

# PTE Academic

## Practice Test Help Guide

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# Getting Started

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This section provides basic information about how to use your online Practice Test. Topics include:

- [Registering](#)
- [Logging In and Out](#)
- [Setting User Account Preferences](#)

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## Registering

Before you register, take a minute to be sure you have the following items:

1. **Valid email address:** You must have an email address to register. After you register, you will receive an email message at the address you provide, confirming your personal login name and password. If you do not have an email address, set up a free account through a web site that offers this service.
2. **A credit//debit card or PayPal**  
Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover cards are accepted.  
Please ensure your credit/debit card is authorized for use outside of your country.  
Alternatively you can pay using PayPal. Please set up a PayPal account first.

To register for your course:

1. Go to <http://pearsonpte.com/practicetest>. You must read about the different tests and make sure you have the correct computer equipment and settings.
  2. Choose which Practice test version you would like to use. If you have been provided with an Access code, select the Have an Access code button.
  3. If you have already purchased the test click on the Already Registered button.
  4. You must read and accept the Terms & Conditions before going any further.
  5. You must then read, review and accept the licensing & privacy agreements. Click to Accept the licensing and privacy agreements. If you choose to Decline, you will be given alternate instructions on how to proceed.
- The Access Information screen opens.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to continue with the registration process. When registering for the first time, you must create a login name and password.

You can click the Help link on the registration screen if you need more detailed instructions.

**Note:** If your online-registration session is interrupted for any reason, you can always go back and restart. Your access code is valid until you successfully complete the registration process. For online purchase, your credit card is not charged until you complete registration.

After you complete the registration process, you will receive a confirmation email that contains details about your account.

For details on logging in to your course, see [Logging In and Out](#).

## Accessing the Test

### Log In

When you log in, the application validates your login name and password, and opens your test(s).

**Note:** Before you can log in, you must first [register](#) for a course and purchase a test. If you have forgotten your login name or password, you can click the link on the login screen to request to have this information emailed to you.

To log in:

1. On the login screen, enter your Login Name and Password. Note that passwords are case-sensitive.
2. Click Login. Your home page opens and you will see a list of all the tests you have purchased. Click on a test to open it.

## Log Out

To log out:

- Click Logout in the upper-right corner.  
Your session ends and you see the login screen.

**Note:** If your session is inactive for an extended period of time, an alert message displays. If you do not respond to the alert within two minutes, the session automatically ends and you are redirected to the login screen.

Each account allows one user to be logged in at any one time. If a second user tries to log in using your account information while you are logged in, a message will display to the second user, indicating that another user is logged in. If the second user proceeds with the login, you will be logged out. Your test(s) will be available for up to 28 days after purchase.

## Setting User Account Preferences

Use My profile to make changes to your Pearson account and to set your time zone and your time and date display.

1. Click My profile in the Welcome Banner to open the My profile window.
2. To review or make changes to your Pearson account, click the Account Summary tool.
3. To set your Time zone, select the appropriate time zone from the list.
4. To set your Time and date format, select the appropriate option from the Format list.  
The format you select is displayed just below the Format list for your review.
5. To save your changes, click Save.

## Course Content

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When you open a test from the homepage, you will be taken to the Course Content page. This page shows you all the content included within that test.

### Options

Place your mouse cursor over the content to view the options menu. Click on the options menu arrow to learn what features are available.

Options available from Course Content options menu include:

- Open
- [View submissions](#)

When you open	you see...
 Start Scored Test	...the scored test presentation window. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You will first see the Test Welcome page. Click Start to begin the test. Remember, for the Scored Tests you only have one attempt.</li> <li>• You can save the test by clicking Save for Later and complete at a later date. See Taking a Test</li> <li>• Note: You should resume and complete your activity within 28 days of the test purchase date.</li> </ul>
 Start Unscored Test	...the unscored test presentation window. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You will first see the Test Welcome page. Click Start to begin the test.</li> <li>• You can save the test by clicking Save for Later and complete at a later date. See Taking a Test.</li> <li>• Note: You should resume and complete your activity within 28 days of the test expiration date.</li> </ul>
 How do I access my scores?	...a new Pegasus page with instructions on how to view your test scores.  Click on  Back to return to Course Content
 What do my scores mean?	...the PTE-Academic website page explaining how to interpret your Practice Test Scores.  <a href="http://pearsonpte.com/Practicetest/scores">http://pearsonpte.com/Practicetest/scores</a>

### View Submissions


When you select View Submissions from any test you submitted that has the status, 'Scored', your Score Report opens. For more information, see [View Submissions](#).

