hi Sarah, that is an interesting point. Sometimes more academic sounding vocabulary is totally out of place in an informal setting!

(22:12:19) ~zeeshan~: Ryan....plz upload some more videos on utube....they help alot.....

(22:13:02) Ryan: abhi, the key is to sound like a master of the language. Native speakers do not use formal vocabulary all the time

(22:13:04) ~jaypoy~: I dont have the link for website of you Ben. Sorry. can you post it here? thanks

(22:13:09) ~rawshan~: I HAVE A BOOK WITH ANSWERS TO MOST SPEAKING QUESTIONS, HOW EFFECTIVE TO LEARN THEM BY HEART AND RETELL IT ?

(22:13:09) ~zeeshan~: Ben: how can we remain in touch after this wouderful chat?

(22:13:13) ~pari~: yes i agree with zeeshan

(22:13:18) Ryan: OK, zeeshan :) Please send me an email with suggested topics

(22:13:20) ~senotriadi~: So, if we listen more into the person speaking we may respond with appropriate answers we can think of?

(22:13:21) Ben: Good point zeeshan, I think Ryan's videos have almost hit 3 million!

(22:13:34) ~sarah\_genius~: Yes Ryan,it happened and I felt bad but thats very obvious

(22:13:39) ~abhi~: great.. thanks Rayan n Ben

(22:13:52) Ryan: Ben's home is at <http://www.ieltspodcast.com> You can always catch him there

(22:13:59) Ryan: And Ben's on Facebook, right Ben?

(22:14:20) ~jaypoy~: Thanks Ryan

(22:14:33) ~Mitsu~: Can't we subscribe to your podcast using RSS, Ben?

(22:14:34) Ben: Yes I'm on facebook too,

(22:14:37) ~sarah\_genius~: oh superb,whats the ID in facebook  
(22:14:49) ~zeeshan~: O that great...Thank...Ryan/Ben....even dont have words for ur efforts....  
(22:14:55) Ryan: Ben, post your Facebook link here  
(22:14:59) Ben: hey mitsu, good point, I'm working on it.  
(22:15:03) Ryan: When you can...  
(22:15:04) ~pari~: plz send me ur videos ryan  
(22:15:05) ~rawshan~: QUESTION TO BEN I HAVE A BOOK WITH ANSWERS TO MOST SPEAKING QUESTIONS, HOW EFFECTIVE TO LEARN THEM BY HEART AND RETELL IT ?  
(22:15:26) Ben: I think this link will do it: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/IE-LTSPodcastcom>  
(22:15:32) Ryan: rawshan, don't retell  
(22:15:44) Ryan: memorizing certain portions of what you want to say is fine  
(22:15:55) ~rawshan~: OK GOT IT  
(22:15:56) Ryan: for example, I suggest all students MEMORIZE cohesive phrases  
(22:16:03) Ryan: Yes, I said it: MEMORIZE  
(22:16:14) ~senotriadi~: Whoops, I can't access the facebook link you gave to, Ben.  
(22:16:17) ~zeeshan~: For example?  
(22:16:20) ~pari~: ryan i am in your emails  
(22:16:20) Ben: Ryan is that for the speaking?  
(22:16:22) ~jaypoy~: Okay, Ryan.thanks a lot  
(22:16:34) Ryan: Commit these phrases to memory. Then practice using them again, again and again  
(22:16:41) Ryan: and then they will start to sound natural  
(22:16:49) Ben: [http://www.facebook.com/pages/IE-LTSPodcastcom/340400232667909?ref=tn\\_tnmn](http://www.facebook.com/pages/IE-LTSPodcastcom/340400232667909?ref=tn_tnmn)  
(22:16:52) Ryan: Yes, Ben. But I also recommend it for writing.  
(22:17:05) Ryan: Guys, that's Ben's facebook profile.  
(22:17:07) ~zeeshan~: where r u residing...Ben?  
(22:17:18) Ryan: Ready for another question, Ben?  
(22:17:20) ~senotriadi~: Thanks a lot! It's working right now :)  
(22:17:26) ~Mitsu~: What do you mean by cohesive phrases?  
(22:17:38) Ryan: Mitsu: these are the phrases that link ideas together  
(22:17:39) ~zeeshan~: u its working now!  
(22:17:41) ~jaypoy~: Zap Reader is working now, Ben. Thank you.  
(22:17:42) Ben: yes memorizing has a bad reputation but it is an excellent tool if used correctly.  
(22:17:48) ~zeeshan~: yeah\*  
(22:17:54) Ryan: Because of this, As you can see, This shows, What I mean by this is...  
(22:18:08) Ben: Great! Zeeshan and Jaypoy  
(22:18:09) ~Mitsu~: "What comes to my mind first is..." for example?  
(22:18:13) Ryan: Let me think about that a second...  
(22:18:15) ~senotriadi~: sometimes memorizing alot could make draw backs...  
(22:18:20) Ryan: Well, a few years ago...

