

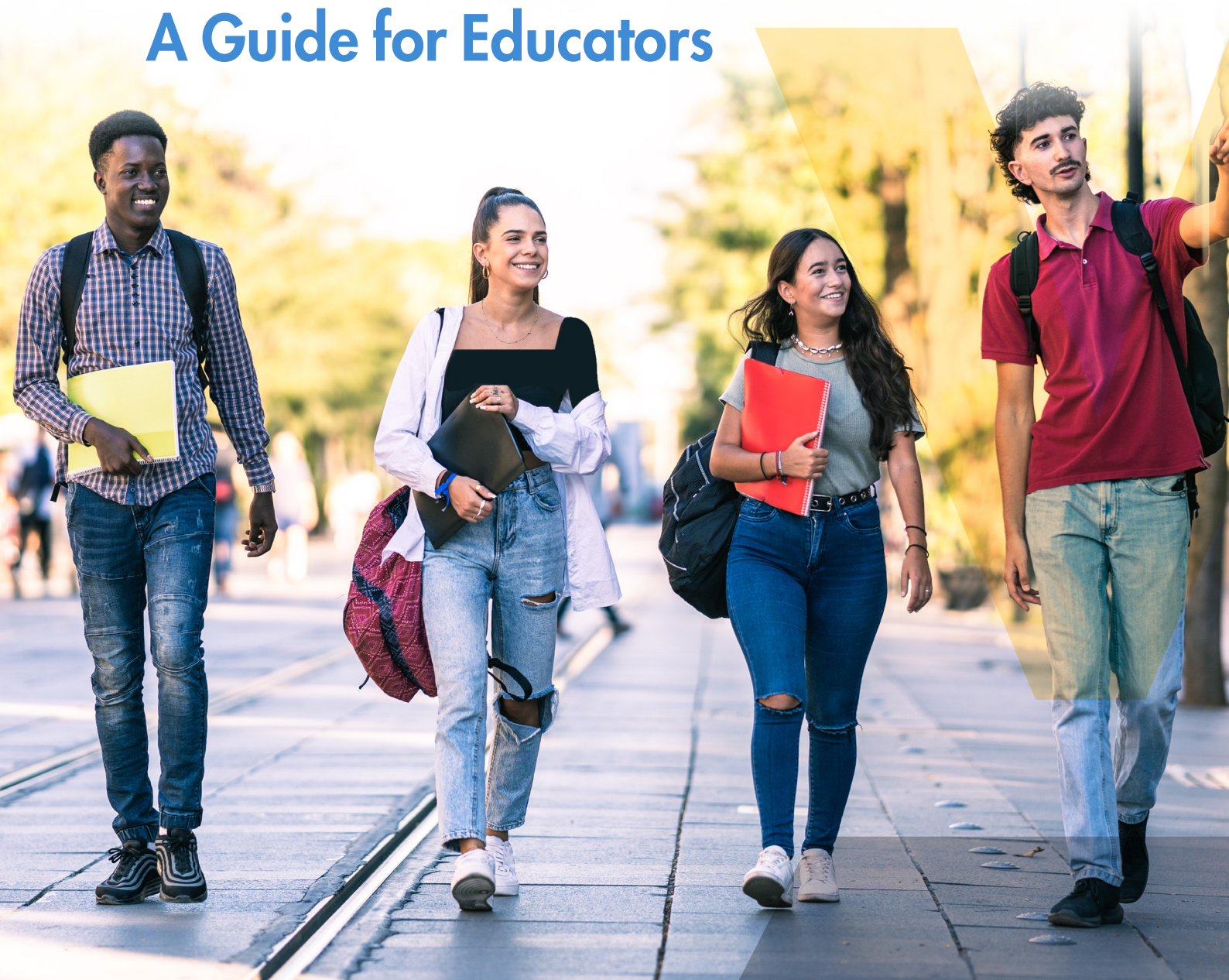
Burlington

VTest

Secure Online English Assessment

Making the Most of Burlington VTest English Placement Results

A Guide for Educators



Burlington VTest

English Placement Exam Guide

All details are correct at the time of going to print.

This Guide may be subject to periodic revisions and updates for the purpose of improving its content and accuracy. These revisions may occur without prior notice. Please check the VTest website to ensure that you have the latest version.



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Quick Start Guide

What is Burlington VTest English Placement exam?

Burlington VTest English Placement is a digital English exam that helps you assign learners (aged 16 and above) to the right level based on their Listening and Reading skills. Results are aligned to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) from Pre-A1 to C2.

What do the results tell you?

Each student's score report includes:

- A Listening score (CEFR level)
- A Reading score (CEFR level)
- An overall CEFR score (average of the two)
- Clear descriptors of what students can do at each level
- Suggestions to help students improve

How can you use the results?

