

DESCRIPTION OF LEVELS

The following descriptors give a general idea of what a student can do at each level. Stafford House International levels are given, as well as the equivalent Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

LEVEL	LISTENING/SPEAKING	READING	WRITING
BEGINNER Beginner A1 of CEFR 10 – 29 on GSE	Can recognize a few words of English. Can recognize high frequency greetings and respond.	Can understand familiar phrases in a simple text. Can understand short written notices, signs and instructions with visual support.	Can spell their names and a few other words of English Can write simple isolated phrases and sentences.
ELEMENTARY A2 of CEFR 30 – 42 on GSE	Can understand basic instructions in class. Can ask simple questions of a factual nature. Can take part in a basic factual conversation on a predictable topic. Can introduce themselves and others and ask and answer questions about personal details.	Can understand simple notices and information, and simple directions to places.	Can leave a very simple message or write short, simple 'thank you' notes. Can write notes including times, dates and places.
PRE-INTERMEDIATE B1 of CEFR 43-50 on GSE	Can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure etc., including short narratives.	Can understand the general meaning of a simple text. Can understand straightforward information such as a standard menu or a road sign.	Can write a very short narrative or description such as 'My last holiday'. Can complete most forms related to personal information.
INTERMEDIATE B1+ of CEFR 51-58 on GSE	Can follow everyday conversation or informal interview on common topics. Can understand a large part of many TV programs on familiar topics Can report the opinions of others, using simple language. Can repeat back what is said to confirm understanding and keep a discussion on course.	Can distinguish between fact and opinion in relation to common topics. Can generally understand details of events, feelings and wishes in letters, emails and online postings.	Can write short, simple biographies about real or imaginary people. Can write a basic email/letter of complaint requesting action. Can respond to and comment on other people's personal updates on a social media website.
UPPER INTERMEDIATE B2 of CEFR 59-75 on GSE	Can give a clear presentation on a familiar topic, and answer predictable or factual questions. Can discuss topics currently in the news.	Can scan texts for relevant information and grasp main point of view. Can understand detailed instructions or advice.	Can make notes while someone is talking. Can write a letter including non-standard responses.
ADVANCED C1 of CEFR 76 – 84 on GSE	Can follow abstract arguments. Can keep up conversations for an extended period of time with a good degree of fluency and range of expression.	Can understand complex opinions and arguments as expressed in serious newspapers.	Can express themselves fluently in writing, adapting the level of formality to the context. Can write an essay which shows ability to communicate. Can write letters on most subjects. Can prepare professional correspondence.
PROFICIENT C2 of CEFR 85 – 90 on GSE	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard. Can use a range of language close to their own. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of proficient meaning.	Can understand with ease virtually everything read. Can recognise the nuances of idiomatic English.	Can easily demonstrate mastery of the English Language in a variety of written forms.