

2016 IBT PROGRAM – SCHOOL INVITATION

Dear Principal,

On behalf of the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), we would like to invite your students to participate in the 2016 International Benchmark Tests (IBT) in English, Mathematics and Science. IBT is an internationally administered program of assessments developed by ACER for students in primary and secondary schools.

This is the sixth year of the IBT program and we have experienced a substantial growth in the participation of top schools in Malaysia.

Australian Council for Education Research (ACER)

ACER is an international research leader in the dynamic world of education. It is a non-for-profit organization and is a world leader in assessment and reporting development since 1930.

ACER has been instrumental in the implementation, management and reporting of large-scale surveys such as the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) which assesses the reading, mathematics and science skills of students in more than 60 countries.

PISA Survey

In the last 2012 PISA survey, Malaysian students fared below average ranking 52 out of 65 countries that took part. Therefore, in the Malaysian Education Blueprint of 2013-2025, the Ministry of Education set a goal to elevate the Malaysia students' ranking to be in the top third of countries by 2025.

(Source: The STAR Online-News, 5th December 2013)

In support of the Education Ministry's objective, the IBT program provides quality skills-based assessment and benchmarking in transforming the learning of English, Science, and Mathematics for students in Malaysia. The IBT Tests will help raise the level of high-order thinking skills, which is one of the essential skills in the PISA survey; and was the skill generally lacking in Malaysian students.

International Benchmark Test (IBT)

The IBT tests have been designed to assess the generic skills that underpin the teaching of English, Mathematics and Science for primary and secondary schools. Test questions are based on reasoning and high-order thinking skills in each subject; with a yearly update of new and stimulating content by an experienced team of assessment professionals.

Benefits of IBT

- Students undertaking the IBT receive individual reports that pinpoint their strengths and weaknesses on specific skills and concepts related to their class level and compare their performance with other students in their own school and country and in other countries.
- Parents are able to observe their child's performance and progress through an independent, comprehensive, and internationally accepted assessment tool.
- A Certificate of Achievement is awarded depending on the student's performance. The four levels of certificates are Honour, High Distinction, Distinction, and Participation.
- A set of comprehensive and quality reports is prepared for each school that allows teachers to accurately measure student performance and identify areas of strengths and weaknesses; and monitor the effectiveness of school program.

IBT Tests Assessment, Fee & Schedule

Assessment	Subjects	Class	No .of Questions	Exam Date	Duration	Test Fee	
Reading Comprehension, Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar & Vocabulary	English	Primary 3-6	40	2/11/2016*	60 minutes per test paper	RM33.00 for One (1) subject	
		Form 1-5	45				
Number, Measurement, Space, Chance and Data	Mathematics	Primary 3-6	40	3/11/2016*		60 minutes per test paper	RM63 for Two (2) subjects
		Form 1-5	45				
Earth Science, Physical Science and Life Science	Science	Primary 3-6	40	4/11/2016*			60 minutes per test paper
		Form 1-5	40				

We welcome your school to participate in the 2016 IBT program this November; and enclosed herewith are the following materials:

1. IBT Information Brochure
2. Student Invitation & Registration, Test Fees and Timetable
3. School Registration & Payment Forms

Deadline for Registration of Submission is on 19 August 2016.

School Visit

Kindly provide us with your contact details below and we will send our representatives to see you for further information and explanation.

School Name			
Subjects	Teacher's Name	Mobile Number	Email
ENGLISH			
MATHS			
SCIENCE			

Please email this form to ibt@et-studyabroad.com or fax to our office at 03-7932 4988.

For more information, please call our support teams between 9.00am – 5.00pm, Mondays-Fridays at our office numbers - **03-7932 4788 (Ms Anne) or 03-7887 7656 (Cik Fazila).**

For now, we would like to thank you for participating in the 2016 IBT Program.

Kind regards,



Matthew Gan

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