

Reading Skills

IGCSE English ■ Topic 1

IGCSE English



What we will cover

- 1 Skim then scan
- 2 Answering questions
- 3 Signal words
- 4 Notes & summaries
- 5 Reading between the lines



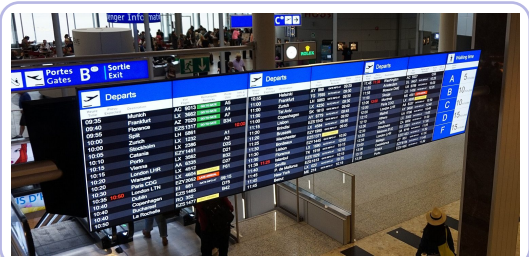
1

Finding information

Skim then scan

- **skim** 略读: read fast for the **gist** 大意 – title & first lines
- **scan** 扫读: move your eyes fast to find **one** fact

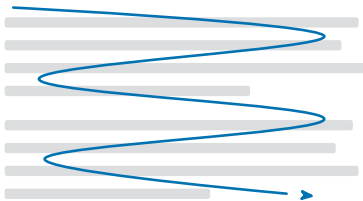
A departure board is scan territory – hunt one flight, not every line.



Scan for one fact among many lines

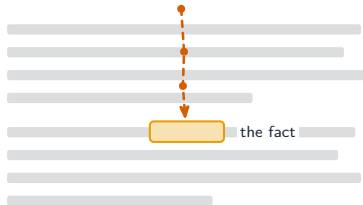
Skim then scan

Skim - read fast for the gist



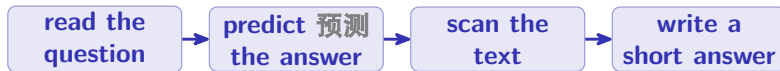
one fast sweep over every part:
“what is this text about?”

Scan - jump to one fact



eyes hop down the page and
stop only at what you need

Answering questions



Write a word or a **phrase** 短语, not a sentence. Copy the exact word & answer **only** what is asked.

Signal words

addition 递进

also, in addition, as well as

contrast 对比

but, however, although

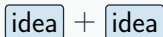
cause & effect 因果

because, so, as a result

Signal words 信号词 show how the writer's ideas connect. In **multiple matching** 多项匹配, look for the same **meaning**, not the same words (a **paraphrase** 改写).

Signal words

addition



one more of

the same kind

also

in addition

as well as

contrast



the ideas pull in

different directions

but

however

although

cause and effect



one thing makes

the other happen

because

so

as a result

2

Going deeper

Notes and summaries

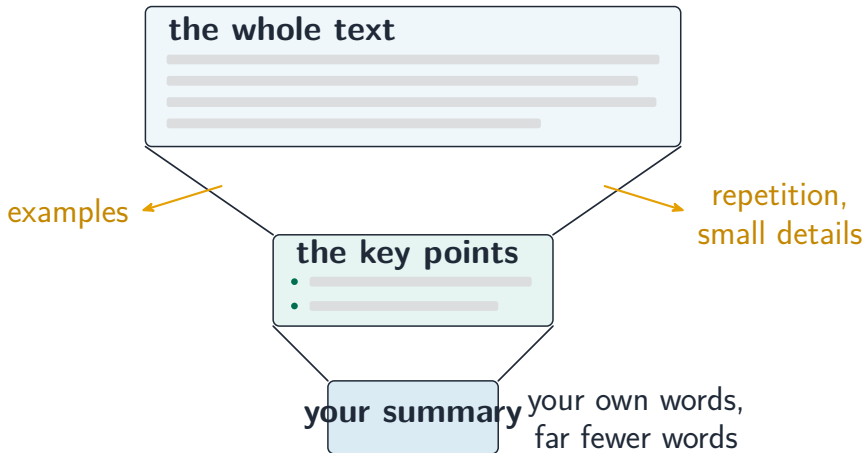
note-making 做笔记

short notes under headings; leave out examples

summary 概括

the key points in fewer words, in **your own** words

Notes and summaries



Reading between the lines

inference 推断

the writer **implies** 暗示 a
meaning without saying it openly

attitude 态度

found in **word choice** 用词;
guess new words
from **context** 语境

3

Recap

Worked example – reading between the lines

“Lin *claimed* she had finished the work, but her desk told a different story.” What does this suggest?

- The writer chose **claimed**, not *said* ⇒ it hints the statement may not be true.
- “Her desk told a different story” is **indirect**: the writer never says she lied.
- Put together: the reader is meant to **doubt** Lin – her desk was still covered in work.
- ⇒ **The writer implies Lin had not really finished.**

For an **inference** question, quote the **exact word** that carries the hint and say what it suggests. Never just copy the sentence out – explain the **implication**.

Topic 1 – key takeaways

1

Skim & scan

skim for the gist, scan for one fact

2

Answers

predict, then write a short exact answer

3

Signal words

show addition, contrast, cause & effect

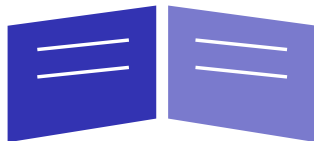
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Inference

read the implied meaning & attitude

Check yourself

- 1 Which skill finds the gist quickly?
- 2 Which skill finds one exact fact?
- 3 What kind of word is “however”?
- 4 What is it called to work out an unstated meaning?



Answers 1. skimming 2. scanning 3. a contrast signal word 4. inference