

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

What is the TOEFL?

The Test of English as a Foreign Language is an examination required by many U.S. universities to evaluate the English proficiency of undergraduate and graduate school applicants whose first language is not English.

What is the format of the TOEFL?

The internet-based test form of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is now being administered in Hong Kong.

What is the content of the TOEFL?

The reading section measures test takers' ability to understand university-level academic texts and passages. In English-speaking academic environments students are expected to read and understand information from textbooks and other types of academic material.

The listening section measures the examinee's ability to understand spoken English from North America and other English-speaking countries. In academic environments students need to listen to lectures and conversations.

The speaking section measures the examinees' ability to speak English effectively in educational environments. Students should be able to speak with confidence both in and outside the classroom.

The writing section measures the examinees' ability to write in an academic environment. In English-speaking academic situations, students need to present their ideas through clear, well-organized writing.

When is the TOEFL held in Hong Kong and what are the registration deadlines?

Test dates are administered every month at designated test centers. Test candidates may register for the test online at www.ets.org/toefl, register by phone by contacting the Regional Registration Center located in Malaysia at 60-3-7628-3333, or register by mail by completing the registration form. You may obtain a registration form from IIE. The regular registration deadline is seven days prior to the test date. The late registration deadline is three days prior to the test. Testing times vary between 8am and 7pm. Your start time will be indicated on your registration confirmation.

How much does it cost to take TOEFL in Hong Kong?

TOEFL Test Fee: US\$170 - \$1322 HKD

Where is the test center in Hong Kong?

Test centers vary depending on test dates. To view a list of TOEFL test centers and test dates in Hong Kong, visit <http://www.ets.org/bin/getprogram.cgi?test=toefl>

Preparing for the Internet-based TOEFL

To prepare for the new TOEFL, students can obtain the TOEFL iBT Tips:

These tips have been created to help English language learners understand the next generation TOEFL Internet-based test (iBT) and prepare for it. The Official Guide to the new TOEFL iBT study guide (comes with CD-ROM) is also available for sale for HK\$270 at IIE. For more information regarding TOEFL iBT, contact IIE at (852)2603-5771. You may also find information at www.ets.org/toefl.

(Information accessed from <http://www.iiehongkong.org/exam/toefl.htm>)

International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

What is the purpose of this test?

This test measures ability to communicate in English across all four language skills – listening, reading, writing and speaking – for people who intend to study or work where English is the language of communication.

Is it recognized worldwide?

Since 1989, IELTS has been proven and trusted worldwide to provide a secure, global, authentic and customer-focused test which measures true to life ability to communicate in English. Close to 5,000 education institutions, faculties, government agencies and professional organisations around the world recognise IELTS scores as a trusted and valid indicator of ability to communicate in English.

Over 938,000 people a year are now using IELTS to open doors throughout the English-speaking world and beyond. The test is taken every year across 120 countries, and is one of the fastest growing English language tests in the world, and sets the standard in integrity, research and innovation.

When the question is English language ability – IELTS is the answer

IELTS is the way to prove your English language skills and open doors to international opportunities. Whether you want to migrate or to study or practice your profession in an English-speaking country, IELTS is vital in preparing you for your journey.

You've got nothing to lose, but a world to win

IELTS is internationally available, internationally recognised, internationally focused and internationally owned. It opens doors for you to the 3800 educational institutions, government agencies and professional organisations which recognise IELTS scores as a trusted and valid indicator of ability to communicate in English. In every sense, IELTS is a truly global test which can take you where you want to go. Measuring real ability for real life

IELTS encourages, reflects and tests English as it is used in work, study and life. This real life authenticity gives you a personal and valid indicator of just how good you are!

IELTS is the original four skills English language test. Across all areas of test delivery, test administration and test results, IELTS is valid and secure. So, to be smart and to be sure – get an IELTS score.

How much does it cost?

between \$1100-1500 HKD

(Information accessed from <http://www.idp.com/examinations/>)

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS – (SATs)

The Scholastic Assessment Reasoning Test (SAT) is a measure of the critical thinking skills you'll need for academic success in college. The SAT assesses how well you analyze and solve problems—skills you learned in school that you'll need in college. The SAT is typically taken by high school juniors and seniors.

Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200—800, with two writing subscores for multiple-choice and the essay. It is administered six times a year overseas.

SAT Question Types

The SAT includes several different question types, including: a student-produced essay, multiple-choice questions, and student-produced responses (grid-ins). Select any section below to learn more about specific question types.

Subject Tests (formerly SAT II: Subject Tests) are designed to measure your knowledge and skills in particular subject areas, as well as your ability to apply that knowledge.

Students take the Subject Tests to demonstrate to colleges their mastery of specific subjects like English, history, mathematics, science, and language. The tests are independent of any particular textbook or method of instruction. The tests' content evolves to reflect current trends in high school curricula, but the types of questions change little from year to year.

Many colleges use the Subject Tests for admissions, for course placement, and to advise students about course selection. Used in combination with other background information (your high school record, scores from other tests like the SAT Reasoning Test, teacher recommendations, etc.), they provide a dependable measure of your academic achievement and are a good predictor of future performance.

Some colleges specify the Subject Tests they require for admissions or placement; others allow applicants to choose which tests to take.

Notes: Students may register for SATs by applying online:

*(**[http: www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)**) or by paper.*

Payment can be made in the following forms: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, international money order; or check drawn on a U.S. bank payable to the College Board.

How much do the SAT tests cost?

SAT Reasoning Test \$43 = \$334 HKD

SAT Subject Tests Basic registration fee (per registration) \$20

Language Tests with Listening add \$20

All other Subject Tests add \$8