

Test of English Proficiency
Your stepping stone to success

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SELF-GUIDED PREPARATION COURSE AVAILABLE



# **ITEP SLATE**

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH ASSESSMENT

Grammar, Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking

CEFR RANGES A1 A2 B1 B2 C1





## The Benefits of iTEP SLATE

iTEP SLATE (Secondary Level Assessment Test of English) is an efficient, accurate, and affordable tool for high schools, and middle schools to measure the English proficiency of incoming ESL students and monitor the language development of students in existing English programs. iTEP SLATE is efficient, secure, accurate, affordable, and designed to meet the needs of young learners.



Exams administered on-campus or at home



Online and on demand



Lower cost than other exams



Fast and reliable scores in 1-2 days



Multi-layered security features



Trained and certified ESL graders



**CEFR-aligned results** 



Exams 60-90 minutes in duration



I will definitely continue promoting iTEP just as I have been doing to other schools that talk to me because I do like how easy the test administration is, and that there's a person I can talk to versus just chatting [with a robot].

Program Director, Terri Fraser, Tree of Life Christian School







iTEP International was founded in 2002 by career international educators. Our decades of experience have prepared us for the unique challenges of the industry today.

We use the best technology available, and our staff is always there to meet the needs of our clients. A test this user-friendly is perfect for admissions, benchmarking, and exit-testing.

Accepting iTEP results for admissions purposes gives your institution a no-cost marketing boost. You will reach a wider pool of qualified applicants through exposure in iTEP's online promotional materials, and at hundreds of test center locations worldwide.

Thousands of institutions worldwide trust the iTEP exams























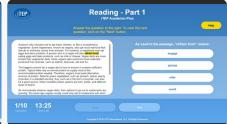


### **Uses and Structure**

The primary function of iTEP SLATE is to assess the English language proficiency level of middle and high school international students. The iTEP SLATE exam is commonly used for admissions decisions, curriculum development, exit-testing, and determing eligibility for exchange programs.







#### GRAMMAR (STRUCTURE) - 10 MINUTES/ TWO PARTS

- Thirteen fill-in-the-blank, multiple-choice questions testing the examinee's familiarity with key features of English structure; Questions range from beginner to advanced.
- Twelve multiple-choice questions in which the examinee identifies the error in the sentence; Questions range from elementary to advanced.

#### LISTENING - 20 MINUTES/ THREE PARTS

- Four high-beginning to low-intermediate level short conversations of two to three sentences, each followed by one multiple-choice question.
- One two-to-three-minute intermediate-level conversation, followed by four multiple-choice questions.
- One four-minute upper-level lecture, followed by six multiple-choice questions.

#### **READING - 20 MINUTES/ THREE PARTS**

- Two low-intermediate level passages of approximately 50 words in length, followed by two multiple-choice questions.
- One intermediate-level passage of approximately 200 words in length, followed by four multiple-choice questions.
- One low-advanced passage of approximately 500 words in length, followed by six multiple-choice questions.

#### WRITING - 25 MINUTES/ TWO PARTS

- The examinee is given five minutes to write a 100-word response to a prompt at a low-intermediate level.
- The examinee is given 20 minutes to write a 250-word essay expressing and supporting his or her opinion in response to an upper-level prompt.

#### SPEAKING - 5 MINUTES/ TWO PARTS (PLUS 45-SECOND WARM-UP SECTION)

- The examinee hears and reads a short question at the low-intermediate level, then has 15 seconds to prepare a spoken response and 45 seconds to speak.
- The examinee hears and reads a brief upper-level statement presenting two sides of an issue, then is asked to express his or her thoughts on the topic, with 30 seconds to prepare and 60 seconds to speak.



## **Scoring and Reporting**

The test determines an overall proficiency level from 0 (Beginner) to 6 (Advanced), as well as individual proficiency levels from 0 to 6 for each of the skills and sub-skills tested. The overall scores combine the results of the skill sections, and for greater accuracy, they are expressed to one decimal point (from 0.0 to 6.0). The test is graded as follows:



The grammar, listening, and reading sections are scored automatically by iTEP software.



The writing and speaking sections are evaluated by trained professionals, according to a standardized scoring rubric.



The official score report presents individual and composite scores, as well as the candidate's strengths and weaknesses for each of the sub-skills tested.

#### SCORE REPORT

The iTEP Score Reports are designed to easily compare students' scores and track improvements. Scores are aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) and evaluate expected "real-world" language skills based on the examinee's level.

