Center for Pedagogical Measurements Branch of the Autonomous Educational Organisation Nazarbayev Intellectual schools



Information guide for candidates and their parents about administration of the competitive selection of students for Grade 7 of Nazarbayev Intellectual schools for the 2024-2025 academic year



Astana, 2023

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Introduction

The launch of a network from twenty-one Nazarbayev Intellectual schools in Kazakhstan formed a basement for an experimental platform to implement the development, monitoring, research, analysis, pretest and realization of contemporary educational programmes.

The experience of Intellectual schools has been implemented into secondary education system of the Republic of Kazakhstan since 2016. The Intellectual schools have become centers of methodological resources in updating the content of education.

Admission to the Intellectual schools is carried out on a competitive basis. The selection system of students to Grade 7 of Intellectual schools was developed in 2013 in cooperation with strategic partners, Institute of Pedagogical Measurement (Cito, the Netherlands) and the Center of Talented Youth at Johns Hopkins University (CTY, the USA), based on investigations of the international experience of Great Britain, Australia, the USA and the Netherlands. In 2022 the selection system was acknowledged with a quality mark by Research Center for Examination and Certification (RCEC) that proves the high level of reliability, equity and compliance with international standards.

The selection system features a possibility to identify students with abilities to study subjects of natural and mathematical sciences, which allow:

- to effectively master the content of NIS-Programme;
- to develop a wide range of skills to be successful throughout the period of study at the Intellectual school;
- to apply problem solving skills in many areas of academic education.

In 2022 the structure of the complex tests of the selection system of students to Grade 7 of Nazarbayev Intellectual schools began to include a new section, Natural Science. This subject is meant to provide basic knowledge on natural sciences such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography according to the updated content of secondary education. The assessment of the level of knowledge on Natural Science will help to select students capable to successfully study subjects of natural and mathematical disciplines in Intellectual schools, and improve their profile for further enrollment into higher institutions with natural science oriented programmes.

1. Registration for the selection test

To take part in the selection test a legal representative of a candidate is requested to pass the following documents to the admission committee of the Intellectual school:

1) an application for participation in the selection test;

2) a filled in the questionnaire;

3) copies of a birth certificate, an identification card (if it exists) of a candidate, a copy of an identification card of a legal representative with IIN;

4) a copy of the report card with an indication of behaviour of a candidate from previous year, preceding the year of study in the Intellectual school, or of the first half of the academic year in case a candidate has not completed the current study year and is continuing to study. The requested documents must be certified with the signature and seal of the head of the respective organization of education (*note: in case the documents are submitted before the end of the first half of the* 6^{th} Grade a report card of the 5^{th} Grade is submitted, and after completion of the first half of the 6^{th} Grade, the report card of the first half of the 6^{th} Grade is also submitted).

Candidates in Grade 7 from secondary schools have no right to claim to study in the same grade in the Intellectual school next academic year, except for students of foreign educational organisations and international schools, which grades can differ from educational organisations of the Republic of Kazakhstan due to differences in programmes and level of education.

Candidates studying in foreign educational organisations or international schools, which educational programmes and grading scales differ from educational programmes and grading scales of educational organisations of the Republic of Kazakhstan, should enclose to their record cards (transcript) official letters from their schools with detailed description of the content of their educational programmes and grading scales;

5) a digital photo of a candidate of 3×4 cm size as a graphical file not larger than 1 MB (megabyte). Alternatively, it is possible to take a photo of a candidate by the admission committee when submitting documents.

A photo is made strictly full face on a light background with a neutral expression and a closed mouth where the face occupies about 75% of the photo. It is forbidden to use images made by scanning on a computer, modeling or photocopying. Hats and glasses are not allowed when photographed. Eyes are open, clearly visible and not covered by hair. The size of the photo must be not less than 450×600 pixels with a resolution not less than 600 pixels/inches (dpi).

All these documents must be submitted in a plastic folder with a transparent font with 10 files.

Documents will not be accepted due to the following reasons:

1) submission of the application for the selection test after the deadline;

2) submission of an incomplete set of documents.

Documents submitted to the admission committee by a third person without a power of attorney are not accepted.

The information about the list of documents and deadline for their submission is provided on the official website of AEO "Nazarbayev Intellectual schools" in the section "Admission".

2. Provisions for administration of the selection test

The complex tests of the selection system of students to Grade 7 is held in two consecutive days in the Intellectual schools on paper.

