



PTE ACADEMIC™

Using PTE Academic for admissions



Pearson

Welcome to PTE Academic

Pearson Test of English Academic (**PTE Academic**) is the leading computer-based English language proficiency test used by universities, professional associations and governments.

This guide provides detailed information on the test along with guidance on recognizing **PTE Academic** – which will allow students to apply to your institution using their **PTE Academic** test score.

ABOUT THE TEST

TEST STRUCTURE

- Single 3 hour test session
- 3 parts: speaking and writing; reading; and listening
- 20 different question types

Drawing from 20 different task types and a constantly-changing bank of questions, students will need to genuinely demonstrate their English language skills.

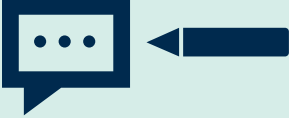


Preparing for **PTE Academic** ensures that students are genuinely improving their English language skills, not just test skills.

Part	Content	Time allowed
Intro	Introduction	1 minute
Part 1	Speaking and writing	77 - 93 minutes
Part 2	Reading	32 - 41 minutes
Optional scheduled break		10 minutes
Part 3	Listening	45 - 57 minutes



QUESTION TYPES

PTE Academic consists of three main parts and there are 20 different question types. The test is an integrated skills test, each question type assessing one language skill or a combination of language skills. Question types are task-based, representing the range of functions and situations that students will encounter in an English speaking environment. The table below shows the test structure, question types and time allowed.

Part of Test	Question Type	Time Allowed
<p>Part 1: Speaking & Writing</p> 	Personal introduction	1 minute
	Read aloud	30 - 35 minutes
	Repeat sentence	
	Describe image	
	Re-tell lecture	
	Answer short question	
	2 x Summarize written text	20 minutes
	Summarize written text or Write Essay	10 or 20 minutes
	Write Essay	20 minutes
<p>Part 2: Reading</p> 	Multiple-choice, choose single answer	32–41 minutes
	Multiple-choice, choose multiple answers	
	Re-order paragraphs	
	Reading: Fill in the blanks	
	Reading & Writing: Fill in the blanks	
Optional scheduled break		10 minutes
<p>Part 3: Listening</p> 	Summarize spoken text	20–30 minutes
	Multiple-choice, choose multiple answers	23–28 minutes
	Fill in the blanks	
	Highlight correct summary	
	Multiple-choice, choose single answer	
	Select missing word	
	Highlight incorrect words	
	Write from dictation	

SCORING PTE ACADEMIC

Unlike other English tests, all questions in **PTE Academic** are machine scored, including the speaking section, using an automated scoring system. For question types that require speaking and writing, this technology allows us to assess multiple sub-skills (or enabling skills) from each response.

- Scores for some question types are based on correctness alone, while others are based on correctness, formal aspects and the quality of the response.
- Formal aspects refer to the form of the response. For example, if the response is over or under the word limit for a particular question type.
- The quality of the response is represented in the enabling skills. For example, in the question type *Re-tell lecture* the response is scored on skills such as oral fluency and pronunciation.
- Scores for question types assessing speaking and writing skills are generated by automated scoring systems. There are two types of scoring; correct/incorrect or partial credit.
- To learn more about scoring, download the *Score Guide*: pearsonpte.com/scores

SET AND USE SCORES

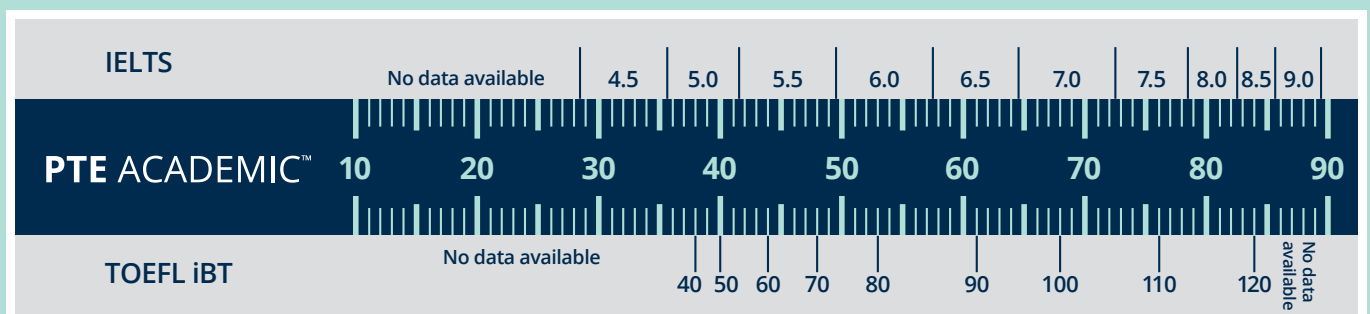
PTE Academic is scored against the Global Scale of English, a granular score scale from 10–90 that is aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). The scale enables institutions to more accurately assess an applicant’s level of English prior to enrolling in an academic course.

Learn more: pearsonpte.com/scores

HOW DO I SET MY SCORE?

Instead of using wide score bands that can be misinterpreted, **PTE Academic** granular scores enable institutions to pinpoint each student’s ability.

- The concordance table below illustrates how **PTE Academic**, IELTS and TOEFL iBT scores align.
- To set your score, simply choose the equivalent **PTE Academic** score to the other test(s) you already accept.
- If you would like guidance on setting your score requirement for **PTE Academic**, please contact PTE Academic: pearsonpte.com/institutions



Note: This score alignment is recommended by PTE Academic.

