

Versant Overview

Brands that trust Versant

amazon.com

Coca-Cola

Pfizer

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

CU
NY
The City
University
of
New York

UNIVERSITÉ
LAVAL

Deloitte.

Bell

Capgemini

duolingo

MOE
Ministry of Education Thailand

UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO

Uber
→

Google

Tech
Mahindra

日本経済新聞
NIKKEI

SEOULTECH
SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

MUST
UNIVERSITY FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

AMERICAN
EXPRESS

DELTA

accenture

East
Herts
Council

navitas

A portfolio of language tests

Product	Skills	Duration	Purpose
Versant English Test	Speaking / Listening*	17 minutes	Placement
Versant Writing Test	Writing	35 minutes	Placement
Versant Four Skills Essential Test	Four Skills	30 minutes	Placement
Versant English Placement Test	Four Skills	50 minutes	Placement, Benchmarking
Versant Professional English Test	Four Skills	60 minutes	Benchmarking
Versant Spanish / Arabic / French / Dutch Tests	Speaking / Listening*	15 minutes	Placement

Our portfolio of tests



Place

Help learners get off to a flying start by placing them in the right English class on their first day



Benchmark

Monitor English progress with benchmark tests - not just their knowledge of one coursebook - prepare them for certificates and advanced English tests.



Certify

To prove learners' skills to potential employers or schools, choose a certificated test recognised by your local government or institution.



Verify

To study or move abroad, choose PTE Academic, accepted by the Australian Government and 1000s of universities around the world.

Versant for corporate

Talent acquisition funnel

- Part of the selection process
 - Top of the funnel
 - End of the funnel

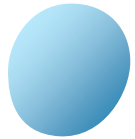
Learning and development

- Language training programs
 - Test in: for placement and baseline
 - Test out: individual progress, company shows ROI, improve teaching program.

Questions that Versant answer

- Does this job candidate have the ability they need to communicate effectively with customers?
- Is this potential hire going to be effective in communicating with colleagues?
- Does this person have the level of language proficiency they require to be successful in a special assignment / overseas placement / training programme?
- What are this employee's language learning needs?
- What learning gains has this employee made on their language course?

Versant



Productive skills

Versant tests the productive skills of language (speaking and writing) in addition to the receptive skills (listening and speaking) for a more accurate and comprehensive understanding of an individual's language proficiency.



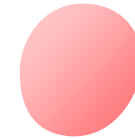
Accurate

Versant tests are incredibly accurate. When compared to expert human scorers they have a .97 correlation, and never have human biases.



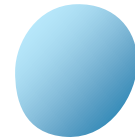
Quick results

AI scoring allows results to come almost instantaneously. This means that it is easy to include the Versant English test in the hiring process.



Time and scale

Organisations save time and money by easily administering and tracking results through our Scorekeeper platform for a few tests or hundreds without the need for additional human scorers.



Great user experience

Test-takers can take the test in multiple convenient ways accommodating all technology situations - making for a more positive user experience.

Productive Skills



Productive skills

Versant tests the productive skills of language (speaking and writing) in addition to the receptive skills (listening and speaking) for a more accurate and comprehensive understanding of an individual's language proficiency.

Unlike TOEIC and EnglishScore, the focus of the Versant portfolio is on productive language.

No competitor can offer the same depth / quality when assessing extended speech and writing.

Productive skills are essential in any customer-facing role

Integrated skills approach of four-skills tests mirrors real-life English use

Harder to drill / strategise / guess your way to an unrepresentative score than with multiple choice tests

Accuracy



Accurate

Versant tests are incredibly accurate. When compared to expert human scorers they have a .97 correlation, and never have human biases.

Unlike a face-to-face interview (and many competitor tests), Versant offers a consistent, reliable and **objective** measure of proficiency

Human biases and errors are eliminated

Same standard applied to all test takers, all over the world

Accurate, granular scores open up scope for remediation with the GSE

If the test is wrong, you're likely to end up hiring the wrong people!

Speed



Quick results

AI scoring allows results to come almost instantaneously. This means that it is easy to include the Versant English test in the hiring process.

Most results come back within five minutes

Easy to include Versant testing as part of interview process – no delays

Comparable degree of accuracy to traditional high-stakes test results but in a fraction of the time

Fast results enable fast decisions!

Scalability and user experience



Time and scale

Organisations save time and money by easily administering and tracking results through our Scorekeeper platform for a few tests or hundreds without the need for additional human scorers.

