

english result intermediate exam Manual

english result intermediate exam is a crucial milestone for students aiming to assess their proficiency in the English language at an intermediate level. Achieving a good result in this exam not only boosts confidence but also opens doors to higher education opportunities, language certifications, and improved communication skills. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore everything you need to know about the English Result Intermediate Exam, from its structure and scoring to preparation tips and resources to help you excel.

Understanding the English Result Intermediate Exam

What Is the English Result Intermediate Exam?

The English Result Intermediate Exam is an assessment designed to evaluate a learner's command of the English language at an intermediate level, typically aligned with the B1 or B2 levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). It is often administered by language institutes, educational boards, or examination bodies to certify language proficiency.

This exam tests various language skills, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Passing this exam demonstrates that the candidate has a functional understanding of English, capable of handling everyday communication, work-related tasks, and academic activities.

Who Should Take the Exam?

The exam is suitable for:

- Students seeking to validate their intermediate English skills
- Professionals aiming to improve their language credentials
- Individuals preparing for further language exams like IELTS or TOEFL
- Learners transitioning from beginner to advanced levels
- Anyone interested in assessing their English proficiency for personal development

Structure and Content of the English Result Intermediate Exam

Key Components of the Exam

The exam typically consists of four main sections:

- **Reading:** Understanding and interpreting written texts.
- **Writing:** Producing coherent texts like essays, letters, or reports.
- **Listening:** Comprehending spoken English through recordings.
- **Speaking:** Demonstrating spoken communication skills through interviews or presentations.

Exam Format and Duration

While formats may vary slightly depending on the administering body, a common structure includes:

- Reading: 45 minutes
- Writing: 45 minutes
- Listening: 30-40 minutes
- Speaking: 10-15 minutes

Total exam duration is approximately 2.5 to 3 hours, often conducted in a single day or over multiple sessions.

Scoring System

The exam is scored based on the correctness and quality of responses in each section. Scores are usually converted into levels or grades, such as:

- Pass with Distinction
- Pass
- Fail

Some certification bodies also provide detailed score reports indicating proficiency levels in each skill area, helping learners identify strengths and weaknesses.

Preparing for the English Result Intermediate Exam

Effective Study Strategies

To maximize your chances of success, consider the following preparation strategies:

- **Understand the Exam Format:** Familiarize yourself with the structure, types of questions, and timing.
- **Practice Regularly:** Use past papers, sample tests, and mock exams to simulate real exam

conditions.

- **Enhance Core Skills:** Focus on improving vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension, and pronunciation.
- **Develop Time Management Skills:** Learn to allocate appropriate time to each section during practice.
- **Seek Feedback:** Get feedback from teachers or language partners to identify areas for improvement.
- **Use Quality Resources:** Incorporate textbooks, online courses, language apps, and audio materials into your study routine.

Top Resources for Exam Preparation

Some of the most effective resources include:

- Official practice papers from the exam board
- Online platforms like BBC Learning English, Duolingo, or Coursera
- Language exchange programs
- Mobile apps focused on vocabulary and grammar
- Study groups and language clubs

Tips to Achieve a High Score in the English Result Intermediate Exam

Focus on Weak Areas

Identify your weaker skills through practice tests and dedicate extra time to improve them. For example, if listening proves challenging, listen to English podcasts or watch movies with subtitles.

Build a Strong Vocabulary

A rich vocabulary allows you to understand texts better and express yourself more clearly. Maintain a vocabulary journal and learn new words daily.

Improve Grammar and Sentence Structure

Mastering grammar rules ensures your writing and speaking are accurate. Practice constructing sentences and reviewing common grammatical errors.

Enhance Listening and Speaking Skills

Engage in conversations with native speakers or language partners. Use online recordings and

transcription exercises to boost listening comprehension.

Practice Under Exam Conditions

Simulate exam conditions by timing yourself during practice tests. This builds stamina and reduces exam-day anxiety.

Understanding Results and Next Steps

Interpreting Your Scores

Once you receive your results, analyze your performance in each section:

- High scores across all sections indicate readiness for higher levels.
- Weaknesses in specific areas suggest targeted revision.

