

**PURDUE
ORAL ENGLISH PROFICIENCY
PROGRAM**

**Preparing for the Oral
English Proficiency Test:**

**A Guide for Students
and their Departments**

Oral English Proficiency
Program

810 Young Hall

155 S. Grant Street

West Lafayette, IN 47907

www.purdue.edu/oepp

Phone: 765-494-9380

Email: oepp@purdue.edu

**Why do you need to take
the OEPT?**

- Your department may ask you to take the OEPT. Only your department can register you to take the OEPT.
- The OEPT is one method your department uses to determine which of their graduate students may be best suited to assist with an undergraduate class at Purdue.
- By University policy, any student whose first language is not English must be certified for oral English proficiency before being offered a position involving the direct instruction of undergrad students.
- If you did not meet any of the following minimum scores for certification, and your department wants to hire you to work with undergraduates, you will need to take the OEPT:
 - IELTS speaking: 8.0
 - TOEFL iBT speaking: 27
 - PTE speaking: 76
- If you did not take any of the above tests, you may need to take the OEPT.

How to Prepare for the Test

- Take the OEPT practice test at least once. There are 2 versions of the practice test.
- The OEPT practice test, sample responses, rating scale, and a video orientation are on the OEPP web site and at:
<http://oepttutorial.org/>
- Check out other test and orientation information on the OEPP web site:
<http://www.purdue.edu/oepp/>
- Get your OEPT registration information from your department and record the info below. Bring this brochure with you to the test.

Date of test _____

Location _____

Test time _____

(arrive 20 minutes before this)

Tips for Test Day

- Arrive at the testing lab 20 minutes before the test begins. If you arrive more than 10 minutes after the posted test time, you may not be allowed to take the test.
- **Wait in the hallway until you are asked to enter the test room.**
- Have your Purdue ID or other official photo ID ready (passport or U.S. driver's license). We do not accept: electronic IDs, IDs without photos, or IDs that are not in English.
- **If you do not have a photo ID, you will not be allowed to take the test.**
- Bring a bottle of water with a screw-on cap, but no other food or drink.
- **Turn off and put away all electronic devices before entering the lab.**
- Put all belongings (including cell phones) away in your bag, backpack, purse, etc. You must leave all bags in the front of the testing lab.
- **You will be provided with paper and pencils to take notes.**
- You may want to bring a sweater or jacket in case the lab is cold.

What to do during the test: Testing Dos and Don'ts

- **Do** speak at a regular speed, not too fast and not too slow.
- **Do** speak in a moderate volume. **Don't** speak in a loud voice.
- Be aware that there will be noise in the testing lab. While every effort is made to leave space between students, you may hear other test takers talking during the test.
- **Don't** mute the headset.
- **Do** give feedback on the short survey that follows the test.
- **Do** finish the test and survey in 1½ hrs. For example: Begin at 10:30, finish and out by 12:00.



When you finish the test and survey, before you leave

- Leave your notes on your desk. Write your test ID number at the top of each page on which you have taken notes.
- Leave your test ID slip on your desk with your notes.
- Raise your hand to call a test administrator to check your computer, test file, and notes.
- Don't forget to pick up all your belongings at the front of the room on your way out.
- Take a green brochure with you and read it later; it contains information about test scores and the English 620 course.

For more information on the OEPP and its services, please visit the OEPP website or speak with your department's graduate studies office