

THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK AND MLS

Understanding English language assessment

Language levels and estimated progression rates

CEF Grade	MLS 200 Score	MLS 200 Range by Level	MLS Level	Estimated Progression Period to Complete the Level*	BULATS Score	Approximately IELTS Equivalent	Approximate Exam Level Equivalencies	ICAO Language Proficiency Rating Scale (Approximate equivalencies) (Speaking & Listening only)
A0	1 -10	1-21	Beginner					Pre-Elementary Level 1
A0+	11 -21		Beginner	12 weeks				
A1-	22 - 32		Elementary					
A1	33 - 43	22-54	Elementary	12 weeks	0 - 19	2.0		Elementary Level 2
A1+	44 - 54		Elementary					
A2-	55 - 65		Pre-Intermediate					
A2	66 - 76	55-87	Pre-Intermediate	12 weeks	20 - 39	3.0	KET	Pre-Operational Level 3
A2+	77 - 87		Pre-Intermediate					
B1-	88 - 98		Intermediate			3.5		
B1	99 - 109	88-120	Intermediate	18 weeks	40 - 59	4.0	PET, BEC Prelim, TOEIC 500	Operational Level 4
B1+	110 - 120		Intermediate			4.5		
B2-	121 - 131		Upper-Intermediate			5.0		
B2	132 - 142	121-153	Upper-Intermediate	24 weeks	60 - 74	5.5	FCE, BEC Vantage TOEIC 750	Extended Level 5
B2+	143 - 153		Upper-Intermediate			6.0		
C1-	154 - 164		Advanced			6.5		
C1	165 - 175	154-186	Advanced	24 weeks	75 - 89	7.0	CAE, BEC Higher TOEIC 900	Expert Level 6
C1+	176 - 186		Advanced			7.5		
C2-	187 - 197	187+	Proficiency			8.0		
C2	198		Proficiency		90 - 100	9.0		

Beginner: Has little or no English.

Elementary: Can use and understand basic survival language. Can process simple information.

Pre Intermediate: Can communicate in simple, everyday situations. Can express some opinions and emotions.

Intermediate: Independent learner, with fair use of main skills, common vocabulary and structures.

Upper Intermediate: Has fairly good English, but with some errors and gaps. Needs consolidation of structures and skills.

Advanced: Creative, flexible language user with excellent all round fluency, accuracy and appropriateness.

* The numbers given in the chart are based on averages and are to be seen as guides only. Actual progression rates will vary according to the circumstances of each individual learner.