(22:18:27) Ryan: These sorts of phrases  
(22:18:37) ~jaypoy~: Those cohesive phrases are useful Ryan. Thanks  
(22:18:45) Ryan: Yes, Mitsu  
(22:18:56) Ryan: OK, Ben. Another question?  
(22:19:03) ~zeeshan~: hmm.....good...  
(22:19:11) Ben: Yes the pdf I posted before was full of these phrases.  
(22:19:21) ~Mitsu~: Got it! Thanks.  
(22:19:22) Ben: Another question, yes please!  
(22:19:25) ~jaypoy~: Thank you, Ben  
(22:19:33) Ryan: On part 2 of the exam, students are given a minute to mentally prepare for their monologue. What strategy should a student follow to quickly organize their ideas during this portion of the exam?  
(22:19:43) Ben: I have another ten minutes then I'll have to go.  
(22:19:59) Ben: For this I teach the following method.

Intro

Body1: General Idea, Specific example.

Body2: General Idea, Specific example.

Conclusion: Brief summary.

(22:20:22) Ryan: Great, for speaking it is terrific to have a structure in mind  
(22:20:28) Ryan: Before you start  
(22:20:34) Ben: other teachers have different methods but for my students they can work with this.  
(22:20:36) Ryan: That is a great tip, Ben.  
(22:20:39) ~jaypoy~: Great!  
(22:20:41) ~sarah\_genius~: yes  
(22:20:45) Ben: Cheers.  
(22:20:49) Ryan: So introduce what you are going to say  
(22:20:56) Ryan: ...share an idea and example  
(22:21:01) ~senotriadi~: Isn't that the rule of task 2 organizing?  
(22:21:03) Ryan: ..share another idea and example  
(22:21:05) ~bijays~: thanks ben  
(22:21:14) Ryan: then bring it to a close with a concluding idea  
(22:21:19) ~rawshan~: SHOULD BE OK JUST FOLLOW THE SUB-QUESTIONS ?  
(22:21:25) Ryan: Terrific advice.  
(22:21:27) ~kulsoom~: great help,Ben!  
(22:21:31) ~zeeshan~: Somepeople recomend 3 body paragraphs...what would u say?  
(22:21:34) Ben: For the idea, maybe it's global green issues, talk about it for a bit then take it personal.  
(22:21:37) Ryan: Hi rawshan, yes, definitely  
(22:21:39) ~senotriadi~: So we should make it much cohesive as possible, right?  
(22:21:48) Ryan: zeeshan, we are talking abotu the speaking portion  
(22:21:57) Ben: Personally, in my flat we always recycle....etc etc  
(22:21:58) Ryan: yes, snotriadi

(22:22:15) Ben: There also other factors to consider, look at their face, if you see the examiner is looking perplexed, it's probably because they can't understand you, so slow down your speaking, and breathe.

To aide the examiner you can also use sequencing language to organise your ideas; Firstly ....Secondly...

