



Apri le porte del mondo del lavoro

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CERTIFICATIONS



WHAT IS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CERTIFICATION

Language Certification is a formal, internationally recognized, document that certifies your language knowledge and communicative competence, issued by an accredited institution.

Crucial to career and study prospects!

WHY AN INTERNATIONAL LINGUISTIC CERTIFICATION

In a working environment, it:

- Enriches the curriculum;
- Facilitates the entrance in job world, constituting a surplus value in the European context;
- Is useful for international companies that need to hire employees who can speak foreign languages;
- Efficaciously replaces expressions such as "good knowledge of English" in your resume



WHY AN INTERNATIONAL LINGUISTIC CERTIFICATION

In the university environment:

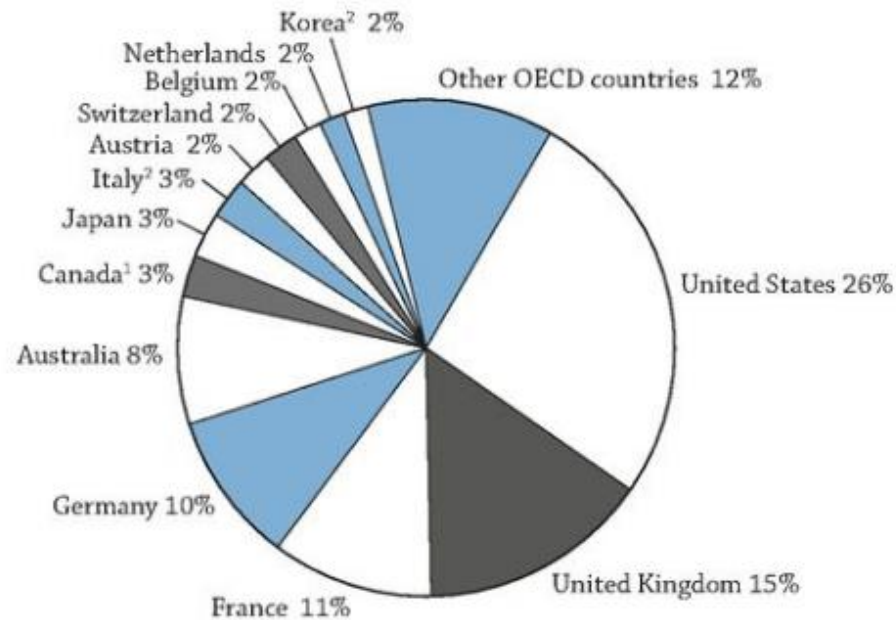
- Useful for those who want to study abroad – compulsory to enroll in some European universities;
- In Italy it is mandatory to have a language certification to apply for many universities and post-university schools.



STUDYING ABROAD: GLOBAL TRENDS

Distribution of foreign and international students in OECD countries at the Master and PhD or equivalent levels, by country of destination (2014)


International tertiary students in each country of destination, as a percentage of the OECD total



1. Data refer to foreign instead of international students.

2. Year of reference 2013.

Source: OECD. Table C4.5. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

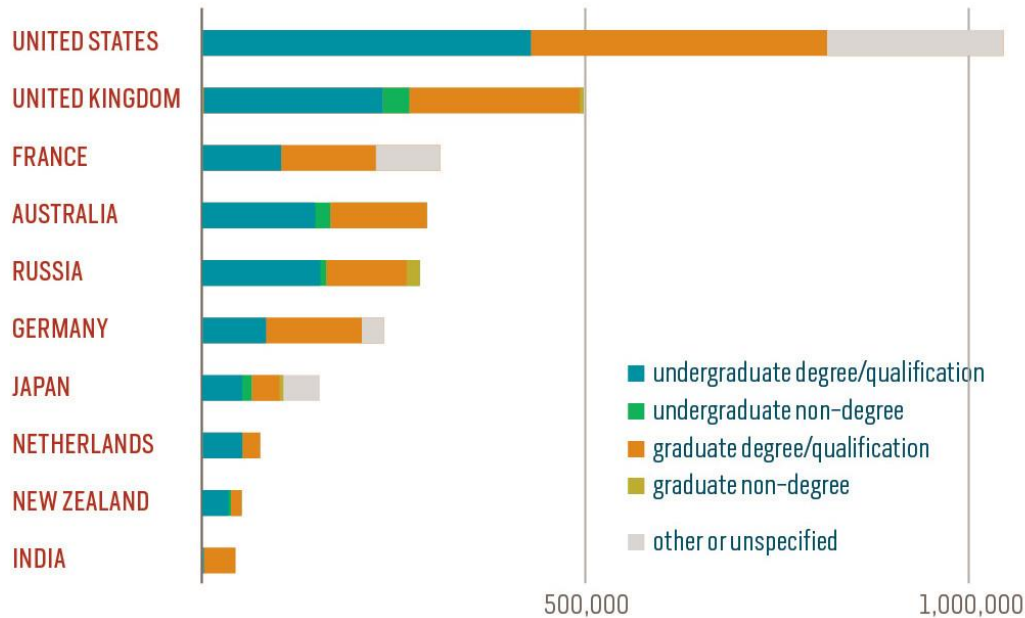
StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933398548>

