



Versant English Placement Test

Place students in the right class fast

The Versant English Placement Test measures the listening, speaking, reading and writing proficiency of individuals whose native language is not English.

The test takes only 50 minutes with results available online within minutes, allowing for quick, yet accurate placement decisions. Test questions reflect many different situations in the classroom and real world including reading aloud, conversations, dictations, summarisations, and email correspondence.

Accurate

With a 0.99 correlation, Versant test scores generated by the Ordinate testing system are virtually indistinguishable from expert human scoring, ensuring confidence in the results.

Reliable

The Versant English Placement Test is highly reliable (split-half reliability of 0.96), delivering more consistent testing without the variability typical of multiple evaluators and locations.

Fast

Versant is fully automated and can be easily taken over computers by large groups of candidates. A detailed score report is available minutes after the test is completed.

Scores you can trust

With the state-of-the-art Ordinate® testing system, tests are scored automatically within minutes. The Versant testing system uses speech processing technology to measure speaking and listening skills. This system was built to handle the different rhythms and varied pronunciations used by native and non-native English speakers. The testing system is able to generate scores based on the words used in the spoken responses, as well as the pace, fluency, and pronunciation of those words in phrases and sentences.

The Knowledge Analysis Technologies (KAT) engine measures written English skills and evaluates the meaning of text by examining whole written passages. The KAT engine is based on Pearson's unique implementation of Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA), an approach that generates semantic similarity of words and passages by analysing large bodies of relevant text. LSA can then "understand" the meaning of text much the same as a human reader.

Test Features	
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Placement • Progress Monitoring • Exit Exam • Training Programs
Duration of test	~50 minutes
Number of questions	81
Question Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aloud • Repeat • Sentence Builds • Conversations • Typing • Sentence Completion • Dictation • Passage Reconstruction • Summary & Opinion
Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precise score in the range of 20 to 70 • Overall score • Diagnostic subscores in speaking, listening, reading, and writing • Detailed explanation of language capabilities • Suggestions for improvement • Typing speed and improvement • Score mapping to CEFR
Test Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure capture and storage of candidate responses • Anonymous test ID numbers to ensure data privacy



SCORE REPORT

Versant English Placement Test

Test Identification Number: 1234 5678

Test Completion Date: May 1, 2011

Test Completion Time: 09:35 AM (UTC)

OVERALL SCORE

53

SKILL AREA	SCORE	10	20	30	40	50	60	70
Overall	53	[Progress bar showing 53%]						
Speaking	57	[Progress bar showing 57%]						
Listening	43	[Progress bar showing 43%]						
Writing	57	[Progress bar showing 57%]						
Reading	52	[Progress bar showing 52%]						

SKILL AREA	UNDERSTANDING CANDIDATE'S CAPABILITIES
Overall	Candidate can handle many utterances using a variety of words and structures, and can follow and sometimes participate in a native-paced conversation. Pronunciation is mostly intelligible; candidate can express some composite information on familiar topics to a cooperative listener. Candidate understands texts using a variety of words and structures, and given enough time can produce written texts for general purposes. Writing contains errors or inappropriate word choice, but the message is clear to a skilled reader.
Speaking	Candidate produces a range of meaningful utterances. Candidate speaks with adequate rhythm but with some inappropriate intonation and phrasing. History vowels and consonants in a clear manner, although some sounds are imprecise.
Listening	Candidate understands simple texts in conversational speech when it is spoken clearly and directed at the ear.
Writing	Candidate writes clear, connected texts on a variety of subjects using a sufficient range of grammatical structures and a good range of common English words.
Reading	Candidate reads, understands and responds to simple written texts, but has difficulty dealing with more complex texts.

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ALWAYS LEARNING


The score report is available within minutes and includes the candidate's overall score and subscores, with detailed explanations of language capabilities.

A Simple Test Administration Process

1. The test administrator provides the candidate with the test instructions.
2. The candidate uses a unique test identification number to start the computer based test.
3. The candidate answers the test questions and the answers are scored automatically.
4. The test administrator retrieves the candidate's score from the online reporting system.

Contact Us

To try a sample test or learn more, contact us on (02) 9454 2350 or email elt@pearson.com.au.

Visit us online at: www.pearson.com.au/elt/versant.