Affordable and accessible enough to deliver to large cohorts of applicants

Easy administration journey through Scorekeeper platform – no extra steps, no wasted time

Low technological barrier – computer / headset / microphone for four-skills tests, Speaking-focused tests can be taken on a mobile phone app

Versant + Remote Monitoring option enables testing from home

You're not cutting out potentially great applicants by making the test too much of a hassle to take and not neglecting to test everyone you should because it's too much of a hassle to deliver!

Versant English Test

- Test of facility with spoken English
- 17 minutes
- Can be done via mobile phone app
- Overall GSE score
- Fluency, Sentence Mastery, Vocabulary, Pronunciation
- Additional score for Intelligibility
- RM an option

VERSANT™ John Smith
Versant English Test Test Completion Date (GMT) 1 January 2022 Test Identification Number (TTN) 12345678

Versant scores are aligned to the Global Scale of English (GSE). The GSE runs from 10 to 90, with clear statements of what a learner can achieve at any point on the scale.

Overall GSE Score 59
CEFR: B2
Candidate easily handles a wide variety of discourse and speaking styles, and can contribute to a native-paced discussion. Speech is generally fluent, smooth and clear; candidate controls appropriate language structure for speaking about complex material.

Understanding the Skills
Overall Score
The Overall Score of the test represents the ability to understand spoken English and speak it intelligibly at a native-like conversational pace on everyday topics. Scores are based on a weighted combination of four diagnostic subscores.
GSE
The Global Scale of English (GSE) is a standardized, granular scale from 10 to 90, which measures English language proficiency. Visit [English.com/gse](https://www.english.com/gse) to learn more.
GSE 59/90 is equivalent to Versant 58/80

Intelligibility 4
Good
Listeners may require a little effort at times to understand some of the candidate's speech.

62 Sentence Mastery 64 Vocabulary 49 Fluency 69 Pronunciation

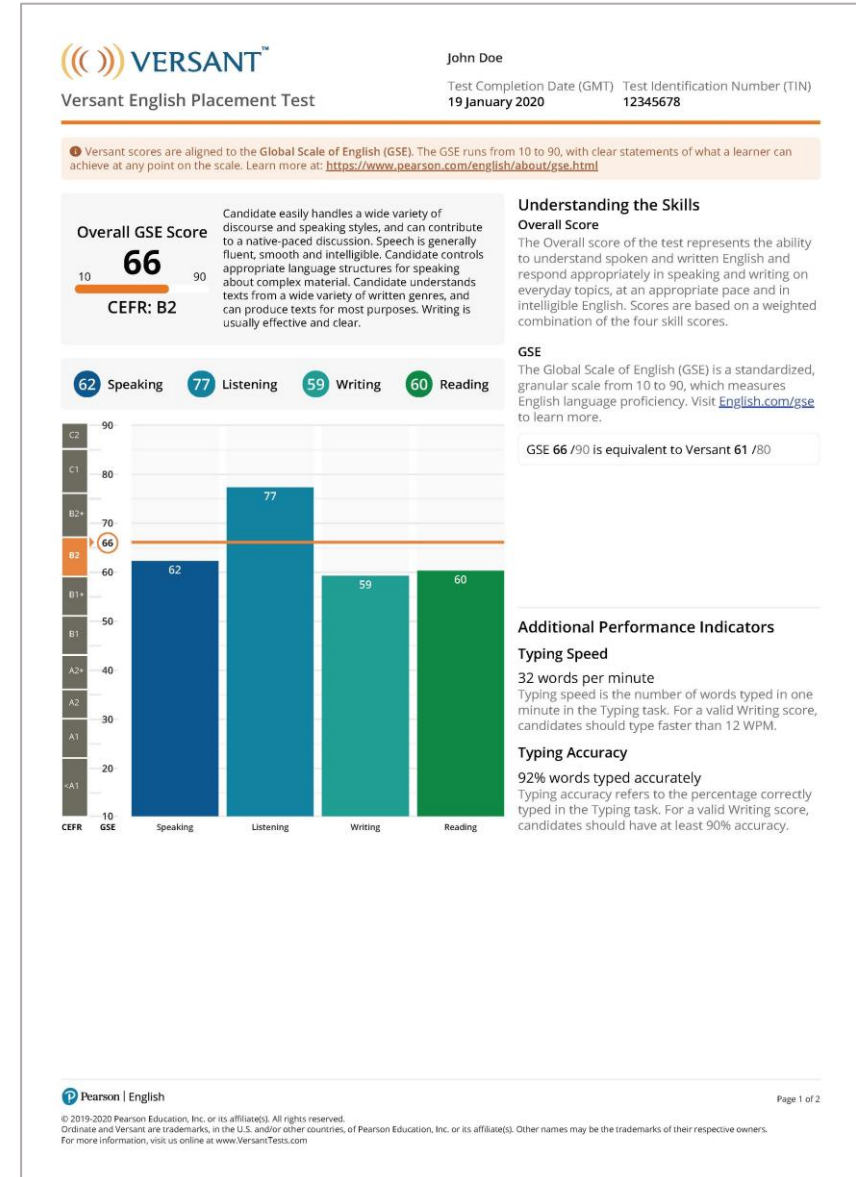
Intelligibility
Intelligibility is a measure of how understandable a candidate is as a speaker. Even when spoken English proficiency is low, if intelligibility is high, it means that native speakers find the speech easy to understand.

CEFR	GSE	Sentence Mastery	Vocabulary	Fluency	Pronunciation
C2	90				
C1	80				
B2+	70				
B2	60	62	64		
B1+	50			49	
B1	40				
A2+	30				
A2	20				
A1	10				
<A1	10				

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Versant English Placement Test

- Four Skills – 50 minutes
- Age 16+
- Linear placement test
- Precise GSE scores
- Results in ten minutes
- Optional remote monitoring security (18+)
- Popular with universities



Versant English Placement Test

- Delivered via Scorekeeper platform
- Fast and efficient
- Integrated skills approach
- 9 item types (8 scored)
- Randomised test forms
- Recommendations for remediation
- Good value for money
- Price per test attempt (12 month license validity)

Current Capabilities in Detail

Speaking: GSE: 62/90

Versant: 59/80 CEFR: B2

Candidate produces a range of meaningful sentences. Candidate speaks with adequate rhythm but with some inappropriate phrasing and pausing. Many vowels and consonants are produced in a clear manner.

🔗 Tips to improve:

- Practice telling a short story about something funny that happened to you, including as many details as you can.
- Practice explaining how to do something, such as making your favorite meal, giving detailed instructions.



HighNote - L2:
SB: 8D ex 10

SB: 10E ex 7

Listening: GSE: 77/90

Versant: 69/80 CEFR: C1

Candidate follows most of what is said around him/her on most topics, although occasionally some information may be lost.

🔗 Tips to improve:

- Practice actively listening to spoken language delivered at fast speeds, such as TED Talks.
- Practice listening to complex podcasts and extracting the important details.

Understanding the Skills

Speaking

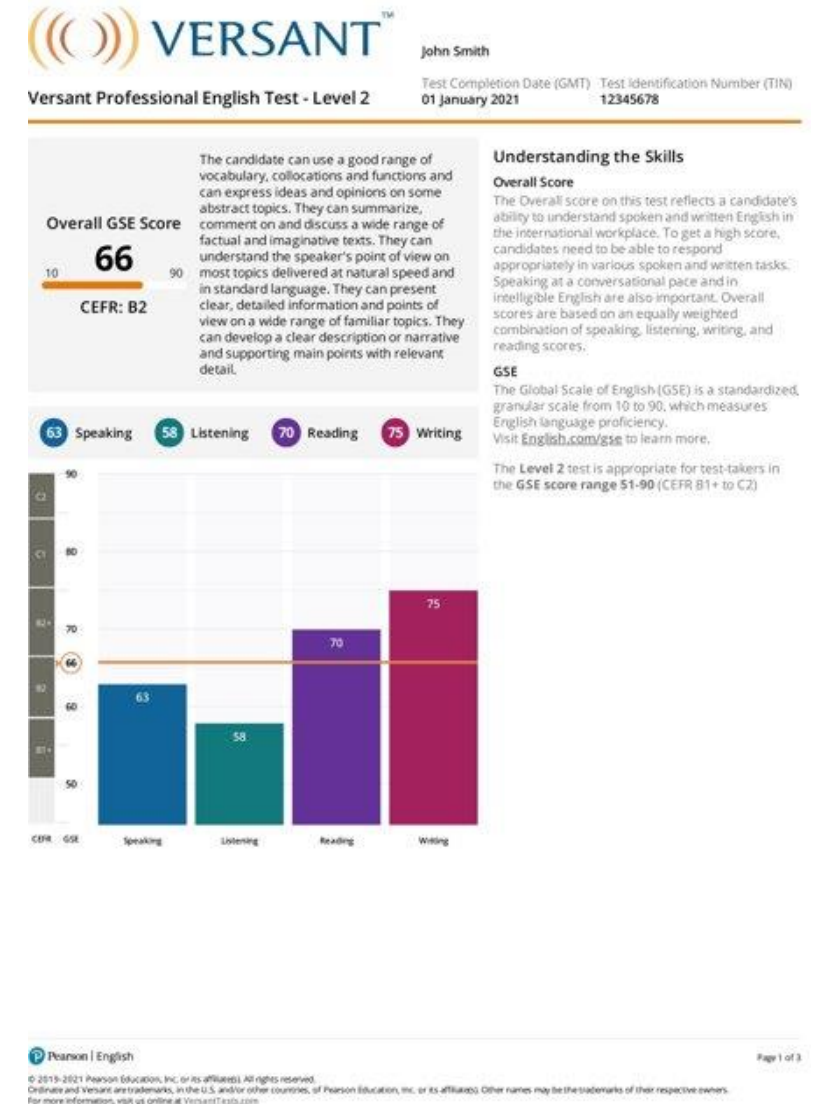
Speaking reflects the ability to produce English phrases and clauses in complete sentences. The score is based on the ability to produce consonants, vowels, and stress in a native-like manner; use accurate syntax, use words appropriately in contexts, and use appropriate rhythm, phrasing, and timing.

