BandMate: AI-Powered IELTS Preparation

Dr. Navita, Assistant Professor, ADGIPS, navitarana13@gmail.com

Jyoti, ADGIPS, New Delhi, jyotibansal7982@gmail.com
Harshit Parolia, ADGIPS, New Delhi, harshitparolia10@gmail.com
Ghanshyam, ADGIPS, New Delhi, jhaghanshyam496@gmail.com
Sahil Kaushik, ADGIPS, New Delhi, Sahilkaushik1400@gmail.com

Abstract— The project "BandMate: AI-Powered IELTS Preparation" focuses on developing an intelligent and interactive platform designed to assist IELTS aspirants in enhancing their language proficiency through personalized learning. The system utilizes artificial intelligence to analyse user performance, identify weaknesses, and provide customized recommendations for improvement in Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking modules. The project aims to deliver a seamless and engaging user experience through an intuitive interface and responsive design, ensuring that students can access AI based practice tests, real-time feedback, and score predictions without any complexity. The platform emphasizes adaptive learning by tailoring question difficulty and study material based on the learner's progress and behaviour patterns. In addition to providing personalized assistance, the system also integrates analytical insights to help users track their preparation journey effectively. The project is developed with a modular architecture, ensuring scalability and future integration with cloud-based AI tools for enhanced performance. Overall, BandMate combines intelligent feedback, a user-friendly interface, and data-driven learning to create a comprehensive IELTS preparation companion that empowers students to achieve their desired band scores efficiently.

I. INTRODUCTION

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is a globally recognized assessment that measures English proficiency in listening, reading, writing, and speaking, and strong performance in this test opens opportunities for education, employment, and migration worldwide. However, many aspirants face challenges such as high coaching fees, limited access to quality training, lack of personalized feedback, and insufficient realistic practice. BandMate is developed to address these issues as an AI-powered IELTS preparation platform focused on adaptive learning, intelligent tutoring, and real-time evaluation. The motivation behind BandMate is to provide an affordable, accessible, and effective solution that democratizes IELTS preparation, allowing learners to practice anytime and improve at their own pace regardless of their location or financial situation. The project aims to enhance learners' Speaking and Writing

skills by providing AI-driven feedback on fluency, pronunciation, coherence, grammar, and task achievement. By using technologies such as speech-to-text and natural language processing, BandMate evaluates written essays, detects grammatical and linguistic issues, analyzes spoken responses, and offers targeted guidance, performance analytics, and score predictions aligned with IELTS scoring standards. The project's significance lies in delivering personalized, data backed, and consistent evaluation without depending on human instructors, helping students identify weaknesses, track progress, and improve effectively while saving time and cost through objective, automated feedback.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Effectiveness of AI-Supported Language Learning

Research has shown that AI-based adaptive learning enhances language acquisition, retention, and learner engagement. Mayer (2020) states that multimedia-based learning combining audio and visual elements helps in better comprehension when content is clear and well-structured. BandMate applies this principle by providing interactive speaking and writing feedback through structured learning modules, reducing cognitive overload and improving users' understanding of IELTS concepts and strategies.

B. AI in Language Assessment and Analysis

Artificial intelligence has played a transformative role in automating language evaluation. Chen et al. (2021) highlight that NLP and speech analysis techniques can effectively

interpret unstructured linguistic data, assess grammar, pronunciation, and coherence, and provide meaningful insights. BandMate incorporates these AI techniques to evaluate written essays and spoken responses, automatically generating performance feedback aligned with IELTS scoring standards and improving accessibility to advanced assessment tools.

C. Automated Speech and Writing Evaluation

Studies by Zhang et al. (2019) demonstrate that automated evaluation systems improve precision, reduce subjectivity, and support learner autonomy. By analyzing speech recordings and written submissions, platforms can provide instant feedback on fluency, grammar accuracy, task achievement, and vocabulary usage. BandMate adopts automated assessment methods through speech-to-text and NLP processing, allowing users to instantly identify the strengths and weaknesses of their performance without the need for manual review.

D. Personalized Learning with Intelligent Tutors

Research by Graesser et al. (2018) shows that AI-powered learning assistants improve learner motivation, provide individualized guidance, and simulate tutor-like interactions. BandMate integrates intelligent tutoring systems that tailor suggestions and improvement plans based on each learner's performance history. This adaptive feedback helps users practice at their own pace, receive targeted corrections, and stay engaged throughout their IELTS preparation journey.

