

Life in the UK Test pass rates of EU citizens: what's your perspective?

For the vast majority of those seeking UK settlement or British Citizenship passing the Life in the UK Test is a mandatory hurdle on that journey.

EU citizens have not been created equal when it comes to passing the Life in the UK Test

Ranking	Nationality of origin	Life in the UK Test Pass Rate (%)
1	Luxembourg Malta Slovenia	100%
2	Denmark Ireland	95%
3	Czech Republic	93%
4	Croatia Italy	92%
5	Germany Greece	91%
6	Hungary	90%
7	Spain	89%
8	Slovakia	88%
9	France Poland Estonia	87%
10	Finland Sweden	86%
11	Bulgaria	84%
12	Cyprus	83%
13	Lithuania Netherlands	81%
14	Latvia Portugal	80%
15	Romania	79%
16	Belgium	75%
17	Austria	71%

Source data: www.gov.uk - Knowledge of language and Life in the UK test results, 2009 to 2014, 30 April 2014 FOI release 30799

The Life in the UK Test is a glorified English comprehension test. You study the official text, pay your £50, and if you get 18 out of 24 multiple choice questions correct (75%) you get a bit of paper that you need for later in the UK settlement process.

Does it matter that EU citizens originating from different countries have different pass rates?

Looked at from one perspective passing the Life in the UK test establishes a minimum standard required of British citizens.

Considered in a different way one might argue that the Life in the UK test clearly favours EU citizens from some countries over others. Is that fair and equitable?

There's a third factor specific to EU citizens and BREXIT here – reciprocity. How would you fare in a, potentially life changing, written language test conducted in a foreign language?

What's your perspective?

About Garuda Publications

Garuda Publications was set up in January 2010 with the aim of helping people pass the Life in the UK Test. We publish two of the leading study guides for the current Life in the UK test:

- The Life in the UK Test Handbook, 3rd edition: Essential independent study guide on the test for 'Settlement in the UK' and 'British Citizenship' (£7.99) ISBN 9780956573889
- Practice Questions and Answers for the Life in the UK Test – 25 full practice tests, 600 questions and answers (£6.99) ISBN 9780956573872

Both titles are available through WH Smith, Amazon and all good book stores.

Life in the UK Test Pass Rates

In March 2017 Garuda Publications published its analysis of the Life in the UK Test results from April 2013 to February 2014 as released by the UK Government under FOI. These provide the most up to date publicly available data on the pass rates of the current test by nationality of origin.