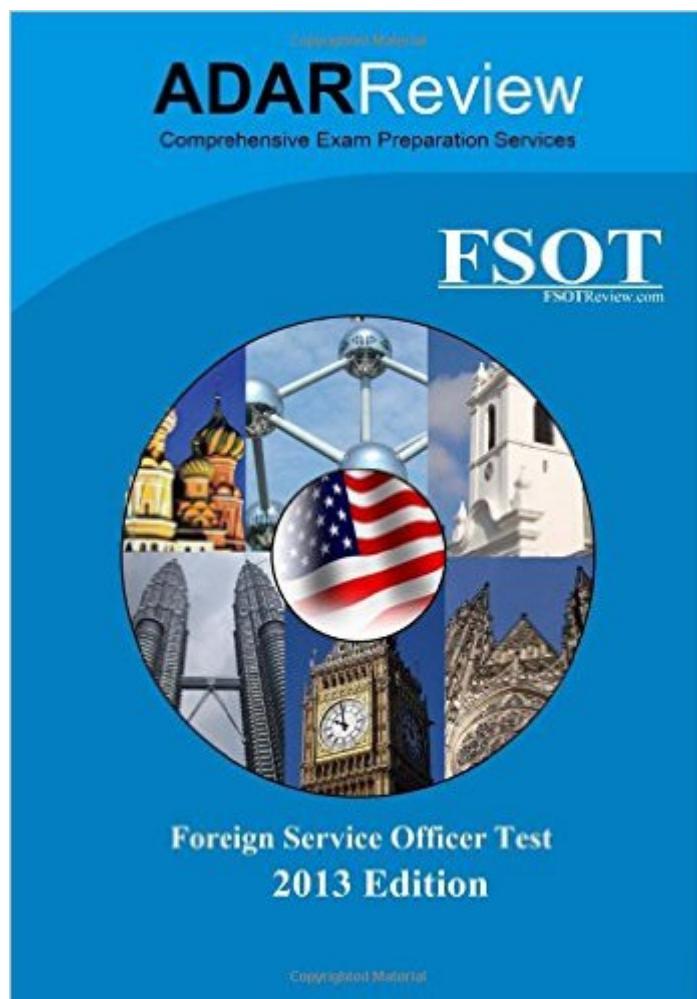


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# Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT) 2013 Edition: Complete Study Guide To The Written Exam And Oral Assessment



## Synopsis

NEW EDITION NOW AVAILABLE ON SEARCH for ADAR REVIEW This original edition from 2013 is a classic and affordable book to prepare for the FSOT exam. The New Edition was updated for the changes to the test during the 2014 transition from ACT to PearsonVue. The Complete Study Guide to the Foreign Service Officer Test includes information about the test and Foreign Service, valuable test-taking strategies, practice questions and essay prompts. According to the Department of State, 22,000 candidates took the FSOT in 2012 but only 425 Foreign Service Officers were hired that year. The FSOT and other steps in the candidacy are extremely competitive. In addition, if you take the FSOT unprepared and fail the exam, the Department of State requires that you wait 12 months before becoming eligible to take the test again. Thus, it is extremely important to be prepared the first time. More people rely on Adar Review than on any other FSOT Review book for sale at . For more information about the book and Adar Review, please visit us at: FSOTReview.com The book includes sections on the overall candidacy process, the FSOT written exam and the FSOA oral assessment. The book also has: • A full-length Job Knowledge practice test with explanations for every question • 12 practice essays. Adar Review commends you on your desire to join the Foreign Service and wishes you success in the selection process, the FSOT and in your career. We value our customers' opinions and wish to integrate any recommendations you may have to improve the quality of the book and the value of this study guide for future candidates. Please share any comments or suggestions for improvements with us by email (support@FSOTReview.com) or using the contact forms on our web site.

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## Customer Reviews

The book was much more thorough than I had expected, especially with respect to making sure that I am prepared for the entire process (not just the written exam). Since passing the FSOT requires more than just reading through a study guide, I was concerned about putting together an overall "game plan", but the book did a very good job of helping to fill in the gaps. I had actually expected that it would just skip over elements that can't be studied for, but found that the book either provided solid advice, or pointed me to specific resources that will help me become a well rounded candidate. I should also point out that it provides specific recommendations about various things you can do so that you have relevant experiences to draw from for the biographical section of the FSOT. Overall, I thought the book was well laid out and very informative. It covers both the FSOT (written exam) and FSOA (oral assessment). While this review focuses only on the FSOT portion of the book, I looked through the chapter on the oral assessment and it seems very well done. I've only flipped through some of the other FSOT study guides out there, but this is by far the most comprehensive one I have seen.

