

# University of Delaware, English Language Institute

A 93-100   A- 90-92   B+ 88-89   B 83-87   B- 80-82   C+ 78-79

C 73-77   C- 70-72   D+ 68-69   D 63-67   D- 60-62   F 59 and below

# Achievement Scale for Level Advancement

Written Interpretation of Achievement Scale:  
Students must earn a grade average of C or higher in the course in order to advance to the next level or to be certified as passing a level. That is, students must meet these objectives at a minimum of 73% proficiency in order to earn grades of C average or above.

At the end of the session, students can:

	Basic	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read frequently occurring words</li> <li>Decode unfamiliar words that fit regular spelling patterns</li> <li>Identify main ideas in a beginning reading passage with the help of picture cues</li> <li>Identify recently learned vocabulary in the context of a reading passage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use pre-reading activities to understand a reading.</li> <li>Understand and use target vocabulary</li> <li>Scan for information such as names, dates and numbers.</li> <li>Identify the topic and the main idea of a reading</li> <li>Demonstrate comprehension of the details of each paragraph: who, what, where, when, why and how</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify target high-frequency vocabulary words</li> <li>Prepare to read by looking at titles, pictures, captions, and glosses</li> <li>Recognize and identify the general idea of a reading</li> <li>Recognize and identify the specific ideas of a reading</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the main idea of a reading and of the paragraphs</li> <li>Understand the relationships of ideas within a paragraph and between paragraphs</li> <li>Identify pronoun referents.</li> <li>Guess the meaning of a word from context clues and word forms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify purpose of a reading passage</li> <li>Distinguish between main ideas and details</li> <li>Describe the structure of text</li> <li>Understand inferences</li> <li>Distinguish fact from opinion</li> <li>Determine the meaning of unknown words from context</li> <li>Determine meaning through roots, prefixes, and suffixes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify main ideas and details</li> <li>Identify text organization</li> <li>Identify inferences</li> <li>Use vocabulary learning strategies</li> <li>Identify cohesive devices</li> <li>Recognize point of view, tone, and purpose</li> <li>Understand a range of general and academic vocabulary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use pre-reading strategies</li> <li>Identify main ideas in a short passage</li> <li>Recognize the author's point of view and tone</li> <li>Identify the organization and purpose of a passage</li> <li>Differentiate facts, inferences and opinions</li> <li>Make inferences and predictions about a passage</li> </ul>
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form capital and lower case letters correctly</li> <li>Form simple sentences with a subject, verb and object</li> <li>Use periods and apostrophes</li> <li>Use capital letters for names, the first word in a sentence, and the pronoun I.</li> <li>Use correct placement and spacing of words and sentences on lined paper</li> <li>Spell many common words correctly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write affirmative and negative sentences.</li> <li>Write yes/no questions with short answers and wh-questions.</li> <li>Use correct format: line spacing and margins.</li> <li>Use legible handwriting with correct letter formation, and spacing.</li> <li>Use various S + be sentence patterns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use capital letters and basic punctuation marks correctly.