

The General English Proficiency Test (GEPT) The 2012 Test Report

In 2012, approximately 310,000 test takers took the First Stage (Listening and Reading tests) of General English Proficiency Tests (GEPT) at the Elementary, Intermediate, High-Intermediate, and Advanced levels. Fifty-five percent of the examiners took the Elementary level; 35% took the Intermediate level; 9% took the High-Intermediate level; and 1% took the Advanced level. Furthermore, about 180,000 test takers took the Second Stage tests (Speaking and Writing tests). Of these, 57% took the Elementary level; 35% took the Intermediate level; 8% took the High-Intermediate level; and 0.2% took the Advanced level.

Figure1: Examinee Distribution by Level for the First Stage

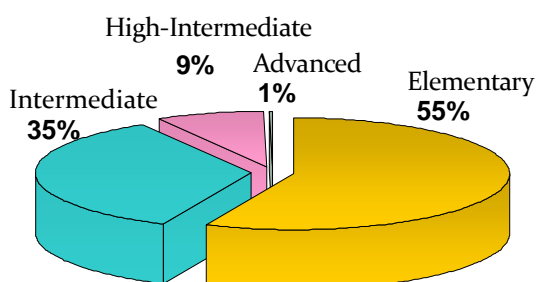
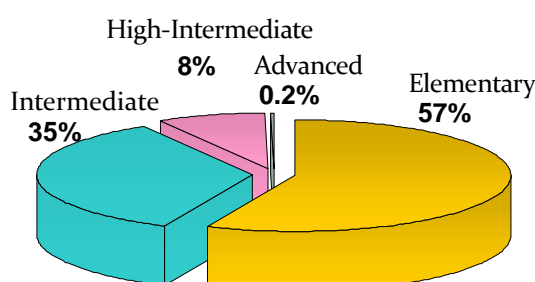


Figure2: Examinee Distribution by Level for the Second Stage



Analysis of examinees' background shows that 43% of the examinees were male and 57% were female (see Table 1). Over 40% of the test takers were from the northern region of Taiwan, 32% from central Taiwan, 24% from the southern region, and 3% from the east and outlying islands (see Table 2). The average age of the examinees was 17.1. Sixty-one percent of the examinees were 15 to 19 years of age, while the oldest one was 80 years old (see Table 3). Junior high school students and graduates took up 43% of the examiners; 27% were

general senior high school students and graduates; 14% were university or graduate school students and graduates (see Table 4).

At the Elementary level, the male-female ratio of test takers was approximately 2:3. The average age of the examinees was 15.7, while the oldest test taker was 74 years of age. Junior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (65%), and vocational high school students and graduates were the second largest group (17%). The average scores of the First Stage tests were 82.18 for the Listening and 80.18 for the Reading, with a passing rate of 51%. The average band scores of the Second Stage tests were 3.7 for the Writing and 3.7 for the Speaking, with a passing rate of 53%. The oldest passing examinee was 65 years of age.

At the Intermediate level, the male-female ratio was approximately 2:3. The average age of the examinees was 18.1, while the oldest examinee was 80 years of age. Senior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (49%), and junior high school students and graduates were the second largest group (19%). The average scores of the First Stage tests were 81.60 for the Listening and 75.87 for the Reading, with a passing rate of 45%. The average band scores of the Second Stage tests were 3.5 for the Writing and 3.6 for the Speaking, with a passing rate of 32%. The oldest passing examinee was 62 years of age.

At the High-Intermediate level, the male-female ratio was about 2:3. The average age of the examinees was 21.0, while the oldest test taker was 77 years of age. Senior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (42%), and local university students and graduates were the second largest group (36%). The average scores of the First Stage tests were 77.16 for the Listening and 79.03 for the Reading, with a passing rate of 44%. The average band scores of the Second Stage tests were 3.5 for the Writing and 3.5 for the Speaking, with a passing rate of 25%. The oldest passing examinee was 68 years of age.

At the Advanced level, the male-female ratio was approximately 2:3. The average age of the examinees was 26.2, while the oldest examinee was 69 years of age. The largest group of examinees (62%) was made up of students and graduates of local/overseas universities and graduate schools. Senior high school students and graduates were the second largest group (23%).

The average scores of the First Stage tests were 73.07 for the Listening and 66.30 for the Reading, with a passing rate of 29%. The average band scores of the Second Stage tests were 2.3 for the Writing and 2.8 for the Speaking, with a passing rate of 27%. The oldest passing examinee was 40 years of age.

Table 1: Examinee Distribution by Gender

Gender	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Male	44%	42%	43%	41%	43%
Female	56%	58%	57%	59%	57%

Table 2: Examinee Distribution by Region

Region	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Northern	39%	40%	54%	54%	41%
Central	31%	34%	27%	27%	32%
Southern	26%	23%	18%	19%	24%
Eastern	4%	3%	1%	---	3%
Outlying Islands & China	0%	0%	---	---	0%

Table 3: Examinee Distribution by Age

Age Range	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
12~14	43%	8%	2%	3%	27%
15~19	52%	75%	59%	30%	61%
20~24	2%	12%	22%	19%	8%
25~29	1%	1%	6%	14%	1%
30~34	1%	1%	5%	15%	1%
35~39	1%	1%	2%	8%	1%
40~44	0%	1%	2%	5%	0%
Above 45	0%	1%	2%	6%	1%
Average Age	15.7	18.1	21.0	26.2	17.1
The Oldest	74	80	77	69	80

Table 4: Examinee Distribution by Education Level

Education Level	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced	Total
Junior high school	65%	19%	6%	8%	43%
Vocational high school	17%	12%	4%	1%	14%
General senior high school	11%	49%	42%	23%	27%
Vocational college	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
University of technology	2%	2%	3%	4%	3%
Local university	2%	14%	36%	36%	10%
Local graduate school	0%	2%	7%	17%	1%
University overseas	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%
Graduate school overseas	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%

Table 5: Average Score by Test Section

Test Section	Elementary	Intermediate	High-Intermediate	Advanced
Listening	82.18	81.60	77.16	73.07
Reading	80.18	75.87	79.03	66.30
Passing Rate	51%	45%	44%	29%
Writing	3.7	3.5	3.5	2.3
Speaking	3.7	3.6	3.5	2.8
Passing Rate	53%	32%	25%	27%