



SOFL
SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES



HSE ENGLISH TEST

ABOUT

HSE ENGLISH TEST

HSE English Test is a multilevel language test aimed at assessing the level of English-language competence. HSE English Test measures the level of English across the four skills: reading, listening, writing, and speaking. Having completed the test, each candidate receives a certificate that verifies their level of English according to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

HSE English Test is beneficial for:



students who would like to assess their level of English-language competence according to approved standards



students who are applying for Bachelor's, Master's or PhD study programmes in English



employees who want to provide certification of their English-language proficiency for a CV, portfolio or job application



employers who are invested in their employees' professional English-language development



speakers of English as a second language who would like to test their language proficiency

Test types:

- **Academic English Test:** for students of Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD programmes; for faculty and staff of schools and higher education institutions. The test is based on authentic academic materials and is meant to assess the ability to interact within an English-language academic environment.
- **Business English Test:** for business stakeholders. The test is based on authentic business communication materials, situations, and practices. This test will determine whether the candidate is able to communicate effectively in an English-language business environment and continue their business education and professional development in the English language.

TEST STRUCTURE

HSE English Test consists of four sections: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking. Each section of the test is designed to assess the level of the candidate's English-language skills in accordance with CEFR (Level A1 – Level C1 and above). Each of the four sections is graded on a scale of 1-100. In order to obtain a certificate verifying the level of English-language competence, each candidate must complete the entire test.*

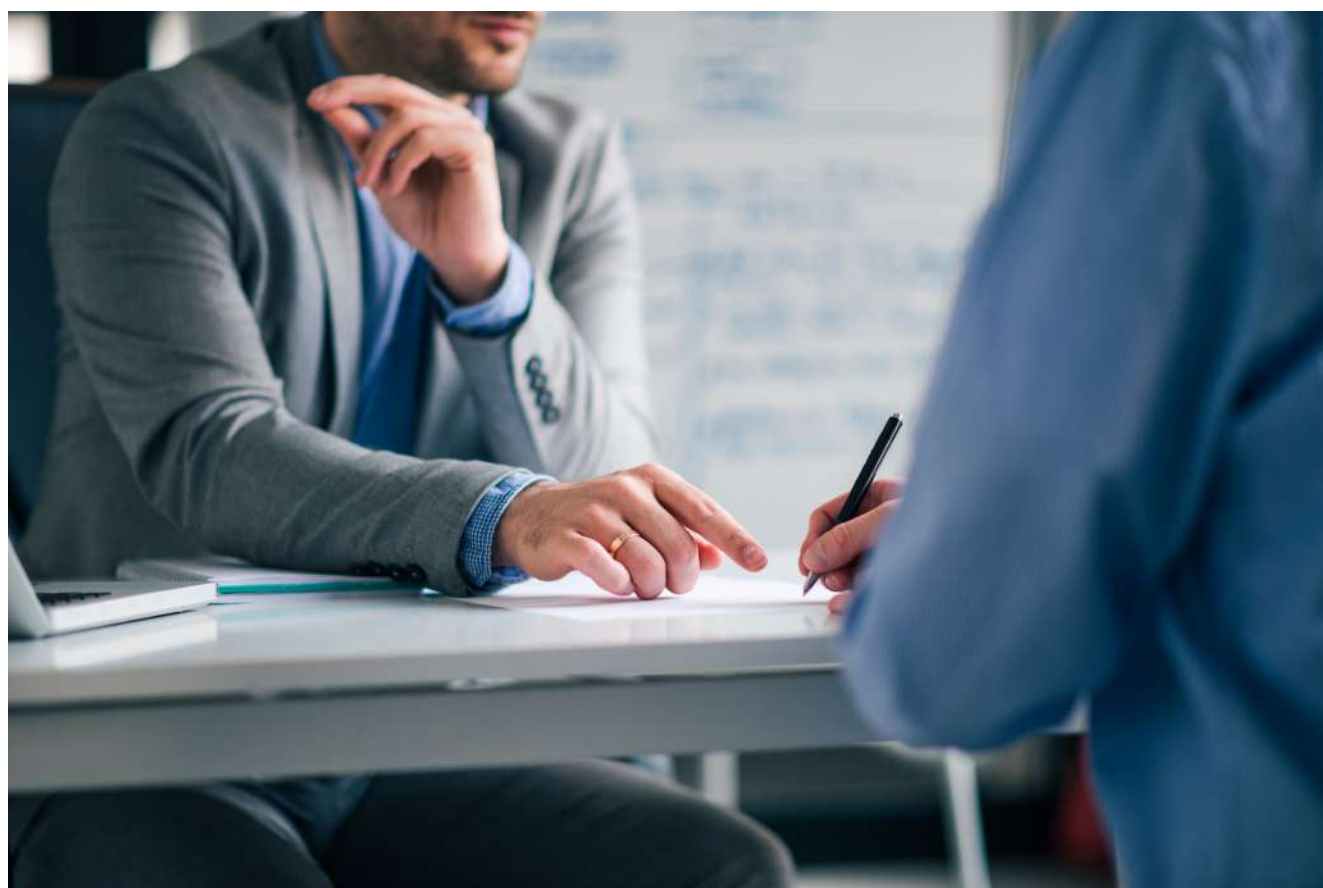
Section	Content	Purpose
Reading	Three parts 60 minutes approx.	<p>Part 1 tests the candidate's ability to recognize familiar English terms and basic phrases. This part assesses the candidate's understanding of the main ideas of texts.</p> <p>Part 2 measures the candidate's skills of word formation and reading for specific information.</p> <p>Part 3 assesses the candidate's understanding of text structure, logic, and coherence and tests the candidate's knowledge of advanced grammar structures and vocabulary.</p>
Writing	Two parts 65 minutes	The Writing section tests the candidate's business or academic writing skills. This section also assesses the candidate's ability to justify viewpoints, present arguments, and express opinions in a well-structured manner.
Listening	Three parts 40 minutes approx.	<p>Part 1 examines the candidate's ability to recognize basic English terms, phrases and the main ideas expressed in short dialogues.</p> <p>Part 2 assesses the candidate's skills of understanding details and opinions expressed in long monologues.</p> <p>Part 3 tests the candidate's ability to listen to academic lectures or business presentations and take notes.</p>
Speaking	15 minutes approx.	The Speaking section tests the candidate's ability to interact in a business or academic environment. This section also evaluates the ability to answer questions, participate in discussions and produce monologues while giving detailed descriptions, expressing opinions, and providing supporting arguments.

