# Introduction to IELTS

Listening

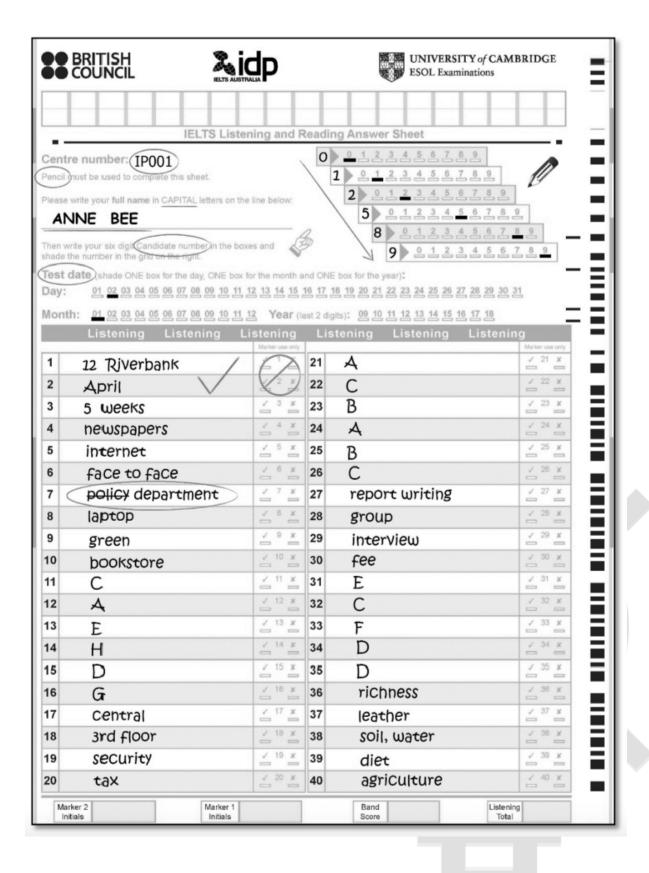


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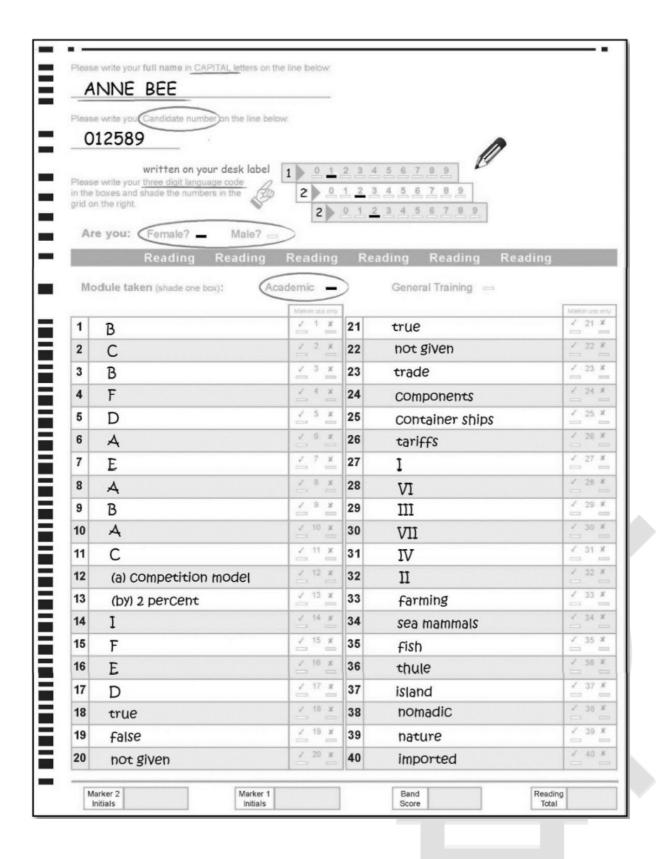
- IELTS stands for International English Language Testing System
- There are 2 modules
  - O GeneralTraining: Different in reading and writing
  - AcademicModule
- 4 skills (Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking)
- Band Score: Full score 9.0
- Both computer-based and paper-based format
- Many types of questions



