



www.iTEPexam.com

ITEP SLATE

Secondary Level Assessment Test of English



The Benefits of iTEP SLATE

Simply put, iTEP is the most efficient, secure, accurate, and affordable way for institutions to measure the English proficiency of applicants and high school-age students.

- The test can be scheduled on-demand at test centers all over the world or on your premises.
- Results are available instantly or in a few days, depending on whether writing and speaking are tested.
- Test-taker data, photos, test scores, and speaking and writing samples are available to partner institutions
 online anytime.
- In each section, iTEP assesses linguistic sub-skills, such as understanding the main idea vs. details in the reading section (see score report on page 9).
- The test lasts no more than 90 minutes and costs \$119 USD retail for test-takers (special price for institutions).

iTEP at a Glance

iTEP International was founded by career international educators. Our decades of experience have prepared us for the unique challenges of the industry today. We developed iTEP to help institutions and students alike.

We use the best technology available, and our live staff is always there to meet the needs of our clients. A test this user friendly is perfect for admissions, placement, progress checks, and exit exams.

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 marketing and promotional materials online and at hundreds of test center locations in dozens of countries. The test is experiencing growth in key and emerging markets for international student enrollment, such as Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Iran, Indonesia, Korea, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey.

You are in good company! iTEP is used by the national governments of various countries, including Colombia, Egypt, India, and Saudi Arabia, as well as numerous professional and academic organizations and institutions.





About iTEP International, the creators of iTEP



The iTEP test has set a new standard for efficiency, accuracy, and flexibility. iTEP can be scheduled on-demand and is scored in five business days or less. It can be taken securely and affordably online at test centers all over the world. iTEP lasts 90 minutes at most, including speaking and writing sections. The detailed iTEP score report reveals strengths and weaknesses in linguistic sub-skills of each tested skill section, making it perfect for admissions, placement, and progress testing. Institutions have instant access to test-taker data, test scores, and the actual writing and speaking samples. iTEP is truly a 21st century exam.

iTEP is recognized by the Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute (ACEI) as an approved internationally accepted English proficiency exam that meets institutional standards. ACCET, the US-based Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training, has recognized iTEP as a sanctioned English assessment exam for validating Intensive English Programs.

The admissions offices of hundreds of educational institutions all over the US, including schools in the California State University system, currently accept iTEP results from international applicants. Governments, businesses, and international organizations from Colombia to Saudi Arabia have also made iTEP their test of choice. iTEP is committed to actively engaging with the international education community through memberships and affiliations with NAFSA, ASCD, TESOL, TABS, NAIS, and NBEA.

We take pride in maintaining the highest standard of academic rigor, while using innovation to facilitate the access and efficiency that every test-taker and institution deserves.





iTEP SLATE Overview

The primary function of iTEP is to assess the English-language proficiency of students of English as a second language.

The iTEP SLATE exam is commonly used for:

- · Making admissions decisions
- Placing students within language programs
- Guiding course instruction and curriculum development
- Evaluating pre- and post-course progress
- Assessing the proficiency of English-language teachers
- Determining eligibility for exchange programs

There are two versions of iTEP SLATE:

- 1 iTEP SLATE-Core assesses grammar, listening, and reading, and is 50 minutes in length, with an additional 10 minutes for pre-test preparation.
- 2 iTEP SLATE-Plus assesses all three SLATE-Core skills plus writing and speaking, and is 80 minutes in length, with an additional 10 minutes for pre-test preparation.

Test Format & Delivery

Online iTEP exams are delivered via the internet and must be administered at a secure location or a certified iTEP test center. The examinee completes the test in the following manner:

- During the grammar, listening, and reading sections, the examinee clicks on one of four answer choices for each question
- Writing samples are typed directly into a text-entry field
- Speaking samples are recorded with a headset and microphone at the examinee's computer







Test Content

In each section, examinees will encounter content and questions targeted to varying levels of proficiency.

