

VERSANT™ | English Certificate
by Pearson

Versant by Pearson English Certificate



Official Guide
for Test Takers

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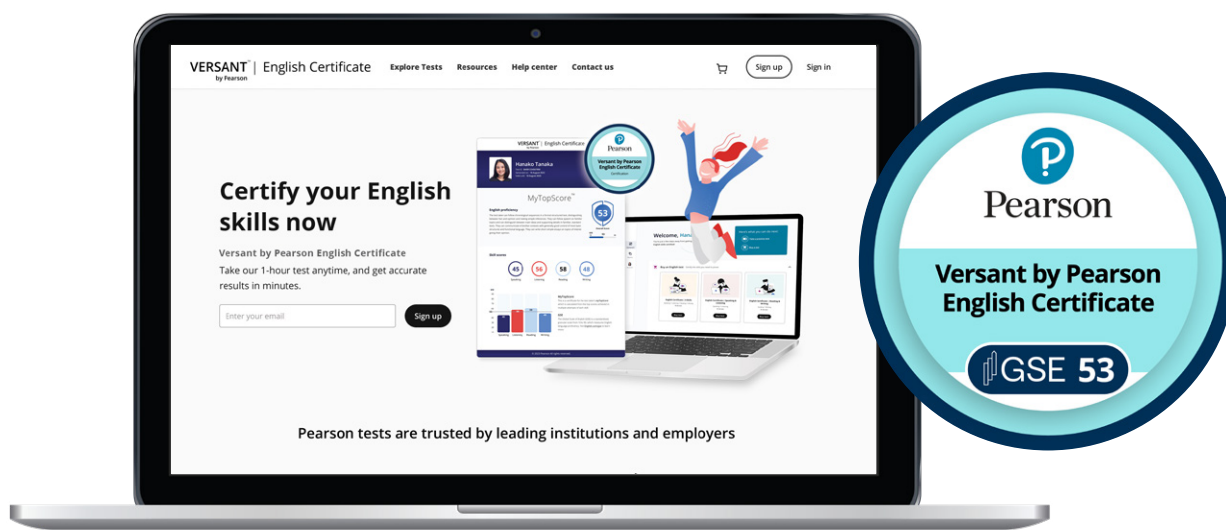
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Welcome

In this guide you will find everything you need to know about **Versant by Pearson English Certificate**, including why it is a great choice and how employers, colleges and universities use it as trusted proof of your English language ability.

You will discover what to expect from the test experience – from how to ensure you are properly set up and ready to take your test, to the types of questions you will find.

Finally, you will learn about your certificate itself, including how to understand your score and how to share your new qualification with the world.



About the test

Versant by Pearson English Certificate is the brand new, globally recognized, English proficiency test that can be taken in an hour or less, anytime, anywhere.

It certifies real English communication skills in authentic academic and workplace settings and there is no intense test preparation required. This means you can be confident your results reflect your **real language ability** and not your ability to pass a test.

Just 48 hours after your test, you can stand out from the crowd by sharing your verified certificate and Credly digital badge.

The exclusive MyTopScore™ feature means you will always present your English abilities at their best, as your certificate and digital badge will automatically display the highest scores you achieve over the last 6 months.

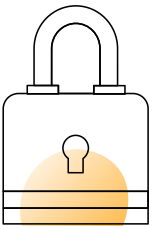
Why choose Versant by Pearson English Certificate?

Ultra-convenient



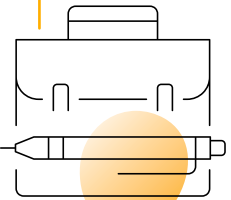
- Take the test online – anytime, anywhere – from your computer.
- No more waiting for appointments or travelling to test centers.

Secure



- Complete security against fraud and cheating so you can be sure your score is trusted.
- Our innovative system uses unique combination of the latest technology and human review.

Accurate



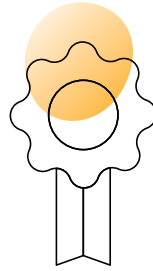
- We are global experts in AI scoring for English tests.
- Our state-of-the-art technology has been verified with hundreds of thousands of real test responses.
- Our technology removes bias and gives a true, fair, accurate assessment of your English skills.

Trusted



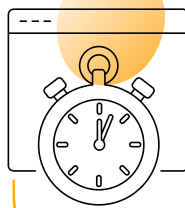
- Pearson is a world leader in English Assessment.
- Our tests are trusted by thousands of colleges, universities, and businesses worldwide.
- Our scores are even accepted by governments for visa applications around the world.

Affordable



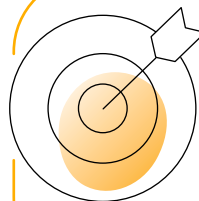
- All four skills assessed in a single test.
- Or assess just Speaking & Listening or Reading & Writing, at a lower price.
- Free official Credly digital badge awarded when scores for all four skills achieved.
- Share your certificate for free with as many businesses and institutions as you like.

Fast



- Certify all 4 skills in just 60 minutes.
- Certify either Speaking & Listening or Reading & Writing in just 30 minutes.
- Results within 48 hours.

Targeted



- Choose the skills you want to certify.
- Option to test all 4 skills, or Speaking & Listening, or Reading & Writing.

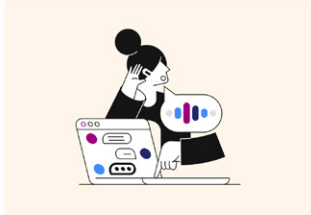
Favorable



- Exclusive MyTopScore™ feature for all 4 skills certificates
- MyTopScore™ always displays your best scores in each skill achieved in the last 6 months.

Test options

There are three tests to choose from. Each one delivers an Overall Score plus a breakdown of the skills assessed, all reported on the Global Scale of English (GSE), the true international standard.

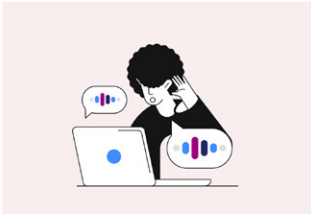


English Certificate | 4-Skills
Speaking • Listening • Reading • Writing
⌚ 60 min

[Buy test](#)

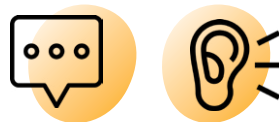


- ▶ **4 Skills Test** takes 60 minutes and assesses your proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The MyTopScore™ feature is included for this test.

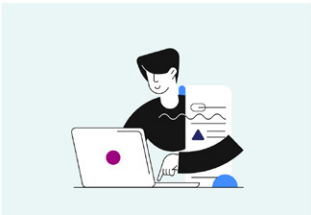


English Certificate | Speaking & Listening
Speaking • Listening
⌚ 30 min

[Buy test](#)



- ▶ **Speaking & Listening Test** takes 30 minutes and assesses your proficiency in oral communication. The MyTopScore™ feature will be enabled if you also take a Reading & Writing or 4 Skills Test within 6 months.



English Certificate | Reading & Writing
Reading • Writing
⌚ 30 min

[Buy test](#)



- ▶ **Reading & Writing Test** takes 30 minutes and assesses your proficiency in written communication. The MyTopScore™ feature will be enabled if you also take a Listening & Speaking or 4 Skills Test within 6 months.

1

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Security



Security and peace of mind

The most important promise we make to organizations that recognize our tests is that our results are reliable and secure.

When we certify your test, we want to ensure that:

- Your identity is verified.
- It is you who has taken the entire test.
- You have not received any external help.

This means you end up with a secure and fair test-taking experience, and a score that is trusted around the world.



What are the key security components?

Our innovative security system combines many elements to eliminate fraud and cheating, including:

- ✓ AI-based identity verification before starting the test
- ✓ Facial recognition and monitoring throughout the test
- ✓ A proprietary speaker verification system throughout the test
- ✓ A human review process after the test



Remote Proctoring

A remote system will monitor your behavior for cheating or suspicious actions throughout your test. At the start, we ask you to take a selfie, which we use as a reference point for your identity. The system then monitors you throughout the test, and can detect multiple people or voices.



Speaker Verification

At the start of the test, we collect a sample of your voice and link it to your profile. We use this to ensure the same voice is responding to all questions throughout the test.



ID Verification

Our system will establish your identity by comparing the information you provide when you create your profile with key information from your ID. This ensures your certificate can be fully trusted.

We also keep record of data linked to your account so that when you take multiple tests, we can identify you with confidence.



Hardware security

A dedicated app monitors your device activity throughout the test. Your test attempt will automatically fail if you navigate away from the testing window, or use any sort of peripheral devices or plug-in.



Score checks

We store all the test scores linked to your account. If we notice a sudden increase in your performance over a short period of time, we reserve the right to carry out further checks, such as human review, to prevent fraud and cheating.



Human review

At the end of your test, a team of expert human reviewers will analyze your session and make a judgment on the integrity and authenticity of your test. This added layer of security is why our scores are widely trusted and accepted.

If for any reason your test does not meet our security protocols, we will not certify your test. In most cases, you will be able to take a replacement test and receive feedback so you can fix the issue.



How often can I take a test?

To both maintain the security of our question bank and ensure there is enough time in between tests to make the experience meaningful, you must not take the test too often.

Our system will allow you to take:

- ✓ Up to 2 tests of any version in 7 days.
- ✓ Up to 3 tests of any version in 30 days.
- ✓ Up to 5 tests of any version in 90 days.

Please note that these rules:

- Apply to all versions of the test
- Do not apply to replacement tests assigned to your account

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Getting started



Three simple steps to get started

To access both your official test and the free scored Practice Test, just follow these three steps.