Listening

Listening reflects the ability to understand specific details and main ideas from everyday English speech. The score is based on the ability to track meaning and infer the message from English that is spoken at a conversational pace.

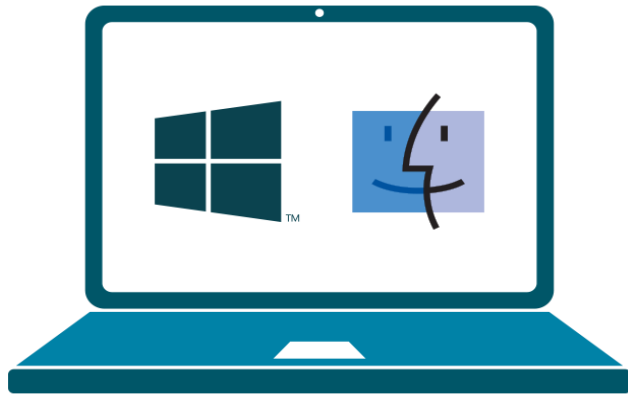
Versant Professional English Test

- Four skills
- Two levels A1 to B1+, B1+ to C2
- Professional / workplace English
- Overall GSE score
- Individual skill scores
- Recommendations for remediation
- Randomised test forms
- RM an option
- Great match with Business Partner



Admin and modalities

Tools for Web Administration



Computer
(PC or Mac)



Stable Internet
connection



Headset with
built-in microphone

Other Administration Options

Available options depends on test type



Desktop client
(CDT)

Windows only



Smartphone

*With app on Android or iPhone
devices*

Tools for Administration – 4 Step Process



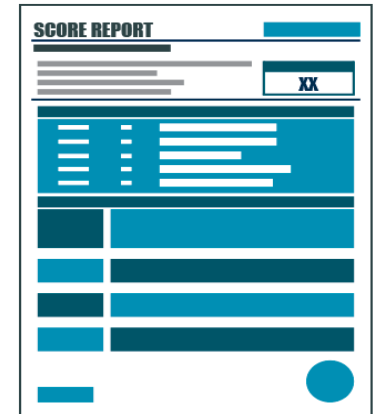
Admin or test taker accesses the Versant Testing System



Test taker responds to test questions or tasks



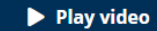
Responses are sent to the Versant scoring system



Versant Testing System scores the test and posts scores to the test administration tool

Scorekeeper – what the test takers see

Please watch a video that explains the best practices to help you with your test:

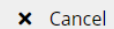
 Play video

To start your Test:

Choose your test delivery method:

Choose ▾

- Choose
- Web Browser
- Mobile App
- Desktop Client (CDT)

 Cancel

 Done

Scorekeeper – what the test takers see

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `vfw.versant.zone/wizard/line_noise_check?cartridge_id=15&ptp_wizard=true&user_id=6972167&written=false`. The page header includes the Pearson logo and the text "Versant for Web". A volume control slider is visible in the top right corner. The main content area features a section titled "Speaking Tips." with the following text: "It is important to *speak naturally* during the test. Here are some tips:" followed by a bulleted list of three tips. At the bottom of the tips section, there is a prompt "When you are ready, click Next." and a "Next" button. A larger, semi-transparent "Next" button is also visible in the background of the interface.

