



ADA UNIVERSITY

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM (EPE)

OVERVIEW OF THE ADA University-EPE

ADA University-EPE is a test designed to assess the English language proficiency level of students who are admitted to the undergraduate program at ADA University, where English is the medium of instruction. The purposes of the exam are to identify a student's English language proficiency level and to: 1) place the student accordingly in the English for Academic and Professional Purposes (EAPP) program; or 2) if highly proficient, place the student directly in the degree program.

DESCRIPTION OF ADA University-EPE

ADA University-EPE consists of two stages:

Stage 1 includes Language Use and Reading Comprehension components.

1. **The Language Use** section measures students' awareness of English grammar and their ability to use correct, appropriate language structures and tenses, vocabulary and discourse markers.
2. **The Reading Comprehension** section consists of one-paragraph and multi-paragraph authentic passages taken from academic texts, coursebooks, newspaper and magazine articles. Students read the passages and answer questions about logical connections between ideas, main and specific ideas, inferences, vocabulary and cohesive devices.

Stage 2 comprises the Essay Writing, Listening and Speaking components.

1. **The Essay Writing** section consists of one independent writing task. Students are required to spend 45 minutes writing an essay of 280-350 words. This section assesses students' ability to develop and organize ideas clearly, present a relevant response to the given topic, support their opinions with reasons and examples, and use appropriate grammar, vocabulary, sentence structure and discourse markers. Students are expected to write in a coherent and well-structured manner, including an introduction, body paragraph(s) and a conclusion.
2. **The Listening** section includes two parts: a) listening comprehension and b) listening and note-taking.

a) **The Listening Comprehension** sub-section consists of statements, dialogues, mini-talks, interviews and lectures, and questions about them. The questions ask students to deduce the meaning of functional and idiomatic expressions, identify main and specific information, implied meanings, and overall organization.

b) **The Listening and Note-taking** sub-section consists of 4-6 open-ended questions based on a lecture. Students are required to answer the questions using their notes. This subsection requires taking notes on a separate sheet. After the lecture has been delivered, students will receive question-and-answer sheets and will use their notes to answer the questions.

3. The Speaking section consists of three questions. Students are required to answer each question within one minute. This section assesses students' ability to express ideas clearly, respond appropriately to the given questions, organize their answers logically, and use accurate grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. Students may change one of the three questions if they are unable or unwilling to answer it. However, each student may use this option only once during the Speaking section.

Note: To better familiarize yourself with the ADA University-EPE format and content, please go to the URL provided below, where you can find a sample of the ADA University-EPE.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Xw1c4CdMr1jAyUNRLc_IDS-d8bhry2Cl?usp=drive_link

ADA University requires every student enrolled in the University to take the ADA University-EPE exam unless a student is exempt by means of scores earned on other appropriate exams such as

- IELTS Academic 6.0 and above
- TOEFL iBT 75 or 4 - new iBT TOEFL (for exams taken on or after January 21, 2026)
- PTE 50
- Duolingo 105 and above

EXAM FORMAT

ADA University-EPE consists of two stages, administered in two days.

DAY ONE	STAGE I (50 points)	Part 1: Language Use	Number of questions 40 (0.5 points each) 20 points	Approximate Time 30 minutes
		Part 2: Reading Comprehension	30 (1 point each) 30 points	60 minutes (including filling in the answer sheets)
		30-minute break		

		Note: All students are required to take the Writing Exam of Stage II. However, the written responses of students who score below 25 in Stage I will not be graded. They will be used solely to identify students’ writing needs, which will be addressed through the Academic Writing courses in the EAPP program.		
		Part 3: Essay Writing	1 task 15 points	45 minutes
Note: Students who score 25 or above out of 50 in Stage I of the ADA University EPE will be invited to take the remaining components of Stage II at a later date. Students who score below 25 out of 50 in Stage I of the ADA University EPE will not take the remaining components of Stage II. They will be placed in the EAPP program based on their Stage I score.				
DAY TWO	STAGE II (70 points)	Part 1: a) Listening Comprehension	40 0.5 points each 20 points	70 minutes (including filling in the answer sheets)
		15-minute break		
		b) Listening & Note-taking	4-6 10 points	25 minutes
		90-minute break on ADA campus Notes: a) Students are required to take the Speaking Exam only if their combined score on the other components of Stages I and II is above 62 points. b) Students whose combined score from Stages I and II, excluding the Speaking Exam, is 62 points or below will be placed in the EAPP program based on their scores.		
		Part 2: Speaking	3 questions 25 points	5 minutes

Note: Students whose average score from Stages 1 and 2 and the Speaking exam is 62% are exempt from the EAPP program and eligible to enroll in the Foundation (degree) Program.

Students whose score for any of the exam stages (average of Stage 1 and 2 or the Speaking Exam) is below 62% will not be eligible for the degree program and will be placed in the relevant EAPP level.

EXAM RULES:

1. Test takers are required to bring the **original copy of their ID card (passport) and printed version of Exam Entry Ticket**, which will be sent to their email addresses, and arrive at ADA University **one hour** before the exam starts.
2. Test takers who are more than 20 minutes late for the exam will not be admitted to the exam.
3. Once the Stage II Listening Comprehension component (see exam format above) starts, no test taker will be allowed to enter the exam room. However, examinees are allowed to take the LISTENING & NOTE-TAKING and SPEAKING parts after the LISTENING COMPREHENSION is completed.

Note: If you miss the Listening Comprehension part, you will score 0 points for this particular component.

4. Test takers are required to have with them a soft pencil, a ballpoint pen, and an eraser.
5. You will not be allowed to leave the exam hall unless you have a serious health issue. Therefore, please bring a bottle of water with you.
6. Test takers are not permitted to have or use the following during test sessions or breaks:
 - a. bags of any kind (handbags, backpacks, carrier bags, etc.)
 - b. electronic devices during test sessions or breaks. Electronic devices include but are not limited to mobile phones, smartphones, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, cameras, audio or video recorders, headphones, wireless earbuds, translators, calculators, electronic dictionaries, storage devices, and any device or application capable of communication, recording, translation, internet access, or AI-assisted support.
 - c. testing aids. Testing aids include but are not limited to books, pamphlets, notes, dictionaries, thesauri, printed materials, handwritten materials, electronic resources, or any other materials or resources that may assist you during the test.
7. If a student wants to leave the classroom during an in-class break, they may be allowed to do so and will be escorted by one of the proctors.

Note: In the event of a reported violation of any of the rules above, the test taker's test score will be cancelled.

8. The exam will be proctored. Test takers must fully comply with the proctors' directions during the exam. After one oral warning, the proctor has the right to ask the test taker to leave the room, and the

results of the exam will be cancelled. You are not permitted to ask the proctor any questions related to the content of the exam.

9. Disciplinary/legal action will be taken against those who attempt to impersonate the rightful test takers or who attempt to cheat, and the exam results of such candidates will be considered invalid.

10. Applicants who cannot take the exam for any reason are not given make-up exams.