1

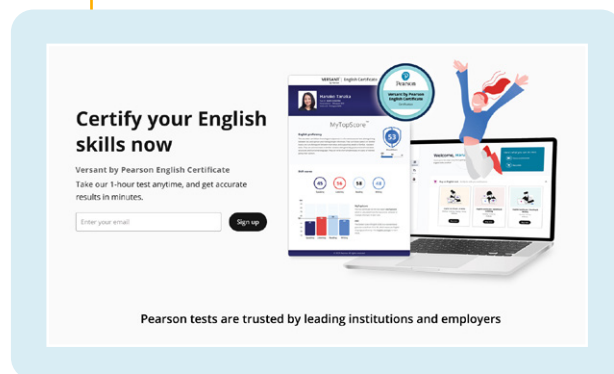
Sign up

Head to the **Versant by Pearson English Certificate** website, and enter your email address in the box 'Certify your English Skills now'.

Click 'Join', type in your e-mail address, and set a password that includes at least one upper case letter, one number, and a special character (e.g: _ ; ! *).

Answer some simple questions to help us get to know you better.

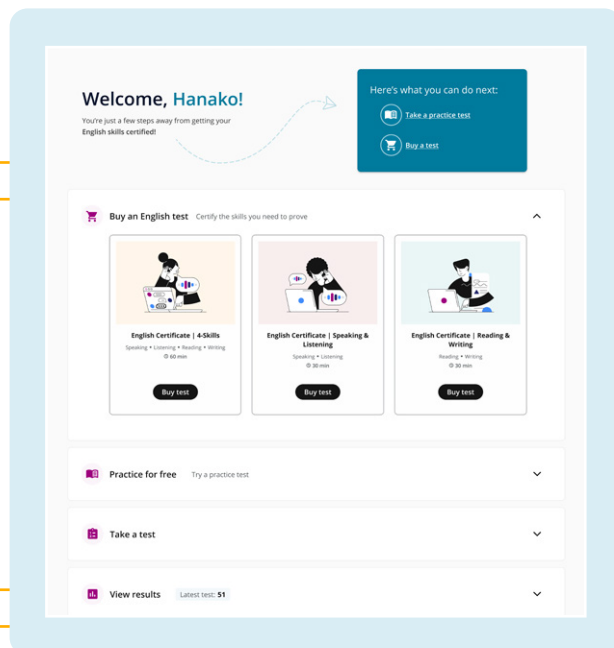
Your account is now created.



2

Browse your dashboard

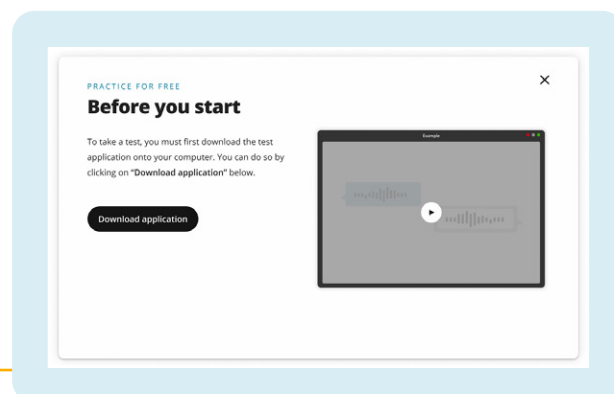
Your dashboard is the go-to place at any point of your testing journey. From here you can choose to take a Practice Test, buy new tests, and view and share your certificate.



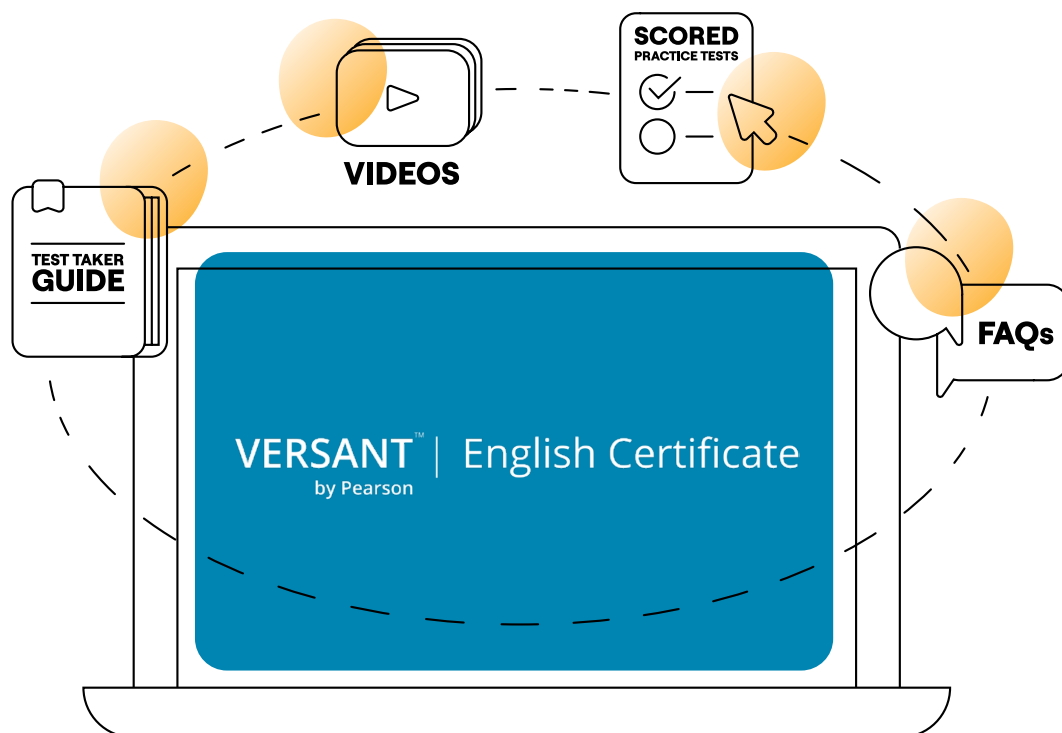
3

Download the app

The first time you try to start a test from your dashboard, you'll be prompted to download and install a desktop app on your device. From this app, simply choose the test you want to take and you are ready to go!



How can I prepare for the test?



You don't need to spend hours preparing to take this test, but it is good to know what to expect before you get started.

Free familiarization resources

These resources will help you prepare and feel confident before your test:

- You can always refer to this **Official Guide for Test Takers**
- Our useful **video walkthroughs** will guide you through each stage of your testing journey
- You can take as many free, scored **Practice Tests** as you like
- If you have a question or concern, our detailed **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** usually have it covered!

Optimizing your score

The MyTopScore™ feature ensures if you take the test multiple times in a 6 month period, your certificate will only display the highest scores you achieved for each of the 4 skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking).

If you need to improve your score on specific skills, you can take a Speaking & Listening or a Reading & Writing Test in the next 6 months and MyTopScore™ will automatically update your score.

Free Scored Practice Tests

Practice makes perfect! Our free Practice Tests give you the chance to try out the test so you know what to expect and can get comfortable with all aspects of the testing experience. We recommend that you take at least one Practice Test before you take your official test.



Results

At the end of the Practice Test, you will see your overall level described as one of the following:



Beginner



Upper-Intermediate



Elementary



Advanced

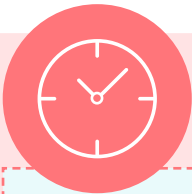


Intermediate



Mastery

Your individual skill scores will be benchmarked against your overall level, indicating if they are in line with your overall, below or above.



Duration of Practice Tests

Versant by Pearson English Certificate | 4-Skills Practice Test

You need 30 minutes to take the test and 10 minutes for set-up.



Versant by Pearson English Certificate | Speaking & Listening Practice Test

You need 15 minutes to take the test and 10 minutes for set-up.



Versant by Pearson English Certificate | Reading & Writing Practice Test

You need 15 minutes to take the test and 10 minutes for set-up.



Start your journey with a Practice Test

- Go to **Versant by Pearson English Certificate** website
- Log in to your account
- Follow the 'Recommended Test Taker Route' which is customized for you. Or, click on 'Practice' on your dashboard
- Practice with your choice of the three test options

Practice for free



English Certificate | 4-Skills

[Practice >](#)



English Certificate | Speaking & Listening

[Practice >](#)



English Certificate | Reading & Writing

[Practice >](#)

Start the free practice test

There are nine sections in this test. Good luck!



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Start

Check your Practice Test result



After you complete your test on the test application,

- Go to the Versant by Pearson English Certificate website
- Log in to your account
- Within an hour, you can head to 'Results' and your results will be under 'Your Practice Tests'

Your tests

Your practice tests

All your tests

Tests	Date	Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing	Overall Score
 English Certificate 4-Skills	18 August 2022	● At Level	● At Level	▲ Above Level	▼ Below Level	Intermediate
 English Certificate Speaking & Listening	11 August 2022	▼ Below Level	● At Level			Intermediate

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Get set-up



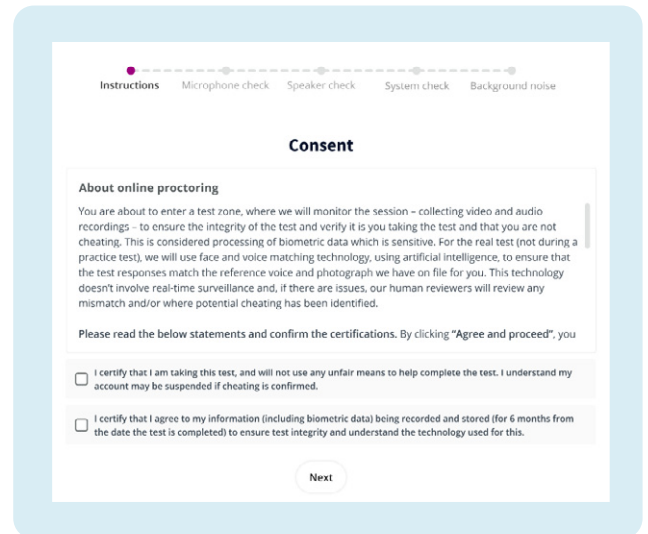
Pre-test experience

A successful test starts with a successful set-up! The pre-test experience takes just 10 minutes and includes **test environment set-up, identity verification,** and a reminder of **test rules.**

