

★**Eiken** : an abbreviation of Jitsuyo Eigo Gino Kentei (Test in Practical English Proficiency) ★

- The levels are called grades
- A pass-or-fail basis
- Two stages

①the first stage: a paper-and-pencil test that evaluates reading, listening and writing ability

②the second stage: a speaking test in the format of a face-to-face interview (only for who passed the first stage) : not given for the two beginner levels, Grade4 and 5

- An examinee must pass both stages of a grade to receive certification.
- The passing mark ⇒ G2 to 5 : 60% , G1 to Pre-1 : 80%

Grade	Level	Recognition	The First Stage			The Second Stage
			Reading	Listening	Writing	Speaking
1	Advanced ↑	Recognized for international admissions to graduate and undergraduate programs	Can understand a wide variety of texts from a range of social, professional, and educational situations.	Can understand a wide variety of content from a range of social, professional, and educational situations.	Can write at length about topics relevant to a range of social, professional, and educational situations.	Can take part in interaction on a wide variety of topics relevant to a range of social, professional, and educational situations.
Pre-1			Can understand texts from a range of social, professional, and educational situations.	Can understand content from a range of social, professional, and educational situations.	Can write at length about topics from everyday life and topics relevant to some social, professional, and educational situations.	Can make explanations and express his/her opinions about topics relevant to a range of social, professional, and educational situations.
2		*MEXT benchmarks for HS graduates	Can understand lengthy expository texts and find necessary information in texts of a practical nature.	Can understand information and explanations relevant to everyday life and understand the content of extended speech.	Can write texts of some length about topics from everyday life.	Can describe everyday experiences and convey his/her needs and requirements.
Pre-2			Can find information on graphs and tables and understand simple expository texts.	Can understand topics from everyday life and simple explanations and instructions	Can write simple texts about things that he/she is interested in.	Can handle routine tasks from everyday life and express his/her ideas about topics that he/she is interested in.
3		*MEXT benchmark for JHS graduates	Can understand simple stories and texts about familiar things.	Can understand instructions and talks and monologues about familiar things, provided that the speaker speaks slowly.	Can write simple texts about himself/herself.	Can take part in simple interaction about familiar things and talk about himself/herself.
4	↓ beginner	*MEXT benchmark for JHS	Can understand simple texts, signs, and notices.	Can understand simply constructed sentences and simple instructions.	Can write simple constructed sentences and messages.	Can produce speech and ask questions using simply constructed sentences.
5			Can recognize the letters of the alphabet and punctuation marks, and can understand basic English words, phrases, and	Can understand basic English words and phrases and set expressions.	Can write the letters of the alphabet and basic English words and use punctuation marks.	Can use basic English words and phrases and set expressions.

*The Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT)