

I. Overview

In 2015, an analysis of each level of the General English Proficiency Test (GEPT) showed that 57% of the total test taking population took the Listening and Reading Tests of the Elementary Level; 36% took the Intermediate Level; and 7% took the High-Intermediate or Advanced Level (see Figure 1). As for the Speaking and Writing Tests, 59% took the Elementary Level; 34% took the Intermediate Level; and 7% took the High-Intermediate or Advanced Level (see Figure 2).

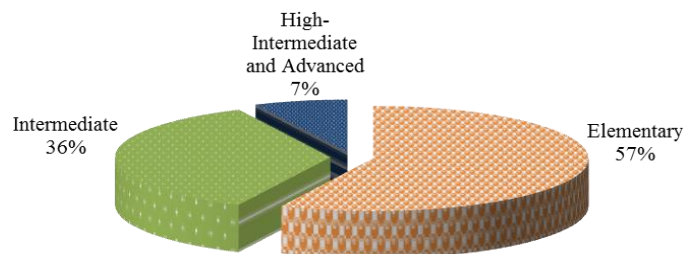


Figure 1 Listening and Reading tests examinee distribution by test level

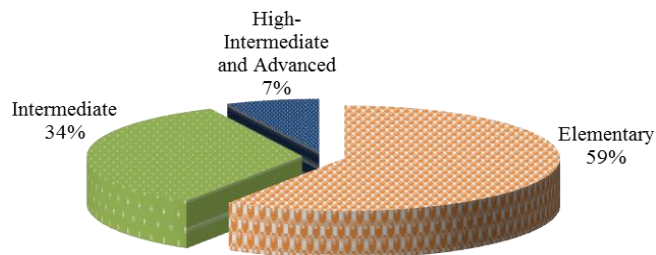


Figure 2 Speaking and Writing tests examinee distribution by test level

An analysis of examinee background shows that the average age of the examinees was 16.3, with the oldest being 73 years of age, and 58% of the examinees being between 15 and 19 years of age. Of all examinees, 52% had graduated from junior high school; 36% from senior high school; and 11% from college or above. Of these, 44% of all examinees were male, and 56% were female. Furthermore, 39% came from the northern region; 31% from the central region; 26% from the southern region; and 4% came from the eastern region, outlying islands or China.

II. Summary by level

At the Elementary Level, the average age of examinees was 15.0, with the oldest being 73 years of age. Junior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (77%), and high school students and graduates were the second largest group (19%). The average scores for the First Stage were 82.34 for the Listening Test and 79.94 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 51%. The average band scores for the Second Stage were 3.8 for the Writing Test and 3.7 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 53%. The oldest passing examinee was 66 years of age.

At the Intermediate Level, the average age of examinees was 17.5, with the oldest being 71 years of age. Senior high school students and graduates made up the largest group of examinees (47%), and junior high school students and graduates were the second largest group (26%). The average scores for the First Stage were 82.82 for the Listening Test and 75.28 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 44%. The average band scores for the Second Stage were 3.5 for the Writing Test and 3.6 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 32%. The oldest passing examinee was 66 years of age.

At the High-Intermediate Level, the average age of examinees was 20.5, with the oldest being 69 years of age. Senior high school students (44%) and graduates (45%) made up the majority of examinees. The average scores for the First Stage were 79.70 for the Listening Test and 79.84 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 48%. The average band scores for the Second Stage were 3.5 for the Writing Test and 3.6 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 27%. The oldest passing examinee was 59 years of age.

At the Advanced Level, the average age of examinees was 25.7 while the oldest examinee was 68 years of age. The largest group of examinees (60%) was made up of local university students and graduates; overseas university students and graduates; and students who were attending or had completed graduate school either locally or overseas. Senior high school students and graduates were the second largest group (26%). The average scores for the First Stage were 73.61 for the Listening Test and 65.07 for the Reading Test, with a passing rate of 41%. The average band scores for the Second Stage were 2.3 for the Writing Test and 2.8 for the Speaking Test, with a passing rate of 20%. The oldest passing examinee was 50 years of age.

