

## GIPA Test of English Exam – Examiners Guide

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**NB: BEFORE MARKING A STUDENT'S EXAM, PLEASE READ ALL OF THE INFORMATION GIVEN HERE:**

#### 1. The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CERF)

The CERFL is widely accepted as a frame of reference to illustrate a learner's achievements in learning a given language. This test is designed to test the student's level of English for academic and general purposes, and places students within a B1 (Pre-Intermediate), B1-B2 (Intermediate) or a B2 (Upper-Intermediate) category.

#### 2. This Test

This test is divided into three sections, each of which takes 30 minutes to complete. The three sections of the test may be administered together or separately and in any order. The maximum score available to each candidate is 100 marks. The boundaries between marking categories are given below, after the individual marking categories for each section. What follows is an overview of the test.

#### Reading

- 30 marks
- 3 short texts
- 30 questions
- 30 mins

#### Use of English

- 40 marks
- 40 questions
- 30 mins

## Listening

- 30 marks
- 30 questions
- 3 listening passages
- 30 mins

### 3. General Instructions on how to administer this test

#### a. Reading

- i. The candidates should each be given a copy of the question paper, an answer sheet and a pen.
- ii. They should be given a minute to read the instructions and write their name on the answer sheet, if they haven't already.
- iii. Verbally remind the candidates that they should aim to spend 10 minutes on each reading passage.
- iv. Answer any queries.
- v. After they have read the instructions, let them open the test paper and begin the exam.
- vi. They should have no more than 30 minutes to complete the exam.

#### b. Use of English

- i. Each candidate needs a copy of the question paper, an answer sheet and a pen.
- ii. Give them one minute to read the instructions and to write their name on the answer sheet, if they haven't already.
- iii. Verbally remind the students that they have 40 questions to complete in 30 minutes.
- iv. Answer any queries.
- v. They should be allowed no more than 30 minutes to complete the exam.

#### c. Listening

- i. The candidates will need a copy of the question paper, an answer sheet and a pen.
- ii. The examiner will need something to play the four audio tracks and a speaker so that those at the back of the exam room can hear the audio track. It is important that the examiner check the listening tracks first to make sure they are audible.
- iii. Give the candidates one minute to read the instructions and write their name on the answer sheet if they haven't already.
- iv. Answer any queries.
- v. Next, play the 30-second test track and check that all students can hear it.

- vi. Each listening track should be played and the questions answered within ten minutes. Check the time, play the track twice and then allow the remaining time for the candidates to answer the questions until 10 minutes have elapsed.
- vii. Repeats this for the remaining two tracks.

#### 4. Reading

- The Reading Section is designed to test the student's *basic comprehension* of everyday reading material and simple academic texts without specialist vocabulary. The questions also test a student's *pragmatic comprehension* to infer answers from information given.

Less than 10	10-16	17-21	22 + correct
No pass	B1	B1-B2	B2

Answers:

1. d	11. c	21. b
2. b	12. c	22. b
3. d	13. b	23. c
4. b	14. c	24. a
5. a	15. b	25. b
6. c	16. b	26. d
7. c	17. a	27. c
8. a	18. a	28. b
9. b	19. a	29. a
10. a	20. c	30. a

#### 5. Use of English

- The 'Use of English' section of the exam is designed to test the student's comprehension of everyday vocabulary and commonly-used grammar structures.
- Each of the forty questions in this part of the exam is worth ONE MARK EACH
- The first twenty questions test language which should have been mastered by a B1 (Pre-Intermediate to Intermediate)
- The following twenty questions (from 21 to 40) assess language which should have been mastered by a B2 Student.
- Since the above applies, apart from giving an overall CERF rating, the examiner can also identify gaps in a candidate's level. A candidate who gets most of the first 20 questions right and most of the next twenty mostly wrong, for instance, is a firm B1 student and is better-placed to begin formal instruction as an Intermediate (B1-B2) student. If the candidate's mistakes are distributed equally across both the first and second half of the test, the student has quite a

patchy grasp of English grammar and is likely to make lots of basic mistakes in speaking or writing, despite having fairly good comprehension.

- The grade boundaries for the Use of English section are as follows:

Less than 12	12-17 correct	17-25 correct	26 + correct
No pass	B1	B1-B2	B2

Answers:

1. a	11. b	21. b	31. b
2. c	12. b	22. a	32. c
3. b	13. c	23. c	33. c
4. b	14. b	24. c	34. a
5. d	15. c	25. b	35. c
6. d	16. a	26. a	36. b
7. b	17. b	27. d	37. b
8. b	18. d	28. c	38. c
9. a	19. a	29. a	39. a
10. a	20. c	30. d	40. a

#### 6. Listening section

- Like the reading section, this part of the exam is designed to test both *basic comprehension* and *pragmatic comprehension* using samples of news broadcasts, samples of journalistic discourse and similar informational material that a student is likely to encounter during a post-graduate course of study. The test also gives students exposure to a variety of accents and non-native voices.
- The grade boundaries for the listening section are as follows

Less than 10	10-16 correct	17-21 correct	22+ correct
No pass	B1	B1-B2	B2

Answers:

1. c	9. a	17. b
2. b	10. b	18. a
3. b, c *	11. c	19. c
4. d	12. b	20. d
5. a	13. c	21. b
6. a, d*	14. c	22. c
7. c	15. c	23. b
8. b	16. a	24. a

25. c

27. b

29. a

26. a

28. b

30. c

\*Candidates must get both answers to be awarded one mark

7. Candidates overall scores – Since there are exactly one hundred questions in the exam, the testing institution may present the candidate with a total score out of one hundred. The grade boundaries for this are as follows:

Less than 32	32 -50 correct	51- 67 correct	62 + correct
No pass	B1	B1-B2	B2