
In 2008, the General English Proficiency Test (GEPT) Elementary Level First Stage Tests recognized a total number of 192,901 test-takers. Among these test-takers, approximately 123,000 took the Second Stage Speaking and Writing Tests. The average score for the First Stage Listening Test was 84.34, and that of the Reading Test was 81.91. The passing rate of these two First Stage Tests (Listening and Reading) was 57%, whereas the average band score for both Writing and Speaking Tests (Second Stage tests) was 3.8 with a passing rate of 59%.

According to the background analysis on overall test-takers, those from northern Taiwan contributed to the largest proportion of the test-taker population with approximately 38%, and those from the central area composed 33%. In the same period, 24% were from the southern area, while the eastern area and offshore islets made up a 5% share. The ratio of males to females was approximately 2:3. The average age of test-takers was 17.1 years, and test-takers aged from 12 to 19 contributed 87% to the total number. The youngest passing candidate was 12 years old, while the most senior was 69 years old. Grouped by education, 48% of the test-takers at this level were the target junior high candidates, and senior high school students accounted for 34% in all.

In terms of score distribution, test-takers from northern Taiwan demonstrated greater competence in the Listening and Reading Tests compared with test-takers from other areas. The mean scores of female test-takers in the Listening and Reading Tests were higher than those of male test-takers. In general, statistical data showed that test-takers under 19 years of age outperformed older test-takers in both the Listening and Speaking Tests. On the other hand, the data revealed test-takers’ performance in the Reading Test correlated positively with the age factor.