Candidates come to the Intellectual schools at a specified time slot and bring their pass, a ballpoint pen with black ink (not gel ink), water in a transparent bottle without any label.

Candidates are admitted to the test after timely passing a face-recognition system and registration on the day of the test. A candidate, coming after the registration is closed, is not allowed to participate. A candidate who was absent on the first day of the test is not allowed to take the test on the second day of the test.

A test room and seats for candidates are generated automatically by a software. A room for testing can accommodate up to 120 candidates.

Candidates watch video instructions on taking the test, which are also provided in their examination materials.

The testing process is broadcast online for all stakeholders to ensure transparency and objectivity of the testing procedures.

3. The first day of the test

On the first day of the test, a test assessing the ability to study subjects of Natural sciences and Mathematics (hereinafter – 'Ability Test') is conducted.

	ABILITY TEST			
N⁰	Section	Number of items	Test duration (minutes)	
1	Mathematics	40	60	
2	Quantitative Reasoning	60	30	
3	Natural Science	20	30	
Total		120	120	

The items of the ability test assess the functional literacy through:

abilities to see the relation between numbers, operate on them based on mathematical and logical thinking, interpret data provided in pictures, graphs and diagrams;

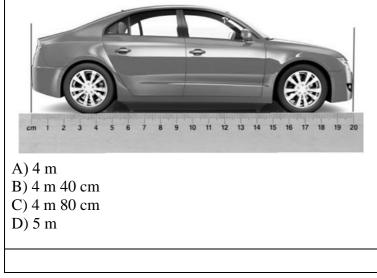
abilities to use and interpret data to describe and predict natural phenomena and processes.

The items of the ability test have 4 alternatives with only ONE correct answer.

A candidate is allowed to use **blank spaces in the test booklet as a draft** to make calculations if required.

Sample of the item for Mathematics section of the test

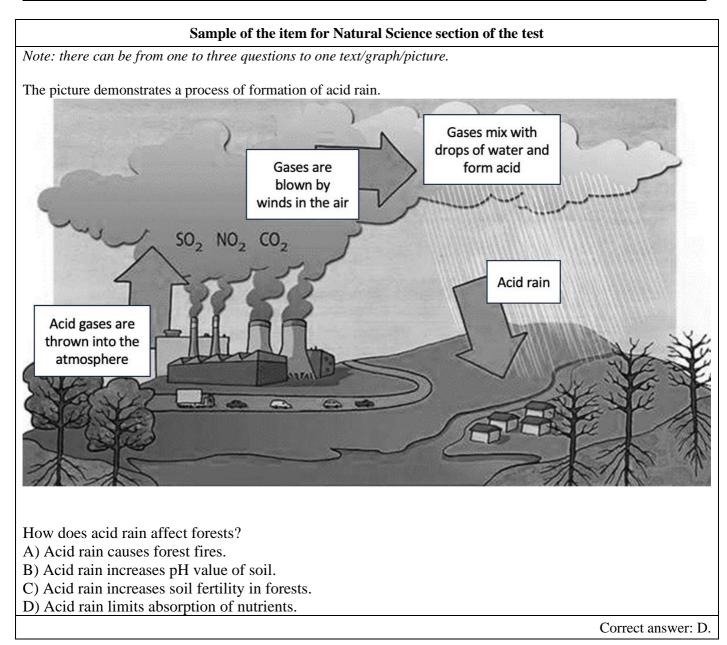
A model of a car in scale 1:24 is demonstrated in the picture. Using information in the picture identify the real length of the car.



Correct answer: C.

	Sample of the item for Quantit	ative Reasoning section of the test		
Each question	n has two parts. The first part is in column	A . The second part is in column B .		
You need to	determine which Quantity is greater, or wh	nether Quantities are equal, or whether there is insufficient		
information t	o determine, and choose an answer out of	below:		
A, if Quantit	y in Column A is greater.			
B, if Quantit	y in Column B is greater.			
C, if two Qu	antities are equal.			
D , if there ar	e insufficient information.			
1.	Column A Column B			
	29 days	A number of days in a month is <i>x</i>		
2.	2. Column A Column B			
	n	< 8		

	n	6
3.	Column A	Column B
	(35 · 50)	$(35 \cdot 5) + (35 \cdot 10)$
		Correct answers: $1 - D$, $2 - D$, $3 - A$.
		Context allowers: $1 - D$, $2 - D$, $5 - A$.



