

## A STUDY ON THE ATTITUDES OF IRANIAN CANDIDATES TOWARDS THE GENERAL IELTS TEST

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### ABSTRACT

IELTS, International English Language Testing System, is nowadays widely used as a certificating device and is claimed to be a reliable and strongly accountable measure of language proficiency by the organizations and educational centers that utilize it. Irrespective of the importance IELTS has gained in the present world, the attitudes of those who take the test have rarely been explored. Therefore, the present study aimed at investigating the attitudes of Iranian candidates towards the IELTS test. Accordingly, a standardized attitudes questionnaire was administered to 40 homogeneous Iranian IELTS candidates after taking the test. The collected data were then analyzed through Pearson correlation coefficient to find out whether there were any significant relationships between the candidates' test scores and their attitudes towards IELTS. The findings indicated that the participants of the study mostly had a positive attitude towards IELTS. Implications can also be drawn for all the stakeholders including candidates intending to sit the test, institutes running IELTS preparation programs, teachers wishing to teach such programs, and finally, IELTS test administrators.

**Key Words:** IELTS, Attitude, Belief, Motivation, Affective Factors.