

I want to sign up for a Language Institute Class. Where do I fit in? What is my level?

Level 1 (A1)

You are beginning to learn English. You are learning words and beginning to make sentences.

Level 2 (A2)

You are using basic sentence patterns and groups of a few words in order to communicate limited information in simple everyday situations.

You use some simple structures correctly, but still make basic mistakes.

You can make yourself understood in very short sentences.

You can answer questions and respond to simple statements. You are not able to understand enough to keep conversation going on your own.

You can link groups of words with simple connectors like "and," "but" and "because".

Level 3 (B1)

You have enough language to get by, to express yourself with some hesitation and on topics such as family, hobbies and interests, work, travel, and current events.

You can keep going even though pausing for grammar and sentence planning.

You can start and continue a face-to-face conversation on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. You can repeat back part of what someone has said to confirm mutual understanding.

Level 4 (B2)

You have enough language to give clear descriptions, express viewpoints on most general topics, without much searching for words, using some complex sentence forms.

You show a relatively high degree of grammatical control. You do not make errors which cause misunderstanding, and can self-correct most of your mistakes.

You can start conversations, take your turn when appropriate and end conversation when you need to. You can help the discussion along on familiar ground confirming comprehension, inviting others in, etc. You need more practice with pronunciation and presentations.

Level 5 (C1)

You have a broad range of language and can express yourself clearly in an appropriate style on a wide range of general, academic, professional or leisure topics without having to restrict what you want to say. You maintain a high degree of grammatical accuracy; errors are rare, difficult to spot and generally self-corrected when they do occur. You can express yourself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. You can produce clear, smoothly-flowing, well-structured speech, showing controlled use of organizational patterns. You want to increase your vocabulary and talk about deeper issues. You are learning and using idioms and beginning to understand humor. You can read extensively to prepare for class.

Level 6 (C2)

A C2 level of English is essentially a native level. It allows for reading and writing of any type on any subject, nuanced expression of emotions and opinions, and active participation in any academic or professional setting. Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read.