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World Refugee Day

In recognition of World Refugee Day on June 20, a group of former refugee and migrant students at ELPNZ's Porirua Centre recited a poem about diversity and belonging (Poem from the book *All of Us* by Landing Press, by Adrienne Jansen and Carina Gallegos).



PhraSakehai Worrawutthaveekul
Thailand



Diana Villajazac
Colombia



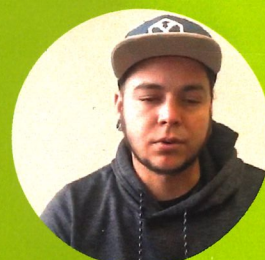
Upendra Rana
India



Chau Thai
Vietnam



Yajuan Yuan
China



Cesar Mendez
Colombia

ALL OF US

once upon a time
all of us here
were one of them there.
maybe
in another skin
in a life before.
maybe
only a few weeks ago.
land of the long white cloud,
land of no borders,
floating
adrift
near the end of world,
near the end of the sea.
we came and stayed
and with our accents
call this place
home.
– carina gallegos



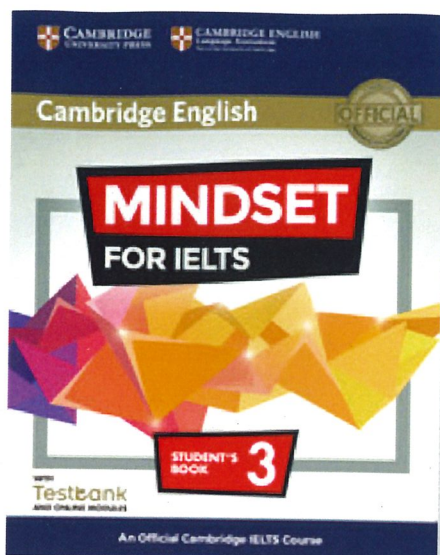
So Meh
Kayah State, Myanmar



Mativa Fruenan
Samoa



Maha Al Tabbah
Syria



Mindset for IELTS: Student's Book 3

Archer, G. & Wijayatilake, C. (2018). *Mindset for IELTS: Student's Book 3*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press and UCLES

Reviewer

Sue Edwards

TESOLANZ Talk Join Today

TESOLANZ Talk is a Facebook group in which ESOL practitioners in New Zealand can share ideas and discuss relevant issues online. Join today and contribute to the discussion.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TESOLANZTalk/>



The well-known IELTS examination is now taken by more than 3 million people yearly (IELTS, 2019). 'Mindset for IELTS' is one of 31 resources designated as 'Official Cambridge IELTS Preparation Materials', and is promoted as "The new Official Cambridge IELTS course" (Cambridge University Press, 2019a).

Mindset for IELTS Student's Book 3 targets candidates aiming for Academic Band 7.5, and is the highest of four levels in the Mindset course. Each level contains 'Core material', both print and digital, and online skills modules, as well as 'Additional material', comprising online modules for Arabic and Chinese L1 speakers, an academic study skills module, and online access to 'Testbank' (practice IELTS tests). The core material in the Student's Book is organised into eight units around the four language skills. The course also aims to develop candidates' exam skills, learning strategies and vocabulary and grammar, as seen in the useful summary of the book's contents, labelled 'Map of the Book', located online.

A closer look at the contents of the book shows that the themes for each unit have been chosen for their likely interest and relevance for learners, including topics such as urban and rural life, health, history, and culture, among others. The contents of each language skill sub-section are organised into three parts: a 'Lead-in', followed by 'Tasks', and finally 'Exam Skills'. The 'lead-in' consists of a short activity using a text related to the unit topic, and the 'task' section contains IELTS-type tasks as well as selected areas of vocabulary and grammar. These two sections also contain explanations of task types and exam tips. The 'Exam Skills' section contains authentic IELTS questions. All units include a mix of individual and group work.

Turning to the online materials, learners either join a class or study independently, and teachers can choose to join an institution or work independently. This gives flexibility to both teachers and learners, and means that the materials could be used in many different learning contexts. Online, learners can locate a large number of further practice activities, with seven to ten activities for each skills area, for each of the eight units. All activities provide instant feedback to learners, apart from the Writing tasks. There are also videos introducing each part of the IELTS exam, and access to audio files for Listening activities.

The online information about the Mindset course claims that its "unique blend of print and online content enables you to customise course length and focus to suit your needs" (Cambridge University Press, 2019b). Given the large amount of material in the course, and the fact that IELTS preparation courses are often relatively short (3-4 months), both teachers and learners will need to be selective. This may mean choosing several units in the book based on what is most relevant and interesting for learners, and completing the activities in the Students' Book and online only for these units.

I would recommend 'Mindset for IELTS' for its interesting content and thorough coverage of all the IELTS skills, as well as grammar and vocabulary, but would warn teachers of the need to spend time selecting content and activities, because of the large quantity of material provided. IELTS candidates studying independently, particularly those at lower levels, would benefit from advice about selection of materials for study.

References

Cambridge University Press (2019a). *IELTS*. Retrieved from <https://www.cambridge.org/nz/cambridgeenglish/official-exam-preparation-materials/exam/ielts>

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IELTS (2019). *IELTS numbers rise to three million a year*. Retrieved from <https://www.ielts.org/news/2017/ielts-numbers-rise-to-three-million-a-year>