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# GRAMMAR FOR IELTS

## Clauses

### THAT-CLAUSES WITH VERBS

# EXPLANATION

- **THAT-CLAUSES** are incredibly common in English.
- They have many different uses.
- If you put a **THAT-CLAUSE** in your IELTS Writing, you will make your sentence complex and you will impress the examiner.
- You will also be able to use **THAT-CLAUSES** in your IELTS Speaking.
- It is very common to find **THAT-CLAUSES** in the IELTS Reading Test (General and Academic) and Listening Test.
- We often use **THAT-CLAUSES** with **VERBS**.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT THINKING

We often use that-clauses to describe what we think/believe:

- Most people **agree** **that** bringing up children is one of the most difficult jobs a person can do.
- I **assume** **that** everybody else in the company has agreed.
- Many scientists **believe** **that** parents will soon be able to ‘design’ their own babies: mothers and fathers may have the option to pay for certain physical characteristics or character traits.
- Because of increases in tuition fees, some school-leavers **have** **decided** **that** going to university is simply too costly and does not represent good value for money.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT THINKING

- I **doubt** **that** you will manage to change her mind.
- It is **estimated/predicted/forecast** **that** sea-levels will continue to rise over the coming years.
- Being a pessimist, I **do not expect** **that** humans will take the radical steps necessary to protect the environment and save our planet.
- I **fear** **that** unless action is taken quickly, the business will go bankrupt.
- Teenagers often **find** **that** the transition from being a child to being an adult is a difficult one.
- I **feel** **that** you could have been a bit more understanding.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT THINKING

- I **hope** **that** governments will implement appropriate policies to make gambling illegal.
- I **guess** **that** you meant to leave the keys with the neighbour, but unfortunately she didn't have them. I had to break a window to get in. Obviously, I have had it repaired and it is as good as new!
- I **imagine** **that** he must be feeling quite stupid now. It was an incredibly foolish thing to do.
- We need to **know** **that** the food we eat is safe. There should be international laws which make it a criminal offence to produce or sell food which is dangerous to health.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT THINKING

- Over the past few decades we **have learnt** **that** technology has downsides as well as benefits.
- I **presume** **that** you have told everyone about the change of plan.
- I **realise** **that** unless I work much harder, I will probably fail the course.
- All sensible people **recognise** **that** something must change.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT THINKING

- I **suppose** **that** most migrants who come to the city are looking for a better life for themselves and their families.
- I **don't suppose** **that** you have finished that assignment yet.
- I **think** **that** it is the job of governments to provide care for the elderly rather than something which individual families should be responsible for.
- Most of us **understand** **that** if we commit a serious crime, we could find ourselves in prison.
- I **wish** **that** people would show more consideration towards their neighbours.



# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

We often use that-clauses to describe what we say/communicate:

- I have to **accept** **that** I wasn't taking much notice of what she said.
- It should be **acknowledged** **that** children who are brought up in large families tend to have better social skills.
- I must **admit** **that** I found it difficult at first. However, after a few weeks on the course I began to understand more.
- Whilst I **agree** **that** money should be spent on space exploration, I also believe that much of the funding for these missions could come from private sources rather than governments.

## THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

- He **alleged** **that** the salesperson had misinformed him about certain aspects of the car he had bought.
- The company **has announced** **that** there will be significant job losses in the coming months due to a lack of orders.
- A significant number of medical experts **argue** **that** violent sports such as boxing should be outlawed.
- It has been **claimed** **that** eating large quantities of red meat is linked to the development of cancer.
- Some people **complain** **that** they have too much work to do and not enough time to relax.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

- She eventually **confessed** **that** she had stolen the money.
- I **demand** **that** action is taken immediately.
- It cannot be **denied** **that** teachers play a fundamental role in a child's development.
- It is important to **explain** **that** when children struggle at school, it is not usually because they are unintelligent or because they lack ability.
- I **insist** **that** you let me pay for the meal.
- Although he didn't actually promise anything, he certainly **indicated/implied** **that** we would be getting a pay-rise next year.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

- Our manager **mentioned** **that** you would be moving to the Toronto office at the end of the month so we would like to arrange a leaving party for you.
- Climate-change activists want governments to **promise/guarantee** **that** they will bring in new laws to prevent further destruction of our planet.
- She **pointed out** **that** she had already spent quite a lot of time doing a very similar job and was therefore well-qualified and well-suited to the position.
- She **pretended / made out** **that** she hadn't seen me on the train.

## THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

- I strongly **recommend** **that** we hold a meeting to discuss this matter within the next few days.
- As soon as we arrived, I **said** **that** the room was too small.
- The university **has stipulated** **that** all applicants must have a qualification in English.
- It has been **suggested** **that** we could develop colonies on other planets such as Mars within a relatively short period of time.
- I **told** the receptionist **that** we were very disappointed with the level of service at the hotel.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

Some verbs of communication and thinking almost always have an indirect object:

- The travel agent **advised me that** prices of hotel rooms were likely to rise over the holiday period.
- Teachers need to **convince their students that** working hard and getting academic qualifications can be beneficial in the long run.
- I would like to **inform you that** I intend to vacate the property at the end of next month.
- It **occurred to me that** you might have felt a bit left out.
- Advertisements which try to **persuade us that** buying a product will lead to happiness and fulfilment are obviously misleading.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING VERBS ABOUT COMMUNICATING

- The manager **promised/assured me that** the matter would be resolved speedily.
- Luckily, my personal assistant **reminded me that** the meeting had been re-arranged for Friday.
- My granny **taught me that** not everything which glistens is gold.
- As soon as I got home, she **told me that** she had lost her job.
- We must **warn smokers that** their habit is life-threatening.
- **Children** need **to be warned that** some online content is dangerous.  
(This is a passive form and the original object **children** is at the beginning of the sentence)

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING OTHER VERBS

Some other verbs are often followed by a that-clause:

- It **appears/seems** **that** we underestimated the amount of time we would need to get the job done.
- It **has been** clearly **demonstrated/shown** **that** girls and boys educated separately achieve better academic results.
- Scientists **have discovered** **that** some life-forms can survive in even the most extreme environments.
- The new law **means** **that** anyone wishing to vote in elections will need to show two forms of identification.
- I **have noticed** **that** far fewer customers are using plastic bags.





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# GRAMMAR FOR IELTS

## Clauses

### THAT-CLAUSES WITH NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

# EXPLANATION

- **THAT-CLAUSES** are incredibly common in English.
- They have many different uses.
- If you put a **THAT-CLAUSE** in your IELTS Writing, you will make your sentence complex and you will impress the examiner.
- You will also be able to use **THAT-CLAUSES** in your IELTS Speaking.
- It is very common to find **THAT-CLAUSES** in the IELTS Reading Test (General and Academic) and Listening Test.
- We can often use **THAT-CLAUSES** with **ADJECTIVES** and **NOUNS**.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING NOUNS OF THINKING AND COMMUNICATING

We can use a that-clause after nouns connected with thinking and communicating:

- The **idea** **that** companies which pollute should pay higher taxes seems to have some merit.
- It is my fervently-held **belief** **that** all children should learn history at school.
- It has always been my **view** **that** private education and private healthcare should be abolished.
- The **claim** **that** men make better drivers than women needs to be challenged.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING NOUNS OF THINKING AND COMMUNICATING

We can use a that-clause after nouns connected with thinking and communicating:

- As soon as I arrived at the conference, I got the **feeling** **that** it was going to be a waste of time.
- I had a **hunch/premonition** **that** something was wrong.
- I generally support the **argument/thesis** **that** increasing the cost of airline tickets would reduce passenger demand and contribute to the fight against global warming.
- The **notion** **that** men are somehow superior to women is absurd.
- The **point** **that** art is beneficial needs to be made.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOLLOWING NOUNS OF THINKING AND COMMUNICATING

We can use a that-clause after nouns connected with thinking and communicating:

- The **opinion** **that** children should not have to wear a school uniform is clearly wrong, as far as I am concerned.
- The **thought** **that** aliens could one day take over our planet scares some people.
- It is my **hope** **that** you get the job. You deserve it!
- We made a **promise** to the children **that** we would take them to South Africa this year.
- He made a **commitment** **that** he would do all he could to help.