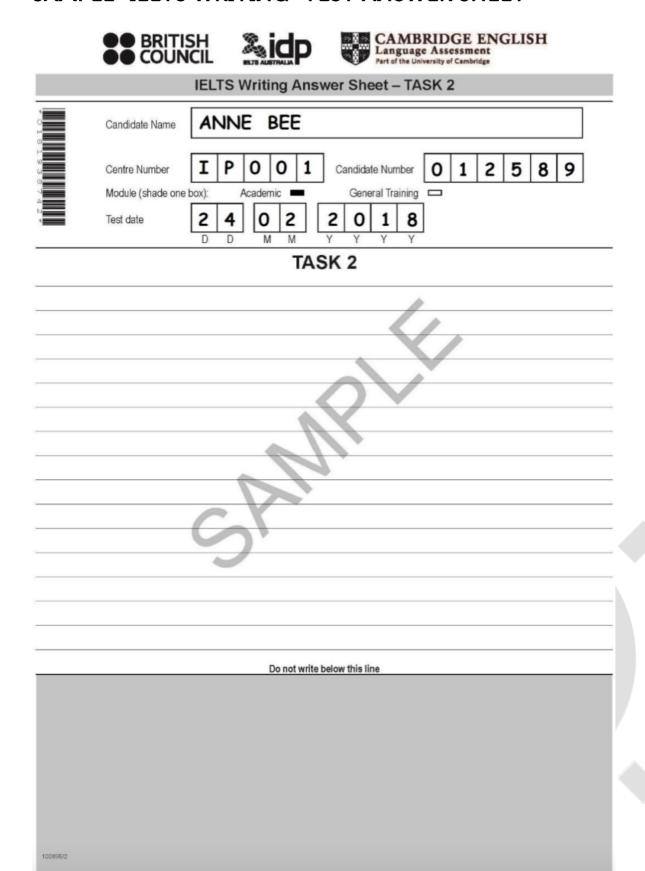
# SAMPLE "IELTS LISTENING" TEST ANSWER SHEET



## SAMPLE "IELTS READING" TEST ANSWER SHEET



# SAMPLE "IELTS WRITING" TEST ANSWER SHEET



## LISTENING

- 4 SECTIONS (40 QUESTIONS):
  - o Section1:Social Situation
  - o Section 2:SocialSituation
  - o Section3:AcademicDiscussion
  - o Section4:Lecture
- TIME: Approximately 30 min + 10 min
- BAND SCORE:
  - o 6 = 23/40 questions
  - o 7 = 30/40 questions
  - 0.8 = 35/40 questions
- OVERALL STRATEGY
  - 1. Using time between sections wisely
  - 2. Making notes in the question paper
  - 3. Predicting answer
- No example of question and answer before Section 1

## **Strategies**

- O Read the title/know the situation
- O Do not exceed word limit
- O Paraphrase
- O Beware of correct spelling (including capital letters, -s, -es)

# **SECTION 1**

This is an **IELTS listening test part 1 practice**. This is the easiest section and it consists of a conversation between two people.

They will usually be making some kind of **booking** (e.g. at a restaurant or travel agents) or **requesting information** (e.g. about a membership to a sports club or an education course).

Question 1-6
Complete the form below. Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR NUMBERS for each answer.

Hotel Information			
Name of accommodation:	Carlton Hotel		
Length of stay:	3 nights		
Ages of children	(1)		
Rooms available:	Two en-suites at £270		
Price inclusive of:	(2)		
Payment method:	Credit card		
Name:	Michael (3)		
Date of birth:	(4) 1968		
Address:	273, Stanton Court, London		
Post code:	(5)		
Telephone:	08773 (5)		

## Questions 7-10

Complete the table below.

Write NO MORE THREE WORDS AND OR/ A NUMBER for each answer

Transport Options				
Mode of Transport	Cost	Arrangements	Travel time to town	
Taxi	Approximately (7) £	Pick up from the hotel	10 minutes	
Bus	£2 per person	Walk down Oak Tree	15 minutes	
		(8)		
Walking	-	Walk through (9)	(10)	

# **SECTION 2**

This part of the test is a monologue i.e. one person speaking. You may hear one or two other people speak, but it will mainly be one person.

A variety of topics come up, but common things to hear about are explanations of tours, such as where you can go, how to book, them and how much they cost, or someone on the radio giving advice about something or explaining some charity work they have been involved in.

