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SELF-GUIDED PREPARATION COURSE AVAILABLE



COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ENGLISH ASSESSMENT Grammar, Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking

CEFR RANGES A1 42 81 82 01 02



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# The Benefits of iTEP Academic

The iTEP Academic is an efficient, accurate, and affordable tool for colleges, universities, and intensive English programs (IEPs) to measure the English proficiency of applicants and students.



Exams administered on-campus or at home



Online and on demand

Lower cost than other exams

Fast and reliable scores in 1-2 days



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Multi-layered security features



Trained and certified ESL graders



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**CEFR-aligned** results

Exams 60-90 minutes in duration

The iTEP exam streamlined the proficiency assessment process and eliminated the need for manual grading. The students' score reports provided the ELI with helpful information about incoming students, enabling them to prepare for the upcoming semester with greater confidence and efficiency.

Josh Adams, Director of the English Language Institute, Central Michigan University (CMU)



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 ITEP Academic is a comprehensive exam that measures a candidate's overall English language proficiency. It is commonly used for admissions decisions, benchmarking, and exit-testing.



#### 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/ TWO PARTS

- One intermediate-level passage of about 250 words in length, followed by four multiple-choice questions.
- One upper-level paragraph of about 450 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 to 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 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 and sub-skills tested. The overall scores average 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.
- P 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 livestreams content to ensure that no two tests are alike.

6 6 Definitely the auto-grading is very nice: the fact that we don't have to get our little bubble sheets out, and mark the scores, and count them up and stuff. It's a lot faster and more accurate.

Veronica Palmer, Campus Director Agape English Language Institute



# iTEP Academic Ability Guide

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 testing levels.

| CEFR                     | ITEP      | Listening  | Reading   | Writing  | Speaking   |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|---|--|--|
| C2<br>Mastery            | 5.5-6.0   | Comprehends overall mean-<br>ing and virtually all details of<br>lectures on diverse topics     Understands English spoken<br>in a variety of non-native<br>accents  | Comprehends virtually all<br>aspects of a wide variety<br>of academic material for<br>nonspecialists     Reads at near-native<br>speed     Rarely requires use of a<br>dictionary, except with<br>the most complex, spe-<br>cialized text.                                    | Writes complex documents<br>such as research reports<br>using appropriate style and<br>vocabulary     Grammar and orthography<br>are accurate and precise  | <ul> <li>Communicates accurately and<br/>effectively on practically all<br/>academic and social topics in<br/>culturally appropriate ways</li> </ul>   |
| C1<br>Advanced           | 45-54     | Identifies attitude and pur-<br>pose of speakers     Grasps main ideas and the<br>majority of supporting<br>details from lectures     Is challenged by complex<br>social and cultural refer-<br>ences  | Understands main ideas<br>and most of the details of<br>academic texts, journal<br>articles, and abstracts     Requires little extra read-<br>ing time  | Satisfies demands of most<br>general academic tasks<br>with rare grammar and<br>style mistakes     Exhibits good organization<br>and development   | <ul> <li>Speaks fluently on a wide range<br/>of familiar and complex topics<br/>with only occasional repetition<br/>or self correction</li> </ul>  |
| 82<br>Upper Intermediate | 3.5 - 4.4 | Identifies main ideas and<br>details in conventation     Occasionally needs to ask<br>for repetition or clarification     Begins to determine the<br>attitudes of speakers     Understands main ideas<br>from academic lectures, but<br>misses significant details | Utilizes contextual and<br>syntactic clues to interpret<br>meaning of complex<br>sentences and new<br>vocabulary     Gathers most main ideas<br>from textbooks, but has<br>an uneven grasp of details     Misinterprets some ab-<br>stract content and cultural<br>references | Writes reasonably coherent<br>essays on familiar topics,<br>but with some grammatical<br>weakness     Does not have a complete<br>grasp of stylistic features     Vocabulary frequently lacks<br>precision and sophistica-<br>tion                 | <ul> <li>Begins to express abstract<br/>concepts, especially on familiar<br/>topics</li> <li>Fluency is occasionally ham-<br/>pered by gaps in vocabulary<br/>and grammar</li> <li>Sometimes is asked to repeat<br/>words or phrases</li> </ul>  |
| B1<br>Intermediate       | 25-34     | Grasps the general outline<br>of topics discussed in an<br>academic setting     Unfamiliarity with complex<br>structures and higher-level<br>vocabulary leaves major<br>gaps in understanding  | Limited vocabulary impedes speed     Comprehends familiar subjects, and identifies some significant details     Follows step-by-step instructions in exams, tabs, and assignments   | Communicates basic ideas<br>but with some weaknesses<br>in organizational structure<br>and grammar     Expresses him/herself with<br>some circum/ocution on<br>familiar topics   | Manages day-to-day com-<br>munications with peers and<br>instructors, marked by frequent<br>grammar and vocabulary errors<br>Requires some effort from<br>listeners  |
| A2<br>Elementary         | 20-24     | Maintains comprehension<br>during conversations on<br>familiar topics     Relies heavily on noriverbal<br>cues and repetition     Understands basic exchang-<br>es when spoken slowly<br>using simple vocabulary   | Major vocabulary gaps<br>lead to frequently inaccu-<br>rate or<br>incomplete comprehen-<br>sion, and slow pace     Begins to determine the<br>meaning of words by<br>context  | Sustained effort required<br>by reader; writing is some-<br>times unclear     Uses only basic vocabulary<br>and simple grammatical<br>structures   | Generates simple questions,<br>greetings, expressions of needs<br>and preferences     Requires significant effort from<br>listeners  |
| A1<br>Beginner           | 0-1.9     | Understands simple<br>greetings, statements, and<br>questions when spoken with<br>extra clarity     Follows simple familiar<br>instructions     Understands a few isolated<br>words or phrases spoken<br>slowly  | Comprehends only highly<br>simplified phrases or<br>sentences     Recognizes the alpha-<br>bet and simple, isolated<br>words     Demonstrates under-<br>standing of a few simple<br>grammatical and lexical<br>structures   | Writes only short, simple<br>sentences, often character-<br>ized by errors that obscure<br>meaning     Provides personal details<br>with correct spelling and<br>can copy familiar words<br>and phrases     Produces isolated words<br>and phrases | Speech is marked with non-na-<br>tive stress and intonation<br>patterns     Communication is understood<br>for short utterances     Pauses, false starts, and<br>reformulation are common     Communicates with single<br>words and short phrases at<br>"survival level"     Intense listener effort required     Requires extreme, sustained<br>effort from listeners |