A Grammar (Structure) — 10 minutes/ two parts

- **Part 1** Thirteen fill-in-the-blank, multiple-choice questions testing the examinee's familiarity with a key feature of English structure; questions range from beginner to advanced.
- **Part 2** Twelve multiple-choice questions where the examinee selects the part of speech with incorrect English structure; questions range from elementary to advanced.

B Listening — 20 minutes/ three parts

- **Part 1** Four high-beginning- to low-intermediate-level short conversations of two to three sentences, each followed by one multiple-choice question.
- **Part 2** One two- to three-minute intermediate-level conversation, followed by four multiple-choice questions.
- *Part 3* One four-minute upper-level lecture, followed by six multiple-choice questions.

C Reading — 20 minutes/ three parts

- **Part 1** Two low intermediate-level passages of approximately 50 words in length, followed by 2 multiple-choice questions.
- **Part 2** One intermediate-level passage of approximately 200 words in length, followed by 4 multiple-choice questions.
- *Part 3* One low advanced passage of approximately 500 words in length, followed by 6 multiple-choice questions.

D Writing — 25 minutes/ two parts

- **Part 1** The examinee is given five minutes to write a 50-75 word note on a supplied topic, geared to the low-intermediate level.
- **Part 2** The examinee is given 20 minutes to write a 175-225 word piece expressing and supporting his or her opinion on an upper-level written topic.

E Speaking — 5 minutes/ two parts (plus one minute warm-up section)

- **Part 1** The examinee hears and reads a short question geared to low-intermediate level, then has 30 seconds to prepare a spoken response and 45 seconds to speak.
- **Part 2** The examinee hears a brief upper-level statement presenting two sides of an issue, then is asked to express his or her thoughts on the topic, with 45 seconds to prepare and 60 seconds to speak.



Scoring/Grading

The test will determine 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 tested. Sub-skill scores are expressed as well, in order to give a more detailed picture of the examinee's skill level. 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 the computer.
- Each test section is weighed equally, and there are no penalties in the multiple-choice sections for incorrect answers.
- The writing and speaking sections are evaluated by native English-speaking, ESL-trained professionals, according to a standardized scoring rubric.
- The official score report presents an individual's scoring information in both tabular and graphical formats.
- The graphical format, or skill profile, is particularly useful for displaying an examinee's strengths and weaknesses in each of the skills evaluated by the test.

Levels

The proficiency levels identified by the test may be expressed briefly as follows:







iTEP SLATE-Plus – TOEFL® Jr. Comparison Chart

	iTEP SLATE-Plus	TOEFL [®] Jr.		
Total Exam Time	90 minutes (all five sections)	 115 minutes for TOEFL Jr Standard (three sections) 134 minutes for TOEFL Jr Comprehensive (four sections) 		
Skills Assessed	Five sections/five skills directly evaluated: grammar, listening, reading, writing, speaking	 TOEFL Jr. Standard: reading, listening, language form and meaning TOEFL Jr. Comprehensive: reading, listening, speaking 		
Target Age Group	High school age students (and younger)	Students ages 11 to 15		
Difficulty Level Tested	Tests at different difficulty levels	 Tests at three difficulty levels, from beginner to upper-intmediate 		
Purpose	 Evaluate students' English ability for high school, academy, and boarding school admission purposes Place students in English-language programs Perform pre- and post-course assessment Guide course instruction and curriculum development Qualify candidates for exchange program acceptance 	 Placement and progress monitoring for English-language programs International schools where the language of instruction is English Schools in non-English-speaking countries that focus on teaching content through English 		
Price	\$119 (global retail price for applicants); significant institutional discounts	Approximately \$160 (variance by country/location)		
Test Delivery Format	 Internet 	Paper form for Standard TOEFL JrInternet for Comprehensive TOEFL Jr		
Security	 Full security measures in place: Tests can only be administered at secured Certified iTEP Test Centers. Certified proctors on-site ensure that photo IDs match each test-taker. Item bank feature ensures that no test is replicated and that test items are secure by streaming the content live during the exam. FotoSure software photographs the test-taker throughout the exam. 			
Grading	 Multiple-choice sections (grammar, listening, and reading) evaluated by iTEP software. Writing and speaking sections evaluated by iTEP graders, who are native English-speaking, ESL-trained professionals. 	ETS graders evaluate the tests. Scores normally come from ETS, but some employers and schools provide the results.		
Scoring	 Overall score ranges from 0 to 6, with .1 level increments, as well as individual section scores, based on a standardized rubric. Scored linguistic sub-skill sections give a more detailed picture of skill level. 	 TOEFL Jr Standard graded by ETS preferred network offices. Computerized grading for Reading and Listening for TOEFL Jr Comprehensive only. Human raters score the speaking setion for TOEFL Jr Comprehensive. 		
Scheduling	On-demand scheduling within three days of contacting a Certified iTEP Test Center	Test dates are scheduled in advance by ETS.Only available on fixed dates and times.		
Results Delivery Time	Results returned in five business days or less	Results returned within two to three weeks		
Additional iTEP Benefits	 iTEP partners can get immediate online access to all test results, a iTEP available in customized and modularized versions. iTEP partners can utilize their premises to become iTEP test center. 			