1. Test environment set-up

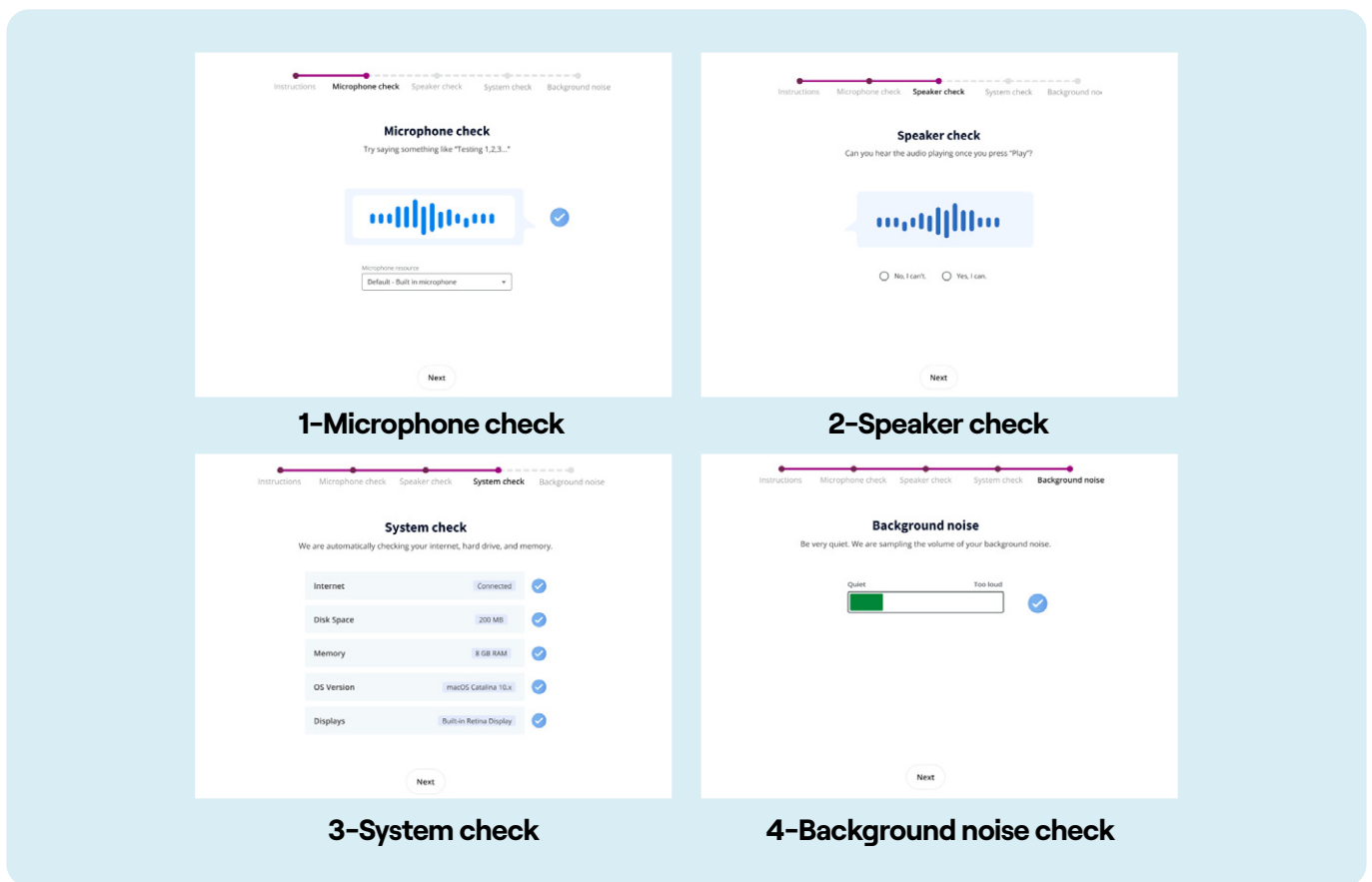
Consent

We need your consent to monitor your test session. You must also agree not to use unfair means to complete the test and confirm you understand why we keep your data, and for how long.



Equipment check

This is where we ensure you meet all the conditions for a secure and a comfortable testing experience. We will take you through the following checks:



Important – Make sure you have a reliable microphone and speakers to ensure you can listen to audio prompts clearly and respond accordingly, and we are able to accurately assess your speaking.

3. Test rules

When you have passed the **test set-up** and **ID verification**, you can proceed to **test rules** which simply consists of two screens:

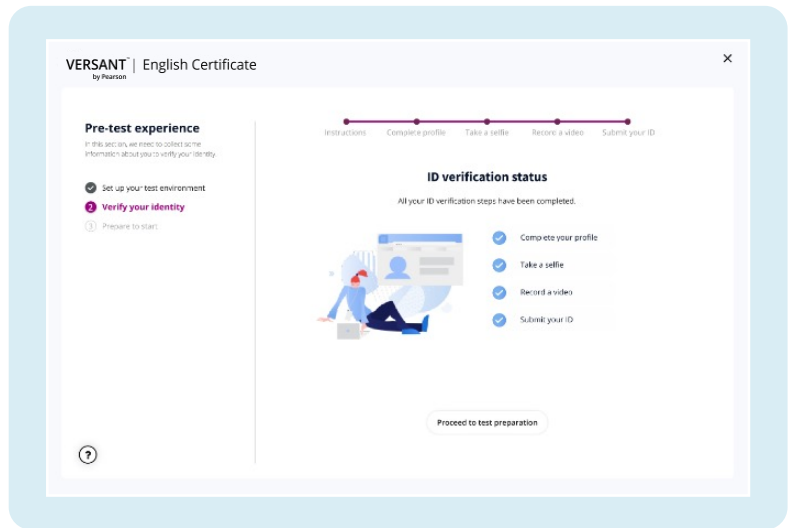
Instructions:

You will be reminded of some test rules on the instruction screen. If you need to go through them more thoroughly, you can always refer back to this guide before starting your test.

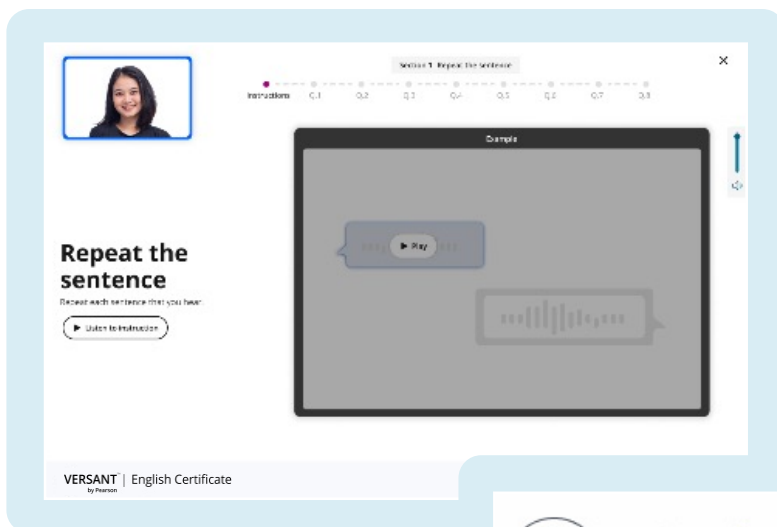
Start Test:

When you are ready click 'Start the test'!

Please note: Once you have started your test, you will no longer be eligible for a refund.

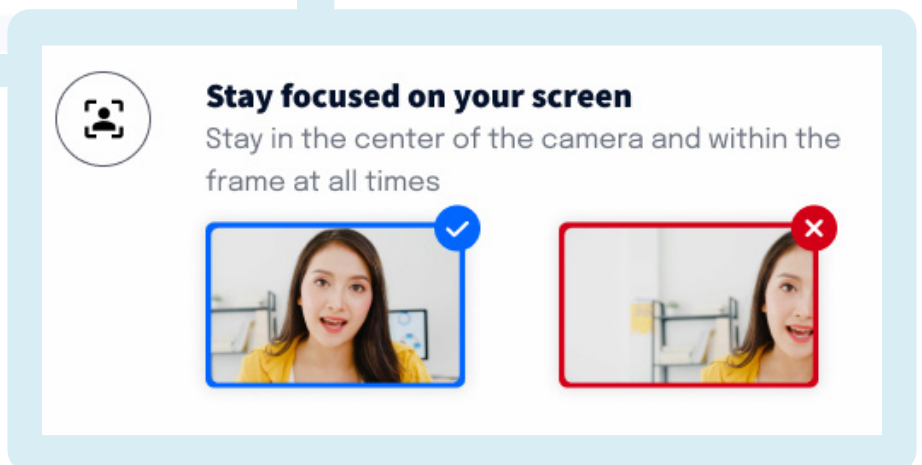


During the test



Throughout the test, your face will be visible in a proctoring frame at the top left of the screen, as shown in the image.

Keep an eye on this frame. It will turn from blue to red whenever your face is not fully visible, which will impact our ability to validate your test. You can read more in the section '[Rules and requirements](#)' in this guide.



Taking the test

The test includes a range of different question types. Depending on the test you are taking, some questions require you to speak, some to type your answer, and some to select your answer. Instructions will make it clear what is expected and a voice will guide you.



Remember

- ✓ Each section starts with an instruction so you know what is coming and what to do.
- ✓ If you do not complete an answer in the allocated time, your work will be saved and scored as it is.
- ✓ Each question is timed. For the longer questions, a timer is shown in the corner of your screen.
- ✓ It is not possible to go back to a previous question or re-record an answer.



Tips

- ✓ **DO**
 - ✓ Play each example at the start – it will help you prepare.
 - ✓ Listen carefully to the prompts and read the instructions.
 - ✓ Speak clearly at a normal volume. Don't shout or whisper.
 - ✓ Speak at your normal speed. Do not rush or speak extra slowly.
 - ✓ Consider which words need to be stressed.
 - ✓ Pay attention to punctuation (e.g., commas and periods).
 - ✓ If you don't know the answer to a question, be silent or say 'I don't know'.
 - ✓ Use the timer to keep track, especially for longer written answers.
 - ✓ If you finish an answer early and have checked it, you can click Next to move on to the next question.
- ✗ **DON'T**
 - ✗ Do not skip or rush a section thinking you will have time at the end as you cannot go back to previous answers.
 - ✗ Do not forget the security rules. To ensure a valid test attempt, remember:
 - ▶ You are **not allowed** to take notes during the test.
 - ▶ You **cannot** look away from your computer.
 - ▶ Screenshots and screen recordings are **not allowed**.

