

College of San Mateo Placement Tests

- Computerized and Manual MDTP (Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Project) for mathematics course placement
- ACCUPLACER Reading Comprehension and sentence structure (computerized Placement Tests) (The College Board)
- CPTS Reading Comprehension and sentence structure (Companion to the Computerized Placement Tests) (The College Board)
- SLEP (Secondary Level English Proficiency Test) - for reading and conversation speech course placement for non-native speakers of English (ETS – Educational Testing Service)
- ESL Writing Test - for non-native speakers of English (ESL)

Interpreting placement test results.

Placement tests are intended to measure skills which research has shown to be closely related to academic success. In combination with other measures, test results represent student strengths and capabilities. Students are advised to discuss placement results with a counselor/advisor so that they can assist them to develop an educational plan.

Refer to the course listing in this catalog for titles, descriptions and prerequisites for the courses in the following placement charts. Students are encouraged to consult with a counselor/advisor regarding course selection and planning.

Alternate tests used for test waiver and/or credit:

The English test requirement will be waived, and eligibility for English 100 received, for students with a minimum score on one of the following tests:

Test	Minimum Score
*SAT-I Verbal	580
*SAT-II Writing Subject Test	660
ACT English Usage Test	23
CSU English Placement Test	150
AP English Language and Composition Test	3, 4, or 5
AP English Literature and Composition Test	3, 4, or 5

* Test taken prior to the use of the new SAT Reasoning Test.

College of San Mateo Course Placement Guides

English Course Placement Guide

English course placements are based on a combination of two test scores: Reading Comprehension and Sentence Skills. Scores in parentheses represent scale scores for the computerized English test. Placements are listed below.

If you have a Reading score of:	and a Sentence Skills score of:	Take the following English and Reading course(s):
0 to 8 (0 to 27).....	All scores	Take READ 812 first
9 to 14 (28 to 41).....	All scores	Take READ 825 first; the following semester take ENGL 828
15 to 20 (42 to 62).....	0 to 14 (0 to 53)	Take ENGL 828
15 to 20 (42 to 62).....	15 to 21 (54 to 85)	Take ENGL 838
15 to 20 (42 to 62).....	22 to 35 (86 to 120)	Take ENGL 848
21 to 26 (63 to 87).....	0 to 10 (0 to 34)	Take ENGL 828
21 to 26 (63 to 87).....	11 to 18 (35 to 72)	Take ENGL 838
21 to 26 (63 to 87).....	19 to 35 (73 to 120)	Take ENGL 848
27 to 35 (88 to 120).....	0 to 11 (0 to 38)	Take ENGL 828
27 to 35 (88 to 120).....	12 to 13 (39 to 48)	Take ENGL 838
27 to 35 (88 to 120).....	14 to 21 (49 to 85)	Take ENGL 848
27 to 35 (88 to 120).....	22 to 25 (86 to 101)	Take ENGL 100 + 101 (100 + 101 paired sections must be taken together)
27 to 35 (88 to 120).....	26 to 35 (102 to 120)	Take ENGL 100

More detailed information on the determination of English course placements is available in the Office of Testing Services (Building 1, Room 130) during day hours, and in the Counseling Center (Building 5, Room 128) on Monday - Thursday evenings.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Course Placement Guide

Placement Results for Writing Courses

Evaluation of the ESL essay determines the following placement:

ESL Writing Courses (Effective Fall 2003 Semester)	Supplemental Course
See Placement Guide*	
Level 1: ESL 825	None
Level 2: ESL 826	None
Level 3: ESL 827	ESL 880 (Grammar Review)
Level 4: ESL 828	ESL 880 (Grammar Review)
Level 5: ESL 400	ESL 880 (Grammar Review)

*An ESL writing placement of "See Placement Guide" means that your writing skills are below the recommended level for placement in ESL writing classes offered at College of San Mateo. You are encouraged to enroll in and complete the conversation and/or reading courses in which you placed prior to enrolling in ESL 825.

Placement Results for Conversation and Reading Courses

SLEP Placement Score	Recommended Conversation and Reading Courses (Effective Fall 2003 Semester)		Supplemental Course
0 to 19	ESL 845	ESL 895	READ 807 (Basic Phonic Skills)
Level 1: 20 to 30	ESL 845	ESL 855	ESL 896 (Essential Vocabulary), READ 807 (Basic Phonic Skills)
Level 2: 31 to 41	ESL 846	ESL 856	ESL 897 (Vocabulary), READ 807 (Basic Phonic Skills)
Level 3: 42 to 52	ESL 847	ESL 857	ESL 891 (Accent Reduction), ESL 897 or READ 852-855 (Vocabulary), READ 809 (Spelling Improvement)
Level 4: 53 to 63	ESL 885 or SPCH 855	Take native speakers' reading test	ESL 891 (Accent Reduction), ESL 897 or READ 852-855 (Vocabulary), READ 809 (Spelling Improvement)
Level 5: 64 to 75	None	Take native speakers' reading test	ESL 891 (Accent Reduction), ESL 897 or READ 852-855 (Vocabulary), READ 809 (Spelling Improvement)

Note: Students who score between 53-75 may take the native speakers' reading test. It is highly recommended that students enroll in Conversation and Reading course(s). Note that it is not uncommon for students to place at different writing, conversation, and reading levels.

Reading Course Placement Guide

If you have a Reading Comprehension Score of:	It is recommended that you take the following Reading course(s):
0 to 8.....	READ 812 Non-native speakers: Take the ESL Reading Test
9 to 15.....	READ 825 (READ 814 or 815 optional)* Non-native speakers: READ 825 (READ 809 optional)*
16 to 22.....	READ 830 Non-native speakers: READ 830 (READ 809 optional)*
23 to 28.....	READ 400 or READ 405 (recommended)
29 to 35.....	READ 400, READ 405, or READ 415 optional*

*It is highly recommended that students enroll in Reading course(s) marked as optional.

Mathematics Course Placement Guide

If your took SMCCCD Assessment: **and Scored:** **You can take the following Math course(s):**

Test 1 (Pre-Algebra).....	0 to 20.....	BUS. 810, MATH 811
Test 1 (Pre-Algebra).....	21 to 25.....	BUS. 810, MATH 111
Test 1 (Pre-Algebra).....	26 to 50.....	BUS. 115, MATH 110 or 111
Test 2 (Elementary Algebra).....	0 to 20.....	Return and take Test 1
Test 2 (Elementary Algebra).....	21 to 50.....	MATH 115, 120 or 122
Test 3 (Intermediate Algebra).....	0 to 20.....	Return and take Test 2
Test 3 (Intermediate Algebra).....	21 to 45.....	MATH 125, 130, 145, 200, or 241
Test 4 (Pre-Calculus).....	0 to 19.....	Return and take Test 3
Test 4 (Pre-Calculus).....	20 to 40.....	MATH 251

Refer to the Description of Courses section of this catalog for titles, descriptions, and prerequisites for the courses listed in the Placement Guide above. Students are encouraged to consult with a counselor/advisor regarding course selection and planning.

Alternate tests used for test waiver and/or credit:

The Mathematics test requirement will be waived for students with a minimum score on one of the following tests:

Test	Minimum Score
AP Calculus AB	4 or 5
AP Calculus BC	3, 4, or 5

See pages 35 and 36 for more information regarding AP credit.

