

BAND	Task Achievement		Coherence and Cohesion	Lexical and Structural Range	Lexical and Structural Accuracy
	Short Prompts (4 CP)	Long Prompts (6 CP)			
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> complete task achievement with all 4 CP mentioned & one or more elaborated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all 6 CP mentioned & three or more elaborated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> clear and coherent text cohesion on both sentence and paragraph level cohesive devices used successfully to produce a fairly fluent text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> good range of vocabulary lexical formulations sometimes varied to avoid repetition good range of grammatical structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> generally accurate vocabulary relatively high degree of structural control, with few grammatical inaccuracies which do not impair communication
6					
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> good task achievement with all 4 CP mentioned & 1 weakly elaborated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all 6 CP mentioned & 1 or 2 elaborated OR 5 CP mentioned & 2 or 3 elaborated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mostly clear and coherent text good sentence level cohesion as a linear sequence on a simple level some paragraph level coherence and cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sufficient range of vocabulary sufficient range of grammatical structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> occasionally inaccurate vocabulary major lexical errors possible when expressing more complex ideas occasional grammatical inaccuracies which do not impair communication
4					
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sufficient achievement with 3 CP mentioned & no elaboration OR 2 CP mentioned & 1 elaborated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all 6 CP mentioned & no elaboration OR 4 CP mentioned & 1 or 2 elaborated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> text often lacks clarity and/or coherence some simple sentence level cohesion using simple connectors like 'and', 'but' and 'because' frequent lack of coherence and cohesion on paragraph level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> limited range of vocabulary tendency to use phrases from the prompt limited range of simple grammatical structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> frequently inaccurate vocabulary, generally without causing breakdown of communication some grammatical inaccuracies which can impair communication
2					
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> some task achievement with 2 CP mentioned & no elaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 CP mentioned & no elaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> text not coherent basic linear connectors ('and', 'then') on word or word group level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extremely limited range of vocabulary several chunks lifted from the prompt extremely limited range of simple grammatical structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mostly inaccurate vocabulary causing frequent breakdown of communication limited grammatical control, with frequent inaccuracies sometimes causing breakdown of communication
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no task achievement 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no assessable language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no assessable language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no assessable language

The BANDS correspond to the CEFR levels: Band 1 to A1, Band 3 to A2, Band 5 to A2+, and Band 7 corresponds to (a low) B1

cf. "Testing Writing for the E 8 Standards" (www.bifie.at/system/files/dl/bist_Technical-Report2-E8_2011-09-26.pdf)

Text length: Short Prompt (with 4 Content Points [CP]): 40-70 words; Long Prompt (with 6 Content Points [CP]): 120-180 words.

Over-length texts are not penalized. The whole answer is assessed, there is neither an upgrading nor a downgrading due to over-length.

If long texts are between 50 and 119 words and if short texts are between 20 and 39 words, there is no downgrading. However, the obvious lack of scope in these texts will be reflected in the rating.

Downgrading:

Task Achievement: It is expected that text type requirements are met. If they are not met (missing/inappropriate salutation and/or closing formula), downgrade by one band.

Coherence and Cohesion: In long texts, paragraphing is mandatory for bands 3 – 7. If there are no visual paragraphs, downgrade by one band.

Criteria for rating a text at 0 in dimensions: a. Fewer than 50 words in long texts and fewer than 20 words in short texts.

b. Texts that are extremely rude, sexist, racist, or propagating violence.

cf. "The E8 Writing Scale 2016 Scale Interpretation" (https://www.bifie.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/E8W_Writing_Scale_2016_Interpretation.pdf)