Check out the "[Rules and requirements](#)" section of this guide for a reminder of the rules.

4

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Test format and questions




Test format

4 Skills Test


The 4 Skills Test assesses your speaking, listening, reading, and writing, based on nine scored sections. The test also has two unscored sections.




Section 1
Repeat the sentence




Section 2
Build a sentence




Section 3
Listen and select answers




Section 4
Write what you hear



Section 5
Summarize a group discussion




Section 6
Read and select answers



Section 7
Complete the sentence




Section 8
Reply to an online post




Section 9
Write an email

Unscored sections



Section 1
Record a speech sample



Section 2
Type a writing sample

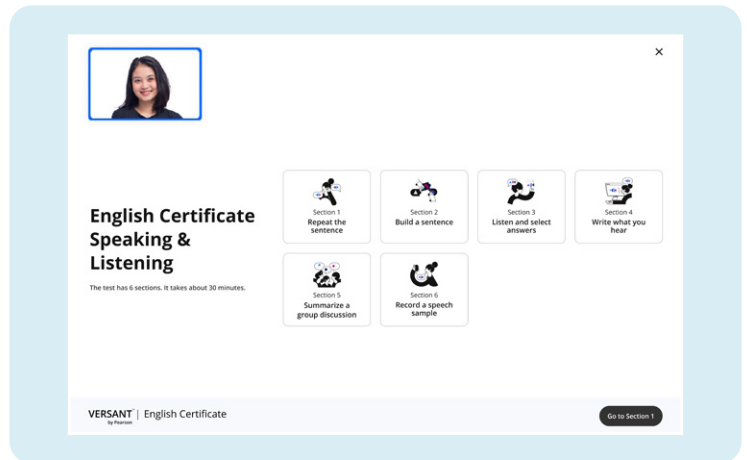
Speaking & Listening Test

This test assesses your proficiency in oral communication, based on five scored sections. The test also has one unscored section.

1. **Repeat the sentence**
2. **Build a sentence**
3. **Listen and select answers**
4. **Write what you hear**
5. **Summarize a group discussion**

Unscored section

6. **Record a speech sample**



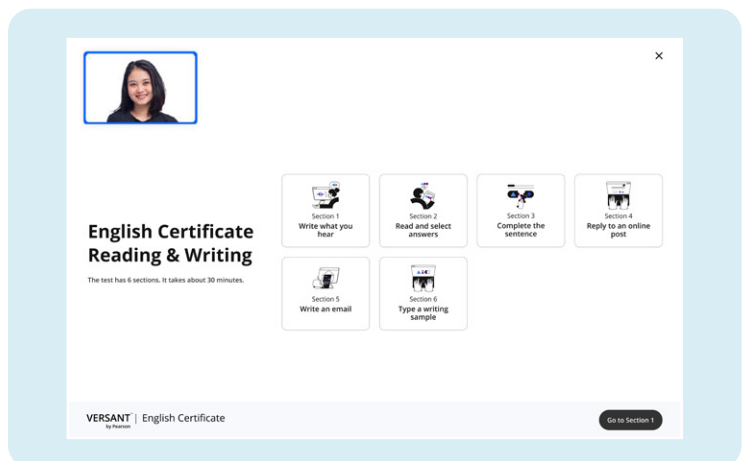
Reading & Writing Test

This test assesses your proficiency in written communication, based on five scored sections. The test also has one unscored section.

1. **Write what you hear**
2. **Read and select answers**
3. **Complete the sentence**
4. **Reply to an online post**
5. **Write an email**

Unscored section

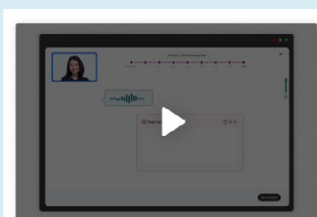
6. **Type a writing sample**



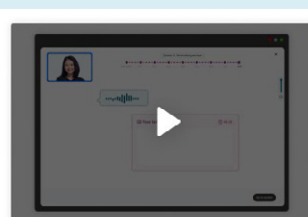
Let's take a closer look!

We will now guide you through each section of the test and give some handy tips.

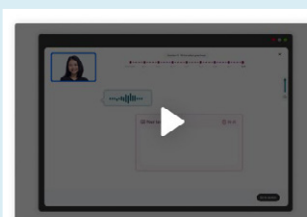
Remember: Our **test videos** also allow you to explore each section of the test, with clear instructions and sample questions and answers. You can find them on our website.



English Certificate | 4-Skills
A video walkthrough of the 4-skills test.



English Certificate | Speaking & Listening
A video walkthrough of the Speaking + Listening test.



English Certificate | Reading & Writing
A video walkthrough of the Reading + Writing test.

1. Repeat the sentence

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Speaking & Listening Test

Tips



- ▶ Speak smoothly and naturally.
- ▶ Speak at a normal speed, not too slow or too fast.
- ▶ Try to repeat the sentence exactly as it was spoken.

Section 1: Listen & repeat

Instructions 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8

1. He's a great teacher.

2. Are you going to the meeting tomorrow?

3. Further recruitment is expected to take place next year.

Speak...

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Next



What will you need to do?

- You will hear a number of sentences.
- You be asked to repeat each one.
- You must repeat it exactly as you heard it.
- You will have 15 seconds to answer.



What skills are being tested?

This section assesses your mastery of phrase and sentence structure, as well as pronunciation and fluency.

2. Build a sentence

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Speaking & Listening Test

Tips



- ▶ Speak smoothly and naturally.
- ▶ Speak at a normal speed, not too slow or too fast.
- ▶ Be sure to arrange the word groups into the correct order.

Section 2 Build a sentence

Instructions Q.1 Q.2 Q.3 Q.4 Q.5 Q.6 Q.7 Q.8

1. my boss / to London / moved

2. a long time / can take / training new staff

3. your current position / as to reconsider / would you be so kind

Speak...

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Next



What will you need to do?

- You will hear three short phrases.
- The phrases will be in a random order.
- You must rearrange them into a sentence.
- You will have 15 seconds to answer.



What skills are being tested?

This question tests your speaking, including your understanding of how sentences are structured, as well as fluency and pronunciation.

3. Listen and select answers

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Speaking & Listening Test

Tips



- ▶ Before listening to the passage, read the questions.
- ▶ Try to listen for the correct answers as the passage plays.

Section 3 Listen and select answers

Instructions Q.1 Q.2 Q.3

03:00

Sam says that he was initially surprised by

- the variety of roles he was offered.
- how much fun he had.
- the professionalism of the set-up.

Sam says that the most important thing he learned was

- what he was good at and not good at.
- maintaining self-control.
- being a good team member.

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Next

You will hear a student talking to first-year students about getting involved in the university's radio station:

Hi, I'm Sam. As you've all shown interest in being part of the radio station, let me tell you what happened with me. When I first turned at the station, I was amazed. I'd thought it would just be a fun thing to do at first but actually it was quite a challenge. They were short of...



What will you need to do?

- You will listen to a passage and then answer two comprehension questions with multiple-choice options.
- Passages are based on authentic sources from academic and workplace contexts, such as interviews, podcasts, conversations, phone messages, and lectures.



What skills are being tested?

The comprehension questions require different types of listening skills, such as identifying the main idea, identifying specific facts or details, and making inferences.

4. Write what you hear

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Speaking & Listening Test
- Reading & Writing Test

Tips



- ▶ Focus on the meaning of the sentence to help you remember it.
- ▶ Pay attention to spelling and capitalization.

Section 4 Write what you hear

Instructions Q.1 Q.2 Q.3 Q.4 Q.5 Q.6 Q.7 Q.8

Listen...

00:25

Your answer

I am out of the office on that day, can we schedule the meeting on this Friday instead?

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Next



What will you need to do?

- You will hear a sentence spoken aloud.
- You will need to type the sentence word-for-word.
- You will only hear the sentence once.
- You will have 25 seconds to type your answer.



What skills are being tested?

This section assesses your listening comprehension, language processing, and writing ability.

5. Summarize a group discussion

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Speaking & Listening Test

Tips



- ▶ As you listen, try to remember each speaker's point of view.
- ▶ Speak clearly using complete sentences, correct grammar, and appropriate vocabulary.
- ▶ You do not need to memorize or paraphrase the entire discussion, just the most important points.

The screenshot shows a listening test interface for 'Section 5: Summarize a group discussion'. It features a progress bar with 'Instructions', 'Q.1', 'Q.2', and 'Q.3'. A 'Listen...' button is active, and a 'Speak...' button is disabled. The interface includes a 'Next' button and the 'VERSANT by Pearson English Certificate' logo. Three speakers are shown with their respective points of view summarized in callout boxes:

Speaker 1: Well, yes, social media. Well, I think it is a good thing. I mean you can keep in touch with friends and make new friends in different countries. And you can also share information through chat rooms and blogs which can be educational and help you find work.

Speaker 2: Well, yes, but there are also problems, too. For example, people saying bad things online can cause health problems and also people stealing your personal information. Some people use social media for the wrong reasons, so you have to be careful what you say and who you talk to.

Speaker 3: Yes, you both make interesting points. I think social media is a good thing because it connects people who have similar interests at work or school. But obviously there are dangers, so we need to make sure that we have rules to stop people using social media for bad reasons.



What will you need to do?

- You will summarize what was discussed, in your own words.
- Include the main points and important details.



What skills are being tested?

This question tests your listening comprehension, mastery of language use and content, in addition to your pronunciation and fluency.

6. Read and select answers

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Reading & Writing Test

Tips



- ▶ Before reading the passage, read the questions.
- ▶ After you have selected your answers, read the passage again to confirm your selections.

