

2017 Test Report

The Foreign Language Proficiency Test (FLPT) has been administered since 1965 and is available in English, Japanese, French, German, and Spanish. It is currently used by more than 400 public and private institutions such as the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Taiwan Power Company, Chunghwa Telecom, and the Chinese Petroleum Corporation, to select candidates for promotion or overseas training or study. A number of universities such as National Taiwan University, National Tsing Hua University, National Taipei University, National Taiwan Ocean University, National Chung Cheng University, Chang Gung University, and Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages also use the FLPT as a tool for assessing students' learning progress, selecting students for international exchange programs, or as a graduation requirement. The test results have been aligned to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), and the test is suitable for learners from CEFR A2 level to C1 level.

Of all 2017 FLPT examinees, 58% took the English test, 16% Japanese, 5% French, 3% German, and 18% Spanish (see Figure 1). The average age of the examinees was 29.7, with the oldest being 68 and the youngest 14 years of age. Eighty-three percent of the examinees were between 20 and 39 years of age (see Figure 2). Eighty-three percent of the examinees were university or graduate school students or held a bachelor's degree or a higher degree (see Figure 3). The male-female ratio was approximately 1:1.

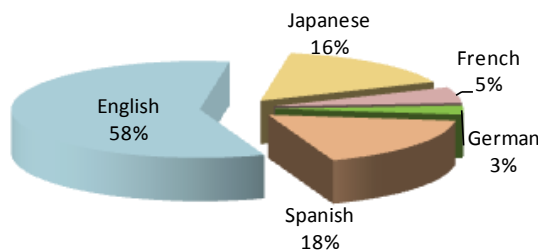


Figure 1 Examinee distribution by language

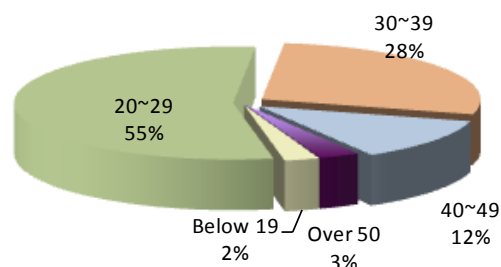


Figure 2: Examinee distribution by age

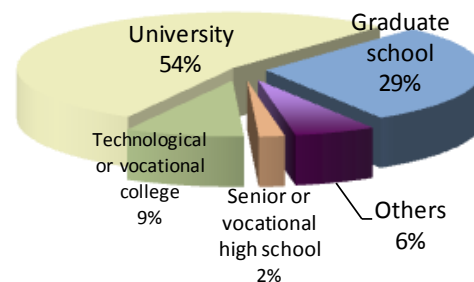


Figure 3: Examinee distribution by education level

- English Test

The male-female ratio was approximately 3:2 (see Figure 4). The average age of the examinees was 32.7, with the oldest one being 68 and the youngest 14 years of age. Seventy-eight percent were within the age range of 20~39 (see Figure 5). Eighty-seven percent of the examinees were university or graduate school students or held a bachelor's degree or a higher degree (see Figure 6). The mean section scores on the English test were as follows: Listening 67, Usage 64, and Vocabulary and Reading 63. The mean band score achieved by examinees in the Oral test was S-2+, while the Writing test had an average band score of C (see Table 2).

- Japanese Test

The male-female ratio was approximately 1:2 (see Figure 4). The average age of the examinees was 26.3, with the oldest being 66 and the youngest 15. Approximately 80% of the examinees were under the age of 30 (see Figure 5). University undergraduates or those whose highest level of qualification is a bachelor's degree (64%) made up the majority of the examinees (see Figure 6). The mean section scores were Listening 67, Usage 64, and Vocabulary and Reading 63. The mean band score achieved by examinees in the Oral test was S-2 (see Table 2).

