

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GUIDE

ALTE: Association of Language Tester's in Europe
CEFR: Common European Framework References for Language
IELTS: International English Language Testing Service
TOEFL: Test Of English as a Foreign Language
TOEIC: Test Of English for International Communication

Common European Framework Reference for Languages (CEFR)			CEFR (ALTE*)	IELTS	TOEFL			Cambridge ESOL	BULATS	TOEIC	
					Paper Based	Internet Based (IBT)	Computer Based				
Proficient User	Mastery	DESCRIPTION	LEVELS	9 Max	677 Max	120 Max	300 Max		100 Max	990 Max	
		Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situation.	C2 ALTE 5 <i>Proficiency</i>	7.5+	600+	96+	243+	CPE	90-100	911-990	
	Effective Operational Proficiency	Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.	C1 ALTE 4 <i>Advanced</i>	8.5	575	79	213	CAE	75-89	791-910	
				7	578	95	240				
	Independent User	Vantage	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages/disadvantages of various options.	B2 ALTE 3 <i>Upper Intermediate</i>	5.5	550	65	183	FCE	60-74	541-700
					5	510	64	180			
Threshold		Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.	B1 ALTE 2 <i>Intermediate</i>	4.5	500	53	150	PET	40-59	381-540	
				4	473	41-52	123				
Basic User	Weystage	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.	A2 ALTE 1 <i>Pre-Intermediate</i>	3.5	450	40	120	KET	20-39	246-380 Intro Plus	
				3	397	30	83				
	Breakthrough	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.	A1	1-2.5	310-400	9.0-29	33-90		0-19		