

Score Data Summary for 2010 GEPT

In 2010, approximately 290,000 examinees took the First Stage General English Proficiency Tests (GEPT) at the Elementary, Intermediate, High-Intermediate, and Advanced Levels. Analysis of each level showed that approximately 160,000 examinees took the Elementary Listening and Reading Tests, making up 55% of the total testing population; 100,000 (34%) took the Intermediate Tests; 30,000 (10%) took the High-Intermediate Tests; and 899 (1%) took the Advanced Test. Furthermore, approximately 160,000 examinees took the Second Stage Tests. Of them, about 100,000 took the Elementary Speaking and Writing Tests, making up 59% of the Second Stage testing population; 50,000 (33%) took the Intermediate Tests; 10,000 (7%) took the High-Intermediate Tests; and 337 (1%) took the Advanced Test.

The ratio of males to females was 4:6. Their average age was 17.5. Over 60% of the examinees were 15 to 19 years of age, while the oldest one was 80 years of age. Approximately 40% of the examinees had graduated from junior high school, and 30% from high school. Over 70% of the examinees took the GEPT to evaluate their English proficiency, while about 15% took the test for school admission purposes.

According to the First Stage test scores for all four levels, the examinees from the northern region performed slightly better than those from other regions on the Listening Tests, while regional differences on the Reading Tests were minor. Female examinees outperformed males on the Elementary, Intermediate, and High-Intermediate Listening and Reading Tests, but male examinees achieved slightly better scores than females on the Advanced Listening and Reading Test. In general, examinees under age 14 (students with junior high school graduation diplomas) performed better on the Listening Tests than on the Reading Tests, while those over the age of 19 (adults with university degrees) achieved better scores on the Reading Tests than on the Listening Tests.

In the Second Stage test scores for all four levels, few score differences on the Writing and Speaking Tests were found across regions and genders. Examinees between the ages of 12 and 14 achieved higher scores than older examinees on the Elementary, Intermediate, and High-Intermediate Speaking Tests, while examinees between 30 and 34 years of age performed better than those in other age groups on the Advanced Speaking Test.

The ratio of males to females at the Elementary Level was approximately 2:3. The average age of examinees was 16.2, while the oldest passing examinee was 71 years of age. Junior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (55%), and vocational high school students and graduates were the second largest group (21%). The First Stage average scores were 83.55 for the Listening Test and 81.85 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 53%. The Second Stage average band scores were 3.6 for the Writing Test and 3.8 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 53%.

The ratio of males to females in the Intermediate Level was approximately 2:3. The average age of examinees was 18.4, while the oldest passing examinee was 80 years of age. Senior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (48%), and local university students and graduates were the second largest group (17%). The First Stage average scores were 80.32 for the Listening Test and 76.79 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 45%. The Second Stage average band scores were 3.5 for the Writing Test and 3.6 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 33%.

The ratio of males to females in the High-Intermediate Level was approximately 2:3. The average age of examinees was 21.2, while the oldest passing examinee was 69 years of age. Local university students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (47%), and senior high school students and graduates were the second largest group (33%). The First Stage average scores were 76.21 for the Listening Test, and 80.51 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 45%. The Second Stage average band scores were 3.5 for the Writing Test and 3.6 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 26%.

The ratio of males to females in the Advanced Level was approximately 2:3. The average age of examinees was 27.0, while the oldest passing examinee was 68 years of age. Local university students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (39%), and 19% were attending or had completed local graduate school, and another 19% were attending or had completed senior high school. The First Stage average scores were 74.45 for the Listening Test and 68.17 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 32%. The Second Stage average band scores were 2.4 for the Writing Test and 2.8 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 27%.

Figure 1 Examinees by gender

Gender	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Male	42%	40%	44%	38%	42%
Female	58%	60%	56%	62%	58%
Total (approx.)	160,000	100,000	30,000	1000	

Figure 2 Examinees by region

Region	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Northern	39%	40%	57%	55%	41%
Central	32%	36%	27%	24%	33%
Southern	24%	20%	16%	21%	22%
Eastern	4%	3%	1%	--	4%
Outlying Islands & China	1%	--	--	--	1%

Figure 3 Examinees by age

Age	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
12~14	36%	7%	2%	3%	23%
15~19	56%	73%	51%	25%	61%
20~24	4%	15%	30%	18%	10%
25~29	1%	2%	7%	20%	2%
30~34	1%	1%	4%	12%	1%
35~39	1%	1%	2%	10%	1%
40~44	1%	1%	1%	5%	1%
Above 45	0%	1%	2%	6%	1%
Average	16.22	18.42	21.21	27.03	17.50

Figure 4 Examinees by education

Education	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Junior high school	55%	15%	4%	6%	36%
Vocational high school	21%	13%	3%	2%	17%
General high school	13%	48%	33%	19%	27%
Junior college	4%	2%	2%	3%	3%
University of technology	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%
Local university	3%	17%	47%	39%	12%
Local graduate school	1%	2%	7%	19%	2%
University overseas	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%
Graduate school overseas	0%	0%	1%	9%	0%

Figure 5 Examinees by major

Major	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Foreign languages	1%	2%	8%	34%	2%
Applied foreign languages	6%	7%	6%	5%	6%
Literature/history/ philosophy/education related	1%	2%	7%	6%	2%
Mass communication related	0%	1%	1%	2%	0%
Tourism/leisure/culinary related	2%	1%	0%	0%	2%
Sociology/economics/ psychology related	0%	1%	3%	2%	1%
Law/political science related	0%	1%	3%	2%	1%
Management/finance related	4%	5%	7%	8%	5%
Mathematics/physics/chemistry/IT/ engineering related	7%	10%	15%	8%	9%
Medicine/public health/life science related	3%	3%	9%	5%	4%
Agriculture/forestry/aquaculture /animal science related	1%	0%	5%	1%	1%
None	74%	66%	37%	26%	67%

Figure 6 Average scores by level

	Test	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced
First Stage	Listening	83.55	80.32	76.21	74.45
	Reading	81.85	76.79	80.51	68.17
	Passing Rate	53%	45%	45%	32%
Second Stage	Writing	3.61	3.49	3.52	2.37
	Speaking	3.75	3.60	3.62	2.75
	Passing Rate	53%	33%	26%	27%