(22:22:35) Ryan: Yes, taking the subject to a personal level is very good advice

(22:22:55) ~sarah\_genius~: well,good conversation is needed

(22:22:55) Ryan: Excellent, thanks!

(22:23:05) Ryan: Ben, I've got one more question for you.

(22:23:11) ~sarah\_genius~: Good job

(22:23:12) ~senotriadi~: I have a story about my last IELTS I took a month ago

(22:23:17) Ben: OK

(22:23:19) ~jaypoy~: Ryan, lets have a speaking test again.

(22:23:25) Ryan: And I think this is the question all IELTS students want to know.

:D

(22:23:34) Ben: :)

(22:23:35) ~sarah\_genius~: senotriadi what story

(22:23:41) ~ayaanle~: What a great techniques! Thank you (both of you)

(22:23:46) ~sarah\_genius~: really Ryan

(22:23:49) ~senotriadi~: in my speaking test, I was a bit nervy of thinking of a good diction relating to my answer

(22:24:10) Ryan: You spoke with a former IELTS examiner. What was one thing this person told you that you think all IELTS students should know?

(22:24:31) ~senotriadi~: my part 2 was having a vacation to a place when I was a child

(22:24:32) ~sarah\_genius~: wow good quetion

(22:24:39) Ben: This came from Berni, and refers to the speaking, she said:

(22:24:52) Ben: ....she said...

(22:24:57) Narrator: ~Mitsu~ has been logged out (Timeout).

(22:25:02) Ryan: suspense!!

(22:25:09) ~sarah\_genius~: what.....

(22:25:10) Ryan: Tell us!

(22:25:11) ~senotriadi~: OK, I'll pause my part.

(22:25:13) Ben: THE EXAMINER WANTS YOU TO PASS, so it's your opportunity to go in and show them what you can do!

(22:25:14) ~jaypoy~: hehehe

(22:25:14) ~bijoy~: oho

(22:25:16) ~kulsoom~: enough suspense!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

(22:25:23) ~senotriadi~: indeed.

(22:25:26) Ryan: Haha

(22:25:27) Ben: :D

(22:25:28) ~sarah\_genius~: wow

(22:25:34) ~abhi~: :)

(22:25:34) Ryan: Yes, I think students forget that

(22:25:46) Ryan: The examiner is more your friend than your enemy.

(22:25:56) ~abhi~: great point

(22:26:00) Ben: Yer, Berni really drilled that home for me.  
(22:26:02) ~pari~: i agree  
(22:26:02) Narrator: ~anna~ logs into ielts-chat.  
(22:26:17) ~kulsoom~: Thankyou Ryan and Ben!  
(22:26:18) ~senotriadi~: totally a motivation you got there, Ryan :D  
(22:26:22) Ben: She said, that it's the students opportunity to shine:)  
(22:26:30) ~senotriadi~: and Ben, also. hehe :)  
(22:26:30) ~sarah\_genius~: the examiner really want us to pass,as my speaking exam was on 3rd floor,I went running and was breathless,so examiner did ask me to comfort before starting  
(22:26:32) ~rawshan~: HOW IMPORTANT TO GIVE A REASONABLE ANSWERS FOR THE PART 3 RATHER THAN TALKING GENERALLY, DOES IT EFFECT YOUR MARK  
(22:26:33) Ryan: So students would be best to relax when they get into the exam? Did Berni mention how nervousness can harm a student's mark?  
(22:26:39) ~jaypoy~: now i should not be afraid. all i have to do is keep on practicing. thanks  
(22:27:15) Ben: It's true with that mindset you improve a band level any day!  
(22:27:29) ~senotriadi~: no wonder there's a friend of mine aced her IELTS into a perfect 8.5  
(22:27:34) Ryan: Great!  
(22:27:39) ~pari~: thanks every body  
(22:27:47) Ben: For nervousness I think breathing helps a lot.  
(22:28:09) Ryan: OK, great.  
(22:28:15) ~pari~: bye  
(22:28:17) ~rawshan~: A GLASS OF WATER DEFINITELY HELPS  
(22:28:19) ~zeeshan~: whats the criteria of marks claculation in Speaking test? what are key things they observe?  
(22:28:21) Ryan: Yes, calming your nerves is key.  
(22:28:27) Ryan: ok, thanks rawshan  
(22:28:30) ~jaypoy~: i need a English native speaker.heheh  
(22:28:40) ~senotriadi~: a snack bag also relieves your nervousness also  
(22:28:51) ~senotriadi~: I tried that while waiting for my turn  
(22:28:53) ~rawshan~: HOW IMPORTANT TO GIVE A REASONABLE ANSWERS FOR THE PART 3 RATHER THAN TALKING GENERALLY, DOES IT EFFECT YOUR MARK?  
(22:28:58) ~sarah\_genius~: hey is kulsoom here  
(22:29:03) Ryan: good idea, senotriadi  
(22:29:14) ~kulsoom~: yes m here:)  
(22:29:15) Ben: Definitely, I think confidence is really fundamental. At the moment I'm looking for confidence expert for the podcast  
(22:29:19) Ryan: Well, guys  
(22:29:34) ~senotriadi~: just improve your grammar & vocabulary, you'll be just fine. :)  
(22:29:38) Ryan: Ben, I speak for everyone in the room when I say 'thank you' for coming out and speaking with us today.

