The Foreign Language Proficiency Test (FLPT)

The 2010 Test Report

The Foreign Language Proficiency Test (FLPT) is a norm-referenced, general language proficiency test developed and administered by the Language Training and Testing Center (LTTC). It is given in English, Japanese, French, German, and Spanish and is suitable for learners at all levels. The FLPT has been used by more than 400 public and private institutions to help select candidates for recruitment, promotion, and overseas training programs.

In 2010, 53% of the test takers of the FLPT took both the written examination (i.e. listening, usage, and vocabulary and reading) and the oral examination. Forty-two percent of the test takers took only the written examination, whereas 5% of the test takers took only the oral examination. Sixty-six percent of the test takers took the English test, 17% took the Japanese test, 6% took the French test, 2% took the German test, and 9% took the Spanish test (Figure 1).

In terms of gender, the male-to-female ratio for the English and Japanese tests was approximately 1:1; for the French, German, and Spanish tests, the ratio was approximately 1:2 (Figure 2). The average age of test takers was about 30 for both the English and Japanese tests, and about 25 years of age for the French, German, and Spanish tests (Figure 3).

As for the educational backgrounds, 40% of the test takers for the English test were university graduates, and over 50% held advanced degrees. For the Japanese, French, German, and Spanish tests, most test takers held bachelor's degrees (Figure 4).

In terms of test takers’ performance, about half of the test takers for the English and Japanese tests received scores ranging from B1 to B2 level of the CEFR, and nearly 20% of them were at C1 level. For the French test, half of the test takers were at A2 level, while for the German test about 60% of test takers were at B1 or B2 level. As for the Spanish test, 65% of test takers ranged from A2 to B1 level (Figure 5).