

The Second Foreign Language Proficiency Test-Basic (SFLPT-Basic) The 2015 Test Report

The Second Foreign Language Proficiency Test-Basic (SFLPT-Basic) was developed in line with the Ministry of Education's policies on the teaching and learning of second foreign languages (Japanese, French, German and Spanish) in senior high schools and to meet the assessment needs of Taiwan's foreign language learners at the beginner level (CEFR A1-A2). The test consists of three sections: Listening, Vocabulary & Usage, and Reading. Scores on each section range from 0 to 40, and the maximum total score is 120.

• Examinee Background

The average age of the SFLPT examinees in 2015 was 18.2. The ratio of males to females was about 3:7 (see Table 1). Nearly 50% were senior high school students or graduates, and about 20% were college/university students or graduates (see Table 2). Approximately 50% took the test because they wanted to assess their learning achievement or because the SFLPT was one of the assessment criteria at the examinees' schools (see Table 3). Those who attended the "Senior High School Advanced Placement (AP) Program" made up 20% of the examinees. Distribution of test takers by region and language is shown in figures 1 and 2 below.

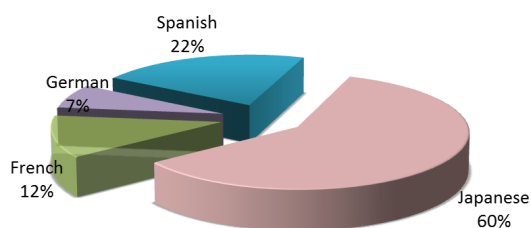


Figure 1

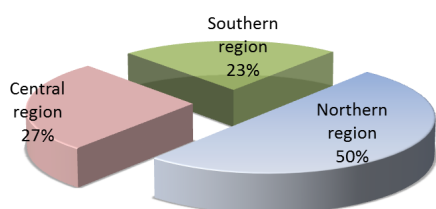


Figure 2

In terms of examinees' performance, 20% achieved CEFR A2 level (a total score of 96 or higher) and 54% achieved CEFR A1 level (a total score of 60 or higher and each section score was above 13; see Table 4). The oldest examinee obtaining the A2 certificate was 48 years old

(German) and the youngest 12 (Spanish). The oldest examinee obtaining the A1 certificate was 53 (Japanese) and the youngest 12 (Spanish). The pass rate of examinees from the "Senior High School Advanced Placement Program" was substantially higher than that of other examinees, with 28% achieving the A2 level, and 56% achieving the A1 level (see Table 5).

• Japanese Test

Examinees of the Japanese test comprised 60% of the total SFLPT test takers in 2015. Thirty-eight percent were general senior high school students or graduates, and 31% were vocational high school students or graduates. The average total score was 77.6 (Listening 26.0, Vocabulary & Usage 25.5, and Reading 26.0; see Table 6). Twenty-five percent of the examinees achieved the A2 level, and 49% achieved the A1 level.

• French Test

Twelve percent of the examinees took the French test. Seven-eight percent were senior high school students or graduates. The average total score was 73.9 (Listening 24.2, Vocabulary & Usage 24.0, and Reading 25.7). Twelve percent of examinees achieved the A2 level, and 64% achieved the A1 level.

• German Test

Seven percent of the examinees took the German test. Fifty-six percent were senior high school students or graduates, and 33% were college/university students or graduates. The average total score was 75.3 (Listening 25.7, Vocabulary & Usage 24.7, and Reading 24.8). Thirteen percent of the examinees achieved the A2 level, and 62% achieved the A1 level.

• Spanish Test

Twenty-two percent of the examinees took the Spanish test. Forty-nine percent were senior high school students or graduates, and 29% were college/university students or graduates. The average total score was 73.3 (Listening 23.5, Vocabulary & Usage 23.5, and Reading 26.4). Thirteen percent of the examinees achieved the A2 level, and 59% achieved the A1 level.

Table 1: Examinee Distribution by Gender

Gender	Japanese	French	German	Spanish	Total
Male	34%	31%	28%	29%	32%
Female	66%	69%	72%	71%	68%

Table 2: Examinee Distribution by Education Level

Education Level	Japanese	French	German	Spanish	Total
Junior high school	8%	14%	0%	18%	10%
Vocational high school	31%	0%	11%	4%	20%
General senior high school	38%	78%	56%	49%	46%
College/university or higher	23%	8%	33%	29%	24%

Table 3: Examinee Distribution by Purpose

Purpose	Japanese	French	German	Spanish	Total
Self-evaluation	41%	39%	35%	47%	41%
College admission	6%	3%	2%	5%	5%
School grade reference/ Assessing learning achievement	53%	57%	62%	46%	53%
Job application, promotion & others	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

Table 4: Examinee Distribution by Achieved Level

Level	Japanese	French	German	Spanish	Total
A2	25%	12%	13%	13%	20%
A1	49%	64%	62%	59%	54%
Below A1	26%	24%	25%	28%	26%

Table 5: "Senior High School Advanced Placement Program" Examinee Distribution by Achieved Level

Level	Japanese	French	German	Spanish	Total
A2	36%	7%	0%	0%	28%
A1	52%	79%	46%	54%	56%
Below A1	12%	14%	54%	46%	17%

Table 6: Average Score by Test Component

Test Component	Japanese	French	German	Spanish	Total
Listening	26.0	24.2	25.7	23.5	25.2
Vocabulary & Usage	25.5	24.0	24.7	23.5	24.9
Reading	26.0	25.7	24.8	26.4	26.0
Total	77.6	73.9	75.3	73.3	76.1