</li> <li>Combine short sentences together with and, but, or, and so</li> <li>Use adverb clauses with before, after, when, and because</li> <li>Write 10-to-12 word sentences with prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, and time expressions</li> <li>Write a one-page, double-spaced, correctly-formatted paragraph</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write with correct format including indenting, line spacing, margins, and titles</li> <li>Write grammatically correct sentences</li> <li>Write with more advanced sentence structures by combining simple sentences to make compound and complex sentences</li> <li>Write well-organized and clear paragraphs</li> <li>Produce a well-developed piece of writing with multiple paragraphs and a clear beginning, middle and ending</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Express ideas in multi-paragraph papers with an introduction, body, and conclusion</li> <li>Write descriptions, summaries, and comparison/contrast papers</li> <li>Organize the paragraphs in a multi-paragraph paper</li> <li>Use correct mechanics (punctuation, indentation, capitalization)</li> <li>Accurately use a range of level-appropriate vocabulary</li> <li>Use sentence transitions accurately</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write clear and correctly punctuated sentences, including punctuating direct speech/quotations</li> <li>Construct cohesive and unified paragraphs and organize texts clearly.</li> <li>Write multi-paragraph papers to express cause/effect, opinions, and arguments.</li> <li>Summarize the main ideas and purpose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paraphrase the ideas of a writer</li> <li>Synthesize multiple sources</li> <li>Summarize the ideas from a text including main ideas and important details</li> <li>Use appropriate transitions, subordinating conjunctions, coordinating conjunctions, and prepositions</li> <li>Express opinions using sound logic, appropriate grammar and advanced vocabulary</li> </ul>
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify nouns, verbs and articles</li> <li>Recognize commands</li> <li>Understand subject pronouns</li> <li>Use basic word order</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The verb Be, the simple present tense and progressive tense</li> <li>There is/There are</li> <li>It with time and weather</li> <li>Singular and plural nouns</li> <li>Subject and object pronouns and possessive adjectives.</li> <li>Demonstrative adjectives after be and before nouns.</li> <li>Adverbs of location and frequency</li> <li>Prepositions of time and place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use object pronouns after verbs and prepositions</li> <li>Use regular and irregular plural nouns</li> <li>Use possessive adjectives and nouns</li> <li>Use common count and non-count nouns</li> <li>Use noun quantifiers and determiners</li> <li>Use the past tense of regular and irregular verbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use future tense with will, be going to</li> <li>Use future tense with time expressions</li> <li>Express the future in time clauses before, after, when, as soon as, and if-clauses</li> <li>Use present perfect tense for indefinite time past, recent past and for activities beginning in past and continuing in present</li> <li>Connect ideas with and, but, or, so, because and even though</li> <li>Use gerunds and infinitives as subjects and objects.</li> <li>Use infinitives of purpose</li> <li>Use too and enough with infinitives</li> <li>Use participial adjectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use restrictive and nonrestrictive adjective clauses</li> <li>Use adverb clauses (to show time, cause and result, and contrast)</li> <li>Use noun clauses</li> <li>Use verb tenses accurately (focusing on simple present, past, and future; present and past perfect)</li> <li>Use the passive voice in the present and past simple tenses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use modal verbs including past tense and passive forms</li> <li>Use subordinate clauses (adjective, adverb, and noun)</li> <li>Reduce adjective clauses to phrases</li> <li>Use gerunds and infinitives.</li> <li>Use real and unreal conditional clauses</li> <li>Use passive voice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use compound and complex sentences</li> <li>Use the subjunctive</li> <li>Use hypothetical conditional sentences</li> <li>Use articles</li> <li>Use adverbial phrases and other modifying phrases</li> </ul>