STUDYING ABROAD: GLOBAL TRENDS

Project Atlas® is an initiative of the INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION and also receives support from partner countries and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. Online at: www.iie.org/projectatlas



ACADEMIC LEVELS & DEGREE TYPES OF IN-BOUND STUDENTS



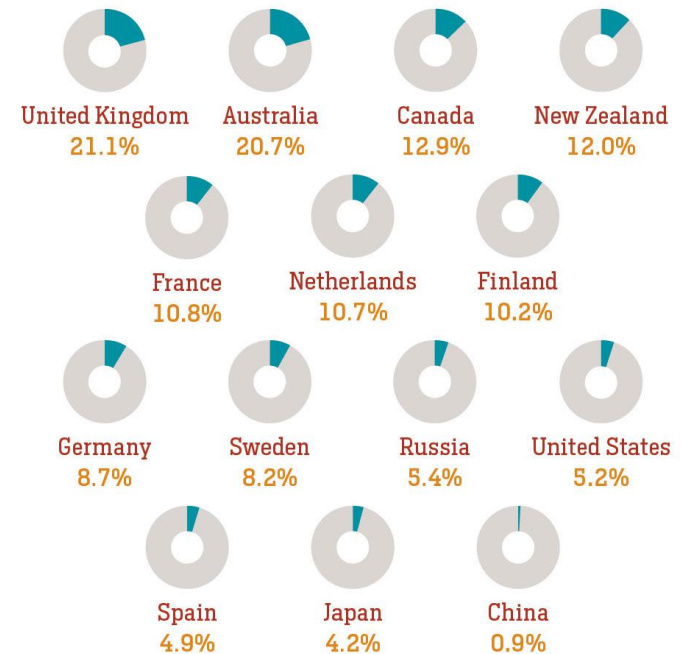
Source: Project Atlas, 2016

The U.K., Australia, Canada, and New Zealand

host the largest shares of international students in comparison to their total higher education populations.

Source: Project Atlas, 2016

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL HIGHER EDUCATION



Source: Project Atlas (<https://www.iie.org/en/Research-and-Insights/Project-Atlas/Tools/Current-Infographics>)



