

Levels: Castila self-assessment grid

DIFFERENT LEVELS AT CASTILA: 6

	Definition	Objectives	Grammar	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Prior knowledge (Your background in Spanish)	Communicative ability at the end of the course	Principal verb forms	Equivalent to: Council of Europe's common reference levels	Equivalent to: FCO levels of language proficiency related to examination standards	Proficiency DELE Examination Weeks needed to achieve the objective content
Level 1	<p>Beginners</p> <p>A) Those who have never studied Spanish before.</p> <p>B) Those who have studied for up to a maximum of 5 hours.</p> <p>Those who cannot communicate yet. They may have certain basic notions, know some easy everyday words (hola, gracias...) and are perhaps able to greet/introduce themselves.</p>	<p>After the first week, to be able to communicate with simple phrases, albeit speaking slowly, about topics concerning everyday life.</p> <p>With the use of grammatical and vocabulary resources to achieve fluidity and confidence.</p> <p>Vocabulary about origin, nationality, work, family, location, states of mind, the home, the city...</p>	<p>The Present.</p> <p>Vocabulary: range of verbs for everyday use: <i>ser, estar, comer, comprar, vivir, creer, trabajar...</i></p> <p>Effective use of verb forms in the present tense, prepositions and periphrasis verbs (<i>Querer + INF, tener que + INF, ir a + INF</i>)</p>	A1 Breakthrough	1 & 2 Survival	2 weeks
Level 2	<p>Elementary</p> <p>Superior to level 1 at Castilla.</p> <p>Those who have studied / learnt Spanish for up to 50 hours.</p> <p>Those possessing basic knowledge: can get by in the present, know something of the use of pronouns (reflexives, Direct Object and Indirect Object) and having some vocabulary.</p> <p>Including those who can venture into the past tense but with difficulty and errors.</p>	<p>To be able to communicate with a certain fluidity with a teacher or non-native person, using the present tense for habitual actions and the past tense for personal experiences and daily actions.</p> <p>To be able to get along in the greater part of situations relating to travel.</p>	<p>Past tenses: I ate / I have eaten</p> <p>Fluid and correct use of pronouns: reflexives, Direct Object and Indirect Object.</p>	A2 Waystage B1 Threshold	3 Functional 4 Functional	CIE 2 weeks
Level 3	<p>Intermediate</p> <p>Those students who have successfully completed level 2 at Castilla.</p> <p>Those who have studied / learnt Spanish for up to 100 hours.</p> <p>Are capable of understanding the teacher, other non-natives or natives speaking slowly.</p> <p>Are able to express themselves using everyday language in present and also past tense, although with errors.</p>	<p>Fairly fluid conversation with native speakers in daily situations, travels and, with some limitations, in formal situations.</p> <p>To understand basic radio and TV programmes.</p> <p>To expand the vocabulary.</p>	<p>Imperfect of the indicative: past continuous, used to.</p> <p>Future and conditional.</p>	B1 Threshold	4 Functional 5 Operational	2

Level 4	Upper intermediate Those students who have successfully completed level 3 at Castilla. Those who have studied / learnt Spanish for up to 140 hours, or who have the knowledge corresponding to this timescale. Those who can express themselves with fluidity in the indicative verb forms with definition or few errors.	Fluid conversation on a wide range of topics, with native speakers. To understand the greater part of radio and TV programmes. With time to reflect, not committing errors.	All forms of the present tense and imperatives. All periphrasis verbs. Present of the subjunctive.	B2 Vantage	6 Operational	DBE 2 (x2) 2 courses of 2 weeks.
Level 5	Advanced Those students who have successfully completed level 4 at Castilla. Those who have studied / learnt Spanish for up to 180-200 hours, or who have the knowledge corresponding to this timescale.	To speak correctly combining naturally verb forms, linking words, conjunctions, prepositions and a substantial vocabulary. To overcome errors met at previous levels. Full communication in complex or personal situations, such as work, business...	Imperfect of the subjunctive. Effective use of all verb forms. Specialised themes: journalistic, trade, judicial, scientific language...	C1 Effective Operational Proficiency	7 Extensive 8 Extensive	DSE 2 (x4) Up to 4 courses of 2 weeks.
Level 6	Superior / Bilingual Those students who have successfully completed level 5 at Castilla. Those possessing a superior knowledge of the Spanish language or being close to bi-lingual.	To speak and write like a native. Bilingualism in daily situations, personal and professional, as much in the spoken language as in the written. The capacity to teach Spanish.	All the proper resources of a speaker with the linguistic and cultural training to be able to follow university studies or to fully expand a professional activity in Spanish.	C2 Mastery	9 Extensive	DSE 2 (x8) Up to 8 courses of 2 weeks.

(1) The European Language Portfolio (ELP) and the Council of Europe's common reference levels.

There are six levels, as follows: A1 - Breakthrough, A2 -Waystage, B1 - Threshold, B2 - Vantage, C1 - Effective Operational Proficiency, C2 - Mastery.

The self-assessment grid in the language passport summarizes language proficiency at these six levels in relation to five skills: listening, reading, spoken interaction, spoken production, writing.

Council of Europe's [Self-assessment grid \(PDF format in English\)](#)

(2) Foreign and Commonwealth Office: levels of examinations established by the FCO language group for the language standards for British Diplomats.

(3) The DELE examination standards are:

CIE (Certificado Inicial de Español / Beginner's Certificate),
DBE (Diploma básico de Español / Intermediate Diploma) and
DSE (Diploma superior de Español / Superior Diploma)