

**OPEN HEARTS LANGUAGE
ACADEMY ACHIEVEMENT SCALE**

Annex 3

BAND	CORE LEVEL	FUNCTIONAL ABILITY
LOW	Pre-Basic	Can understand basic instructions, questions and conversations, and is able to provide accurate information about self and participate in simple dialogues using basic grammar structures accurately. Can comprehend lowercase and capital letters in printed scripts, and can recognize and understand key sight words and word patterns. Able to write personal information and short messages accurately applying capitalization and punctuation rules.
	Basic 1	Can comprehend basic conversations and respond to commands in real life situations and to personal information questions, and deliver a two-minute presentation using limited grammar structures. Able to recognize basic vocabulary and extract information from a short reading to answer simple comprehension questions. Can write brief messages using basic syntax and can fill out forms which request personal information.
	Basic 2	Can understand short presentations, comprehend vocabulary in the context of everyday situations, and recognize the parts of speech that signal differences between present, past and future. Can deliver a five-minute presentation using simple grammar structures, and can respond to basic statements and questions without hesitation. Able to comprehend short paragraphs on familiar topics, identify basic grammar structures from a text, and understand unfamiliar lexis using context clues. Can write short paragraphs based on personal experience incorporating grammar structures effectively.
INTERMEDIATE	Intermediate 1	Able to identify the main topic of a conversation, extract specific information from recorded messages, and identify verb tenses and new vocabulary from a simple conversation. Can present solutions to everyday situations, ask for information in person or by phone, and can deliver an eight-minute presentation using appropriate grammar and vocabulary. Can interpret critical information from a text, understand the elements of a short story, and use context clues to infer meaning. Is able to write a short essay with topic sentences, support, an introduction and conclusion.
	Intermediate 2	Able to comprehend face-to-face conversations spoken at normal speed, identify main ideas, and take notes from a short lecture. Can deliver a ten-minute presentation based on research, use pronunciation, intonation and stress accurately, and incorporate increased grammatical complexity into speech. Can identify the sequence of events and the main ideas in a passage, scan a text for specific information, and comprehend short narratives. Able to paraphrase information from secondary sources without plagiarizing, write creative, narrative, persuasive and comparative essays, and personal and business letters.
ADVANCED	Advanced 1	Can understand automated messages, news broadcasts, and informal conversational speech on various topics using idiomatic expressions. Can deliver a twelve-minute presentation showing accurate use of grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation, and is able to start, sustain and close a conversation, as well as provide organized and complete answers to interview questions. Can identify key passages from a variety of texts, summarize reading passages, and find and correct mistakes during peer reviews. Can produce a three-page essay and take notes from speeches and lectures.
UNIVERSITY PREPARATION COURSES	Advanced 2	Can understand conversations with native speakers without repetition of ideas and words, broadcast information from different sources, and oral presentations and discussions using idioms without explicit explanations. Can deliver a well-organized fifteen-minute presentation, debate, express and support opinions on various topics, and orally summarize a reading, lecture or video. Can read critically, analyzing the author's point of view through inference, and can recognize and understand satire and irony. Able to produce and edit descriptive, narrative and expository essays citing references appropriately.
	Elite	Able to understand the main ideas and specific details in oral presentations, discussions and broadcast information, and can understand the subtleties in conversations with native speakers without clarification. Can deliver a properly structured fifteen-minute presentation with minimal grammatical errors, debate, express and support opinions on various topics using high-level vocabulary and various verb tenses, and can use pronunciation, stress, rhythm and intonation patterns with accuracy. Can read critically, analyzing the author's point of view by making inferences, and can recognize and understand a variety of literary elements and genres. Able to use pre-writing techniques such as brainstorming, clustering and outlining, and can produce and edit descriptive, narrative and expository essays using MLA style to cite references appropriately.
	Elite Plus	Can make inferences and identify opinions based on tone, pace, and vocabulary; can also organize and synthesize key details from lectures and videos. Able to understand academic, business, and scientific vocabulary used in context without explicit explanation. Can speak using idioms and metaphors to effectively illustrate an analogy; can give a properly structured, grammatically accurate, 15 min presentation with strong language and succinct delivery. Can understand the author's purpose while looking beyond the facts and data given. Can distinguish between strong and weak arguments within a persuasive and argumentative compositions. Able to write cause-effect, persuasive, comparative, expository and argumentative research papers using academic language accurately in APA format.
	TOEFL	Able to identify main ideas, details, purpose and inference in academic lectures and conversations, and can deliver well-developed and accurate verbal responses to prompts. Can comprehend and analyze expository, argumentative and narrative texts, and is able to write different kinds of essays displaying coherence and consistent facility in the use of the language.
	IELTS	Can comprehend lectures and conversations and is able to deliver well-developed and accurate verbal responses to prompts. Able to comprehend and analyze texts from a variety of sources. Can describe visual information in writing and can write discursive essays or defend opinions using a wide range of structures with only minor errors.