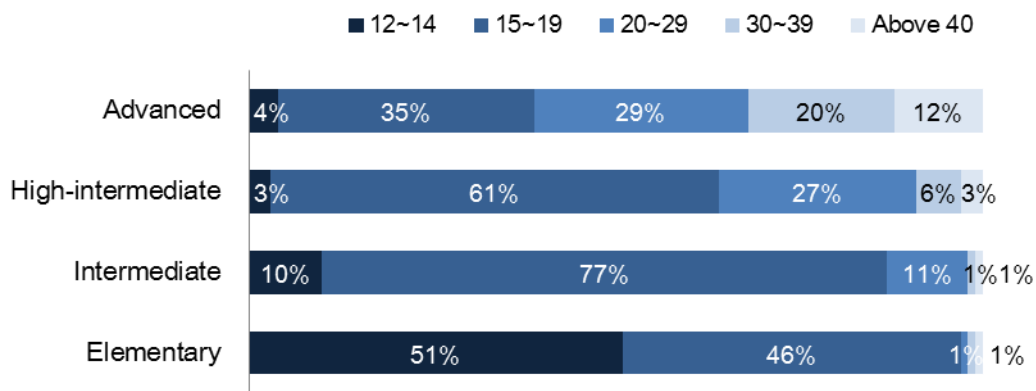


Figure 3 Examinee distributions by age

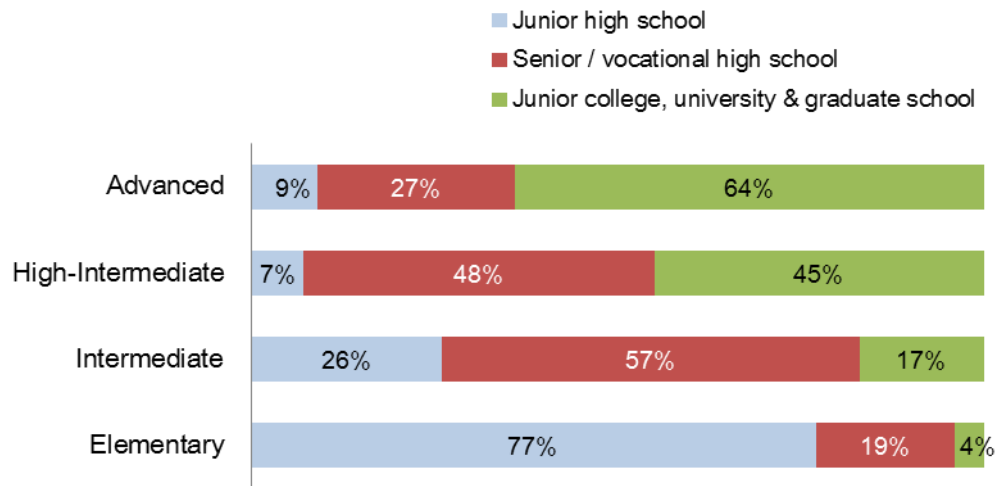


Figure 4 Examinee distributions by highest education level

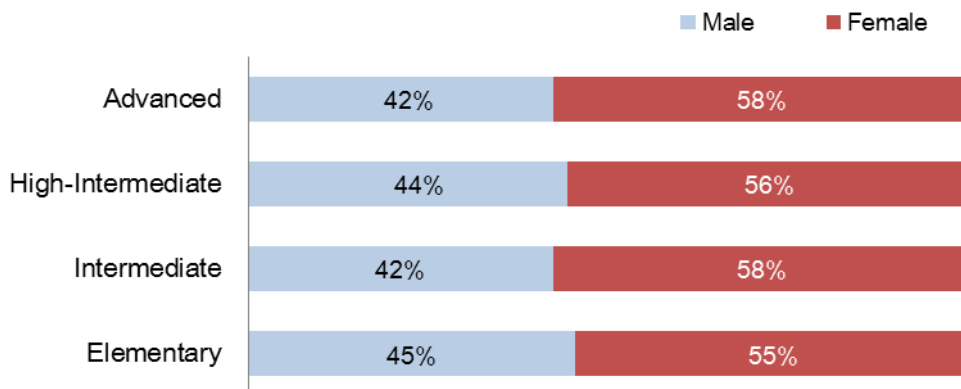


Figure 5 Examinee distributions by gender

