



# Language Learning Resources



## Apps

### AnkiApp

NOVICE FREE

AnkiApp is an open-sourced flashcard app, used for memorizing words and phrases. It allows learners to track their progress.

### Babbel

NOVICE FREE/\$

Babbel offers vocabulary memorization, using both English words and pictures, starting with memorized words and working up to memorized phrases. This app offers courses in 13 languages.

### Duolingo

NOVICE FREE

Duolingo is a highly popular app that makes language learning fun through gamification and repetition. Currently, Duolingo offers 23 languages, including Spanish, French, German, Russian, Portuguese, and many others. Although Duolingo does not offer Chinese at this time, there is a similar app called [ChineseSkill](#) that follows a similar concept. This app is free as long as you use it every day.

### HelloTalk

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE FREE/\$

HelloTalk is an app that allows you to connect with speakers of other languages all over the world to practice. It basically allows the user to text with language learners, giving automatic correction tools, speech to text, recording, and translation tools to aid your language learning. Since this is an open app, make sure not to share personal information.

### HiNative

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE FREE

This app serves as an on-line chat network for learning languages. Think of this as Twitter for language learners. Learners submit questions which will be answered by a native or by another language learner.

### Memrise

NOVICE FREE/\$

Memrise is a crowd-sourced program for memorizing vocabulary. Words are connected with a meme to help memorize the word in the language. You can create your own meme or use a meme that has been provided by the community. Memorization is achieved through repetition and association.

### Mindsnacks

NOVICE FREE/\$

A gamified language learning app, Mindsnacks offers language games for the following languages: Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, German, Chinese and Portuguese. Language learners play games, according to level, to learn vocabulary.

### Tinycards

NOVICE FREE

Similar to AnkiApp, Tinycards is a flashcard app which allows learners to memorize words and phrases. It was created as the flashcard app to accompany Duolingo.



## Lexington Language Lessons

### Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning

NOVICE \$\$

The Carnegie Center offers a variety of language classes, depending on the season. Visit <http://carnegiecenterlex.org/workshops/languages/> for the most recent offerings of languages classes.

### Confucius Institute at the University of Kentucky

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE \$\$

For Community courses in Chinese, visit the following link:

[http://www.uky.edu/international/UKCI/Courses and Testing/Language](http://www.uky.edu/international/UKCI/Courses_and_Testing/Language). Classes are semester long and are open to the community.

### Lexington Public Library

NOVICE FREE

The Lexington Public Library offers seasonal classes. Go to <http://www.lexpublib.org/events> and click on Foreign Languages & ESL for an up-to-date listing.

### Sign Language Network of Kentucky

NOVICE \$\$

The Sign Language Network of Kentucky offers American Sign Language (ASL) classes to beginning adult learners. Go to <https://slnofky.com/asl-classes/> to register.



## Local Resources

### Fayette Mall Deaf Social

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE/ADV FREE

Open to everyone interested in learning American Sign Language (ASL), the Fayette Mall Deaf Social takes place every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in the Fayette Mall Food Court. ASL users of all proficiencies meet to visit in ASL.

### La Voz de Kentucky

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE/ADV FREE

Spanish language newspaper targeted to Fayette County's Spanish speakers. All articles are published in both English and Spanish Available online at <http://lavozy.com/>, at the [Lexington Public Library](#) or in select grocery stores, such as Aguascalientes.

### Lexington Francophones

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE/ADV FREE

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7b6ygly> to locate the upcoming Lexington Francophones Meetup Group. French language learners of all proficiencies meet to visit in French.

### Lexington Public Library

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE/ADV FREE

The Lexington Public Library has a variety of resources for language learning, including books in various languages, language learning CDs, and a web-based language learning program called [Mango languages](#). Through the [Lexington Public Library](#), users can gain access to a [Mango language](#) courses in over 70 languages.

### Lexington Spanish Language Meetup Group

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE/ADV FREE

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y9zes76d> to locate the upcoming Spanish Language Meetup Group. Spanish language learners of all proficiencies meet to visit in Spanish.