(22:29:45) ~zeeshan~: hmm.....great talk guys.....  
(22:29:46) Ryan: :)  
(22:29:46) Ben: OK it's been fantastic!  
(22:29:57) Ryan: Super big help, right everyone?  
(22:29:59) ~senotriadi~: Really unfortunate I'm too late. lol  
(22:30:03) ~rawshan~: HOW IMPORTANT TO GIVE A REASONABLE ANSWERS FOR THE PART 3 RATHER THAN TALKING GENERALLY, DOES IT EFFECT YOUR MARK?  
(22:30:07) ~kulsoom~: sure it was!  
(22:30:08) ~senotriadi~: totally a great help :D  
(22:30:09) ~jaypoy~: Thank you Ben and Ryan  
(22:30:13) ~zeeshan~: yeah....  
(22:30:17) Ben: I enjoyed it! I learned a lot also!  
(22:30:25) Ryan: I had a great time talking with everyone. I hope you all got a lot out of this meet.  
(22:30:27) ~rawshan~: OK  
(22:30:30) ~zeeshan~: Thanks a lot.....  
(22:30:30) ~puja~: Thanks a lot  
(22:30:30) ~Daniel~: really appreciate your advice.  
(22:30:34) Ben: Thanks to you guys, and a big thanks to Ryan for organising it:)  
(22:30:41) ~sarah\_genius~: great  
(22:30:43) ~senotriadi~: \*applauses  
(22:30:49) Ryan: Don't forget to subscribe to Ben's podcast and newsletter!  
(22:30:50) Ben: OK I got to go now:)  
(22:30:55) Ryan: Thanks, Ben. :)  
(22:31:05) Ben: See you!!!! Cheers everyone!!!  
(22:31:11) Ryan: OK, bye for now. Good luck with the podcast!  
(22:31:13) ~senotriadi~: So...when we'll have this great conversation again?  
(22:31:14) ~Daniel~: Bye.  
(22:31:15) ~bijoy~: thanks a lot for your advice Ben and Ryan  
(22:31:16) ~jaypoy~: Cheers....  
(22:31:20) ~senotriadi~: good luck, Ben! :D  
(22:31:24) Ben: Bye:)  
(22:31:24) Narrator: ~anna~ logs out of ielts-chat.  
(22:31:25) Narrator: ~pari~ has been logged out (Timeout).  
(22:31:26) ~sarah\_genius~: thanks Ryan and Ben  
(22:31:28) Narrator: ~kulsoom~ logs out of ielts-chat.  
(22:31:29) Narrator: Ben logs out of ielts-chat.