



iTEP SLATE

High School and Middle School English Assessment



www.iTEPexam.com



The Benefits of iTEP SLATE

iTEP SLATE (Secondary Level Assessment Test of English) is the most comprehensive tool for high schools, middle schools, and academies 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. In short, the iTEP SLATE is right for you because it is:

- » **Convenient**
On-demand scheduling available at test centers all over the world or on your premises.
- » **Fast**
The test lasts no more than 90 minutes, and results are available within one business day.
- » **Practical**
Test-taker data, photos, test scores, plus speaking and writing samples are available to partner institutions online anytime.
- » **Comprehensive**
iTEP SLATE assesses five core skills plus a variety of linguistic sub-skills, giving you a detailed and useful score report.
- » **Secure**
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.

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.

iTEP is recognized by the Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute (ACEI) and The Accrediting Council for Continuing Education (ACCET), as an approved internationally accepted English proficiency exam.

ABOUT iTEP INTERNATIONAL

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, placement, progress checks, 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.



iTEP SLATE Overview

The primary function of iTEP SLATE is to assess the English language proficiency level of middle and high school students of English as a second language.

- **Admissions** decisions
- **Placement** of students within language programs
- **Curriculum development** and guiding course instruction
- **Progress monitoring** from entry to exit
- English-language **teacher evaluations**
- **Determining eligibility** for exchange programs

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.

iTEP SLATE is **available in its Core and Plus forms** which differ in the number of sections required and the delivery format. SLATE-Core is available in paper-based format.

iTEP SLATE-Core

assesses grammar, listening, and reading, and is 50 minutes in length, with an additional 10 minutes for pre-test preparation.

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.



iTEP SLATE Structure

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 key features 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 two multiple-choice questions.

Part 2. One intermediate-level passage of approximately 200 words in length, followed by four multiple-choice questions.

Part 3. One low-advanced passage of approximately 500 words in length, followed by six 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 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.
- 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, displaying an examinee's strengths and weaknesses in each of the skills and sub-skills evaluated by the test.

SCORE REPORT

The iTEP Score Reports are designed to easily compare students 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.

Overall Assessment Level

Ability Guide describes "real-world" language skills

Official Score Report

Name: Neli, Gihan
Nationality: Turkish Date of Birth: 23-May-2001
Test ID#: SLATE10008 Test Date: 13-Apr-2015
Govt. ID#: N123123 Issued By: Turkey
Test Version: SLATE-01a Level:

Overall Assessment: Level 3.3 (Elementary) - CEFR: A2

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

TEST SECTION	SCORE	LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
Grammar	52	2.5	Elementary
Listening	62	3.5	Elementary
Reading	62	3.5	Elementary
Writing	62	3.0	Elementary
Speaking	77	4.0	Intermediate

Individual Skill Profile

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Official Score Report

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Grammar

Listening

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Official Score Report

Name: Neli, Gihan
Nationality: Turkish Date of Birth: 23-May-2001
Test ID#: SLATE10008 Test Date: 13-Apr-2015
Govt. ID#: N123123 Issued By: Turkey
Test Version: SLATE-01a Level:

Reading

iTEP Level	Skill	Individual Ability Guide
2.5	Grammar	Grammar encompasses all of a component of the iTEP (CEFR) skills.
3.5	Listening	Listening encompasses all of a component of the iTEP (CEFR) skills. It includes the ability to understand and respond to spoken language in a variety of contexts, including formal and informal situations.
3.5	Reading	Reading encompasses all of a component of the iTEP (CEFR) skills. It includes the ability to understand and respond to written language in a variety of contexts, including formal and informal situations.
3.0	Writing	Writing encompasses all of a component of the iTEP (CEFR) skills. It includes the ability to produce written language in a variety of contexts, including formal and informal situations.
4.0	Speaking	Speaking encompasses all of a component of the iTEP (CEFR) skills. It includes the ability to produce spoken language in a variety of contexts, including formal and informal situations.

iTEP Level	Assessable CEFR Level	Overall Ability Guide
3.3	A2	Can understand sentences and phrases used frequently in a range of contexts. Can understand the main points in a simple text. Can interact in a simple way with speakers of a native language. Can describe in simple terms the content of what he/she has read or heard. Can describe in simple terms the content of what he/she has read or heard.

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iTEP section levels paired with CEFR descriptions

Linguistic sub-skills within sections

Includes CEFR level numeric equivalent



iTEP 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 levels.

iTEP	CEFR	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
6.0	C1 Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehends overall meaning and virtually all details of lectures on diverse topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires little extra reading time and rarely uses the dictionary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfies demands of most general academic tasks with occasional grammar and style mistakes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pronunciation demands only slight extra effort from listeners
5.9 ↑ 5.0	B2 Upper-Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grasps main ideas and the majority of supporting details from upper-level lectures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizes contextual and syntactic clues to interpret meaning of complex sentences and new vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writes reasonably coherent essays on familiar topics, but with some grammatical weakness Exhibits fairly good organization and development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses viewpoints in fairly long stretches of discourse Begins to express abstract concepts, especially on familiar topics Some errors in word choice and cultural appropriateness Pronunciation requires effort from listeners
4.9 ↑ 4.0	B1 Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathers most main ideas from textbooks and articles, but has an uneven grasp of details Limited vocabulary impedes speed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicates basic ideas, but with weak organizational structure and grammatical mistakes Does not have a complete grasp of stylistic features Vocabulary frequently lacks precision and sophistication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses viewpoints in short sentences Generates questions, greetings, expressions of needs, and preferences Pronunciation requires significant effort from listeners
3.9 ↑ 2.5	A2 Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains comprehension during conversations on familiar topics Relies heavily on nonverbal cues and repetition Unfamiliarity with complex structures and higher-level vocabulary leaves major gaps in understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begins to determine meaning of words by surrounding context Understands simple reading materials Major vocabulary gaps lead to frequently inaccurate or incomplete comprehension and slow pace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expresses him/herself with some circumlocution on familiar topics Considerable effort required by the reader to identify intended meaning Uses only basic vocabulary and simple grammatical structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generates simple questions, greetings, expressions of needs, and preferences Pronunciation requires intense effort from listeners Capable of short, simple presentations on familiar topics
2.4 ↑ 0.1	A1 Beginner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Produces isolated words and phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responds to simple questions Speech is marked with 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” Pronunciation is mostly 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.