#### SECURITY PROCESSES

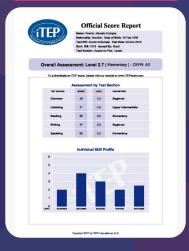
iTEP's FotoSure® software photographs the test-taker throughout the exam, and our Item Bank feature live-streams content to ensure that no two tests are alike.

Two students were taking it. It took about 90 minutes. But things were graded, things were assessed, and it was immediately turned back around. It was less work for me because I did not have to sit there grading, and I was able to get accurate results. I haven't yet read an

ITEP result that I disagree with.

Program Director, Rocco DeFelice, **Summit Christian Academy** 

Overall Assessment and CEFR Levels



Linguistic sub-skills within sections



"Real-world" language skills



## **iTEP Ability Guide**

Use this table to see at a glance how well an individual can use English to communicate "in the real world."

CEFR	iTEP	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
C1 Advanced	6.0	Completely comprehends main idea and supporting details of complicated language, even in unfamiliar situations.  Advanced awareness of speaker's attitudes and implications.	Capable of highly accurate interpretation of long, demanding texts.  Can deduce abstract, implicit meaning within texts, beyond concrete information.  Recognizes a wide range of vocabulary.  Completely comprehends main idea and supporting details of complicated language, even in unfamiliar situations.  Advanced awareness of speaker's attitudes and implications.	Uses wide variety of language to clearly express themselves without restriction.  Errors are uncommon and difficult to find.  Ideas expressed clearly and smoothly through complex writing structures.  Advanced level of grammatical control - almost no mistakes.	Expresses self fluently and spontaneaously without any indication of restriction.     Language is fluid and natural speaker does not require long pauses to consider accurate expression.
B2 Upper Intermediate	5.0 - 5.9	Comprehends main idea and supporting details with relative ease.  Understands most language but may struggle with unfamiliar situations.  High awareness of speaker's attitudes and implications.	Capable of accurate interpretation of long, demanding texts, but may experience confusion with unfamiliar genres.  Understands the main points on complicated topics, including technical language, but will likely struggle with implicit concepts.	Uses language clearly and purposefully, indicating minimal restriction.  Language range is sufficient to express viewpoints and arguments.  Accurately uses complex sentence forms.  High level of grammatical control; occasional mistakes do occur, but generally do not distract from meaning.	Expresses self fluently and spontaneously with minimal restriction.  Could interact with native speaker wrth relative ease and low likelihood of communication breakdown.  High level of grammatical control- mistakes do occasionally occur, but generally they do not distract from meaning.
B1 Intermediate	4.0 - 4.9	Comprehends main ideas but will likely miss supporting details.  Understands almost all language related to familiar topics.  Generally, requires clear, explicit language for full comprehension of ideas.  Limited awareness of speaker's attitudes and implications.	Capable of understanding main points of straightforward content, but will likely struggle with longer, more demanding texts or unfamiliar genres.      Requires concrete language and will struggle with abstract content.      Vocabulary limitations prevent complete understanding of content.	Uses language with reasonable accuracy to explain unpredictable events related to general topics (e.g. school, worrk or travel).  Meaning can generally be discerned throughout the text.  Vocabulary limitations often result in awkward phrasing and repetition of ideas.  Grammatical accuracy is reasonable, but L1 interference or frequent errors are present.	Expresses self with relative accuracy, indicating ability to be understood in unfamiliar situations.     Could sufficiently interact with a native speaker, but some communication breakdowns may occur.     Grammatical control acceptable mistakes occur regularly and sometimes distract from meaning.
A2 Elementary	2.5 - 3.9	Comprehends basic conversations and content related to familiar topics. Requires reduced rate of speech for full comprehension. Unlikely to fully understand, even when content is related to familiar topics. Only understands familiar expressions and concrete language. Unaware of speakers attitudes and implications.	Understands only straightforward sentences and common expressions.  Full understanding of text requires highly concrete and familiar information.  Vocabulary limitations allow for comprehension of only basic information.	Uses mostly basic language, resulting in considerable restrictions in expression.  Meaning is relatively clear when discussing a basic, familiar topic.  Communication breakdowns are frequent when transitioning to unfamiliar topics.  Can use basic and compound sentence patterns accurately.	Inability to fully express ideas-struggles in unfamiliar situations.  Can communicate sufficiently in simple tasks and in routine situations but frequently encounters communication breakdowns when discussing unfamiliar topics.  Requires simple, direct exchange of information to be properly understood. Frequent grammatical mistakes distract from overall inteligibility.
A1 Beginner	0.1 - 2.4	Only comprehends basic language. Requires reduced rate of speech and with extreme clarity. Understands simple language when familiar words and phrases are used (e.g. greetings, high frequency words and expressions).	Understands highly familiar language and common expressions.  Full understanding of text requires highly simple and basic language.  Significant vocabulary limitations result in only the most basic content being understood.	Uses basic language exclusively (e.g. personal information; high frequency vocabulary; familiar places)  Errors occur at high frequency, preventing overall meaning from being discerned.  Can write simplistic words, phrases, and sentences.  Only uses simple sentence patterns.	Unable to express self except in extremely basic situations.  Can introduce themselves to others and provide personal information  Encounters communication breakdowns almost always when discussing any unfamiliar content.  Grammatical mistakes frequently make language unintelligible.



## **iTEP SLATE Score Equivalencies**

If you are familiar with other language assessment tools on the market, you can see how iTEP's scores translate, based on each test's CEFR alignment. Our scores reflect a wide range of levels and make it easy to categorize and group candidates.

CEFR	ITEP SLATE	KET	SLEP	PET	TOEFL Jr.	IELTS	
C1	6					7.0 - 8.0	
B2	5.5 - 5.9		64	97 - 100	884 - 900	5.5 - 6.5	
	5.0 - 5.4		58 - 63	94 - 96	867 - 883		
B1	4.5 - 4.9	96 - 100	55 - 57	90 - 93	850 - 866	45.50	
	4.0 - 4.4	90 - 95	53 - 54	80 - 89	791 - 835	4.5 - 5.0	
	3.5 - 3.9	82 - 89	50 - 52	70 - 79	745 - 790		
A2	3.0 - 3.4	76 - 81	45 40	62 - 69	703 - 744		
	2.5 - 2.9	70 - 75	45 - 46	53 - 61	675 - 702		
	2.0 - 2.4	65 - 69	42 - 44	45 - 52	646 - 674		
	1.5 - 1.9	60 - 64	40 - 41	36 - 44	637 - 645	0.0 - 4.0	
	1.0 - 1.4	55 - 59	37 - 39	27 - 35	628 - 636		
A1	0.5 - 0.9	50 - 54	34 - 36	18 - 26	619 - 627		
	0.0 - 0.4	45 - 49	31 - 33	9 - 17	609 - 618		
				0 - 8	600 - 608		

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ETS was not involved in the production of the iTEP SLATE Exam, nor has ETS endorsed the iTEP SLATE Exam or this score equivalencies chart in any way.

Cambridge was not involved in the production of the iTEP SLATE Exam, nor has Cambridge endorsed the iTEP SLATE Exam or this score equivalencies chart in any way.

### **Tree of Life Christian School**

AN ITEP SLATE CASE STUDY

In 2014, Tree of Life Christian School needed to find an English proficiency exam to assess the potential of international students. The pre-admissions process for potential students included a 90-minute interview with the International Program Director, Terri Fraser, to gauge their conversation skills and ability to adapt to the school's program. Once international students were accepted, they took annual exams to track their progress. Tree of Life needed one exam to suit both situations. The exam also had to be easy to set up, compatible with the school's technology, and provide accurate results quickly.

With previous experience implementing iTEP in another international program, Director Fraser recommended iTEP as a solution. Tree of Life Christian School selected the iTEP SLATE (Secondary Level Assessment Test of English) exam as their primary English proficiency assessment option for pre-admission and progress tracking. The iTEP SLATE assessed students to help the International Program gain and share insights into students' abilities and make informed decisions about student placement and learning needs. The exam allowed applicants to test in their home country while accepted students could test on campus. The iTEP SLATE-Core exams were compatible with the school's Chromebooks and offered almost immediate Grammar, Listening, and Reading results.

Read the full case study at www.itepexam.com/tree-of-life

































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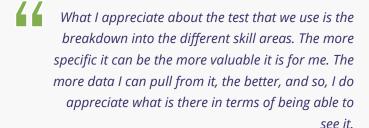






"It was really neat to say, 'Look, here are your test scores, here are the language goals that we're trying to reach, and here's how far you've come.' It's exciting. It's not only encouraging for them, but it's encouraging for me to know that our program is working, and you can actually see results."

Program Director, Rocco DeFelice Summit Christian Academy



International Program Director, Christopher Chacko Norfolk Christian Schools

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