A description of the computer and information literacy (CIL) proficiency levels[3] used in the International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS).

Level 4 (661 score points and more)

Students working at level 4 select the most relevant information to use for communicative purposes. They evaluate the usefulness of information based on criteria associated with their need and evaluate the reliability of information based on its content and probable origin. These students create information products that demonstrate a consideration of audience and communicative purpose. They also use appropriate software features to restructure and present information in a manner consistent with presentation conventions and adapt that information to suit the needs of an audience. Students working at level 4 demonstrate awareness of problems that can arise regarding the use of proprietary information on the Internet.

Level 3 (from 576 to 661 score points)

Students working at level 3 demonstrate the capacity to work independently when using computers as information-gathering and management tools. These students select the most appropriate information source to meet a specified purpose, retrieve information from given electronic sources to answer concrete questions, and follow instructions to use conventionally recognized software commands to edit, add content to, and reformat information products. They recognize that the credibility of Web-based information can be influenced by the identity, expertise, and motives of the information's creators.

Level 2 (from 492 to 576 score points)

Students working at level 2 use computers to complete basic and explicit information-gathering and management tasks. They locate explicit information from within given electronic sources. These students make basic edits and add content to existing information products in response to specific instructions. They create simple information products that show consistency of design and adherence to layout conventions. Students working at level 2 demonstrate awareness of mechanisms for protecting personal information and some consequences of public access to personal information.

Level 1 (from 407 to 492 score points)

Students working at level 1 demonstrate a functional working knowledge of computers as tools and a basic understanding of the consequences of computers being accessed by multiple users. They apply conventional software commands to perform basic communication tasks and add simple content to information products. They demonstrate familiarity with basic layout conventions of electronic documents.

---

[3]   From Labrecque & Dionne (2014), p.15