English Foundation Programme (EFP)
English Proficiency Guide

SISM English Language Requirement

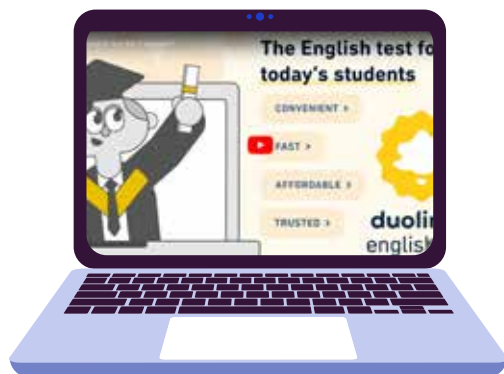| Programme/Year	Minimum *CEFR	Duolingo English Test Score
YEAR 7 EFP	A2+	56 – 59
YEAR 8 EFP	B1	60 – 95

Note:
- All applicants are required to submit a **Duolingo English Test (DET)** score as part of the selection process.
- Higher English proficiency scores enhance readiness for our English-medium environment.

Applicants must arrange their registration and completion of the test online.

What is the Duolingo English Test?

The Duolingo English Test is an online proficiency test assessing reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. It provides an efficient alternative to traditional exams and is recognised by institutions globally, including Soka International School Malaysia.

The Duolingo English Test (DET) explained!
https://youtu.be/TosTLRakr8U?si=ZyB7GdLKNTuqoW90

Key Features of the Duolingo English Test (DET):

Accessible

Can be taken from home with a computer and a smartphone for secure recording.

Affordable

Fast Results

Available within 48 hours.

Secure

AI technology ensures a reliable testing environment.

Duolingo English Test Overview

The test consists of two main sections:

Adaptive Test	Writing & Speaking Samples
45 minutes	10 minutes
Dynamically adjusts question difficulty based on answers.	Assesses fluency and expressive ability through selected prompts.

Test Components:

Reading Comprehension	Answer questions about short texts.
Listening Comprehension	Respond to audio clips.
Speaking	Describe images and answer prompts.
Writing	Write responses on various topics.

How to Register for the Duolingo English Test?

1 **Sign up at the Duolingo English Test website.**

2 **Purchase the Test**

Test overview with all question types
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zm29HOKVcYY

Additional Practice Resources

Practice Tests:

Available on Duolingo's website. Taking these under real test conditions can improve confidence and readiness.

Language Learning Apps:

Platforms like Duolingo, Memrise, and Quizlet offer exercises for vocabulary, grammar, and listening skills.

THINGS YOU NEED TO TAKE THE DUOLINGO ENGLISH TEST

1	☑ **COMPUTER LAPTOP or DESKTOP**
	• With functioning:
	  ☑ **microphone**; (and)
	  ☑ **speakers**: (and)
	  ☑ front-facing **webcam camera**
	• Windows 7 and above or macOS 10.15 are acceptable
	
	Note:
	Do not use a tablet to take the test. **Headphones** and **earphones** are also **prohibited**.	

2	☑ **VALID PASSPORT or GOVERNMENT-ISSUED ID**
	• All IDs must be government-issued and meet the following criteria:
	  ☑ **Full legal name**
	  ☑ **Photo of your face**
	  ☑ **Country of Issuance**
	  ☑ **Full date of birth**
	  ☑ **Valid expiration date**
	
	• Check what IDs are acceptable for your country and region at:
	  https://englishtest.duolingo.com/ids
	
	• **You must present your physical ID on the day of the test**. Photocopies and digital images are not accepted.
	
	Note: **For Malaysian test takers, My Kid cards are NOT acceptable** as it does not contain a photo of your face. In that case, please use a **passport.**
		Sample of MyKid card.

3	• **A FULLY CHARGED PHONE (AS A SECONDARY CAMERA).**
	  • With functioning camera.
	  • A **tablet** may also be used as a secondary camera instead of a phone.	

