

Updated for the school year 2023-2024 תשפ"ד
 December 17th, 2023

Simulations (*had'mayot*) and practice tests (*tiruglim*) are both available on the iTest system. All students who are registered for the COBE or BOOST automatically have access to TIRGULIM from the time their school updated the iTest system to version 12.0.

From **17.12.2023**, simulations will also be available for use as a “matconet” and a **complete technical, logistical, and pedagogical run-through of the exam.**

As a result of some changes in the way the new version operates, there are some things teachers should be aware of. Below, you may find answers to some common questions. If not, and in ANY case, if you require more assistance,

CONTACT: Matach Technical Support at: 03-620-0622

FAQ	Answer
“TIRGULIM” AND “SIMULATIONS” תרגולים / הדמיות	
TIRGULIM (PRACTICE TESTS)	
What are “tirgulim” (תרגולים)?	Tirgulim are PRACTICE EXAMS available for use by registered students for the iTest. Students can view an entire exam and record their answers. <i>*Answers can be downloaded for review by teachers.</i> See instructions here in Hebrew - or call MATACH support for help.
How do I know if a file is <i>tirgul</i> and not a <i>simulation</i> ?	The file will say ‘<u>tir</u>’ indicating “tirgul”. <i>*Note: Many tirgulim are past simulations, so you may see “sim” in the title.</i> <i>Simulation files for the current moed will be clearly marked as WSIM2024 (winter moed) and SSIM2024 (summer moed).</i>
How can I get <i>tirgulim</i> for my students?	<i>Tirgulim</i> are automatically uploaded along with the iTest system 12.0 update. Students must log in with their i.d. and the code: 1111aaaa.

COBE / BOOST - iTest v12.0 FAQs

When can my students practice with <i>tirgulim</i> ?	<p><i>Tirgulim</i> can be run ONLY on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - on any or all of those days.</p> <p>NOTE: After the <i>moed</i> begins, you can use <i>tirgulim</i> on any day <u>except on test days</u>.</p> <p>Simulation files and <i>tirgul</i> files cannot be run through the Matach server on the same days.</p>
Where else can I find practice tests?	<p>Testbox.cet.ac.il</p> <p>This site has archived exams. You and/or your students can access them for review. Students can view an entire exam. Responses cannot be recorded from this site.</p> <p><i>*Note: Although most samples are at the 4 point level (16486), this is irrelevant for practice as the 4 and 5 point exams are the same.</i></p>
We have the 12.0 iTest. Why do we only see the old versions of the COBE (16487 and 16587)?	<p>If LAST YEAR your school uploaded <u>only</u> the older versions (16487/16587), then it may be that only those versions were uploaded automatically this year.</p> <p>CALL tech support for help getting the correct versions.</p>
How do I know which format of the COBE my students should be doing?	<p>ALL 4 and 5 point students are being tested on the newer format (16486 or 16586) this year*.</p> <p><i>*Only graduates who did the older versions of COBE and Module E can still retake those versions this year.</i></p>
How many <i>tirgulim</i> can my students do?	<p>There are 4 or 5 different practice tests. Each test also has more than one version.</p> <p><i>*It is highly recommended to use other tasks as well for speaking and recording practice.</i></p>
SIMULATIONS (הדמיות)	
What are “simulations” (הדמיות)?	<p>Simulations are practice exams that run through the matach server. It is recommended to use them as “matconot”, since this is the only authentic logistical and technical run-through. Simulations will look and run exactly like a bagrut exam, including any updated features.</p>
How do I know which files are the <i>simulation</i> files?	<p>The sim files will be clearly labeled for each moed: WSIM2024 for winter and SSIM2024 for summer.</p>
How many times can a student do a simulation?	<p>Simulations can be run only ONCE for each student.</p>
When can I run simulations?	<p>From 17-12-2023, simulations can be run on any Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday up until the publication of test files to the schools, usually 48 hours - (weekdays) prior to the first day of a <i>moed</i>.</p> <p>For the winter moed, simulations should be done by the</p>

COBE / BOOST - iTest v12.0 FAQs

	first week of February, 2024 at the latest.
If a student did the winter sim and wants to take or retake the exam in the summer, can he do another simulation?	Students only do ONE simulation. If they did the winter sim, they will not do another in the summer, whether or not they took the exam in the winter.
Is the simulation required?	The simulation is the only accurate technical and logistical run-through of the exam. It is a necessary and vital part of the test preparation process to be sure your students know exactly what to expect and to avoid having to deal with technical and administrative problems on exam days.
Do I have to use a simulation as a matconet?	It is recommended to use the simulation as a matconet since it is the most accurate indication of how your students will do on the exam, and it allows for an actual simulated run-through of your real testing conditions. However, other assessment options can also be acceptable.
How should I calculate the final school grade?	The final school grade should be a fair and accurate summative assessment of your student's receptive and productive language abilities. Therefore, the matconet should be given significant consideration. However, it is fair to include other tasks that reflect a student's efforts and improvement over time. <i>*Note: Very large gaps between school and bagrut grades <u>may</u> be considered suspicious, which could possibly result in delays or disqualification of students' scores.</i>

Good Luck!

Ellyn Marciano, Nat'l Counselor, COBE

ellynmarc@gmail.com



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