Next Steps After the Exam

Depending on your results:

- If you pass with a good score, consider moving to advanced levels or pursuing official certifications like Cambridge English exams.
- If you do not achieve the desired result, review your weak areas, and plan a retake after further preparation.
- Use your score report to identify skills needing improvement and tailor your study plan accordingly.

Benefits of Achieving a Good Result in the English Result Intermediate Exam

Academic Advantages

- Recognition of language proficiency can enhance university applications.
- Facilitates admission to English-medium programs.

Career Opportunities

- Improves employability in multinational companies.
- Opens doors for jobs requiring intermediate English skills.

Personal Development

- Boosts confidence in communicating with English speakers.
- Facilitates travel and cultural exchange experiences.

Conclusion

Achieving a strong English Result Intermediate Exam score is a significant step in your language learning journey. Proper understanding of the exam structure, dedicated preparation, and strategic practice are key to success. Remember to utilize available resources, focus on your weak areas, and maintain consistent effort. Whether you aim for certification or personal growth, excelling in this exam can open numerous academic and professional opportunities. Stay motivated, keep practicing, and you'll be well on your way to mastering intermediate English skills.

Keywords for SEO optimization:

English Result Intermediate Exam, intermediate English exam results, prepare for English intermediate test, English proficiency assessment, language exam tips, English exam practice, scoring in English intermediate exam, passing English intermediate exam, English language certification, improve English skills

English Result Intermediate Exam: A Comprehensive Review and Analysis

The English Result Intermediate Exam holds significant importance for students pursuing foundational education in English language proficiency. This examination serves as a benchmark for assessing students' grasp of language skills, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking, at an intermediate level. The results not only influence academic progression but also shape students' confidence and aptitude in practical communication. As educational institutions and testing authorities continually refine assessment standards, understanding the nuances of the intermediate exam?its structure, evaluation criteria, common challenges, and implications?is vital for educators, students, and stakeholders alike.

Understanding the Purpose and Significance of the English Result Intermediate Exam

The Role of the Exam in Language Development

The English Result Intermediate Exam functions as a critical tool to evaluate students' competency

in essential language skills. Its primary purpose is to:

- Assess Communication Skills: Ensuring students can effectively read, write, listen, and speak in English.
- Bridge Learning Gaps: Identifying areas where students need further improvement.
- Prepare for Advanced Levels: Serving as a stepping stone toward higher proficiency exams or academic pursuits.
- Standardize Language Proficiency: Providing a uniform benchmark across diverse educational districts or regions.

Academic and Career Implications

The results of this exam often determine students' progression into higher education tracks or specialized language courses. Furthermore, in contexts where English proficiency is a criterion for employment or professional certification, intermediate exam results can influence future career opportunities.

Structure and Content of the Intermediate Exam

Core Components and Sections

The exam is designed to evaluate multiple facets of language proficiency through distinct sections. Typically, the structure includes:

- Reading Comprehension
- Writing Skills
- Listening Comprehension
- Speaking Skills
- Grammar and Vocabulary

Each component is crafted to test specific competencies, ensuring a holistic evaluation.

Detailed Breakdown

- Reading Comprehension
- Content: Passages of varying lengths and genres?narratives, informational texts, dialogues.

- Objectives: Assess students' ability to understand main ideas, infer meanings, identify details, and analyze context.
- Question Types: Multiple-choice questions, short answer, matching exercises.

- Writing Skills

- Content: Essays, short paragraphs, letter writing, or reports.
- Objectives: Test coherence, grammar, vocabulary, and ability to organize ideas logically.
- Evaluation Criteria: Content relevance, grammatical accuracy, vocabulary richness, and overall clarity.

- Listening Comprehension

- Content: Audio recordings of conversations, lectures, or narratives.
- Objectives: Measure understanding of spoken language, inference abilities, and note-taking skills.
- Question Types: Multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blanks, summarization.

- Speaking Skills

- Content: Oral responses to prompts, dialogues, or presentations.
- Objectives: Evaluate pronunciation, fluency, vocabulary use, and ability to express ideas confidently.
- Assessment Method: Usually conducted through interviews or recorded responses.