E. Modern Web Technologies for Learning Platforms

Wang and Tahir (2022) highlight the importance of modern interactive web interfaces in delivering educational applications effectively and with minimal learning barriers. Bandmate's intuitive web platform provides a clean, user-friendly environment where learners can practice speaking and writing tasks, track progress, and access AI-generated insights without requiring technical expertise. This interface ensures accessibility and smooth navigation for users across varying digital skill levels.

F. Open-Source and Community-Driven Innovation

Stallman (2020) explains that open-source development promotes collaboration, improves transparency, and accelerates innovation in educational tools. If extended as an open platform, BandMate can leverage community contributions for refining evaluation models, expanding datasets, and enhancing multilingual or feature support. This aligns with global trends in EdTech, where community driven development leads to rapid and continuous improvement of AI-based learning solutions.

III. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

A. Objectives

The primary objective of BandMate is to develop an AI powered IELTS preparation platform that provides personalized guidance and automated evaluation for learners preparing for the Speaking and Writing modules. By integrating speech processing, natural language analysis, and adaptive learning strategies, BandMate aims to enhance learners' performance through real-time feedback, progressive skill development, and data-driven insights. The system seeks to make IELTS preparation more accessible, affordable, and effective by transforming traditional manual evaluation into interactive, automated learning experiences.

1. To build an AI-based assessment system capable of analyzing spoken responses and evaluating fluency, pronunciation, coherence, vocabulary, and grammar based on IELTS scoring criteria.

2. To develop an automated essay analysis engine using NLP models to detect grammatical errors, sentence structure issues, idea coherence, and task achievement, and provide detailed written feedback.

3. To provide instant scoring predictions aligned with IELTS band descriptors, enabling learners to track progress, understand performance gaps, and set improvement goals.

4. To incorporate an interactive AI learning assistant that delivers real-time suggestions, explanations, follow-up questions, and corrective feedback tailored to each learner's responses and weaknesses.

5. To implement user progress analysis and performance tracking, allowing learners to monitor previous attempts, identify trends, and receive recommended exercises for targeted improvement.

6. To design an intuitive web-based interface enabling users to record speech, submit essays, view automated feedback, and explore learning recommendations without requiring technical knowledge.

7. To develop the system in a modular architecture that can grow to support additional IELTS modules, new languages, and integration with external learning platforms in the future.

B. Scope of Work

The BandMate project includes the development of a complete AI-driven language learning ecosystem focused on evaluating and improving IELTS Speaking and Writing performance. The scope outlines functional boundaries, system capabilities, and future expansion opportunities to guide development and implementation.

1) In-Scope Features

• **Speech Input and Evaluation:** Support for recording and uploading spoken responses for assessment based on fluency, pronunciation, and coherence using speech-to-text and AI linguistic analysis.

• **Automated Essay Assessment:** AI-powered NLP evaluation of written essays, detecting grammar accuracy, sentence structure, task achievement, and vocabulary appropriateness in alignment with IELTS scoring criteria.

• **Real-Time Feedback:** Instant generation of improvement suggestions, scoring estimations, and targeted recommendations for continuous skill development.

• **Interactive AI Tutor:** A conversational assistant that answers learner questions, clarifies mistakes, and provides follow-up prompts to simulate IELTS examiner interaction.

• **Performance Dashboard:** A user-friendly analytics interface displaying historical scores, common weaknesses, strengths, and progress over time.

• **Web-Based User Interface:** A clean and accessible platform allowing users to input responses, receive results, and navigate features without requiring technical experience.

2) Future Scope

• Expansion to include Listening and Reading modules for full IELTS preparation coverage.

• Integration with mobile applications and Learning Management Systems (LMS).

• Support for multilingual learning and voice accents across global user demographics.

• Advanced AI simulation for mock interviews with personalized scoring and examiner-style questioning.

