Dear Sir/Madam

Just making a query on the IELTS testing procedures.

After sitting the IELTS exams for the third time and currently booking in for my forth, I am confused on the process of passing exams.

I have just finished a university degree in nursing with University and have a job offer and require a pass of 7 in each component. Over the last three exams I have passed all the required fields by 7 at least once. If I fail one section why do I have to sit the exams I have already passed? I am assuming they are saying the overall result is my final result but why is the exam results broken into sections with individual results? Does recognition of prior learning not uphold in this institution as it does in all other? I think it is only fair to re-sit the exam for the section I have failed.

Prior to undertaking my Bachelor of Nursing, I did a certificate 3 in Health Service Assistance which required weekly class presentations and discussions on my part as well hospital placement and I was marked as competent. I then undertook a WIST program with as it had been over 10 years since my last degree (Bachelor of Tourism) that I did in my county of birth Uganda, a country that has English as its National language and is the teaching language in all recognized primary and secondary schools as they are under England's education curriculum. During my 4 years at a lidid over 840 hrs of direct patient care during which time I was assessed at competent at all time. I believe is a highly credited University and if they, alongside the hospital facilitators have assessed me as being competent, and after years of writing essays, reports and sitting exams, it is hard for me to believe that I can be deemed as not having a good command of the English language when I have been asked to interpret and compare charts in 150 and to write my opinion on an issue in 250 words. I have been living in Australia for the last 11 years and I am an Australian citizen with an Australian husband who I have five children with and they can only speak English.

I think the individuals education background should be reviewed and assessed as prior learning for exemption of the English exam. More countries education curriculum should be looked at also for exemption as there are many countries under the English education curriculum. This is a very expensive exam to sit and it is financially crippling when you have to pay for you fourth assessment. If the price could be reduced would take some financial presser of family's.

I hope this helps your assessment of the IELTS exams but I am only one voice of many who are re-sitting these exams up to 5 to 10 times and are in the same situation as I am and they all have similar complaints.

Regards