

Guide to Grades on Reports

- 0 A real beginner with no ability to use the language
- 0.5 A false beginner who needs to revise from the beginning but can use the language in a very limited but often inaccurate way.
- 1.0 Can construct simple sentences in a few of the major tenses to describe very familiar events and to exchange basic information. Knows some social expressions. Can follow some of the main points in conversation provided that speech is clear and reasonably slow.
- 1.5 Can use many of the basic structure to describe and talk about familiar situations. Still has to search for vocabulary and problems of understanding and fluency can at times make communication an effort.
- 2.0 Has partial command of the language, coping with overall meaning in most situations. Can contribute to meetings and social conversation. There are some inaccuracies, and misunderstanding and lack of fluency may block communication from time to time.
- 2.5 Can usually express ideas and opinions clearly and confidently, although language might lack variety and style, and there may be a preference for more formal expressions. Has become more effective in negotiations and meetings. Comprehension of details in conversation and discussion is developing, although idiomatic and colloquial language can still present difficulties. Strongly accented and very fast speech can still present problems too.
- 3.0 Has achieved a good functional command of the language and acquired a reasonably wide range of vocabulary including a variety of idiom. Understands the details of formal language very well and always catches the gist from fast or accented speech. Use of structure is becoming more flexible. Participates spontaneously in negotiations, meetings and social conversation.
- 3.5 Has a very good command of structure with only occasional inaccuracies. In general, use of the language is flexible and subtle with frequent use of informal expressions and idiom. Contributes fluently and spontaneously to social conversation and all forms of business discussion. Can understand most of the details when listening to tv, radio and native speakers.
- 4.0 An expert user of English. Very fluent and accurate and able to communicate extremely well in any social or professional situation. From time to time, there is still a detectable foreign accent and occasional errors in the use of stress and intonation.
- 4.5 Almost passable as a native speaker except that stress, intonation and accent are not quite of the standard of an educated native speaker.
- 5. An educated native speaker.