

PROFEX TEST SPECIFICATION



PROFEX (PROficiency EXamination) is a state-recognized LSP bilingual testing system offering language tests in English and German at three levels which are calibrated to the B1, B2 and C1 levels of the Common European Framework. We offer language tests for medical and legal professionals and students throughout the country in more than 20 testing centers, including the headquarter located in Pécs, Hungary, at the University of Pécs, Faculty of General Medicine, LSP Department.

Each exam paper is pre-tested and is processed through social moderation and validation.

The Testing Center is monitored and supervised every two years by the National Language Test Accreditation Board.

The PROFEX language testing system offers both written and oral bilingual language tests:

PROFEX – Medicine – detailed description calibrated to CEF levels			
Listening comprehension	THRESHOLD (B 1)	VANTAGE (B 2)	EFFECTIVE OPERATIONAL PROFICIENCY (C 1)
description of tasks	<p>Task 1: Understanding the factual information of a slow rate narrative medical text</p> <p>1000-1100 characters without space</p> <p>Task 2: Understanding the factual information of a slow medical dialogue (physician-physician, physician-patient, reporter-physician)</p> <p>200-250 words in length</p>	<p>Task 1: Understanding the factual and implied information of a narrative or descriptive medical text slightly slower than the normal rate of speaking</p> <p>2400-2500 characters without space</p> <p>Task 2: Understanding the factual and implied information of a medical dialogue slightly slower than the normal rate of speaking (physician-physician, physician-patient, reporter-physician)</p> <p>400-450 words in length</p>	<p>Task 1: Understanding the factual and implied information of a narrative, descriptive or argumentative medical text at a normal rate of speaking</p> <p>3000-3100 characters without space</p> <p>Task 2: Understanding the factual, implied and global information of a medical dialogue at a normal rate of speaking (physician-physician, physician-patient, reporter-physician)</p> <p>600-650 words in length</p>
time available	20 mins	20 min	20 min
number of items	20	20	20
scores available	20 (minimum 8)	20 (minimum 8)	20 (minimum 8)
genres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interview • report • case report • medical case history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interview • report • case report • medical case history • explanation • presentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interview • report • case report • medical case history • explanation • presentation
texts types	<p>medical narrative</p> <p>medical dialogue</p>	<p>medical narrative or description</p> <p>medical dialogue</p>	<p>medical argumentation</p> <p>medical dialogue</p>

procedure	Monologue: 1/ Scanning through the task sheet (1 min) 2/ Listening to the text 3x (with 30 sec pause between each listening) 3/ Filling in the task sheet (2 min) Dialogue: 1/ Scanning through the task sheet (1 min) 2/ Listening to the text 3x (with 30 sec pause between each listening) 3/ Filling in the task sheet (2 min)	Monologue: 1/ Scanning through the task sheet (1 min) 2/ Listening to the text 2x (with 30 sec pause between each listening) 3/ Filling in the task sheet (2 min) Dialogue: 1/ Scanning through the task sheet (1 min) 2/ Listening to the text 2x (with 30 sec pause between each listening) 3/ Filling in the task sheet (2 min)	Monologue: 1/ Scanning through the task sheet (1 min) 2/ Listening to the text 2x (with 30 sec pause between each listening) 3/ Filling in the task sheet (2 min) Dialogue: 1/ Scanning through the task sheet (1 min) 2/ Listening to the text 2x (with 30 sec pause between each listening) 3/ Filling in the task sheet (2 min)
language of instructions	Hungarian	Hungarian	Hungarian
types of tasks	From the following list, at least three task types are to be used in the task sheets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • multiple choice (2 distractors, 1 correct) • information transfer • gap filling with open sentences • gap filling with open text • true or false (maximum 3) 	From the following list, at least three task types are to be used in the task sheets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • multiple choice (3 distractors, 1 correct) • information transfer • gap filling with open sentences • gap filling with open text 	From the following list, at least three task types are to be used in the task sheets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • multiple choice (3 distractors, 1 correct) • information transfer • gap filling with open sentences • gap filling with open text

