



# Assessing academic English with a localised test for international admissions purposes

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# Overview

- Context
- Stages of development
- Problematization of rating & test taker performance
- New rating tool for productive skills
- Preliminary results

# Context

- Local needs – Hungarian and Central European students targeting international universities (red brick)
- Euroexam's response to local needs – a newly developed exam within the existing portfolio
- Levels of localisation (O'Sullivan & Dunlea, 2015)

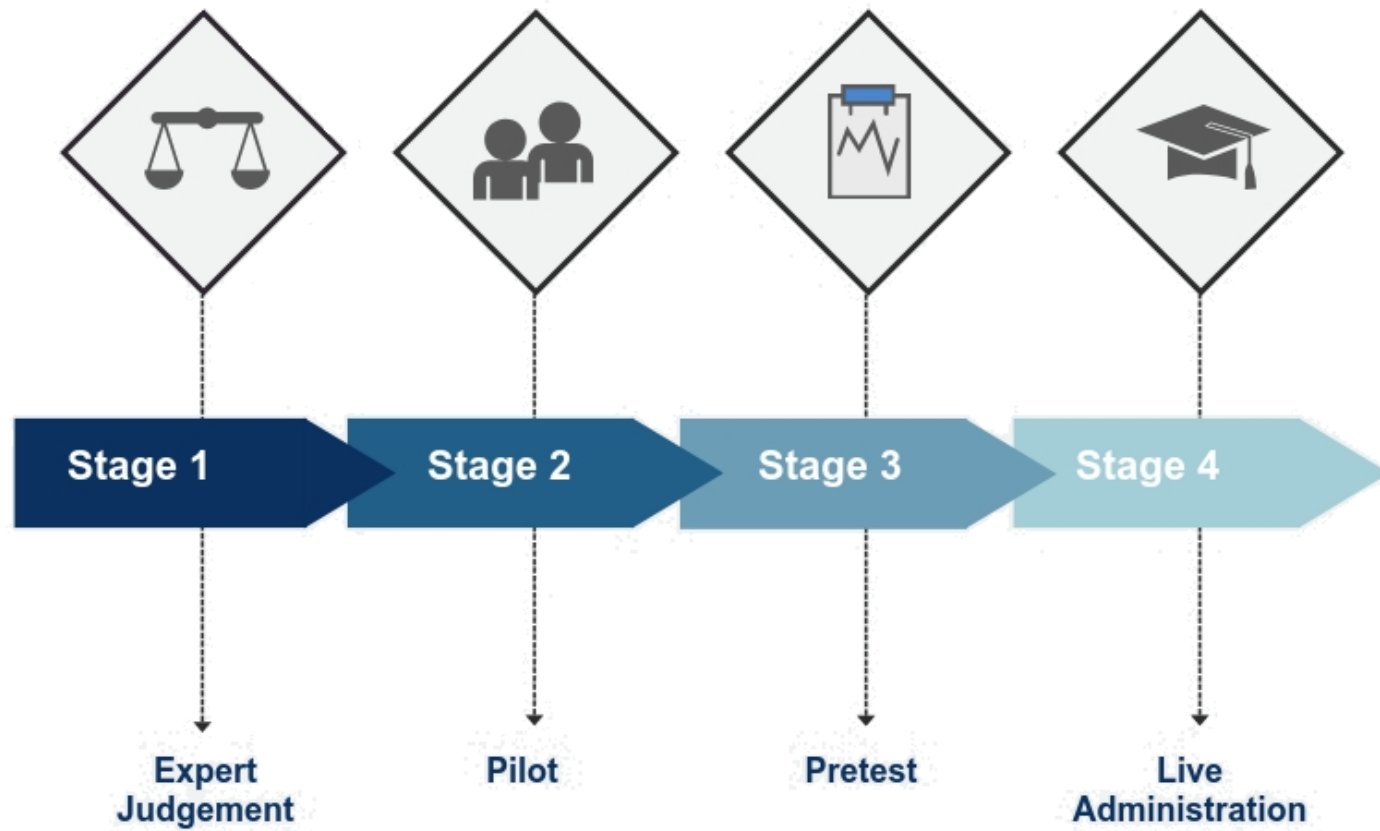
# Euroexam International exam portfolio

- General English exams (A1-C1)
- English for Business (Euro Pro B1-C1)
- New development: English for Academic Purposes – C1
  - Construct – level testing, oral and written exams
  - Skills tested – L – 3, S – 3, R – 3, W – 2
  - Validity

# Research-based exam development

- Aim: to establish the validity of a locally-developed EAP test
- Method: mixed-methods research (Bachman & Palmer, 1996; Kim, 2011; Lukácsi, 2018; Read, 2015; Struthers *et al.*, 2013; Weir, 2005)

