# Speaker
# 연사소개

## Prof. Sauli TAKALA



- **Centre for Applied Language Studies, University of Jyväskylä, Finland**

KI**CE** 한국교육과정평가원
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International Conference

## "Successful Language Education: Setting Standards"

An overview of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL)
and its relevance to Korean Language curriculum & evaluation

**일 시** | 2007년 6월 29일(금), 09:00−17:30
Date & Time | Friday, 29 June 2007, 09:00-17:30

# Using the CEFR — Case of Finland

Since the mid-1960s, Finland has taken an active interest in, and benefited greatly from, the comprehensive development work undertaken by the member states of the Council of Europe in language education with the far-sighted and coherent co-ordination of the Language Policy Division and its predecessors in Strasbourg. This is clearly seen in the revision of our language curricula and in didactic approaches over the last three decades The latest examples are the new language curricula for the comprehensive school and the upper secondary school (2003/2004) which include an adapted version of the CEFR proficiency scales as a new element. They were introduced to provide a better description of the intended progression of language skills.

The CEFR, especially its reference levels, have been used since the late 1990s (starting with the preliminary version from 1996) in several projects related to setting frameworks for assessments and examinations (eg. scale development and validation). More recently there have been projects attempting to relate learning outcomes and examinations grades to the CEFR levels.
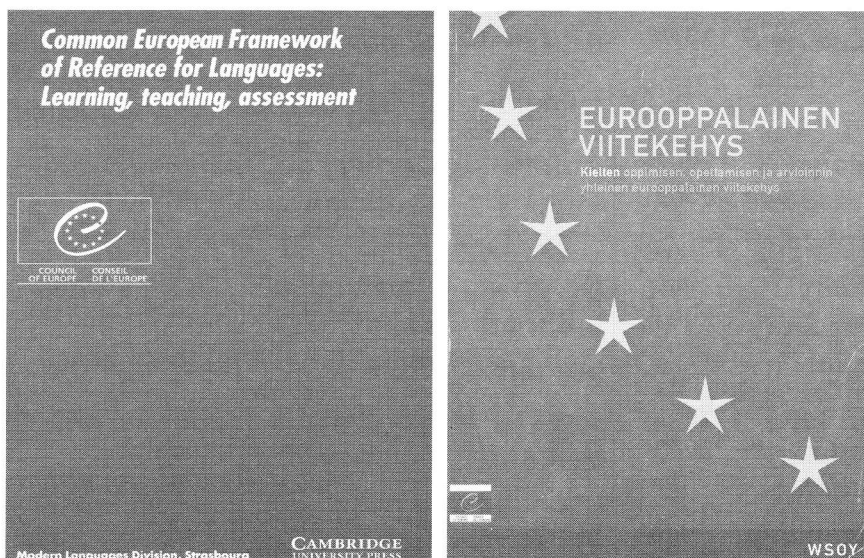
The presentation will discuss these developments and present some themes in greater detail. References to information sources will be provided.

# Using the CEFR – Case of Finland

**Sauli Takala, University of Jyväskylä**

**Successful Language Training: Setting Standards**
**An overview of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and its relevance to Korean language curriculum & evaluation**
**Seoul, June 29, 2007**

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# CEFR & its Finnish translation

# How has the CEFR been used in language education in Finland?

- Translated in 2003
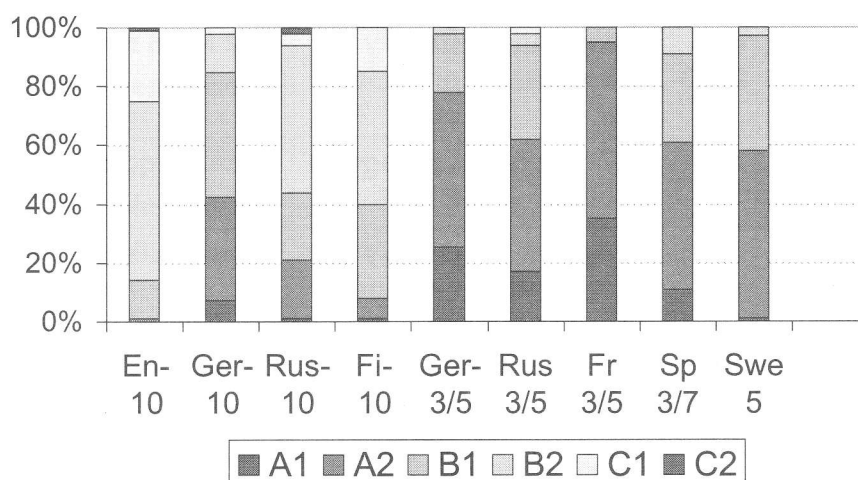
- Widely used in various contexts and projects