- French Test

The male-female ratio was approximately 1:2 (see Figure 4). The average age of the examinees was 26, with the oldest being 51 and the youngest 17. Slightly more than 70% of the examinees were under the age of 30 (see Figure 5). The examinees were mainly university undergraduates or those whose highest level of qualification is a bachelor's degree (73%) (see Figure 6). The mean section scores were Listening 47, Usage 44, and Vocabulary and Reading 43. The mean band score achieved by examinees in the Oral test was S-1+ (see Table 2).

- German Test

The male-female ratio was approximately 1:2 (see Figure 4). The average age of the examinees was 25.2, with the oldest being 61 and the youngest 14. Eighty-five percent of the examinees were under the age of 30 (see Figure 5). The examinees were mainly university undergraduates or those whose highest level of qualification is a bachelor's degree (75%) (see Figure 6). The mean section scores were Listening 54, Usage 47, and Vocabulary and Reading 51. The mean band score achieved by examinees in the Oral test was S-1+ (see Table 2).

- Spanish Test

The male-female ratio was approximately 3:7 (see Figure 4). The average age of the examinees was 24.8, with the oldest being 66 and the youngest 17. Eighty percent of the examinees were within the age range of 20~29 (see Figure 5). Most examinees were university undergraduates or those whose highest level of qualification is a bachelor's degree (68%) (see Figure 6). The mean section scores were Listening 56, Usage 51, and Vocabulary and Reading 52. The mean band score achieved by examinees in the Oral test was S-1+ (see Table 2).

