

# OET Quick Guide

This guide provides comprehensive introductory information for those new to the Occupational English Test (OET).

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# What is the OET?

The Occupational English Test (OET) is an international English language test designed specifically for the healthcare sector. It assesses the ability of non-native English-speaking healthcare professionals to communicate in professional settings.

Based on real-life healthcare scenarios, the OET evaluates candidates' language communication skills in workplace contexts, covering the four areas of Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking.

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# OET Background and Key Features

## DEVELOPER

The OET is developed and administered by Cambridge Boxhill Language Assessment (CBLA), a joint project between the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate and Australia's Box Hill Institute.

## GLOBAL RECOGNITION

The OET is widely recognised by healthcare regulatory bodies and government departments in several English-speaking countries, including:

- The UK's National Health Service (NHS) and General Medical Council (GMC)
- The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
- Healthcare sectors in New Zealand, the United States (some states), and Ireland

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## KEY FEATURES OF THE OET

- **Relevance:** OET questions are based on everyday healthcare workplace scenarios, such as patient consultations, record-keeping, and writing referral letters.
- **Recognition:** The OET is recognised by numerous English-speaking countries for healthcare professional registration, immigration visa applications, and continuing education.
- **Specialisation:** Test content is tailored to specific healthcare professions (e.g., doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists).
- **Practical Focus:** The OET assesses candidates' language proficiency in real-world healthcare contexts, rather than general academic or social English."





## ENHANCING CLINICAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS

OET focuses on English application in clinical settings, covering patient interactions, medical documentation, and team collaboration. It helps healthcare professionals articulate and comprehend with precision, improving clinical communication efficiency while fostering trust and professionalism.

## BOOSTING EMPLOYABILITY

As an internationally recognised English language test, the OET certification is a respected measure of language proficiency in the healthcare sector. It enhances your competitiveness in job applications and meets the language requirements of leading global healthcare institutions, supporting career advancement.



## UNLOCKING GLOBAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

OET opens doors to international career development for healthcare practitioners. Passing the test enables you to meet the language requirements for immigration and professional registration in several countries, facilitating entry into healthcare systems in nations like the UK and Australia, and paving the way for a global career.

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# OET Exam Structure

The OET exam assesses language skills in healthcare contexts and comprises four components:

## Listening

- The Listening sub-test lasts approximately 40 minutes.
- It comprises three parts with a total of 42 questions.
- Topics cover general healthcare content applicable to candidates across all professions.

## Reading

- This sub-test consists of three parts with 42 questions in total.
- This sub-test must be completed within 60 minutes.
- Topics relate to general healthcare scenarios, relevant to candidates of all professions.

## Writing

- The Writing sub-test lasts 45 minutes and is profession-specific.
- Each profession is assigned one task based on typical workplace scenarios and professional requirements (e.g., nurses complete nursing-related tasks, etc.).

## Speaking

- The Speaking sub-test lasts approximately 20 minutes and is profession-specific.
- Each profession includes two role-play tasks based on typical workplace scenarios. In each role-play, the candidate assumes a professional role.

# OET Scoring System

**The OET scoring system uses a grade scale from A to E.  
Each sub-test is scored independently; there is no overall score.**

**The following table shows the OET grade and score correspondence:**

Grade	Score Range	Description
A	450-500	Exceptional professional language proficiency with minimal communication barriers.
B	350-440	High-level language competence, capable of handling most professional scenarios effectively.
C+	300-340	Effective language proficiency, though further improvement may be required.
C	200-290	Basic language skills, insufficient for complex communication demands.
D	100-190	Limited language proficiency, unable to meet workplace communication needs.
E	0-90	Extremely limited language proficiency.

## **Note:**

- OET score requirements vary between registration bodies for different countries and professions. Generally, a minimum score of B (350) or higher is required in each sub-test.
- Some countries allow candidates to combine scores from two test sittings within a 6-month period, provided specific requirements are met. For example, nurse registration in the UK allows combining the highest scores from each section across two tests, as long as no section is below a C+ (300).
- OET scores have an expiry date. Typically, OET results are valid for two years, but specific requirements may vary depending on the country or healthcare institution. Some institutions may require more recent scores (e.g., within one year).

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# Why Choose Us?



## Highly Experienced Instructors

Our team of experienced and qualified instructors ensures professional and high-quality teaching.



## Comprehensive Curriculum Design

Our goal-oriented curriculum integrates real-world healthcare scenarios and case studies, enabling learners to apply knowledge in practice and achieve progress.



## Regular Assessment & Feedback

We use regular assessments and mock exams to help students track their progress and provide personalised feedback for improvement.



## Various Teaching Strategies

We offer online, offline, and blended learning options, combined with a self-study platform, to meet students' needs with flexibility.



## Learner-Centric & Continuous Improvement

We regularly collect student feedback and continuously optimise our course content and teaching methods to ensure our courses consistently meet student needs.



Our course provides clear content, practical case studies, and interactive exercises to ensure you thoroughly grasp the OET, prepare effectively, and build a strong English foundation for professional success.

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# Contact Us

## Office Hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM



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