iTEP SLATE-Plus – SLEP® Comparison Chart

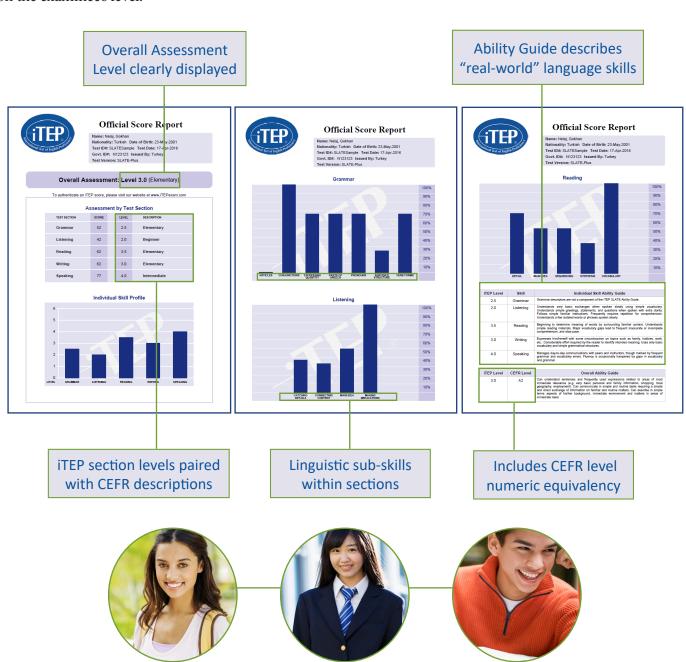
	iTEP SLATE-Plus	SLEP * (Retired)			
Total Exam Time	90 minutes (all five sections)	90 minutes (two sections)			
Skills Assessed	Five sections/five skills directly evaluated: grammar, listening, reading, writing, speaking	Listening and reading (grammar indirectly tested)			
Target Age Group	High school students (and younger)	High school students (and younger)			
Difficulty Level Tested	Tests at different difficulty levels	Tests at one level of difficulty (lower than university-level proficiency)			
Purpose	 Evaluate students' English ability for high school, academy, and boarding school admission purposes Place students in English-language programs Perform pre- and post-course assessment Guide course instruction and curriculum development Qualify candidates for exchange program acceptance 	 Assign students to ESL classes Place students in regular English-medium programs Assess students status for exiting an ESL program Qualify students for exemption from a bilingual program 			
Price	\$119 (global retail price for applicants); significant institutional discounts	Set of 20 test booklets, answer sheets, CD: \$225			
Test Delivery Format	Internet	Paper form onlyMaterials must be ordered in advance by administering institution			
Security	 Full security measures in place: Tests can only be administered at secured Certified iTEP Test Centers Certified proctors on-site ensure that photo IDs match each test-taker Item bank feature ensures that no test is replicated and that test items are secure by streaming the content live during the exam FotoSure software photographs the test-taker throughout the exam 	Unsecured test procedures: Tests are given and graded at school sites Individuals have access to test content and grading sheets ETS is not involved with the implementation or scoring of the test in any way			
Grading	 Multiple-choice sections (grammar, listening, and reading) evaluated by iTEP software Writing and speaking sections evaluated by iTEP graders, who are native English-speaking, ESL-trained professionals. 	 Administering institution scores the tests and retains materials ETS does not provide scoring services for this exam 			
Scoring	 Overall score ranges from 0 to 6, with .1 level increments, as well as individual section scores, based on a standardized rubric Scored linguistic sub-skill sections give a more detailed picture of skill level 	 For listening, scores range from 10-32 For reading, scores range from 10-35 Total scores range from 20-67 			
Scheduling	On-demand scheduling within three days of contacting a Certified iTEP Test Center	This test is currently retired			
Results Delivery Time	Results returned in five business days or less	 Administering institution can deliver results immediately after scoring paper test ETS does not provide scoring service for this exam 			
Additional iTEP Benefits	 iTEP partners can get immediate online access to all test results, a iTEP available in customized and modularized versions iTEP partners can utilize their premises to become iTEP test center 				