- Grammar and Vocabulary

- Content: Multiple-choice questions, sentence correction, fill-in-the-blanks.
- Objectives: Check mastery of grammatical structures and vocabulary breadth.
- Common Topics: Tenses, prepositions, conjunctions, idiomatic expressions.

Evaluation Criteria and Grading System

Scoring Methodology

The intermediate exam employs a combination of quantitative and qualitative assessments. Typically:

- Each section has a designated weightage.
- Scores are converted into percentage marks.
- Grade boundaries are predefined, e.g., A (above 85%), B (70-84%), C (55-69%), D (40-54%), Fail (below 40%).

Grade Interpretation and Implications

- Pass: Demonstrates adequate proficiency to proceed to higher levels.
- Merit/Distinction: Indicates exceptional skills, often leading to recognition or awards.
- Fail: Highlights significant gaps requiring remedial measures.

Result Announcements

Results are generally published online or through official school channels within a specified timeframe post-examination, accompanied by detailed score reports and feedback.

Common Challenges Faced by Students

Language Barriers and Anxiety

Many students grapple with language anxiety, which hampers performance, especially in speaking and listening sections. Anxiety can stem from insufficient practice, fear of making mistakes, or unfamiliarity with exam formats.

Time Management

Balancing multiple sections within limited time frames often poses difficulties. Students may spend too long on reading passages, leaving inadequate time for other parts.

Grammar and Vocabulary Gaps

Weaknesses in foundational grammar and limited vocabulary hinder effective writing and comprehension.

Listening and Speaking Skills

In non-native environments, students may lack exposure to diverse accents or conversational contexts, affecting listening and speaking proficiency.

Inadequate Practice and Preparation

Limited practice with past papers or mock exams can lead to unfamiliarity with exam patterns, reducing confidence and efficiency.

Strategies for Success in the Intermediate Exam

Effective Preparation Techniques

- Regular Practice: Engage with past exam papers and sample questions.
- Strengthen Fundamentals: Focus on grammar rules and vocabulary building.
- Develop Reading and Listening Skills: Read diverse materials and listen to English content such as podcasts, news, and dialogues.
- Improve Speaking Confidence: Practice speaking with peers or tutors, record responses for self-evaluation.
- Time Management Skills: Practice completing sections within allocated time frames.

Utilizing Resources

- Official Syllabi and Sample Papers: Familiarize with exam patterns.
- Online Courses and Tutorials: Supplement classroom learning.
- Language Clubs and Conversation Groups: Enhance speaking and listening skills.
- Feedback and Remediation: Seek constructive feedback and work on identified weaknesses.

Analyzing Past Results: Trends and Insights

Performance Trends

Analyzing historical data reveals certain patterns:

- High-scoring Regions or Demographics: Areas with better access to quality education often outperform others.
- Common Errors: Frequent grammatical mistakes or misinterpretations.

- Sections with Lower Scores: Listening and speaking often pose challenges for many students.

Implications for Educators and Policymakers

- Curriculum Adjustments: Emphasize practical language use and communication skills.
- Teacher Training: Enhance instructional methods for language teaching.
- Resource Allocation: Invest in language labs, audio-visual aids, and extracurricular activities.
- Student Support: Provide remedial classes and language workshops.

The Impact of Results on Future Academic and Career Pathways

Academic Progression

Passing the intermediate exam opens pathways to advanced language courses, higher education programs, or specialized streams requiring English proficiency.

Career Prospects

Proficiency demonstrated through exam results can be advantageous in job applications, especially in multinational companies, customer service, tourism, and communication-based roles.

Personal Development

Achieving a good result boosts confidence and motivates continuous learning, fostering lifelong language skills essential in a globalized world.

Conclusion: The Road Ahead for Students and Educators

The English Result Intermediate Exam remains a vital assessment that reflects a student's language competence at a crucial educational juncture. While challenges persist, strategic preparation, consistent practice, and supportive learning environments can significantly enhance performance. As the landscape of education evolves with technological integration and global demands, adapting assessment methods and emphasizing communicative competence will be key. Stakeholders must collaborate to ensure that exam results accurately represent students' abilities and inspire continuous growth, ultimately fostering proficient English speakers ready to navigate academic, professional, and social spheres confidently.

