



SÜLEYMAN DEMİREL ÜNİVERSİTESİ
SULEYMAN DEMIREL UNIVERSITY

19-20 September, 2018

SDU
English Proficiency Exam
A Guide for Test Takers

School of Foreign Languages



SDÜ İNGİLİZCE YETERLİLİK SINAVI (SDÜ-İYS)

SDU ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION (SDU-EPE)

Purpose of EPE

SDU English Proficiency Examination (EPE) is a test designed to assess the English language proficiency level of the students who are entitled to undertake their undergraduate studies at Süleyman Demirel University. The aim of EPE is to determine whether the test taker's proficiency in English is sufficient to perform communicative tasks in English, at a level that will enable them to follow the courses offered in their respective fields of study and fulfill the requirements of the courses with relative ease (C1 level for the departments of ELT & ELL, B1 for the other departments) Thus, the SDU-EPE is mainly concerned with assessing students' proficiency in Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking through various tasks, understanding written and oral academic texts, their ability to follow lectures, as well as their competence in composing academic texts of varying lengths.

Components of SDU-EPE

SDU-EPE consists of two stages, each administered on a separate day. Test takers are expected to take both stages. The scores obtained from the two stages make up the final EPE score.

Stage One, is administered on the first day in three separate sessions. It comprises selected multiple choice type questions, which are machine scored.

The weightings allocated to each sessions and the time allowed are given in Table 1.

Table 1 *The EPE content of Stage I*

Stage I				
The morning session	Component	Number of Questions	Weight	Time
	Use of English (Vocabulary and Grammar)	50 questions	%40	~ 50 minutes
The afternoon sessions	Listening	25 questions	%30	~ 40 minutes
	Reading	25 questions	%30	~ 50 minutes

Stage One of SDU-EPE determines whether a candidate may take the second stage of the test or not. The students of ELT and ELL departments who take at least **60 points** and the students of other departments who take at least **50 points** in the first stage **can take the Stage Two** of the EPE. The final SDU-EPE score of those candidates who do not qualify for the second stage of the test will be whatever they have scored on the first stage of the test.

Stage Two is administered on the second day in two separate sessions. It comprises a writing task and two speaking tasks. The raters go through standardization before each grading session. Each task is graded by two raters, and by a third rater if it is needed.

The weightings allocated to each sessions and the time allowed are given in Table 2.

Table 2 *The EPE content of Stage II*

Stage II			
The morning session	Component		Time
		Writing	1 Task
The afternoon sessions	Speaking	2 Tasks	~ 5-10 minutes

The scores of all sessions consist the final score of EPE. The weighs allocated to each session is equally **%20**. The tests takers are supposed to take at least **70** to pass the exam.

Table 3 *Weighs for the Final Score of EPE*

Test	Weight
Use of English	%20
Listening	%20
Reading	%20
Writing	%20
Speaking	%20

Announcement of the SDU-EPE Scores

The score obtained on the entire exam are announced on the following web page:

<http://ydyo.sdu.edu.tr/>

STAGE I

Session 1 (Duration: 50 minutes / 50 questions)

USE OF ENGLISH

Session	Task	Objectives	Number of Questions	Question Type
Use of English (Vocabulary and Grammar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Choosing the alternative that best completes each sentence in the paragraph (cloze test). - Choosing the alternative that best completes the sentence. - Choosing synonym/antonym for the underlined word in the sentence. 	<p>To assess the candidate's ability to decode simple, compound and complex sentences and to detect correct, appropriate language structures, vocabulary and discourse markers, to recognize words that are commonly used in entry-level academic texts. Also, to assess the candidate's awareness of the essentials and intricacies of English grammar, including tenses, prepositions, and stylistic variations of certain structures.</p>	<p>25 vocabulary and 25 grammar questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 cloze test texts with 13 questions. - 31 sentence-level questions. - Synonym/antonym in the sentence: 6 questions. 	<p>Multiple choice with 4 options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sentence completion - paragraph completion - synonym/antonym (scored by an optic reader).