## Online Language Learning Programs

### BBC Languages (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/>)

NOVICE FREE

The British Broadcasting Corporation offers courses in 40 languages. They require a Flash, but can also be found on YouTube. Interactive stories are offered in French ([Ma France](#)), Italian ([La Mappa Misteriosa](#)) and Spanish ([Mi Vida Loca](#)).

### Italki

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE/ADV \$

Italki allows users to connect with native language speakers and teachers around the world for online classes. Classes may be 30 minutes to an hour in length and are dependent on the user's language proficiency. Teachers use other platforms (Skype, Hangouts, etc.) to connect with their students.

### Live Lingua (<https://www.livelingua.com/>)

NOVICE FREE

Live Lingua offers free online courses, using narrated slides, for over 130 languages. Additionally, the site offers Skype Language Lessons at a cost. These courses generally offer grammar, word and phrase memorization, along with cultural insights.

## Spotify

NOVICE FREE

Spotify offers over 215 hours of language lessons for free. These are primarily lists of words and phrases with some grammatical guidance in the language.

- Arabic: <https://tinyurl.com/yc75ft2p>
- Chinese: <https://tinyurl.com/y8gef8jf>
- French: <https://tinyurl.com/yby3pmu3>
- German: <https://tinyurl.com/y8rk5ze3>
- Russian: <https://tinyurl.com/y837b45p>
- Spanish: <https://tinyurl.com/y9mbh8l7>



## Online Resources

### KDE ASL Survival Kit (<https://tinyurl.com/ASLkit>)

NOVICE FREE

The Kentucky Department of Education offers resources for beginning American Sign Language (ASL). Videos provide only the basics and are geared toward school personnel.

### Transparent Languages Word of the Day (<https://tinyurl.com/langword>)

NOVICE FREE

Transparent Languages has a word of the day feature for 28 languages. Sign up and a word will be emailed to you every day.

### LanguagePod101

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE FREE/\$

LanguagePod101 offers short podcast lessons on for a variety of languages. Podcasts provide dialogues, then discuss words and phrases in English. Podcasts are available entirely in the target for proficiency levels higher than novice, as well.

### NewsinSlow.com (<http://www.newsinslow.com/>)

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE FREE/\$

Slow daily news is offered in four languages (French, Spanish, Italian, and German). Each episode is read slowly and the transcript is provided. Subscribers can also gain access to quizzes, grammar lessons, and the unabridged story. Portions of news stories are available for free.

### Yabla (<https://www.yabla.com/>)

NOVICE/INTERMEDIATE \$

Yabla is a repository of short videos and teaching videos in five languages (French, Spanish, German, Chinese, and Italian). Videos can be slowed, and offer an option for translation and/or transcription to accompany the video.

DICTIONARY FREE

### Wordreference.com

An extensive dictionary with 19 languages, Wordreference.com distinguishes itself from other dictionaries by offering an open language forum to discuss language nuance.



## Resources for Teachers of World Languages

### **Kentucky Teacher Global Competency/World Languages** (<https://tinyurl.com/kyteacherwl>)

The Kentucky Department of Education publishes a newsletter with articles relating to World Language instruction around the state.

### **Path to Proficiency** (<http://www.path2proficiency.com/>)

Practicing World Language teachers share ideas, obstacles, and their own paths to teaching for proficiency on this useful site.

### **ACTFL Can Do Statements** (<https://tinyurl.com/actflstatements>)

The ACTFL Can Do Statements provide a clear idea of what a person can do with the language, according to the proficiency level of the learner.

### **World Readiness Standards Overview** (<https://tinyurl.com/worldready>)

This overview is presented through a short video explaining the World Readiness Standards and how teachers can use them effectively.

### **Developing Interculturality** (<https://tinyurl.com/interculturality>)

The Director of Education for the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), Paul Sandrock, created this resource to help teachers guide students to developing intercultural skills.



