

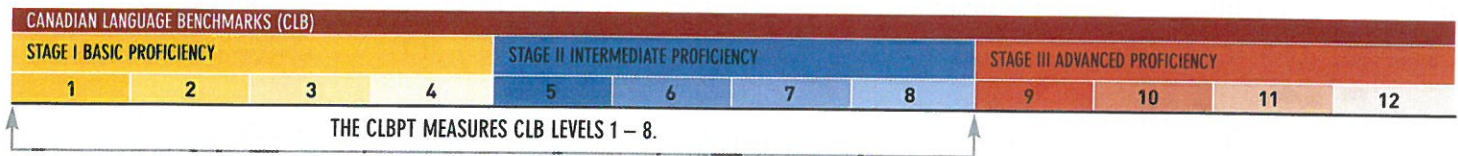
Understanding your Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Test (CLBPT) Assessment Report

What is the Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Test (CLBPT)?

The CLBPT uses the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) to assess how well you use English. Your CLBPT assessment report gives your CLB levels for listening, speaking, reading and writing.

What are the Benchmarks?

The Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) is a 12-level (benchmark) system used to describe listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. The CLBPT measures your ability to use English within the first 8 benchmarks, CLB 1 to 8.

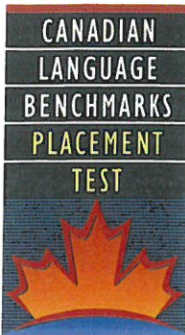


What do my CLBPT Results Mean?

The chart below describes your CLBPT results. Look at the column on the left to find your benchmark, and then look under the skill (listening, speaking, reading, or writing) to understand what your benchmark level means. Your scores might be different for each skill; this is normal. Some people are stronger at listening or speaking and others are stronger at reading or writing.

CLB	Listening	CLB	Speaking	CLB	Reading	CLB	Writing
Pre-CLB	You do not understand English.	Pre-CLB	You do not communicate in English.	Pre-CLB	You do not read English, and may be unfamiliar with the English alphabet.	Pre-CLB	You do not write in English, but you may be able to copy letters or numbers.
STAGE I: BASIC PROFICIENCY							
CLB	Listening	CLB	Speaking	CLB	Reading	CLB	Writing
1	You understand some simple and familiar words. You greet people when they greet you. You need a lot of help to understand what people say.	1	You greet people and give some simple information about yourself. You use only a few words. You need help when you speak.	1	You read the alphabet and common, simple words with the help of pictures.	1	You copy words and numbers. You can write a few words.
2	You understand simple and familiar words, phrases and sentences. You understand basic questions about yourself. You need help to understand what people say.	2	You greet people and give some simple information about yourself. You speak in short sentences. You often don't have the words you need, so you need some help when you speak.	2	You read the alphabet, simple words and very simple sentences about everyday life. You use pictures to help you.	2	You copy words and numbers correctly. You can write a few short, simple sentences about yourself.
3	You understand short sentences about everyday topics. You understand simple questions about yourself and some simple questions about familiar topics. Sometimes you need help to understand what people say.	3	You say a few simple sentences about familiar, everyday topics. You answer simple questions about yourself with single words or short sentences. You sometimes still need help when you speak.	3	You read and understand simple, everyday words. You also understand some basic information from simple, short stories about routine events. You use pictures to help you.	3	You can write short, simple sentences about yourself and things you know well, such as your family or a familiar place.
4	You understand simple questions and information about familiar, everyday topics. You understand when someone talks about what they like and dislike. You only need a little help to understand what people say.	4	You participate in everyday conversations and describe your personal experiences. You use short sentences. You talk about your preferences, your likes and dislikes. You don't need much help when you speak.	4	You read many familiar words and sentences. You understand simple stories about familiar topics. You can also get information from some longer descriptions about less familiar topics.	4	You use short, simple sentences to write a paragraph about a personal experience or other familiar topics.

