International Test of English Proficiency

iTEP...Ready When You Are!

iTEP Academic

iTEP

International Test of English Proficiency

www.iTEPexam.com

The Benefits of iTEP Academic

Simply put, iTEP is the most efficient, secure, accurate, and affordable way for colleges, universities, intensive English programs (IEPs), and other organizations to measure English proficiency of applicants and 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 8)
- The test lasts no more than 90 minutes and costs **$99 USD** retail for test-takers (major discounts for institutions)

Boston Educational Services (BES) 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, Indonesia, Korea, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey.

Plus, you're in good company. iTEP is used by national governments such as Colombia, Egypt, India, and Saudi Arabia, as well as numerous professional and academic organizations and institutions.

About iTEP and Boston Educational Services

As president of ELS Language Centers for more than 30 years, Perry Akins saw the need for a test like iTEP develop over time.

When he started his career in international education, there were no English proficiency exams. As they emerged, they did not include speaking or writing components, so scores did not necessarily reflect a person's actual English level. Without much competition in this space, fees steadily rose, but the tests did not improve.

After leading ELS in growth from 2 Language Centers to 82 and enrolling half a million students, Perry founded Boston Educational Services (BES) with business partner, Sharif Ossayran. They pulled together an experienced team of test developers and English as a Second Language teachers to create a better exam. iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency) was launched in 2008.

The test set a new standard for efficiency, accuracy, and flexibility. iTEP can be scheduled on-demand and is scored within five business days. It can be taken securely and affordably online at test centers all over the world. iTEP lasts 90 minutes at most, and includes speaking and writing samples. The detailed 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, as well as BES support staff. iTEP is truly a 21st century exam.

The admissions offices of hundreds of institutions all over the US, including schools in the California State University system, currently accept iTEP results from international applicants. iTEP is recognized by the Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute (ACEI) and Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET), as an approved internationally regarded English proficiency exam that meets institutional standards. Governments, businesses, and international organizations from Colombia to Saudi Arabia have also made iTEP their test of choice. BES is committed to actively engaging with the international education community through memberships and affiliations with NAFSA, EnglishUSA, TESOL, ACEI, ACCET, and AISAP. 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 Academic Overview

The primary function of iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency) is to assess the English language proficiency of students of English as a second language.

iTEP Academic 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 proficiency of English language teachers
- Determining eligibility for scholarships

There are two versions of iTEP Academic:
1) iTEP Academic-Core assesses grammar, listening, and reading is 50 minutes in length, with an additional 10 minutes for pre-test preparation.
2) iTEP Academic-Plus assesses all three Academic-Core skills plus writing and speaking, and is 80 minutes in length, with an additional 10 minutes for pre-test preparation.

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

A. Grammar (Structure) — 10 minutes/ 1 part
This section is comprised of twenty-five multiple-choice questions, each of which tests the examinee's familiarity with a key feature of English structure. This section includes a range of content from simple to more complex, as well as both beginning and advanced vocabulary. Each type of question is preceded by an on-screen example.

B. Listening — 20 minutes/ 3 parts
Part 1: Four high-beginning to low-intermediate level short conversations of 2-3 sentences, each followed by one multiple-choice question
Part 2: One 2-3 minute intermediate level conversation, followed by 4 multiple-choice questions
Part 3: One 4 minute upper level lecture, followed by 6 multiple-choice questions

C. Reading — 20 minutes/ 2 parts
Part 1: One intermediate level passage of about 250 words in length, followed by 4 multiple-choice questions
Part 2: One upper level paragraph of about 450 words in length, followed by 6 multiple-choice questions

D. Writing — 25 minutes/ 2 parts
Part 1: The examinee is given five minutes to write a 50-75 word note, geared at the low-intermediate level, on a supplied topic
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/ 2 parts (plus 1 minute warm-up section)
Part 1: The examinee hears and reads a short question geared at 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

Test Structure
Prior to the start of the test, there is a short preliminary section which guides the examinee through a series of steps to ensure technical compatibility and the examinee's readiness. This includes the complete technical checklist of the software required for test administration, as well as examinee identification items such as login and registration. This preliminary section is included in the 90 minute total length of the test.

