



Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - level estimation grid for teachers (CEF-ESTIM)

Grille d'estimation des niveaux du Cadre européen commun de référence pour les langues pour les enseignants

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Short-term project 2008 – 2009

Working languages: French, English

Project website: <http://cefestim.ecml.at>

Aim

Will adapt an existing online tool for teachers to use in linking exams to the CEFR.

Abstract

This project aims at disseminating the CEFR level estimation grid, known as the 'Dutch CEFR Grid'*, among foreign language teachers in Europe. This consists of an online tool in two skills - oral and written comprehension - meant for testers and exam makers. Users are also provided with a training module.

The new project assumes that other users, such as teacher trainers and teachers, could benefit from an adapted version of the Dutch Grid. The CEF-ESTIM Grid is intended to be used more generally in the ordinary context of teaching practices, either to estimate the level of a text or the level of a task or of the combination of the two.

In Phase 1 (2008) the project will aim at adapting the Dutch Grid through expert group work and hands-on experience of the CEF-ESTIM grid in a workshop. It will include familiarisation with the CEFR descriptors and parameters referred to in the Grid and application of the dimensions to texts and recordings. Workshop participants will be asked to bring materials for estimation.

Phase 2 (2009) will be devoted to producing a training kit on the use of the CEF-ESTIM grid including sample material (recordings and texts). The expert group will also provide a final report on recommendations and strategies for further dissemination.

Expected results

The project will contribute to enlarging the scope of CEFR estimation from text and item to text and activity. The online CEF-ESTIM training kit will thus include a grid to be applied to texts, listening and reading comprehension activities, macro-tasks and micro-tasks, as well as examples and guidelines for easy use. The samples will be chosen from a range of A1 to B2 levels (corresponding to secondary school levels). There will also be an online final report.

Targeted sector: secondary level

* Website of the CEFR level estimation grid: www.lanacs.ac.uk/fss/projects/grid/

