

Explanation of ELAT Results

The maximum ELAT score is 60. All scripts were double marked, each examiner marking out of 30. The examiners based their mark on an assessment of your ability to do the following:

- respond perceptively to unfamiliar writing of different kinds, showing accurate comprehension of the sense of the passages
- demonstrate skills of close reading, identifying and commenting on distinctive features of structure, language and style
- construct a well-focused essay, based on comparing and contrasting two or three passages
- write fluently and accurately.

The two marks awarded were added together to give your score. Where there was a difference of five or more marks between the first two examiners, a third examiner assessed the script, and the two nearest marks were totalled. Where the third mark did not lie within two marks of either of the initial two, the essay was marked for a fourth time by a senior examiner, and the two nearest marks were totalled.

A score of 0 could be attributable to the candidate not being matched as an Oxford University applicant.

The final grading was decided by a panel of awarders that included members of the English Faculty and teachers from schools and colleges entering candidates for admission to read English. The awarders set three thresholds, to establish four bands of achievement:

Band 1: 50 to 60

those candidates most likely to be called for interview (unless other indicators strongly suggest otherwise);

Band 2: 43 to 49

candidates who should probably be invited, provided other information supports this;

Band 3: 37 to 42

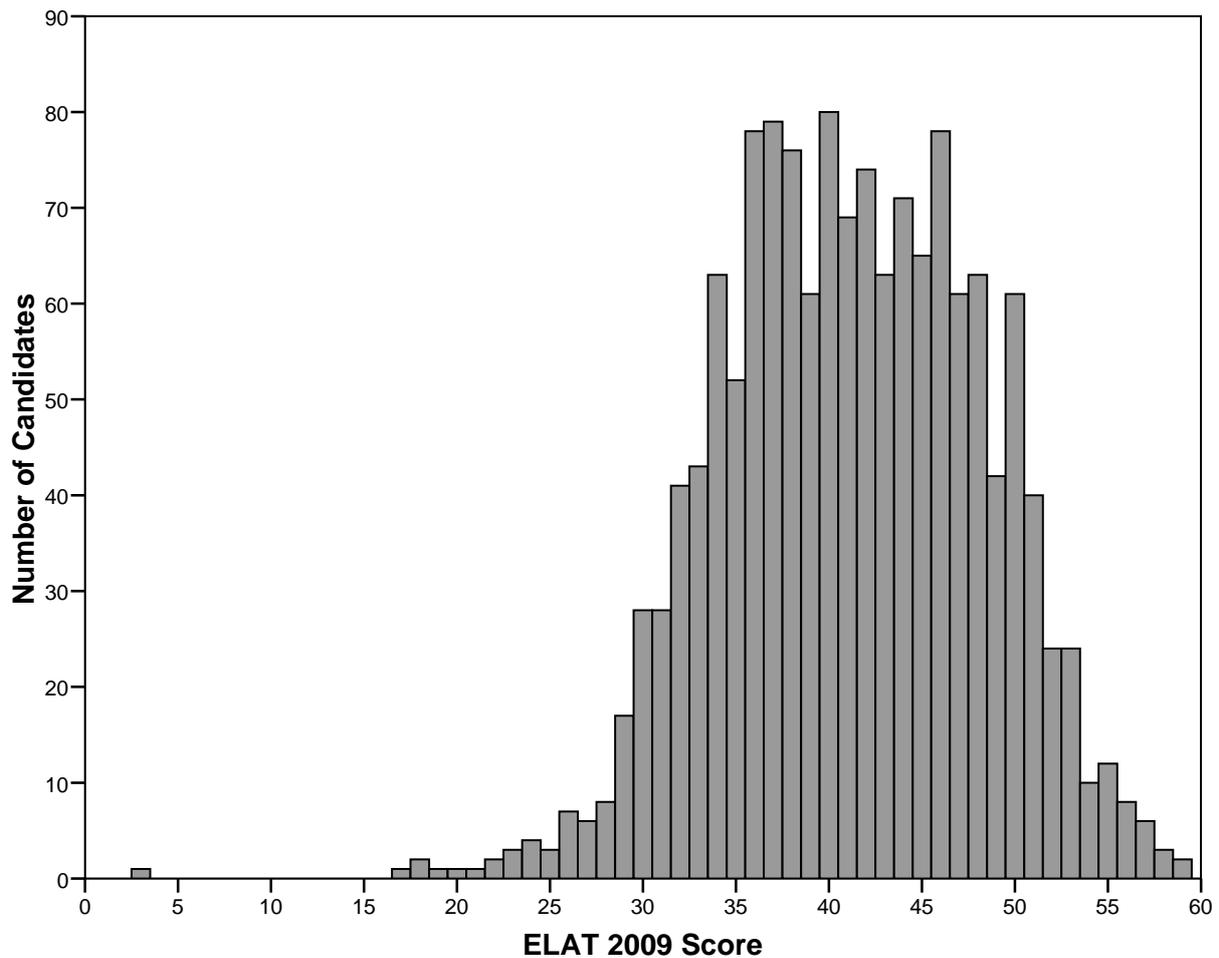
candidates who may not be called unless there is other convincing evidence to suggest they ought to be interviewed.

Band 4: 0 to 36

those students who are less likely to be invited, unless other factors outweigh the evidence of the test.

Candidates' scripts, final scores and bands, were sent to admissions tutors, together with details of marks awarded by each examiner.

The distribution of the November 2009 ELAT scores is shown below.



This test is only one of the elements used to decide whether to invite you for interview. Others include your academic record and forecast grades in your school-leaving examinations; your UCAS application form, and one item of your recent written work, submitted to the college to which you are applying. For further information, please see the Admissions Tests website (www.admissionstests.cambridgeassessment.org.uk) and the English Faculty's admissions web pages (www.english.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate).

NB Because all scripts will already have been double marked, will be available to admissions tutors, and because they will constitute only one element of the evidence used to decide whether to invite an applicant for interview, there will be no provision for re-marking requests or for the return of scripts to candidates.