## Taking a Test


To take a test:

1. Once you've logged into a test, you will be taken to the Course Content page.
2. Click the test name (or select Open from the options menu).  
The test opens in a new window.
3. Answer the test questions. You can skip questions by clicking the Next button. On the Scored Tests, you will not be able to go back to any questions you skipped.

**Note:** Unscored practice tests also have a Previous button, which you can use to go back to questions you have already viewed.

4. The Unscored Practice Test has a Sample Answer(s) button on the top left bar. Click on this and a new window will open showing the correct answer or sample student responses.
5. To save a Scored Test and resume it later, click the Save for Later button. When you reopen the test it opens to the last viewed page; if this page contains audio that plays automatically, you will not be able to replay the completed audio you listened to before. The clock resumes from your previously saved attempt. When saved for later, your test status is shown as  In Progress.

**Note:** If you Save for Later on the Unscored test you will be taken back to the start of the test when you return. Your responses to any questions already answered will be displayed.

6. When you have answered all of the questions in the test, click End Test to submit your answers for scoring. While your test is being scored, your test status is shown as  Submitted.

After your test is scored, you can [view your submission](#). Scores are usually returned on the same day that you submitted your responses but occasionally, scoring may take longer to be completed. If you have not received your scores after 3 days, please contact Pearson 24/7 Support at <http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com>

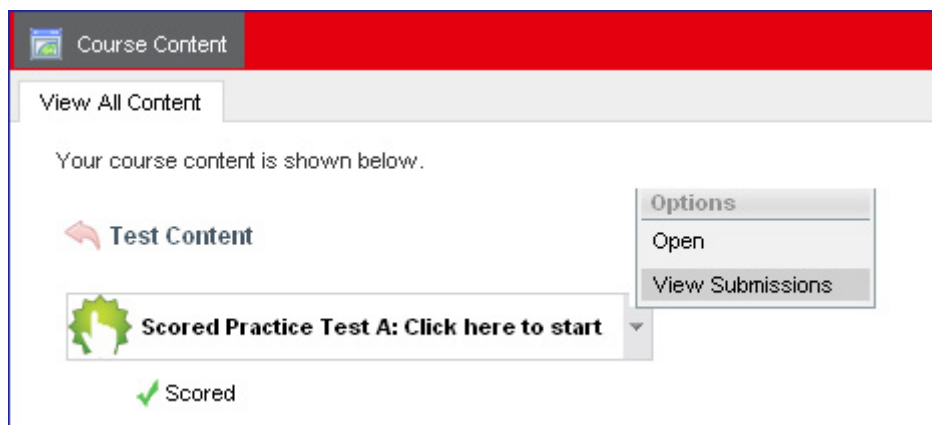
**Note:** You cannot view submissions for an unscored practice test. Once you click on End Test your responses will be cleared.

## Practice Test Score Report

The Student Submission window displays your scores for the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) Practice Tests. It displays the submissions list on the left and the scoring pane on the right.

**Note:** After you complete your submission, there will be a short delay before scoring is complete. You cannot view submissions for an unscored practice test.

To open the Student Submission window, go to the Course Content page and from the options menu of a scored test, select View Submissions.



### Test Information



To view general information about the test, click the Show Info link that appears next to the activity name at the top left of the View Submission window. The following information is displayed:

- **Total submissions:** Number of completed submissions for the activity.
- **Questions:** Total number of questions in the activity.
- **Available (if applicable):** Dates on which the activity is scheduled to be available ("---" indicates that the activity is always available).
- **Attempt Record (if applicable):** Record of your best performance.
- **Max. attempts allowed:** Total number of attempts allowed for the activity.
- **Max. Time to Complete Time- limited Sections:** The maximum time allowed for completing the activity which includes the total time of all sections. ("---" indicates there is no time limit).

To remove the details, click Hide Info.

### Submissions List

The submissions list displays the date and time of your submission. Scores for the submission are displayed next to the corresponding date.

**Note:** To expand the preview pane, click  Hide submissions list at the bottom of the screen. To open the submission list, click  Show submissions list.

### Test Score Pane

The PTE Academic Activity Score Pane displays the Score Report. It shows an overall score as well as Skill and Enabling Skill scores.

