

## English Language Skills C E R T I F I C A T I O N

### SDSUPreteens

It is the third of four evaluation levels designed by San Diego State University for youth between 11 and 13 years old. This exam prepares the participant for complete success in learning English as a second language. The SDSUPreteens exam assesses levels A2, B1, and B2 level of English language according to the Common European Framework of Reference, as well as the CELS (Common English Language Standards) as Beginner, Early Intermediate and Intermediate.

The time allotted for the SDSUPreteens exam is one hour and 32 minutes. In this exam, the participant will find the following:

Area	Component	Content (# of questions)	Allotted Time
1	English Structure	46	20
2	Reading Comprehension	28	28
3	Writing Prompt	N/A	15
4	Listening Comprehension	28	15
5	Oral Assessment	5	10

#### 1st Component (46 questions)

In this first component, the participant will have to answer 46 multiple-choice questions which will assess their knowledge of the grammatical structure of the English language.

The example in this manual is a sample of three questions. Each question includes 3 options, where only one answer is correct. The participant will choose between these 3 options. The time allotted to complete this component is 20 minutes.

### Example of Grammatical structure

Choose the correct answer.

1.
  - My best friend is the prettiest girl in the whole school.
  - My best friend is prettiest girl in whole school.
  - My best friend is prettier girl in the whole school.
  
2. He ate three cheeseburgers.
  - He have must been hungry.
  - He must hungry.
  - He must have been hungry.
  
3.
  - We forgotted to do our homework.
  - We forgot to do our homework.
  - We forgetted to do our homework.

The participant will have the opportunity to return to answer the questions that he has not answered only if the assigned time allows it.

### 2nd Component (28 questions)

In this second part, the participant will find 28 multiple choice questions which will assess their Reading Comprehension. This component contains 3 readings, each with a series of questions where the participant will identify, from the main idea, details, vocabulary in context, and inference.

The example on this page is a sample of a reading, and the comprehension questions are based on the text. Each question includes 3 options where only one answer is correct. The participant will choose between these 3 options. The time allotted to complete this component is 28 minutes.



Reading Comprehension example

*Sandy,*

*I'm still on vacation with my grandparents. I'm having a lot of fun at their ranch. There is so much to do here!*

*They have a big black horse that I feed every morning. I will probably ride it before I go back home. My grandmother said that its name is Tiger. However, I like to call it Kitty, because it's scared of its own shadow.*

*My grandfather is very active. He likes to run every morning. We'll be going hiking this weekend. After that, we'll be going to a big lake nearby. He used to be in the army a long time ago. He tells me that I should exercise more. I think he's right. I'll probably try to get on the soccer team when I get back to school. If I can't get into soccer, I might get into swimming.*

*I miss all my friends back home. Please write back soon.*

*Estela Garza*

1. What is this passage about?
  - A girl tells her friend about her vacation.
  - A girl shares her feelings about school.
  - A girl talks about kittens and ranch animals.
  
2. Estela's grandfather is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - in the army and runs every day.
  - very active and runs every day.
  - not in the army and does not like to run every day.
  
3. The word "active" means \_\_\_\_\_.
  - to be on vacation
  - to be busy
  - to be old and tired
  
4. Estela will probably \_\_\_\_\_.
  - get a horse when she gets back home
  - go hiking when she gets back home
  - join a soccer team when she gets back home

The student will have the opportunity to return to answer the questions that he has not answered only if the assigned time allows it.

### 3rd Component

In this third part, the participant will write a letter that will evaluate their Writing ability, following the instructions specified in the same exercise.

The example on this page is a sample where the participant is required to write a letter according to the question or questions asked in this component. It is also a requirement that you write as much as possible. The time allotted to complete this component is 15 minutes.

### Writing Prompt example

You have a lot of homework. You will not have the homework ready. Write a letter or email to your teacher. Ask your teacher if you can have more time to finish the homework. Explain why it is taking you so long to complete it. When will the homework be ready? What is hard about it?


### 4th Component (28 questions)

In this fourth part, the participant will answer 28 multiple-choice questions, which will assess their listening comprehension abilities through 7 audios, each with a series of questions where the participant will identify from the main idea, details, vocabulary in context, and inference.

The example on this page is an audio sample and comprehension questions that the student will read and respond to after the audio. Each question includes 3 options where only one answer is correct. The student will choose between these 3 options. The time allotted to complete this component is 15 minutes.

Listening Comprehension example

Listen and choose the correct answer.

Host:

Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to Fox Theater. Today we have a unique presentation for you. We are delighted and proud to bring you a sample of digital short movies produced by our very own local elementary school students. These young producers have put a lot of hard work into these projects. Some of them have been working on their film for about a year. If they ever become famous, we will proudly say that we showed their movies first. I see a completely full house today. I see parents and their children very excited to start the show. Let the movies begin!

1. The man is talking about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a theater
  - digital movies
  - an elementary school
  
2. Some young producers have worked on their project for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a month
  - a year
  - a week
  
3. The audience was waiting \_\_\_\_\_ for the show to begin.
  - with enthusiasm
  - with anger
  - with sadness
  
4. "Unique" means that something is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - very special
  - universal
  - very small

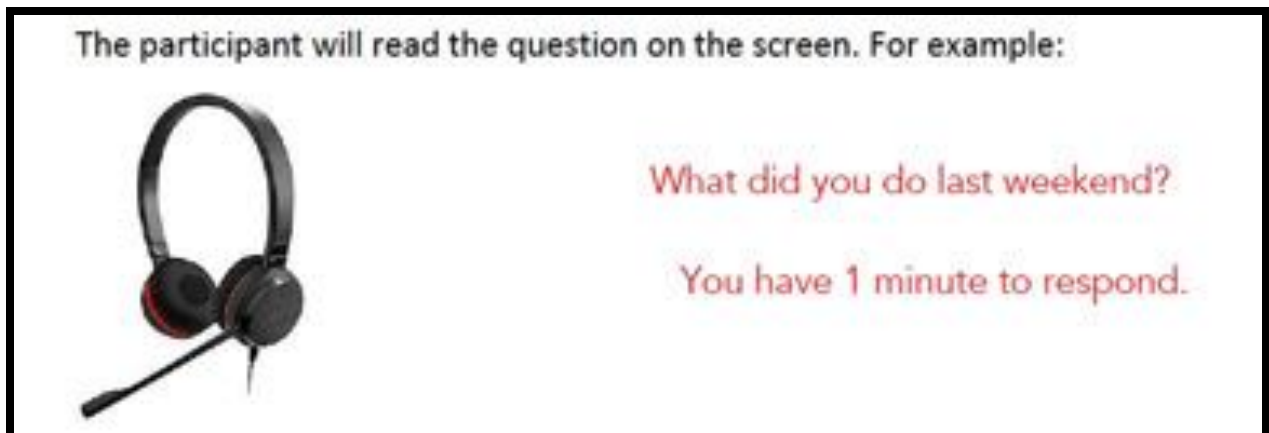
The participant will have the opportunity to return to answer the questions that he has not answered only if the assigned time allows it.

5th Component (5 questions)

In this fifth and last part, the participant will read 5 questions that will evaluate their oral expression in the English language. The participant will have one minute to respond orally to each question. The time allotted to complete this component is 15 minutes.

The procedure for this component is as follows:

Examples of Oral Assessment



The participant will record his answer with a maximum of one minute.

It is important to mention that the participant will have an additional 10 minutes to prepare their response.