

Assessing online – Experience feedback & tips for a smooth transition



Assets for online assessment

- ✓ Easy and smooth test administration.
- ✓ 1 test center is in charge of test administration instead of 3, except for *OPIs* and *Writing* scoring.
- ✓ No more logistics, transportation or infrastructure issues.
- ✓ Cost and paper savings.
- ✓ Overseas test takers are welcome.



Changes for test centers

- ✓ Getting familiar with the platform.
- Setting the platform in accordance with our test specifications.
- ✓ ID and environment check, proctoring (camera, microphone, screen) provided by the platform (*L*, *R*, *W*).
- ✓ Exam set on full screen. Opening of other tabs, windows or softwares is disabled.
- Answer sheets are automatically anonymized for scoring.
- ✓ Extraction of all grades in Excel sheets.

Changes for test takers

- ✓ Test requires a computer (or a tablet) with high-speed Internet connexion.
- ✓ A technical specifications check is mandatory prior to the exam.
- ✓ Test requires a quiet place.
- ✓ Camera and microphone are mandatory, headset recommended for *Listening* and Speaking.
- ✓ Listening, Reading, Writing take place on the same day.
- ✓ Speaking takes place another day (individual slot).

Considerations for Listening and Reading



- Each question has an independent audio file.
- ✓ Test taker can listen to the recording as many times as necessary. Timer on screen.
- ✓ Reading: long texts may be uncomfortable to read on screen.
- ✓ Scoring: MCQs are automatically scored. Manual scoring for constructed responses is needed.

Considerations for Speaking

- ✓ Both raters are in front of the same computer.
- ✓ Raters ensure the ID check and environment check.
- ✓ Raters need a camera, speakers and microphone.
- ✓ Grades and comments are directly entered on the platform.



Considerations for Writing



- Spell-checker is disabled. Word count & timer on screen.
- ✓ Copy/paste inside the production area is allowed.
- ✓ Scoring: printing of the productions is advised. Grades and comment are then reported directly on the platform.

Test takers feedback (2024)

- √ 85% of test takers felt well accompanied in the transition.
- ✓ 73% of test takers found the experience positive.



Smooth transition

- Anticipate changes and communication well ahead :
 - ✓ With raters
 - ✓ With the technical support team
 - ✓ With test takers

- ✓ Implement trial sessions before any official session.
 - ✓ « Role plays » with test raters and administrators.
- ✓ Change management : people, processes, tools.