# THAT-CLAUSES

## GIVING INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER NOUNS

We can use a that-clause after other nouns to give extra information about them:

- She pointed out the **danger** **that** they might be left behind.
- The **problem/issue** **that** some children could become demotivated needs to be addressed.
- Working from home offers the **advantage/benefit** **that** employees do not waste time and money commuting to work.
- Having elections very frequently leads to the **possibility/likelihood** **that** voters will become apathetic.



# THAT-CLAUSES

## GIVING INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER NOUNS

We can use a that-clause after other nouns to give extra information about them:

- There was a **chance** **that** we would succeed.
- Offering people money to donate their blood has the surprising **effect/result/consequence/outcome** **that** many stop being willing to do it.
- The **fact** **that** many people these days have a closer relationship with their technology than with their friends is often overlooked.

# THAT-CLAUSES

## DEFINING NOUNS

After the verb **to be** we can use a **that-clause** to define a noun:

- The **fact is that** university education has become increasingly expensive and the quality of teaching seems to have deteriorated.
- Many would like to see cars banned from city-centres. The **problem is that** motorists would be furious if they couldn't drive their vehicles wherever they wanted.
- New out-of-town shopping centres are generally welcomed. The **danger/trouble is that** when they open, smaller stores close and can no longer serve the local community.

# THAT-CLAUSES

## DEFINING NOUNS

After the verb **to be** we can use a **that-clause** to define a noun:

- When children spend too much time playing computer games, the **effect/outcome/consequence** **is** **that** their social skills fail to develop.
- The general **feeling** amongst teenagers **is** **that** they deserve more opportunities. (**We can add extra information to the noun**)
- Although some believe that valuable minerals could be mined from the moon, the **evidence** **is/suggests/indicates** **that** this would be incredibly difficult and would probably not be cost-effective. (**Other verbs can sometimes be used in a similar way**)

# THAT-CLAUSES

## DEFINING NOUNS

After the verb form **there is** we can use a that-clause to define a noun:

- Working from home can clearly benefit an employee. **There is** the **advantage/benefit/upside** **that** the worker does not have the inconvenience of travelling to work. However, **there is** the **disadvantage/downside/drawback** **that** separating work and social life can be immensely difficult.
- Although many people are pessimistic about the future of our planet, **there is** always the **hope** **that** new technology will enable us to deal with the environmental crisis.
- I don't really want to go to the party because **there is** the **possibility/chance/likelihood** **that** I might meet my 'ex' there.

# THAT-CLAUSES AFTER ADJECTIVES

We can use that-clauses after adjectives which express feelings:

- I am **happy** **that** governments have started taking the issue of cyber-bullying so seriously.
- Schoolchildren are probably **pleased** **that** corporal punishment has been made illegal.
- I am **glad** **that** more adults now have the opportunity to return to education in their forties and fifties.
- I am quite **angry** **that** you forgot to pay me back.

# THAT-CLAUSES AFTER ADJECTIVES

We can use that-clauses after adjectives which express feelings:

- We should all be **delighted** **that** globalisation has raised living standards for many. However, it should be pointed out that this process has not been entirely beneficial.
- When we reach old age, many of us are **sorry** **that** we have spent so much time working and so little time with our family and friends.
- I am **disappointed** **that** you felt unable to tell me the truth.

# THAT-CLAUSES AFTER ADJECTIVES

We can use that-clauses after adjectives which express feelings:

- I am **intrigued** **that** so many students choose to study social sciences even though their job prospects would be better if they studied mathematics or engineering.
- I am **worried/troubled/concerned** **that** many teenagers and adolescents seem to be addicted to online gaming.
- I am **afraid** **that** the quality of air in many of our major cities will continue to deteriorate.
- We should all be **outraged/furious** **that** some of the richest people in the world make almost no contribution to society whatsoever.

# THAT-CLAUSES AFTER ADJECTIVES

We can use that-clauses after adjectives which express feelings:

- **It** is somewhat **disappointing** **that** so many youngsters want to become celebrities and so few seem interested in a meaningful career in fields such as social work, medicine or teaching.
- **It** is **worrying/troubling/concerning** **that** so many people seem to depend on alcohol.
- **It** is quite **sad** **that** the number of marriages ending in divorce is so high.
- **It** is somewhat **perplexing** **that** so many of us understand the issue of climate change but do nothing about it.