PEARSON Versant for Web

Speaking Tips.

It is important to *speak naturally* during the test.

Here are some tips:

- Speak at a **normal speed** like you would during a conversation.
- Speak like you are **talking to a person** on the phone. There is no need to speak too carefully or slowly.
- Speak at a **normal volume**, not too loud or too soft.

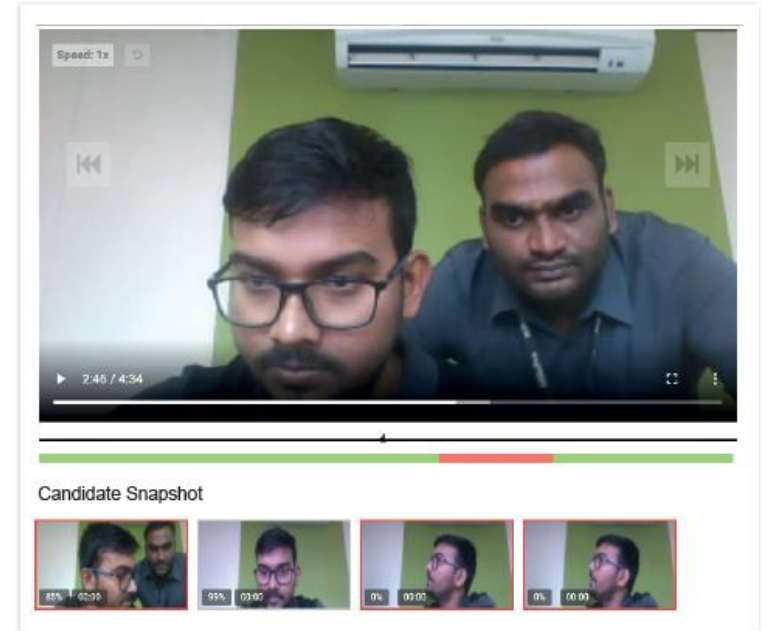
When you are ready, click Next. Next



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→ Next

Versant + Remote Monitoring

- Fully AI-powered proctoring analysis to flag suspicious behaviour
- Adds additional security and confidence to make placement and hiring decisions
- Browser-based Versant delivery
- Records video, made available to admin



Proctoring Review Is Candidate Suspicious? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Comments* <input type="text" value="very suspicious, retest"/> <input type="button" value="Submit"/> Previous Comments : Stuart 03:47 7th Apr, 2020 Suspicious: Yes Comments: very suspicious, retest	Face Match Face Match Status: Suspicious Snapshot:  Candidate image:  Match 0%
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Scores and Scoring

Scores and scoring

Tests typically return scores on two scales

- Versant scale(s)
- Global Scale of English

Additional CEFR reporting (overall / per skill)

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62 Sentence Mastery 64 Vocabulary 49 Fluency 69 Pronunciation

Skill	Score
Sentence Mastery	62
Vocabulary	64
Fluency	49
Pronunciation	69

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Automated scoring

- Tests are 100% machine-scored, no human intervention
- Not new technology – Versant has been in use since 1996
- Same technology that powers our high-stakes tests
- Results typically returned within 5-10 minutes
- Key benefits = speed, accuracy, reliability
- Replicates human judgement without human biases or errors
- Tests can be shorter as we can extract more information from responses than human examiners can in real time

Automated scoring – how does it work?

- We train computer marking engine to look for the same traits in answers as expert human markers
- Every item is marked thousands of times by humans before it can be scored by computer
- Important to emphasise the human element
- Comparable to ‘collective judgement’ of expert markers

Score setting

Organisations will usually need to determine a cut score to make use of Versant tests for hiring.

Options include:

- Guidance from Pearson on comparable job roles
- Formal benchmarking exercise
- Informal benchmarking / piloting
- Reference to external standard (TOEIC / CEFR / etc)

Job role	CEFR B1+	CEFR B2		CEFR B2+ & above		
	GSE 55-58	GSE 59-62	GSE 61-64	GSE 62-65	GSE 65-70	GSE 70+
Simple Customer Service - routine responses with minimal data capture	✓					
Customer Service - more complex longer call		✓				
Customer Service with a cross sell			✓	✓		
High Value Customer Support					✓	✓
Technical Support - 2nd level support or escalation						✓

Preparation

Preparation

- No preparation is required to take Versant tests
- Some degree of test familiarisation may be helpful
- Free test guides and clickable demos available from website
- Option of paid (13 euro) scored practice test
- Only one version of practice test available, per test type