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

Common Reference levels – Global scale

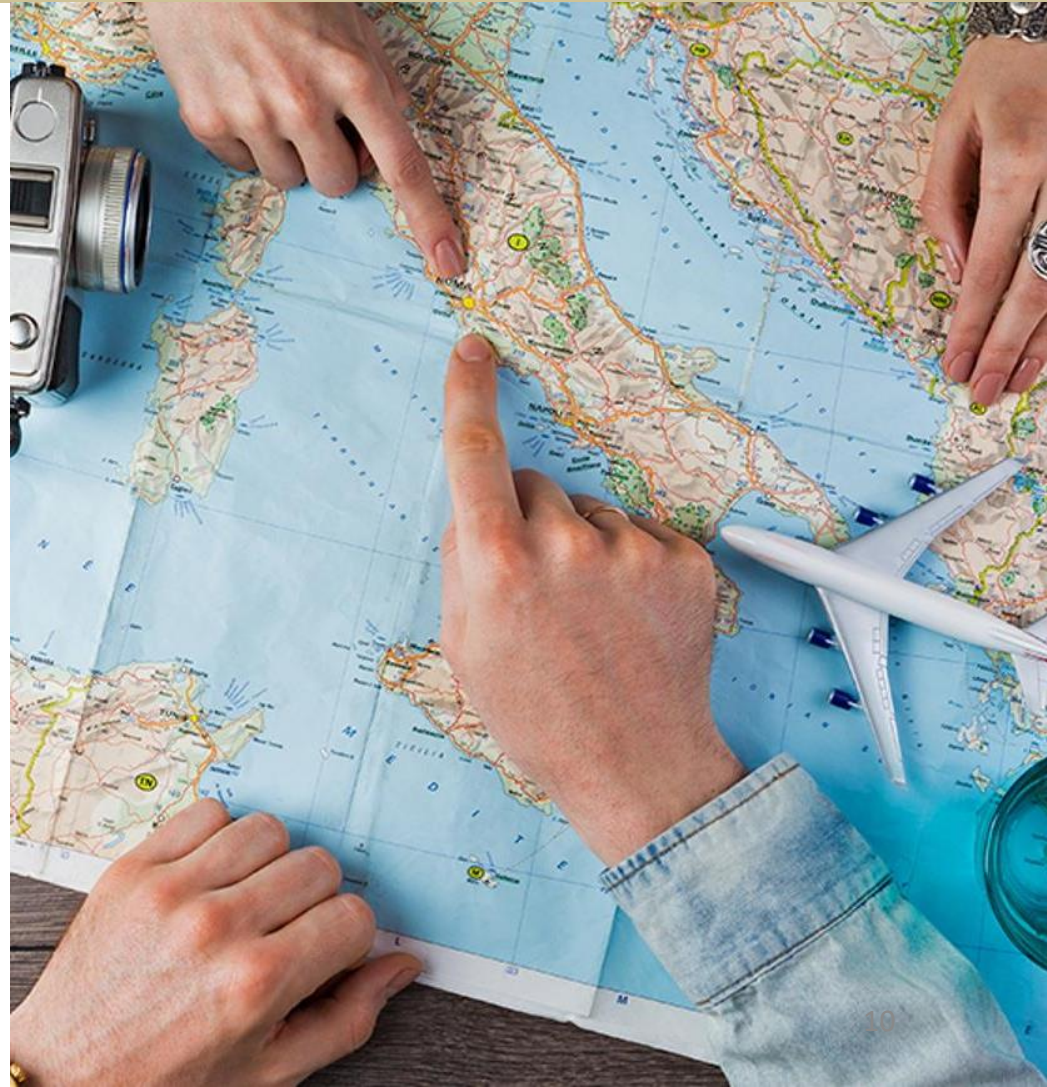
PROFICIENT USER	C2	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.
	C1	Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
INDEPENDENT USER	B2	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
	B1	Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes & ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
BASIC USER	A2	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
	A1	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

Common Reference levels - Self-assessment grid

		A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2
UNDERSTANDING	Listening	I can recognise familiar words and very basic phrases concerning myself, my family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.	I can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. I can understand the main point of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	I can understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar. I can understand most TV news and current affairs programmes. I can understand the majority of films in standard dialect.	I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly. I can understand television programmes and films without too much effort.	I have no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, even when delivered at fast native speed, provided I have some time to get familiar with the accent.
	Reading	I can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.	I can read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus and timetables and I can understand short simple personal letters.	I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.	I can read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints. I can understand contemporary literary prose.	I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I can understand specialised articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.	I can read with ease virtually all forms of the written language, including abstract, structurally or linguistically complex texts such as manuals, specialised articles and literary works.
SPEAKING	Spoken Interaction	I can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help me formulate what I'm trying to say. I can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.	I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. I can handle very short social exchanges, even though I can't usually understand enough to keep the conversation going myself.	I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).	I can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible. I can take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining my views.	I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skilfully to those of other speakers.	I can take part effortlessly in any conversation or discussion and have a good familiarity with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. I can express myself fluently and convey finer shades of meaning precisely. If I do have a problem I can backtrack and restructure around the difficulty so smoothly that other people are hardly aware of it.
	Spoken Production	I can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where I live and people I know.	I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job.	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to my field of interest. I can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.	I can present a clear, smoothly-flowing description or argument in a style appropriate to the context and with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.
WRITING	Writing	I can write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings. I can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering my name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form.	I can write short, simple notes and messages relating to matters in areas of immediate needs. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something.	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.	I can write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to my interests. I can write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view. I can write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.	I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can select style appropriate to the reader in mind.	I can write clear, smoothly-flowing text in an appropriate style. I can write complex letters, reports or articles which present a case with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points. I can write summaries and reviews of professional or literary works.