Ok, I'm not sure how many times this book has been reviewed by the authors or their publishers under aliases, but it must have been at least as many times as there were positive reviews. Note that if you are completely oblivious to what the FSOT is, who uses it, why they use it, and what kind of topics are likely to be covered, AND you are not reading this review because you DON'T have internet access (DOS webpage), then this book is a great way to get started... it also means that you are a long, long, long, long, long, way from taking and passing the FSOT. This book gives you a thorough detailing of the DOS hiring process and a review of the sections that make up the FSOT. There is absolutely no study material in this book.... again - there is absolutely no study material in this book. I would say that the most useful part of this book is where it notes a number of other books you 'should' read/study in order to pass the FSOT... however, the 'books' they reference are Cliffs Notes texts on each of the FSOT topic areas. If you expect to pass the FSOT... well, let's back up... if you expect to have a career in the US State Dept Foreign Service, please God read something more substantial than Cliffs Notes. That would explain though why our foreign policy is in such terrible shambles. Cliffs Notes to geography & Cliffs Notes for culture... what a disastrous idea. Ok, so in case you still want to get all of the information that's available in this book, but have been convinced of the folly of paying for it - get away from (at least this) study guide(s) and go to the

DOS webpage. The webpage has all of the same information you will find in this text including a few dozen books you will need to get your hands on AND READ. This should be in addition to a solid understanding of politics, economics, sociology, history, intercultural communication, marketing, business administration, leadership, and current events. If that sounds like a lot... it's because it is a lot. Unless you graduated from a state university or better with a 3.9 or higher you are likely to be overwhelmed by the amount of information you need to know to pass the FSOT... let alone have the capacity to be an effective diplomat. If you want a job in the Foreign Service, you need to prepare at least 18 months prior to taking the exam. If you are doing the cram math (like I tend to do), stop yourself. That would be 18 months of cram or 36 months of regular study. Here's the good news: If you are already in, or about to go into, a graduate field like International Conflict Management/Resolution, International Affairs, Political Science, International Business, or International Law, then you are at least double tapping relevant material when you're studying for the FSOT. Do yourself a quick easy and download the free DOS app to your phone - take the FSOT practice tests and if you score better than a 50% you're not alone, but you do have a lot of work ahead of you. Bottom Line - sorry, no short-cut study guide, at least not with this text.

Worthwhile purchase, although I think it's a bit over-the-top, especially when it comes to the essay prep. I still think the FSOT is one of those tests that you can't really study for, but this was a great tool for getting mentally prepared. I passed the test with a decent score and I'm guessing this book directly helped with getting 2 or 3 extra questions correct than I would have had I not read it. FYI on the essay....my essay was god awful, but the structure was "correct" and I received a 6/12 (lowest possible pass score). I'm fairly confident that if you focus on proper essay structure (clear thesis, 3-4 paragraphs where you, 1-tell them what you are going to tell them, 2-tell them, and 3-tell them what you told them) you will at least score a 6/12 even if your essay is a piece of junk like I know mine was. The essay was by far the most stressful part of the test for me...my advice is to focus on being clear and concise and don't worry about content so much.

I have been studying for about a month for the FSOT. This book has greatly aided me in ensuring that I know the process of applying to the foreign service and it has also narrowed down my studying, focusing on more important issues + countries. I wouldn't start the foreign service process without this book.

Did this book not have an editor? The prolific typos and various incomplete entries diminished the

claimed authority of the publication. The general guidance and type of material was good, but the delivery failed.

Great book! I am still deciding if taking the FSOT Exam is what I want to do, but this book has been extremely helpful in making that determination. Lots of helpful information about the test, and material to study. Great idea if you are interested in foreign service, or even government/foreign relations work!

This is the only study guide that makes reference to another study guide that I have ever seen but other than that it is good.

Since I haven't taken the test, it is difficult to rate the effectiveness of the book. However, it is easy to comprehend most of the information. Once I take the test I will review it for effectiveness.

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