• Gamification elements such as badges, practice streaks, and competitive leaderboards to increase motivation.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The development of BandMate follows a structured methodology integrating speech processing, writing analysis, AI evaluation, and user-centered interactive design. The workflow consists of multiple phases including system architecture planning, data acquisition, speech and text processing, score prediction, frontend and backend development, testing, and deployment. The methodology ensures scalability, accuracy, and usability for IELTS learners.
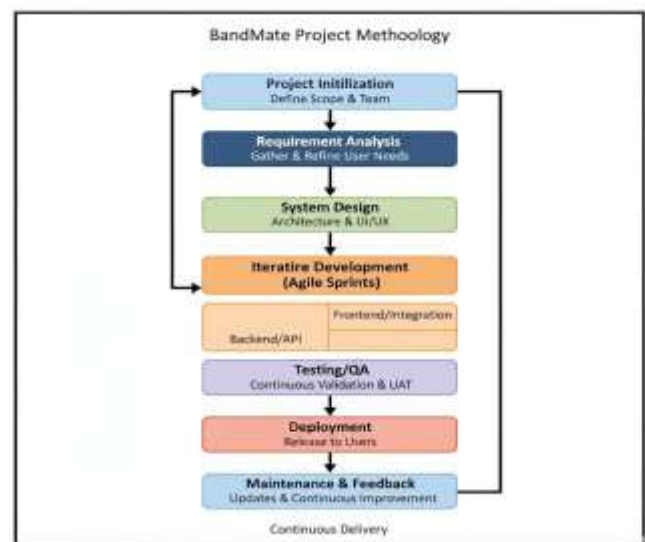

Figure 1. Methodology

A. System Architecture and Design

The system begins with user input validation to ensure that uploaded audio and text meet technical requirements before evaluation begins. Speech responses and written essays are then uploaded securely and stored for analysis. Metadata such as speaking duration, word count, response type, and task category is extracted for indexing, scoring, and performance tracking.
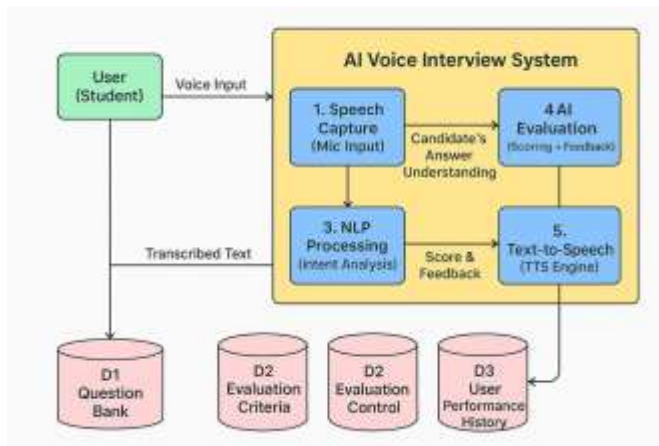
Figure 2. System Architecture

B. *Speech Transcription and Content Indexing* User speech recordings are transcribed using advanced speech-to-text models such as Google Speech-to-Text or Whisper. Time-aligned transcripts help match speech segments with pauses, pronunciation variations, and fluency markers. NLP-based corrections are then applied to handle accent variations and recognition inconsistencies, improving transcription clarity and accuracy.

C. *Intelligent Prompt and Task Generation* Large language models such as GPT-4 or Gemini generate IELTS-style speaking and writing questions aligned with official exam patterns. The generated tasks are automatically categorized based on IELTS components such as cue card, follow-up, Task 1, and Task 2. Tasks are further labelled based on difficulty level and topic domain to provide structured learning progress.

D. Real-Time Speech Processing

Real-time transcription enables continuous monitoring of user responses. Audio-processing tools such as PyAudio and librosa extract acoustic features including speaking rate, articulation quality, pauses, and stress patterns. Pronunciation and fluency are assessed using phonetic analysis and language-scoring models to evaluate clarity, rhythm, and natural speech flow.

E. *Multi-Dimensional Response Evaluation* Writing submissions are evaluated using NLP frameworks such as spaCy, NLTK, and Transformers. The system analyzes grammar accuracy, lexical range, sentence quality, structure, and task fulfillment. Spoken responses are evaluated for coherence, progression of ideas, logical flow, and topic coverage. The results are mapped to IELTS scoring descriptors to provide objective band estimates for Speaking and Writing.

F. *Real-Time Feedback and Reporting* Immediate feedback is provided after submission, enabling learners to understand and refine areas of improvement. Reports display detailed score components including fluency, pronunciation, grammar, cohesion, vocabulary, and task achievement. User performance history is stored to track improvement trends and highlight recurring weaknesses. AIbased adaptive learning then adjusts future tasks and recommendations according to user progress.

