

Reading Skills

IGCSE English ■ Topic 1

IGCSE English



Reading Skills

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

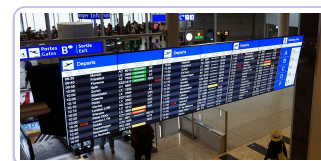
Reading Skills

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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

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Answering questions



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

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Signal words

addition 递进
also, in addition,
as well as

contrast 对比
but, how-
ever, although

**cause & ef-
fect** 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).

2 Going deeper

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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**

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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

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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**.

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↳ Recap

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

4 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