

Learning of Foreign Languages

Language Proficiency Tests

1) TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)

The TOEFL is a test that measures non-native English speakers' ability to communicate in English. Most educational institutions, including universities, in English-speaking countries use the TOEFL test score as a standard measure for English language proficiency and is also one of the language test requirements for the application process to the Keio University Student Exchange Programs (Outbound). The TOEFL's iBT (Internet-Based Test) is the test administered in Japan, and it consists of four components: listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. Results for each component and the total score (0-120 points) is given. TOEFL test scores are valid for two years from the day of the examination. Make sure that your TOEFL test score is still valid when you are preparing your application for study abroad. Please note that only the Test Date Score is valid for TOEFL iBT. My Best Score is NOT evaluated. Also, the TOEFL iBT score cannot be used to support a Tier 4 (General) student visa application for the UK as the English language requirement in most cases

Official information on TOEFL

ETS (Educational Testing Service): <http://www.ets.org/toefl>

CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange): <http://www.cieej.or.jp/toefl/>

2) IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

Most higher educational institutions in the UK, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand accept IELTS as evidence of English language proficiency for students looking to study abroad, and there is an increasing number of educational institutions in the US that use IELTS to help them make admissions decisions. It is also one of the language test requirements for the application process to the Keio University Student Exchange Programs (Outbound). The test consists of four components: reading, listening, speaking, and writing, and examinees are graded on their performance using scores from 1 (Non User) to 9 (Expert User) for each part of the test. The results from the four parts are then averaged to produce an Overall Band Score. IELTS test scores are valid for two years from the day of the examination. Make sure that your IELTS test score is still valid when you are preparing your application for study abroad.

Official information on IELTS

- IELTS official website: <http://www.ielts.org/>
- Eiken Foundation of Japan: <http://www.eiken.or.jp/ielts/en/>
- Japan Study Abroad Foundation: <http://www.jsaf-ieltsjapan.com/>
- BRITISH COUNCIL: <https://www.britishcouncil.jp/en/exam/ielts-uk-visa-immigration>

***Language proficiency tests for studying in the UK**

Please note that the TOEFL iBT score cannot be used to support a Tier 4 (General) student visa application for the UK as the English language requirement in most cases. If you are thinking about studying abroad in the UK, make sure to take the prescribed test and meet the score requirement.

<https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/knowledge-of-english>

You must check for yourself whether you need to obtain a student visa in order to participate in the study abroad program, and if you do need a visa, what kind of documents are required for the application process. Visa requirements may change without notice, so make sure to regularly check the UK Home Office website or via other means for the latest information.

- UK Home Office “Tier4 (General) student visa”:

<https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa>

3) Other Tests for Language Proficiency

Indonesian	Ujian Kemampuan Berbahasa Indonesia	Himpunan Penyelenggara Ujian Bahasa Indonesia Tel. 03-3438-4790 http://www.i-kentei.com/
Korean	Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK)	The Korea Educational Foundation Tel. 03-5419-9171 http://www.kref.or.jp
	<i>Hanguru Nōryokukentei Shiken</i>	<i>Hanguru Nōryokukentei Kyōkai</i> Tel. 03-5858-9101 http://www.hangul.or.jp
	Korean Language Ability Test (KLAT)	http://www.kets.or.kr/
Chinese	HSK	Japan committee for HSK Tel. 03-3268-6601 http://www.hskj.jp/
	<i>Chūgoku Kentei Shiken</i>	The Society for Testing Chinese Proficiency Japan Tel. 03-5846-9751 http://www.chuken.gr.jp/
	Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL)	TOCFL Japan Office https://tocfl.jp/index.html https://www.sc-top.org.tw/chinese/oversea.php
French	DELF/DALF	Center national DELF/DALF Japon Institut français du Japon – Kansai / Osaka Tel. 06-6358-7391 http://www.delfdalf.jp
	Diplome d’Aptitude Pratique au Français	Association pour la Promotion de l’Enseignement du Français au Japon Futsuken Office Tel. 03-3230-1603 http://apefdapf.org/
	Test de Connaissance du Français (TCF)	Institut français du Japon-Tokyo Tel. 03-5206-2500 http://www.institutfrancais.jp/tokyo/ TCF can also be taken at the SFC campus (for all Keio students). https://french.sfc.keio.ac.jp/home/
German	Goethe-Zertifikat	Goethe Institut Tokyo Tel. 03-3584-3201 https://www.goethe.de/ins/jp/ja/sta/tok/prf.html
	TestDaf	
	Diplom Deutsch in Japan	Gesellschaft Zur Förderung Der Germanistik in Japan Tel. 03-3813-0596 http://www.dokken.or.jp
	Oesterreichisches Sprachdiplom Deutsch (OeSD)	ösd Kanto Office Tel. 03-3717-2544 http://www.flc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/~de/oesd/
Greek	Certificate of Attainment in Greek	Japan examination center Tel. 03-6459-2220
Italian	CILS	Istituto Italiano di Cultura Tel. 03-3264-6011 http://www.iictokyo.esteri.it/iic_tokyo
	Italiano: Prova di Abilità Linguistica	Associazione Linguistica Italiana Tel. 03-5428-5630 http://www.iken.gr.jp
Russian	Test of Russian as a Foreign	Japan Cultural Association Tel. 03-3353-6980 http://taibunkyo.jp/
	<i>Roshiago Nōryokukentei Shiken</i>	<i>Roshiago Nōryokukentei Shiken Jikkō Inkai</i> Tel. 03-3425-4011 http://www.tokyorus.ac.jp/kentei/index.html
Spanish	DELE	Instituto Cervantes en Tokio Tel. 03-5210-1800 http://tokio.cervantes.es/es/diplomas_espanol/informacion_diplomas.htm
	<i>Evaluación Oficial del Conocimiento de la Lengua Española</i>	Casa de Espana Seiken Office Tel. 03-3353-0428 http://www.casa-esp.com/

4) Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

The CEFR, which is used widely in Europe, is a framework that describes the language ability of learners of a foreign language and is also a reference for what learners need to achieve at different levels. The chart below is a useful reference if the overseas institution does not specify the TOEFL or IELTS test scores, but instead specifies that students need a language proficiency of “B2” etc.

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken Interaction	Spoken Production	Writing
A1	I can understand familiar words and very basic phrases concerning myself, my family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.	I can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.	I can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help me formulate what I'm trying to say. I can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.	I can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where I live and people I know.	I can write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings. I can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering my name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form.
A2	I can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.	I can read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus and timetables and I can understand short simple personal letters.	I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. I can handle very short social exchanges, even though I can't usually understand enough to keep the conversation going myself.	I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job.	I can write short, simple notes and messages. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something.
B1	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. I can understand the main point of many radio or TV programs on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.	I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.
B2	I can understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar. I can understand most TV news and current affairs programs. I can understand the majority of films in standard dialect.	I can read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints. I can understand contemporary literary prose.	I can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible. I can take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining my views.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to my field of interest. I can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.	I can write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to my interests. I can write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view. I can write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.
C1	I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signaled explicitly. I can understand television programs and films without too much effort.	I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I can understand specialized articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.	I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skillfully to those of other speakers.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.	I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can select a style appropriate to the reader in mind.
C2	I have no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, even when delivered at fast native speed, provided. I have some time to get familiar with the accent.	I can read with ease virtually all forms of the written language, including abstract, structurally or linguistically complex texts such as manuals, specialized articles and literary works.	I can take part effortlessly in any conversation or discussion and have a good familiarity with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. I can express myself fluently and convey finer shades of meaning precisely. If I do have a problem I can backtrack and restructure around the difficulty so smoothly that other people are hardly aware of it.	I can present a clear, smoothly-flowing description or argument in a style appropriate to the context and with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.	I can write clear, smoothly-flowing text in an appropriate style. I can write complex letters, reports or articles which present a case with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points. I can write summaries and reviews of professional or literary works.

Achievement Tests

If you are planning to earn a degree from a university or institution in the US or Canada, you may be asked to submit test scores for the following achievement tests.

- 1) SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test): for those who wish to enter a US university at the undergraduate level
There are two types of tests: Reasoning Test and Subject Tests. The English level required for the Reasoning Test is significantly higher than that for the TOEFL test.
- 2) GRE (General Record Examination): for those who wish to enter a US or Canadian university at the graduate level
The GRE is a set of General and Subject Tests. The General Test is compulsory and is divided into three sections: Verbal, Quantitative (Math), and Analytical Writing. The university will specify which subjects to take for the Subject Tests.
- 3) GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test): for those who wish to enter a business school in the US or Canada
The GMAT measures whether the student, after entering the business school, will be able to keep up with the coursework. This computer-adaptive test is comprised of four sections: Verbal (English), Quantitative (mathematics), AWA (writing), and Integrated Reasoning. The test is designed to assess logical reasoning ability, and getting a high score for the Verbal section is particularly challenging.
- 4) LSAT (Law School Admission Test): for those who wish to enter a Law School (J.D. Program) in the US or Canada
This standardized test is administered to people who wish to enter a law school (graduate program specializing in law) but their undergraduate major was in a subject other than law.