iTEP Score Report

This is an example of an official iTEP score report. The iTEP Official Score Reports are designed to easily compare candidates and track improvements. In addition to an overall score, linguistic sub-skills within each tested section are expressed in order to give a more detailed picture of the examinee's skills. Scores are aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) and evaluate expected 'real-world' language skills, based on the examinee's level.





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.

iTEP SLATE	КЕТ	SLEP®	PET	TOEFL Jr [®]	
6					
5.5 - 5.9		64	97 - 100	884 - 900	
5.0 - 5.4		58 - 63	94 - 96	867 - 883	
4.5 - 4.9	96 - 100	55 - 57	90 - 93	850 - 866	
4.0 - 4.4	90 - 95	53 - 54	80 - 89	791 - 835	
3.5 - 3.9	82 - 89	50 - 52	70 - 79	745 - 790	
3.0 - 3.4	76 - 81	30 - 32	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	
			36 - 44	637 - 645	
1.5 - 1.9	60 - 64	40 - 41	27 - 35	628 - 636	
1.0 - 1.4	55 - 59	37 - 39	18 - 26	619 - 627	
0.5 - 0.9	50 - 54	34 - 36	9 - 17	609 - 618	
0.0 - 0.4	45 - 49	31 - 33	0 - 8	600 - 608	

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

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





iTEP Ability Guide - SLATE

Use this table to see at a glance how well an individual can use English to communicate "in the real world" at each of iTEP's levels.

