

Republic of Türkiye
Kahramanmaraş Sütçü İmam University
School of Foreign Languages
2026 Placement Exam Specification for Students

1. Placement Exam at a Glance

The Placement Exam is compulsory for newly enrolled students in the Compulsory and Voluntary English Preparatory Programs. It is designed to place students in the module that best matches their current English level. The exam covers A2, B1 and B1+ material; it does not directly measure A1.

The exam is a single continuous 130-minute session worth 100 points. Section 1 lasts 90 minutes and is worth 70 points. Section 2 lasts 40 minutes and is worth 30 points. You must remain in the room for the first 30 minutes and the final 10 minutes. Late arrival is permitted only during the first 30 minutes and does not give extra time.

1.1. Section 1: Receptive Skills and Linguistic Competence (90 minutes; 70 points)

All Section 1 questions are selected-response items. Mark every answer on the optical answer sheet; no extra time is given to transfer answers. The answer sheet is collected before the Section 2 writing booklet is distributed.

1.2. Linguistic Competence (26 points)

This section has 26 multiple-choice items. It assesses grammar and vocabulary at A2, B1 and B1+ levels.

Component	Students can:	Question / Task Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample Formats
A2 Linguistic Competence (10 points)	use high-frequency vocabulary and basic sentence structures in familiar, everyday contexts.	Multiple-choice sentence completion, gap-fill and vocabulary items.	10 items. Focus: present/past simple, basic linkers, prepositions, modals and everyday topics such as routines, hobbies and shopping.
B1 Linguistic Competence (10 points)	use routine grammatical patterns and vocabulary for familiar topics with reasonable accuracy.	Contextual multiple-choice gap-fill and vocabulary items.	10 items. Focus: present perfect, conditionals, relative clauses, passive voice, collocations and phrasal verbs.

Component	Students can:	Question / Task Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample Formats
B1+ Linguistic Competence (6 points)	use language for less routine and more abstract situations; select accurate grammar and vocabulary in context.	Advanced multiple-choice cloze and register / vocabulary selection.	6 items. Focus: complex discourse markers, advanced verb patterns and academic or cultural collocations.

1.3. Reading Comprehension (23 points)

This section has 23 multiple-choice items based on five reading texts. Read each text carefully and select the best answer on the optical answer sheet.

Component	Students can:	Question / Task Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample Formats
A2 Reading (8 points)	locate predictable information in simple practical texts; identify the main point; understand straightforward instructions.	Selected response: matching and multiple-choice items.	2 texts; 8 items. Short practical messages, emails, notices and information texts. Focus: time, place, contact details, instructions and gist.
B1 Reading (9 points)	recognize significant points in factual texts; gather information from different parts of a text; follow a sequence of events.	Four-option multiple-choice and matching / sequence items.	2 texts; 9 items. A factual or feature article and a narrative or sequential text. Focus: main idea, details, paragraph headings and chronology.

B1+ Reading (6 points)	identify a writer's viewpoint; distinguish fact from opinion; connect information across a text; understand text organisation.	Four-option multiple-choice and sentence-insertion items.	1 text; 6 items. An opinion, editorial or forum text. Focus: stance, supporting arguments, cohesion and organisation.
------------------------	--	---	---

Oral Comprehension / Listening (21 points)

1.4. Listening is delivered from one master audio file. A2 and B1 recordings are played twice; the B1+ recording is played once. There are 21 multiple-choice items based on five recordings.

Component	Students can:	Question / Task Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample Formats
A2 Listening (7 points)	understand the gist and key details of slow, clear conversations and straightforward spoken directions.	Selected-response listening items.	2 recordings; 7 items. Short dialogues and announcements. Focus: prices, times, locations, simple instructions and main topic.
B1 Listening (9 points)	follow the main points of an extended discussion and understand factual	Four-option multiple-choice listening items.	2 recordings; 9 items. An extended interview/discussion and a short radio talk. Focus: main ideas, attitudes, intentions and specific facts.

Component	Students can:	Question / Task Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample Formats
	information and details in familiar topics.		
B1+ Listening (5 points)	distinguish main ideas from supporting details and follow arguments in a standard lecture or formal talk.	Four-option multiple-choice and stance / opinion items.	1 recording; 5 items. A short academic lecture or formal talk. Focus: abstract arguments, supporting details and speaker viewpoint.

Section 2: Written Production (40 minutes; 30 points)

1. Complete all three writing tasks in the booklet. The A2 task is sentence-level. The B1 message is 50-70 words. The B1+ academic opinion essay is 150-200 words.

Component	Students can:	Question / Task Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample Formats
A2 Writing (5 points)	construct accurate simple and compound sentences using basic connectors and correct word order.	Guided sentence mechanics.	5 discrete sentence-level items, such as combining ideas, reordering words or completing gaps. 1 point each.
B1 Writing (5 points)	write a short, connected functional message that gives factual information and simple reasons.	Short functional message or email.	50-70 words. Example context: reply to a peer about plans, routines or practical arrangements.
B1+ Writing (20 points)	state and support an opinion, organise ideas in paragraphs, and use relevant reasons and examples.	Academic opinion essay.	150-200 words. Write about a university-related or general topic; make your position clear and develop a logical sequence of ideas.

a. How Your Placement Is Determined

Your final score is the total of Sections 1 and 2, out of 100. The score range determines the module in which you will start. Results are announced through the Student Information System and the School website.

If you do not take the exam, you are placed in the A1 module as an administrative floor decision. You may submit a written, reasoned appeal within five working days of the official result announcement. Within the first two weeks of instruction, a placement may be reviewed through a student petition or a unanimous faculty recommendation.

Overall Score	Placed Module	What Your Score Shows	Next Step
0-34	A1 Module	A1 is a floor decision. This score shows that control of the A2 material sampled was not demonstrated.	You begin in the entry-level module.
35-57	A2 Module	You demonstrate control of basic A2 daily	You begin pre-intermediate study.

Overall Score	Placed Module	What Your Score Shows	Next Step
58-81	B1 Module	routines and sentence mechanics. You demonstrate control of routine grammar, factual texts and short functional messages.	You begin intermediate study.
82-100	B1+ Module	You demonstrate strong control of complex discourse and structured academic writing.	You begin upper-intermediate study.