Question 11-14

Choose the correct letter, A, B, or C. for each answer

- 11. The company expanded in
  - A 2000
  - B 2007
  - C 2014
- 12. The number of permanent staff is
  - A 75
  - B 90
  - C 150
- 13. Most volunteers join the program
  - A in Winter
  - B in July
  - C when it is best for them
- 14. Time Abroad receives all its income from
  - A partner organisations
  - B volunteers
  - C the govenment



Question 15-20

Complete the table.

Write NO MORE THAN **TWO** WORDS for each answer.

Volunteering Opportunity	Activity	Benefits	
English Teaching	Helping with English (15)	Significantly improve the (16) of many children and adults	
Agriculture and Farming	Promoting sustainable and (17) farming	- Promote (18) farming methods - educate local communities	
Veterinary Medicine	- Helping the vet with (19)  - Joining the vet on home visits	- Amazing insights into the country  - See a lot of fascinating animals  - Gain a greater (20) of the difficulties in the country	



# **SECTION 3**

In section three of the IELTS listening test you will hear **two or three people speaking**. The topic is usually something to do with **college or university**.

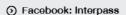
For example, two students discussing a course or presentation, or a tutor meeting with one or two students to discuss their course or assignments.

You will hear a woman asking a tutor for more information about a Media Studies course at a university.

### Questions 21 - 23

Choose the correct letter A, B or C.

- 21. How long did Louise work at a radio station?
  - A 2 years
  - B 4 years
  - C 6 years
- 22. Why does Louise want to do a Masters?
  - A To get a promotion in her current job
  - B To go into TV
  - C Employers like post-graduate qualifications
- 23. How long will it take to do the Masters part-time rather than the modular route?
  - A 18 months
  - B 3 years
  - C 4 years



## Questions 24 and 25

Choose TWO letters A-F. Which two things must Louise have to join the course?

- A A bachelor's degree
- B Work experience
- C Either a bachelor's degree or work experience
- D Research experience
- E A completed thesis
- F Motivation

## Questions 26-30

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

Fees and Funding
per year to do the course part-time. The university has
it can use to fund the most suitable students. You must have
in place before you can get any funding. The details on funding can be found
. That will also have information on eligibility, help available,
<u> </u>



# **SECTION 4**

## Questions 31 - 35

Complete the sentences below

Write	ONE	E WO	RD (	DNLY	for each	n answer

31. Indian Railways is owned and	by the government of India	a.		
32. There are more than	million people working for Indian Railways			
. The of the railways from 1857 occurred under Robert Maitland Brereton.				
34. The joining of the East Indian Rail	ilway with the Great Indian Peninsula Railway l	ed to a network		
of kilometr	res.			
35. The route from Bombay to Calcut	itta, opened in 1870, was an	for the book Around the		
World in 80 davs.				

### Questions 36 - 40

Complete the table below

## Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer

Period	Situation			
1875 - 1899	The network radiated inward from (36), Madras, and Calcutta			
1900 - 1906	It was not long before various independent kingdoms had their own (37)			
1907 - 1919	When the war finished the railways were suffering from (38) and			
1920 - 1938	Between 1920 and 1929, the railways had a (39) of around £687 million			
1939 - 1946	The rolling stock that was moved to the Middle East included locomotives and (40)			

#### Answer

1. 9	(and)	12/	nine	(and)	twelve
------	-------	-----	------	-------	--------

- 2. tax
- 3. Fernsby
- 4. 15 (th) October / 15th of October
- 5. WC2D 5JB / wc2d 5jb
- 6. 879456
- 7. 15 / fifteen
- 8. Avenue
- 9. the (nice) park
- 10. 30 minutes
- 11. B
- 12. C
- 13. C
- 14. B
- 15. conversation
- 16. learning experience
- 17. responsible
- 18. organic
- 19. sick animals
- 20. understanding

- 21. A
- 22. C
- 23. B
- 24. C
- 25. F
- 26. £2400 / 2400 pounds
- 27. (certain) budget
- 28. firm offer
- 29. university website
- 30. how to apply
- 31. operated
- 32. 1.4
- 33. Expansion
- 34. 6400 / 6,400
- 35. Inspiration
- 36. Bombay
- 37. rail(way) systems
- 38. disrepair / collapse (IN ANY ORDER)
- 39. capital value
- 40. coaches



Tape script

Section 1: Booking a Hotel

MAN: Hi, good afternoon.