Use the results to:

- place students in general English courses based on their overall score.
- assign students to skill-specific classes based on their Listening and Reading scores.
- adjust your curriculum, provide additional support, or challenge stronger learners.

What the scores don't tell you

The scores reflect a student's current abilities in Listening and Reading. They do not suggest what level the student should study at next, nor do they measure Speaking or Writing skills. They are not a substitute for classroom observation or progress monitoring.

VTest English Placement was developed by Burlington VTest, the assessment division of the Burlington Group and a global leader in English language learning and assessment.



Understanding the VTest English Placement Exam

The Burlington VTest Placement Exam measures a learner's current abilities in Listening and Reading. It is designed to support placement decisions and is aligned to the CEFR scale from Pre-A1 to C2.

The exam uses a three-stage adaptive format that adjusts to how each student performs:

- **Stage 1** includes 9 items (3 per level) targeting A1, A2, and B1 levels. All students begin at this stage.
- **Stage 2** includes 9 items (3 per level) and is based on each student's Stage 1 results. It targets either:
 - A2, B1, B2 levels
 - B1, B2, C1 levels
- **Stage 3** includes 6 items (3 per level) and targets one of three sets of levels:
 - B1, B2 levels
 - B2, C1 levels
 - C1, C2 levels

Students who perform well at each stage move on to the next one. Those who reach their ceiling exit the exam earlier. In total, students may answer up to 24 items (9 in Stage 1, 9 in Stage 2, and 6 in Stage 3).

The exam is designed to be both efficient and accurate, providing a clear picture of each student's Listening and Reading proficiency. It is not a pass/fail exam, and there is no penalty for incorrect answers. The results show how well students understand English in everyday, academic, and professional contexts.



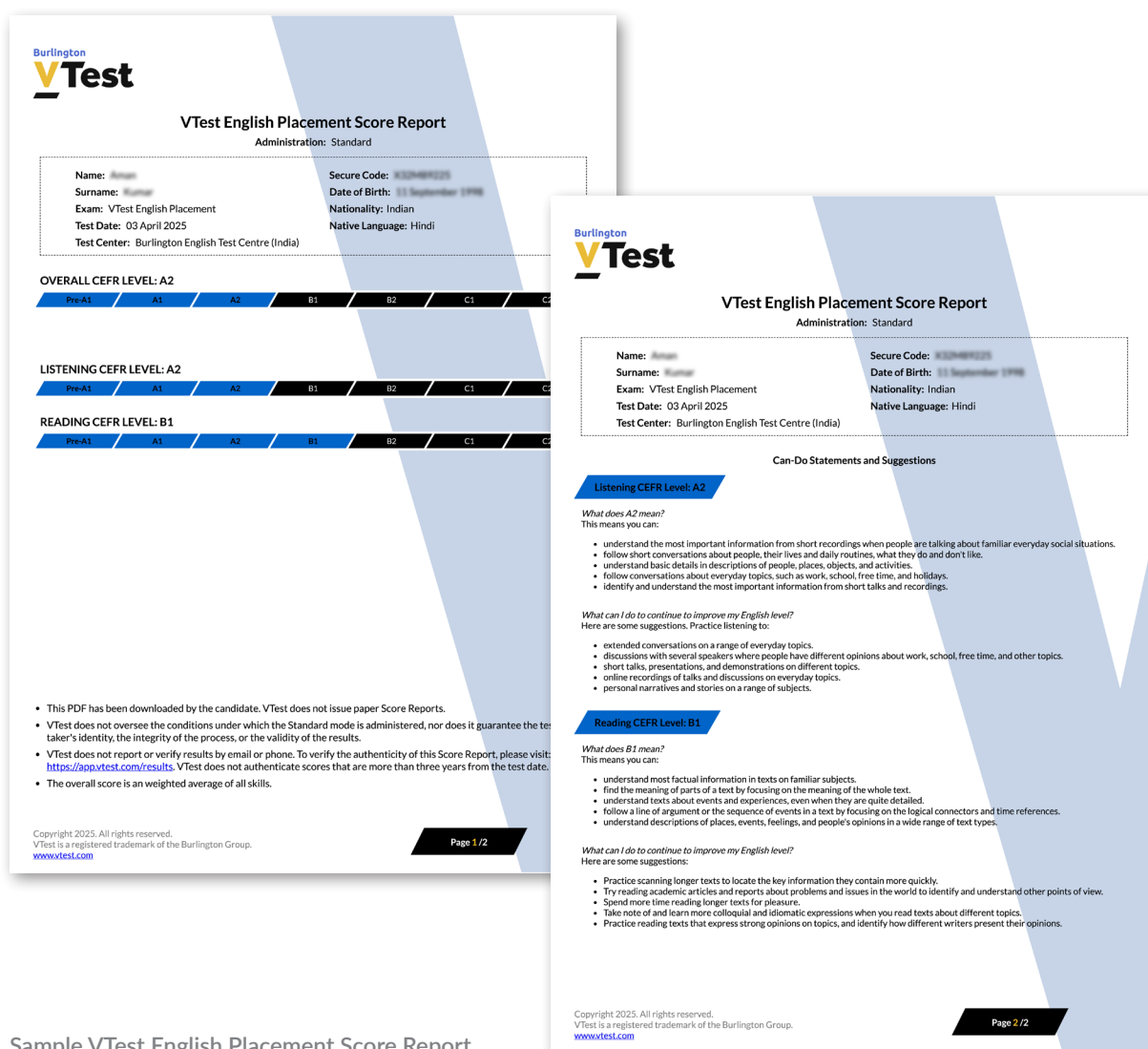
Understanding VTest English Placement Results

