

The Versant™ English Placement Test is an English proficiency test which measures the English speaking and writing skills of individuals whose native language is not English. Universities, private language schools, and corporate training programs around the world use the test to evaluate the ability of students and staff to understand and communicate clearly in English.

The Versant English Placement Test takes only 50 minutes and results are available online within minutes after the test is completed, allowing for quick, yet accurate placement decisions. Test questions reflect many different situations in the classroom and real world including reading aloud, conversations, dictations, summarizations, and email correspondence. Versant English Placement Tests can be taken on a computer that is installed with Pearson's Computer Delivered Testing software.

Sophisticated Automated Scoring Technology

With the state-of-the-art Ordinate® testing system, tests are scored automatically within minutes. The Versant testing system uses speech processing technology to measure speaking and listening skills. This system was built to handle the different rhythms and varied pronunciations used by native and non-native English speakers. The testing system is able to generate scores based on the words used in the spoken responses, as well as the pace, fluency, and pronunciation of those words in phrases and sentences.

The Knowledge Analysis Technologies (KAT) engine measures written English skills and evaluates the meaning of text by examining whole written passages. The KAT engine is based on Pearson's unique implementation of Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA), an approach that generates semantic similarity of words and passages by analyzing large bodies of relevant text. LSA can then "understand" the meaning of text much the same as a human reader.



Accurate

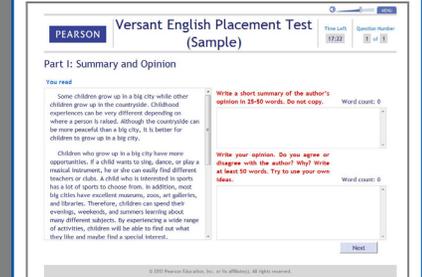
With a 0.99 correlation, Versant test scores generated by the Ordinate testing system are virtually indistinguishable from expert human scoring, ensuring confidence in the results.

Reliable

The Versant English Placement Test is highly reliable (split-half reliability of 0.96), delivering more consistent testing without the variability typical of multiple evaluators and locations.

Fast

Versant is fully automated and can be easily taken over a computer by large groups of candidates. A detailed score report is available minutes after the test is completed.



The test includes sections such as Read Aloud, Sentence Builds, Passage Reconstruction, and Summary & Opinion.

Test Features

Versant English Placement Test	
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Placement • Progress Monitoring • Exit Exam • Training Programs
Duration of test	~50 minutes
Number of questions	81
Question Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aloud • Repeat • Sentence Builds • Conversations • Typing • Sentence Completion • Dictation • Passage Reconstruction • Summary & Opinion
Score	Precise score in the range of 20 to 70
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall score • Diagnostic subscores in speaking, listening, reading, and writing • Detailed explanation of language capabilities • Suggestions for improvement • Typing speed and improvement • Score mapping to CEFR
Test Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure capture and storage of candidate responses • Anonymous test ID numbers to ensure data privacy



The score report is available within minutes and includes the candidate's overall score and subscores, with detailed explanations of language capabilities.

Validity and Reliability

Versant has been extensively field tested and evaluated to verify its validity and reliability. Learn more about the test's validation findings in our detailed *Versant English Placement Test: Test Description and Validation Summary*.

A Simple Test Administration Process

1. The test administrator provides the candidate with the test instructions and test paper.
2. The candidate uses a unique test identification number to start the test by computer.
3. The candidate answers the test questions and the answers are scored automatically.
4. The test administrator retrieves the candidate's score from the online reporting system.



Contact Us
To try a sample test or get more information, contact us at:

US: 800.211.8378
Int'l: +1 650.470.3505
sales@pearsonkt.com

Or visit us online at:
www.VersantTest.com

Pearson now includes Ordinate products and services.

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