WOMAN: Hi, welcome to the Carlton Hotel. How can I help you?

MAN: We've just driven up from London and we're going to stay here in York for a few

days. We'd like to book a couple of rooms.

WOMAN: Ok, sir. So for how many nights is that?

MAN: We'll be leaving on Monday morning. So, let me see, that's...3 nights.

WOMAN: And you said two rooms. Who are the rooms for?

MAN: I'm here with my wife and two kids. They are 9 and 11. Sorry, 9 and 12. The eldest

has just had his birthday. So we'd like one twin room for the kids and another

double for my wife and I.

WOMAN: Ok, well, we've got two rooms available, both en-suite.

MAN: Great. How much are they per night?

WOMAN: Let me see...the twin room is...40 pounds per night, and the double room is...50

pounds per night.

MAN: Ok, that sounds reasonable. So what is the total for 3 nights for both rooms?

WOMAN: Let me check...that will be a total of 270 pounds.

MAN: And that includes everything?

WOMAN: Yes, that price includes <u>tax.</u>

MAN: Ok, can I pay by credit card?

WOMAN: Yes, sure. You'll need to pay for the first night now, and you can pay for the other

nights when you leave. Or you can pay for all the three nights now.

MAN: I think I'll just pay for everything now as we'll definitely be here till Monday.

WOMAN: Ok, that's fine. I'll just need to take some details from you to confirm the booking.

Can you give me your full name?

MAN: Yes, it's Michael Fernsby. That's...F-E-R-N-S-B-Y.

WOMAN: What's your date of birth please?

MAN: The <u>15th of October</u>, 1968.

WOMAN: The 5th of October, 1968?

MAN: No, the 15th.

WOMAN: Oh, ok, sorry. And can you give me your address?

MAN: Sure. It's 273, Stanton Court. That's S-T-A-N-T-O-N. London, WC2D, 5JB.

WOMAN: WC2D 5JB?

MAN: Yes, that's right.

WOMAN: And your telephone number?

MAN: My mobile number is...hold on, just let me check, I can never remember it...here it

is...it's 08773 879456.

WOMAN: Ok. Those rooms are booked for you then.

\_\_\_\_\_

MAN: Ok, I know we're a bit out of town here. Can you give me some information about

getting into the centre of town. We'll probably head in tomorrow.

WOMAN: Well, you could drive in, but the parking is not great in town. It's difficult to get a

space and is quite expensive if you are staying there all day.

MAN: Yes, we're thinking of going to look around some of the shops and to look at the wall

around the city, so we'll probably be there most of the day.

WOMAN: In that case you are probably best taking a taxi or the bus.

MAN: How much is a taxi?

WOMAN: Into town it will be about 12 pounds. Actually, no I'd say it's around 15 pounds -

fares have increased recently. We can book it here for you and it will pick you up

outside. It only takes about 10 minutes.

MAN: Right, I see. What about the bus? How much is that and where does it go from?

WOMAN: It's only 2 pounds per person. It's not far from here. You go out of here, turn right on

to Oak Tree Avenue, and it's about a five minute walk down the road. You can't miss

it. The bus ride is about 15 minutes.

MAN: Oh, ok. Maybe we could do that.

WOMAN: Or you could walk actually if you like walking. Part of the way you can walk through

the nice park which is fairly popular with visitors to York. It's about 30 minutes but

it's quite pleasant.

MAN: Right, well there's a few options there. We'll have a think about it. I'll go and get my

wife and kids. They are just waiting in the car.

WOMAN: Ok, no problem. Thanks for booking with us.

#### Section 2: Volunteering Abroad

Ok everyone, thanks for coming today and for your interest in volunteering abroad. For those that don't know much about our company, Time Abroad, let me start by telling you a bit more.

Time Abroad is one of the largest volunteer abroad organizations in the UK. The company was founded in 2000. In 2007, the company grew by joining with another company, PT Travel, making us even larger.

(Q11) In 2014 we sent 10,000 people abroad on a variety of service projects and internships overseas, more than any other company. All participants receive the best support from our full-time, professional staff to ensure that the experience is safe, worthwhile and fun.

We have lots of very experienced staff working for us. We have around 150 full-time staff members (Q12), many of whom are former volunteers themselves inspired by their own experience. Some of these people are even part of the original groups of volunteers back in the early 90s. About 75 of those staff are not located in the UK at all, and spend their whole time in another country supporting the volunteers. They are experts on the local communities you are working in, having spent their whole lives there. They have vast experience in fields such as community development or education.