Session 2 (Duration: about 40 minutes / 25 questions)

LISTENING

Session	Task	Objectives	Number of Questions	Question Type
Listening	<p>Conversation is an audio recording. You will listen to a dialogue between two or more people and answer the questions.</p>	Interviews	3 interviews with 18 questions.	Multiple choice with 4 options (scored by an optic reader).
	<p>Lecture is an audio recording. You will listen to a monologue and answer the questions.</p>	Lectures		

**For items in these section, you will hear three interviews and a lecture. You will hear each one twice. As you listen, choose the alternative that best answers each question or completes each statement. Before you listen to each one, you will have 30 seconds to look at the questions and alternatives.*

Session 3 (Duration: 50 minutes / 25 questions)

READING

Session	Task	Objectives		Number of Questions	Question Type
Reading Comprehension	Choosing the alternative that best completes each sentence or thought.	Sentence Completion	To assess the candidate's ability to recognize the relationship between ideas in a text and to recognize and interpret cohesive devices for linking different parts of a text.	3	Multiple choice with 4 options (scored by an optic reader).
	Choosing the alternative that best completes each paragraph.	Paragraph Completion	To assess the candidate's ability to recognize the relationship between ideas in a text, discourse organization and transitions that tie ideas to one another in a paragraph.	3	
	Choosing the alternative that does not support the given topic sentence.	Supporting Ideas	To assess the candidate's ability to recognize ideas that support a given topic sentence.	2	
	Choosing the alternative which best answers the question or completes the statement about the text.	Text Comprehension	To assess the candidate's ability to understand the main/specific ideas in a text and answer comprehension questions about it, to distinguish between different levels of information, to identify the purpose of a text, to understand the author's point of view, to make out inferred meaning and to guess word meaning.	5 texts of varying lengths accompanied by 17 questions.	

STAGE II

Session 1 (Duration: 50 minutes / 1 Task)

WRITING

Session	Task	Objectives	Number of Questions	Question Type
Writing	<p>Writing an essay approximately 220 (+/- 10) words within the given topic. You are expected to develop your own ideas. Make sure you write well-organized paragraphs in your essay and all your ideas are relevant to the topic. The essay will be graded according to: the content, the organization and the range and accuracy of vocabulary and grammar equally.</p>	<p>To assess the candidate's ability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- to use correct, appropriate and expanded range of language structures, vocabulary and discourse features that relates to a variety of topic areas in writing- to follow the conventions of standard written English,- to logically organize, define, explain, compare or contrast information to produce cohesive and coherent piece of writing- to follow the conventions of spelling, punctuation and capitalization	1 Task	1 essay approximately 220 words (scored by a group of experienced raters in accordance with the guidelines provided. The raters are trained in using the guidelines for grading in a standardization session. Each paper is graded by two co-raters or more.

Session 2 (Duration: 5-10 minutes/ 2 Tasks)

SPEAKING

Session	Task	Objectives	Number of Questions	Question Type
Speaking	Making a description of a given term/ person/ place/ time/ situation/ feeling/ experience, etc. on the topic card including the given details for one to two minutes without being interrupted. Before you talk, you'll have two minutes to think about what you're going to say. You can make some notes if you wish.	To assess the candidate's ability - to use correct, appropriate and expanded range of language structures, vocabulary and discourse features that relates to a variety of topic areas in speaking. - to follow the conventions of standard spoken English, - to logically describe, define, explain, exemplify, compare or contrast information to produce cohesive and coherent piece of speaking - to follow the conventions pronunciation and fluency.	1 instruction 2 or 3 questions.	1prepared speaking task, 1 unprepared interactive task (scored by a group of experienced raters in accordance with the guidelines provided. The raters are trained in using the guidelines for grading in a standardization session. Each paper is graded by two co-raters or more.
	Answering the questions asked by the examiner.			