* Candidates can take selected parts of the HSE English Test and have them assessed according to CEFR.

TEST FORMATS

HSE English Test is administered via the HSE platform and can be taken either on HSE campus or from a remote location. Each candidate can sign up for an allocated time slot.

- ✓ **Computer-based or paper-based offline test** is administered at the Centre for Independent English Language Assessment, which is conveniently located at Staraya Basmannaya Street (HSE campus, Moscow). The Centre is equipped with laptops, headsets, and individual seating arrangements. The exam process is administered by the friendly and competent invigilators creating a productive and mindful atmosphere.
- ✓ **Online test** can be taken from a remote location. You can take the test at the location of your choice. In this case, your test will be supervised by a proctor (in a synchronized format). The proctor will assist you with accessing the test and solving any technical issues that might arise during the test.



TEST RESULTS

Upon the completion of the entire test, the candidate receives a detailed report on each of the four skills being tested with CEFR descriptors, as well as the average score which determines the level of English-language competence.

Average score	69	CEFR level	B1
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Skill	Score	CEFR level	CEFR descriptors
Reading	71	B2	Can read texts about specific topics. Can identify the writer's viewpoints. Can understand contemporary prose.

Skill	Score	CEFR level	CEFR descriptors
Writing	60	B1	Can write about familiar topics. Can write an email about personal experiences and opinions.

Skill	Score	CEFR level	CEFR descriptors
Listening	82	B2	Can follow and understand extended speeches. Can understand complex arguments about familiar topics.

Skill	Score	CEFR level	CEFR descriptors
Speaking	68	B1	Can connect phrases in a simple form. Can also give a short explanation about familiar topics.

More detailed 'Can do' statements can be found at: www.coe.int/lang-CEFR

Points	CEFR level
91-100	C1 and above
71-90	B2
51-70	B1
31-50	A2
15-30	A1
0-14	Below CEFR Levels



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