



Center for Applied Linguistics and Language Studies
English Language Program
Course Description

Course Name: Proficiency I

Course Code: Proficiency I

What will I learn?

Through this course, you will develop level:

- accuracy and fluency in speaking and writing
- awareness of the writing process
- reading sub-skills
- listening sub-skills

What is the level of this course?

This course aims at the C1 and C2 levels of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

At C1 level you can:

- understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning.
- express them self fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.
- use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic, and professional purposes.
- produce clear, well structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns connectors and cohesive devices.

At C2 level you can:

- understand with ease virtually everything heard or read.
- summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation.
- express themselves spontaneously very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.

What are the components of the course?

The course content includes vocabulary, grammar, speaking, listening and DVD, reading, writing and educational technology components.

- The **topics** covered in the reading, writing, speaking and listening components are; Let's talk, remarkable people and events, well-being, society and civilization, all about the job, public opinions and ethics, law and enforcement, facing fears, money and spending, the key to success.
- The **listening** component consists of listening to a variety of authentic radio interviews and commentaries, book discussions, excerpts from books and magazines, interviews about tourism, conversations and discussions about TV programs and interviews with editors and tour guides, friends talking about behavior, people talking about advertising campaigns, a short story extract, an extract from a play, radio programs, and a lecture about economics.
- The **reading** component consists of reading adapted and authentic texts (1000+ words) tourist board website, news stories, articles from magazines, news reports and stories, poems, and magazine stories.
- The **writing** component consists of writing ideas in a proposal, organizing discussion writing, writing instructions, using cohesive devices in our writing, and writing descriptive narratives.

- The **speaking** component consists of pronunciation practice, discussing topics such as what makes a good friend, persuading people to hear your ideas, describing strange events, extending and role playing dialogues, creating a front-page news story, recommending places to visit, and giving both sides of an argument, pronunciation practice and simulating a community meeting, planning and presenting a five-minute speech, conduct a class debate, develop and perform a public service announcement, role-play a school board meeting.
- The **grammar** component consists of: time expressions with past simple and past perfect, cleft sentences, relative clauses with prepositions, inversion, phrases referring to the past, reflexive pronouns and participle pronouns, definite and indefinite articles, count and non-count nouns and their quantifiers, infinitives and gerunds, verb + gerund - two forms, two meanings, direct and indirect speech, passive voice and passive causative, verb tense review, modals: degrees of certainty.
- The **vocabulary** component consists of prepositions and phrases, intensifying adverbs, connotations, euphemisms, near synonyms, word building (prefixes) and work expressions, word pairs, dramatic verbs, phrases with get, phrasal nouns, metaphors, and phrases with time, idiomatic phrases, noun collocations, antonyms and other colloquial language.

ECPE Preparation Component: The course content includes writing, reading, speaking, and listening components.

- The writing component consists of students being trained in essay writing skills. Students will write at least one essay per week.
- The reading component consists of reading test task types, through which students reading skills are developed, as well as their background knowledge.
- The speaking component consists of group discussions, as well as practice in the types of speaking activities found in the final of the ECPE.
- The listening component consists of listening to and thoroughly going over practice tests for the ECPE, along with practicing the sub skills of listening. Students will also be given instruction in how to develop their note taking skills.
- The grammar component of the course consists of the class going over the grammar items contained in all the practice tests covered. Students will be helped to apply their knowledge of grammar rules through elicitation and discussion of the distracters. Students will also be helped to focus on the function and meaning of the stems of questions in the test.
- The vocabulary component of this course consists of the class going over the vocabulary contained in each of the practice tests, as well as consolidation through reading, speaking and writing.
- Students will also receive training in taking timed tests and strategies for the test.