

Quick and Full Placement Tests

The *Skillful Second Edition* placement tests are designed to help place students into groups corresponding to the five levels of the *Skillful Second Edition* series. Students with no previous knowledge of English do not need to take the test and should be placed in the Foundation Level. In both placement tests the items are graded and become progressively more difficult.

Quick Placement Test

The Quick Placement Test assesses grammar and vocabulary. It consists of 60 multiple-choice test items (36 grammar and 24 vocabulary), worth one point each.

Marking the Quick Placement Test

See the Quick Placement Test answer key.

Deciding students' levels

Use the Quick Placement Test conversion table that follows to place your students in the appropriate level. Placement according to the scores on the Quick Placement Test assumes that the students attempt to answer all the questions.

Quick Placement Test conversion table

| Total score | Level |
|-------------|------------|
| 0–10 | Foundation |
| 11–24 | Level 1 |
| 25–36 | Level 2 |
| 37–48 | Level 3 |
| 49–60 | Level 4 |

Full Placement Test

The Full Placement Test assesses grammar, vocabulary, reading and writing. A student who answers every question correctly receives a score of 100 marks. There are 76 multiple-choice items (the same 60 grammar and vocabulary questions as in the Quick test, plus 16 reading items). Each of these items is worth one point. There are a possible 24 additional marks available for the test's writing items (8 marks each). Like the Quick test, the Full test becomes progressively more difficult.

Marking the grammar, vocabulary, and reading sections of the Full Placement Test

See the Full Placement Test answer key.

Marking the writing items in the Full Placement Test

Use the marking criteria below to assign a score out of a total of 8 possible marks for each writing task. While the same scale is used to assess the students' performance for all three writing tasks, a greater degree of sophistication, range and accuracy is required as the writing tasks become progressively more difficult.

Marking criteria

- 8 Complete, accurate, and appropriate.
- 7 Mainly accurate, rarely inappropriate.
- 5–6 Minor inaccuracies, sometimes inappropriate.
- 3–4 Noticeable inaccuracies, often inappropriate.
- 1–2 Mainly inaccurate, mostly inappropriate.
- 0 Too little or too incomprehensible to mark.

Deciding students' levels

Use the Full Placement Test conversion table that follows to place your students in the appropriate level. Placement according to the scores on the Full Placement Test assumes that the students attempt to answer all the questions.

Full Placement Test conversion table

| Total score | Level |
|-------------|------------|
| 0–20 | Foundation |
| 21–40 | Level 1 |
| 41–60 | Level 2 |
| 61–80 | Level 3 |
| 81–100 | Level 4 |