Question When will the intermediate English exam results be announced? The results for the intermediate English exam are typically released within 2-3 weeks after the exam date. However, the exact date may vary depending on the examination board. **Answer** How can I check my

intermediate English exam results online? You can check your results by visiting the official examination board's website and logging into your student portal using your registration number and password. What should I do if I find an error in my intermediate English exam results? If you notice any discrepancies, contact the examination office or the relevant authority immediately to request a review or clarification of your results. What are the passing criteria for the intermediate English exam? The passing criteria usually require achieving a minimum overall score, often around 40-50%, but this can vary by examination board. It's best to consult your specific exam guidelines. Can I request a re-evaluation of my intermediate English exam paper? Yes, most examination boards offer a re-evaluation or re-marking process for a fee if you believe there has been an error in grading your exam paper.

Related keywords: English result, intermediate exam, exam results, English exam score, intermediate English test, exam outcome, English grade, test results, exam performance, English proficiency score

an introduction to english language

An Introduction to English Language

The English language is one of the most widely spoken and influential languages in the world today. From global business and international diplomacy to entertainment and technology, English serves as a vital communication tool across countless domains. Understanding the roots, development, and characteristics of the English language is essential for learners, educators, linguists, and anyone interested in global communication. This comprehensive guide aims to provide an insightful introduction to the English language, exploring its history, structure, global significance, and future trends.

Historical Background of the English Language

The Origins of English

English is a Germanic language that originated in early medieval England. Its roots can be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon tribes—Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—that migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. The language spoken by these tribes formed the basis of Old English.

The Evolution Through Ages

The history of English is marked by several distinct periods:

- **Old English (c. 450?1150 AD):** Characterized by Germanic roots, Old English was heavily influenced by Norse invaders and Latin church influence.
- **Middle English (c. 1150?1500 AD):** Marked by Norman conquest in 1066, which introduced Norman French vocabulary and grammar influences.
- **Early Modern English (c. 1500?1700 AD):** The Renaissance brought a revival of classical learning, expanding vocabulary and standardizing spelling and grammar.
- **Modern English (1700 AD to present):** The language continued to evolve with colonial expansion, technological advances, and globalization, leading to the diverse forms of English spoken today.

The Role of Literary and Cultural Influences

English literature, from Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales to William Shakespeare's plays and modern authors like J.K. Rowling, has significantly shaped the language's development. Cultural exchanges through colonization, trade, and diplomacy have also contributed to the vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in English.

The Structure and Features of the English Language

Phonology and Pronunciation

English phonology includes a wide range of vowel and consonant sounds. The pronunciation varies significantly across different regions and accents, which adds to the language's richness but also presents challenges for learners.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts one of the largest vocabularies among languages, with estimates ranging from 150,000 to over a million words, considering technical and scientific terms. This extensive lexicon is a result of:

- Borrowings from Latin, French, Greek, and other languages
- Coining of new terms during technological and scientific advancements
- Slang and colloquialisms evolving over time

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar is characterized by:

- Relatively simple verb conjugation compared to other languages
- Use of auxiliary verbs for tense and aspect (e.g., be, have, do)
- Flexible word order, with Subject-Verb-Object being standard
- Extensive use of prepositions and articles

Writing System

English uses the Latin alphabet, consisting of 26 letters. Its orthography (spelling system) can be complex due to historical spelling conventions, silent letters, and irregular pronunciation rules.

The Global Significance of the English Language

English as a Global Lingua Franca

Today, English is regarded as the world's primary lingua franca—an auxiliary language used for international communication. It is the official or working language in over 50 countries and widely used in international organizations like the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee.

English in Business and Commerce

English dominates international business, finance, and trade. Many multinational corporations operate primarily in English, and proficiency is often a prerequisite for global career opportunities.

English in Science, Technology, and Education

A significant portion of scientific research, technological development, and academic publications are in English. Universities worldwide offer courses in English to attract international students.

English in Media and Entertainment

English-language media, including movies, music, television, and literature, have a global reach. Hollywood films, English pop music, and online streaming platforms have popularized the language worldwide.

