



# Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks

## Sample Lesson Plan for Students at CLB Level 3-4

Funded by Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

## **Target: Students at CLB Level 3-4**

### **Objective:**

To familiarize students with the Canadian Language Benchmarks so they can apply them to their own language learning needs and goals.

### **Time:**

Approx. 1 hour

### **Resources:**

1. Sample of a CLBA client profile or the CLB-related assessment report that is used in your school.
2. Reading text, "*Hala's Story*" and related activities.

### **Warm-up:**

Review with students the experience of their recent language assessment - where? when? how long? what happened? how did you feel? What do the numbers on the report mean? The students will need an overview of the twelve benchmarks and skills, and where they fit into the spectrum. Clarify vocabulary such as: assessment, benchmarks, assessor.

### **Procedure:**

1. Reading: Ask the students to read, "*Hala's Story*".
2. Reading/speaking: Ask the students to answer the "Reading for Information" questions.
3. Speaking/listening: Ask the students to compare their own experiences with the experience of the student in the story.
4. Writing: Ask students to complete the goal-setting information form.

### **Follow-up:**

1. Conference with students to review their long-term goals and to make some suggestions about what they can do to meet them.
2. Set aside time each week for students to review their goals and what they have done to help meet their goals. This can be done as a dialogue journal, or as a group or class activity.

## HALA'S STORY

Hala and her husband came to Canada one year ago. They moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba. After they found an apartment, they began to look for a school where Hala could study English as a Second Language (ESL). A friend told them that there was an assessment centre in the city where Hala could have an English assessment and get information about ESL schools in Winnipeg.

Hala had studied a little English when she was a student in high school, but she was very nervous about having an English test. During the assessment, the assessor helped her to feel better so she was able to answer some questions in English for the first time. She also read and wrote in her new language. After the assessment, the assessor told Hala that a Level One class would be the best class for her. At the end of the appointment, she gave Hala a long list of schools in Winnipeg and told her when to register for a class. She also gave her an assessment report which she took to her new school the following week. The report showed that Hala was at Benchmark 1 in speaking and listening, but higher in reading and writing.

That was one year ago. Today, Hala's English has improved so much that she will begin a Level Five class in the spring term. She uses English whenever she can, attends her class regularly, reads the newspaper every day, and has started an exercise class at a community centre so she can use English with native speakers. She wants to take a training course but must be at Level Six. Hala hopes that if she continues to study full-time, she will be able to meet her goal next September.

### Reading for information

**Find the answers in the story.**

1. What did Hala do before she registered for an ESL class?

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2. When did Hala begin to study ESL? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did Hala register for a Level One ESL class?

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4. What did Hala do to help herself learn English quickly? \_\_\_\_\_ ,

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5. What is Hala's plan for the future? \_\_\_\_\_

**Talk with a partner and check your answers.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) now are:**

**Listening** \_\_\_\_\_ **Speaking** \_\_\_\_\_ **Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ **Writing** \_\_\_\_\_

**Where do you use English in your daily life?**

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**List 3 things that you want to learn in English when you are in this class.**

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**List 3 things that are difficult for you about learning English.**

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**How can this class help you to learn English?**

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**How will you help yourself to learn English?**

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**At the end of this course, what would you like your CLB to be?**

**Listening** \_\_\_\_\_ **Speaking** \_\_\_\_\_ **Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ **Writing** \_\_\_\_\_