

Introduction of the Common Scale for English (CSE) to all EIKEN Tests

The Eiken Foundation of Japan would like to extend its gratitude to all the institutions that recognize the EIKEN tests as a qualification of English ability in their admissions process.

To further support the needs of all of the students and educators who use our tests, we have introduced the Common Scale for English for reporting the scores of our tests from the June 2016 test.

While the EIKEN tests are still administered on a pass/fail basis, scores will now be reported as an EIKEN CSE (Common Scale for English) Score rather than as a percent correct or a number of correct answers. The EIKEN CSE Score is calculated using a statistical method called Item Response Theory and is linked to the international standard framework, CEFR. CSE scores better reflect an examinee's English ability as they take into account the relative difficulty of each test set. Furthermore, the Common Scale for English can be used to compare scores across all the EIKEN Grades. CSE Scores range from 0 to 4,000 points across the seven levels of the test (Grades 5, 4, 3, Pre-2, 2, Pre-1, and 1) and consist of 1,000 possible points each for the four skills of Reading, Listening, Writing, and Speaking. Scores for each skill and a composite score will be reported on the score report. For further information on the EIKEN CSE Score and a chart showing the possible points available for each grade, please see our website at: <http://www.eiken.or.jp/eiken/en/eiken-tests/overview/>.

As a result of these changes, Grade 2A will now be reported as an EIKEN CSE Score rather than a percentage. From the June 2016 test, examinees achieving a minimum composite EIKEN CSE Score of 2150 on the Grade 2 Test will be designated as 2A. As this score takes into account examinees' performance in all four skills, we believe that this new reporting method will better suit the needs of your institution. We would like to reassure you that these changes have had little effect on the level of achievement required to receive Grade 2A, so please continue to use it in the same way that you have in the past.

Eiken Score Reports will be changed to reflect these new scores. Please note that scores will only be reported in the new format for examinees who have passed both stages after June 2016. As scores remain valid for two years, you will continue to receive the old format of EIKEN Score Reports for examinees who passed the first stage prior to May 2016. Both formats of the EIKEN Score Report will continue to remain valid.

Thank you for your continued use of the EIKEN Tests in your admissions process. For further information, please visit our English website at <http://www.eiken.or.jp/eiken/en/>.

[EIKEN Score Report Sample]

<Up to May 2016>

<From June 2016>

EIKEN SAMPLE
 Examinee Score Report

Examinee Number: XXXXXXX
 Name: Harako EIKEN
 Address: 10 Yokohama-ku, Shinjuku, Japan 100-0001
 E-mail/Address: YXXXX@XXXX.com

Grade: 2A

Score: 55 / 100
 Result: Pass A+

INFORMATION ABOUT EIKEN
 EIKEN is Japan's leading English proficiency assessment, administered to 2.3 million examinees each year at 11,000 locations. The test is offered on a pass/fail basis in seven grades of difficulty.

Grade 7 (Advanced)
 Grade 6
 Grade 5
 Grade 4
 Grade 3 (Beginner)

Grade 2 is administered in two stages. The first stage assesses reading and listening, while the second stage is a speaking test in the form of a personal interview.

Grade 2 is also taken to examinees who pass Stage 1 with at least 75% of the answers correct.

For more information, visit us online at www.eiken.or.jp/eiken/en/ (English) or www.eiken.or.jp (Japanese).

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EIKEN SAMPLE
 Examinee Score Report

Examinee Number: XXXXXXX
 Name: Harako EIKEN
 Address: 10 Yokohama-ku, Shinjuku, Japan 100-0001
 E-mail/Address: YXXXX@XXXX.com

Grade: 2

Score: 2225 / 4000
 Result: Pass

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 Grade 6
 Grade 5
 Grade 4
 Grade 3 (Beginner)

Grade 2 is administered in two stages. The first stage assesses reading, listening, and writing, while the second stage is a speaking test in the form of a personal interview.

Grade 2 is also taken to examinees who pass both Stage 1 and 2 with a minimum composite score of 2150.

For more information, visit us online at www.eiken.or.jp/eiken/en/ (English) or www.eiken.or.jp (Japanese).

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