English on the Internet and Social Media

English is the dominant language on the internet, accounting for a large percentage of online content. Social media platforms facilitate global interaction primarily in English, further fostering its universal status.

Learning and Teaching the English Language

Why Learn English?

Learning English offers numerous benefits:

- Access to a vast amount of information and educational resources
- Enhanced employability and career prospects
- Ability to communicate with people worldwide
- Participation in global culture and entertainment

Methods of Learning English

Effective approaches include:

- Classroom instruction with trained teachers
- Online courses and language learning apps
- Immersive experiences through travel and cultural exchange
- Practice with native speakers or language exchange partners

Challenges in Learning English

Some common difficulties faced by learners are:

- Complex spelling and pronunciation rules
- Irregular verb forms
- Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs
- Regional accents and dialects

The Future of the English Language

Emerging Trends

English continues to evolve with technological innovations:

- Increased influence of digital communication and social media
- Emergence of new slang and internet vernacular
- Globalization leading to more diverse accents and dialects
- Integration of loanwords from other languages due to cultural exchange

Potential Challenges

As the language grows, there are concerns about:

- Language homogenization potentially overshadowing regional dialects
- Loss of linguistic diversity
- Difficulty in maintaining standardization across different regions

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic and influential means of communication. Its rich history, extensive vocabulary, and widespread use make it an invaluable global asset. Whether for personal growth, academic pursuits, or professional development, learning English opens doors to countless opportunities. As the world continues to embrace globalization and technological innovation, the role of English is poised to expand further, shaping the future of international communication.

Keywords for SEO Optimization:

- Introduction to English language
- History of English
- English language structure
- Global importance of English
- Learn English online
- English language development
- English as a lingua franca
- Benefits of learning English
- Future of the English language
- English language learning tips

Introduction to the English Language: A Comprehensive Overview

The English language, often regarded as the global lingua franca, has a rich history, complex structure, and widespread influence that permeates nearly every corner of the world. As one of the most widely spoken and studied languages today, understanding its fundamentals offers invaluable insights into its role in communication, culture, and international relations. This detailed exploration delves into the origins, evolution, grammatical features, vocabulary, phonetics, and the significance of English in contemporary society.

Historical Background of the English Language

Origins and Early Development

The roots of English trace back over 1,400 years to the Germanic tribes—namely the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—who migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. These tribes brought with them their languages, which gradually coalesced into what we now call Old English.

Key points about early English:

- Old English (circa 450–1150 AD): Characterized by a complex system of inflections, a vocabulary heavily influenced by Latin and Norse, and a rich oral tradition including epic poetry like *Beowulf*.
- Influence of Latin and Norse: Latin arrived through Christian missionaries, while Norse influence increased due to Viking invasions, shaping vocabulary and syntax.

Middle English and the Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest of 1066 marked a pivotal turning point:

- Norman French influence: The ruling class spoke Norman French, which heavily influenced the vocabulary, especially in law, governance, art, and cuisine.
- Language features: Middle English (circa 1150–1500) saw simplification of inflectional endings and an expansion of vocabulary.

Early Modern English and the Renaissance

From the late 15th to the early 17th century:

- The Renaissance: Brought a revival of classical learning and an influx of Latin and Greek words.
- The printing press: Invented by Johannes Gutenberg, it standardized spelling and grammar, making literature more accessible.
- Notable figures: William Shakespeare and the King James Bible significantly shaped the language.

Modern English and Global Spread

Since the 17th century:

- Colonial expansion: British colonization spread English worldwide.
- Industrial Revolution: Facilitated international trade and communication.
- Contemporary English: Continues to evolve with influences from numerous languages and cultures, especially in the digital age.

Structural Aspects of the English Language

Phonetics and Pronunciation

English phonetics is known for its complexity and variability:

- Consonant and vowel sounds: The language features approximately 24 consonant sounds and around 20 vowel sounds, with many variations.
- Spelling and pronunciation discrepancies: Due to historical influences, English spelling often does not align directly with pronunciation (e.g., though vs. through).