The screenshot shows a test interface for 'Section 6 Read and select answers'. It includes a user profile picture, a progress bar with 'Instructions', 'Q.1', 'Q.2', and 'Q.3', and a timer set to 03:00. The reading passage is titled 'Read this text about inflation.' and contains two paragraphs. The first paragraph discusses the general definition of inflation and its problem. The second paragraph provides an example from America. Below the passage are two questions, each with three radio button options.

Read this text about inflation.

When economists, politicians and the media talk about the inflation rate, they are referring to a figure that is designed to function as a rough average of the change in all prices, for all different types of goods and services. But there is a problem with taking this broad look at inflation: not all items are equally important. That means if some really important goods and services get more expensive while lots of less-important stuff stays at the same price (or becomes cheaper) people could face challenging price changes without this experience being reflected in the Central Bank interest lending rate.

Look at America, for example. Its inflation rate is currently 1.7 percent, which economists and central bankers generally regard as stable and therefore not worrying. But there have been substantially bigger increases in the prices of things like petrol, food and cleaning products. The less well-off you are, the larger a portion of your income you generally spend on necessities. Paying twice as much for your weekly food shop is annoying but doable if it didn't take up much of your income in the first place. If it did, it could mean you're not able to eat as much food... and possibly not even enough food.

According to the writer, what is the problem with the general definition of inflation?

- It is often misunderstood by the public.
- It ignores the difference between the nature of items.
- It links inflation with interest rates

Why are people on low incomes more affected by inflation?

- They worry more than other people about how much they spend.
- They spend on food more than anything else.
- They spend more on essential items than other people

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Next



What will you need to do?

- You will have three minutes to read a passage and answer two questions. The passage consists of written material taken from academic and workplace contexts such as article excerpts, narratives, emails, and proposals.



What skills are being tested?

The comprehension questions require different types of reading skills, such as identifying the main idea, identifying specific facts or details, and making inferences.

7. Complete the sentence

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Reading & Writing Test



- ▶ Consider the overall meaning of the sentence.
- ▶ Look at the words on either side of the gap and use your knowledge of grammar and vocabulary to choose the missing word.
- ▶ Pay attention to spelling and capitalization.
- ▶ Type only one word.
- ▶ There may be more than one correct answer to a question. Type the word that you think best completes the sentence.



The screenshot shows a test interface for 'Section 7 Complete the sentence'. It includes a progress bar with markers for 'Instructions', 'Q.1', 'Q.2', 'Q.3', 'Q.4', 'Q.5', 'Q.6', 'Q.7', and 'Q.8'. A timer shows '00:25'. The question text is: 'He arrives _____ and is often the first one here.' The interface also features a 'Next' button and the 'VERSANT by Pearson English Certificate' logo.



What will you need to do?

- You will see a sentence or two with a missing word.
- You must enter one word that best fits the meaning of the sentence.
- You will have 25 seconds to answer.



What skills are being tested?

This question assesses reading skill including your overall understanding of a short sentence and vocabulary.

8. Reply to an online post

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Reading & Writing Test

Tips



- ▶ Pay attention to spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- ▶ Write in grammatically correct, complete sentences.
- ▶ Try to write at least 40 words.

The screenshot shows a digital testing interface. At the top, it says 'Section 8 Reply to an online post' with a progress indicator showing 'Instructions', 'Q.1' (active), and 'Q.2'. A timer shows '00:10'. On the left, there is a profile picture of a woman. The main content area displays an 'Anonymous' post from '10:29 AM' with the text: "My first interview is next week. I'm so nervous! What can I do to prepare?". Below the post is a text input field labeled 'Your reply' and a 'Word Count:' label. At the bottom left, it says 'VERSANT by Pearson | English Certificate' and at the bottom right, there is a 'Next' button.



What will you need to do?

- You will be given three minutes to read the post and write a reply.
- The posts are inspired by authentic material from discussion forums in both academic and workplace contexts.
- You should give a response of at least 40 words.



What skills are being tested?

This question assesses your writing ability in an authentic, informal context.

9. Write an email

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Reading & Writing Test

Tips



- ▶ Pay attention to spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- ▶ Write in grammatically correct, complete sentences.
- ▶ Read the situation carefully and address your email to the right person.
- ▶ Cover all three themes in your email. Do not forget to include details to support each idea.
- ▶ Write at least 100 words.
- ▶ Do not write informally or use texting abbreviations (e.g., 'you' = 'u').

Section 9 Write an email

Instructions Q.1

Your supervisor has asked you what improvements can be made to the company's work environment to make workers happier. Write an email to your supervisor, Mr. Park, giving three suggestions.

Your suggestions must come from the following three themes:

- company-sponsored lunch
- work from home
- bonuses

From: You (you@email.com)
To: Mr. Park (mr.park@email.com)
Subject: Happier work environment

Your email

Word Count:

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Next



What will you need to do?

- You will demonstrate your writing ability using email in relatively formal academic and workplace settings.
- You must try to fully understand the prompt in order to give an informative, organized, and appropriate response.



What skills are being tested?

This section assesses your writing ability using email in relatively formal academic and workplace settings, including appropriate use of tone, word choice, organization, and grammatical accuracy.

10. Record a speech sample

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Speaking & Listening Test

The screenshot shows the test interface for Section 10: Speech sample. At the top, a progress bar indicates 'Unscored sections' with three points: 'Instructions', 'Section 10: Speech sample' (the current section), and 'Section 11: Writing sample'. A video feed of a woman is visible in the top left corner. The main question area contains the text: 'Do you prefer studying/working alone or in a group? Explain why.' Below the question is a large, light gray speech bubble icon with a waveform inside, indicating where the user should record their answer. At the bottom left, the text 'VERSANT™ | English Certificate by Pearson' is displayed. At the bottom right, there is a 'Next' button.



What will you need to do?

- Listen to a question. Then, you will have 1 minute to answer the question.
- You can start your answer when the recording ends.



Note:

This section is not scored. Your response will be shared with employers and institutions when you share your certificate directly from your account.

11. Type a writing sample

This question type appears in:

- 4 Skills Test
- Reading & Writing Test

The screenshot shows the test interface for Section 11: Writing sample. At the top, a progress bar indicates 'Unscored sections' with three dots: 'Instructions', 'Section 10: Speech sample', and 'Section 11: Writing sample'. A profile picture of a woman is in the top left. The main area is divided into 'Question' and 'Your answer'. The question asks: 'What is one of your favourite books? Explain why you like it.' The answer area is a large empty text box. At the bottom, the logo 'VERSANT by Pearson | English Certificate' is on the left, and a 'Next' button is on the right.



What will you need to do?

- Read a question then write your answer.
- You will have two minutes to answer.



Note:

This section is not scored. Your response will be shared with employers and institutions when you share your certificate directly from your account.

5

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Your scores, certificate and Credly badge



Your scores

Welcome, Hanako!

You're just a few steps away from getting your English skills certified!

Here's what you can do next:



[Take a practice test](#)



[Buy a test](#)



Clear results

Within an hour after your test, you will receive an email telling your score is available. Simply head to the 'Results' area of your dashboard to see your Overall Score and a breakdown for the individual skills.

Important – This is your final score but your test still needs to go through our security system to be certified. You will receive another email when your certificate is ready.

Latest test

51

English Certificate I 4-Skills

Pending review

Taken on 18 August 2022 >



Detailed feedback

Your score will be accompanied by detailed descriptions of your English abilities, both overall and for the individual skills.

You will also find valuable tips and recommendations to help you improve your score for next time.

Skill Scores

Understanding Your Skills >

Tests	Test ID	Date	GSE Score
English Certificate I 4-Skills	BARR1234567890	18 August 2022	
Speaking			45

Skill Overview
The test taker can generally talk about their life, past events or experiences, future plans and intentions. They are able to express belief, opinion, agreement and disagreement, make simple recommendations, and support their opinion. They can paraphrase a simple factual statement or summarise short written passages using original words and ordering but they need to work on summarising points or paraphrasing ideas in an effective way.

Tips and Recommendations

- Practice providing an explanation of something related to your work or something that you know a lot about.
- Describe a recent important event at work or school.
- Describe your thoughts (e.g. if you agree or disagree, your feelings, opinions, etc.).
- Practice different ways to end a presentation by thanking people for their time and attention.

GSE

Your score: 45




10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90

Listening	56
Reading	58
Writing	48

What do your scores represent?

Overall Score

This represents your overall ability to interact in spoken and written communication, in everyday, academic and workplace contexts.

 <h3>Speaking Score</h3> <p>This reflects how well you produce phrases and clauses in spoken English. It is based on your ability to produce consonants, vowels, and stresses in a native-like manner, use accurate syntactic processing and appropriate words in meaningful sentence structures, and use appropriate rhythm, phrasing, and timing.</p>	 <h3>Listening Score</h3> <p>This reflects how well you understand details and main ideas from English speech. It is based on your ability to track meaning and infer the message from English spoken at a normal, conversational pace.</p>
 <h3>Reading Score</h3> <p>This reflects how well you understand written English texts on academic and workplace topics. It is based on your ability to operate at a functional speed to extract meaning, infer the message, and respond appropriately.</p>	 <h3>Writing Score</h3> <p>This reflects how well you produce written English texts on academic and workplace topics. It is based on your ability to present ideas and information in a clear and logical sequence, and use a wide range of appropriate words and a variety of sentences structures.</p>

MyTopScore™

Like the name suggests, our exclusive MyTopScore™ feature means if you take a test more than once, your certificate will always display a combination of your highest scores.

MyTopScore™ is unlocked when you have a certified score for each skill – speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. This can be achieved by taking a 4 Skills Test or a combination of 2 skills tests. After this, if you take another test within a 6-month period and any higher individual skill scores contribute to a higher overall score, your certificate will update with the new scores.

If you happen to get a lower score don't worry, your certificate will always display your best scores.



Important – MyTopScore™ is calculated using only results from the 6 months before your last certified test.