WHAT KIND OF CERTIFICATES SHOULD I ADD TO MY CV?

- Standardized and rigorous certification based on the Common European Framework of Reference
- Accepted and recognized by employers all over the world



ENGLISH CERTIFICATION CAMBRIDGE



CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Learn • Discover • Achieve

- Cambridge examinations evaluates linguistic and communicative competence
- Recognized by more than 20 000 institutions and companies around the world
- Reliable, trustworthy and impartial
- Based on the levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages



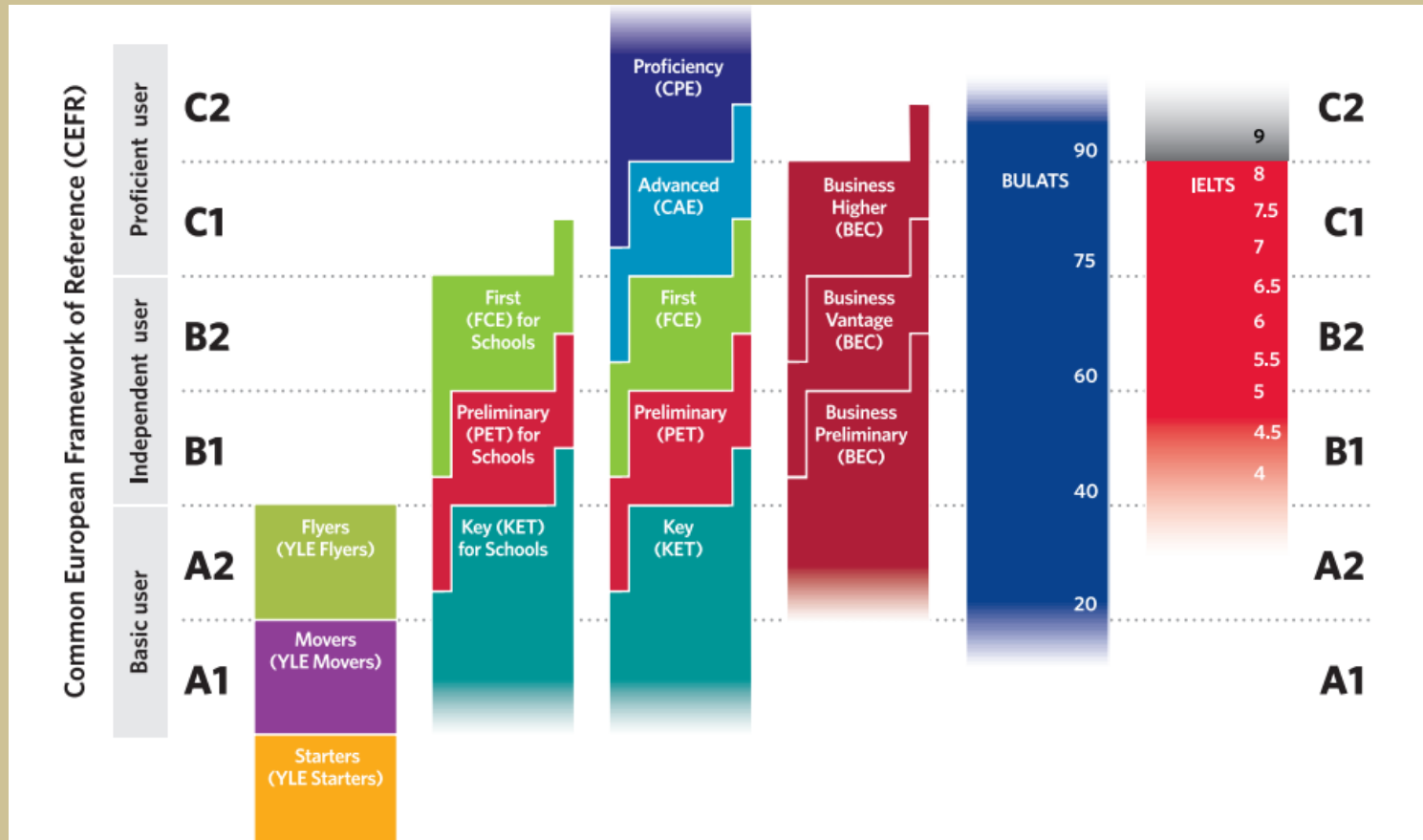
ENGLISH CERTIFICATION CAMBRIDGE



CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Learn • Discover • Achieve

A RANGE OF EXAMS TO MEET DIFFERENT NEEDS



ENGLISH CERTIFICATION CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH



CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Learn • Discover • Achieve

First (FCE)

Reading and Use of English:
1 hour 15 minutes

Shows that you can understand texts from publications such as books, newspapers and magazines.

Writing:
1 hour 20 minutes

Shows that you can write different text types, such as an essay, report or a letter.

Listening:
40 minutes

Shows that you can follow a range of spoken materials, such as news and everyday conversations.

Speaking:
14 minutes

Shows that you can communicate effectively in face-to-face situations. You take the test with one or two other candidates.

Advanced (CAE)

Reading and Use of English:
1 hour 30 minutes

Shows that you can understand texts from publications such as fiction and non-fiction books, journals, newspapers and magazines.

Writing:
1 hour 30 minutes

Shows that you can produce two different pieces of writing, including an essay.

Listening:
40 minutes

Shows that you can follow and understand a range of spoken materials.

Speaking:
15 minutes

