Comparison of Language Systems

	Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB)	European Common Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
Proficiency Scale	• Initial (1-4)	• Basic User - A (A1, A2);
	• Intermediate (5-8)	• Independent User - B (B1, B2);
	Advanced (9-12)	• Proficient User - C (C1, C2)
Uses	The focus is primarily on practical language skills needed for everyday life, work, and social communication in Canada. It is used for immigration purposes and by various educational institutions and workplaces to assess language proficiency.	The CEFR is used across Europe and in other parts of the world for various purposes including education, immigration, and employment. It focuses on communicative language competence in speaking, writing, listening, and reading.
Similarities	Both systems provide a framework for assessing language proficiency. They are used for similar purposes like immigration, education, and employment. Each system includes multiple levels to describe a range of abilities from basic to advanced proficiency.	
Differences	The scale: CLB uses a 1-12 scale, while CEFR uses the A1-C2 scale. The focus of CLB is more on practical, everyday language use in the Canadian context, while the CEFR has a broader, more academic-oriented focus. CLB is specific to Canada and is primarily used for English and French, while CEFR is internationally recognized and used for various languages. The detailed descriptors of each level can vary, with the CEFR being more detailed in its categorization of language skills.	

