



## OVERVIEW FOR EACH LEVEL MEDIAFORM ESOL QUALIFICATIONS

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# 1 Underlying principles of language certificate tests and levels

## 1.1 Creating a common reference level for European languages

- Already in the 80s, in a world that was becoming more globalized by the second, the UN council started developing the idea of a common framework for assessing language proficiency of individuals and establish the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**
- The **CEFR** allowed an **easier** and **coherent** understanding of one's level across languages thanks to abstract **descriptors** that divide language proficiency levels in 6 steps (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2).

**This made self-assessment much easier.**

LEVEL	Listening
A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can understand and use <b>common everyday expressions</b> and basic phrases to meet specific needs.</li> <li>• Can <b>introduce themselves</b> and others and ask and answer questions about personal details such as their <b>residence</b>, acquaintances, and possessions.</li> <li>• Can engage in <b>simple interactions</b> if the other person <b>speaks slowly</b> and clearly and is willing to assist.</li> </ul>
A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can comprehend sentences and commonly used expressions relevant to immediate needs (e.g., <b>basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment</b>).</li> <li>• Can engage in simple and routine tasks that require straightforward and direct exchanges of information on familiar and routine topics.</li> <li>• Can describe basic aspects of their <b>background, immediate environment</b>, and areas of immediate need in simple terms.</li> </ul>
B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can comprehend the <b>main points</b> of clear, standard communication on familiar topics <b>commonly encountered at work, school, or during leisure activities</b>.</li> <li>• Can handle most situations that are <b>likely to occur while traveling in regions</b> where the language is spoken.</li> <li>• Can create <b>simple, coherent text</b> on topics that are familiar or personally interesting.</li> <li>• Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, and ambitions, and can briefly explain <b>opinions</b> and <b>plans</b>.</li> </ul>
B2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can comprehend the <b>main ideas in complex texts</b> on both concrete and <b>abstract subjects</b>, including technical discussions within their area of expertise.</li> <li>• Can engage in conversations with native speakers <b>fluently</b> and <b>spontaneously</b>, ensuring smooth interactions without effort for either participant.</li> <li>• Can write clear, detailed texts on various topics and articulate a viewpoint on <b>current issues</b>, outlining the <b>pros and cons of different options</b>.</li> </ul>

C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can comprehend a broad spectrum of demanding, <b>extended clauses</b> and discern <b>implicit meanings</b>.</li> <li>• Can convey ideas fluently and spontaneously with <b>minimal hesitation</b> in finding expressions.</li> <li>• Can utilize language flexibly and effectively for <b>social, academic, and professional contexts</b>.</li> <li>• Can generate clear, <b>well-structured</b>, detailed text on complex topics, demonstrating controlled use of <b>organizational patterns, connectors, and cohesive devices</b>.</li> </ul>
C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can effortlessly comprehend nearly <b>everything heard or read</b>.</li> <li>• Can summarize information from various spoken and written sources, reconstructing <b>arguments</b>, and <b>narratives</b> into a coherent presentation.</li> <li>• Can express themselves spontaneously, with exceptional fluency and precision, distinguishing <b>subtle nuances</b> of meaning even in the most complex situations.</li> </ul>

## 2 Our test's format and grading

### 2.1 Our test's format

Our tests are divided into **4 sections**, each corresponding to one or two of the **primary linguistic competencies**: speaking & interacting, listening comprehension, reading comprehension, grammar mastery, writing.

**Each section contributes equally to your final text result.**

	Primary Linguistic Competence	Marks
Section 1	Speaking & Interaction	25
Section 2	Listening	25
Section 3	Reading & Use of Grammar	25
Section 4	Writing	25

### 2.2 The paper-based exam

All candidates who are taking the **paper-based exam** will have to mark their answers in the **answer sheet**, including the writing part.

Answers that are not marked in the answer sheet ***are invalid***.



### 3.1.2 A1 Listening – 30 minutes

A1		Listening	Marks per item
Task 1 (First audio track)	Exercise 1	Fill in the blanks in a text choosing the correct answer from the brackets according to the audio.	0.5
	Most lizards are very small _____ (insects/animals/birds)		
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5
Task 2 (Second audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5

### 3.1.3 A1 Reading & Use of Grammar – 60 minutes

A1		Listening	Marks per item
Task 1 (First text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25
Task 2 (Second text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25

Task 3  (Use of Grammar)	Exercise 1	Fill the gap with the correct answer choosing between A, B or C.	0.25
	1) We ___ British. a) Isn't b)Am c) Are		
	Exercise 2	fill in the blanks with the right verb from the brackets.	0.25
	1) She ___ basketball. (plays/turns/cooks)		
	Exercise 3	Choose the correct number in words from the brackets.	0.25
	1) 58 (fifty-eight/fifty eight/fifteen eight)		
	Exercise 4	choose the correct colour for the objects.	0.25
	1) Snow (white/pink/blue)		
	Exercise 4	choose the correct past simple from the brackets.	0.25
1. Play (played/plays/plaied)			

### 3.1.4 A1 Writing – 45 minutes

- In this section you will be asked to choose **2 options** among the 4 writing tasks to test your skills according to LEVEL A1 CEFR. Follow the **instructions at the beginning of each activity**.
- Write approximately **between 85 and 100 words** for each composition.
- In this module each of the 2 tasks carry a maximum of 12.5 marks.

