

Cardiff University English for University Study Exit Test: comparison with CEFR and IELTS

Cardiff University EFUS Exit Test	Cardiff EFUS Exit Test Band Descriptors	IELTS Overall Band Score	Common European Framework	CEFR Level Descriptor © Council of Europe
Proficient 90-100%	The candidate is able to express spoken and written meaning flexibly, fluently and precisely on both familiar and unfamiliar topics. Errors in speech or writing are rare. The candidate would cope with ease with the spoken and written English used in an academic environment at any level.	9	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.
		8.5		
		8	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.
A+ 85-89%	Features of the bands above and below.	7.5		
A 80-84%	The candidate is able to express spoken and written meaning with fluency and a degree of precision on familiar and unfamiliar topics. He/she may make occasional errors in writing or speaking but these do not interfere with intended meaning. The candidate would cope with the spoken and written English used in an academic environment.	7		

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B+ 70-79%	Features of the bands above and below.	6.5	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.
B 60-69%	The candidate is able to express spoken and written meaning fluently on familiar and unfamiliar topics. He/she is able to follow the spoken and written language used in an academic context but may need to ask the speaker to paraphrase or repeat. He/she may make errors in speaking and writing but is able to communicate complex ideas successfully.	6		
C+ 50-59%	Features of the bands above and below.	5.5		
C 40-49%	The candidate is able to express spoken and written meaning with some fluency on familiar topics. He/she may struggle to follow spoken/written English if topics are unfamiliar or the language complex. He/she may make frequent errors in speaking and writing and have some difficulty expressing intended meaning.	5	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 in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics, which are familiar, or of personal interest.
D+ 30-39%	Features of the bands above and below.	4.5		
D 20-29%	The candidate is only able to use basic vocabulary and simple structures to talk/write about familiar topics. He/she may not be able to understand spoken/written English even if the topics are familiar. Errors in spoken and written English are frequent and cause strain for the listener / reader.	4		

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<p align="center">E 10-19%</p>	<p>Features of the bands above and below.</p>	<p>3.5</p>	<p align="center">A2</p>	<p>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.</p>
		<p>3</p>		
<p align="center">F Below 10%</p>	<p>The candidate is only able to produce/understand an extremely limited number of words with perhaps memorised phrases related to personal topics. The candidate is not able to communicate beyond word level.</p>	<p>2.5</p>	<p align="center">A1</p>	<p>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.</p>
		<p>2</p>		