LanguageCert General Test statistics

Language Cert

LanguageCert Test performance

LanguageCert General measures using a 100-point scale, the LanguageCert Global Scale. Candidate scores are reported by skill (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking), by total score and CEFR equivalence.

Reliability and standard error of measurement can provide helpful insight into a test's performance. Reliability provides an estimate of the extent to which differences in language test scores are attribu table to real differences in language proficiency rather than variations in performance that might have come about by chance. LanguageCert General tests follow different scoring methods depending on the language skill being tested, and this requires different approaches to establish their reliability.

The reliability of the test as a whole is estimated from the scaled scores on the four test components using McDonald's coefficient omega (ω) as well as Cronbach's alpha (α) as this has been widely recommended as the preferred option for composite scores (Hayes & Coutts 2020).

The reliability of each subsection, along with overall performance, ranged from .85-.92. Standard error of measurement (SEM) was calculated with the formula, SD√(1 – reliability).

Test reliability of the Listening and Reading sections

On Listening and Reading components, all test taker responses are scored as correct or incorrect, and Cronbach's alpha for each is calculated using the sum of these scores in an item-based approach.

Test reliability of the Writing and Speaking sections

The Writing and Speaking tests are scored as polytomous (on a scale ranging from 0 to 8 points) by two raters drawn from the LanguageCert team of trained examiners working independently, each unaware of the scores awarded by the other. Reliabilities for these two components are estimated using one-way random intra-class correlation coefficients (ICC), taking the average measures. Where scores are discrepant, a senior examiner rescores the performance and it is this third score that is taken as final.

The data below show test performance for 2023.

Section	Reliability coefficient	Reliability index	Mean	Standard Deviation	SEM
Listening	.87	Cronbach's α	55.01	19.07	6.88
Reading	.85	Cronbach's α	59.19	16.57	6.42
Writing	.91	ICC	58.38	12.77	3.78
Speaking	.89	ICC	64.00	12.44	4.11
Composite	.92	McDonald's ω	59.28	13.11	3.71
Composite	.92	Cronbach's α	59.28	13.11	3.71

SEM = standard error of measurement; ICC = intraclass correlation.

LanguageCert General Test Taker Performance

LanguageCert General candidates are a richly diverse group. Their statistics and performance are summarised below.

Age

M = 28.80, *SD* = 7.66

Mean by Gender

LanguageCert General gender performance in % (standard deviation in brackets)

Gender	Total	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
Female	59.11 (13.08)	54.71 (19.03)	58.35 (16.53)	58.64 (12.76)	64.17 (12.42)
Male	59.50 (13.01)	55.45 (18.97)	60.43 (16.45)	57.96 (12.61)	63.69 (12.39)
Undisclosed	63.50 (18.76)	55.00 (18.76)	63.00 (15.61)	63.50 (13.39)	71.50 (13.17)
Total	59.28 (13.09)	55.01 (19.06)	59.19 (16.56)	58.38 (12.76)	64.00 (12.43)

Mean by Nationality

LanguageCert General Performance by Nationality

Nationality	Total	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
Brazilian	62.5	66.21	63.14	69.29	65.36
Chilean	43.83	57.5	60	51.83	53.5
Chinese	60.6	67.6	60.34	61.93	62.75
Colombian	50.47	56.11	58	62.53	56.89
French	69.14	73.43	68	71	70.57
Greek	73.24	77.49	67.61	72.78	72.92
Indian	63.32	67.53	64.21	69.47	66.26
Iranian	49.06	55.78	59.17	69.67	58.44
Iraqi	47.34	52.62	52.26	65.21	54.48
Italian	49.57	49.71	59.57	60.86	55.14
Japanese	51.87	55.6	57.07	52.33	54.27
Jordanian	59.86	65	60.36	72.07	64.43
South Korean	57.57	56.29	50	53.86	54.43
Kurdish	42.67	48.67	37	63	48
Spanish	53.34	54.34	58.44	61.18	56.98
Taiwanese	53	62.4	56	53.2	56.4
Thai	61.5	58	57	58.33	58.83
Turkish	59	53.14	60.57	58.43	57.86
Ukrainian	51.14	51	55.71	66	56.14
Zimbabwean	46.29	49.41	58.43	66	55.16
Total incl. other*	36	56.78	60.19	61	66.22

*Nationalities with fewer than 3 test takers do not appear in the table above but are included in ***other***.