The times that volunteers join the program vary a lot. Some join in July because they have just finished studying at college or university and want to do some volunteering before they move onto work or further study. The winter months are also popular because people want to escape the cold weather in the UK.

Introduction to IELTS Listening

But there are no set start dates and programs run continuously throughout the year, so the majority of volunteers start when it is best for them (Q13).

Time Abroad is an entirely independent organization which does not receive any funding from religious bodies, political parties, development organizations, or other sources. And of course, we don't request money from our partner organizations in the developing world. All our work is 100% funded through your contributions as a volunteer (Q14). We do get help from the government, but that is from reduced business taxes, not financial contributions. It is this financial independence that gives us the freedom to set up projects wherever we think it may be useful and where we think that our volunteers can make a valuable contribution.

Now I'm going to tell you about some of the more popular opportunities in a bit more detail. One of the most popular volunteering choices is teaching. You'll find a warm welcome awaits you from our students around the world. The main thing you will do is assisting with English conversation (Q15) because although the local teachers are very capable of teaching the structural aspects of the English language – such as the grammar – they do not use the correct intonation or pronunciation, because they lack the confidence of a native speaker. By providing conversational English teaching, you can greatly enhance the learning experience of thousands of children and adults (Q16) with whom we work in the developing world.

You can also volunteer in agriculture and farming. Access to safe and healthy food is a major concern of any society. Volunteers work on a farm with the aim of promoting sustainable local food sources and responsible farming (Q17). Using pesticides and other destructive agricultural techniques can have a long-term negative impact on the environment and threaten the future well-being of whole regions. Time Abroad's agriculture & farming projects focus on organic farming practices and educating local communities on their benefits (Q18).

You could also volunteer in the field of veterinary medicine. If you do this you will be working alongside a vet in a local veterinary practice. You will help the vet when people bring in sick animals (Q19) or join the vet on visits to people's houses or other places. You will gain fantastic insight that would not be possible in your own country. You are likely to see many exciting types of animals like snakes, big cats or even elephants! And you will develop a better understanding of the problems people are faced with (Q20) in both urban and rural areas of the third world.

So, I hope that has helped you to learn a bit more about Time Abroad. Does anybody have any questions?

#### IELTS Listening - Media Studies Course

Louise: I'm looking for some advice about doing a Master's Degree in Media Studies. Am I at the

right place?

Mark: Yes, my name's Mark, I'm head of the Media Studies course. Nice to meet you, and you

are...

Louise: I'm Louise, nice to meet you too.

Mark: So how can I help you?

Louise: Well I've seen the prospectus for the course but I'm still a bit confused about a few things

and about some of the options for studying.

Mark: What's your situation at the moment? Are you working?

Louise: Yes, I've been working as a journalist for a local newspaper for the last 3

months. Prior to that I had two jobs in the media – at a small local radio Q21 station for about 2 years (Q21) and at a TV station for about 4 years. So I've worked in media for

about six years in total.

Mark: Ok well that's useful if you want to do the course. What is your motivation to do further

study?

Louise: I enjoy my job a lot at the moment but I feel the opportunities for promotion are quite

limited. It's not that I think a masters will help with this though. I'll probably leave my job, maybe to go into TV or something, but basically I think wherever I end up going in the future, employers prefer to see someone with post-graduate qualifications these days

(Q22).

Mark: And are you intending to study full-time?

Louise: Well I'd really like to keep working as I need an income. What are the options for me if I

want to work whilst studying?

Mark: You could do certain modules over a number of years you like. It's up to you how many

you do. Basically you get credits for the ones you complete. People usually do the Masters in anything from 18 months up until 4 years. It depends on your time. <u>If you</u> wanted a fixed schedule and attendance and did it part time then that would be a total of

3 years. (Q23)

Louise: So what is the admission criteria to join the course?

Mark: Well there are a few things that are useful but not essential, but there are some

requirements. Usually to join a Masters people must have a bachelor's degree, but we are prepared to overlook this if someone has enough work experience. But you must have one or the other (Q24). It's useful if you have research experience as you have to complete a thesis but we can train you on this if not. It's essential that you have

motivation if you want to join the course as it is very demanding. (Q25)

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Louise: What about the costs for the course?