G. Workflow Summary

1. The user creates an account and selects IELTS preparation goals.

2. The system generates personalized speaking and writing tasks.

3. The user submits audio or text responses.

4. Speech recognition converts spoken responses to text.

5. NLP models evaluate linguistic performance.

6. Real-time scores and feedback are displayed.

7. All results are saved for comparison and tracking.

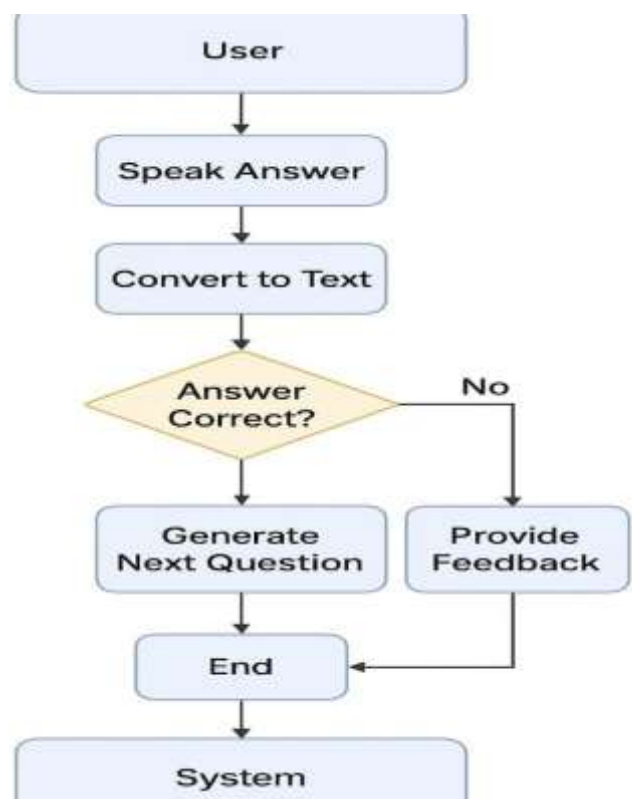8. Adaptive learning models refine future practice recommendations.

Figure 3. Workflow Summary

Technology Stack Frontend development uses Next.js, React.js, Tailwind CSS, and WebRTC for speech capture. Backend services are built using FastAPI or Node.js, with Socket.io enabling real-time interaction. AI components include OpenAI GPT-4 or Gemini for task generation and evaluation, Whisper or Google Speechto-Text for transcription, and NLP libraries such as spaCy, NLTK, and Transformers. Databases include MongoDB for user data and PostgreSQL for scoring records and analytics. Deployment uses cloud platforms such as AWS or Google Cloud with Docker, Kubernetes, and CI/CD pipelines for scalable operation.

V. TENTATIVE CHAPTERIZATION

Chapter 1 – Introduction

This chapter will provide a comprehensive overview of the challenges faced by IELTS aspirants in traditional preparation approaches, including lack of personalized feedback, limited evaluation consistency, high coaching costs, and insufficient guided practice. It will establish the motivation for developing an AI-driven IELTS preparation system, highlight the need for automated assessment and individualized learning, and present the project's objectives, scope, and expected contributions to the language learning and examination ecosystem.

Chapter 2 – Literature Review

This section will examine existing research on AI-based language assessment, automated essay scoring, speech recognition for language evaluation, and NLP models for linguistic feedback. It will analyze current IELTS preparation solutions, identify gaps such as limited personalization and scalability issues, and lay the theoretical foundation for the BandMate platform.

Chapter 3 – Problem Statement and Objectives

This chapter will clearly define the key issues in IELTS preparation, such as the absence of instant detailed scoring, inconsistent human evaluation, limited access to expert guidance, and minimal use of personalized learning algorithms. It will formally state the project's objectives and measurable success criteria aligned with learner outcomes and real IELTS band standards.

Chapter 4 – System Design and Architecture

This section will present the complete system architecture of BandMate, including modular components such as speech-to-text processing, essay analysis engines, scoring models, data flow, database structures, and web interface design. Architectural diagrams will illustrate interactions among AI modules, feedback engines, learner profiles, and progress analytics.

Chapter 5 – Methodology

This chapter will describe the step-by-step development process, including prompt generation for speaking tasks, automated transcription, NLP-based essay evaluation, pronunciation and fluency analysis, scoring algorithms, and personalized feedback generation. The chapter will detail the AI models, libraries, APIs, and frameworks used to implement the system.