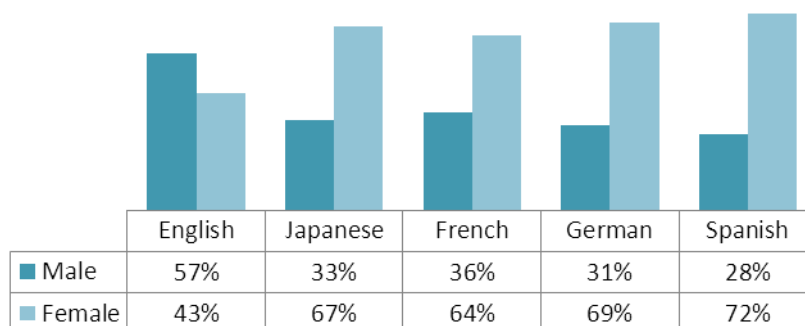


Figure 4: Examinee distribution by gender and language

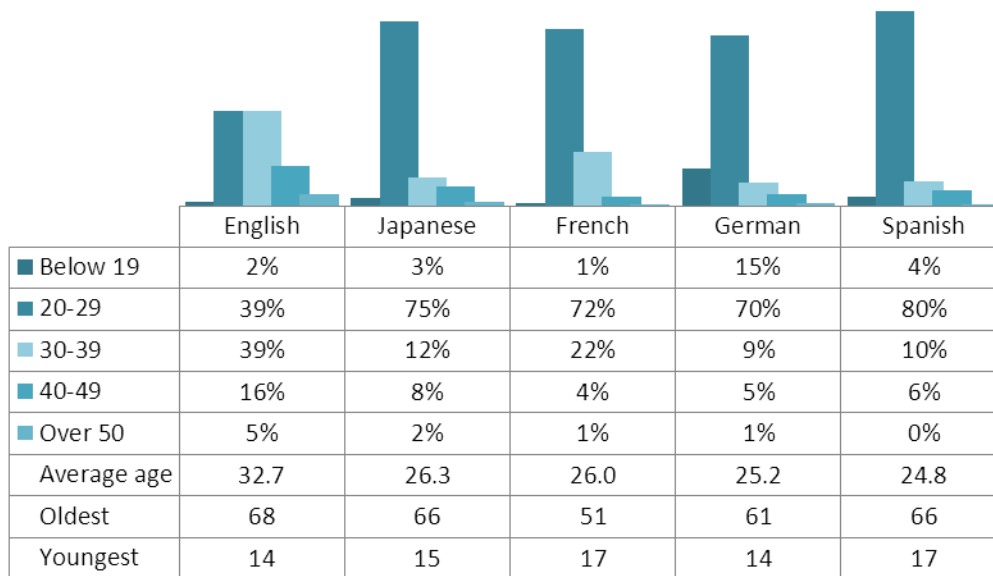


Figure 5: Examinee distribution by age and language

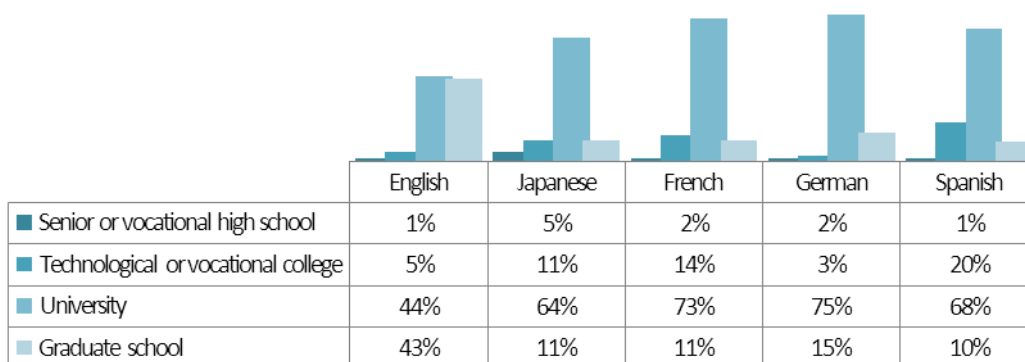


Figure 6: Examinee distribution by education and language

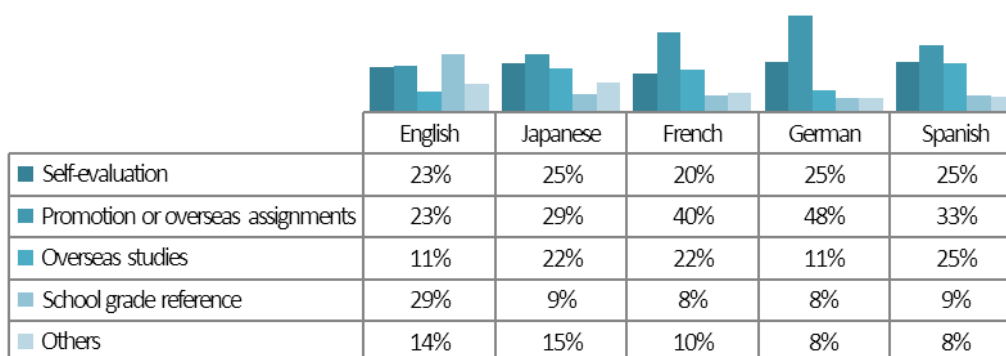


Figure 7: Examinee distribution by purpose and language

Table 1: Examinee Distribution by Major

Major	English	Japanese	French	German	Spanish
English/TESOL	13%	4%	4%	6%	7%
Other foreign languages (Japanese, French, German, Spanish)	1%	61%	64%	57%	70%
Literature, History, Philosophy, Education	8%	3%	2%	6%	1%
Social Studies, Economics, Psychology	4%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Law, Politics	7%	4%	1%	9%	4%
Business Management, Finance	9%	4%	6%	7%	4%
Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, IT, Engineering	29%	4%	14%	7%	8%
Medicine, Pharmacology, Public Health, Life Science	8%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry	8%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Others or unspecified	13%	17%	8%	6%	4%