## Travel Abroad Scholarships and Summer Programs

### **Travel Scholarships for World Language Teachers** (<http://scolt.org/index.php/scholarships>)

The Southern Council on Language Teaching (SCOLT) provides a list of links to scholarships specifically geared towards World Language teachers.

### **Lead with Languages** (<http://www.leadwithlanguages.org/language-programs/>)

ACTFL's Lead with Languages site has an extensive list of Study Abroad Programs, Summer Programs, Grants, and Scholarships available to learners of all ages.

# ORAL PROFICIENCY LEVELS IN THE WORKPLACE

ACTFL Level	ILR	Language Functions	Corresponding Professions/Positions*	Examples of Who Is Likely to Function at This Level
<b>Distinguished</b>	<b>5</b>	<i>Ability to tailor language to specific audience, persuade, negotiate. Deal with nuance and subtlety.</i>	Foreign Service: Diplomat, Contract Negotiator, International Specialist, Intelligence Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highly articulate, professionally specialized native speakers</li> <li>Language learners with extended (17 years) and current professional and/or educational experience in the target culture</li> </ul>
	<b>4</b>			
<b>Superior</b>	<b>3</b>	<i>Discuss topics extensively, support opinions, hypothesize. Deal with linguistically unfamiliar situations.</i>	University Language Professor, Financial Services Marketing Consultant, Foreign Area Officer, Lawyer, Judge, Court Interpreter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well-educated native speakers</li> <li>Educated language learners with extended professional and/or educational experience in the target language environment</li> </ul>
<b>Advanced High</b>	<b>2+</b>	<i>Narrate and describe in past, present, and future. Deal effectively with an unanticipated complication.</i>	Physician, Human Resources Communications Consultant, Financial Services Senior Consultant, Quality Assurance Specialist, Marketing Manager, Financial Advisor, Broker, Military Linguist, Translation Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners with graduate degrees in language or a related area and extended educational experience in target environment</li> <li>Heritage speakers, informal learners, non-academic learners who have significant contact with language</li> <li>Undergraduate majors with year-long study in the target language culture</li> </ul>
<b>Advanced Mid</b>			Banking and Investment Services Customer Service Representative, Fraud Specialist, Account Executive, Medical Interpreter, Patient Advocate, Court Stenographer, Court Interpreter, Human Resources Benefits Specialist, Technical Service Agent, Collections Representative, Estimating Coordinator	
<b>Advanced Low</b>			K-12 Language Teacher, Nurse, Social Worker, Claims Processor, Police Officer, Maintenance Administrator, Billing Clerk, Legal Secretary, Legal Receptionist, 911 Dispatcher, Consumer Products Customer Services Representative, Retail Services Personnel	
<b>Intermediate High</b>	<b>1+</b>	<i>Create with language, initiate, maintain, and bring to a close simple conversations by asking and responding to simple questions.</i>	Fire Fighter, Utilities Installer, Auto Inspector, Aviation Personnel, Missionary, Tour Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners following 6-8 year sequences of study (e.g., AP) or 4-6 semester college sequences</li> <li>Language learners following 4-year high school sequence or 2-semester college sequence</li> <li>Language learners following an immersion language program in Grades K-6</li> </ul>
<b>Intermediate Mid</b>			Cashier, Sales Clerk (highly predictable contexts), Receptionist	
<b>Intermediate Low</b>			<b>1</b>	
<b>Novice High</b>	<b>0+</b>	<i>Communicate minimally with formulaic and rote utterances, lists, and phrases.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners following content-based language program in Grades K-6</li> </ul>
<b>Novice Mid</b>	<b>0</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language learners following 2 years of high school language study</li> </ul>
<b>Novice Low</b>				

\*The levels of proficiency associated with each of the positions above are minimal levels of oral proficiency based on task analyses. The minimal levels were determined by subject matter experts from companies and agencies who use ACTFL proficiency tests.