iTEP SLATE	KET	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		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		36 - 44	637 - 645
1.0 - 1.4	55 - 59	40 - 41	27 - 35	628 - 636
0.5 - 0.9	50 - 54	37 - 39	18 - 26	619 - 627
0.0 - 0.4	45 - 49	34 - 36	9 - 17	609 - 618
		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 SLATE-Plus – TOEFL® Jr. Comparison Chart

	iTEP SLATE-Plus	TOEFL® Jr.
Total Exam Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 minutes (all five sections) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 115 minutes for TOEFL Jr. Standard 134 minutes for TOEFL Jr. Comprehensive
Skills Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five sections/skills directly evaluated: grammar, listening, reading, writing, speaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOEFL Jr. Standard: reading, listening, language form and meaning TOEFL Jr. Comprehensive: reading, listening, speaking
Target Age Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school age students (and younger) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students ages 11 to 15
Difficulty Level Tested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests at different difficulty levels, from beginner to advanced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests at three difficulty levels, from beginner to upper-intermediate
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
Test Delivery Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper form for Standard TOEFL Jr. Internet for Comprehensive TOEFL Jr.
Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests can only be administered at secured ETS Certified Test Centers Certified administrators on-site ensure that photo IDs match each test-taker
Grading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple-choice sections (grammar, listening, and reading) evaluated by iTEP software Writing and speaking sections evaluated by native English speaking ESL-trained professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ETS graders evaluate the tests. Scores normally come from ETS, but some employers and schools provide the results
Scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOEFL Jr. Standard graded by ETS preferred network offices Computerized grading for Reading and Listening for TOEFL Jr. Comprehensive Raters score the speaking section for TOEFL Jr. Comprehensive
Scheduling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-demand scheduling within three days of contacting a Certified iTEP Test Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test dates are scheduled in advance by ETS Only available on fixed dates and times
Results Delivery Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results returned in one business day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results returned within two to three weeks
Additional iTEP Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iTEP partners can get immediate online access to all test results, as well as access to the submitted writing and speaking portions iTEP is available in customized and modularized versions iTEP partners can utilize their premises to become iTEP test centers and administer the exam on-site 	

iTEP SLATE-Plus – SLEP® Comparison Chart

	iTEP SLATE-Plus	SLEP® (Retired)
Total Exam Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 minutes (all five sections) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 minutes (two sections)
Skills Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five sections/skills directly evaluated: grammar, listening, reading, writing, speaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening and reading (grammar indirectly tested)
Target Age Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school students (and younger) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school students (and younger)
Difficulty Level Tested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests at different difficulty levels, from beginner to advanced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests at one level of difficulty (lower than university-level proficiency)
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
Test Delivery Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper form only (Materials ordered in advance)
Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administering institution scores the tests and retains materials ETS does not provide scoring services for this exam
Scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For listening, scores range from 10-32 For reading, scores range from 10-35 Total scores range from 20-67
Scheduling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-demand scheduling within three days of contacting a Certified iTEP Test Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This test is currently retired
Results Delivery Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results returned in one business day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administering institution can deliver results immediately after scoring paper test ETS does not provide scoring service for this exam
Additional iTEP Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	

Case Study & Praise for iTEP SLATE



SUCCESS IN SAUDI LIQAAT INITIATIVE

In 2011, the Saudi Ministry of Labor launched an employment initiative called “Liqaat,” 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.

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 Liqaat has seen over 10,000 Saudis registered in the first month, and each has now sat for the iTEP SLATE.

This volume of test results was processed smoothly thanks in large part to the convenience of scheduling and the timeliness in receiving results that iTEP offers.

To see the full report, visit www.iTEPexam.com/LIQAAT



Praise for iTEP SLATE

"iTEP SLATE is far superior to other tests of which I am aware that specifically target middle and high school students. iTEP SLATE 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,

"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 iTEP SLATE."

– Roger Riske,
Educational Resource Development Trust,

"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."

– Alex Salvo
Saint Joseph Catholic School, Ogden, UT

iTEP Clients & Advisory Board

The iTEP SLATE tests have helped hundreds of high schools, boarding schools, and middle schools assess the English language proficiency of their incoming students, as well as monitor existing students for continued improvements while enrolled in language programs. Here are some of iTEP's SLATE partners:



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On-Demand, Internet-Based
English Language Assessment in 90 minutes or less

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

- High Schools and Middle Schools
- Boarding Schools
- Intensive English Programs
- Colleges and Universities
- Business and Industry
- Government and Agencies
- Professional Licensing Organizations