HOW DO I INTERPRET THE SCORE REPORT?

The **PTE Academic** Score Report includes the test taker's overall score, communicative skills scores and enabling skills scores.

1. Overall Score

Reflects the student's overall English language ability and is based on performance throughout the test.

2. Communicative skills

Listening, reading, speaking and writing are based on all test questions that assess these skills, either as a single skill or together with other skills.

3. Enabling skills

Grammar, oral fluency, pronunciation, spelling, vocabulary and written discourse are based on all test questions assessing one or more of these skills.

PTE Academic Test Taker Score Report

Example Test Taker

Test Taker ID: PTE123456789
Date of Birth: 06 January 1980
Country of Citizenship: United Kingdom
Country of Residence: United Kingdom
Email Address: p1tsupport@pearson.com
Registration ID: 123456789
Test Date: 13 September 2016
Test Centre Country: United States
Test Centre ID: 00001
First-Time Test Taker: Yes
Report Issue Date: 18 September 2016
Scores Valid Until: 13 September 2018



Test Taker, Example

23200678

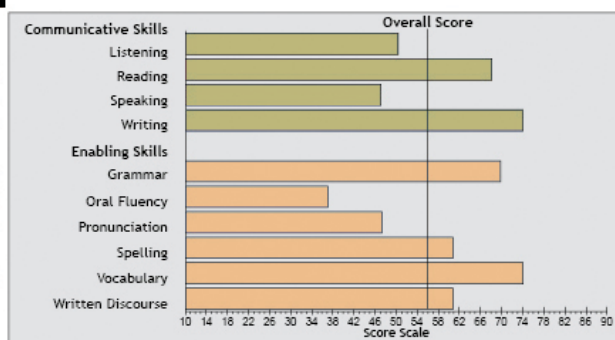
Overall Score: 56

The Overall Score for the PTE Academic is based on the test taker's performance on all items in the test. The scores for Communicative Skills and Enabling Skills are based on the test taker's performance on only those items that pertain to these skills specifically. As many items contribute to more than one Communicative or Enabling Skill, the Overall Score cannot be computed directly from the Communicative Skill scores or from the Enabling Skill scores. The graph below indicates this test taker's Communicative Skills and Enabling Skills relative to his or her Overall Score.

When comparing the Overall Score and the scores for Communicative Skills and Enabling Skills, please be aware that there is some imprecision in all measurement, depending on a variety of factors. For more information on interpreting PTE Academic scores, please refer to *Interpreting the PTE Academic Score Report* which is available at www.pearsonpte.com/pteacademic/scores.

Skills Profile

Communicative Skills	
Listening	51
Reading	69
Speaking	47
Writing	74
Enabling Skills	
Grammar	70
Oral Fluency	37
Pronunciation	47
Spelling	61
Vocabulary	74
Written Discourse	61



Score Report representation right may differ from current score reports.

NOTE TO INSTITUTIONS: This score report is not valid unless authenticated on the PTE Academic Score Report Website: www.pearsonvue.com/ptescores.



HOW DO I RECEIVE SCORES?

To ensure you maximize the security of **PTE Academic** scores, you should never accept paper or PDF copies of the score report.

You have the ability to access score report data in two ways:

- Score Report Website (SRW).
- Automated Script.

Our Score Report Website (SRW) lets you:

- Access test taker scores assigned to your institution.
- Search by time period, name, date of birth, or specific score report through Registration ID.
- Print, save or export all data as PDF, CSV, or TXT files.

- Listen to the sample audio files recorded by test takers.
- View and edit your institution's contact information and user accounts.
- Visit pearsonpte.com/srw for more information.

Automated Script

- If your institution needs to receive scores as raw data that can be imported into another database or system, you can run an automated script.
- This downloading method produces the same exact score report information as a TXT or CSV file that can be imported into your institution's relevant system.



Preparation

Our online practice materials are the best practice students can get with fast results. We offer a range of free and paid preparation materials including test tutorial, videos, Scored Practice Tests and practice material created by test developers.

FREE PREPARATION MATERIALS

- Learn about **PTE Academic** with a free test taker handbook available in 7 languages; an online tutorial providing a detailed overview of the test; plus FAQs.
- Prepare for the test with a combination of free skills videos or an unscored practice test.

PREPARATION BOOKS

- The Official Guide to **PTE Academic** containing over 200 practice questions, analysis of sample responses and test-taking tips.
- **Practice Tests Plus**: Test takers can see if they are ready for PTE Academic with authentic practice, comprehensive guidance and strategies for dealing with every task in the test.

TEST PREPARATION COURSES

- Visit the website for a list of **PTE Academic** preparation courses delivered by private language schools.

ADVANCED PREPARATION

Test takers can achieve their goals sooner, and save money, when they purchase online preparation packs allowing them to practice at home. These include a fully scored practice test that tells test takers when they are ready to book a full test.

For all resources visit: [pearsonpte.com/prepare](https://www.pearsonpte.com/prepare)

Support applicants with test vouchers

Test takers would normally pay for the test over the phone or online using a credit or debit card – which can be a challenge for some candidates.

However, **PTE Academic** allows you to provide an enhanced service by making the test booking process even easier. You can purchase test vouchers in advance and then onsell or package them with other services. Then when booking a test, test takers simply enter the voucher code instead of their credit card details.

This may help if you have large groups of students to be tested.

To learn more visit: [pearsonpte.com/vouchers](https://www.pearsonpte.com/vouchers)

Please note:

- Minimum order quantities apply.
- Discounts vary by volume, with increased discounts available for larger volume orders.

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