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# GRAMMAR FOR IELTS

## Clauses

**THAT-CLAUSES** DESCRIBING  
**POSSIBILITY, OPINIONS**  
**AND BELIEFS**

# EXPLANATION

- **THAT-CLAUSES** are incredibly common in English.
- They have many different uses.
- If you put a **THAT-CLAUSE** in your IELTS Writing, you will make your sentence complex and you will impress the examiner.
- You will also be able to use **THAT-CLAUSES** in your IELTS Speaking.
- It is very common to find **THAT-CLAUSES** in the IELTS Reading Test (General and Academic) and Listening Test.
- We often use **THAT-CLAUSES** with phrases connected with **possibility** and our **opinions** and **beliefs**.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOR CERTAINTY AND POSSIBILITY

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate certainty or possibility:

- **It is certainly true that** studying online is more convenient than attending classes in the real world.
- **It is undoubtedly the case that** having a healthy body is linked to having a healthy mind.
- **It is certainly/probably the case that** living standards have risen over the past few decades.
- **It is a well-known fact that** drinking too much alcohol can seriously affect a person's health.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOR CERTAINTY AND POSSIBILITY

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate certainty or possibility:

- **It is generally thought to be true** that having a greater number of police-officers leads to a reduction in crime.
- **It is extremely unlikely** that our civilisation will ever live in peace and harmony.
- **It is impossible to imagine** that we will ever discover how to be immortal.

# THAT-CLAUSES FOR CERTAINTY AND POSSIBILITY

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate certainty or possibility:

- **The possibility exists** that life-forms could be found on other planets.
- **There is no doubt** that sport can bring people together.
- **There is little doubt** that life for young people is more stressful than it used to be
- **There is a significant/high probability** that temperatures will rise over the coming years.
- **There is hardly/scarcely/barely any chance** that it will rain.
- **There is literally no way** that she will go out with him.

# THAT-CLAUSES WITH PHRASES FOR OPINION

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate opinions:

- **I am completely/entirely sure** **that** he is lying.
- **I am of the opinion** **that** all workers should retire at the age of seventy.
- **It is my fervently-held belief** **that** the main aim of government should be to eradicate poverty.
- **I am utterly convinced** **that** entry to all museums should be free of charge.



# THAT-CLAUSES WITH PHRASES FOR OPINION

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate opinions:

- **There is no doubt in my mind** that if children had the opportunity to listen to more classical music, they would be calmer and happier.
- **I have always thought** that humans are fundamentally selfish.
- **I have always been of the view/opinion** that others should be treated with respect.
- **I am fundamentally/vehemently opposed to the view** that athletes who cheat by taking performance-enhancing drugs should be given a second opportunity.

# THAT-CLAUSES WITH PHRASES FOR GENERAL BELIEF

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate general belief:

- **There is a widely-held belief** that so-called fake news is having a detrimental effect on society.
- **It is believed by many (employers)** that offering staff a lengthy period of annual leave can seriously affect productivity.
- **Many (experts) hold the view** that it should be compulsory to vaccinate all children.

# THAT-CLAUSES

## WITH PHRASES FOR GENERAL BELIEF

We can use that-clauses after phrases which indicate general belief:

- **It is widely accepted/believed** **that** human activity is responsible for the eradication of thousands of animal species.
- **It is commonly thought/understood** **that** democracy is the best political system available.
- **It is generally thought to be the case** **that** youngsters who commit minor crimes are likely to go on to commit more serious ones.



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# GRAMMAR FOR IELTS

## Clauses

### WH-CLAUSES

# EXPLANATION

- **WH-WORDS** are *what, when, where, who, which, why* and *how* (*how long, how much/many, how often* etc.)
- You can use these words in clauses in IELTS Writing.
- The IELTS examiner will give you a higher grade if you use a wide range of sentence structures.
- You will meet these clauses in the IELTS Reading Test and the IELTS Listening Test.
- We use clauses with a *wh*-word with **VERBS** and **NOUNS**.

