

# TESTING AND PLACEMENT POLICY

## 1. Policy

Students who apply for admission to Hanson Language School (hereinafter called 'HLS') are subject to HLS's testing and placement procedures. The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures, circumstances, and conditions upon which a student is required to complete an English placement test. Please note that the General and/or Academic IELTS Overall Band Scores may also be accepted for placement purposes.

## 2. English Placement Test

- 2.1. Students who wish to enroll in ESL or EAP courses will be given an integrated skill placement test.
- 2.2. The results of the test will determine the appropriate language level students should take and assist to guide a course of study.
- 2.3. Proficiency Levels Equivalence Chart:

Hanson Language School Levels	Hanson Language School Placement Test Score	Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) Levels	Duolingo	TOEFL IBT	IELTS Band Score	TOEIC
English for Academic Purposes (EAP)	85%+	C1	95 – 100	59-78	5.5 – 6.0	560-680
Upper Intermediate Level (ESL500)	75-84%	B2	75 – 90	39-58	5.0 – 5.5	356-559
Intermediate Level (ESL400)	60-74%	B1	65 – 70	31-38	4.0 – 4.5	336-355
Pre-Intermediate Level (ESL300)	40-59%	A2	55 – 60	19-30	3.5 – 4.0	290-335
Beginner	15-39%	A1				

### 3. Level Progression

- 3.1. All students are required to successfully complete coursework (a series of assignments and quizzes) throughout the level.
- 3.2. All students will write a final exam after the completion of a level for the purposes of progressing from one level to the next.
- 3.3. Whether they are deemed eligible to exit and enter the next level is dependent upon their final score. A **minimum of 70%** is required.
- 3.4. Students are permitted to take a maximum of two (2) attempts to write the final exam.

### 4. Level Challenge Test

- 4.1. **Students who wish to 'level up'** have the opportunity to write a Level Challenge Test and score a minimum of **80%** in order to be eligible to enter the level challenged. For example, ESL Intermediate students who wish to enter directly into Upper Intermediate will have the opportunity to complete the Intermediate Final Exam. Students must score a minimum of **80%** to be eligible to enter directly to Upper Intermediate.
- 4.2. **Exiting Directly to EAP from Lower Levels:** Students who wish to exit a level lower than that of EAP and level up directly to EAP have the opportunity to write the Upper Intermediate (ESL 500) Final Exam. If students score a minimum of **80%** (a letter grade of B), they will be eligible to enter directly to the EAP level. For example, students who have completed the Intermediate Level (ESL 400) must write the Upper Intermediate (ESL 500) Final Exam and score a minimum grade of **80%** (a letter grade of B) to be eligible to enter directly to the EAP level.