Certification status

'Pending review'

Within an hour after your test, you will see your scores on your dashboard, but the status will be 'Pending review' until our human reviewers have validated your test.

Tests	Date	Status	Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing	Overall Score
 English Certificate I 4-Skills	18 August 2022	 Pending review	56	45	58	48	51 >

During this stage, you will not be able to view MyTopScore™, or download or share your certificate.

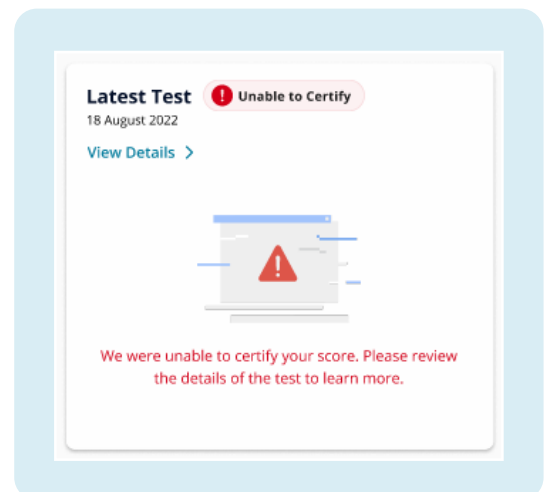
We will notify you via email as soon as our security review is complete, which will be within 48 hours after your test. Depending on the outcome of the review, your test status will appear as either 'Certified' or 'Unable to certify'.



'Unable to Certify'

If we are unable to verify the integrity of your test session, we may not certify your test. If this happens, your test will be marked 'Unable to certify' and we will send you an explanation. We may decide to issue a free replacement test, which must be completed within 21 days of issue.

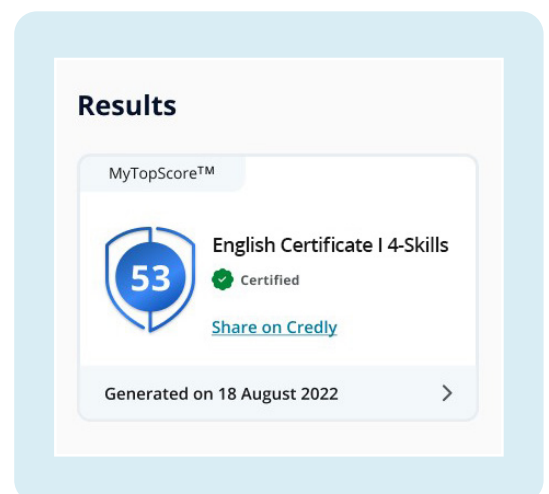
If you would like more information or do not agree with our decisions, you can contact our Customer Support team.



'Certified'

Once your test appears as 'Certified' you can view, download, or directly share your certificate with as many organizations as you like.

You can also then display your Credly badge on your digital profiles and social media.



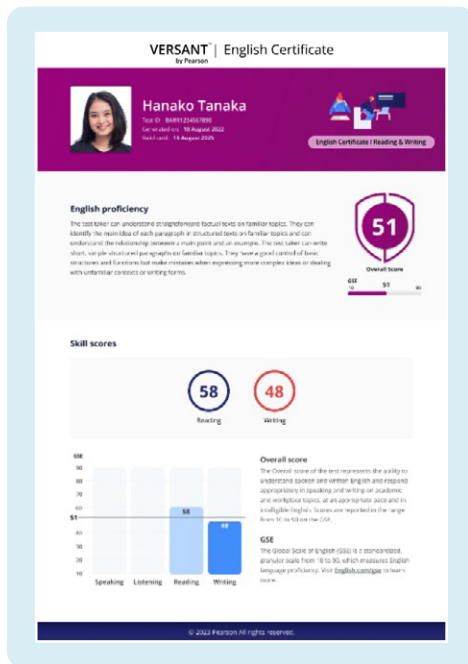
Your certificate

If your test is successfully certified, congratulations! You are ready to tell the world about your English language abilities.

You will find your **Versant by Pearson English Certificate** in the 'Results' section of your account within 48 hours after your test.

Your certificate is valid for three years. You can share it through your account with as many organizations as you like for free, or you can download it as a PDF to share as you wish.

Your 2-skills certificate



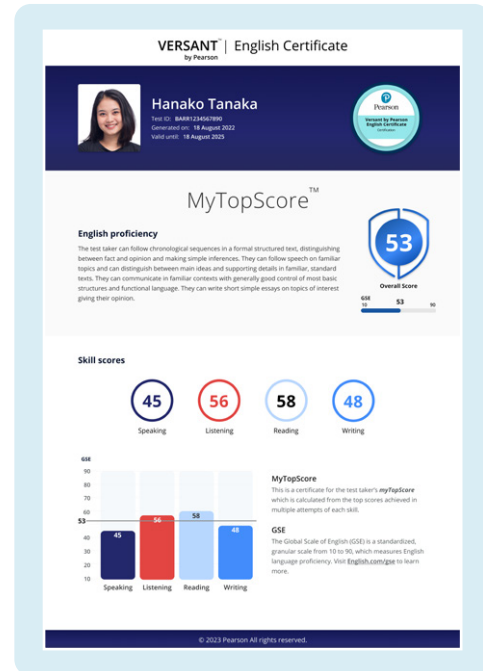
You will receive this certificate for:

- Speaking & Listening Test
- or
- Reading & Writing Test

These certificates are perfect if you only need to certify your abilities in certain English skills, or if you want to improve your scores in certain skills in MyTopScore™.

If you go on to achieve a score for all four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), you will unlock a MyTopScore™ certificate.

MyTopScore™ Certificate



You will receive this certificate for:

- 4 Skills Test
- or
- Taking both versions of the 2 skills test (Speaking & Listening, Reading & Writing) in a 6-month period

MyTopScore™ Certificate automatically updates to show organizations and institutions the very best of your English language abilities.

If you take another test within six months and get a higher overall score, your certificate will update. It will now display your highest overall score and the highest score you have received for each of the individual skills.

MyTopScore™ is only unlocked when you have a certified score for speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Your Credly badge



You will receive a Credly badge for:

- 4 Skills Test
or
- Taking both versions of the 2 skills test (Speaking & Listening, Reading & Writing) in a 6-month period

As soon as you certify all 4 skills and unlock MyTopScore™, you will also unlock your Credly badge.

This is a verified, digital representation of your 4 skills **Versant by Pearson English Certificate**, that you can display online.

Your Credly badge contains unique metadata that is specific to you, so it can be easily verified. Just like your certificate, it is also valid for 3 years.

Sharing your Credly badge

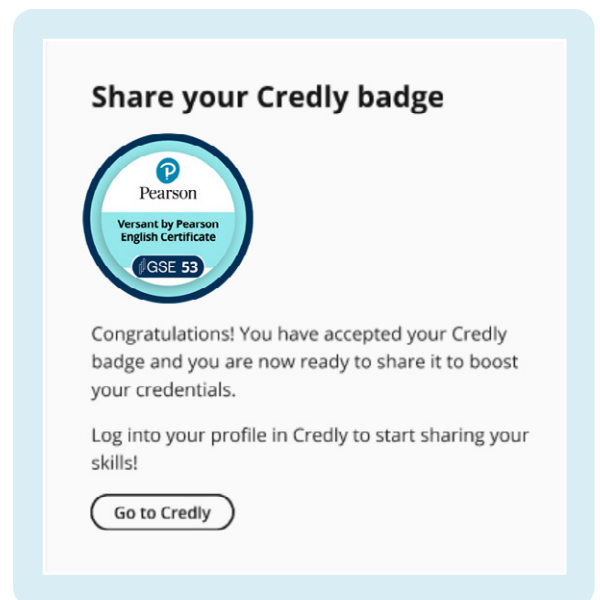
When your badge is ready, you will receive an email from admin@credly.com. First, create your Credly profile by answering a couple of simple questions. You will be asked to accept your badge and then it is ready to share!

You can display your badge on email signatures, digital resumes, and social media sites such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter

Your Credly badge is your digital credential for MyTopScore™, so whenever your MyTopScore™ updates, your Credly profile will update too.

Note – Even if you forget to change the badge image on your email signatures, social media sites etc., once it is clicked on, it will always show your latest MyTopScore™.

Find out more about [Credly](#)



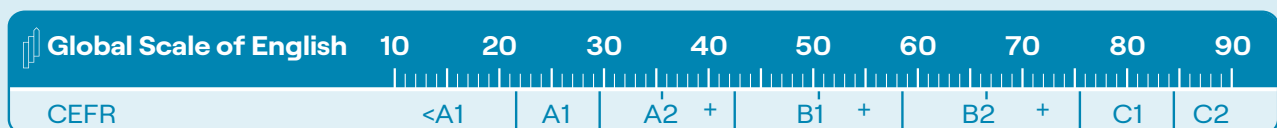
About the Global Scale of English



Scores for your Versant by Pearson English Certificate are reported on the Global Scale of English (GSE) scale of 10–90, with 90 being the highest possible score.