### **iTEP Academic 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<br>Academic | New TOEFL*<br>Essentials | TOEFL® "  | Duolingo  | IELTS™    | PTE<br>Academic |
| C2<br>Mastery               | 5.5 - 6.0        | 12                       | 115 - 120 | 141 - 160 | 9 - 8     | 81 - 90         |
| C1<br>Advanced              | 5.0 - 5.4        | 10.11                    | 110 - 114 | 126 - 140 |           | 76 - 80         |
|                             | 4.5 - 4.9        | 10 - 11                  | 99 - 109  | 116 - 125 | 7.5       | 68 - 75         |
| B2<br>Upper<br>Intermediate | 4.0 - 4.4        |                          | 87 - 98   | 116 - 125 | 7         | 59 - 67         |
|                             | 3.5 - 3.9        | 8 - 9                    | 57 - 86   | 86 - 105  | 5.5 - 6.5 | 43 - 58         |
| diate                       | 3.0 - 3.4        |                          | 44 - 56   | 71 - 85   | 5         | 36 - 42         |
| B1<br>Intermediate          | 2.5 - 2.9        | 5 - 7                    | 32 - 43   | 61 - 70   | 4.5       | 30 - 35         |
| A2<br>Elementary            | 2.0 - 2.4        | 3 - 4                    | 26 - 31   | 56 - 60   | 4         | 26 - 29         |
|                             | 1.5 - 1.9        |                          | 21 - 25   | 51 - 55   | 3         | 22 - 25         |
| A1<br>Beginner              | 1.0 - 1.4        | 2                        | 14 - 20   | 46 - 50   | 2         | 18 - 21         |
| A<br>Begi                   | 0.5 - 0.9        |                          | 7 - 13    | 36 - 45   | 1         | 14 - 17         |
|                             | 0.5 - 0.9        | 1                        | 0 - 6     | 10 - 35   | 0         | 10 - 13         |

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### Southern Utah University

AN ITEP ACADEMIC-PLUS CASE STUDY

For years, Southern Utah University relied on student provided test scores to place international students in their Intensive English Program (IEP). Accepted students would present their test scores upon arrival at the university. However, this placement method did not work when students arrived without test scores or when the test scores they brought were not compatible with the school's system.

Staff at the university's American Language and Culture Center, which runs the IEP, decided they needed a new method to assess and place incoming students. In 2014, they found their solution: the ITEP Academic-Plus exam. This exam offered easy, flexible testing with quick results and comprehensive scores for accurate placement. Since 2014, ITEP has continued to support Southern Utah University and its international students. Most recently, ITEP began providing exam preparation materials to the university's international students. The goal is to help students perform to the best of their ability by allowing them to become more familiar with the exam's rules, regulations, and setup in their native language.

Read the full case study at www.ltepexam.com/southern-utah-university/



Thousands of institutions worldwide trust the iTEP exams



"It's just a more compatible test for what we're trying to do within our Language Academy, and because there are so many different varieties of how the test can look, that's an added flexibility that we don't get through [other tests]."

> Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Darren Grosch, Los Angeles City College

All our faculty and staff tried the test and were in favor of it. We appreciated that iTEP provided virtual proctoring and that the writing and speaking sections were graded by ESL experts, which relieved our faculty. iTEP was priced competitively, and the time commitment and proficiency range being evaluated was what we were looking for.

Meredith Moore, Senior Student Success Manager, Baylor International Study Centre, Study Group, Baylor International Study Centre

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