Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

Throughout the course you will find frequent mention of the respective ‘levels’ of proficiency that your students are working at or towards in their studies. This is because it is common practice for language institutions and schools to ‘stream’ their students according to their respective proficiency in English. This makes it much easier for the teacher to organise communicative tasks for his/her classes that help the students (in theory) to practise speaking and listening and engaging with the target language. Several of the assignments in this class require you to design lesson plans and resources for specific levels and to this end it is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) as this explains the guidelines for determining proficiency in language usage. The downloadable guide (within Module 1) provides a good overview. The lettering and numbering scheme is to make the framework applicable across different languages and cultures, but as the guide explains, the scale relates to the traditional level descriptors of beginner (A1-A2), intermediate (B1-B2) and Advanced/Proficient (C1-C2). Please refer back to this guide when planning your lesson planning assignments.