

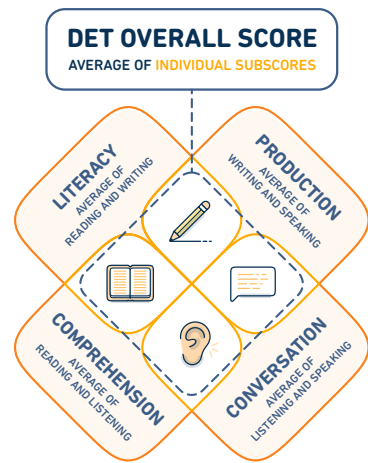
New and Updated Subscores on the Duolingo English Test

Beginning **July 1st**, the Duolingo English Test will report four **Individual Subscores**: **Speaking, Writing, Reading, and Listening** (SWRL). These subscores will be reported in addition to the four **Integrated Subscores: Literacy, Comprehension, Conversation, and Production**. The **Integrated Subscores** will be updated to be more easily interpretable.

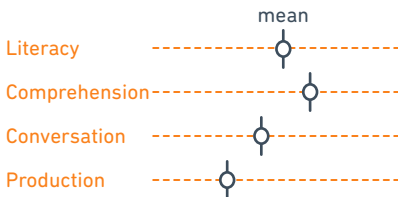
In **October 2024**, the DET will publish concordance for the **Individual Subscores (SWRL)** with IELTS and TOEFL. The release of the new subscores and concordance will take place in two phases to maintain the reliability and consistency of scoring, guaranteeing a smooth transition for both institutions and test takers. **Note that the overall DET concordance with IELTS and TOEFL will not change!**

How will the scores be calculated?

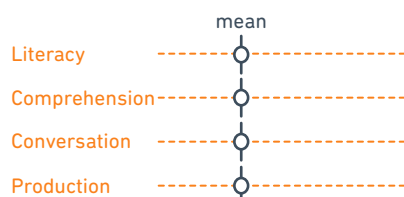
- Each **Integrated Subscore** will be a simple average of two **Individual Subscores (SWRL)**
- The DET Overall Score will be an average of four **Individual Subscores (SWRL)**
- Making this change to the **Integrated Subscores** makes the subscore distribution more consistent and easier to interpret (e.g., the Production subscore will no longer be substantially lower than other subscores for most/all test takers). After the transition, you will no longer need to consult percentile tables to interpret each Integrated Subscore to set your cut-offs.



Integrated Subscores before July 1, 2024

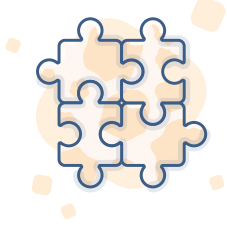


Integrated Subscores after July 1, 2024



* The mean is the 50th percentile of test taker scores on these subscores

Why does the DET need two sets of subscores?

- **Integrated Subscores** best represent how language is used in real life. For example, speaking does not happen by itself. It is often paired with listening when having a conversation or participating in group work.
- Some institutions that accept the DET have found the integrated subscores useful for the specific programs that they offer (e.g., graduate programs in Communication, International Teaching Assistant Programs).
- **Individual Subscores (SWRL)** provide more comparability between the DET and other high stakes tests at the subscore level that may be useful to programs in setting subscore admission cutoffs.

How to use the new and updated subscores?

- We do not recommend using both **Individual Subscores (SWRL)** and **Integrated Subscores** or mixing them (e.g., choosing to use Speaking and Writing from the **Individual Subscores** and Literacy and Comprehension from the **Integrated Subscores**).
- When choosing the subscores to use, institutions should consider factors like the programs they offer, specific needs of their programs in terms of English proficiency, and the international student population.
 - If subscore concordance with other proficiency tests is important to your program, consider using **Individual Subscores (SWRL)**.
 - If the way **Integrated Subscores** represent English proficiency works better for your program, consider using these subscores.
- As a best practice, when setting minimum thresholds, it is useful to set scores flexibly and conduct periodic reviews of score requirements.
- If you decide to update your cutscores to use the **Individual Subscores (SWRL)** instead, consider not making the change in the middle of an admissions cycle. Once **Individual Subscore** concordances have been finalized (in approximately October), setting cut scores will be much easier.

Resources

- For the **Integrated Subscores**, we will provide conditional percentile conversion charts. These charts will help transition from the way we reported these subscores before July to the new, more straightforward way we will be reporting these subscores.
- Note that this conversion chart is not an exact mapping from the old-form Integrated Subscores to the new ones. However, if you previously set your cut scores using conditional percentiles, you will be able to transition easily using the conversion chart. We will provide guidance for how to use the conversion chart.

What's next for my institution?

- If your institution only sets requirements on the DET overall score, then no changes/ actions are needed. The overall score scale is not changing!
- If subscores are used in admissions decisions, institutions should prepare to get the four new **Individual Subscores (SWRL)** and decide if they would like to use these new subscores in place of the existing **Integrated Subscores**. In addition, institutions should note the new scale for the Integrated Subscores.
- If your institution already has subscore requirements, it will be necessary (temporarily, just for the ongoing admissions cycle) to use different criteria for tests taken before and after the subscore changes.
- Before the subscore changes (i.e., for certificates with only four integrated scores reported) adhere to your old subscore requirements.
- For new certificates with eight subscores reported (Integrated and Individual), you may choose either to switch to the **Individual Subscores (SWRL)** or continue using the **Integrated Subscores**. We do not recommend using both Individual and Integrated subscores for the new certificates.
- We will provide materials to make this transition as smooth as possible including dashboard export and/or APIs.

