

Why use the Brigham Young University (BYU) English Certification Test (ECT)?

Executive Summary

- 1) *TOEIC and ECT.* Why not have two English exams in your Centers?
- The ECT tests employees at a lower level than the TOEIC (see below)
 - The ECT has supported speaking and writing since 2001
 - The ECT is based on ACTFL guidelines and what should be tested

	TOEFL	TOEIC	ECT
Purpose	Measure Academic English ability for college entrance	Measure General Business English ability at a High Intermediate Level & above	Measure General English ability from Novice High to Advanced Low
Skills Tested	Listening, Reading, Grammar. 2006 addition of Speaking & Writing	Listening, Reading, Grammar (according to website)	Since 2001 Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing
Levels Tested	College entrance level. Does not discriminate well at lower levels below ACTFL* High Intermediate	Does not discriminate well below ACTFL* High Intermediate level	Discriminates at ACTFL* level of Novice High to Advanced Low

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*American Council on the teaching of Foreign Languages

- 2) *Location and service.* . For example, why not have an exam that tests English in the Airline Industry. This type of examination as well as other types can be designed for specific industries. The ECT could become a specialized test and could also test other languages.
- 3) *BYU is recognized as a leader in learning languages.*
- The university is also the Chinese Flagship Center in the National Flagship Language Initiative, a government-funded program that seeks to help advanced speakers attain a high proficiency and the ability to function professionally with the Chinese language.
 - BYU has been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a Center for International Business Education Research, supporting U.S. businesses with international education, language training and research.
 - More than three-fourths of BYU students speak a foreign language—107 languages
 - Regular classes are offered in 43 languages, with an additional 23 available depending on student interest—more than any university in the US.
- 4) *The whole package is provided.* In addition to providing the ECT and training of ECT proctors, training is also provided for Technology Assisted Language Learning (TALL).

Facts about TALL:

- \$10 M and over 14 years of development
- TALL uses holistic approach that uses technology, teachers, native speakers and real-world practice to produce better, faster results
- Adaptability, systematic-spaced review
- Research-based continuous improvement

- 5) *Worldwide Player.* Licensed Partners have been established worldwide to distribute the ECT and TALL products.