Mark: The fees for a year if you are studying part-time are £2250. No sorry, they have gone up

this year – £2400 (Q26). Of course you are paying for all other living costs.

Louise: Is there any kind of bursary or scholarship available to help with the fees?

Mark: Yes there are things available but you have to meet the criteria to get funding. Often

though the university will actually contact you about funding. Universities have a certain budget (Q27) available to provide funds so they will look for the best students and offer them something if they think they will be suitable. You would have to have a firm offer (Q28) in place to join the course though before you'd be considered for any funding.

Louise: Where can I go to find out more about it?

Mark: The best place to look for information about funding is on our university website (Q29). All

the details about whether you're eligible, what help is on offer, and how to apply (Q30) will be there. If you can't find the information you're looking for, you can always come and

speak to us again and there will be a number you can ring.

Louise: Ok thanks for that. And is it easy to get hold of you if I need to speak to you further?

Mark: Yes, I'm here most days, but you can always phone the office first to check. It's best to

book an appointment in case I'm not around.

#### Section 4: Lecture on the History of Indian Rail

In today's lecture, we are going to be talking about the history of Indian railways, from when they began, up until 1945 when they had all been taken over by the government.

Indian Railways is an Indian state-owned enterprise, owned and operated by the Government of India (Q31) through the Ministry of Railways. It is one of the world's largest railway networks comprising 115,000 km of track over a route of 65,000 km and there are 7,500 stations. It transports over 25 million passengers daily, which is over 9 billion on an annual basis. Indian Railways is the world's ninth largest commercial or utility employer, by number of employees, with over 1.4 million employees (Q32).

The history of rail transport in India began in the mid-nineteenth century. The core of the pressure for building railways in India came from London. In 1848, there was not a single kilometre of railway line in India. A British engineer, Robert Maitland Brereton, was responsible for the expansion of the railways from 1857 onwards. (Q33) The Allahabad-Jabalpur branch line of the East Indian Railway had been opened in June 1867. Brereton was responsible for linking this with the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, resulting in a combined network of 6,400 km (Q34). Hence it became possible to travel directly from Bombay to Calcutta. This route was officially opened on 7 March 1870 and it was part of the inspiration for French writer Jules Verne's book Around the World in Eighty Days. (Q35) At the opening ceremony, the Viceroy Lord Mayo concluded that, if possible, at the earliest possible moment, the whole country should be covered with a network of lines in a uniform system.

By 1875, about £95 million were invested by British companies in Indian railways. By 1880 the network had a route mileage of about 14,500 km, mostly radiating inward from the three major port cities of Bombay,

Madras and Calcutta (Q36). By 1895, India had started building its own locomotives, and in 1896 sent engineers and locomotives to help build the Uganda Railways.

In 1900, the Great Indian Peninsula Railway became a government owned company. The network spread to the modern day states of Assam, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh and soon various autonomous kingdoms began to have their own rail systems (Q37). In 1905, an early Railway Board was constituted, but the powers were formally vested under Lord Curzon, the then Viceroy of India. It served under the Department of Commerce and Industry and had a government railway official serving as chairman, a railway manager from England and an agent of one of the company railways as the other two members. For the first time in its history, the Railways began to make a profit.

In 1907 almost all the rail companies were taken over by the government. The following year, the first electric locomotive made its appearance. With the arrival of World War I, the railways were used to meet the needs of the British outside India, but with the end of the war, the railways were in a state of disrepair and collapse. (Q38)

In 1920, with the network having expanded to 61,220 km, a need for central management was mooted by Sir William Acworth, a British railway economist. Based on the East India Railway Committee chaired by Acworth, the government took over the management of the Railways and detached the finances of the Railways from other governmental revenues.

The period between 1920 and 1929 was a period of economic boom; there were 66,000 km of railway lines serving the country; the railways represented a capital value of some 687 million sterling (Q39); and they carried over 620 million passengers and approximately 90 million tons of goods each year. Following the Great Depression, the railways suffered economically for the next eight years and the Second World War severely crippled the railways. Starting 1939, about 40% of the rolling stock including locomotives and coaches was taken to the Middle East (Q40), the railways workshops were converted to ammunitions workshops and many railway tracks were dismantled to help the Allies in the war. By 1946 all rail systems had been taken over by the government.