PROFEX – Medicine - detailed description calibrated to CEF levels			
Speaking	THRESHOLD (B 1)	VANTAGE (B 2)	EFFECTIVE OPERATIONAL PROFICIENCY (C 1)
description of task	<p>Task 1: Directed warm up interview about the examinee's professional field using 2 topics from a list of questions previously specified (8 points) <i>Time for preparation : none</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 2-4 min</i></p> <p>Task 2: Simulated dialogue in two simple authentic medical situations each based on five prompts given in Hungarian: 1. Physician -physician giving facts, case presentation, request for instructions (6 points) <i>Time for preparation: 1 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-2 min</i> 2. Physician-patient giving information, simple instructions and advice, medical history taking (6 points) <i>Time for preparation: 1 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-2 min</i></p> <p>Task 3: Simple verbal interpretation or description of a graph, table, figure or picture containing information in the target language (10 points) <i>Time for preparation: 1 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-2 min</i> <i>Administration, evaluation: 1-2 min</i></p>	<p>Task 1: Directed warm up conversation about the examinee's professional field using 2 topics from a list of questions previously specified (8 points) <i>Time for preparation: none</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 2-5 min</i></p> <p>Task 2: Simulated dialogue in two authentic medical situations each based on seven prompts given in Hungarian: 1. Physician -physician medical problem oriented discussion (6 points) <i>Time for preparation: 1 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-3 min</i> 2. Physician-patient giving instructions, information, advice and explanations, medical history taking, describing procedures (6 points) <i>Time for preparation: 1 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-3 min</i></p> <p>Task 3: Development of a topic based on verbal/non-verbal stimuli (graphs, tables, figures containing information in the target language) (10 points) <i>Time for preparation: 1 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-4 min</i> <i>Administration, evaluation: 1-2 min</i></p>	<p>Task 1: Directed warm up conversation about the examinee's professional field using 2 topics from a list of questions previously specified (8 points) <i>Time for preparation: none</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 2-6 min</i></p> <p>Task 2: Simulated dialogue in two complete authentic medical situations each based on ten prompts given in Hungarian: 1. Physician -physician problem-solving professional discussion requiring reasoning skills (6 points) <i>Time for preparation: 2 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-5 min</i> 2. Physician-patient giving explanations and information, medical history taking (6 points) <i>Time for preparation: 2 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-5 min</i></p> <p>Task 3: Mini presentation on a medical topic based on verbal/non-verbal stimuli (table with information in Hungarian), where the examinee elaborates on a professional topic in front of a non-professional audience (10 points) <i>Time for preparation: 2 min</i> <i>Elaboration of topics: 1-6 min</i> <i>Administration, evaluation: 1-2 min</i></p>
Given topics specified for	1. Choice of profession and specialization		7. Development within the profession

B1,B2,C1 levels	2. Research field 3. Topic for thesis/dissertation 4. Prevention 5. Daily professional routine 6. Difficulties of the profession today	8. Healthy lifestyle 9. Future plans and prospects for the field 10. Role of foreign languages in the profession 11. Importance of professional experience abroad 12. Traditional medicine vs. alternative medicine	
time available	15 min (minimum: 9 min)	20 min (minimum: 9 min)	30 min (minimum: 12 min)
scores available	30 (minimum 12)	30 (minimum 12)	30 (minimum 12)
genres and language functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> giving instructions describing procedures giving advice professional narrative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> explanation giving information understanding information professional narrative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> professional reasoning professional presentation professional narrative
text types	1/ professional discussion 2/ description	1/ professional discussion 2/ description, narration	1/ professional reasoning/consultation 2/ professional presentation
language of instructions	Hungarian	Hungarian	Hungarian

PROFEX – Medicine - detailed description calibrated to CEF levels			
Reading comprehension	THRESHOLD (B 1)	VANTAGE (B 2)	EFFECTIVE OPERATIONAL PROFICIENCY (C 1)
description of task	Task 1 Understanding factual information in narrative medical texts on general topics Task 2 Understanding factual information in narrative medical texts on specialized topics	Task 1 Understanding global, factual and implied information in narrative or descriptive medical texts on general topics Task 2 Understanding global, factual and implied information in narrative or descriptive medical texts on specialized topics	Task 1 Understanding global, factual and implied information in argumentative medical texts on general topics Task 2 Understanding global, factual and implied information in argumentative medical texts on specialized topics
time available	60 mins. (recommended)	60 mins. (recommended)	60 mins. (recommended)
scores available	20 (min: 8)	20 (min: 8)	20 (min: 8)
genres	1. Authentic medical text on general topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> popular scientific article text book extract product description job advertisement instruction manual 2. Authentic medical text on general topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> patient information leaflet text book extract technological description instruction manual 	1. Authentic medical text on general topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encyclopedia entry text book extract technological description official letter on a professional topic professional application extract proposal extract 2. Authentic medical text on specialized topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> text book extract research article summary abstract case report 	1. Authentic medical text on general topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encyclopedia entry text book extract professional application extract proposal extract summary 2. Authentic medical text on specialized topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> text book extract research article monography summary abstract case report

