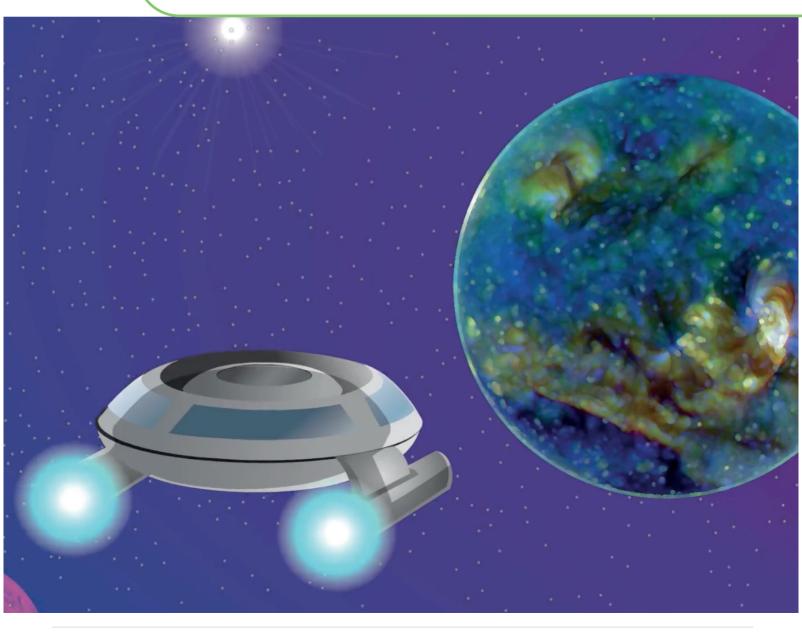**BRITISH COUNCIL**

English Assessment for Schools

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Primary English Test

BRITISH COUNCIL

The British Council has nearly 90 years of global expertise in English teaching and assessment. In many ways this is the cornerstone of the work we do, and we have continuously worked with learner communities around the world to improve their lives in meaningful ways through the power of English.

Our diverse English assessment portfolio has a range of trusted, high-quality tests including IELTS and Aptis. Our assessment is underpinned by our commitment to high quality, reliability, accuracy, and fairness. These core principles have helped us to gain the trust and loyalty of customers around the world.

Primary English Test

This is our first English general proficiency test for use in schools that need to assess students transitioning from Primary to Secondary.

Key features:

- Fully mapped to the CEFR – overall score plus individual skills
- Fully online delivery underpinned by machine learning driven approaches to automated scoring that guarantee transparent, fast, and accurate results
- Immersive experience - high quality animation and a contemporary user interface keep students engaged so they can achieve their best in a real-world English evaluation
- All four skills are integrated into a single test session, providing a cohesive experience for students
- Stage adaptive testing – presents students with tasks appropriate to their level
- Course-agnostic – can be used with any curriculum
- Testing is administered at your school with your oversight and at your convenience
- Schedule anytime you choose throughout the school year.

Feedback from beta pilots in selected schools

We conducted beta pilots for the new Primary English Test in Colombia and other countries earlier this year, and received highly positive feedback from schools on the test format, content, administration, scoring and overall experience.

"The fact that it is computer based is a very good deal for modern students, for the children and much more." *Teacher, Italy*

"You can take the test in the school at the moment you consider is best for the students". *Teacher, Colombia*

The British Council is an institution that is well known which adds reliability to the test because it's the institution that creates these types of exams. I also like how it is a student friendly platform. The other thing I like are the certificates; they come with good information for parents to know about the level of their kids." *Teacher, Colombia*

Our approach to automated scoring

Our approach to autoscoring is driven by our commitment to make all our assessments as useful and accessible as possible. It is underpinned by our commitment to the same values we apply to all our assessments: transparency, explainability and relevance of scoring to test users' needs, accuracy, and reliability.

The use of machine learning to improve autoscoring solutions has developed dramatically over recent years. Primary English Test draws on the most recent advances in the field to guarantee accurate results for teachers and learners by evaluating the important aspects of English usage. A key aspect of this is explainability, ensuring test scores are based on English performance relevant to real-world teaching and learning.

An essential concern for automated scoring in language tests is avoiding bias by using automatic speech recognition systems and scoring algorithms that are trained to deal with diverse speakers. This is a core principle of our test: extensive field test data continuously trains our autoscoring system on a wide range of speakers from different backgrounds.

To ensure fairness and set high standards, we have pioneered new approaches to validation which put transparency of autoscoring at the centre of development. Primary English Test is supported by our evolving approach to this dynamic area and is also driving the definition of best practice in assessment.

A look at the test visuals

Ice Cream Shop

Ghost House

Roller Coaster

Hi!

Clown

Mini Train Ride

Front Gate