

CIES Achievement Scale with Descriptors

Group	Level	CEFR Level	Grammar	Composition	Reading	Speaking	Listening
F	0 Low	A1	I can use correct word order, subject pronouns, basic adjectives, and the simple present, present continuous, simple past, and simple future tenses to talk and write about familiar, everyday topics that I studied in class, but I make some mistakes.	I can write all of the letters of the alphabet and familiar words. I can use correct English word order to write basic sentences about personal information and everyday topics. I can use basic punctuation and capitalization.	I can read and say all of the letters of the alphabet. I can understand short written texts with familiar, everyday vocabulary and basic grammar. I can answer simple questions about the text, but I might miss some details.	I can ask and answer simple questions about familiar topics such as personal information, family, the classroom, shopping, and my daily routine. I can say the sounds of the English alphabet and basic words, but I make some mistakes.	I can understand the letters and sounds of the alphabet. I can understand short, simple questions and information about familiar, everyday vocabulary when the person speaks very slowly and uses repetition.
	0+ High						
1	1 EL	A2/A2+	I can accurately use correct word order, personal pronouns, basic adjectives and adverbs, modals of ability, and the simple present, present continuous, simple past, and simple future tenses in positive and negative statements and questions. I can use some compound sentences.	I can write a series of simple sentences using basic grammar tenses. I can write short paragraphs with simple topic sentences and some supporting details. I can use the words <i>and</i> , <i>or</i> , and <i>but</i> to connect sentences. I can use correct punctuation and capitalization.	I can read and understand short written texts on concrete topics with mostly common vocabulary and basic grammar. I can find the main ideas and important details and say or write a short summary with some help.	I can ask and answer questions, engage in short conversations, and give short presentations about familiar and routine topics. When I talk about these topics, I can use grammar and vocabulary that I studied in class mostly correctly. I might pause and make some pronunciation mistakes, but people can understand me.	I can understand basic questions and conversations with vocabulary needed for common social situations when the person speaks slowly and clearly. I can find the main idea and the important details in a listening passage.
	2 HE						
2	3 AE	B1	I can use all of the grammar points from Group 1 with relative ease. I can also use modals of advice and certainty and the present perfect, past continuous, and future continuous tenses in speaking and writing. I can use both simple and compound sentences, and I can use some basic complex sentences.	I can write clear paragraphs and essays with a thesis statement, topic sentences, and somewhat developed supporting details about familiar topics. I can use correct basic grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and transition words. I can write accurate simple and compound sentences.	I can read and understand straightforward, factual texts with some vocabulary support. I can independently identify the main idea and both major and minor details. I can talk and write about the text in my own words.	I can accurately use basic grammar tenses and some variety in sentence structure and vocabulary to engage in discussions and give short presentations in which I talk about familiar topics and my opinions. I can give details to support my ideas. I can speak with few pronunciation mistakes.	I can understand most social conversations when spoken clearly at a medium pace. I can understand and take basic notes on short lectures with organizational and vocabulary support. I can talk and write about the main ideas of a listening passage in my own words.
	4 LI						

Group	Level	CEFR Level	Grammar	Composition	Reading	Speaking	Listening
3	5 IN	B1+	I can talk and write about present, past, and future events using the correct verb tenses from Group 2. I can also use adjective clauses, reported speech, first and second conditional statements, some complex connectors, gerunds and infinitives, and the passive voice with accuracy in speech and writing although I make occasional errors. I can use a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences.	I can write detailed, organized paragraphs and essays on a variety of familiar topics. I can use common transitions and connectors to show relationships between ideas. I can write with sentence variety including simple, compound, and complex sentences. I can paraphrase some outside information to support my ideas. I can write about information taken from two different sources with some support.	I can independently read and comprehend simple academic texts. I can identify explicit and implicit main ideas and distinguish between major and minor details. I can take detailed notes and effectively summarize and paraphrase. I can make inferences about unstated ideas and use context to determine the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary.	I can engage in routine social conversations and discussions on familiar topics with confidence, accuracy, and fluency. I can give coherent and developed speeches and presentations on academic topics, and I can actively participate in group discussions on academic topics although I may have difficulty expressing complex ideas completely or using accurate grammar and vocabulary when talking about unfamiliar or abstract topics.	I can understand short, straightforward academic lectures on a variety of familiar topics with some vocabulary and organizational support. I can take effective notes and distinguish between main ideas and supporting details. I can use my notes to independently summarize and paraphrase the lecture. I can make inferences and use context to guess the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary.
	6 HI						
4	7 LA	B2	I can use a variety of simple and complex structures and correct word forms in speech and writing. In addition to the grammar points from Group 3, I can use the past perfect, past perfect continuous, phrasal verbs, perfect modals, the third conditional, and the subjunctive mood although I may make mistakes when talking or writing about complex or academic topics.	I can write organized well-developed, paragraphs, essays, and research papers about a variety of familiar and academic topics. I can synthesize information from multiple sources. I can paraphrase information from outside sources and cite it in my writing. I can use a variety of sentences types and I can use simple and complex grammar accurately with limited support.	I can independently read university-level academic articles using a dictionary and context clues to determine the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary. I can effectively take notes, paraphrase, summarize, and evaluate the content of a text. I can paraphrase information from multiple texts to support an argument or opinion.	I can talk about a variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics in both social and academic situations. I can fully participate in group discussions, and I can give effective presentations on topics in my field. I can support my opinions and ideas with information from outside sources. I can speak and interact with a degree of fluency and accuracy that makes regular interaction with native speakers possible.	I can follow along with and understand full length academic lectures on both familiar and unfamiliar topics delivered at a standard pace. I can take effective notes and recognize discourse markers and comprehend the relationships among ideas in the lecture. I can identify main ideas and distinguish between major and minor details and then use this information to write an effective summary.
	8 AD						