# WH-CLAUSES

## AFTER VERBS OF THINKING

We can use these clauses after verbs connected to what we think:

- It is important to **know** **what to do** (what you should do) in an emergency. If everybody completed a basic First Aid course, lives could be saved.
- It is essential to **understand** **what you are learning** as well as **why you are learning it**.
- Unemployment can be stressful: people who lose their job often **wonder** **how long it might take to get another one** and **how many interviews they will have to attend**.



# WH-CLAUSES

## AFTER VERBS OF THINKING

We can use these clauses after verbs connected to what we think:

- It seems that, as a species, we have really **forgotten** **how** **to care for our planet**.
- Although older people often complain that life is harder than it used to be, it is actually extremely difficult to **remember** **what** **life was like** **decades ago**.
- I do not **recall** exactly **where** **we went** or **what** **we ate**.
- I cannot **imagine** **why** **anybody** **would do something so stupid**.
- Many people **worry about** **where** **to go** if they need help.

# WH-CLAUSES

## AFTER VERBS OF THINKING

We can use these verbs with **if/whether**:

- We never **know** **if/whether** things will turn out in the way we hope.
- I honestly can't **remember** **if/whether** I invited you this weekend or **next**. I'm so sorry!
- I'm afraid I've **forgotten** **if/whether** you eat meat or not.
- I **was wondering** **whether** to call you when I got your text. (We cannot use **if** in this way before an infinitive form)

# WH-CLAUSES

## AFTER VERBS OF COMMUNICATING

We can use these clauses after verbs connected to what we say:

- I **asked** the manager **what time breakfast would be served** and **how much extra it would cost**.
- I **want to know** **how many people are likely to attend**.
- Governments **need to explain** to the electorate **how taxes are spent**.
- When violent criminals are unwilling to **admit what they have done**, judges often give them a harsher prison sentence. (**what** = the thing which)
- We can spend a lot of time **arguing/disagreeing** about **what causes childhood obesity**. (**what** = the thing which)

# WH-CLAUSES

## AFTER VERBS OF COMMUNICATING

We can use these clauses after verbs connected to what we say:

- The so-called 'tech giants' need to **tell** us **what** **they have been doing with our personal data.** (**what** = the things which)
- Managers who clearly **indicate** **what** **needs to be done** are usually more successful than those who cannot communicate so precisely. (**what** = the things which)
- Employers sometimes need to **remind** their staff **how** **important their work is.** (**how** can be used with adjectives)

# WH-CLAUSES AND TO-INFINITIVES AFTER VERBS OF THINKING AND COMMUNICATING

We can often follow a wh-clause with a to-infinitive:

- I honestly didn't **know** **what to do** or **where to go**.
- It is difficult to **explain** **how to get** there.
- Lots of people **forget** **how to fill in** important forms.
- I **worry** about **what time to leave**.
- Nobody **told** me **which train to catch** or **how to get** to the hotel.
- I **would** really **like to know** **how much (money) to take**.

# WH-CLAUSES

## GIVING INFORMATION ABOUT NOUNS

We can use wh-clauses to give information about nouns:

- There are several **reasons** **why** the internet has become so popular.
- These days, many people move away from the **town or city** **where** they were brought up.
- Although Lisbon is the **city** **where** I was born, I haven't been back there for ages and I would hardly recognise the place!
- The **moment** **when** the sun finally sets is one of the most beautiful.
- Unfortunately, I won't be able to meet you on **the morning** **when** you arrive.
- This is the **problem** **which** worries me most.



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## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain a **that**-clause. Complete the sentence by adding the missing noun:

1. The id\_\_\_\_\_ that companies which cause pollution should pay higher taxes has increasingly widespread support.
2. The cl\_\_\_\_\_ that girls are better at learning languages than boys has some empirical support.
3. I had a prem\_\_\_\_\_ that something was wrong.
4. I generally support the arg\_\_\_\_\_ that museums should not charge visitors an entry fee.
5. Governments need to make a comm\_\_\_\_\_ to introduce policies to protect the environment.
6. The th\_\_\_\_\_ that humans could one day live to the age of 200 is quite frightening for some people.