<b>Listening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate the spoken names and sounds of the letters of the English alphabet with written letters</li> <li>Respond appropriately to simple commands posed by the instructor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the most important ideas from a conversation</li> <li>Understand details that support the main idea</li> <li>Understand the place and time of events</li> <li>Identify the difference in similar sounding consonants (b/p, n/m)</li> <li>Recognize and count syllables</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to a conversation and tell the key words and phrases</li> <li>Listen to a conversation and tell who, what, when, where, and why</li> <li>Listen to a sentence or conversation and write down the words</li> <li>Listen to directions and fill out a chart or complete a picture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand main ideas in recorded conversation</li> <li>Identify stressed words in spoken language</li> <li>Recognize contractions and reductions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand main ideas of a short talk or conversation</li> <li>Identify details of a short talk or conversation</li> <li>Identify a speaker's tone or attitude</li> <li>Take notes to identify main ideas and details in short discussions, conversations, and lectures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand context, purpose, and content in everyday conversation at natural speeds</li> <li>Understand main ideas and key details from authentic radio/TV news reports, interviews, podcasts, and other broadcast media</li> <li>Understand the structure and main ideas of short academic/professional talks and lectures</li> <li>Understand plays and social/entertainment uses of English</li> <li>Understand a broad general English vocabulary and some academic words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand natural speech including reductions and contractions</li> <li>Identify and respond appropriately to a speaker's tone and attitude</li> <li>Understand unadapted academic lectures</li> </ul>
<b>Speaking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use words and phrases for common social interactions (hello, goodbye, thank you, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name objects</li> <li>Use prepositions to describe location</li> <li>Use adjectives to describe people and things</li> <li>Use basic vocabulary to talk about yourself, your family, and daily activities</li> <li>Use appropriate language to talk to your classmates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make introductions and give personal information</li> <li>Get information from others by asking questions.</li> <li>Participate in social conversations</li> <li>Use common conversation functions such as making requests</li> <li>Talk about daily activities.</li> <li>Describe people, places, and things</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use common phrases to begin, end, continue and interrupt conversation</li> <li>Express opinions and agree or disagree</li> <li>Explain a process</li> <li>Report information</li> <li>Ask for clarification and confirmation</li> <li>Retell a story</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summarize the main ideas and details of stories and events</li> <li>Express and support opinions in conversations and discussions</li> <li>Give 3-5 minute presentations</li> <li>Participate effectively in conversations and discussions</li> <li>Use reported speech, real and unreal conditional clauses, and modal verbs correctly</li> <li>Use intermediate vocabulary in planned and unplanned speech</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paraphrase and summarize information from discussions, conversations, lectures, live events, and media recordings</li> <li>Initiate and sustain conversation on both everyday and abstract topics</li> <li>Use pragmatic strategies including opening, closing, follow-up questions, clarification, apologizing, and interrupting</li> <li>Participate appropriately in discussions by expressing opinions, supporting ideas with details, and using effective turn-taking strategies</li> <li>Participate effectively in group presentations about everyday and abstract topics</li> <li>Use correct word order, modal verbs, subordination, relative clauses, verb tenses, and common passive voice expressions</li> <li>Speak with topic-appropriate vocabulary, including some academic terms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summarize read or heard information</li> <li>Express, support, and clarify opinions and arguments</li> <li>Analyze and synthesize read and heard information</li> <li>Use visual techniques and vocal techniques to enhance comprehensibility of a presentation</li> <li>Ask pertinent, grammatical questions after presentations and seminars</li> <li>Interact effectively in formal and informal conversations</li> <li>Use complex, level-appropriate grammar correctly in unplanned speech</li> <li>Use vocabulary from a variety of academic subjects</li> </ul>
<b>Pronunciation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read frequently occurring words aloud in an understandable manner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly pronounce most consonant sounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognize the vowel sounds of English</li> <li>Recognize the major spelling patterns of each vowel sound</li> <li>Count the number of syllables in spoken words</li> <li>Identify the stressed syllables in spoken words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use strategies to improve pronunciation</li> <li>Pronounce -ed and -s endings correctly</li> <li>Use stress in words and sentences</li> <li>Identify rhythm and rhythm groups</li> <li>Identify major patterns of intonation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify reductions and contractions endings in short recordings of natural English</li> <li>Identify syllables and stress patterns within words</li> <li>Produce vowel and consonant sounds in the beginning, middle, and ends of words</li> <li>Produce -s and -ed endings in planned and most unplanned speech</li> <li>Use unstressed vowel sounds in planned and unplanned speech</li> <li>Use thought groups and sentence intonation patterns in planned and some unplanned speech</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pronounce all English consonant sounds, vowel sounds and clusters in planned and unplanned speech</li> <li>Clearly and accurately produce -s and -ed present and past tense verb inflections</li> <li>Identify and produce word stress</li> <li>Accurately produce thought groups and highlight focus words</li> <li>Produce appropriate intonation patterns for statements and questions</li> <li>Use linking in planned and some unplanned speech</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pronounce vowels, consonants, consonant clusters, word endings and linkage mostly correctly in planned and unplanned speech</li> <li>Speak with correct stress in words and sentences in planned and unplanned speech</li> <li>Speak with correct intonation and rhythm in planned and unplanned speech</li> </ul>