The GSE is the first globally-recognized English language standard to accurately measure learner progress. It extends the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) by pinpointing exactly what must be mastered within each CEFR level for the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Find out more about the [Global Scale of English](#)



Sharing your certificate



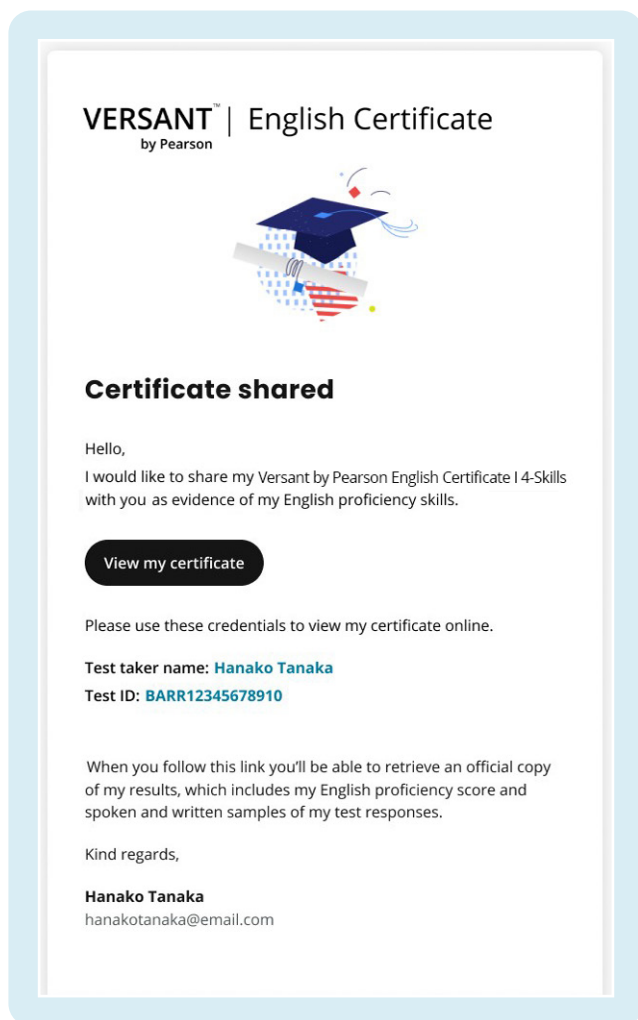
How to share your certificate with organizations

Congratulations!


You can now tell the world about your English language abilities. Sharing your certificate is simple – you can choose to:

- **'Share Results'** directly from your Versant by Pearson English Certificate account.
- **Download your certificate** and share it yourself.
- **Share your Credly badge** on your social media and digital resumes.

Sharing your results from your account



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by Pearson



Certificate shared

Hello,
I would like to share my Versant by Pearson English Certificate I 4-Skills with you as evidence of my English proficiency skills.

[View my certificate](#)

Please use these credentials to view my certificate online.

Test taker name: Hanako Tanaka
Test ID: BARR12345678910

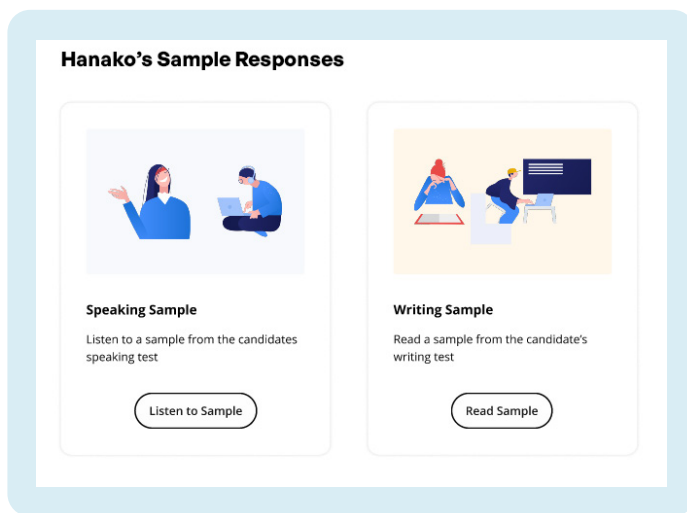
When you follow this link you'll be able to retrieve an official copy of my results, which includes my English proficiency score and spoken and written samples of my test responses.

Kind regards,

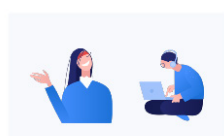
Hanako Tanaka
hanakotanaka@email.com

When you share your results this way, the recipient will access an official copy of your certificate, which means they won't have to worry about verifying its authenticity.

Depending on the test you take, the recipient will also have access sample of your spoken and/or written English. These samples are the responses that you provided in the last (unscored) section of your test: 'Record a speech sample' and 'Type a writing sample'.

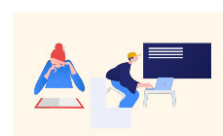


Hanako's Sample Responses



Speaking Sample
Listen to a sample from the candidates speaking test

[Listen to Sample](#)



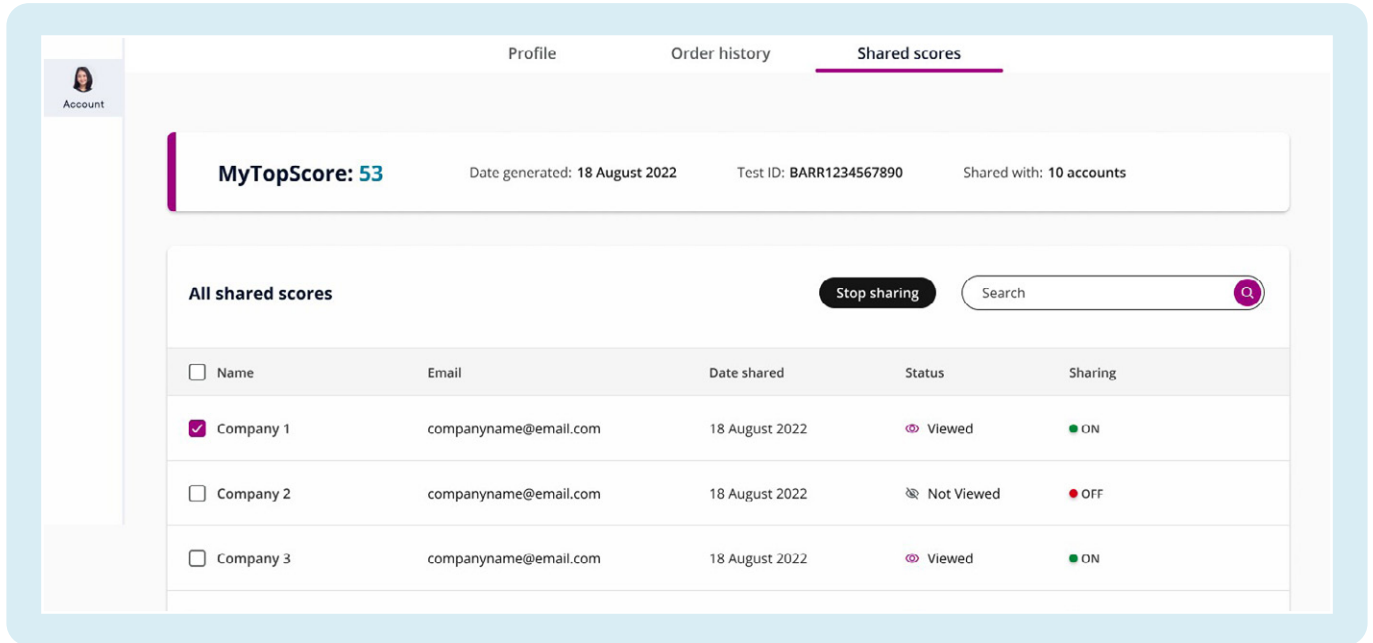
Writing Sample
Read a sample from the candidate's writing test

[Read Sample](#)

Monitor views of your certificate

In the 'Profile' area of your dashboard, you will see the list of all organizations you have shared your certificate with. You can check who has viewed your certificate by visiting 'Shared Scores'.

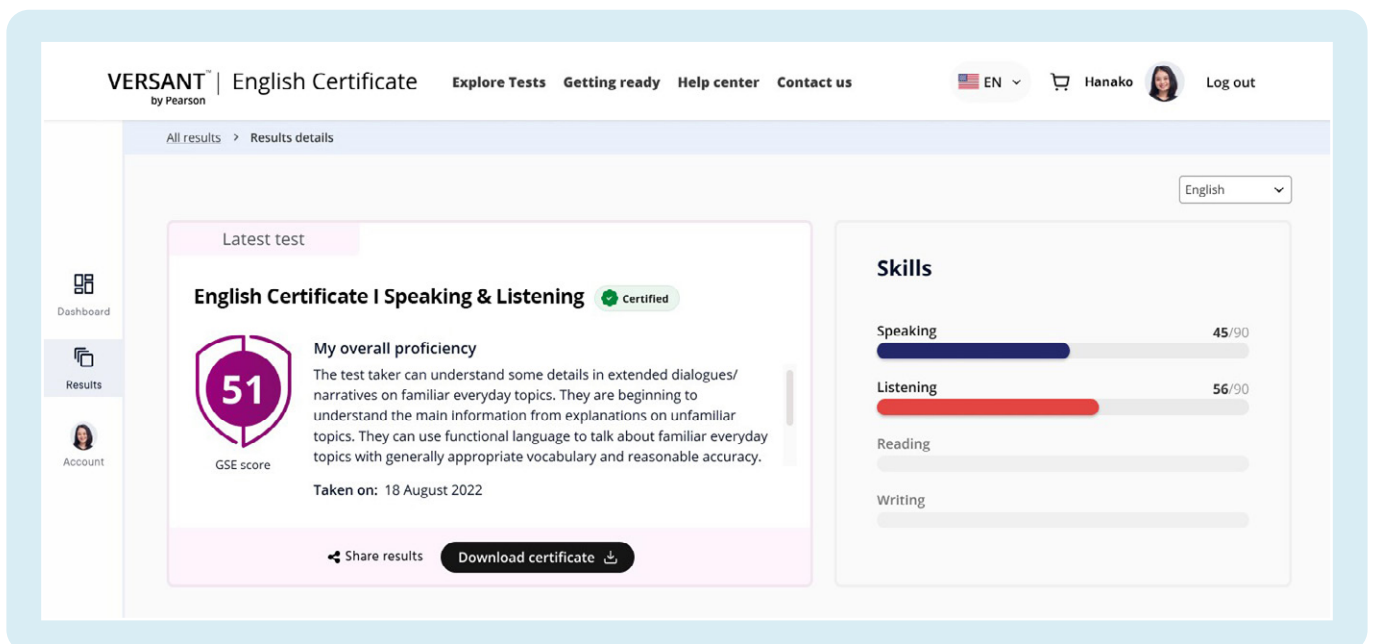
If you change your mind about sharing your certificate, you can turn on 'Stop sharing' with any recipient at any time.



Download your certificate

You can also download your certificate as a PDF document and share it with organizations independently.

