# UTSA AEP Proficiency Scale Descriptors

*By the end of each course, students will be able to:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Reading/Vocabulary</th>
<th>Writing/Grammar</th>
<th>Oral Communication</th>
<th>TOEFL</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Level 1** | Identify main ideas and details in short texts  
Use and understand simple vocabulary  
Use skimming and scanning skills  
Improve reading fluency and speed | Write basic paragraphs on familiar topics using cohesive devices and basic English sentence patterns | Communicate using basic social exchanges on familiar topics  
Understand and find main idea and details in simple dialogue | Obtain a score of 350 to 400 on the TOEFL PBT |
| **Level 2** | Read a short literary work  
Identify main ideas and details in short texts  
Connect personal topics to background knowledge  
Predict the content of a text  
Use word parts to understand new vocabulary  
Increase reading fluency and speed | Write a basic three paragraph essay using a variety of grammatical structures  
Develop writing fluency through journal entries | Communicate using simple grammatical structures  
Engage in discussions on familiar topics  
Use a variety of skills to understand real world listening passages  
Take basic notes | Obtain a score of 400 to 450 on the TOEFL PBT |
| **Level 3** | Read simple texts fluently  
State main ideas and details in complex texts as well as make inferences  
Build and apply knowledge of academic words | Write basic five paragraph essays on academic topics using increasingly complex sentence structures and standard documentation | Present on academic topics and participate in discussions  
Understand main ideas and details on academic topics  
Use note taking skills | Obtain a score of 450 to 500 on the TOEFL PBT |
| **Level 4** | Read, summarize, and paraphrase academic texts  
Use critical reading skills to evaluate texts | Write complex essays using appropriate registers on academic topics  
Use library research skills to find a variety of sources | Communicate fluently on formal and informal topics  
Understand the main ideas and details of authentic listening sources | Obtain a score of 500 to 550 on the TOEFL PBT |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 5</th>
<th>Expand knowledge of academic words, phrasal verbs, and idioms</th>
<th>Take detailed notes on academic lectures</th>
<th>TOEFL PBT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use high level critical thinking skills to comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and respond to complex texts</td>
<td>Write a research paper in the field of their study</td>
<td>Communicate accurately and fluently using effective presentation skills on academic topics and participate in active discussions</td>
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<td>Use vocabulary knowledge and context clues to make inferences</td>
<td></td>
<td>Understand the main ideas and details of complex academic listening sources</td>
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