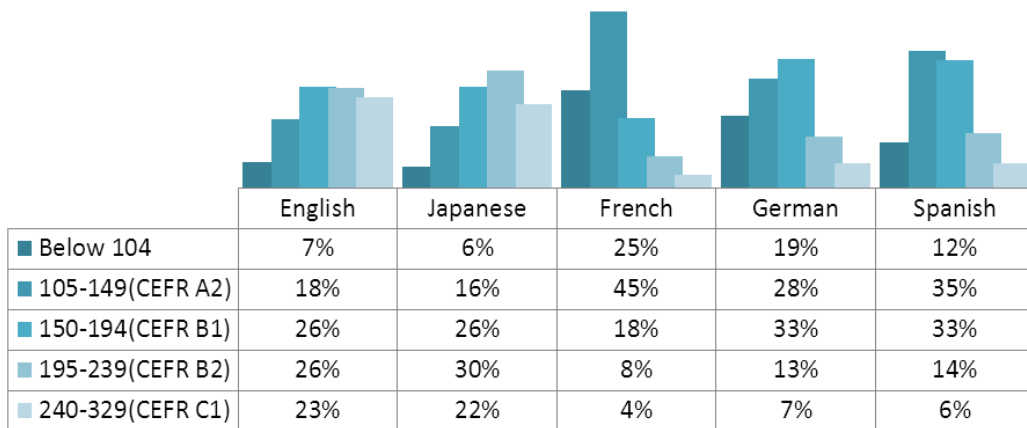


Figure 8: Distribution of total scores by language

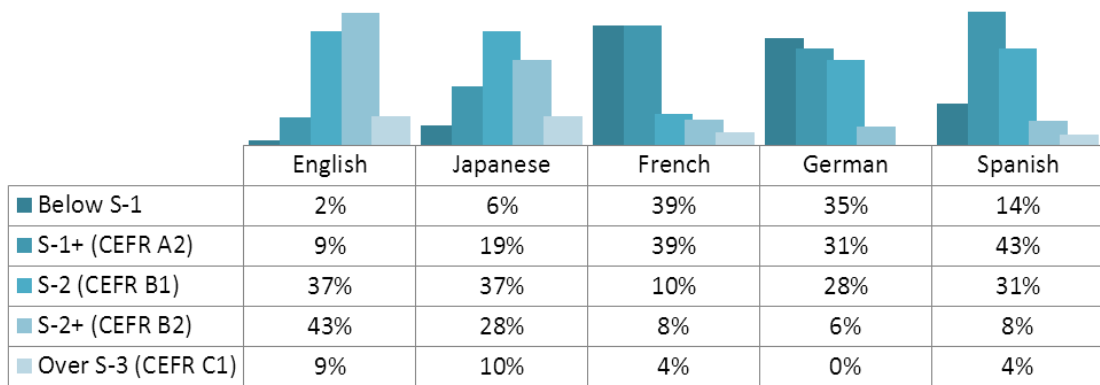


Figure 9: Distribution of Oral test scores by language

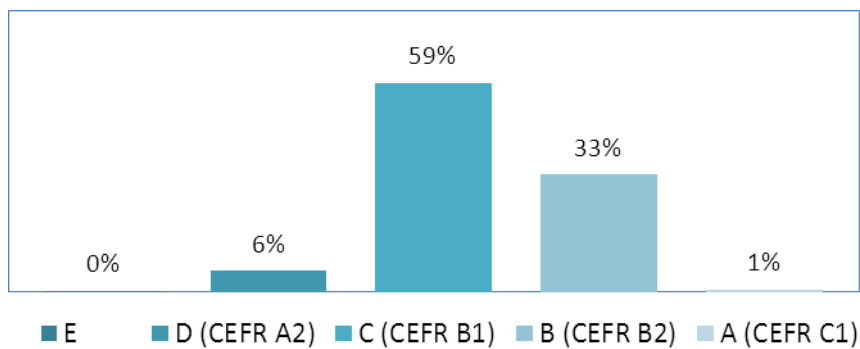


Figure 10: Distribution of English Writing scores

Table 2: Examinee Distribution by Mean Score

Test Section	English	Japanese	French	German	Spanish
Listening	66.5	66.9	46.8	53.8	55.6
Usage	64.2	64.2	44.4	47.2	51.2
Vocabulary & Reading	63.3	63.1	42.9	50.5	52.0
Oral test	S-2+	S-2	S-1+	S-1+	S-1+
Writing	C	---	---	---	---

Note. The score range for the Listening, Usage, Vocabulary & Reading test is 0 to 120; for the Oral test, S-0 to S-5; and for the Writing test, A to F, with A being the highest score band.