

What language level are you?

Diagnostic Self-Assessment Form

The 'can do' statements below are designed to help you to choose the right language level. Our levels are known as Stages. Please tick the appropriate statements to help you to decide which Stage you would like to enrol for. Please note that topics for each Stage cover the whole year divided into 3 terms.

If you are not sure of your level, or have any questions, please contact our Customer Service Team who may be able to put you in contact with a tutor for further advice.

Stage 1

- I have no previous knowledge of this language.
- I know only a few words and phrases in this language, e.g. hello and goodbye.

If you ticked either box in this section, join a Stage 1 course. Do not continue to tick any other.

Stage 2

- I can greet people and make introductions.
- I can give personal information (e.g. name, occupation, age and nationality etc).
- I can order light meals and drinks.
- I can shop for food and understand prices.
- I can book accommodation and understand hotel facilities.
- I can ask for and understand simple directions (e.g. left/right/go straight ahead etc).
- I can enquire about the location of buildings and opening and closing times.
- I can understand numbers up to 100.

To join a Stage 2 course, you need to have ticked at least 6 boxes in this section.

Stages 3 and 3+

- I can describe daily routines using present tenses.
- I can talk about leisure activities and interests.
- I can talk about past events at a basic level.
- I can talk about likes, dislikes and preferences.
- I can talk about future plans and arrangements at a basic level.
- I can make, accept and refuse invitations.
- I can shop for clothes (colour, size, etc).
- I can say what the weather is like.
- I can describe people (physical and character).
- I can cope with restaurant situations (e.g. booking, menus and payment).

To join a Stage 3 course, you need to have ticked at least 4 boxes in this section. To join a Stage 3+ course you need to have ticked at least 7 boxes in this section.

Stages 4 and 4+

- I can talk about past events, using two or more past tenses.
- I can use standard phrases to make telephone calls.
- I can express opinions and preferences.
- I can ask for advice using appropriate polite forms.
- I can make and deal with some problems/complaints at restaurants/hotels/shops etc.
- I can talk fairly confidently about future events and plans for weekends and holidays.
- I can ask for information about buying a house.
- I can talk about different jobs.
- I can make a medical appointment and describe illnesses at a fairly basic level.
- I can describe items in shape, size, colour and material.
- I can understand the gist of a longer text.
- I can write a simple letter or email with accuracy.

To join a Stage 4 course, you need to have ticked at least 5 boxes in this section. To join a Stage 4+ course, you need to have ticked at least 8 boxes in this section.

Stages 5 and 5+

- I can speak and write using different past tenses.
- I can use the conditional tense.
- I can use the future tense.
- I can use a variety of pronouns and prepositions to some extent.
- I can understand some authentic listening and reading material.
- I have an adequate vocabulary to enable me to communicate on different topics.
- I can use some advanced vocabulary to express my ideas.
- I can deal with more complex complaints, e.g. faulty goods.
- I can make comparisons about places and weather.
- I can listen and respond to discussions on a range of straightforward topics.

To join a Stage 5 course, you need to have ticked at least 4 boxes in this section. To join a Stage 5+ course, you need to have ticked at least 8 boxes in this section.

Stages 6 and 6+

- I can use all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) with a certain degree of confidence and accuracy.
- I can use a wide range of tenses such as present, past, future, conditional and the subjunctive mood.
- I can speak and write with some fluency on a variety of topical issues.
- I can identify relevant information from longer audio broadcasts.
- I can read and obtain information of varying length and detail from different sources.
- I can respond to detailed or extended questions on a range of topics.
- I can give a 5 minute presentation on a familiar topic.
- I can confidently deal with aspects of practical daily life in the taught language.

To join a Stage 6 course, you need to have ticked at least 4 boxes in this section. To join a Stage 6+ course, you need to have ticked at least 6 boxes in this section.

Stages 7 and 7+ are available for higher level learners.