4. The second day of the test

On the second day of the test a **language test** is conducted. This test is aimed to assess reading literacy, ability to understand and analyse written texts in the first, second and English languages.

DAY 2

DAT 2				
LANGUAGE TEST				
N⁰	Section	Number of items	Test duration (minutes)	
1	Russian language as first	20		
2 Kazakh language as second		20	120	
3	English language	20		
Tot	al	60	120	

The language test items focus on the ability to work with a text and graphical content, in other words use reading literacy skills to withdraw necessary information from the text and interpret it.

There can be from one to five questions to one text in the language test. The language test items can have 3 or 4 alternatives with only ONE correct answer.

Sample of the item for "Russian language as first" section of the test



Девяти алматинкам выпала честь участвовать в фотосессии и надеть на себя стилизованные национальные платья, ощутить в городских буднях дыхание великой степи. Звенит серебро в волосах, солнцем кружит подол платья, косы змеями вьются до земли. Глядя на эти фотографии, в очередной раз убеждаешься, насколько всё-таки великолепна национальная одежда: ощущение на себе облака платья и мягкой ткани камзола, высокого саукеле неповторимо. И невольно думаешь о том, что нужно чаще обращаться к прошлому, рассказывать о разных стилях народного костюма и украшений.

Прекрасный образ дочери степей

Какова идея текста?

А) Для участия в фотосессии нужны красивые девушки.

- В) Национальная одежда лучшее украшение девушки.
- С) Необходимо в городах носить национальную одежду.

D) Необходимо помнить историю национального костюма.

Correct answer: 1 – D.

Sample of the item for "Kazakh language as second" section of the test

– Тоқтар аға, ғарышқа ұшар алдында қандай көңіл күйде болдыңыз?

– Елден тым алыста жүргендіктен шығар, маған ғарышқа ұшудан басқа нәрсе қатты әсер етті. Ол
 – <u>1</u>. Ет асылып, халық жиналып, 93 жастағы ақсақалдың бата беруі – бәрі-бәрі ерекше көңіл күйге бөледі. Мұндай кіршіксіз, шынайы дәстүр әлемде жоқ дер едім.

– Ғарыштан аман-есен оралып, сол сапар туралы мемлекет басшысына қазақша баянат жасапсыз.

– Менің ана тілімнен тәжірибем өте аз. Соған қарамастан намыстанып, бүкіл ой-санамды тек қазақша жеткізуге бағыттадым. Қазақстанның тұңғыш Президентіне тұңғыш ғарышкері осылайша қазақша тіл қатқан. Мені қазақша сөйле деп ешкім күштеген жоқ. Өзімнің жүрек қалауым солай болды.

1. Бос орынға қайсысы сәйкес келеді?

А) алғашқы қадам

- В) ата-баба салты
- С) беймәлім ғарыш
- D) тылсым дүние

2. «Өзімнің жүрек қалауым солай болды». Ғарышкер не айтқысы келді? А) ақпаратты ана тілінде баяндағанын В) ғарышқа ұшуды армандағанын

С) қазақ тілін үйренгісі келетінін

D) халқының дәстүрін дәріптейтінін

Correct answers: 1 - B, 2 - A.

Sample of the item for "English language" section of the test			
ad the question first, then the text. You are going to get a job. Which of the texts belo king for? 1 2 3 4	ow contains information you are		
1	2		
€20.000 offered by "Fondazione San	Parkhouse Hotel		
Marino Cassa di Risparmio –	Our hotel is just 6 miles away!		
SUMS" Two-year contract with the	Family Run Motel Near Stonehenge		
management agency StudioMusica.	www.parkhousemotel.		
The winner will be guaranteed performances in 10 concerts of important national and international events.			
3	4		
Our fleet of prestige cars are also available for your	Urgent need for Staff Grade in		
personal hire. Choose anything from the stunning	Anaesthetics - 3 months at North		
Aston Martin DB9, Ferrari 430	London recruiter: Medecho		
Spider, or the Audi R8 – perfect for special	salary: 50.00		
occasions such as weddings, birthdays and days	location: London		
out.	term: Peranent/Full-time		
	reference: 4471926		

In the English language test, a question is located before the text for texts with one question. To answer this question candidates are recommended to read the question first, and then the text.

5. Completion of answer sheets

Each candidate receives two individual answer sheets for each of the testing days (Appendices 1 and 2) which indicate the following information:

- version and title of the test;
- school ID, which a candidate is applying to (sector 1);
- language of testing (sector 2);
- gender (sector 3);
- test date (sector 4).

