

## Common Framework of Reference

Schools in Saskatchewan use the Common Framework of Reference (CFR) when describing the English language proficiency of students learning English.

A1	Beginner	BASIC USER
A2	Intermediate	
B1	Advanced	INDEPENDENT USER
B2	Transitioned (no formal EAL support)	
C1	Integrated	PROFICIENT USER
C2		

Students in the **first three levels**: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced: **A1, A2, and B1** receive EAL support to improve listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. When a student reaches **B2**, he/she is able to work more independently in the regular classroom.

Good language skills, and the academic language needed at school, are complex and take time to develop. Students progress at different rates. A student may need 5 to 7 years of EAL support to become a proficient user.

<b>Beginner</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands and uses basic words and phrases for personal needs.</li> <li>• Communicates in a simple way if the other person talks slowly and clearly.</li> <li>• Shows limited ability to use simple grammatical structures, e.g. punctuation, capitalization, sentence patterns.</li> <li>• Reads and understands familiar names, words, and very simple sentences.</li> </ul>	<b>A1.1</b>	<b>A1</b>
	<b>A1.2</b>	
<b>Intermediate</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands sentences and basic information about personal needs and family activities.</li> <li>• Communicates about routine activities with some detail.</li> <li>• Uses some simple structures accurately, but makes some basic errors, e.g., verb tenses, use of prepositions, articles.</li> <li>• Reads and understands short, simple texts.</li> </ul>	<b>A2.1</b>	<b>A2</b>
	<b>A2.2</b>	
<b>Advanced</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands the main points of clear standard speech about familiar topics.</li> <li>• Participates in group work, sharing opinions and suggestions.</li> <li>• Produces academic text with support.</li> <li>• Uses reasonably accurate structures and patterns for routine or predictable situations.</li> <li>• Reads and understands academic texts with support.</li> </ul>	<b>B1.1</b>	<b>B1</b>
	<b>B1.2</b>	

Adapted from "A Guide to Using the Common Framework of Reference with Learners of English as an Additional Language", Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, September 2013. For more detailed information, please speak with your child's EAL teacher.