Spanish levels: Novice to Superior

The ACTFL scale used in US schools, with the closest European (CEFR) level next to each step.

ACTFL LEVEL	WHAT YOU CAN DO IN CONVERSATION	CEFR
Novice Low	A few isolated words and memorized phrases	**A1**
Novice Mid	Greetings, basic details about yourself, set phrases	**A1+**
Novice High	Simple questions and answers about daily life	**A2**
Intermediate Low	Your own simple sentences about familiar topics	**A2+**
Intermediate Mid	Everyday situations; a short conversation that keeps going	**B1**
Intermediate High	Linked sentences; the start of past and future	**B1+**
Advanced Low	Tell a story and describe across past, present, future	**B2**
Advanced Mid	Full paragraphs with detail; handle everyday complications	**B2+**
Advanced High, first band	Most topics in depth; abstract topics within reach	**C1**
Advanced High, second band	Argue a point; explain what might have happened	**C1+**
Superior	Abstract, professional and unfamiliar topics, with ease	**C2**

FIND YOUR LEVEL

- [ ] I can introduce myself and answer basic questions without a pause (Novice High and up)
- [ ] I can build a sentence I have never said, about my own life (Intermediate and up)
- [ ] I can tell last weekend as a story, mixing past and present (Advanced Low and up)
- [ ] I can explain a view I disagree with, or what I would do in a new situation (upper Advanced, Superior)

GOOD TO KNOW

Four skills, four levels. ACTFL rates listening, speaking, reading and writing separately. Your speaking level is usually the lowest.

Approximate match. ACTFL and CEFR were designed separately, so the equivalents are a guide, not a conversion.

Be honest. Pick the row that matches your last real conversation, not your best one.

The plus signs mark in-between steps. A1+ and C1+ are working labels used by our teachers.