Delivery Method

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, 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

iTEP Academic-Core is also available in paper-based format.

Timing Mechanism

Each section has a fixed time allotted to it. If an examinee completes a section with time left, he or she may advance to the next section.

- Grammar and reading sections: examinees are free to use any extra time to review and if they wish, revise their answers
- Listening section: the selections play only once, so review is not possible
- Writing section: there are fixed time limits for each part, but examinees may advance to the next section before time expires
- Speaking section: there are fixed time limits for each part

The directions for each section are displayed for a set amount of time. This amount varies according to the amount of text to be read and should be adequate for most examinees. If an examinee needs more time to read a particular section's directions, he or she can always access them by clicking the help button, which displays a complete menu of directions for all test sections.

Transition Screens

Following each section of the test, examinees see a screen that reads, "Beginning Next Section..." These "transition screens" provide a 15-second break between sections, and display completed test sections and remaining test sections. After the last test section is completed, examinees see a final screen, which tells them to wait for further directions from the administrator.

Scoring/Grading

The test will determine an overall proficiency level from 0 (Beginner) to 6 (Mastery), 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 is no penalty in the multiple-choice sections for guessing or 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:

LEVEL 6.0: Mastery

LEVEL 5.0-5.9: Advanced

LEVEL 4.0-4.9: Upper Intermediate

LEVEL 3.5-3.9: Intermediate

LEVEL 2.5-3.4: Elementary

LEVEL 0.0-2.4: Beginner

iTEP Academic-Plus – TOEFL® IBT Comparison Chart

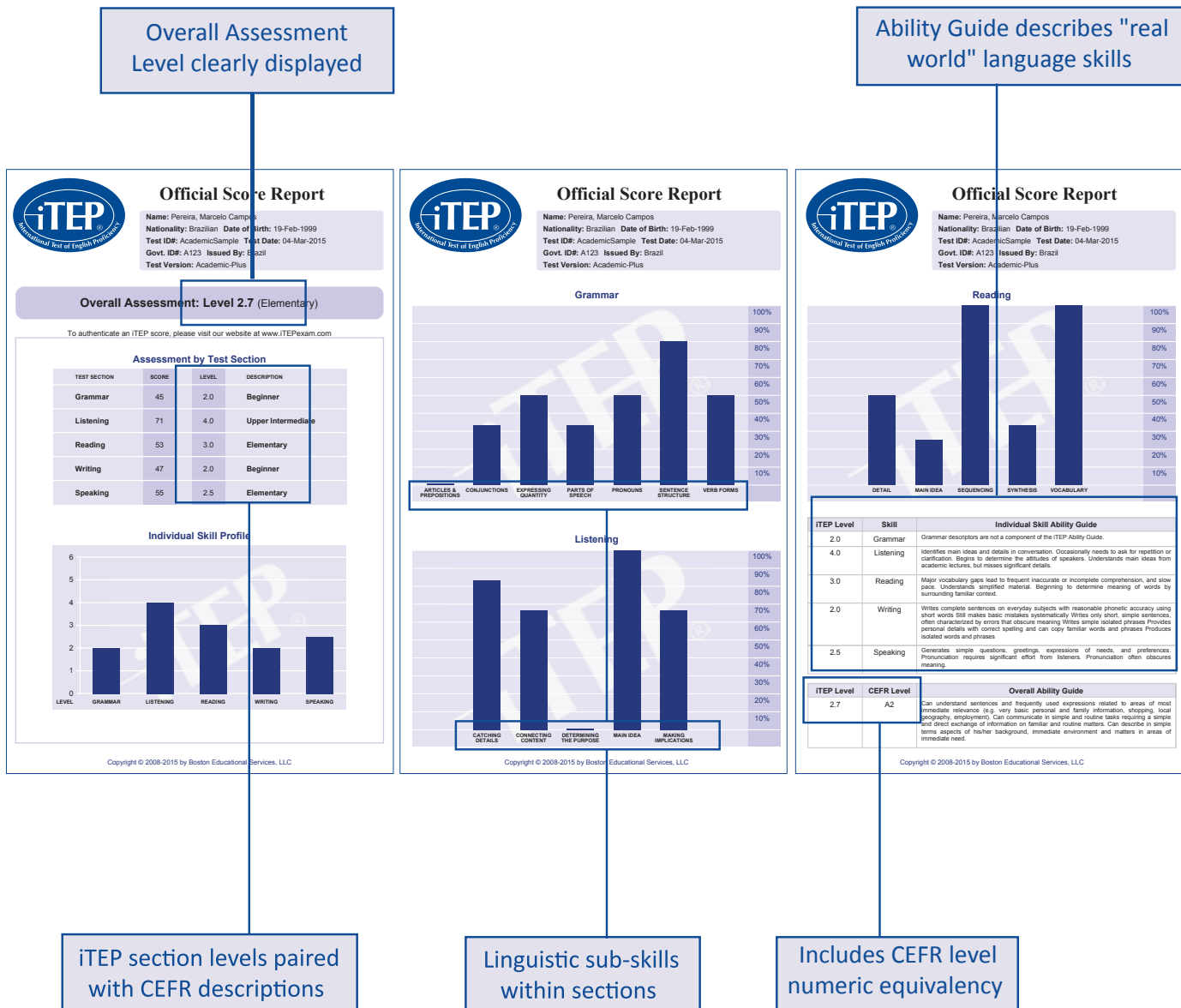|	iTEP Academic-Plus	TOEFL® IBT
Total Exam Time	▪ 90 minutes (all five sections)	▪ 260 minutes (all four sections)
Skills Assessed	▪ Five sections/five skills directly evaluated: grammar, listening, reading, writing, and speaking	▪ Four sections/four skills directly evaluated (grammar indirectly tested): listening, reading, writing, and speaking