Chapter 6 – Implementation

This chapter will document practical implementation stages including environment setup, API integration (speech recognition and NLP), database configuration, frontend development, real-time recording functionality, testing procedures, and deployment methods. It will also discuss code segments, configuration examples, and implementation challenges.

Chapter 7 – Results and Analysis

This section will present system output and performance evaluation, including accuracy of scoring models, user feedback, benchmark comparisons, learning improvements, and responsiveness of real-time processing. Result analysis may include pre- and post-practice performance comparisons, system reliability data, and evaluation against IELTS scoring rubrics.

Parameter Evaluated	Positive Response
Ease of Use	90%
Writing Feedback Accuracy	88%
Speaking Band Prediction Reliability	82%
Dashboard Usefulness	86%
Overall Satisfaction	89%

Table 1: User survey results

Chapter 8 – Conclusion and Future Scope

The final chapter will summarize the system's effectiveness in automating Speaking and Writing assessment, highlight strengths such as personalization and accessibility, discuss development challenges, and outline potential future enhancements such as

support for Listening and Reading modules, multilingual adaptation, and LMS/mobile expansion.

VI. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusion

In the digital learning era, IELTS aspirants require more than generic study materials—they need personalized evaluation, structured learning, and ongoing feedback that traditional coaching often cannot provide. BandMate addresses this challenge by transforming manual IELTS practice into a fully automated, AI-driven learning experience. By integrating speech processing, NLP-based essay scoring, and real-time feedback delivery, the platform offers an accessible and highly scalable solution that improves learner performance, confidence, and exam readiness.

The system brings together several advanced AI components into a unified and user-friendly platform:

•   **Large Language Models (LLMs):** Used to analyze written and spoken responses, identify weaknesses, and generate targeted, IELTS-aligned feedback in real time.

•   **Speech-to-Text Processing:** Converts spoken responses into accurate text for analysis, enabling automated assessment of fluency, coherence, vocabulary, and pronunciation.

•   **Automated Writing Evaluation:** Advanced NLP techniques assess grammar accuracy, structural coherence, lexical range, and task fulfilment.

•   **Adaptive Feedback Engine:** Delivers instant scoring breakdowns and improvement advice aligned with IELTS band descriptors.

•   **Progress Tracking System:** Stores past attempts, analyzes trends, and identifies recurring weaknesses for data-driven performance improvement. • **Web-Based Interface:** Offers an intuitive and accessible user experience, enabling learners to practice anytime without requiring technical knowledge. • **Scalable Architecture:** Cloud-based deployment supports global accessibility, continuous updates, and future platform expansion.

By combining AI evaluation, structured assessment, progress analytics, and personalized guidance, BandMate builds a reliable and cost-effective alternative to manual IELTS coaching, making professional-grade preparation accessible to all learners.

B. Suggestions & Future Scope

•   **Support for Listening and Reading Modules:** Expanding the system to offer full IELTS test coverage with automated comprehension scoring.

•   **Advanced Speaking Simulation:** Incorporating AI-driven mock interviews that simulate real examiner questioning patterns and follow-up probing.

•   **Accent and Language Diversity:** Enhancing speech models to handle wider linguistic backgrounds and global English variations.

•   **Gamification Features:** Adding streaks, badges, leaderboards, and achievement systems to boost learner motivation and engagement.

•   **Mobile Apps and LMS Integration:** Developing Android/iOS applications and plugins for integration with schools, colleges, and training institutes.

•   **Industry and Regional Customization:** Tailoring modules for country-specific exam trends, academic requirements, and user demographics.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

APPENDIX

This appendix provides commonly used technical abbreviations found throughout the BandMate project. These terms relate to artificial intelligence, web development, database technology, and key components of the IELTS exam system. The inclusion of this list ensures clarity for readers and supports consistent understanding of terminology used across system design, methodology, analysis, and implementation discussions.

Abbreviation	Full Form
AI	Artificial Intelligence
NLP	Natural Language Processing
API	Application Programming Interface
JSON	JavaScript Object Notation
UI	User Interface

UX	User Experience
DBMS	Database Management System
ER	Entity Relationship
IELTS	International English Language Testing System

Table 2. List of Abbreviation

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