Example, Student	
Submitted: 8/19/2009 6:58:05 AM	Student Attempt: 1/1
Questions Attempted: 73/73	Total Time: 01:13(hh:mm)
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Skills</b>	
Reading	51
Writing	69
Listening	47
Speaking	74
<b>Enabling Skills</b>	
Grammar	70
Vocabulary	37
Written Discourse	47
Pronunciation	61
Fluency	74
Spelling	61

The Overall Score is based on the following criteria.

1. Skills

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking

2. Enabling Skills

- Grammar
- Vocabulary
- Written Discourse
- Pronunciation
- Fluency
- Spelling

For more information about how to understand and interpret your Practice Test Score Report click on the link ‘What do my scores mean?’ from the Course Content page or visit:

[www.pearsonpte.com/practicetest/scores](http://www.pearsonpte.com/practicetest/scores)

**Note:** If you take the test in an environment which is noisy or subject to other distractions, if you do not use English, do not answer the question or your answer is too short or too long, some of your scores may be lower than expected.

The preview pane also displays information about the submission as noted below. If the submission is not available the preview pane displays a message that indicates why the preview is unavailable.

- Submitted: Test submitted date and time
- Student Attempt: Number of attempts/ total number of attempts allowed
- Questions attempted: Number of questions attempted/ total number of questions in the activity

- Total time: Total time taken to complete the test

Note: You can print the score report by clicking Print.

## Getting Help

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- Reviewing [System Requirements](#)
- [Contacting Customer Support](#)
- [Providing Feedback](#)

## System Requirements

The most recent System Requirements are available at <http://pearsonpte.com/practicetest>

### Java Virtual Machine

- Java 1.6 or higher is required. (NB. Windows Vista users will need Java 1.5); Java 1.6.0\_16 is the minimum version to be used with Firefox 3.5.6; Java 1.6.0\_13 is the minimum version to be used with Internet Explorer 8 (IE8)

### Internet connection

- you will need a good internet connection of 0.5 MB or higher
- broadband of 1MB or higher is preferred

### Supported operating systems

- Pegasus™ supports the following Operating Systems
- Windows 2000
- Windows XP
- Windows Vista
- Mac 10.4

### Supported web browsers

- Pegasus supports the following Web Browsers
- Internet Explorer 6 or higher
- ~~WWW~~ Firefox 3.5.6
- Safari 3.2.0

Note: Pegasus does not support Google Chrome or Safari 4.0

### Screen resolution

Pegasus is best viewed on a screen resolution

- 1024 X 768 for Windows 2000, Windows XP, and Windows Vista
- 1280 X 960 for Mac 10.4

### Wimba audio requirements

- Click to run the [Wimba equipment check](#)
- hardware
- soundcard
- headphones/headset or speakers
- microphone

## Contacting Customer Support

Pearson Customer Support is available to assist you via email, or with online chat. Before you contact customer support please read through the Frequently Asked Questions on <http://pearsonpte.com/practicetest> to see if your question is answered there.

- Email services hours are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- Chat service hours are 08:00 AM to 08:00 PM EST, Monday through Friday, and 05:00 PM to 12:00 AM on Sunday.

The Support link provides information you can provide to the support representative if you need assistance.

1. Click **Support** in the Welcome Banner to open the Pearson Education Customer Technical Support window.

The window provides the information about your course, computer, and browser.

2. If required, to copy and save, or send this information to a support representative, click **Copy to clipboard**. Then, paste the text into another application.
3. To contact technical support, click the [247pearsoned.custhelp.com](https://247pearsoned.custhelp.com) link.

## Providing Feedback

Feedback is used to help improve the products and for marketing and promotional purposes. If you require customer support, you should click **Support**. Information you enter in the Feedback form is not addressed by customer support and is strictly for submitting comments about the product.

1. Click **Feedback** in the Welcome Banner to open the Feedback window.
2. Choose an option:
  - **General Feedback:** Select this option to send a general feedback about the application.
  - **Course Content Feedback:** Select this option to send a feedback related to your course content.
3. Click **Read Pearson Education's complete Private Policy** link to review the contents of the Private Policy.
4. Enter your feedback information.
5. If you want, select **Pearson Education may contact me for further information or clarification of my feedback**.
6. To submit the feedback, click **Send Feedback**.