

ABOUT THE PLACEMENT TEST

The *Focus on Grammar* Placement Test, developed under the direction of Dr. Joan Jamieson and Dr. Carol Chapelle, helps you to place students into one of the five levels of the *Focus on Grammar* course. The test takes about 40 minutes and has a total of 63 items covering a broad range of grammatical topics. It is divided into three sections:

- Listening for Grammar
- Grammar in Context
- Editing

In each part of the test, the items progress in level from easy to more difficult. You should encourage students to answer every question, as there is no penalty for answering a question incorrectly. However, because the test items cover topics from different levels of *Focus on Grammar*, not all students will be able to answer all of the questions.

How to Administer the Placement Test

Before the day of the test, play the Placement Test MP3 audio file on the computer or audio-playing device you plan to use. Make enough photocopies of the test for the students. Reserve a quiet room suitable for administering the test. Inform students in advance of the testing time and place.

On the day of the test, admit students to the testing room as they arrive. Ask them to sit quietly until the test begins. As they are waiting, distribute pencils and erasers as needed.

Hand out copies of the test and ask students to write their names at the top. Read the general directions at the top of the test out loud and ask students if they have any questions. Before starting the test, tell students that they should answer as many questions as they can. If they are unable to answer any more questions in one section, they should proceed to the next section.

When students are ready to begin, start the audio. Play the complete audio program and have students listen and answer the questions. Play each listening exercise twice. Additional pause time is included on the audio to give students time to finish answering the questions. You do not need to stop the audio manually.

After you have played the final listening passage two times, stop the audio. Give students a few moments to complete the listening questions. Students then have 30 minutes to complete both the Grammar in Context and Editing sections.

After 30 minutes, ask students to put their pencils down and hand in their tests.

Scoring and Placement

Use the Placement Test Answer Key to correct each test. To score a test, add up the number of correct items; any unanswered questions are counted as incorrect. Refer to the following chart to help you place each student into the appropriate level of *Focus on Grammar*.

NUMBER CORRECT	SCORE IN PERCENTAGE	PLACEMENT IN <i>Focus on Grammar</i> (FOG)
0–8	< 13%	FOG 1
9–16	13–25%	FOG 2
17–33	26–52%	FOG 3
34–50	53–79%	FOG 4
51–63	80–100%	FOG 5