| Project | Time | Target group | Purpose | Use of CEFR |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| DIALANG (Phase 1) – EU funded | 1997-1999 | (Young) Adults | Diagnosis of proficiency: Internet based | • Self-assessment<br>• External Assessment/ Report Level<br>• Give feedback |
| National Language Certificates | 2001-2002 | Adults | Certify proficiency | • Scale development & validat.<br>• Report level |
| Tertiary lang. certification | 2000-2001 | Poly-technic students | Harmonise assessment | • Scale development & validat.<br>• Level linkage |
| Civil service lang. testing | 2002-2003 | Civil servants | Certify proficiency | Scale developent & validat.<br>Levels B1/B2/C1 |
| Citizenship lang. test | June1 2003 | Immig-rants | Certify proficiency | • Required level: B1 |

| Project | Time | Target group | Purpose | Use of CEFR |
|---------|------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| Immig-ration | Oct. 2003 | Ingrian "repatr." | Certify proficien-cy | • A2 level required<br>• Computerized |
| National Curric. | 2004- | 7-19 year olds | Linkage to CEFR | • Scale equation<br>• Level linkage |
| Matric. Exam. | 2001- | Upper second. | Certify proficien-cy | • Level linkage |
| National Assess-ment | 2007 | Lower second. | Assess proficien-cy levels | • Level linkage<br> (cf. "European Indicator") |
| Other projects | 2001- | Various | Link courses, materials.. | • Content<br>• Levels |

Linking Matriculation Examinations to the CEFR:

What level is obtained at the end of the Upper Secondary School (age 19?): tentative linkage during the first round of linkage undertaking
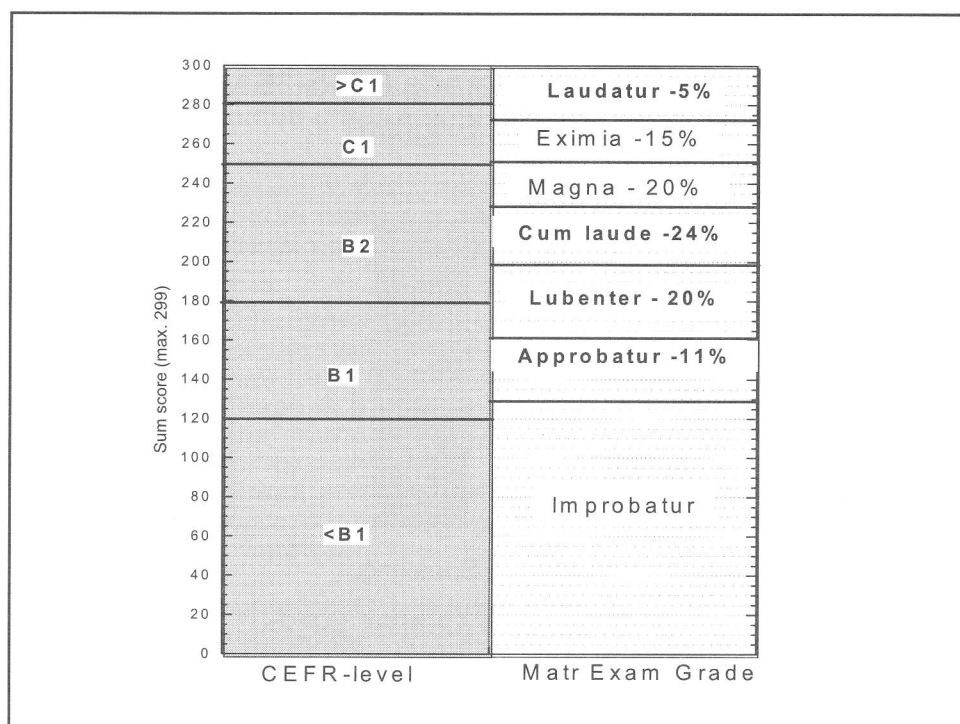
## Distribution of Levels (%) in the Matric Exam (19yrs)

