

ESOL/English Level Comparisons

The table below shows the type of assignments (reading and writing) students can expect to do at each level and the language skills (grammar & listening/speaking) that students should have when entering each level to maximize their success.

		Level 2 (not offered at Skyline College – see Adult School partners)	Level 3: 830/853/873	Level 4: 840/854/874	Level 5: 400/875	Transfer-level (not ESL) ENGL 100/105
Expected work: Students can expect these assignments during the course of each level	Writing	Short descriptive paragraphs about routines and familiar topics	4 to 5 assignments of 1-2 paragraphs (1-2 pages each) 1 book report on a chosen book Short journals and summaries (1-2 pages each)	3 take-home essays (3-5 pages each). 2 in-class essays (2-3 pages each)	3 take-home essays (3-7 pages each, with citations) 2 in-class essays (2-4 pages each) Library research	4-5 text-based essays (4-8 pages each, with citations) Library research
	Reading	Short texts simplified for ESL	1 book (200-300 pages) with simple to intermediate vocabulary several short newspaper articles 1 book of choice, may be simplified for ESL	1 book (250-350 pages) in authentic English with advanced vocabulary 3-5 articles (2-3 pages each)	1 book (250-400 pages) in authentic English with advanced vocabulary 4-6 articles (3-9 pages each) topics: personal, academic, and social science	2-4 books (250-400 pages each) in authentic English with advanced vocabulary 5-8 articles (3-12 pages each) topics: academic, business, poetry, literature, social science, or philosophy

<p>Necessary skills: Students need these skills and abilities when they enter this level.</p>	<p>Grammar</p>	<p>Write simple sentences in English</p> <p>Use simple statements, negatives, and questions in English</p>	<p>Write longer sentences in different verb tenses</p> <p><i>There will be lots of intermediate ESL grammar instruction at this level</i></p>	<p>Write long sentences with complex ideas and developing control of grammar</p> <p><i>There will be lots of intermediate/ advanced ESL grammar instruction at this level</i></p> <p><i>Students learn to edit their own writing</i></p>	<p>Write long, mostly grammatically correct sentences with complex ideas</p> <p><i>There is very little grammar instruction at this level, and it is all advanced</i></p> <p><i>Students edit their own grammar in their own writing with some in-class help</i></p>	<p>Write long grammatically correct sentences with complex ideas</p> <p><i>There is no ESL grammar instruction at this level</i></p> <p><i>Students edit their own grammar in their own writing with no in-class help</i></p>
	<p>Listening & Speaking</p>	<p>Understand simple instructions</p> <p>Ask and answer simple questions</p>	<p>Understand 60-70% of classroom instruction spoken at a slow to moderate pace</p> <p>Ask and answer questions, and add follow-up questions, in English</p> <p>Some translation may be needed</p>	<p>Understand 75% of classroom instruction spoken at a moderate pace.</p> <p>Ask questions and explain point of view in English.</p> <p>Student is becoming independent of translation.</p>	<p>Understand 75% of classroom instruction spoken at a fast pace.</p> <p>Ask questions, discuss, explain point of view, debate, and present in English.</p> <p>Student is mostly independent of translation.</p>	<p>Understand 90% of classroom instruction spoken at a fast pace.</p> <p>Ask questions, discuss, explain and defend point of view, debate, and present in English.</p> <p>Student is independent of translation.</p>