

Course Objectives

The course will help students attain the B1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) in English. Its focus will be on reading, listening, grammar and vocabulary.

Prerequisites

Students are expected to master English at the A2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference.

Course Contents

Grammar

Modals

can (ability, requests, permission); could (ability, possibility, polite requests); be able to; would (polite requests); will (offer); shall (suggestion, offer); should (advice); ought to (advice); may (possibility, probability); might (possibility, probability); have to (obligation); don't have to (lack of obligation); must (obligation); mustn't (prohibition); can't/must (deduction); have to vs must; need (necessity); needn't (lack of necessity); used to (past habits).

Verbs and Tenses

Present simple: states, habits, verbs not used in the continuous form;

Present continuous: present actions;

Present simple vs present continuous;

Present perfect simple: recent past with just, indefinite past with yet, already, never, ever, unfinished past with for and since;

Present perfect continuous;

Present perfect vs present perfect continuous;

Past simple: past events (regular and irregular verbs);

Past simple vs present perfect;

Past continuous: parallel past actions, continuous actions interrupted by the past simple tense;

Past continuous vs past simple;

Past perfect simple: narrative, reported speech;

Future with will and shall: offers, promises, predictions;

Future with present simple;

Future with present continuous;

Future with going to: plans, predictions;

Passive: present passive, past passive, etc;

Causative have/get;

Gerunds: after verbs and prepositions, as subjects and objects;

Infinitives: after verbs and adjectives;

Infinitive of purpose;

Gerunds vs infinitives

Verbs + gerund (e.g.: look forward to, keep, mind)

Verbs + infinitive (e.g.: want, would like)

Phrasal verbs: (e.g.: find out, look for, look after, get on, get off, go on, put on, put off, sign up, etc.)

Conditional Sentences

Simple Reported Speech

Statements, questions and commands (say, ask, tell); tense changes with reported speech.

Adjectives

Predicative and attributive; Quantitative (some, any, much, many, little, a little, few, a few, a lot of, lots of, etc.); Comparative and superlative forms (regular and irregular); Order of adjectives; Participles as adjectives; Compound adjectives.

Adverbs

Manner (quickly, carefully, etc.); Frequency (often, never, twice a day, etc.); Definite time (now, last week, etc.); Indefinite time (already, just, yet, etc.); Degree (very, too, rather, etc.); Place (here, there, etc.); Direction (left, right, to, from, etc.); Sequence (first, next, etc.); Sentence adverbs (too, either, etc.); Location (inside, next to, at home, etc.); Time (during, later etc.); Instrument (by, with, etc.); Miscellaneous (enough, like, as, due to, owing to, etc.); Order of adverbs.

Prepositions

Prepositions of time; Prepositions of place; Prepositional phrases (at the beginning of, by means of, by car, for sale, at last, etc.); Prepositions following nouns and adjectives (advice on, afraid of, etc.); Prepositions following verbs (laugh at, ask for, etc.).

Pronouns

Indefinite pronouns (somebody, anybody, everybody, etc.); Relative pronouns (who, which, that, whom, whose, where, omitted pronoun)

Connectives

and, but, or, either . . . or, when, while, until, before, after, as soon as, where, because, since, as, for, so that, (in order) to, so, so . . . that, such . . . that, if, unless, although

Lexis

There follows a general list of the lexis that should be mastered at B1 level.

Likes and dislikes; Daily life; Education; Entertainment and media; Environment; Food and drink;

Free time; Health, medicine and exercise; Hobbies and leisure; House and home; Natural world; People; Personal feelings, opinions and experiences; Personal identification; Places and buildings; Relations with other people; Shopping; Social interaction; Sport; Technology; Travel and holidays; Transport services; Weather; Works and jobs.

Reference material

Grammar files and lexical glossaries that can be found on the online B1 course (corsi-online.cla.unimo.it)

Further reference materials

Cotton, D., Favley, D., Kent, S. (n.d.). *Language Leader Intermediate*. Harlow, UK: Pearson.

Eastwood, J. (n.d.). *Oxford practice grammar*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Heyderman, E., & May, P. (2010). *Complete PET*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Murphy, R. (n.d.). *English grammar in use*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Learning outcomes

Students are expected to be able to understand both aural and written texts at the B1 level of the Common European Framework. In addition, they will be able to recognise and make appropriate use of grammar and lexis at the B1 level of the CEFR.