The MPI English language entrance examination is a 75-minute exam divided into 3 sections: Grammar, Vocabulary and Reading.

The result of the exam will determine whether or not your application to study at MPI will be accepted.

Notes:
1. The time limit for the exam is strictly enforced. The candidate is expected to be seated in the exam room 5 minutes before the start of the exam.
2. The entire paper is a multiple-choice format with 4 alternatives for each question.
3. You must use a pencil.
4. You must make your selection by blackening the box of the alternative you choose, e.g.
   
   a  b  c  d  
   □  □  □  □ 

5. If you wish to change your selection, use an eraser.
6. Dictionaries are not allowed.

Sample questions

Grammar (1 mark each)
This section tests your knowledge of English grammar. There are 24 items; some are easy while others are more difficult. Here is an example from the test questions:

Instructions: Choose the alternative that best completes the sentence.

1. My sister ______ in Toronto at the moment.
   
   (a) lives  
   (b) lived  
   (c) is living  
   (d) was living

   The answer is c, is living.

Vocabulary (1 mark each)
This section tests your ability to recognize the meanings of English words. Again there are 24 items and again there are easy and hard items. Here is an example from the test questions:

Instructions: Choose the alternative that most closely matches the meaning of the underlined word/expression.

1. I was surprised because the waiter was so rude.
   
   (a) friendly  
   (b) excited  
   (c) angry  
   (d) impolite

   The answer is d, impolite.
Reading (1 mark each)

This section tests your ability to understand written English. You will be presented with 4 reading passages and for each you will be given 6 questions to respond to, with a combined total of 24 marks. Some questions are easy while others are more difficult. Here is an example of the second passage along with two of the related questions.

Instructions: Read the following passage and for each item below it choose the best alternative from (a), (b), (c), (d) (1 mark each)

Passage #2

Only fifty or sixty years ago, marriage in middle-class Japan was a very formal business. Matchmaking would be done by a go-between such as an aunt, a cousin or some local widow and potential brides would meet their potential grooms at a formal introduction.

Since the war, though, things have changed. People have moved to the cities, and can no longer rely on the methods which their grandparents used to find partners. For those who haven’t met someone or fallen in love, there are specially arranged company parties to find possible mates in the same organization, and dating agencies which offer computer-generated diagrams showing the customer how closely matched the other person on the mailing list is.

Once the date is set, many couples find they don’t have enough time to worry about the details of a wedding. So companies have sprung up to provide a complete wedding service.

1. Nowadays, matchmakers are more likely to be:
   a) people who have fallen in love themselves
   b) people living in the cities
   c) companies or dating services
   d) possible mates in the same organization

   The answer is c, companies or dating services.

2. How was matchmaking done half a century ago?

   a) There were computerized dating services.
   b) People would use a personal go-between such as a relative or a neighbor.
   c) Young people would go on dates.
   d) All of the above.

   The answer is b, people would use a personal go-between.