Relationship Between Scores on MET and MELAB

If your institution already recognizes MELAB scores for admissions purposes, you may be interested in their relationship to MET scores.

CEFR	A2	B1													B2												C1
MET	27-39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64-80
MELAB	--	62	63	64	65	67	68	69	71	72	73	75	76	77	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	91-100

Michigan Language Assessment has stopped offering the MELAB and now offers the Michigan English Test (MET) in its place. The MET incorporates features of the MELAB, but is a more modern test that includes, for example, cross-text reading tasks, an important skill in academic and professional contexts (Khalifa and Weir, 2009) as well as more thorough writing and speaking tests. If your institution already recognizes MELAB scores, you may be interested in their relationship to MET scores.

The concordance table above is based on multiple evidence sources. Shared task types between the two tests allow for statistical determination of comparable scores on the two tests. In addition, Michigan Language Assessment (2010, 2014, 2017) conducted separate exercises relating the two tests to various levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, a widely used benchmark of language ability, with in-between values arrived at using linear interpolation.

The relationships shown in concordances are always approximations. It is thus ideal for institutions to conduct standard setting exercises in order to determine MET cut scores appropriate for their contexts. Institutions should also note that overall MELAB scores are based on three of the language skills (excluding speaking), whereas overall MET scores are based on however many skills an examinee is tested on (two or four skills).

References

Khalifa, H., & Weir, C. J. (2009). Examining reading: Research and practice in assessing second language reading. Cambridge: UCLES/Cambridge University Press.

Michigan Language Assessment. (2010). Setting cut scores on the Common European Framework of Reference for the Michigan English Test. Technical Report. Ann Arbor, MI: Michigan Language Assessment.

Michigan Language Assessment. (2014). Linking the Common European Framework of Reference and the MET Writing Test. Technical Report. Ann Arbor, MI: Michigan Language Assessment.

Michigan Language Assessment. (2017). Linking the Common European Framework of Reference and the Michigan English Language Assessment Battery. Technical Report. Ann Arbor, MI: Michigan Language Assessment.

CEFR Comparison Table

CEFR	MET	MELAB*	ECCE	ECPE
C2				C2+
C1	64-80	91 - up		
B2	53-63	79 - 90	B2+	
B1	40-52	62 - 78		
A2	27-39			

*Michigan Language Assessment retired the MELAB in 2018. MELAB results are valid for two years from testing date. Michigan Language Assessment will verify scores through June 2020.

Institutions may verify scores online for free:
michiganassessment.org/iama/recognition/verify-scores/

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