Example:

*Write about your home or the place where you live. Describe it and tell us if you like it.*

## 3.2 A2

### 3.2.1 A2 Speaking & Interaction – 10 minutes

- The examiner will ask you some **questions** to test your skills according to the A2 CEFR level guidelines.
- Your **pronunciation** is not required to be flawless but **understandable** at all time

Possible questions could be:

Do you like shopping for clothes? Why?

Tell us about a food that you don't like. Explain why.

***The number of points awarded for each question may vary according to its difficulty.***



### 3.2.2 A2 Listening – 30 minutes

A2		Listening	Marks per item
Task 1 (First audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5
Task 2 (Second audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5

### 3.2.3 A2 Reading & Use of Grammar – 60 minutes

A2		Reading & Use of Grammar	Marks per item
Task 1 (First text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.  Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25
Task 2 (Second text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.  Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25

Task 3 (Use of Grammar)	Exercise 1	Use the words you are given to write questions in the correct form.	0.25
	1) how   you   get   to work?		
	Exercise 2	Choose the correct word from the brackets.	0.25
	1) Where do you go if you want to catch a plane? (station, square, airport)		
	Exercise 3	Complete the sentences with the correct verb from the brackets.	0.25
	1) I _____ (broken / break / broke) my leg yesterday.		
	Exercise 4	Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the brackets.	0.25
	1) Peter is _____ (tall, taller, tallest) than Tim.		

### 3.2.4 A2 Writing – 60 minutes

A2	Writing	Marks awarded
Task 1	Write an <b>email</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write about <b>120 words</b> .	12.5
Task 2	Write an <b>essay</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write about <b>120 words</b> .	12.5

## 3.3 B1

### 3.3.1 B1 Speaking & Interaction – 13 minutes

- The examiner will ask you some **questions** to test your skills according to the B1 CEFR level guidelines.

Possible questions could be:

*What's your name? where are you from? Why are you studying English?*

Where would you like to go on holiday and why?

What do you do to relax? Tell us about it.

**The number of points awarded for each question may vary according to its difficulty.**

### 3.3.2 B1 Listening – 35 minutes

B1		Listening	Marks per item
Task 1 (First audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5
Task 2 (Second audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5

### 3.3.3 B1 Reading & Use of Grammar – 75 minutes

B1		Reading & Use of Grammar	Marks per item
Task 1 (First text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25
Task 2 (Second text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25

Task 3 (Use of Grammar)	Exercise 1	Choose the correct word/s from the brackets to complete the phrasal verbs.	0.25
	1. During lessons, I always take (down/out) notes.		
	Exercise 2	Choose the correct modal verb.	0.25
	1) I have a toothache. I don't have to / should go to the dentist.		
	Exercise 3	Write the questions and answers. Use the present perfect or past simple.	0.25
	1) A: where / you go / on holiday / last year? B: I went to Spain.		
	Exercise 4	Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.	0.25
	1) Phil and I (1) _____ (arrive) in London three days ago.		
	Exercise 5	Choose the correct answer from the brackets.	0.25
	1) _____ (when/which) movies do you like watching?		
Exercise 6	Choose the correct verb from the brackets.	0.25	
1) After I (posted/had posted) the postcard, I (realised/had realised) that I (wrote/had written) the wrong address on it.			

### 3.3.4 B1 Writing – 60 minutes

B1	Writing	Marks awarded
Task 1	Write an <b>email</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 120 and 150 words</b> .	12.5
Task 2	Write an <b>essay</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 120 and 150 words</b> .	12.5

## 3.4 B2

### 3.4.1 B2 Speaking & Interaction – 15 minutes

- The examiner will ask you some **questions** to test your skills according to the B2 CEFR level guidelines.

Possible questions could be:

*What do you consider to be your greatest achievement?*

*What is success? Define it.*

*Do you believe that hard work always pays off?*

**The number of points awarded for each question may vary according to its difficulty.**

### 3.4.2 B2 Listening – 35 minutes

B2	Listening		Marks per item
Task 1 (First audio track)	Exercise 1	Fill in the blanks with a word that you hear from the listening text.	0.5
	Exercise 2	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 3	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5
Task 2 (Second audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5

### 3.4.3 B2 Reading & Use of Grammar – 75 minutes

B2	Reading & Use of Grammar		Marks per item
Task 1 (First text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25
Task 2 (Second text)	Exercise 1	Indicate which speaker said the statement	0.25
	Exercise 2	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 3	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25

