

THE TOLES ADVANCED EXAMINATION

AN EXPLANATION OF THE TOLES ADVANCED EXAM GRADES

The TOLES Advanced exam is the third and final level in the Test of Legal English Skills (TOLES) series of exams. The Advanced exam tests candidates with an advanced/highly proficient level of legal English. This exam tests a candidate's legal English skills in the areas of English language and law listed in the TOLES Advanced exam syllabus.

TOLES Advanced exam results are reported within a four-band scale. The explanation of a candidate's results within a particular band is explained in clear, plain English and is designed to be easy to read and understand.

A candidate's result will be reported as a percentage, on a scale between 1-100, with BAND ONE (81-100%) being the highest, and BAND FOUR (1-40%) being the lowest.

BAND ONE

81-100% This candidate is assessed as having **EXCELLENT** legal English skills at Advanced exam level. This candidate:

- has a near-native knowledge of specific, commercial legal vocabulary and is likely to be up to date on ideas for reform and modernisation in the field of legal English;
 - has an excellent awareness of the appropriateness of different styles/register, and is able to actively use this knowledge in everyday work situations;
 - is likely to be an excellent translator of legal documents from English into their own native language;
 - produces excellent written work, which is highly accurate and grammatically correct, even under intensive time pressure.
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BAND TWO

61-80% This candidate is assessed as having **VERY GOOD** legal English skills at Advanced exam level. This candidate:

- has a well-above average knowledge of specific, commercial legal vocabulary and a very good understanding of how to use legal terminology in written documents
 - has a strong awareness of different styles/register and is able to recognise essential differences in the appropriateness of style in a variety of legal documents;
 - is a very good and reliable translator of legal documents from English into their own native language;
 - produces written work of a very high standard under intense pressure of time, with few errors.
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BAND THREE

41-60% This candidate is assessed as having **SATISFACTORY** legal English skills at Advanced exam level. This candidate:

- has a good knowledge of specific, commercial legal vocabulary and has successfully made the challenging jump from intermediate to advanced level legal English;
 - has a good awareness of appropriateness of different styles/register and is unlikely to make significant style errors in legal drafting;
 - is a promising legal translator, and is often able to self-correct errors in writing and speaking;
 - produces good written work under intense pressure of time but needs some support, as there are likely to be some errors.
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BAND FOUR

1-40% This candidate is assessed as having **LESS THAN SATISFACTORY** legal English skills at Advanced exam level. This candidate:

- has some basic knowledge of specific, commercial legal vocabulary and a basic understanding of how to use terminology in written legal documents;
 - has an awareness of appropriateness of different styles/register in written and spoken legal English, but needs more experience in order to be able to put this knowledge to active use
 - is sensitive to the requirements of translating accurately but does not yet have the skills to be able to do so;
 - cannot yet produce accurate written work under intense time pressure and needs more time to learn about the structure, style and accuracy required for legal documents.
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