### ANSWERS

1. The **idea** that companies which cause pollution should pay higher taxes has increasingly widespread support.
2. The **claim** that girls are better at learning languages than boys has some empirical support.
3. I had a **premonition** that something was wrong.
4. I generally support the **argument** that museums should not charge visitors an entry fee.
5. Governments need to make a **commitment** to introduce policies to protect the environment.
6. The **thought** that humans could one day live to the age of 200 is quite frightening for some people.



## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain a **that**-clause. Complete the sentence by adding the missing noun:

1. Studying online offers the adv \_\_\_\_\_ that you can learn whenever you want to.
2. The po \_\_\_\_\_ that artificial intelligence could one day control humans needs to be taken seriously.
3. Offering people money to donate blood sometimes has the surprising out \_\_\_\_\_ that many become unwilling to do it.
4. The f \_\_\_\_\_ that consumer spending has fallen over the past few years cannot be denied.
5. Many people enjoy working from home. There is the up \_\_\_\_\_ that you can work whenever it suits you. However, there is also the dr \_\_\_\_\_ that the distinction between work-life and social life can be blurred.
6. Large out-of-town shopping centres are popular amongst consumers. The tr \_\_\_\_\_ is that they take customers away from smaller local shops which are then forced to close.

## ANSWERS

1. Studying online offers the **advantage** that you can learn whenever you want to.
2. The **possibility** that artificial intelligence could one day control humans needs to be taken seriously.
3. Offering people money to donate blood sometimes has the surprising **outcome** that many become unwilling to do it.
4. The **fact** that consumer spending has fallen over the past few years cannot be denied.
5. Many people enjoy working from home. There is the **upside** that you can work whenever it suits you. However, there is also the **drawback** that the distinction between work-life and social life can be blurred.
6. Large out-of-town shopping centres are popular amongst consumers. The **trouble** is that they take customers away from smaller local shops which are then forced to close.

## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain a **that**-clause. Complete the sentence by adding the missing verb:

1. I must ad\_\_\_\_\_ that I find it quite difficult to understand algebra.
2. It cannot be de\_\_\_\_\_ that teachers play a fundamental role in a child's development.
3. Many teenagers com\_\_\_\_\_ that their parents don't take them seriously.
4. It should be ack\_\_\_\_\_ that when individuals are homeless, it is not usually their fault.
5. I would like you to pr\_\_\_\_\_ that you will try harder in future.
6. Politicians try to per\_\_\_\_\_ us that they have good intentions.
7. I am writing to in\_\_\_\_\_ you that I intend to leave the company at the end of the month.

### ANSWERS

1. I must **admit** that I find it quite difficult to understand algebra.
2. It cannot be **denied** that teachers play a fundamental role in a child's development.
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7. I am writing to **inform** you that I intend to leave the company at the end of the month.

## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain a **that**-clause. Complete the sentence by adding the missing verb:

1. I don't ex\_\_\_\_\_ that I will pass the exam. I only wrote about 200 words.
2. I su\_\_\_\_\_ it will be quite cold when I come to visit you in December.
3. I gu\_\_\_\_\_ that you meant to text me before you set off, but it looks like you might have forgotten.
4. I im\_\_\_\_\_ that you must be quite angry after what happened.
5. I f\_\_\_\_\_ that you could have been a bit more understanding.
6. Teenagers often fi\_\_\_\_\_ that life gets more complicated as they get older.
7. Most of us ag\_\_\_\_\_ that something must be done to improve the standard of living of the poorest members of society.

## ANSWERS

1. I don't **expect** that I will pass the exam. I only wrote about 200 words.
2. I **suppose/suspect** it will be quite cold when I come to visit you in December.
3. I **guess** that you meant to text me before you set off, but it looks like you might have forgotten.
4. I **imagine** that you must be quite angry after what happened.
5. I **feel** that you could have been a bit more understanding.
6. Teenagers often **find** that life gets more complicated as they get older.
7. Most of us **agree** that something must be done to improve the standard of living of the poorest members of society.

## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain a **that**-clause. Complete the sentence by adding the missing adjective:

1. I am gl\_\_\_\_\_ that you decided to come.
2. I am really so\_\_\_\_\_ that you didn't pass the exam.
3. I am incredibly gr\_\_\_\_\_ that you agreed to support me financially during my university studies.
4. I am a bit disa\_\_\_\_\_ that so few people came to see the exhibition.
5. It is really wo\_\_\_\_\_ that so few people actually seem to care about the environment.
6. We should all be out\_\_\_\_\_ that some of the world's most profitable companies hardly pay any tax at all.

