

proficient	C2	Mastery	This level isn't supposed to equal 'native speaker' mastery – though a student at this level would be a very successful learner who can use a language with real precision and fluency.
	C1	Effective Operational Proficiency	At this level students command a wide range of language.
independent	B2	Vantage	This level is where language use begins to become more 'abstract', for example giving and justifying opinions, summarizing a short story or plot, or giving detailed instructions.
	B1	Threshold	At this level students can maintain a conversation and express ideas. They can also begin to deal with problems and situations where they meet unpredictable language.
basic	A2	Waystage	This level has lots of descriptors for social functions, for example greeting people, asking about work and free time, and making invitations.
	A1	Breakthrough	This is the lowest level of 'generative language use' – students can interact in a simple way and ask and answer simple questions.

The CEF recognizes a level of ability below **A1**, which includes descriptors like 'can say *yes, no, please, thank you*', 'can use some basic greetings', 'can fill in uncomplicated forms'.

The CEF also recognizes that there can be levels between these six global levels, like **A2+**, **B1+** and **B2+**.

For a breakdown of the six global levels above, see chapter 3 of the CEF.

For detailed scales for each area of competence, see chapter 4 of the CEF.