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> technological description letter to the editor
length in words	350-400 (total of the two texts)	1100-1200 (total of the two texts)	1600-1700 (total of the two texts)
types of tasks	Text 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match paragraphs with appropriate headings (2 distractors, 4 correct items) – assessing overall understanding Information transfer (gap filling in table or graph) 6 items- assessing analytical understanding Text 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple choice (3 distractors, 1 correct) 4 items- assessing overall understanding Gap filling in open text 6 items- assessing analytical understanding 	Text 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match paragraphs with appropriate headings (2 distractors, 4 correct items) – assessing overall understanding Information transfer (gap filling in table or graph) 6 items- assessing analytical understanding Text 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple choice (3 distractors, 1 correct) 4 items- assessing overall understanding Gap filling in open text 6 items- assessing analytical understanding 	Text 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match paragraphs with appropriate headings (2 distractors, 4 correct items) – assessing overall understanding Information transfer (gap filling in table or graph) 6 items- assessing analytical understanding Text 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple choice (3 distractors, 1 correct) 4 items- assessing overall understanding Gap filling in open text 6 items- assessing analytical understanding
language of instructions	Hungarian	Hungarian	Hungarian

PROFEX – Medicine - detailed description calibrated to CEF levels			
Writing	THRESHOLD (B 1)	VANTAGE (B 2)	EFFECTIVE OPERATIONAL PROFICIENCY (C 1)
description of task	Composition of an official letter and an e-mail conveying factual information on medical topics based on prompts given in Hungarian	Composition of an official letter and an e-mail containing factual and implied information on medical topics based on prompts given in Hungarian	Composition of an official letter and an e-mail requiring argumentation on medical topics based on prompts given in Hungarian
number and characteristics of prompts	1. Official letter: Sender, addressee, date, communicative purpose + 4 items of factual information for elaboration 2. Official e-mail: Subject, communicative purpose + 4 items of factual information for elaboration	1. Official letter: Sender, addressee, date, communicative purpose + 4 items of factual information for elaboration, of which at least two are pragmatically oriented: e.g., uncertainty, certainty, doubt, probability, necessity 2. Official e-mail: Subject, communicative purpose + 4 items of factual information for elaboration, of which at least two are pragmatically oriented: e.g. uncertainty, certainty, doubt, probability, necessity	1. Official letter: Sender, addressee, date, communicative purpose + 4 pragmatic prompts for elaboration requiring argumentation e.g., uncertainty, certainty, probability, necessity, polite expression of disagreement, developing arguments 2. Official e-mail: Subject, communicative purpose + 4 pragmatic prompts for elaboration requiring argumentation e.g., uncertainty, certainty, probability, necessity, polite expression of disagreement, developing arguments
time available	60 mins (recommended)	60 mins (recommended)	60 mins (recommended)
number of tasks	1. Official letter 2. Official e-mail	1. Official letter 2. Official e-mail	1. Official letter 2. Official e-mail
scores available	1. Official letter = 15 points 2. Official e-mail = 15 points total score: 15 (min 6)	1. Official letter = 15 points 2. Official e-mail = 15 points total score: 15 (min 6)	1. Official letter = 15 points 2. Official e-mail = 15 points total score: 15 (min 6)
genres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> job application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> job application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> letter to the editor

note: the two genres must differ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • congress application • invitation • acknowledgement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • congress application • support letter • complaint • referral • case report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • response on professional issues • case report
length of target texts in words	80-100 words in both letter types, which do not include the formal elements such as sender's address, address, date, closing and signature, however, their use and accuracy will also be assessed	100-120 words in both letter types, which do not include the formal elements such as sender's address, address, date, closing and signature, however, their use and accuracy will also be assessed	120-140 words in both letter types, which do not include the formal elements such as sender's address, address, date, closing and signature, however, their use and accuracy will also be assessed
language of instructions	Hungarian	Hungarian	Hungarian

PROFEX – Medicine- detailed description calibrated to CEF levels			
Mediation in writing	THRESHOLD (B 1)	VANTAGE (B 2)	EFFECTIVE OPERATIONAL PROFICIENCY (C 1)
description of task	Translation of a medical text written in the target language into Hungarian	Target language summary of a medical text written in Hungarian based on 10 prompts given in Hungarian	Translation of a medical text written in Hungarian into the target language
time available	60 mins (recommended)	60 mins (recommended)	60 mins (recommended)
scores available	15 (min 6)	15 (min 6)	15 (min 6)
genres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • popular scientific article • text book extract • product description • description of treatment methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description of a disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • medical report • abstract • summary • text book extract • research article
length of source text in words	200-250	300-350	250-300
length of target text in words	length of the translated text	at least 150 words, max. the length of the source text	the length of the translated text
language of instructions	Hungarian	Hungarian	Hungarian

Oral exam (Listening and Speaking)

Maximum Score 50 points

Passing score 30 points

NOTE:

Minimum scores:

Listening skills: 8 points

Speaking skills: 12 points

Written exam (Reading, Writing and Mediation)

Maximum Score 50 points

Passing score 30 points

NOTE

Minimum scores:

Reading skills: 12 points

Letter writing skills: 8 points

Mediation skills: 8 points