A stacked bar chart showing the distribution of CEFR levels (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2) across different language exams. The vertical axis shows percentages from 0% to 100%. The horizontal axis shows the exam categories:

| En-10 | Ger-10 | Rus-10 | Fi-10 | Ger-3/5 | Rus-3/5 | Fr-3/5 | Sp-3/7 | Swe-5 |

Legend: ■ A1  ■ A2  ▨ B1  ▨ B2  □ C1  ■ C2

**10**: 10 years of study; **3/5: 3-5 years of study**; **5 years of study**

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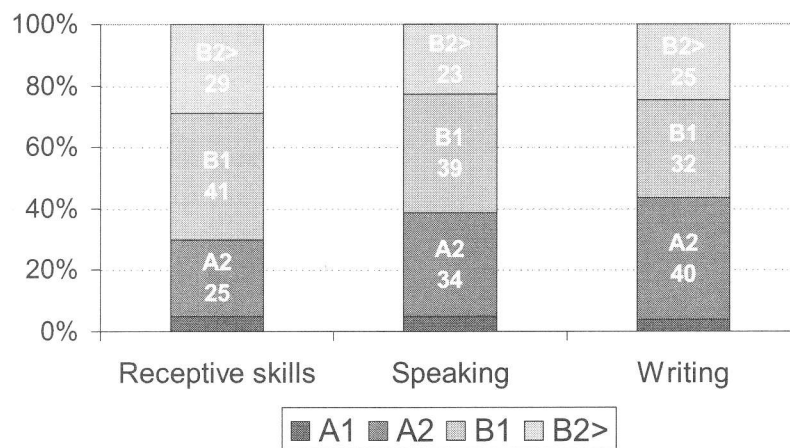How to accommodate national grading and reporting systems and the CEFR (levels)?

• Matriculation exam grades from top to pass: roughly 5%, 15%, 20%, 24%, 20%, 11% <> CEFR 6 levels A1-C2

• One solution: by means of conversion tables/ charts, which show how national grades are related to the CEF levels.

Linking National Assessment outcomes to the CEFR:

• What level is obtained in English at the end of the Comprehensive School after seven years of study (age 15-16?)

## Level in English (%): grade 9 (15-16 years; 7 years of English)

| Skill | A1 | A2 | B1 | B2> |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Receptive skills | | 25 | 41 | 29 |
| Speaking | | 34 | 39 | 23 |
| Writing | | 40 | 32 | 25 |

Legend: ■ A1 ■ A2 ▨ B1 ▢ B2>

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Linking examinations results has only begun.

• More needs to be done:

• Replication to verify tentative linkages.

• International co-operation to develop competence in linking examinations/tests to the CEFR.

• International co-operation in mutual verifying of national efforts of linkage?

**Some references**

• Tuokko, E. (2007) What level do pupils reach in English at the end of the comprehensive school?  U of Jyväskylä, Finland. (PhD thesis in Finnish, with English summary)

• Takala, S. & Kaftandjieva, F.  (2002) Relating the Finnish Matriculation Examination English Test Results to the CEF Scales.  Helsinki Seminar, June 31- July 2, 2002 (available by request from Takala: sjtakala@hotmail.com)

• Kaftandjieva, F. (2004) Standard setting. Section B in Reference Supplement to the Manual for relating language examinations to the CEFR. Council of Europe (available at: http://www.coe.int/T/DG4/Linguistic/Default-en-asp)
• Kaftandjieva, F. & Takala, S. (2002) Council of Europe Scales of Language Proficiency: A validation study.In Common European Framework of Reference. Case studies, Council of Europe, 106-129.
• Kaftandjieva, F. & Takala, S. (2003) Development and Validation of Scales of Language Proficiency. In: W. Vagle (ed.) Vurdering av språkferdighet, NTNU. Trondheim, 31-38 (available from Takala by request: sjtakala@hotmail.com)

• Information on adapting the CEF proficiency levels to the Finnish school curricula can be obtained from Sauli Takala by request (sjtakala@hotmail.com)