

## **©Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL)**

The Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL, formerly known as TOP) is a standardized test that aims to measure the Chinese proficiency of non-native speakers of Mandarin Chinese.

The level descriptors design of tasks/test items, test administration and scoring of the TOCFL have been standardized and developed under the strict scrutiny of Chinese language professionals in the fields of linguistics, language teaching and testing. The authentic materials used in the TOCFL are extracted from materials in daily life. In addition, these diversified texts are derived from a variety of fields including literature, science, art, geography and history.

Four levels of listening and reading tests have been developed to meet the needs of learners at different proficiency levels, including For Beginners, Basic, Intermediate and Advanced. Since 2011, the new version of TOCFL will be conducted in Taiwan. The names of the levels will be replaced in the new version by Beginner, Learner, Superior, and Master, corresponding to A2, B1, B2, and C1 in Common European Framework Reference for Languages (CEFR), respectively. The tests conducted overseas stay with the old version. Test takers can decide on the level of the TOCFL in consideration of their total learning hours and as a general gauge of their existing vocabulary base (see below.)

TOCFL test takers who successfully pass the test will receive a certificate certifying their current Chinese proficiency level. This certificate can serve as a Chinese proficiency credential for various purposes such as applying for a "Taiwan Scholarship", for admission to academic programs at colleges or universities in Taiwan, waiving the Chinese subject tests for overseas Chinese students for admission to a Taiwanese college/university, and, of course, for job applications.

Currently, TOCFL is offered two times every year on the first Saturday in May and November in Taiwan. The domestic test sites are available in northern, central, and southern Taiwan. Additionally, since 2006, TOCFL is available worldwide in Japan, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, Canada, USA, Paraguay, UK, France, Poland, Russia, Germany,

Argentina, Switzerland, Belgium, Austria, Sweden, and Mongolia. For more information, please refer to <http://www.sc-top.org.tw/>, e-mail [service@sc-top.org.tw](mailto:service@sc-top.org.tw) or call 886-2-7734-5638 during office hours.