

What Does the Assessment Cover?

The **TSI Assessment in Mathematics** is a multiple-choice assessment that covers the four content areas listed below. There are approximately 20 items on the TSI placement test and 10 items in each section of the DE Diagnostic Test.

- ▶ **Elementary Algebra and Functions** measures your knowledge of linear equations, inequalities and systems; algebraic expressions and equations; and word problems and applications.
- ▶ **Intermediate Algebra and Functions** measures your knowledge of quadratic and other polynomial expressions, equations and functions; expressions, equations and functions involving powers, roots and radicals; and rational and exponential expressions, equations and functions.
- ▶ **Geometry and Measurement** measures your knowledge of plane geometry; transformations and symmetry; and linear, area and three-dimensional measurements.
- ▶ **Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability** measures your knowledge of interpreting categorical and quantitative data, statistical measures and probabilistic reasoning.

The **TSI Assessment in Reading** is a multiple-choice assessment that covers the four content areas listed below. There are approximately 24 items on the TSI placement test and 10 to 12 items in each section of the DE Diagnostic Test.

- ▶ **Literary Analysis** measures your skill in identifying and analyzing ideas in and elements of literary texts.
- ▶ **Main Idea and Supporting Details** measures your skill in identifying the main idea of a passage and in comprehending explicit textual information in a passage.
- ▶ **Inferences in a Text or Texts** measures your skill in synthesizing ideas by making a connection or comparison between two passages and in making an appropriate inference about single passages.
- ▶ **Author's Use of Language** measures your skill in identifying an author's purpose, tone, organization, or rhetorical strategies and use of evidence and in determining the meaning of words in context.



The **TSI Assessment in Writing** is an assessment that contains a multiple-choice section and an essay section.

Multiple-Choice Section

The multiple-choice section of the **TSI Assessment in Writing** measures your skills in the four content areas listed below. There are approximately 20 items on the TSI placement test and 10 to 12 items in each section of the DE Diagnostic Test.

- ▶ **Essay Revision** measures your ability to provide coherence, organization and good word choice and your ability to achieve rhetorical effectiveness and use evidence.
- ▶ **Agreement** measures your ability to perform subject–verb agreement and pronoun agreement as well as your ability to determine verb tenses.
- ▶ **Sentence Structure** measures your knowledge of topics like comma splices and run-on sentences; improper punctuation; fragments and parallelism; and subordination and coordination.
- ▶ **Sentence Logic** measures your ability to correctly place modifying phrases and clauses and your ability to use logical transitions.

Essay Section

You may be asked to write a five-paragraph persuasive essay (approximately 300–600 words) on a controversial issue or one of current interest. You will be expected to clearly state a main idea and provide specific examples and details to back up your main idea, as well as follow conventions of standard English. You will not be allowed to use a dictionary or other outside resources, but you may use plain scratch paper (provided at the testing center) to plan your essay and write your rough draft(s).



How to Prepare

Take advantage of free sample questions to improve in areas where your academic performance is not the strongest. These sample questions help you familiarize yourself with the types of questions asked on the TSI Assessment. To access the full sample questions document, visit www.collegeboard.org/texas-sample-questions.

Can I Retake the Test?



If you are not satisfied with your performance, you may retake the TSI Assessment at any time. However, before you attempt to retest, it is strongly recommended that you set aside time for additional study. Check with the testing center at the college or university at which you plan to retest for information concerning retesting and review workshops.

For additional information on the TSI Assessment, please contact an adviser/counselor at your institution.