4	• **RELIABLE INTERNET CONNECTION**	

PREPARATIONS FOR THE DUOLINGO ENGLISH TEST DAY

1	☑ **PRIVATE & QUIET ROOM FOR THE TEST** • Make sure the room is bright and lit. • No one should enter or be in the room with you. **Note:** You must be **alone** in the room when taking the test.	
2	☑ **LEARN HOW TO SET UP YOUR PHONE AS A SECONDARY CAMERA** • On the test day, start the Duolingo English Test and scan the QR Code given. • Set your phone to the "Do not Disturb" mode. • Set up the phone next to your laptop. • Check the phone camera. Make sure your entire laptop is visible and that your **keyboard** and **computer screen** are fully **visible.** 	 ***Click to watch:*** *How to setup a secondary camera using your phone* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUoD3HtkZco

PREPARATIONS FOR THE DUOLINGO ENGLISH TEST DAY	
3	**☆ Important ☆** ☑ **READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL THE RULES FOR THE TEST** **Read the complete test rules at:** ⛔ https://englishtest.duolingo.com/prepare/rules 	Examples of the rules: 1. Do not take the test at public areas such as your dining room or living room. 2. Remove writing materials, paper, and books from your test area. 3. Place non-required devices (phones, smartwatches, tablets etc.) in another room. 4. Close all other browsers (Chrome, Microsoft Edge, etc), programmes and applications, including those running in the background on your laptop. 5. Keep your face (ears, eyes, and mouth) visible and uncovered. 6. Do not take notes. 7. Do not interact with anyone or leave the test area. 8. Keep your eyes on the screen while speaking.

Helpful Links for the Duolingo English Test (DET):

• What programs should I close before taking the Duolingo English Test?

• Using your phone to record your computer

• My computer screen was blank in my phone camera video. What happened?

• My test was cancelled because I left full screen. What happened?

• How can I make sure my test environment is secure?

• How can I maintain eye contact with the screen if I have to look down to type?

• Can I take notes during the test?

• Can I wear headphones or earbuds during the test?

Important Reminders for Test Day

> **If you break any of the rules of the Duolingo English Test, Duolingo reserves the right to** not certify your test results, or to invalidate any previously certified results, without providing a refund. **Depending on the extent of the violation, you may also be permanently banned from taking the Duolingo English Test again.**

Test Security Policy:

Maintaining the integrity of the Duolingo English Test is essential to ensuring a fair admissions process. **Any breach of test security**—such as misconduct, use of unauthorised aids, or impersonation—**will result in immediate disqualification.**

Applicants permanently banned by the test provider will not be considered for admission.

Important Test Rules:

Read **all of the rules** for test-taking carefully so that your test will be secure and valid. The test will also remind you of the rules right before you start.

Selection of Primary Test Rules:

Take the test alone in a quiet room. Do not let anyone be in the room with you.

Remove writing materials, paper, and books from your test area.

Place non-required devices (phones, tablets, smartwatches, etc.) in another room.

Set your phone (secondary camera) to "Do Not Disturb" mode.

Close all other windows and programs, including any that are running in the background.

Keep your face (ears, eyes, and mouth) visible and uncovered.

Do not take notes.

Do not wear headphones or earbuds.

Do not interact with anyone or leave the test area.

Keep your eyes on the screen while speaking.

These selected test rules represent the primary test rules. **For complete test rules,** visit
https://englishtest.duolingo.com/prepare/rules

How to Setup Your Phone (Secondary Camera) for Test Day:

How to setup a secondary camera using your phone
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUoD3HtkZco

1.Set up phone with camera

2.Check the phone camera

Make sure your keyboard and computer screen are visible.

Submission of Scores to SISM

Results are available within 48 hours. Please send your scores directly to Soka International School, Malaysia through the Duolingo platform by selecting SISM from the list of institutions.

Here is a guide on: "**How do I send my Duolingo English Test results to institutions?**"
https://testcenter.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360010869252-How-do-I-send-my-Duolingo-English-Test-results-to-institutions

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. **How long are Duolingo English Test results valid?**

Results are valid for **two years.**

2. **What if technical issues arise during the test?**

Contact Duolingo's support team via the orange HELP button on your test account. Live chat support is available from Monday 00:00 a.m. UTC to Saturday 00:00 a.m. UTC.

- Email: englishtest@duolingo.com
- Support is available 24/7 for email queries.

4. **What happens if a student does not meet the required score?**

Applicants who score below the minimum may still be considered for admission.

Retake the test and submit updated results by **7 October 2025**.

Admissions Office Contact

- **Email**: admissions@sism.edu.my
- **Phone**: +60-67818988
- **WhatsApp**: +6012-6872023

For more details, visit the SISM Admissions Process.

PHONE

06-781 8988
General Enquiries

WHATSAPP

+60 12-261 2023
Admissions Enquiries

sism.edu.my