# Stages of development



# Test taker performance: Candidates and raters

- Candidates: immediate recall
  - perceived success *vs.* reported score
- Raters: think-aloud rating
  - impression *vs.* reported score

# Test taker performance: Writing

## Overall results

Observed data	Pass	Fail	Total
predicted* pass	57	23	<b>80</b>
predicted* fail	23	27	<b>50</b>
Total	<b>80</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>130</b>

Expected data	Pass	Fail	Total
predicted* pass	49.2	30.7	<b>80</b>
predicted* fail	30.7	19.2	<b>50</b>
Total	<b>80</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>130</b>

\*based on self-evaluation

$p = 0.0039$

$\chi^2=8.28$

## Writing results

Observed data	Pass	Fail	Total
predicted* pass	20	29	<b>49</b>
predicted* fail	32	49	<b>81</b>
Total	<b>52</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>130</b>

Expected data	Pass	Fail	Total
predicted* pass	19.6	29.4	<b>49</b>
predicted* fail	32.4	48.6	<b>81</b>
Total	<b>52</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>130</b>

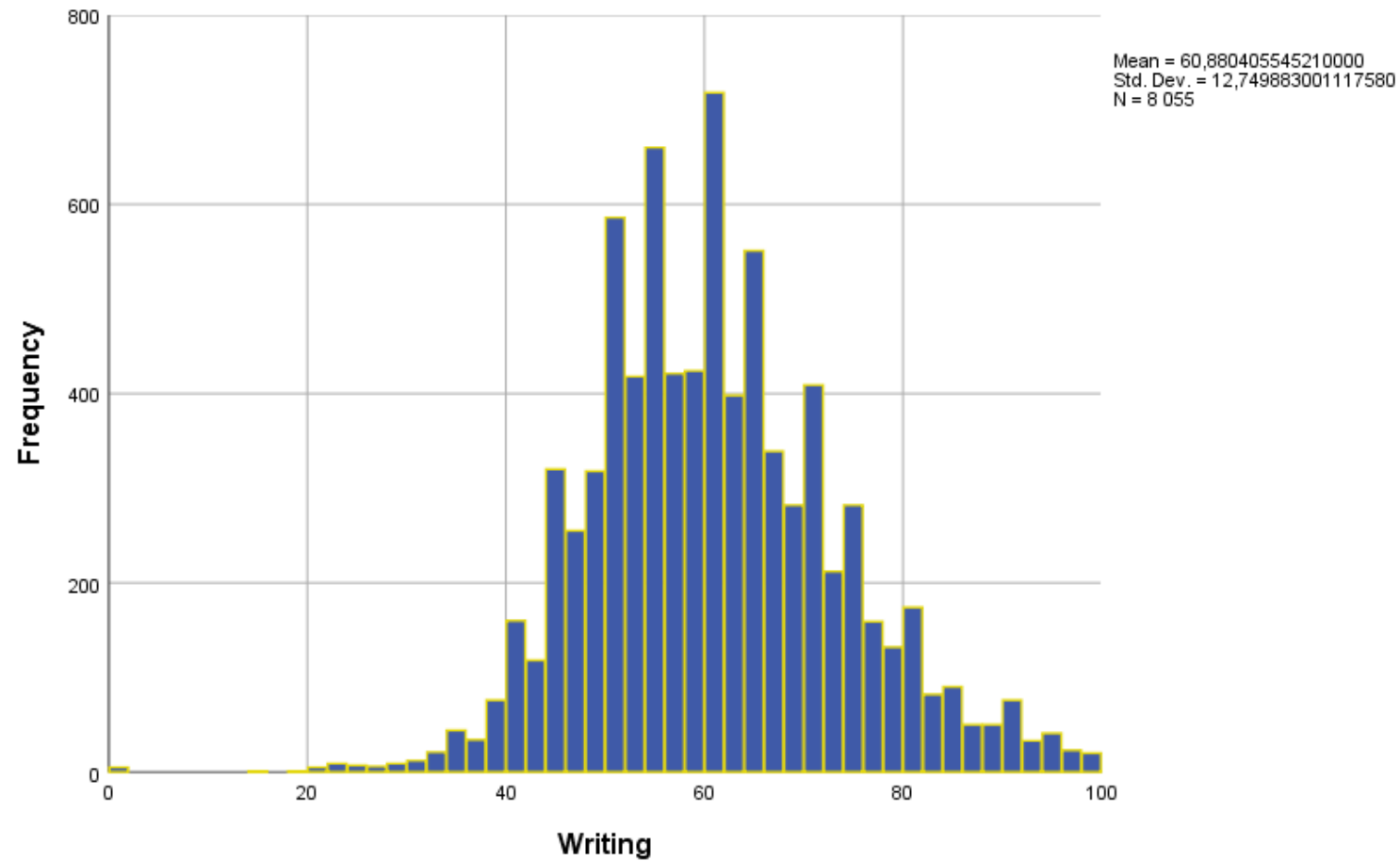
\*based on self-evaluation

$p = 0.8893$

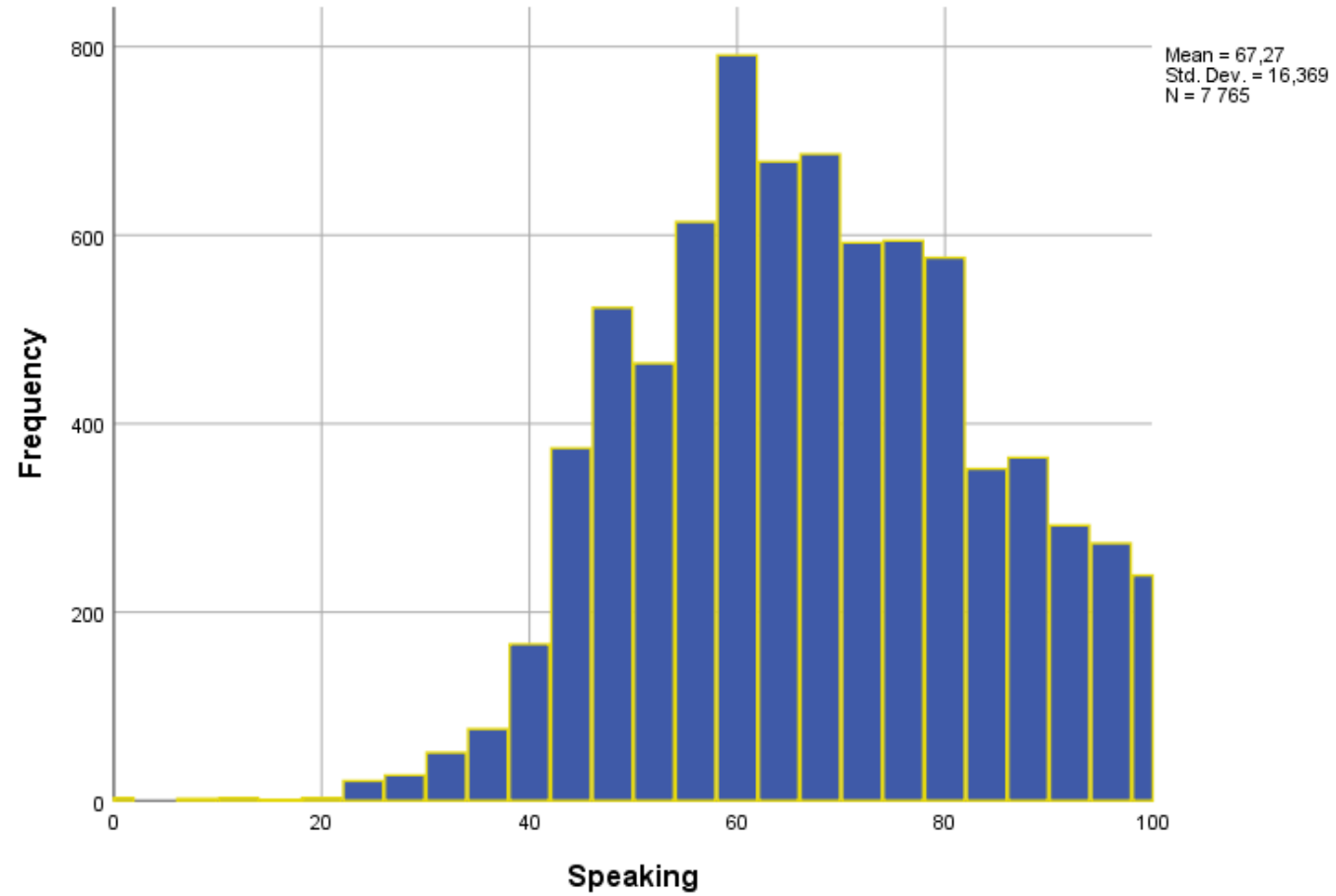
$\chi^2=0.28$



# Test taker performance: Writing



# Test taker performance: Speaking



# Rating on a checklist

- Judging a person in relation to a list of points deemed to be relevant for a particular level or module. (CEFR, 2001, p. 189)

■ Speaking means	61.4915	57.9322
■ Speaking pass rate	57.6271	45.7627
■ Complex exam means	63.2915	62.4949
■ Complex exam pass rate	59.3220	59.3220

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# Thank you for your attention

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