Task 3 (Use of Grammar)	Exercise 1	Complete the text and with the correct passive form of the verb in brackets.	0.25
	Many stories (1) _____ (tell) about how it all began.		
	Exercise 2	Complete the conditionals with the correct form of the verb in brackets.	0.25
	1) If you _____ (go) to the beach at this time of year, it will probably be quite cold.		
	Exercise 3	Choose the correct word from the table for each space. Some words can be used more than once.	0.25
	1) The diet _____ I'm on is quite boring, to be honest.		
	Exercise 4	Complete the following sentences by using the verbs in the brackets in a future form.	0.25
1) On Friday at 8 o'clock I _____ my friend. (meet)			

### 3.4.4 B2 Writing – 75 minutes

B2	Writing	Marks awarded
Task 1	Write an <b>email</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 180 and 200 words</b> .	12.5
Task 2	Write an <b>essay</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 180 and 200 words</b> .	12.5

## 3.5 C1

### 3.5.1 C1 Speaking & Interaction – 18 minutes

- The examiner will ask you some **questions** to test your skills according to the C1 CEFR level guidelines.

Possible questions could be:

*How has the internet changed the way we communicate?*

*What negative effects has the internet had on our social lives?*

*Are you keen on talking on the phone? Why?*

**The number of points awarded for each question may vary according to its difficulty.**

### 3.5.2 C1 Listening – 40 minutes

C1		Listening	Marks per item
Task 1 (First audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5
Task 2 (Second audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5

### 3.5.3 C1 Reading & Use of Grammar – 90 minutes

C1		Reading & Use of Grammar	Marks per item
Task 1 (First text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25
Task 2 (Second text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25

Task 3 (Use of Grammar)	Exercise 1	Choose the correct form of the verb.	0.25
	1) I _____ (enjoy / enjoyed / have enjoyed) studying English since I was a child.		
	Exercise 2	Choose the correct contrast link in italics in each sentence.	0.25
	1) <i>Whereas</i> / <i>However</i> the poorest 2% have become poorer, the richest 2% are now richer.		
	Exercise 3	Choose the correct phrasal verb from the brackets. At times you might need to change the verb tense.	0.25
	1) Could I (sleep on/think over) it and let you know tomorrow?		
	Exercise 4	Choose the correct answer from the brackets.	0.25
	1) If you saw another student cheating during an exam, (would you/do you) tell somebody?		

### 3.5.4 C1 Writing – 75 minutes

C1	Writing	Marks awarded
Task 1	Write an <b>email</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 250 and 280 words</b> .	12.5
Task 2	Write an <b>essay</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 250 and 280 words</b> .	12.5



## 3.6 C2

### 3.6.1 C2 Speaking & Interaction – 20 minutes

- The examiner will ask you some **questions** to test your skills according to the C2 CEFR level guidelines.

Possible questions could be:

*Are you working or studying at the moment? Do you enjoy what you do?*

*In your opinion, do some people get paid a lot more or a lot less than they deserve?*

*What jobs are generally regarded as desirable in your society, and why?*

**The number of points awarded for each question may vary according to its difficulty.**

### 3.6.2 C2 Listening – 40 minutes

C2		Listening	Marks per item
Task 1 (First audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5
Task 2 (Second audio track)	Exercise 1	According to the audio, choose the correct answer between A, B or C.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the audio. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.5

### 3.6.3 C2 Reading & Use of Grammar – 90 minutes

C2		Reading & Use of Grammar	Marks per item
Task 1 (First text)	Exercise 1	According to the text, choose the correct answer between A, B or C. Sometimes you may be asked to report a word from the text instead.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25

Task 2 (Second text)	Exercise 1	Read the following text and fill in the blanks with one of the four your given per item.	0.25
Task 3 (Third text)	Exercise 1	Read the following text and fill in the blanks with one of the four your given per item.	0.5
	Exercise 2	You are given a list of statements about the text. Indicate whether they are true or false	0.25
Task 4 (Fourth text)	Exercise 1	Read the following text and fill in the blanks with one of the four your given per item.	0.25

Task 5 (Use of Grammar)	Exercise 1	Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb.	0.25
	1) My sister _____ (read) a degree at university, so I _____ (not see) her often, unfortunately.		
	Exercise 2	Fill in the blanks with a word from the brackets.	0.25
	[...].she has been collecting (1) _____ (pertinent/interesting) data on him.		
	Exercise 3	Fill in the blanks with the more suitable formal expression in the brackets.	0.25
	1) _____ (Such difficulties/A problem like this) seem worth addressing.		
	Exercise 4	Choose the best word to complete the sentences.	0.25
	1) My father was very _____ with me when I crashed his car. a) furious b) cross c) annoyed d) irritated		
Exercise 5	Fill the gap with the either the Present Perfect or Past Perfect.	0.25	
1) Peter _____ already/wash) all the dishes when I got up from the table.			

### 3.6.4 C2 Writing – 90 minutes

C2	Writing	Marks awarded
Task 1	Write an <b>email</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 280 and 300 words</b> .	12.5
Task 2	Write an <b>essay</b> . Choose <b>one</b> of the two options given. Write <b>between 280 and 300 words</b> .	12.5