For more information, visit: www.language.ca



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STAGE II: INTERMEDIATE PROFICIENCY

CLB	Listening	CLB	Speaking	CLB	Reading	CLB	Writing
5	You understand many words and phrases about familiar topics spoken at a normal speed. You also understand some indirect meanings when people talk about familiar topics. You usually don't need help understanding when someone speaks to you, but sometimes you misunderstand what they say.	5	You speak about your personal experiences and describe your likes and dislikes independently. You are beginning to use longer sentences and make clear suggestions and comparisons. You know a lot of common words and some idioms. Sometimes you hesitate or pause. People occasionally have difficulty understanding you when you speak.	5	You understand many familiar and unfamiliar words. You get the main ideas, some details and some indirect meaning in descriptions of somewhat familiar topics. You are beginning to get information from longer, more difficult texts.	5	You describe an event in a paragraph with a clear main idea and some supporting details. You also describe your ideas in some detail or give your opinion. Although you make some mistakes, your sentences show good control of simple grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary.
6	You understand many common words, some less familiar ones, and some idioms. You understand the important details and indirect meanings when someone speaks about familiar topics. You also recognize some details about the speaker's attitude and opinions. You have no trouble understanding someone when they speak to you.	6	You speak about facts and ideas in some detail. You use different grammatical structures and connect your ideas into longer sentences. Your vocabulary is growing and you use some idioms. Although you make mistakes, people don't usually have trouble understanding you. You are reasonably fluent.	6	You understand short texts written in plain English that are a little difficult. You get the main idea, key details and some indirect meanings. You are beginning to understand the writer's purpose, intent and attitude. You get some main points and details from longer, more difficult texts.	6	You describe or compare events, people, places, objects and routines in a paragraph format. You also express an idea or an opinion clearly and include some details to support it. Your simple sentences have only a few errors in spelling, punctuation and vocabulary. You are beginning to use advanced grammar and vocabulary.
7	You understand more difficult, indirect questions about personal experience, familiar topics and general knowledge. You also understand the main points, important details and indirect meanings when someone talks about more abstract ideas. Your vocabulary is expanding and you know more idioms. You have no trouble understanding conversations on familiar topics.	7	You speak comfortably about many different topics. You describe people, places and situations as well as express your opinions, feelings and reservations about a topic. You make detailed comparisons. You are starting to use advanced vocabulary, including many idioms. You make some grammatical mistakes but people can easily understand you. You are reasonably fluent.	7	You understand texts written in plain English that are long and a little difficult. You find and integrate different ideas in the text, or compare and contrast information. You understand texts that deal with facts, opinions and feelings. You get the main points and some details from longer, more difficult texts.	7	You write short paragraphs about familiar, concrete topics and include clear main ideas and some supporting details. You can write a short essay with an appropriate introduction and conclusion. You have fairly good control over grammar, spelling and sentence mechanics. You use advanced vocabulary and grammar, but sometimes your sentences may sound unusual or awkward.
8	You understand many difficult, indirect questions about personal experience, familiar topics and general knowledge. You also understand main points, details, purpose and attitude when others talk about familiar topics as well as abstract and complex ideas. You understand many idioms and expressions and can follow conversations and detailed stories of general interest.	8	You speak comfortably about a range of both familiar and less familiar topics. You provide descriptions, express opinions, and give explanations. You analyze and compare information in order to recommend solutions to a problem. You use advanced vocabulary, including idioms. Your message is clear and rarely interrupted by errors. People rarely have trouble understanding you. You are reasonably fluent.	8	You follow main ideas, key words and important details in texts written in plain English that are long and a little difficult. You find and integrate information across paragraphs. You understand indirect meanings, and the writer's intention in texts about more abstract and conceptual topics. You may sometimes find it difficult to understand some idioms or cultural references in more advanced texts.	8	You express ideas and opinions about familiar or abstract topics in short paragraphs. You link sentences and provide support for the main ideas in a short essay. You have good control over common sentence patterns, grammar and spelling. You use advanced vocabulary and grammar. Occasionally you have difficulty with complex grammar and style, but your message is easy to understand.

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Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks



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