Target Age Group	▪ Graduating High School to University level students.	▪ University level students
Difficulty Level Tested	▪ Tests at different difficulty levels, from beginner to mastery	▪ Tests at one level of difficulty, from upper intermediate to advanced
Purpose	▪ Evaluate students' English ability for college and university admission purposes ▪ Place students in English language programs ▪ Evaluate language proficiency for placement and hiring (businesses and organizations) ▪ Perform pre- and post-course assessment ▪ Qualify candidates for scholarships and exchange program acceptance	▪ Evaluate students' English ability for college and university admission purposes ▪ Place students in English language programs ▪ Evaluate language proficiency for placement and hiring (businesses and organizations)
Price	▪ $99 (global retail price for applicants); significant institutional discounts	▪ $160-$250 (variance by country/location)
Test Delivery Format	▪ Internet	▪ Internet
Security	Full security measures in place: ▪ Tests can only be administered at secured iTEP Certified Test Centers ▪ Certified administrators on-site; ensure that photo IDs exist for 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	Full security measures in place: ▪ Tests can only be administered at secured ETS Certified Test Centers ▪ Certified administrators on-site; ensure that photo IDs exist for each test-taker
Grading	▪ Multiple-choice sections (grammar, listening and reading) are evaluated by iTEP Grader Software ▪ Writing and speaking sections evaluated by iTEP graders: 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 standardized rubric ▪ Scored linguistic sub-skill sections give a more detailed picture of skill level	▪ Overall score ranges from 0 to 120, as well as individual section scores, based on standardized rubric
Scheduling	▪ On-demand scheduling within 3 days of contacting a Certified iTEP Test Center	▪ Test dates are scheduled in advance by ETS
Results Delivery Time	▪ Results returned within 5 business days or less	▪ Results returned within 8 days
Additional iTEP Benefits	▪ iTEP partners can get immediate online access to all test results, as well as access to the submitted writing and speaking portions ▪ iTEP available in customized and modularized versions ▪ iTEP partners can utilize their premises to become iTEP test centers and administer the exam on-site	

