

# WELSH LANGUAGE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS



Llywodraeth Cymru  
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# Description of ability in Welsh for all skills and levels

These descriptions give an indication of an individual's level in Welsh for all language skills (Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing).

They relate to recognised qualification and assessment frameworks, namely the National Qualifications Framework; the Welsh for Adults National Curriculum; the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR); and the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE) framework; by the use of 'Can do' statements.

# Language Skill: Speaking

Following the completion of the level, one can:

<b>Entry</b>	Use some familiar everyday expressions, e.g. greetings, thanks. Pronounce place names and names of people. Talk about basic personal things in an informal situation, e.g. interests, family, work, what you did yesterday. Talk about basic topics, e.g. the weather, time, prices.
<b>Foundation</b>	Hold a basic conversation with someone else on a common everyday topic, provided the other speaker helps. Ask and answer questions on familiar topics, e.g. work, hobbies, preferences, things which have happened or future plans.
<b>Intermediate</b>	Hold an extended conversation with a fluent speaker on a familiar topic, e.g. interests or work. Express a view and exchange information on a range of topics to do with everyday life, e.g. hobbies, travel or immediate work-related topics.
<b>Advanced</b>	Talk confidently with fluent speakers on familiar topics related to everyday life or work. Express views, engage in discussion, and speak at length about general topics, e.g. in a meeting, or in a one-to-one situation.
<b>Proficiency</b>	Express myself fully and precisely, even when discussing complex issues. Adapt your language style according to the audience, e.g. when speaking in a formal context or talking to colleagues. Speak at length about a complex issue, presenting arguments, and leading the discussion.

# Language Skill: Listening

Following the completion of the level, one can:

## Entry

Understand everyday expressions, and very basic phrases if the speaker is talking slowly.  
Understand conversations about basic personal information, e.g. where someone lives, works, what they like doing, what they did.  
Guess what is being said when someone is giving details about events, such as time and place.

## Foundation

Understand when people talk about everyday situations, e.g. personal information, work, what they have done or would do, provided they talk slowly.  
Understand when people ask you or others to do something, and when they're asking about future plans, e.g. requesting a meeting.

## Intermediate

Understand information being given about common or everyday topics, or when things to do with work are being discussed, e.g. in conversation, or in small group meetings.  
Usually understand the main message and details, provided people speak clearly, e.g. when announcements are made or when listening to news bulletins.

## Advanced

Usually follow most conversations or discussions, even on topics you're not familiar with.  
Understand most TV and radio programmes for first language speakers, unless they're speaking with a strong unfamiliar accent.

## Proficiency

Easily follow all conversations and discussions between others, on all sorts of topics.  
Understand all kinds of spoken Welsh, including lectures or complex discussions.

# Language Skill: Reading

Following the completion of the level, one can:

## Entry

Understand very short phrases, and can guess what some notices mean.  
Understand short texts where people are giving basic information about themselves or others.  
Usually find details, such as time and cost, in advertisements or notices.

## Foundation

Understand messages about everyday things, and some very basic letters or e-mails, e.g. asking for something, or asking to pass a message on.  
Understand short pieces of texts or very simple books, e.g. books for children.

## Intermediate

Understand straightforward short articles on everyday topics of interest, or to do with work.  
Guess what words mean from the context, when the topic is familiar.  
Understand most e-mails and work-related documents.

## Advanced

Understand most correspondence, and scan through long texts to find details.  
Understand most newspaper articles and reports aimed at first language speakers, with the aid of a dictionary.  
Understand novels and other texts, provided they are not written in a very formal or very colloquial style.

## Proficiency

Read and understand nearly all written texts with ease, with only occasional reference to a dictionary.  
Read long texts, e.g. reports, articles, to find relevant details and understand nearly all types of writing, e.g. formal or informal.

# Language Skill: Writing

Following the completion of the level, one can:

## Entry

Write very simple phrases or sentences about yourself or others.  
Pass on a simple message or make a simple request, e.g. by e-mail.

## Foundation

Write a short note to a friend or colleague, asking for something, thanking them or explaining something, e.g. absence from work.  
Write a short text about a familiar topic, e.g. personal experience, or work-related experience.

## Intermediate

Write a letter on most topics, asking for things, giving explanations, describing experiences, inviting people, or organising an event.  
Write fairly accurately on most familiar topics, e.g. related to interests or work-related.

## Advanced

Write a short article, review or report on a variety of subjects of a general nature, or which are work-related.  
Write detailed and well-structured texts, which are appropriate for the reader.  
Respond accurately to most types of correspondence from colleagues or external contacts.

## Proficiency

Write extended texts, reports, articles, minutes or other types of writing in a style appropriate to the reader.  
Write in formal or informal Welsh as necessary.  
Write with a high degree of accuracy on a wide range of topics.



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