BAND	ELECTIVE	FUNCTIONAL ABILITY
BASIC	ACADEMIC WRITING	Can use correct formatting for paragraphs, pre-writing techniques such as brainstorming, clustering and outlining, apply capitalization, punctuation and spelling rules consistently, and develop a paragraph with topic, supporting and concluding sentences.
	READING STRATEGIES	Can use a dictionary to verify the meaning of new vocabulary, scan articles to answer comprehension questions, choose the best ending for a short text, infer the meaning of new words from context, and understand organizational patterns.
	LISTENING COMPREHENSION	Can comprehend basic conversations, understand the use of intonation and stress in basic questions and requests, recognize parts of speech that signal differences between present, past and future, make inferences about conversations, and listen for gist, detail, function, purpose and attitude.
	SPEAKING WITH FLUENCY	Has developed awareness of the essential elements of pronunciation, can understand the use of intonation and stress in basic questions and requests, participate in dialogues in response to statements and questions with fluency, and can deliver a five-minute speech using accurate pronunciation.
	GRAMMAR	Can identify grammar structures in context heard in everyday situations, accurately use basic grammar structures in authentic speech, deliver a five-minute presentation demonstrating accurate use of grammar, and identify basic grammar structures from a text.
	ACCENT REDUCTION	Can accurately reproduce words containing certain long and short sounds, read a short paragraph emphasizing correct stress, use the proper intonation when reading sentences and a list, and identify and convey the most important words in a sentence.
	BUSINESS ENGLISH	Can identify basic grammar structures in business conversations, use basic grammar correctly in different business contexts, read and understand basic case studies, identify and understand new business vocabulary in short articles, and write a short email responding to a problem at work.
	VOCABULARY	Can comprehend new vocabulary in the context of everyday situations, give a short oral context, definition, synonym or antonym for new vocabulary, use word parts to understand new vocabulary in sentences and short paragraphs, and write a short paragraph with topic, supporting and concluding sentences using new vocabulary.
INTERMEDIATE	ACADEMIC WRITING	Can use time words and clauses to express order of events, use pre-writing techniques such as brainstorming, clustering and outlining, identify patterns of organization, and write descriptive, narrative, opinion, expository and process essays.
	READING STRATEGIES	Able to identify main ideas and details in a text, take notes while reading a selection, interpret information from various texts, understand relationships between ideas in a text, and understand a writer's intention and implied information in a text.
	LISTENING COMPREHENSION	Can comprehend lectures, natural speech in casual conversations, the meanings of new words from their context, and instructions without clarification. Able to identify the details, topics and structure of lectures, listen for different purposes, and assess the attitude of a speaker toward subject matter.
	SPEAKING WITH FLUENCY	Can engage in small talk about personal, local and world events, demonstrate the ability to organize thoughts and express ideas coherently with appropriate language, interpret a speaker's tone and attitude, tell a familiar story using rhythm, stress and intonation appropriately, and deliver a five-minute presentation using accurate pronunciation and stress patterns.
	GRAMMAR	Able to identify verb tenses from a simple authentic conversation, ask and answer questions about events and topics in the present, past and future, deliver an eight-minute presentation about a local or world event using a variety of grammar forms, and use proper punctuation with clauses, conditionals and direct speech.
	ACCENT REDUCTION	Can identify and replicate vowel sounds, understand and reproduce strong and weak syllables, use different sounds to distinguish between past, present and future time, use final sounds to distinguish between singular and plural words, and compare pairs of sounds.
	BUSINESS ENGLISH	Can listen to business phone conversations and answer related questions accurately, conduct business interviews, prepare and present an advertising campaign, read, understand and discuss case studies, write concise, accurate emails to business associates, and write meeting minutes.
	VOCABULARY	Can understand key vocabulary words and idioms in presentations and discussions, provide oral contexts for new vocabulary, read and complete sentences and short passages using new vocabulary and idiomatic expressions, and write a paragraph using new vocabulary and idiomatic expressions appropriately.
ADVANCED	ACADEMIC WRITING	Can cite reference sources appropriately in research, demonstrate the ability to paraphrase, take notes from a listening selection and write an essay using the notes taken, and write a response to a listening or reading selection by drawing on personal experiences and referencing the selection.
	READING STRATEGIES	Able to understand idiomatic expressions, provide organized and in-depth answers to questions, explain why and how things happen in a text, make inferences about a writer's point of view or a character's actions, and read critically, analyzing the author's point of view or purpose by making inferences.
	LISTENING COMPREHENSION	Can comprehend lectures, transition words and phrases in extended academic discourse, use a split-page format for note-taking, and recognize lecture language that signals citations, paraphrases and quotations. Able to identify the topics and structure of lectures as well as the details that support a main idea in a literary or informational text that is heard.
	SPEAKING WITH FLUENCY	Can participate in dialogues with fluency, mock negotiations and presentations using key vocabulary with accurate pronunciation and stress patterns, and debates, challenging and presenting ideas. Able to interpret a speaker's tone, purpose and attitude, and deliver a twelve-minute speech with fluency and accuracy using rhythm, stress and intonation appropriately.
	GRAMMAR	Can give a twelve-minute presentation showing correct use of grammar structures, participate in conversations and debates fluently and with proper grammar, accurately use complex structures for various purposes and in different contexts, and infer the meaning of words and expressions from grammatical forms used in the context of a paragraph.
	ACCENT REDUCTION	Can listen for word stress and vowel clarity, distinguish between focus and content words, replicate contractions and reductions accurately in speech, emphasize structure words appropriately in everyday speech, read a short story with past and present tense verbs pronouncing the target verbs correctly, and identify final voiced and voiceless stops in conversation.
	BUSINESS ENGLISH	Able to listen to an interview of an international marketing professional and answer questions, role play interviews in three different business situations, read and respond to three different case studies, write action minutes for a business meeting, and write an accurate and effective sales letter.
	VOCABULARY	Can understand oral presentations and class discussions, use new vocabulary in class discussions and activities with accurate pronunciation, stress and intonation, infer word meaning from word parts in an academic text, and write creative, persuasive, expository and process essays using idiomatic expressions and new vocabulary words.