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar, while relatively straightforward compared to some languages, has distinctive features:

- Parts of speech: Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.
- Sentence structure: Typically follows a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order.
- Tenses: Present, past, future, along with perfect and progressive aspects.
- Agreement: Subject-verb agreement in number and person.
- Modifiers: Use of adjectives and adverbs to add detail.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts an extensive vocabulary, estimated at over a million words:

- Loanwords: Borrowed extensively from Latin, French, Greek, German, and many other languages.
- Synonyms and antonyms: Rich variety of words with nuanced differences, offering precision and expressiveness.
- Neologisms: Continual creation of new words, especially in technology and popular culture.

Unique Features of the English Language

Orthography and Spelling

English spelling can be irregular due to its diverse origins:

- Historical influences: Words retain spellings from older forms or borrowed languages.
- Examples: Knight, psychology, colonel.
- Spelling reforms: There have been proposals but no widespread standardization.

Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs are integral:

- Idioms: Phrases whose meanings are not deducible from individual words (e.g., kick the bucket).
- Phrasal verbs: Verb + particle combinations with idiomatic meanings (e.g., look up, give in).

Varieties and Dialects

English manifests in numerous dialects:

- British English: Variations like Cockney, Received Pronunciation.
- American English: Distinct vocabulary and pronunciation.
- Other varieties: Australian, Canadian, Indian English, each with unique features.

The Role of English in the Modern World

Global Lingua Franca

English is the primary language of:

- International diplomacy
- Business and commerce
- Science and technology
- Entertainment and media

English in Education and Research

- Most scientific journals publish in English.
- Universities worldwide offer courses in English.
- English proficiency is often a requirement for international careers.

The Digital Age and English

- Dominance in internet content, social media, and digital communication.
- Emergence of digital slang, memes, and abbreviations, influencing language evolution.

Cultural Impact

- English-language music, films, and literature shape global pop culture.
- Cultural exchange and understanding facilitated through shared language.

Learning and Teaching English

Methods and Approaches

- Traditional grammar-translation
- Communicative language teaching
- Immersive and bilingual approaches
- Use of technology and online platforms

Challenges for Learners

- Irregular spelling and pronunciation
- Idiomatic expressions
- Extensive vocabulary
- Variations in dialects and accents

Resources and Tools

- Language apps (Duolingo, Babbel)

- Online courses and tutorials
- Media and literature in English
- Language exchange programs

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic, influential, and complex means of communication. Its history reflects centuries of cultural exchange and adaptation, shaping a language that is both diverse and adaptable. For learners, educators, and global citizens alike, understanding English's structure, history, and role in society unlocks numerous opportunities for connection, learning, and cultural appreciation. As it continues to evolve in the digital age, English's significance is poised to grow, cementing its status as a cornerstone of international communication.

In summary, mastering the English language provides access to a vast repository of knowledge, culture, and opportunities. Its rich history and widespread use make it a fascinating subject of study and an essential skill in today's interconnected world. Whether for academic pursuits, professional advancement, or cultural engagement, an introduction to English opens the door to endless possibilities.

QuestionAnswer What are the key features that define the English language? English is a West Germanic language characterized by a rich vocabulary, extensive use of loanwords, and a flexible grammar system. It is known for its adaptability, widespread global use, and its role as a lingua franca in international communication. How did the English language develop over time? English evolved from the Anglo-Saxon languages brought to Britain by Germanic tribes around the 5th century. It was later influenced by Norman French, Latin, and other languages, leading to the Modern English we use today. This development spans Old English, Middle English, and Modern English periods. Why is English considered a global language? English is considered a global language because it is the primary or secondary language in many countries, used extensively in international business, science, technology, entertainment, and diplomacy, making it a key tool for global communication. What are the main components of learning the English language? Learning English involves mastering four main components: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Additionally, understanding grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural context are essential for effective communication. How has the internet influenced the spread and evolution of the English language? The internet has accelerated the global spread of English, introduced new slang, abbreviations, and digital communication styles, and facilitated intercultural exchange, thereby continuously shaping and evolving the language in real-time.

Related keywords: English language, language learning, linguistics, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, syntax, phonetics, language skills, language history

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