Shows that you can communicate in a real-life context. You take the test face-to-face with one or two other candidates.

Source: Cambridge English: First (<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/it/exams/first/>);
Cambridge English: Advanced (<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/it/exams/advanced/>)

CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH IELTS (INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM)

- Recognized by more than 10 000 institutions and companies in Great Britain, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, as well as about 3 000 institutions in the United States.

4 Sections:

- Listening
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Speaking
-
- Length: 3 hours



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Source: <https://www.ielts.org/>

TWO TEST VERSION

- **General:** for those who will move to Anglo-Saxon countries for secondary education, work experience or training programs;
- **Academic:** for those who apply to foreign universities.

It uses a nine-band scale to clearly identify levels of proficiency, from non-user (band score 1) through to expert (band score 9).



Learn • Discover • Achieve



ENGLISH CERTIFICATION TOEFL (TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE)

- Internet-based (iBT) or Paper-based (pBT). The iBT is the most common
- Accepted by more than 9 000 institutions in 130 countries
- Standard test in the United States

4 Sections:

- Listening
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Speaking
-
- Length: 3 hours



- The iBT score ranges from 1 to 120, and each section is rated from 0 to 30. The final score is composed by the sum of the scores of the individual sections
- Valid for 2 years

HOW TO CHOOSE THE TEST THAT FITS BEST FOR YOU



Check the university or institution requirements.

- Cambridge and IELTS are the standard in Commonwealth countries.
- TOEFL is widely used in the United States.