iTEP Academic-Plus – IELTS™ Comparison Chart

	iTEP Academic-Plus	IELTS™ (Academic)
Total Exam Time	▪ 90 minutes (all five sections)	▪ 174 minutes (all four sections)
Skills Assessed	▪ Five sections/five skills directly evaluated: grammar, listening, reading, writing, and speaking	▪ Four sections/four skills evaluated: listening, reading, writing and speaking (face-to-face interview; conducted on different day)
Target Age Group	▪ Graduating High School to University level students	▪ Graduating High School to University level students
Difficulty Level Tested	▪ Tests at different difficulty levels, from beginner to mastery	▪ Tests at one level of difficulty, from upper intermediate to advanced
Purpose	▪ Evaluate students' English ability for college and university admission purposes ▪ Place students in English language programs ▪ Perform pre- and post-course assessment ▪ Qualify candidates for scholarships and exchange program acceptance ▪ Evaluate language proficiency for placement	▪ Evaluate students' English ability for college and university admission purposes ▪ Place students in English language programs ▪ Perform pre- and post-course assessment ▪ Qualify candidates for scholarships and exchange program acceptance ▪ Evaluate language proficiency for placement
Price	▪ $99 (global retail price for applicants); significant institutional discounts	▪ $185 (variance by country/location)
Test Delivery Format	▪ Internet	▪ Paper, plus face-to-face interview
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	Full security measures in place: ▪ Tests can only be administered at secured IELTS Certified Test Centers ▪ Certified administrators on-site; ensure that photo IDs match each test-taker
Grading	▪ Multiple-choice sections (grammar, listening and reading) evaluated by iTEP software ▪ Writing and speaking sections evaluated by iTEP graders: native English speaking ESL-trained professionals	▪ Scored by IELTS. Test Centers provide scores to test-takers
Scoring	▪ Overall score ranges from 0 to 6, with .1 level increments, as well as individual section scores, based on standardized rubric ▪ Scored linguistic sub-skill sections give a more detailed picture of skill level	▪ Overall score ranges from 1 to 9, as well as individual section scores, based on standardized rubric
Scheduling	▪ On-demand scheduling within 3 days of contacting a Certified iTEP Test Center	▪ Approx. 48 fixed test dates per year; test must be scheduled at least 2 weeks in advance
Results Delivery Time	▪ Results returned within 5 business days or less	▪ Results usually returned 13 days after test
Additional iTEP Benefits	▪ iTEP partners can get immediate online access to all test results, as well as access to the submitted writing and speaking portions ▪ iTEP available in customized and modularized versions ▪ iTEP partners can utilize their premises to become iTEP test centers and administer the exam on-site	

iTEP Score Report

This is an example of an official iTEP score report. It reflects the actual score in each section, as well as the level, and synthesizes the scores into an overall level. Our score reports are designed to easily compare candidates and track improvements. Note that sub-skills are expressed as well, in order to give you a more detailed picture of the examinee's skill level.

Overall Assessment Level clearly displayed

Ability Guide describes "real world" language skills

Official Score Report

Name: Pereira, Marcelo Campos
Nationality: Brazilian **Date of Birth:** 19-Feb-1999
Test ID#: AcademicSample **Test Date:** 04-Mar-2015
Govt. ID#: A123 **Issued By:** Brazil
Test Version: Academic-Plus

Overall Assessment: Level 2.7 (Elementary)

To authenticate an iTEP score, please visit our website at www.iTEPexam.com

Assessment by Test Section

TEST SECTION	SCORE	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
Grammar	45	2.0	Beginner
Listening	71	4.0	Upper Intermediate
Reading	53	3.0	Elementary
Writing	47	2.0	Beginner
Speaking	55	2.5	Elementary

Individual Skill Profile

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Official Score Report

Name: Pereira, Marcelo Campos
Nationality: Brazilian **Date of Birth:** 19-Feb-1999
Test ID#: AcademicSample **Test Date:** 04-Mar-2015
Govt. ID#: A123 **Issued By:** Brazil
Test Version: Academic-Plus

