

English as a Second Language (ESL) Assessment Overview

This assessment is appropriate for students interested in learning English and for those students who wish to improve their English reading, writing, listening and speaking skills and abilities.

The purpose of the ESL assessment is to make sure you're placed in the best classes for your language level. We want you to succeed in your English learning goals.

The ESL Assessment has two parts.

Part 1: Writing

- You will be given 30 minutes to write about one topic. The topic is common knowledge, so try your best to write as much as you can.
- The topic is only given at the time of the placement test. You will handwrite it.
- You're not allowed to use a dictionary or the internet.
- After you finish writing, two teachers will read what you wrote and evaluate your written fluency, critical thinking, organization, development, content, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.

Part 2: Multiple Choice Test

- This part of the assessment will test your knowledge of:
 - ✓ **Reading Comprehension** – It begins with short dialogs and readings, and after a few questions, the readings get a bit longer and more complex.
 - ✓ **Grammar**
 - ✓ **Vocabulary**
- There are 75 questions.
- You will have 60 minutes to answer the questions.
- You will take this part of the test on a computer.
- You're not allowed to use a dictionary, notes or the internet.

Advice Before Taking the ESL Assessment

- You should feel rested before taking the placement test.
- Make sure you're not hungry during the exam.

ESL Assessment Results

- It can take **up to 2 to 3 weeks** to process your results. You will receive an email that will ask you to check your placement results on MyPortal. The results will tell you which ESL courses to take.
- If you feel that your results are not an accurate reflection of your skills and abilities, you can retake the ESL assessment within 6 months of today's date assuming that you haven't earned a non-passing grade in an ESL course.
- Once you get your results you'll need to complete the new Student Orientation as well as an Ed Planning Workshop so that you understand which English course is required for your **major** and **educational goals**.

When you've completed your assessment, please raise your hand.