iTEP	CEFR	Listening	Reading Writing		Speaking	
6.0	C1 ADVANCED	Comprehends overall meaning and virtually all details of lectures on diverse topics	Requires little extra reading time and rarely uses the dictionary	Satisfies demands of most general academic tasks with occasional grammar and style mistakes	Pronunciation demands only slight extra effort from listeners	
5.9	B2 Upper Intermediate	Grasps main ideas and the majority of supporting details from academ- ic lectures	Utilizes contextual and syntactic clues to interpret meaning of complex sentences and new vocabulary	Writes reasonably coherent essays on familiar topics, but with some grammatical weakness Exhibits fairly good organization and development	Expresses viewpoints in fairly long stretches of discourse Begins to express abstract concepts, especially on familiar topics Some errors in grammar, word choice, and cultural appropriateness	
4.9	B1 Intermediate	Occasionally needs to ask for repetition or clarification Begins to determine the attitudes of speakers Understands main ideas from academic lectures, but misses significant details	Gathers most main ideas from textbooks and articles, but has an uneven grasp of details Limited vocabulary impedes speed The speed	Communicates basic ideas, but with weak organizational structure and grammatical mistakes that sometimes hinder understanding Does not have a complete grasp of stylistic features Vocabulary frequently lacks precision and sophistication	 Generates simple questions, greetings, expressions of needs, and preferences Pronunciation requires significant effort from listeners 	
3.9	A2 Elementary	conversations on familiar topics Relies heavily on non-verbal cues and repetition Y Unfamiliarity with complex structures and higher-level vocabulary leaves major gaps in v V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V		Expresses him/herself with some circumlocution on topics such as family, hobbies, work, etc. Considerable effort required by the reader to identify intended meaning Uses only basic vocabulary and simple grammatical structures	Generates simple questions, greetings, expressions of needs, and preferences Pronunciation requires significant effort from listeners	
2.4	A1 Beginner	Understands very basic exchanges when spoken slowly using simple vocabulary Understands simple greetings, statements, and questions when spoken with extra clarity Follows simple familiar instructions Frequently requires repetition for comprehension Understands a few isolated words or phrases spoken slowly	Comprehends only highly simplified phrases or sentences Identifies the main idea of short passages Recognizes familiar cohesive devices and basic pronouns Demonstrates understanding of a few simple grammatical and lexical structures Recognizes the alphabet and isolated words	Writes complete sentences on everyday subjects with reasonable phonetic accuracy using short words Still makes basic mistakes systematically Writes only short, simple sentences, often characterized by errors that obscure meaning Provides personal details with correct spelling and can copy familiar words and phrases	Capable of short, simple presentation on a familiar topic Responds to simple questions Speech is marked with non-native stress and intonation patterns Communication is understood for short utterances Pauses, false starts, and reformulation are common Communicates with single words and short phrases at "survival level"	
0.1				Produces isolated words and phrases	Intense listener effort required Produces a few isolated words and phrases Pronounciation is mostly unintelligible	



iTEP SLATE Case Study

Success in Saudi Ligaat Initiative

In 2011, the Saudi Ministry of Labor launched an employment initiative, called "Liquat," in conjunction with the Human Resources & Development Fund and thinkers from the private sector. The goal was to gather information about the cognitive abilities, aptitude, occupational interest, and English-language proficiency of young job seekers by using the iTEP SLATE and other tools.

The spirit of the Liquat initiative is captured in its name, which is an Arabic word meaning "meet." Liquat's motto is: "Meet the talent and reset the challenge." Organizers fill in gaps in the job market by reducing the uncertainties and concerns an employer may have toward a new applicant.



In Saudi Arabia, a major area of interest for employers is the English level of their prospective employees. iTEP SLATE was chosen over several competitors in part because its scoring system not only represents an overall English level, but also identifies strengths and weaknesses within an individual's language skill, better enabling employers to match candidates with specific positions.

With the help of SOUKS HR Solutions, iTEP's partner in Saudi Arabia, the collaboration with iTEP and Liquat has seen over 10,000 Saudis registered in the first month, and each has now sat for the iTEP SLATE.

This volume was processed smoothly thanks in large part to the convenience of scheduling and the timeliness in receiving results that iTEP offers. By providing complete scores within 5 business days and often quicker, this reliable exam is already proven in the business world, and is showing its effectiveness on a large scale at the intersection of the public and private spheres.

At least 5,000 more individuals are expected to take the iTEP SLATE through Liquat in the near future.





Praise for iTEP SLATE

English), is far superior to other tests of which I am aware that specifically target middle and high school students. iTEP SLATE can be used for both language class placement and US high school admission. It is currently being utilized for formal English proficiency certification in a number of countries, most notably China, where proper certification is a key component in preparing children for the future.

