

DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

FOR MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Assess your own language level

These tests are designed to help you to find the right level when you enrol on a course. Use the [level descriptors](#) to identify where you think you might be and then try the appropriate test. Further guidance will be provided by the tutor at the 1st class.

TEST 1: Try this test to choose between Starters and Improvers

TEST 2: Try this test to choose between Improvers and Intermediate 1

TEST 3: Try this test to choose between Intermediate 1 and Intermediate 2

TEST 4: Try this test to choose between Intermediate 2 and Advanced 1

TEST 5: Try this test to choose between Advanced 1 and Advanced 2

If your competence in the language is beyond the Advanced 2 Level, join a Language Circle.

TEST 1

Try this test to choose between Starters and Improvers

Give yourself a point for every 'yes' answer then refer to the guide at the bottom to work out which level is probably the most suitable for you

1. Can you give basic personal details? e.g., name, age, job, where you live
2. Can you greet, thank, and take leave of people correctly depending on the time of day and relationship? e.g., hello / goodbye; good morning / good evening; see you later; please / thank you, etc.
3. Can you order snacks and drinks in a café / restaurant? e.g., 2 beers and an orange juice; a steak and chips; a ham sandwich
4. Can you state simply what you want in a shop or market, specifying quantity / weight? e.g., 1 kg. apples, 6 oranges, 250g. mushrooms
5. Can you ask where places are and understand straightforward directions? e.g., Is there a bank near here? Where is the station, please? Turn left / right; go straight ahead; take the second on the left; opposite the Town Hall, etc.
6. Can you ask for tickets at the railway station? e.g., 2 return tickets to Dijon / Dresden / Granada / Florence, etc. Could you ask what time the train departs / arrives and understand the reply?
7. Can you ask for a room at a hotel, simply specifying your requirements? e.g., a double room with bath / a single room with shower / for 2 nights
8. Do you understand common signs and notices? e.g., signposts to places in a town; opening hours; no smoking; no parking; entrance / exit
9. Can you talk simply about your likes and dislikes? e.g., I like football; I don't like dogs; I like going to the cinema

10. Can you understand numbers if spoken slowly, (e.g., prices, times)?

How did you score on Test 1?

If you scored less than 8 'yes' answers, go for Starter course.

If you scored 8 or more 'yes' answers, try [Test 2](#)

TEST 2

Try this test to choose between Improvers and Intermediate 1

Give yourself a point for every 'yes' answer then refer to the guide at the bottom to work out which level is probably the most suitable for you.

1. Can you exchange basic personal information? e.g., name; age; where you live; what you do for a living; whether you're married / single / divorced, etc; how many children / brothers / sisters you have
2. Can you talk simply about your daily routine? e.g., what time you get up; what you eat for breakfast; your working hours; how you spend your day
3. Can you talk simply about past activities? e.g. what you did last weekend, yesterday evening,, etc.
4. Can you write a holiday postcard saying where you have been and what you have seen / done?
5. Can you talk about how you spend your free time - what you like to do, how often, etc? e.g., In the evening I like to watch TV/I go to the gym twice a week
6. Can you describe what you want when shopping for clothes, shoes or souvenirs (colour / size / quantity)?
Can you ask if they have anything bigger/ smaller / cheaper / in another colour?
7. Can you understand simple expressions about the weather? e.g., it's sunny / cold / cloudy / raining
8. Can you request and understand basic tourist information? e.g., where to go and what to see in a town; information on public transport; directions to places of interest; facilities in a hotel?
9. Can you understand the gist of simple tourist leaflets, timetables, hotel / restaurant guides, etc.
10. Can you understand numbers spoken at near normal speed, e.g., prices, times, requesting the speaker to repeat / speak more slowly if necessary?

How did you score on Test 2?