Grammar

ARTICLES & PREPOSITIONS, CONJUNCTIONS, EXPRESSING QUANTITY, PARTS OF SPEECH, PRONOUNS, SENTENCE STRUCTURE, VERB FORMS

Listening

CATCHING DETAILS, CONNECTING CONTENT, DETERMINING THE PURPOSE, MAIN IDEA, MAKING IMPLICATIONS

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Official Score Report

Name: Pereira, Marcelo Campos
Nationality: Brazilian **Date of Birth:** 19-Feb-1999
Test ID#: AcademicSample **Test Date:** 04-Mar-2015
Govt. ID#: A123 **Issued By:** Brazil
Test Version: Academic-Plus

Reading

DETAIL, MAIN IDEA, SEQUENCING, SYNTHESIS, VOCABULARY

iTEP Level	Skill	Individual Skill Ability Guide
2.0	Grammar	Grammar descriptors are not a component of the iTEP Ability Guide.
4.0	Listening	Identifies main ideas and details in conversation. 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.
3.0	Reading	Major vocabulary gaps lead to frequent inaccurate or incomplete comprehension, and slow pace. Understands simplified material. Beginning to determine meaning of words by surrounding familiar context.
2.0	Writing	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 Writes simple isolated phrases Provides personal details with correct spelling and can copy familiar words and phrases Produces isolated words and phrases
2.5	Speaking	Generates simple questions, greetings, expressions of needs, and preferences. Pronunciation requires significant effort from listeners. Pronunciation often obscures meaning.

iTEP Level	CEFR Level	Overall Ability Guide
2.7	A2	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

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iTEP section levels paired with CEFR descriptions

Linguistic sub-skills within sections

Includes CEFR level numeric equivalency

iTEP Academic Score Equivalencies

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

LEVEL	iTEP	CEFR	TOEFL® IBT	IELTS™	PTE GENERAL	PTE ACADEMIC
Mastery	6	C2			Level 5	85 - 90
Advanced	5.5 - 5.9	C1	115 - 120	8 - 9	Level 4	81 - 84
Advanced	5.0 - 5.4	C1	110 - 114	8 - 9	Level 4	76 - 80
Upper Intermediate	4.5 - 4.9	B2	99 - 109	7.5	Level 3	68 - 75
Upper Intermediate	4.0 - 4.4	B2	87 - 98	7	Level 3	59 - 67
Intermediate	3.5 - 3.9	B1	57 - 86	5.5 - 6.5	Level 2	43 - 58
Elementary	3.0 - 3.4	A2	44 - 56	5	Level 1	36 - 42
Elementary	2.5 - 2.9	A2	32 - 43	4.5	Level 1	30 - 35
Beginner	2.0 - 2.4	A1	26 - 31	4		26 - 29
Beginner	1.5 - 1.9	A1	21 - 25	3		22 - 25
Beginner	1.0 - 1.4	A1	14 - 20	2		18 - 21
Beginner	0.5 - 0.9	A1	7 - 13	1		14 - 17
Beginner	0.0 - 0.4	A1	0 - 6	0		10 - 13