- FADI GERMANOS, XAVIER COLLEGE PREPARATORY
HIGH SCHOOL, PALM DESERT, CA



I have found the Secondary Level Assessment Test of English (SLATE), developed by ITEP International Educational Services, to be the best English proficiency test currently available. SLATE is user friendly, highly secure, and practical, and provides counselors and admissions officers information on all linguistic skills, including speaking and writing. This exam maintains the practical aspects of the existing iTEP exam platform of ITEP International Ed., yet utilizes content specific to the secondary school demographic. During my more than 30 years of experience working in the secondary school environment, I have not seen an exam as reliable and appropriate for the high school-age group as SLATE. I highly recommend its use as an evaluative instrument by secondary school personnel

-ROGER RISKE, PH.D., PRESIDENT, EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT TRUST, SANTA MONICA, CA



iTEP SLATE is remarkably accessible. Waiting for test dates used to be a problem for some of our applicants, but iTEP SLATE's on-demand scheduling keeps our admissions process moving along. Plus, the test is quite affordable, and with so many test centers around the world, it's relatively easy for most applicants to take the test. Once we receive the scores, the incredibly detailed information about applicants' skills is very useful to us in our evaluation. For these reasons, we are presently looking into administering SLATE on our campus for placement and progress assessment, in addition to accepting the test for admissions.

- ALEX SALVO, VICE PRINCIPAL, SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL, OGDEN, UT





iTEP Product List

	iTEP Academic	ITEP SLATE	iTEP Conversation	iTEP Hospitality Au Pair & Intern	iTEP Placement	iTEP Business
Grammar	• Core • Plus	• Core • Plus	• Indirect	• Indirect	• Core • Plus	• Core • Plus
Listening	• Core • Plus	• Core • Plus	• Indirect	HospitalityAu PairIntern	• Core • Plus	• Core • Plus
Vocabulary	• Indirect	• Indirect	• Indirect	Indirect	Core Plus	■ Indirect
Reading	• Core • Plus	• Core • Plus	• Indirect		• Core • Plus	• Core • Plus
Writing	■ Plus	■ Plus			■ Plus	■ Plus
Speaking	- Plus	• Plus	Directly assessed	 Hospitality Au Pair Intern	• Plus	■ Plus
Delivery Method	Core: online and paper-basedPlus: online only	Core: online and paper-basedPlus: online only	Online	Online	Core: online and paper-basedPlus: online only	Core: online and paper-basedPlus: online only
Exam Duration	• Core: 60 min • Plus: 90 min	• Core: 60 min • Plus: 90 min	• 30 minutes	• 30 minutes	• Core: apx 60 min • Plus: apx 90 min	• Core: 60 min • Plus: 90 min
Results Delivery	Core: immediatePlus: five days or less (expedited available)	 Core: immediate Plus: five days or less (expedited available) 	• Five days or less (expedited available)	• Five days or less (expedited available)	Core: immediatePlus: five days or less (expedited available)	Core: immediatePlus: five days or less (expedited available)
Users	College and University English-language programs Intensive English Programs (IEPs)	High schools Boarding schools Junior high schools English-language programs	Classrooms Businesses Service industry	Hotels/resorts Cruise lines Restaurants Au pair programs J1 intern programs Service industry	English-language programs Intensive English Programs (IEPs)	Business Government agencies NGOs
Purposes	Colleges and universities admissions English-language program placement Pre-and post-course assessment Determing eligibility for scholarships English teacher certification	Boarding, middle, & high school admissions English-language program placement Pre- and post-course assessment Determining elegibility for exchange programs	Classroom assessment & curriculum development Evaluating return on investment (ROI) of English-training programs Screening job applicants Screening visa applicants for US	Screening and placement of job applicants (hospitality/service industry specific) Screening J1 applicants for au pair and intern program placement Qualifying employees for assignments	English-language program placement Aligning test to student learning outcomes (SLOs) Accurately assess students at low (CEFR A1-A2) levels	Evaluating return on investment (ROI) of English-training programs Screening job applicants Placement of new hires Qualifying employees for assignments requiring English Promotion decisions

Modularized and customized versions of all iTEP tests are also available, but are not included.





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On-Demand, Internet-Based English Language Assessment in 90 Minutes or Less!

iTEP — The Ideal Internet-Based English Language Evaluation Tool For:

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- Boarding Schools & High Schools
- Government Agencies
- Colleges and Universities
- Intensive English Programs (IEPs)
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