If you decide to share this way, note that the recipient will not get access to the spoken or written sample of your test responses for the unscored sections at the end of the test.



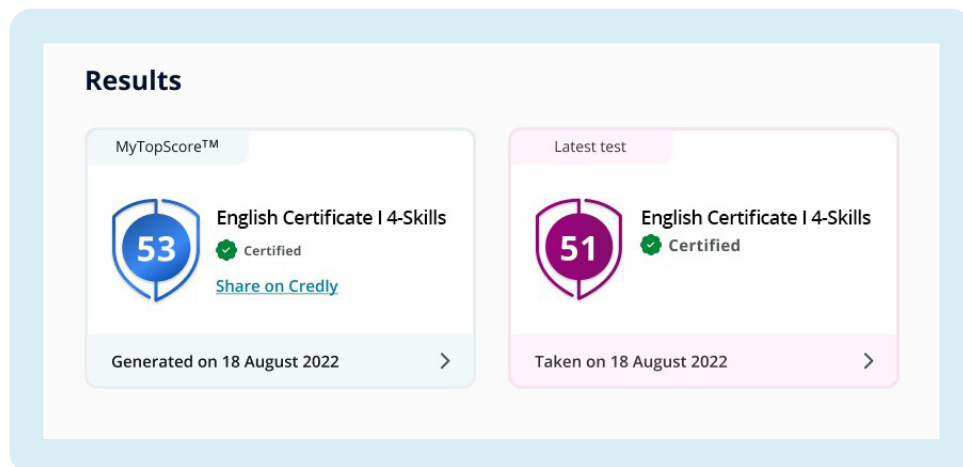
Rules and requirements



Rules and tips for a valid test

To make sure your test is validated by our security system, it is important to understand the rules and the factors which may flag your test as suspicious.

Here is a handy checklist to help you secure a valid certificate with confidence:



Environment

To ensure you are assessed fairly and get the best score possible, you must make sure your test environment is:

Quiet

- ✓ Ensure you are in a quiet room with no background noise.
- ✓ Keep doors and windows closed to shut out outside noise.
- ✓ Switch off electrical appliances that produce a lot of noise, such as fans and air conditioning.
- ✓ To reduce echos, use a room with soft furnishings like curtains, cushions, or blankets. (Empty rooms with hard surfaces increase echo).

Private

- ✓ It is important that no one else is in the room with you and that you are undisturbed for the duration of the test and during set-up. If someone is with you, this will invalidate your test attempt.
- ✓ After you pass the 'ID verification' before your test, put your mobile on airplane mode to avoid distractions or unintentionally checking your mobile screen. Focusing on anything other than your test will invalidate it.
- ✓ After starting your test, do not talk or even provide short answers to anybody around you.



Well-lit

- ✓ Ensure your room is bright throughout the test, and the camera can detect your whole face clearly.
- ✓ Make sure you do not have bright sunlight behind you casting a shadow on your face.
- ✓ If you wear glasses, make sure that there is no direct bright light reflecting off them.

ID



- ✓ Your ID must be a valid, government-issued original (i.e., not a photocopy).
- ✓ It must include your name and a recent, recognizable photo.
- ✓ It must be valid for at least 3 months from the date of your test. Expired documents will not be accepted.
- ✓ The first and last name on your ID must exactly match the first and the last name you registered in your profile information. If they do not match, we may not be able to certify your test.
- ✓ You may fill in your profile details either by Latin alphabet or in the local language of your ID.
- ✓ Do not use somebody else's personal details or ID.

Accepted forms of ID

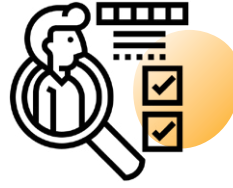
- ✓ International travel passport
- ✓ Driver's license
- ✓ Identification card (national, state or province ID card)
- ✓ Alien registration card (Green Card or permanent resident/visa)

Unaccepted forms of IDs

- ✓ Restricted IDs*, including the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Common Access Card (CAC) or certain secure access IDs
- ✓ IDs from countries where **Versant by Pearson English Certificate** is restricted: North Korea, Cuba, Syria, Sudan, Iran, Russia, Belarus and the Sevastopol/Crimea region of Ukraine

* We cannot accept restricted IDs – those prohibited by law from being photocopied, digitized, or captured on camera – as identification for online testing.

Behavior



- ✓ Avoid looking away from the screen during the test
- ✓ Keep an eye on the proctoring window and ensure you are always in the frame.
- ✓ Keep your mobile phone on airplane mode once your test has started
- ✓ Make sure that your eyes, mouth and ears are always visible in the active camera window
- ✓ You may not take notes during the test, so avoid paper, pens and other distractions
- ✓ Do not answer anyone or talk at all until your test is complete
- ✓ Do not exit the test, as you will not be able to resume the session

Time



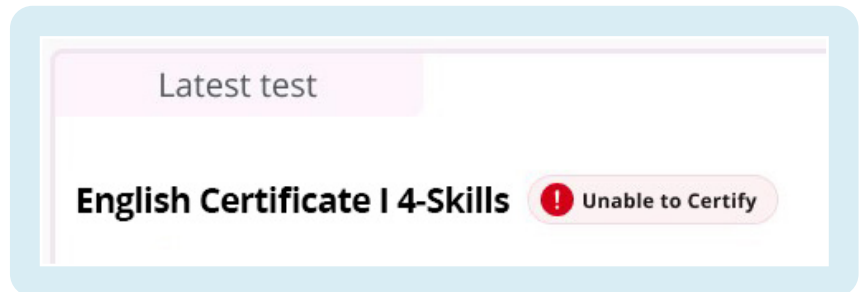
- ✓ Ensure you have a completely clear 30-60 minutes (depending on your test) for taking the test and 10 minutes for set-up.
- ✓ During this time, a frame will appear on the screen to indicate proctoring has begun. The test cannot be paused or stopped once it has begun.

What happens if we cannot certify your test?

If your test does not meet our security protocols, we will not certify your test. You will be able to see the reason in the 'Results' area of your account.

Depending on the reason, we may issue a free test so you can fix the issue. You will have 21 days to take the replacement test.

As well as not meeting the security protocols, below are some other instances in which we may not certify your test.



If your Overall and Speaking Scores are marked with an asterisk

An asterisk (*) on your 'Speaking' score means the audio quality of your speaking was affected by either: very soft or unintelligible speech, a noisy environment, non-English speech, or in some cases the content of what you said may have been irrelevant to the question.

When this happens, you will still be able to see your scores in the dashboard, but we cannot certify your test.

In this case, we will issue a free test (valid for 21 days) to improve your audio quality. We recommend you make sure that your testing environment is quiet, distraction free and that you speak your responses at a normal pace, in clear English.

If your ID cannot be verified

Sometimes ID cannot be verified. This is typically due to one or more of the following:


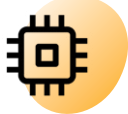




- Your ID data does not match the data on your profile
- Your ID is not a government-issued photo ID
- Your ID is expired
- The image you have taken is low quality, blurry, does not cover all corners, or is partially covered (e.g., by a finger, folded, creased etc.)

If this happens, we will ask you to either upload a new image of your ID or submit another ID. You will receive an email within 48 hours after your test with the subject: 'We need your help to verify your ID'. You must then submit a valid ID image within 14 days. After this, your test will go under security review to resolve your certification status in the next 48 hours.

If you do not submit ID when requested, even if you can see a pending score in your account, your test will not be certified.

Technical requirements

You must ensure you meet the following technical requirements.

 <h3>Hardware</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ You will need a laptop or desktop computer with a minimum of 500MB free disk space.✓ Your device should be fully charged or connected to a power supply throughout the test.✓ We do not currently support smartphones or handheld personal devices.	 <h3>RAM</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ 8GB RAM or more✓ Minimum: 500MB	 <h3>Display</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Minimum: 1366x768✓ Recommended: 1920x1080 <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We do not allow either multiple monitors or touchscreens.
 <h3>Camera</h3> <p>You will need either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Built-in webcam✓ External camera with a minimum resolution of 320x240	 <h3>Operating system</h3> <p>You will need either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Windows 11 & 10 (64-bit) – (excluding 'S Mode')✓ macOS 10.15 and above – (excluding beta versions) <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• macOS, starting with Mojave, now requires permission from the user to allow any hardware access to an application, which includes the Versant by Pearson English Certificate application. You must allow this application when asked.• Windows operating systems must pass Genuine Windows Validation.• Linux/Unix and Chrome-based operating systems are not supported.	
 <h3>Microphone</h3> <p>You will need either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ External microphone✓ Built-in microphone		



Firewall

- ✓ We recommend ensuring you are not connected to any corporate firewall, VPN or proxy, as these will interfere with the delivery of your test.



Browser

We recommend using either:

- ✓ Safari
- ✓ Chrome
- ✓ Latest version of Edge



Internet Connection

- ✓ For the best test experience, you will need a reliable and stable connection of 3 Mbps download speed and 1 Mbps upload speed.
- ✓ We recommend you use a wired internet connection or stable Wi-Fi. If you use a wireless network (LTE 3G/4G/5G) or mobile hotspot, your test may be interrupted.
- ✓ Before your test, it is best to check your internet connection by running an online speed test or a similar service. If you are taking your test at home, you should ask others who share the connection to avoid heavy internet use during your test.



Technology Checklist

- ✓ If you are using a desktop computer, make sure that only one keyboard, mouse and monitor are connected.
- ✓ If you are using a laptop, use only the laptop's built-in keyboard, monitor and trackpad.
- ✓ Your camera and microphone must be enabled throughout the test.
- ✓ Do not use headphones or earphones.
- ✓ Make sure that your computer is fully charged or connected to a power source.
- ✓ Close all browsers and applications running on your computer except the test application.
- ✓ Always stay on the test application window and do not navigate away from it.
- ✓ Spellchecks, auto-complete suggestions, captions, translations, screenshots, screen recordings, audio and video conferencing apps and other plug-ins are not allowed during the test.

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Good Luck!

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