

Comparing English-Language Tests

	TOEFL iBT®	IELTS® Academic	PTE Academic
What the Test Measures	Communicative language ability in an academic context	English proficiency in academic and nonacademic environments	English proficiency in academic and nonacademic environments
Amount of Academic Content	100%	About half	Not specified by test provider
Test Format	4 sections: Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing	4 sections: Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking	3 sections: Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing
Test Length	Just under 2 hours	2.75 hours	2 hours
Test Sessions Required to Complete the Test	1	2	1
Score Range	Total: 0–120 Each section: 0–30 (1-point increments)	Total: 0–9 Each section: 0–9 (.25-point increments)	Total: 10–90 Communicative Skills: 10–90 (1-point increments)
Scores Ready	4–8 days Unofficial Reading and Listening scores available immediately after the test	6–8 days for online test 13 days for paper test 3–5 days for computer test	Typically available within 2 days
Scores Valid	2 years	2 years	2 years
How Speaking Is Scored	Human raters plus AI scoring, via a secure online scoring network	Human raters at the test center	AI scoring only

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Expanded Score Reporting to Institutions	TOEFL® Showcase™, a secure portal that provides an expanded view of test-taker performance, including speaking and writing samples, and more	None	None
Superscores Included in Score Reports	Yes (called MyBest® scores)	No	No
Testing Locations	2,000+ test centers in 170+ countries Test from home worldwide in 200+ countries and territories with TOEFL iBT® Home Edition	4,000 test centers in 140 countries Test from home in some countries with IELTS Online	400+ test centers in 117 countries Test from home in some countries with PTE Academic Online
Number of Accepting Institutions Worldwide	12,500+ in 160+ countries, including 100% of universities in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Ireland, the U.K. and the U.S., and all English-taught programs worldwide	12,000+	3,300+
Free Prep from the Test Maker	TOEFL® TestReady™ prep portal with a complete practice test, rotating activity of the day, personalized study plan, study tips, progress tracking and performance insights. Plus 40-minute sample test, TOEFL iBT Planner with practice sets, "The Insider's Guide" online course and video guides.	Mock tests, practice exercises, webinars	Test format guide, video courses, practice app, sample questions

The features of IELTS Academic and PTE Academic listed here are based on information from their respective websites and other public sources, on or around January 1, 2024.