The VTest English Placement Score Report provides a clear summary of each student's current English proficiency. It includes information that can help you place students effectively and support their learning.

Each student's score report includes:

- **Listening CEFR Score** – The student's Listening ability level, aligned to the CEFR (e.g., A2, B1).
- **Reading CEFR Score** – The student's Reading ability level, aligned to the CEFR.
- **Overall CEFR Score** – An average of the Listening and Reading scores, offering a general indication of overall proficiency.
- **Descriptors** – Short statements that describe what students at each CEFR level can typically do in Listening and Reading.
- **Recommendations** – Practical suggestions for how students can improve and move towards the next CEFR level.

These results provide a snapshot of the student's current abilities. You can use the scores to group students by overall level, address specific skill gaps, or identify those who may need extra support.



Sample VTest English Placement Score Report

Using VTest English Placement Results

VTest English Placement results are designed to help you make informed, flexible decisions about student placement. How you use the results will depend on your curriculum, teaching goals, and your students' needs.

Using the Overall Score

If your program groups students by general English proficiency, you can use the Overall CEFR Score to place students. This score is the average of the Listening and Reading levels and gives a simple, clear indication of their overall ability.

This approach works well for classes that develop multiple language skills at the same level.

Using Individual Skill Scores

If your program offers skill-specific classes (such as Listening or Reading courses), the individual scores can help you place students appropriately. For example:

- A student with A2 Listening and B2 Reading scores might benefit from extra Listening support while continuing advanced Reading work.

Dealing with Mixed or Borderline Results

Some students will have different CEFR levels for Listening and Reading or scores that fall between two levels. In these cases, use your professional judgment. You may choose to:

- place them in the higher-level class with additional support.
- place them in the lower-level class and offer more advanced materials in their stronger skill.
- gather additional evidence such as classwork, previous test results, or teacher observations before making a decision.

Considering Program's Goals and Student Needs

Keep in mind that the Placement results show where students are now. They do not suggest what level students should study at next. Your placement decisions may also be influenced by:

- **Curriculum structure** – For example, if students are grouped by academic year rather than skill level.
- **Program goals** – Such as exam preparation, language development, or academic readiness.
- **Individual student needs** – Some students may benefit from extra support or more challenging materials based on their scores.

The results will help you place students in the right learning environment and support their continued development.

Beyond the Scores

The VTest English Placement results provide valuable information, but they are only one part of the picture when making placement decisions. Keep the following points in mind:

Placement Exams Are Only One Piece of the Puzzle

The Placement Exam provides a clear snapshot of a student's Listening and Reading abilities at a specific moment in time. However, it does not assess Speaking, Writing, or real-life communication skills. A student's classroom performance, confidence, and broader language abilities may not always match their test scores.

Whenever possible, combine Placement results with other information, such as:

- Classroom observations
- Previous test results
- Student performance in Speaking and Writing
- Other VTest exams, such as VTest General or VTest Academic

This broader view will help you make well-informed placement decisions.

Tracking Student Progress

The VTest English Placement Exam is not a progress exam. It reflects a student's current abilities but does not measure how much they have improved over time. As students continue learning, their skills will develop. You may wish to reassess them periodically to monitor progress and adjust instruction.

Testing Conditions and Accommodations

Some students may require accommodations to ensure that the exam reflects their true abilities. For example, students with specific learning needs may benefit from extra time or an adapted exam format. Make sure testing conditions are fair and support accurate results.

Sharing Results with Students

Where possible, share results with students using clear, supportive language. Help them understand what the results mean and how they can use the information to continue learning successfully. Encourage them to focus on their progress and use the recommendations provided in their score report.

Final Note

By using VTest English Placement results wisely and flexibly, you can make placement decisions that support your students' learning and long-term success. Remember that placement decisions are not fixed. As students progress, you may wish to adjust their placement to ensure that they continue learning effectively.

For further guidance, contact your VTest representative or visit www.VTest.com.