If you scored less than 8 'yes' answers on this test, but more than 8 'yes' answers on Test 1, go for Improvers

If you scored 8 or more 'yes' answers, try [Test 3](#)

TEST 3

Try this test to choose between Intermediate 1 and Intermediate 2

Give yourself a point for every 'yes' answer then refer to the guide at the bottom to work out which level is probably the most suitable for you

1. Can you talk about yourself and family and understand others giving similar information? e.g., age, job, appearance, daily / weekly routine, likes / dislikes,
2. Can you talk about your spare time activities, saying what you did / plan to do/ would like to do during a period of free time
3. Can you describe where you live? e.g., location / size of your town or region and main amenities / features of interest; location of your house / flat, number and type of rooms, equipment and facilities
4. Can you talk simply about past and future holidays - where you have been and what you thought of it, where you plan or would like to go and why?
5. Can you arrange a social event with friends, agreeing where to go and when?
6. Can you explain your requirements when booking accommodation, both orally and in writing?
7. Can you read and understand a menu with a selection of typical dishes, ask questions about a particular dish / regional specialty and order a full meal?
8. Can you explain what you need when buying food, clothing, gifts, souvenirs and understand information about price?

9. Can you request and understand information on places to visit, opening times, local festivals and excursions and book places where necessary?
10. Can you obtain the necessary information to make a journey by public transport? e.g., frequency of service, departure/arrival times, facilities on journey, price reductions or supplements

How did you score on Test 3?

If you scored less than 8 'yes' answers on this test, but more than 8 'yes' answers on Test 2, go for Intermediate 1

If you scored 8 or more 'yes' answers, try [Test 4](#)

TEST 4

Try this test to choose between Intermediate 2 and Advanced 1

Give yourself a point for every 'yes' answer then refer to the guide at the bottom to work out which level is probably the most suitable for you

1. Can you talk in some detail about yourself and others, including personal information, daily / weekly routines, spare time activities and future plans
2. Can you describe in some detail where you live? e.g. location / size of your town or region and main amenities / features of interest; what you like / dislike about the town / region; location of your house / flat, number and type of rooms, equipment and facilities
3. Can you talk about past and future holidays - where you have been, what there was to see and do, what the weather was like, and what you thought of it, where you plan or would like to go and why?
4. Can you talk about your childhood? e.g., where you were born, how many in the family, where you lived, what your mother / father did, what life was like
5. Can you talk and ask about food in terms of ingredients, preferences, allergies, recipes, local specialities, etc.?
6. Can you explain confidently what you need and ask/understand advice in a variety of everyday situations? e.g., in shops, banks, post offices, hotels, petrol stations, train stations, car hire firms
7. Can you complain if something goes wrong in the hotel or restaurant? e.g., TV not working; food undercooked /not fresh

8. Can you arrange a medical appointment, describe simply what is wrong and understand dosage instructions for medicines prescribed?
9. Can you describe lost property, saying when and where it was lost?
10. Can you arrange a social event with friends, discussing options, stating preferences and agreeing where to go and when?

How did you score on Test 4?

If you scored less than 8 'yes' answers on this test, but more than 8 'yes' answers on Test 3, go for Intermediate 2

If you scored 8 or more 'yes' answers, try [Test 5](#)

TEST 5

Try this test to choose between Advanced 1 and Advanced 2

Give yourself a point for every 'yes' answer then refer to the guide at the bottom to work out which level is probably the most suitable for you

1. Can you cope confidently with a range of everyday situations when travelling abroad, and deal with any unpredictable situation which may arise?
2. Do you use a range of tenses in your speech? e.g., can you talk about something that happened yesterday, about something that used to happen in the past, about something you will do when you have the time, or something you would do if you had the money?
3. Can you talk about your preferences in relation to films, music, books, TV, etc. and ask others about their views?
4. Can you express emotions and opinions? – e.g. I'm pleased / unhappy / annoyed; I think that ... / in my opinion ...
5. Can you agree and disagree, giving reasons for your views?
6. Can you cope well with spoken numbers, e.g., times and prices?
7. When listening to a news broadcast, can you pick out the main headlines?
8. Can you read and understand the gist of a variety of texts, including straightforward newspaper and magazine articles?
9. Can you write a letter to a friend describing a past event?

10. Can you write a formal letter, using the correct forms of greeting and reasonable grammatical accuracy?

How did you score on Test 5?

If you scored less than 5 'yes' answers on this test, but more than 8 'yes' answers on Test 4, go for Advanced
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If you scored 5 or more 'yes' answers, go for Advanced 2

If your competence is beyond the Advanced 2 Level, join a Language Circle