Versant™ English Assessment

Measure English speaking skills quickly, accurately and reliably

Versant™ is a completely automated test of spoken English that enables you to ensure applicants and employees have the level of spoken English language skills necessary for a given job.

Use Versant™ to objectively measure English speaking skills:

• Evaluate the ability to understand spoken English.
• Evaluate the ability to be understood when English is spoken.
• Enable consistent English language proficiency levels throughout your organisation.

At a glance:

• Assess an individual's spoken English language skills objectively.
• A test of spoken (UK) English with fair and bias-free contents.
• Online or Mobile, 17 mins, timed.
• 63 questions delivered via web, software or mobile app.
• Remote monitoring - Test anywhere, anytime - giving you confidence and security when testing remotely.
• Available via mobile app - flexible testing via Versant™ Mobile our newest language test delivery method.
• Extensively tested and validated to provide results you can trust.

Used by top global companies, local authorities, councils and universities, over 1 million Versant™ English Language Tests are used each year to screen candidates and applicants for proficient use of the English language.
Versant™ English Assessment

THE FORMAT OF THE TEST
The Versant English Test consists of 63 questions in total and takes only 17 minutes to complete. Questions cover:

- **Sentence builds** – candidates listen to a group of three short phrases presented in random order and then rearrange them to make a sentence.
- **Story Retelling** – candidates listen to a series of brief stories and retell them in English and in their own words.
- **Short questions** – candidates listen to a series of questions, and are instructed to answer in a simple response.
- **Reading** – candidates should read the sentences as instructed.
- **Repeat** – candidates are required to repeat each sentence they hear.
- **Open questions** – candidates should respond to two questions after the beep, within a time period of 40 seconds.

Versant is free of bias and driven by artificially intelligent (AI) scoring technology, giving scores that are available almost immediately and giving organisations confidence in secure testing.

Results are analysed in minutes and retrieved by the administrator from Pearson’s ScoreKeeper management system. The scores evaluate the candidate’s overall abilities plus their fluency, pronunciation, sentence mastery and vocabulary skills.

REMOTE MONITORING - ADDED SECURITY
Remote monitoring is available for the Versant English Test.

With remote monitoring candidates are recorded and AI remote monitoring used to ensure the test is being taken fairly; any suspicious behaviour is flagged. This way candidates can take the test at home while you have the insight and confidence you need to select candidates.
VERSANT™ MOBILE – PEARSON’S NEW TESTING APP

A new way of testing for a mobile-friendly world. Versant™ Mobile is our newest language test delivery method, available right from your smartphone. With Versant™ Mobile you have a flexible solution that is designed for any testing situation:

- It offers candidates practice tests.
- Offline testing when Internet connection is unavailable (and to prevent interruptions during testing).
- Large scale testing for groups of candidates.
- Flexible testing – anywhere including off-site testing such as at recruitment events.
- 24/7 availability.
- Instant scores helping you to make decisions confidently and efficiently.

BENEFITS

- **Reduce recruitment costs** – Versant™ has been proven to help screen applicants on a supervised or unsupervised basis, so that recruitment managers only put those candidates forward for interview, who are able to meet an acceptable level of spoken English.
- **Score without bias** – Versant™ tests are scored automatically, reducing the risk of inconsistency and human bias. Items have also been reviewed for fairness and bias-free usage.
- **Save time** – Up-scale your recruitment process by testing thousands of candidates quickly, efficiently and reliably.
- **Quality recruits** – Global employers are using the Versant English Test as part of their candidate selection process and for in-house development. It helps remove miscommunication and reduce customer complaints. Local councils and community organisations also use the test as part of their driver licence application process and safeguarding measures.
The candidate achieves an overall score with sub-scores in the following areas:

- **Pronunciation** - This reflects the ability to produce consonants, vowels and stress in a native-like manner in sentence context.
- **Fluency** - This reflects the rhythm, phrasing and timing evident in constructing, reading and repeating sentences.
- **Sentence Mastery** - This reflects the ability to understand, recall and produce English phrases and clauses in complete sentences.
- **Vocabulary** - This reflects the ability to understand common everyday words spoken in sentence context and to produce such words as needed.

The score report looks at the candidate’s current capabilities, offers recommendations for improvements and outlines the relationship between the score and other scales that measure or describe language proficiency.

**OVERALL SCORE**

69

**DESCRIPTION**

**Overall**

The test represents the ability to understand spoken English and speak fluently at a native-like conversational pace on everyday topics. Scores are based on a weighted combination of four diagnostic subscores. Scores are reported in the range from 20 to 80.

**Candidate’s Capabilities**

Candidate speaks and understands at native-speaker speeds with minimal effort, and can contribute readily in a native-paced discussion at length, maintaining the colloquial flow. Speech is fluent and intelligible; candidate has consistent mastery of complex language structures.

**SCORE REPORT**

Versant English Test (Demo)

Test Identification Number: 1111 1111

Test Completion Date: August 10, 2008

Test Completion Time: 3:46 PM (UTC)

OVERALL SCORE

69

**DESCRIPTION**

**Listening**

- Can understand extended speech on abstract and complex topics beyond the tested subject.
- Can recognize a wide range of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms, appreciating register shifts.
- Can follow extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signaled explicitly.

**Spoken Production**

- Can give clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects.
- Can deliver announcements fluently, almost effortlessly, using stress and intonation to convey finer shades of meaning precisely.
- Can handle interactions well, responding spontaneously and almost effortlessly.

**Spoken Interaction**

- Can express himself/herself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly.
- Has a good command of a broad lexical repertoire allowing gaps to be readily overcome with circumlocutions. There is little obvious searching for expressions or avoidance strategies, only a conceptually difficult subject can hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.
- Can express thoughts in a clear and precise manner, addressing social and other needs fluently, almost effortlessly.

**TEST COMPLETION**

Test Completion Time: 3:46 PM (UTC)

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