### ANSWERS

1. I am **glad** that you decided to come.
2. I am really **sorry** that you didn't pass the exam.
3. I am incredibly **grateful** that you agreed to support me financially during my university studies.
4. I am a bit **disappointed** that so few people came to see the exhibition.
5. It is really **worrying** that so few people actually seem to care about the environment.
6. We should all be **outraged** that some of the world's most profitable companies hardly pay any tax at all.

## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain wh-clauses. Try to complete each sentence by putting a question word in each gap:

1. I recently applied to the university and wonder \_\_\_\_\_ long it will be before I get a reply.
2. Most students do not know \_\_\_\_\_ to get help if they are struggling with mental health issues.
3. As a species, we seem to have forgotten \_\_\_\_\_ to care for our planet.
4. I would love to visit Thailand but don't know \_\_\_\_\_ to go. I have been told that it is beautiful in the spring, but I definitely wouldn't want to go at that time of year if the weather was poor.
5. I do not really remember \_\_\_\_\_ we went or \_\_\_\_\_ we did when we got there.
6. I cannot imagine \_\_\_\_\_ anybody would want to harm such beautiful animals.
7. I'm afraid I've forgotten \_\_\_\_\_ you said you were coming to the party on Saturday

### ANSWERS

1. I recently applied to the university and wonder **how long** it will be before I get a reply.
2. Most students do not know **where** to get help if they are struggling with mental health issues.
3. As a species, we seem to have forgotten **how** to care for our planet.
4. I would love to visit Thailand but don't know **when** to go. I have been told that it is beautiful in the spring, but I definitely wouldn't want to go at that time of year if the weather was poor.
5. I do not really remember **where** we went or **what** we did when we got there.
6. I cannot imagine **why** anybody would want to harm such beautiful animals.
7. I'm afraid I've forgotten **if/whether** you said you were coming to the party on Saturday

## PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises

The following sentences contain wh-clauses. Try to complete each sentence by putting a question word in each gap:

1. I was wondering \_\_\_\_\_ to pop in and see you on Saturday.
2. I wonder if you could tell me \_\_\_\_\_ time breakfast will be served and \_\_\_\_\_ much extra it would cost.
3. I'm sure I do not need to remind you \_\_\_\_\_ our aim is.
4. Managers who clearly indicate \_\_\_\_\_ needs to be done are usually more effective than those who give general instructions.
5. Nobody told me \_\_\_\_\_ train to catch or \_\_\_\_\_ long the journey would take.
6. There are several reasons \_\_\_\_\_ I would prefer to live in a large city.
7. The moment \_\_\_\_\_ the sun finally sets is breath-taking.

## ANSWERS

1. I was wondering **whether** to pop in and see you on Saturday.
2. I wonder if you could tell me **what** time breakfast will be served and **how** much extra it would cost.
3. I'm sure I do not need to remind you **what** our aim is.
4. Managers who clearly indicate **what** needs to be done are usually more effective than those who give general instructions.
5. Nobody told me **which** train to catch or **how** long the journey would take.
6. There are several reasons **why** I would prefer to live in a large city.
7. The moment **when** the sun finally sets is breath-taking.

## **PREPARE for IELTS: Grammar Exercises**

**Look at the phrases below. Write a that-clause to complete each sentence:**

1. It is undoubtedly the case...
2. It is a well-known fact...
3. It is extremely unlikely...
4. There is hardly any chance...
5. It is my fervently-held view...
6. I am vehemently opposed to the view...

### **SUGGESTED ANSWERS**

1. It is undoubtedly the case that social media has changed the way we live.
2. It is a well-known fact that meditation can be a successful way to ease anxiety and stress.
3. It is extremely unlikely that we will ever completely get rid of nuclear weapons.
4. There is hardly any chance that I will be able to make it to the meeting tomorrow.
5. It is my fervently-held view that capital punishment is wrong.
6. I am vehemently opposed to the view that boys and girls should be educated separately.