Candidates are required to put their signature in sector 5. Pay attention that without a signature the answer sheet is considered INVALID!

In sectors 6, 7 and 8 of the answer sheets of the first day of the test the answers to Mathematics, Quantitative Reasoning and Natural Science are filled in.

In sectors 6, 7 and 8 of the answer sheets of the second day of the test the answers to Russian, Kazakh and English languages are filled in.

Before the test candidates read the rules on completion of answers sheets:

The rules on completion of answer sheets

- an answer sheet is completed with a ballpoint pen with black ink. It is forbidden to use pens with gel and other types of ink;
- read the task carefully before you answer the question;
- choose what you think is the correct answer to the question. Only one alternative is correct;
- fill in very carefully, do not confuse the sectors of the sections of the test;
- to make your answer count, shade the relevant circle on the answer sheet as shown in the example of correct shading on the answer sheet:

Correct completion of a circle:

 \odot

Pay attention to samples of an incorrect completion of the circle:

Incorrect completion: 🕺 🧭

- if two or more circles to one question are filled in, or not full completion of the circle is made, the answers will not be accepted;
- it is forbidden to cross out the answers;
- it is forbidden to use pencils and correction fluid;
- the answer sheet is not allowed to dirty, crumple, tear, use as a draft, write, or write in blank spaces except for relevant sectors.

6. Rules of behaviour for candidates during the test

During the test candidates are not allowed to:

1) exchange test booklets, cheat;

2) have/use cheat sheets, reference books, dictionaries, calculators, rulers, pencil cases, as well as devices that contain any reference information;

3) have/use cell phones, smart watches, gadgets, calculators, other information and computing devices;

4) fill in the answer sheet after the time has expired, take the answer sheet or test booklets out of the testing room.

In case of breach of the above rules the Chairman of the admission committee with Test coordinator and Test administrator in the presence of a candidate make a report and **dismiss** the candidate from the testing room. In this case the test results are cancelled.

Also, candidates are **not allowed** to:

1) leave the testing room without permission and escort, talk with other candidates, change the place;

2) fill in the answer sheet with a pen with gel and other types of ink, except for a black ballpoint pen, use pencils and correction fluids;

3) shade two or more circles to one question, shade the circle incompletely (in case of incomplete shading or shading of more than one circle to one question, the answer will not be accepted);

4) cross out answers in the answer sheet, dirty, crumple, tear the answer sheet, use the answer sheet as a draft, write, scribble free space in the answer sheet except for relevant sectors;

5) use the pass as a draft.

7. Analysis of the results of the selection of students

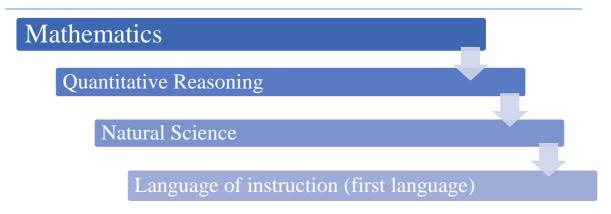
Processing of the results is performed by Institute of pedagogical measurement, Cito, in the Netherlands. An automated software where candidates' results undergo statistical and psychometrical analysis identifies the level of difficulty of each test item and its proportion in the final score of the test section. This approach ensures objective and reliable assessment of results which is why **appellation is not performed.** Individual reviewing of candidates' results, as well as their booklets and answer sheets is excluded.

The results of the selection test are posted on the website of AEO "Nazarbayev Intellectual schools" <u>www.nis.edu.kz</u> and at the Intellectual schools after **40 calendar days** from the end of the second test day.

Day	Section of the test	Number of items	Max. score	Threshold score	Awarding of the grant
THE	ABILITY TEST TO S AN				
	Mathematics	40	400	140 (35%)	
1	Quantitative Reasoning	60	300	120 (40%)	The highest total score for the
	Natural Science	20	200	-	complex tests (max. score — 1500)
	TH		(Inax. score = 1500)		
	Russian as first	20	200	-	
2	Kazakh as second	20	200	-	
	English language	20	200	-	

Candidates with 35% (140 scores), and higher from the maximum possible score for Mathematics section, and 40% (120 scores), and higher from the maximum possible score for Quantitative Reasoning section, are admitted to the competition for awarding the Orken grant.