iTEP Ability Guide - Academic

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	C2 MASTERY	▪ Comprehends overall meaning and virtually all details of lectures on diverse topics ▪ Understands English spoken in a variety of nonnative accents	▪ Comprehends virtually all aspects of a wide variety of academic material for non-specialists ▪ Reads at near-native speed ▪ Rarely requires use of dictionary	▪ Writes complex documents such as research reports using appropriate style and vocabulary ▪ Grammar and orthographic accuracy is at near-native level ▪ Expresses complex relationships between ideas	▪ Communicates accurately and effectively on practically all academic and social topics in culturally appropriate ways ▪ Pronunciation is close to that of native speakers
5.9 ↑ 5.0	C1 ADVANCED	▪ Identifies attitude and purpose of speakers ▪ Grasps main ideas and the majority of supporting details from academic lectures ▪ Is challenged by complex social and cultural references	▪ Understands main ideas and most of the details of academic texts, journal articles, and abstracts ▪ Requires little extra reading time	▪ Vocabulary is strong in specialty ▪ Satisfies demands of most general academic tasks with occasional grammar and style mistakes ▪ Exhibits fairly good organization and development	▪ Vocabulary is strong in specialty ▪ Satisfies demands of most general academic tasks with occasional grammar and style mistakes ▪ Exhibits fairly good organization and development
4.9 ↑ 4.0	B2 UPPER INTERMEDIATE	▪ Identifies main ideas and details in conversation ▪ 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	▪ Utilizes contextual and syntactic clues to interpret meaning of complex sentences and new vocabulary ▪ Gathers most main ideas from textbooks and articles, but has an uneven grasp of details ▪ Misinterprets some abstract content and cultural references	▪ Writes reasonably coherent essays on familiar topics, but with some grammatical weakness ▪ Does not have complete grasp of stylistic features ▪ Vocabulary frequently lacks precision and sophistication	▪ Begins to express abstract concepts, especially on familiar topics ▪ Fluency is occasionally hampered by gaps in vocabulary and grammar ▪ Expresses viewpoints in fairly long stretches of discourse ▪ Sometimes is asked to repeat words or phrases
3.9 ↑ 3.5	B1 INTERMEDIATE	▪ Grasps the general outline of topics discussed in an academic setting ▪ Unfamiliarity with complex structures and higher-level vocabulary leaves major gaps in understanding	▪ Limited vocabulary impedes speed ▪ Grasps the gist of material on familiar subjects, and identifies some significant details ▪ Follows step-by-step instructions in exams, labs, and assignments	▪ Communicates basic ideas, but with weak organizational structure and grammatical mistakes that sometimes hinder understanding ▪ Expresses him/herself with some circumlocution on topics such as family, hobbies, work, etc.	▪ Manages day-to-day communications with peers and instructors, marked by frequent grammar and vocabulary errors ▪ Pronunciation requires significant effort from listeners
3.4 ↑ 2.5	A2 ELEMENTARY	▪ Maintains comprehension during conversations on familiar topics ▪ Relies heavily on non-verbal cues and repetition ▪ Understands very basic exchanges when spoken slowly using simple vocabulary	▪ Major vocabulary gaps lead to frequent inaccurate or incomplete comprehension, and slow pace ▪ Understands simplified material ▪ Begins to determine the meaning of words by familiar surrounding context	▪ Limited vocabulary results in repetitive style and simple sentences ▪ 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 ▪ Pronunciation often obscures meaning
2.4 ↑ 0.1	A1 BEGINNER	▪ 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 ▪ Recognizes familiar cohesive devices and basic pronouns ▪ Demonstrates understanding of a few simple grammatical and lexical structures ▪ Recognizes the alphabet and isolated words	▪ 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 ▪ Produces isolated words and phrases	▪ Capable of short simple presentation on familiar topic ▪ Responds to simple statements or 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" ▪ Intense listener effort required ▪ Produces a few isolated words and phrases ▪ Pronunciation is mostly unintelligible

iTEP Product List

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

	iTEP Business-Core	iTEP Business-Plus	iTEP Academic-Core	iTEP Academic-Plus	iTEP SLATE-Core	iTEP SLATE-Plus	iTEP Hospitality
Listening	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reading	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grammar	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Speaking		✓		✓		✓	✓
Writing		✓		✓		✓	
Delivery Method	Online or Paper-based	Online	Online or Paper-based	Online	Online or Paper-based	Online	Online
Exam Duration	60 minutes	90 minutes	60 minutes	90 minutes	60 minutes	90 minutes	30 minutes
Result Delivery	Immediate	5 days	Immediate	5 days	Immediate	5 days	5 days
Users	▪ Businesses ▪ Government agencies ▪ NGOs	▪ Businesses ▪ Government agencies ▪ NGOs	▪ College and university admission staff ▪ English language programs	▪ College and university admission staff ▪ English language programs	▪ High Schools ▪ Boarding Schools ▪ Junior High Schools	▪ High Schools ▪ Boarding Schools ▪ Junior High Schools	▪ Hotels / Resorts ▪ Cruise Lines ▪ Restaurant
Purposes	▪ Screening job applicants ▪ Qualifying employees for assignments requiring varying English proficiency levels ▪ Promotion decisions	▪ Proper placement of new hires ▪ Qualifying employees for assignments requiring varying English proficiency levels ▪ Promotion decisions ▪ Evaluating ROI of English training programs	▪ Admission ▪ Placement ▪ Pre- and post-course assessment	▪ Admission ▪ Placement ▪ Pre- and post-course assessment ▪ Determining eligibility for scholarships ▪ English teacher certification	▪ Admission ▪ Placement ▪ Pre- and post course assessment	▪ Admission ▪ Placement ▪ Pre- and post course assessment ▪ Determining eligibility for exchange programs	▪ Screening and placement of job applicants (hospitality industry specific) ▪ Qualifying service employees for specific roles requiring English proficiency ▪ Promotion decisions

