

Divine Word College Intensive English Language Institute CEA Achievement Scale Interpretation

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is an international standard for describing language ability. It describes language ability on a six-point scale, from A1 for beginners, up to C2 for those who have mastered a language. This makes it easy for anyone involved in language teaching and testing, such as teachers or learners, to see the level of different qualifications. It also means that employers and educational institutions can easily compare our qualifications to other exams in their country.

Completion of IELI level:	CEFR	iBT TOEFL equivalence (/120)	Descriptors
Level 8 (College-ready)	Low C1	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand enough to follow extended discourse on abstract and complex topics beyond their own field. • Can express themselves fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. • Can produce clear, well-structured texts, underlining the relevant salient issues, expanding and supporting points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples, and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.
Level 7 (Low advanced)	High B2	74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand standard language or a familiar variety on both familiar and unfamiliar topics normally encountered in personal, social, academic or vocational life. • Can communicate spontaneously with good grammatical control without much sign of having to restrict what they want to say, adopting a level of formality appropriate to the circumstances. • Can give clear, detailed descriptions of real or imaginary events and experiences marking the relationship between ideas in clear connected text, and following established conventions of the genre concerned.
Level 6 (High intermediate)	Low B2	67	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand the main ideas of propositionally and linguistically complex discourse on both concrete and abstract topics delivered in standard language or a familiar variety, including technical discussions in their field of specialization. • Can participate actively in routine and non-routine formal discussion. • Can give clear, detailed descriptions on a variety of subjects related to their field of interest.
Level 5 (Intermediate)	High B1	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand straightforward factual information about common everyday or job-related topics, identifying both general messages and specific details, provided people articulate clearly in a generally familiar variety. • Can express their thoughts about abstract or cultural topics such as music or films. • Can produce short, simple essays on topics of interest.
Level 4 (Low intermediate)	Low B1	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand the main points made in clear standard language or a familiar variety on familiar matters regularly encountered at work, school, leisure, etc., including short narratives. • Can give or seek personal views and opinions in discussing topics of interest. • Can give straightforward, detailed descriptions on a range of familiar subjects within their field of interest.
Level 3 (High beginner)	High A2	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand enough to be able to meet needs of a concrete type, provided people articulate clearly and slowly. • Can describe everyday aspects of their environment e.g. people, places, a job or study experience. • Can initiate, maintain and close simple, face-to-face conversation.
Level 2 (Beginner)	Low A2	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand the important points of a story and manage to follow the plot, provided the story is told slowly and clearly. • Can converse in simple language with peers, asking questions and understanding answers relating to most routine matters. • Can state in simple language which aspects of a work especially interested them.
Level 1 (Low beginner)	High A1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand questions and instructions addressed carefully and slowly to them and follow short, simple directions. • Can use some basic structures in one-clause sentences with some omission or reduction of elements. • Can communicate other people's personal details and very simple, predictable information, if other people help with formulation.
Entering Level 1 (True beginner)	Low A1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand short, very simple questions and statements, provided they are delivered slowly and clearly and accompanied by visuals or manual gestures to support understanding and repeated if necessary. • Can give basic personal information (e.g. name, address, nationality), perhaps with the use of a dictionary. • Can understand and use basic, formulaic expressions such as "Yes", "No", "Excuse me", "Please", "Thank you", "No, thank you."