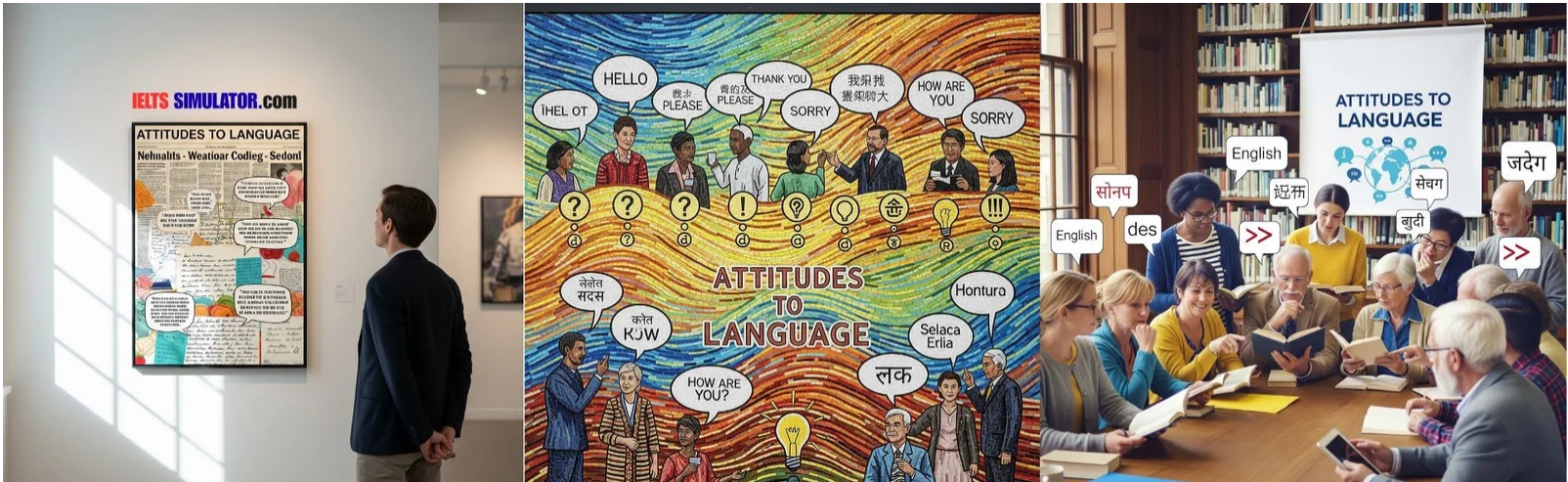


IELTS READING – Attitudes to Language
S47AT1



IELTS Reading Attitudes to Language reading practice test has 10 questions..

It is not easy to be systematic and objective about language study. Popular linguistic debate regularly deteriorates into invective and polemic. Language belongs to everyone, so most people feel they have a right to hold an opinion about it And **q1 when opinions differ, emotions can run high.** **q2 Arguments can start as easily over minor points of usage as over major policies of linguistic education.**

Attempt Free Reading Test..

Questions 1-8

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in Passage?

In boxes 1-8 below, choose

YES	if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer
NO	if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer
NOT GIVEN	if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

1 There are understandable reasons why arguments occur about language.

2 People feel more strongly about language education than about small differences in language usage.

3 Our assessment of a person's intelligence is affected by the way he or she uses language.

4 Prescriptive grammar books cost a lot of money to buy in the 18th century.

5 Prescriptivism still exists today.

6 According to the descriptivists it is pointless to try to stop language change.

7 Descriptivism only appeared after the 18th century.

8 Both descriptivists and prescriptivists have been misrepresented.

Language, more over is a very public behavior so it is easy for different usages to be noted and criticized No part of society or social behavior is exempt: **q3 linguistic factors influence how we judge personality, intelligence,** social status, educational standards, job aptitude, and many other areas of identity and social survival. As a result, it is easy to hurt, and to be hurt, when language use is unfeelingly attacked.

In its most general sense **q9 prescriptivism** is the view that one variety of language has an inherently higher value than others, and that this ought to be imposed on the whole of the speech community. The view is propounded especially in relation to grammar and vocabulary, and frequently with reference to pronunciation. The variety which is favoured, in this account, is usually a version of the 'standard' written language, especially as encountered in literature, or in the formal spoken language which most closely reflects this style. Adherents to this variety are said to speak or write 'correctly'; deviations from it are said to be 'incorrect'.