iTEP Enables Data-Driven Approach for IEPs

At Boston Educational Services (BES), we believe that intensive English programs (IEPs) can benefit tremendously from knowing more about their students' abilities. When IEPs use iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency) for their on-site English evaluations, they get access to a customized "myTEP" account, an unparalleled analytics tool that is both easy to use and powerful.

"We believe our school's decision to adopt iTEP as a placement and tracking tool will be especially helpful to us. With the detailed breakdown that the score report provides in specific skill areas, iTEP gives us another layer of information about student achievement that we feel is vital not only in assessing our students' progress, but also in assessing the efficacy of our curriculum and its delivery. In addition, iTEP has recently added features that we believe strengthen our position in student achievement standards even more."
– Daniel Lesho, CPELI Director, College of the Extended University, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA

Cal Poly English Language Institute (CPELI) at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, is one IEP making great use of both iTEP and myTEP. In order to gather as much information as possible, CPELI administers iTEP tests to each student completing a course. Like many IEPs, CPELI has multiple "sections" – groups of students studying the same material with different teachers – for each English proficiency level. "We feel strongly we should make concerted efforts for continuity across those sections to be sure that a student's experience isn't going to be drastically affected by what section they go into at a particular level," says CPELI Director, Daniel Lesho. Regular iTEP testing provides Lesho and his team with data they can use to make curriculum and methodological adjustments.

In addition to an overall score, the detailed iTEP score report provides scores for each of the test's five sections, as well as scores for linguistic sub-skills within sections (parts of speech, synthesis, main idea, etc.). All these scores can be viewed online with a myTEP account, or easily exported to an Excel file, which can then be sorted any number of different ways.

"We look for major disparities," says Lesho, "or trends we can see for a particular section." CPELI uses the information to guide teachers, being careful to respect the great care and skill they put into their own assessment of students. He says teachers often reflect on how they will use the data without being prompted, making comments such as, "Do these lower writing and speaking scores mean that my students are overanalyzing? Do I need to devote more time for practice in the classroom?" Lesho adds that the data also allows administrators a chance to evaluate at the wider programmatic level. "Recently, the data indicated that reading skills development seemed to be lagging compared to the other skills. The data helped us begin an objective conversation as to how we could better help students increase their reading proficiency."

CPELI is just one example of how IEPs can use the detailed data provided by iTEP to improve both their own performance, and that of their students. BES is the only English test provider offering access to such detailed information about students' linguistic abilities.

Colombian Government Chooses iTEP Exam to Help Improve Nationwide English Proficiency

In 2009, the Colombian Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism and the Colombian Department of Education joined forces to devise an initiative aimed at attracting foreign investment into Colombia. By evaluating and improving the English proficiency levels of Colombian professionals, the government took one step closer to making Colombia a prime destination for foreign investment, and in particular, in the customer service and call center industries. The name chosen for this English improvement initiative was "ISPEAK".

Colombian Minister of Commerce, Luis Guillermo Plata, was one of several high-ranking officials who took the iTEP exam to become more familiar with its many advantages as an English assessment tool.