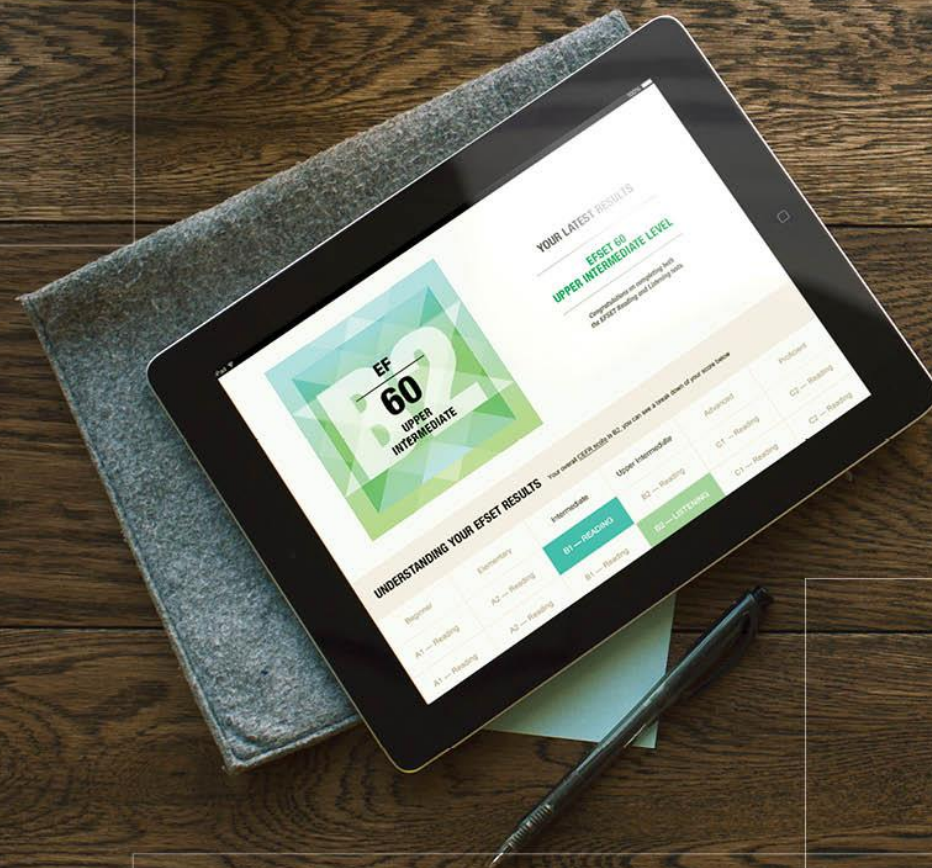


HOW TO TEST YOUR ENGLISH LEVEL?

- EFSET is a free online test that allows you to evaluate your English level
- Developed in collaboration with language testing specialists
- The results are reliable and comparable to standard certifications
- Starting point to decide which exam to choose and how to prepare



EF STANDARD ENGLISH TEST



HOW TO TEST YOUR ENGLISH LEVEL?



SET

EF STANDARD ENGLISH TEST

EFSET PLUS	CEFR Level	TOEFL ³	IELTS ⁴
1 - 30	A1 Beginner	N/A	N/A
31 - 40	A2 Elementary	N/A	N/A
41 - 50	B1 Intermediate	42 - 71	4.0 - 5.0
51 - 60	B2 Upper Intermediate	72 - 94	5.5 - 6.5
61 - 70	C1 Advanced	95 - 120	7.0 - 8.0
71 - 100	C2 Proficient	N/A	8.5 - 9.0

NOT ONLY ENGLISH... BUT ALSO GERMAN!



DSH: Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang ausländischer Studienbewerber



DAF: Test Deutsch als Fremdsprache für ausländische Studienbewerber



Recognized by all German-speaking universities!

NOT ONLY ENGLISH... FRENCH!



DELF (*Diplôme d'Etudes en
Langue Française*)

DALF (*Diplôme Approfondi
de Langue Française*)



Official certification by the French Ministry of Education recognized by institutions and companies in the French-speaking countries



NOT ONLY ENGLISH... SPANISH!



DELE: *Diplomas de Español como Lengua Extranjera*



Released by the Cervantes Institute, are recognized by many institutions and companies in

6 levels corresponding to the QER



HOW TO PREPARE?



Go abroad for an exam preparation course in the country where the language is spoken → IMMERSION!



Even if you feel that you have a good level, remember that the understanding and conversation skills you need to prepare for an examination require continuous and intensive exposure to the language.



The time it takes to prepare an exam may vary depending on your previous knowledge: if you take a language course, consider it a minimum of 8 weeks.



Read, Watch Movies, Exercise!



THANK YOU FOR
THE ATTENTION

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www.ef-italia.it/unitour



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