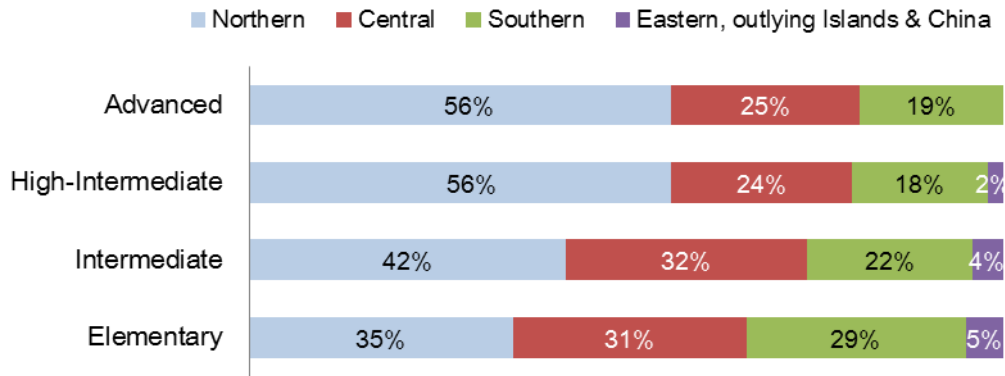


Figure 6 Examinee distributions by region

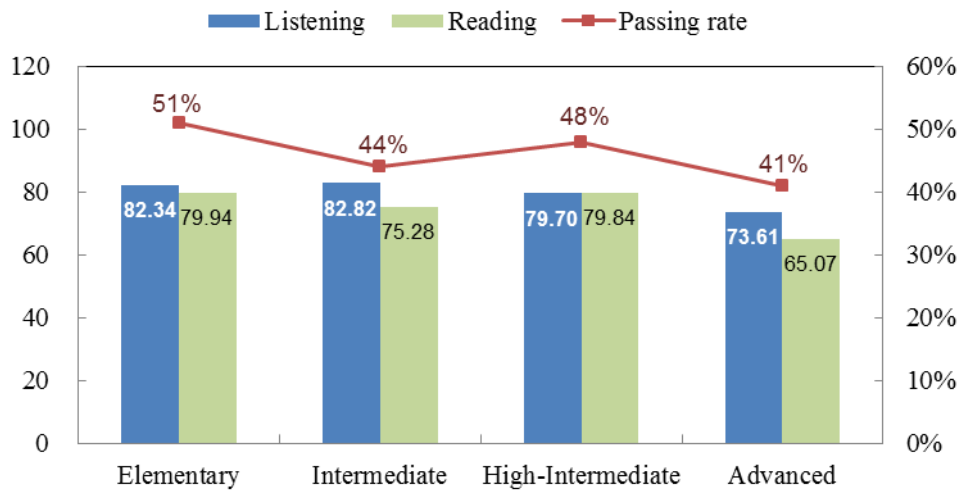


Figure 7 Performance of Listening and Reading tests by test level

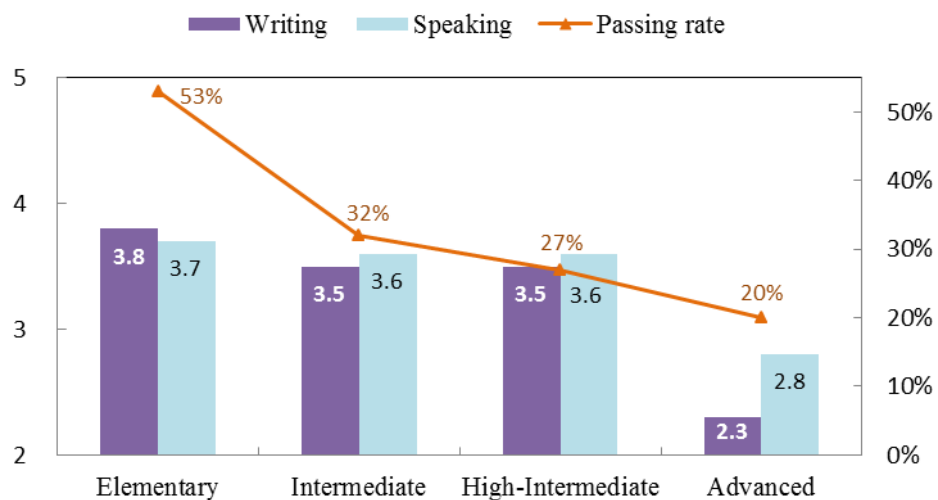


Figure 8 Performance of Writing and Speaking tests by test level