



LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST (LPT)

The LPT provides evidence of teachers' proficiency in the language they teach or want to teach. It shows that teachers have proficiency to the level of three years' tertiary study. The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) recognises equivalence to four or six units of post-beginner tertiary language study for native speakers of the language if they have verification from a university of their level of language knowledge and proficiency.

Pre-service teachers then need to complete units in language teaching methodology and sufficient practicum through a Master of Teaching program to gain accreditation as languages teachers.

Existing teachers who have languages proficiency may also do the test and gain approval to teach languages if they also complete the [LPT professional learning program](#) and associated practicum.

SICLE offers the test in Arabic, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Macedonian, Mandarin, Perian/Dari, Punjabi, Spanish, Tamil, Turkish, Vietnamese. More languages will be developed as the need arises.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TEST

The Language Proficiency Test has three main sections: Reading, Writing and Listening & Speaking and reading aloud. You also have the opportunity to demonstrate cultural understanding and culturally-appropriate communicative competence.

Reading lasts 40 minutes and assesses your ability to read different types of reading texts and show understanding of the key events and factors or the main ideas. You will have two texts to read and to answer open-ended questions in the language tested or English.

The **Writing** section lasts 55 minutes (including 10 minutes reading time) and assesses your ability to produce different types of writing such as descriptions or recounts. Writing is assessed on appropriate structure and format as well as syntax and vocabulary. You will complete two writing tasks. Tasks may include:

- writing a formal/informal email/letter
- describing or explaining a given photo
- retelling or summarising a well-known traditional tale or story related to the culture

Listening & Speaking and reading aloud takes approximately 35 minutes and is conducted either face to face or online with the assessor. This part of the test will normally be scheduled on the same day as the Reading and Writing components. You will listen to a short, spoken text and identify the purpose of the text and summarise it (in the language or in English). You will then have a short text to read aloud testing your pronunciation and intonation. Finally, you will choose one of three topics to talk about and then discuss with the assessor assessing your spoken language, vocabulary and accuracy.

The test is a closed book exam.

There are no practice tests. The best way to prepare for the test is to practice listening, reading, writing and speaking in the language you are sitting the test in.

FACE TO FACE TESTS

The face-to-face tests are conducted at The University of Sydney. Please register your interest for either online or face to face tests at: [Language Proficiency Tests - SICLE - Masters of Teaching \(mteach.org.au\)](http://mteach.org.au)

ONLINE TEST GUIDE

The LPT is offered as an online test via Canvas and Zoom. Please use the following guide to navigate Canvas and Zoom.

Requirements:

- Reliable internet connection and computer/laptop
- A webcam (so the examiner can see you throughout the test)
- A quiet place to complete the test away from distractions.

Once registered you will be sent a confirmation email which will give you access to Canvas where the test will be held. Please make sure you can log into [canvas](https://canvas.libraries.york.ac.uk/) and the test home page prior to the test date.

☰ LPTSPANISH

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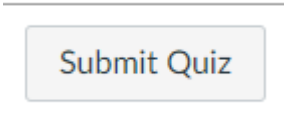
SICLE Language Proficiency Test (Spanish)



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Education**



Welcome to the SICLE Language Proficiency test for Spanish. Your examiner is



Once you have finished the test, please type in the chat box that you have finished and submitted your answers. Your examiner will check that they have received them. You can then leave the test/zoom.

WHEN DO YOU I KNOW THE RESULTS?

We will email you **Notification of Results** within two weeks of the test. The **notification** will include your name, your language, the date of the test and the level you achieved in each of the following areas: Writing, Reading, Speaking, Listening and Cultural Knowledge. Each area is reported as **Superior, Acceptable, or Below Standard** and an overall assessment result is provided. No scores are given. Please see below a Sample Notification of Results and Statement of Terms. If you are unsuccessful in any of the sections, you may re-attempt that section at a later date.

The assessor’s decision is final, and no correspondence will be accepted. We will not discuss with you results, the assessors, or other security matters. We will investigate any complaint in relation to how the test was conducted. All complaints must be made in writing within 10 working days of the test. Please note that assessors follow strict assessment guidelines and are regularly monitored.

NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

Candidates receive their test results in the following format:

SAMPLE ONLY

Name of Candidate:

University of Sydney SID: (If applicable)

Language tested:

Date of test:

Language Proficiency Test

A. READING

	Superior	Acceptable	Below Standard
1. Able to identify audience and purpose of text			
2. Summarise main ideas or implication/s from short text			
3. Demonstrates awareness of cultural knowledge			

B. WRITING

	Superior	Acceptable	Below Standard
1. Written text conveys meaning and purpose. Information and content are appropriate and relevant. Appropriate structure and format of writing.			
2. Language structure, syntax and vocabulary.			
3. Demonstrates awareness of cultural knowledge			

C. SPEAKING

	Superior	Acceptable	Below standard
1. Can read aloud text using standard pronunciation and intonation			
2. Can participate in formal conversation with linguistic accuracy, correct grammar and vocabulary			
3. Demonstrates awareness of cultural knowledge			

D. LISTENING

	Superior	Acceptable	Below standard
1. Able to identify main idea and purpose of spoken texts			
2. Able to recount key events and facts in spoken text			
3. Demonstrates awareness of cultural knowledge			

Comments (if applicable)

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OVERALL ASSESSMENT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Superior	<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable (Major)	<input type="checkbox"/> Below Standard

Certified by:

Name of Assessor:	
Signature:	
Position:	

Approved

Name of Approver:	
Signature:	
Position:	

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Sydney Institute for Community Languages Education
E sicle.curriculum@sydney.edu.au

W <https://sydney.edu.au/arts/our-research/centres-institutes-and-groups/sydney-institute-community-languageseducation.html>

STATEMENT OF TERMS

This document is designed to assess proficiency and knowledge in five language domains. This document aligns directly with the Subject Content Knowledge Requirements document, released by the NSW Education Standards Authority (version July 2018): in particular, Standard 2 for Languages. For NESA accreditation purposes, both *Superior* and *Acceptable* results meet the minimum discipline study as listed in p.70 in the policy document.

Marking Terms:

- **Superior** – The level is higher than that of a completed major in the target language.
- **Acceptable** (Major/ Minor) – The level is equivalent to that of a University of Sydney student who has successfully completed at least 4 or 6 (post-beginner) language units in the target language.
- **Below Standard** – The level is not equivalent to that of a completed major or minor in the target language.

Writing. Skills reflect appropriate syntax and use of words in order to communicate effectively both in formal and informal contexts. The writing indicates knowledge of the culture and the vocabulary appropriate to express this knowledge.

Reading. The candidate demonstrates the ability to comprehend texts in the target language including awareness of definitions and social context of language usage.

Listening and Speaking. The candidate exhibits the ability to comprehend spoken text and language, as well as engage in receptive interactions and produce sustained oral text in a range of genres. The candidate also demonstrates a proficiency in using the relevant vocabulary, syntax and structures in the target language.

Cultural Knowledge. The candidate responds to authentic texts, both written and spoken, including, but not limited to, poetry, prose, drama, song, film and digital media. The candidate also demonstrates knowledge about culture and history, informing the social contexts of formal and informal language usage and communication.