

10+2 TES Entry SSB Interview Guide: Complete Preparation Strategy for Success

The **10+2 Technical Entry Scheme (TES)** is a golden opportunity for male candidates who have completed their 12th with PCM and wish to join the **Indian Army** as officers. Selected candidates are called for the **SSB Interview**, a rigorous five-day selection process that assesses not only intellectual ability but also leadership, psychological aptitude, and officer-like qualities (OLQs).

In this comprehensive **TES SSB Interview Guide**, we will cover everything you need to know—from eligibility and selection stages to preparation tips and frequently asked questions.

What is the 10+2 TES Entry?

The **10+2 Technical Entry Scheme** allows 12th-pass male candidates (with PCM and JEE Mains qualification) to be recruited directly into the Indian Army as commissioned officers, post-training. Unlike NDA, this entry doesn't involve a written exam. Instead, candidates are shortlisted based on their JEE Mains score and Class 12 PCM percentage and are directly called for the **SSB Interview**.

Eligibility Criteria for TES Entry

- **Gender:** Male only
- **Educational Qualification:** 10+2 with Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics (minimum 60% aggregate)
- **JEE Main:** Compulsory from TES 2021 onwards
- **Age Limit:** 16.5 to 19.5 years
- **Nationality:** Indian

TES SSB Interview Process Overview

The **TES SSB Interview** is a **five-day process** held at SSB centers across India. Here's a breakdown:

Day 0 - Reporting Day

- Document verification
- Allotment of chest numbers

- Introduction and instructions

Day 1 - Screening Test

1. Officer Intelligence Rating (OIR) Test

- Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning

2. Picture Perception and Discussion Test (PPDT)

- Candidates write a story on a blurred image and then discuss it in a group.

Result: Only selected candidates move to the next stage.

Day 2 - Psychological Tests

1. **Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)** – Write 12 stories based on images shown.

2. **Word Association Test (WAT)** – 60 words, 15 seconds per word to write a sentence.

3. **Situation Reaction Test (SRT)** – 60 situations with rapid responses.

4. **Self-Description Test (SDT)** – Write self-analysis from the perspective of parents, friends, teachers, and yourself.

Day 3 & 4 - GTO Tasks

1. **Group Discussions (GD)**

2. **Group Planning Exercise (GPE)**

3. **Progressive Group Tasks (PGT)**

4. **Half Group Task (HGT)**

5. **Individual Obstacles (IO)**

6. **Command Task**

7. **Lecturette**

8. **Final Group Task (FGT)**

Day 5 - Personal Interview & Conference

- **PI:** Questions on academics, hobbies, current affairs, life goals, and family background.
- **Conference:** All assessors jointly discuss and evaluate the candidate's overall performance.

How to Prepare for TES SSB Interview

1. Understand OLQs (Officer-Like Qualities)

The entire SSB process is designed to assess OLQs such as leadership, confidence, responsibility, decision-making, and social adaptability. Make sure your actions and responses reflect these traits.

2. Improve Communication Skills

Clear and confident communication is essential in GDs, interviews, and lecturettes. Practice speaking in English, form opinions on current issues, and improve fluency.

3. Work on Psychology Test Writing

- Practice TAT, WAT, and SRT regularly.
- Be spontaneous and positive.
- Don't try to fabricate ideal stories; be genuine.

4. Prepare for GTO Tasks

- Physical fitness is a must.
- Understand the structure and rules of each outdoor task.
- Practice mental and physical coordination.

5. Personal Interview Preparation

- Be thorough with your **PIQ form**.
- Know your hobbies, academic background, and family details.
- Stay updated with **current affairs** and defence-related news.

6. Time Management

During tests like WAT and SRT, **speed with clarity** is key. Practice managing time under pressure.

Common Mistakes to Avoid in TES SSB Interview

- Faking stories or pretending to be someone you're not.
- Being overconfident or dominating group tasks.
- Lack of self-awareness in the interview.
- Poor body language or unkempt appearance.
- Not listening to others during group tasks.

Dress Code for TES SSB Interview

For Indoor Tasks (PI, Psych Tests):

- Formal shirt and trousers
- Tie (optional)
- Polished shoes

For Outdoor GTO Tasks:

- White T-shirt and shorts/track pants
- Sports shoes
- White socks

Final Words

The TES SSB Interview is not just a test of knowledge, but a holistic assessment of your **personality, maturity, and readiness to lead**. Stay honest, stay confident, and stay consistent with your preparation. Remember, success in SSB is more about **being a good person with potential**, rather than knowing all the right answers.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1. Is there any written exam for 10+2 TES Entry?

No. Shortlisting is done based on JEE Mains score and 12th PCM percentage. There is no written test; candidates directly appear for SSB Interview.

Q2. Can a student from any stream apply for TES?

No. Only students from **Science stream with Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics (PCM)** are eligible.

Q3. Is JEE Mains compulsory for TES entry?

Yes. From 2021 onwards, **JEE Mains score is mandatory** to be eligible for TES entry.

Q4. How many candidates are selected through TES each year?

Around **90-100 candidates** are selected per course, but this may vary depending on vacancies and performance.

Q5. Can a TES candidate appear for NDA as well?

Yes, candidates can apply for both **NDA** and **TES**, provided they meet the eligibility criteria for both.

Q6. How should I prepare for the SSB Interview without coaching?

Self-preparation with the help of SSB preparation books, online resources, mock interviews, and regular practice of psychological tests is sufficient. Consistency is key.

Q7. What is the duration of training after clearing the TES SSB?

Candidates undergo **5 years of training** – 1 year of basic military training followed by 4 years of technical training (3 years at CME/MCTE/MCEME and 1 year of military training at IMA, Dehradun).

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