As part of the program, the Ministries solicited bids from local and international language and testing organizations for an evaluative tool to be used in the English benchmarking element of the program. Boston Educational Services, the producer of the iTEP exam, and First Class English, the exclusive iTEP representative in Colombia, worked together to tailor the iTEP in accordance with the Colombian Ministries' requests. Due to the many advantages of iTEP over its competitors, as well as the determination and hard work of First Class English, the iTEP was selected to be the English assessment tool for the first round of benchmarking for the ISPEAK program in October of 2009. The flexibility, ease of use, comprehensiveness, and cost-effective aspects of the iTEP were the main factors that helped iTEP win the coveted ISPEAK contract over the two other finalists, Berlitz and The British Council. In doing so, iTEP became the key evaluative tool used by the Colombian government to attract greater industry and foreign investment to Colombia.

The first round of testing took place over several weeks in the five largest Colombian cities, during which a total of 9,895 people took the iTEP exam and were certified at several different levels of English proficiency. "The goal was not to certify only the top levels (C1 and C2), but also to certify other levels as well, because there are many business sectors that require contracting people with basic or intermediate-level English," reported the Colombian newspaper El Tiempo in its April 30, 2010 article covering the ISPEAK initiative.

The ISPEAK program, and its use of iTEP, has been a huge success to date. "The initiative achieved 'promising' results, according to experts in English instruction" (El Tiempo). In fact, the program has been so successful that additional rounds of testing have been implemented. "The Ministry of Commerce is conducting another round of exams in June, and a third round at the national level in September" (El Tiempo).

They held further exams in June 2010 and September 2010, testing on the national level. This local Bogota initiative of ISPEAK has been sub-branded "Talk to the World," and is testing approximately 5,000 local Bogota professionals with the iTEP exam. The September round of ISPEAK will, once again, test on the national level.

Praise for iTEP Academic

"iTEP Academic is a wonderful alternative to other English language proficiency tests. The exam offers applicants a lower cost assessment and faster score reporting. These same advantages can benefit any Intensive English Program. iTEP makes an ideal assessment tool to measure ongoing progress, and a viable exit examination, measuring proficiency of students who have completed your program."

– Paul Hofmann, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President for International Affairs, California State University, Fresno, CA

"iTEP offers significant benefits to both international applicants and U.S. colleges and universities. Applicants like the fact that an individual iTEP exam can be scheduled within 3 days, and that the test costs only $99. Our office appreciates the turnaround of results and the clear, informative score report."

– Lark Cratty, Director of International Programs, Foothill and De Anza Colleges, CA

"In our experience, iTEP provides an accurate and reliable assessment of non-native students' ability to function in an English-speaking educational environment. We expect that as it is introduced to additional institutions, it will soon be widely recognized throughout the United States."

– Denise Kinsella, Associate Dean of International Education, Santa Monica College, CA

"The iTEP is a great alternative to the TOEFL, TOEIC, and IELTS tests. This exam is welcome proof that you can achieve accurate assessment of English proficiency in less time and at a significantly lower cost. iTEP measures all key skills and features an intuitive, user-friendly interface, the convenience of on-demand scheduling, and results presented in a clear, one-page score report."

– John Katzman, Founder of The Princeton Review and CEO of 2tor, Inc., NJ

"It's not often that one sees a fresh, credible, and innovative entry into the small catalog of English proficiency tests suitable for university-level admissions purposes. I find iTEP to be well-conceived, comprehensive, and user-friendly. International applicants will appreciate its convenience, efficiency, and affordable price."

– Carol J. McAllister, Director of Admissions, California State University, San Marcos, CA

"We just finished a project at Dubai Police Academy that used iTEP Academic-Core for placement of 122 cadets/ students into ESL and test preparation. As expected the test was extremely accurate, and we thank iTEP for your continued support."

– Mark Cleland, Academic Advisor, Score Testing Canter, Dubai, UAE

"The American Language Center in Florence, Italy recently administered the iTEP to several members of the famous Florentine "Arciconfraternita' della Misericordia," one of the oldest charitable institutions in the world. The iTEP provided an excellent practical evaluation (and motivation!) for members who will be dedicating more and more time and service to tourists and visitors throughout Italy. Students all appreciated the authentic language examples and the user-friendly format."

- Thomas Shandorf, Director, American Language Center, Instituto Americano, Florence, Italy

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