All the main languages have been studied prescriptively, especially in the 18th-century approach to the writing of grammars and dictionaries. The aims of these early grammarians were threefold: (a) they wanted to codify the principles of their languages, to show that there was a system beneath the apparent chaos of usage. (b) they wanted a means of settling disputes over usage, and (c) they wanted to point out what they felt to be common errors, in order to 'improve' the language. The authoritarian nature of the approach is best characterized by its reliance on 'q10 rules' of grammar Some usages are prescribed; to be learnt and followed accurately; others are prescribed to be avoided. In this early period, there were no half-measures: usage was either right or wrong. and it was the task of the grammarian not simply to record alliterative but to pronounce judgement upon them.

Questions 9-12

Complete the summary using the list of words, **A-I**, below.

Choose the correct letter **A-I**, in boxes 9-12 below.

The language debate

According to 9 , there is only one correct form of language. Linguists who take this approach to language place great importance on grammatical 10 Conversely, the view of 11 , such as Joseph Priestley, is that grammar should be based on 12 .

A descriptivists	B language experts	C popular speech
D formal language	E evaluation	F rules
G modern linguists	H prescriptivists	I change

Questions 13

Choose the correct letter **A, B, C** or **D**.

Choose the correct letter in box 13 below.

13 What is the writer's purpose in Reading Passage?

☐ **A** to argue in favour of a particular approach to writing dictionaries and grammar books

☐ **B** to present a historical account of differing views of language

☐ **C** to describe the differences between spoken and written language

☐ **D** to show how a certain view of language has been discredited

q5 These attitudes are still with us, and they motivate a widespread concern that linguistic standards should be maintained. Nevertheless, there is an alternative point of view that is concerned less with standards than with the facts of linguistic usage. This approach is summarized in the statement that it is the task of the grammarian to describe not prescribe to record the facts of linguistic diversity, and not to attempt **q6 the impossible tasks evaluating language variation or halting language change.** **q7 In the second half of the 18th century, we already find advocates of this view,** such as Joseph Priestley, whose Rudiments of English Grammar (1761) insists that '**q12 the custom of speaking** is the original and only just standard of any language. 'Linguistic issues, it is argued, cannot be solved by logic and legislation. And this view has become the tenet of the modern linguistic approach to grammatical analysis.

q8 In our own time, the opposition between 'q11 descriptivists' and 'prescriptivists' has often become extreme. with both sides painting unreal pictures of the other. Descriptive grammarians have been presented as people who do not care about standards, because of the way they see all forms of usage as equally valid. Prescriptive grammarians have been presented as blind adherents to a historical tradition. The opposition has even been presented in quasi-political terms – of radical liberalism vs elitist conservatism.

Attempt Free Reading Test..

Boost Your Score: Practice IELTS Online with IELTS Simulator.



8439000086
8439000087
7055710003
7055710004

IELTS Simulation 323 GMS Road, Near Ballupur Chowk, Dehradun, India

Chat on WhatsApp

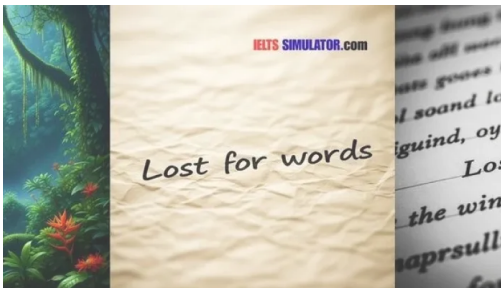
email: info at ieltsband7.com



IELTS READING – Obtaining Linguistic
Data S27AT3
July 25, 2025
In "IELTS Reading Academic"



IELTS READING – GOOD REASONS FOR
CHOOSING ATLAS ENGLISH
LANGUAGE COLLEGE S21GT4
September 7, 2019
In "IELTS Reading GT – Format, Tips,
and Practice for General Training"



IELTS READING – Lost for words
S26AT1
July 25, 2025
In "IELTS Reading Academic"

Tagged IELTS Academic Reading, Top 10 IELTS Reading Tips to Improve Band Score Fast