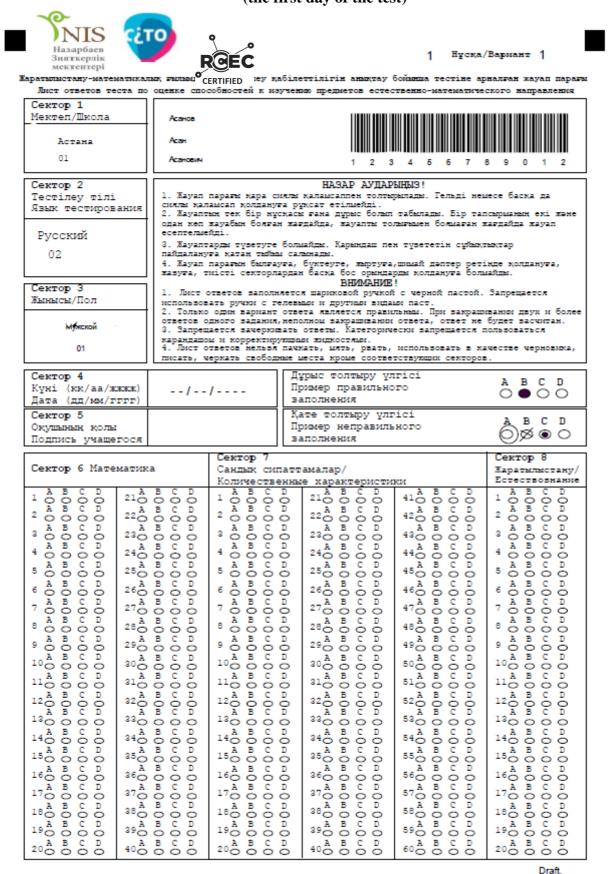
When candidates have an equal total score a priority is given to a candidate with a higher score for:



The Orken grant is awarded to candidates who have reached the threshold points and the highest total scores of the complex tests within the given number of grants of the Intellectual schools.

The results are listed in a ranked order of total score (from the highest to the lowest total score regardless of the reached threshold scores) and with no account to language of instruction.

Sample of the answer sheet of the Ability test to study subjects of Natural sciences and Mathematics (the first day of the test)



Sample of the answer sheet of the Language test (the second day of the test)

назарбаев Зняткерлік мектептері	ROEC CERTIFIED		ска/Вариант 1 жауап парағы языкового теста	
Сектор 1 Мектеп/Школа Астана	Асанов Асан			
01 Сектор 2	Асанович	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 НАЗАР АУДАРЫҢЫЗ!	8 9 0 1 2	
Тестілеу тілі Язык тестирования Русский	сиялы қаламсап қолдану 2. Жауаптың тек бір нұ одан көп жауабын бояған есептелмейді.	сиялы қаламсаппен толтырылады. Гельді немесе басқа да уға рұқсат етілмейді. ұсқасы ғана дұрыс болып табылады. Бір тапсырманың екі және ан жағдайда, жауапты толығымен болмаған жағдайда жауап		
02	пайдалануға қатаң тыбыл 4. Жауап парағын былға; жавуға, тиісті секторл;	уға, бүктеуге, жыртуға,шымай дәптер р ардан басқа бос орындарды қолдануға б ВНИМАНИЕ !	етінде қолдануға, олыайды.	
Сектор 3 Жынысы/Пол Мужской 01	 Лист ответов заполняется шариковой ручкой с черной пастой. Запрещается использовать ручки с гелевыми и другими видами паст. Только один вариант ответа является правильным. При закрашивании двук и более ответов одного задания, неполном закрашиванию ответа, ответ не будет засчитан. Запрещается зачеркивать ответы. Категорически запрещается пользоваться карандащом и корректирующам жидкостных. Лист ответов нельзя пачкать, мять, рвать, использовать в качестве черновика, писать, черкать свободные места кроме соответствующих секторов. 			
Сектор 4 Күні (кк/аа/жжжк) Дата (дд/мм/ргрг)	//	Дұрыс толтыру үлгісі Пример правильного ваполнения	A B C D	
Сектор 5 Окушының қолы Подпись учащегося		Қате толтыру үлгісі Пример неправильного ваполнения	Авср ⊘≶⊛⊙	
Сектор 6 Русский язык (перв	Сектор 7 ый язык) Қазақ тілі	(екінші тіл) English		
1 В ОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВОВ	D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	B C D 42 À B C D 42 Ò B C D 43 Ò B C D 43 Ò B C D 44 Ò		