

Language Specifications

CEFR B1 – in black font. Candidates at this level should be familiar with and be able to use these structures and phrases.

CEFR **B2 – in blue font**. Candidates at this level should be familiar with and be able to use the structures and phrases for B1 level as well as the additional ones highlighted in **blue**.

CEFR **C1 – in red font**. Candidates at this level should be familiar with and be able to use all of the structures and phrases presented in this document, including those in **red**.

Present	Exemplary Structures
Simple Present	<i>I live in the UK. She works as a teacher. Do they need help? We don't have enough plates.</i>
Present Continuous	<i>He's fixing the car right now. The girl is sitting on the bench. I'm not driving right now, we can talk.</i>
Past	
Simple Past	<i>He left half an hour ago. He didn't take his house keys with him. Did she tell you about her plans?</i>
Past Continuous	<i>I was watching TV when the phone rang. What were you doing at that time? I wasn't watching TV, I was reading.</i>
Used to	<i>I used to go to school here. She used to like seafood.</i>
Would expressing habit in the past	<i>When he was younger, he would cycle to work every day.</i>
Past Perfect	<i>She had attended many interviews before she was offered her current job.</i>
Past Perfect Continuous	<i>I was tired, as I had been working for over ten hours.</i>
Future	
Future Simple	<i>I will help you with this project. Will you meet me at the house? They won't come to our house tomorrow.</i>
Future Continuous	<i>I will be working on this project tomorrow evening. I won't be doing anything else at that time. Will you also be working then?</i>
Going to	<i>He's going to help me in the garden. I'm not going to work for much longer. Are you going to do any shopping later?</i>
Present Continuous to talk about future	<i>She's seeing a doctor at 2 pm.</i>
Future Perfect	<i>Hopefully, I will have finished this task before you come to visit.</i>
Future Perfect Continuous	<i>She will have been studying psychology for 5 years when she graduates next year.</i>

Present Perfect	
Present Perfect Simple (with for, since, ever, never)	<i>I've lived here for two years. I haven't seen him since Monday. Have you ever been to Greece? We've never been to this restaurant.</i>
Present Perfect Continuous (also with recently)	<i>You've been spending a lot of time with your friends recently. Have you been using your bike much? If not, could I borrow it?</i>
Gerund and Infinitive	
to + infinitive (to express purpose)	<i>I'm going to the shop to get some milk. I'm eating a lot of fruit to stay healthy.</i>
gerunds	<i>Walking is the best form of exercise. Watching TV all day is not much fun.</i>
Conditionals	
Zero conditional	<i>If you heat water, it boils.</i>
First Conditional	<i>If you don't tell him the truth, he will be annoyed.</i>
Second Conditional	<i>If I won a lot of money, I'd buy a nice house.</i>
Third conditional	<i>If you had told me about your problem, I could have helped you.</i>
Mixed conditionals	<i>If I had studied harder, I'd be at university now. If I wasn't working next month, I'd have suggested that we go camping one weekend.</i>
Wish	
Wish (present)	<i>I wish I had a less stressful job. I wish you didn't criticise me all the time.</i>
Wish (past)	<i>I wish they hadn't come with us on holiday, I couldn't relax at all. She wished she hadn't argued with her sister.</i>
If only (for regrets)	<i>If only I hadn't been so stubborn about that decision!</i>
Passives	
Simple passive (present)	<i>This dress is made of cotton.</i>
Simple passive (past)	<i>The tree was damaged by the storm.</i>
All tenses	<i>This recipe has been given to me by my grandmother. I'm being eaten alive by these mosquitoes.</i>
Reported Speech	
Only with 'said' and 'told'	<i>She said that she wasn't hungry. I said that I would be happy to help. I told her that I was running late. My mum told me to visit</i>
Reporting verbs in the past simple: to report to advise	<i>They reported that the volcano might erupt at any time. He advised me to prepare well for the interview.</i>
Reporting verbs in past tenses: to report to advise to suggest to deny	<i>They reported that the volcano might erupt at any time. He advised me to prepare well for the interview. "Let's go to the beach, since it's a lovely day," she suggested. They denied breaking the vase, but I knew they had done it.</i>

Modal verbs	
Can / can't for permission	<i>You can have as much cake as you want. Can I open the window? You can't smoke in here.</i>
Can / can't for ability	<i>I can use Word well, but I can't use Excel at all. Can you swim well?</i>
Might for possibility	<i>I might go for a walk later today.</i>
Must for obligation	<i>You must remove your shoes in the hallway.</i>
Mustn't for prohibition	<i>You mustn't wear make up at school.</i>
Have to for obligation / lack of	<i>You have to study hard to pass your exam. You don't have to finish this task today.</i>
Should for obligation	<i>You should study harder to pass your exam.</i>
Need to for obligation	<i>You need to study harder to pass your exam.</i>
Shouldn't have	<i>You shouldn't have spoken so rudely to your colleague.</i>
Allowed to – lack of permission across all tenses	<i>She's not allowed to walk the dog by herself. She wasn't allowed to walk the dog by herself. She won't be allowed to walk the dog by herself.</i>
Must have (certainty)	<i>It must have been very difficult for you to talk so openly.</i>
Can't have (certainty)	<i>She can't have left the building, her handbag is still on her desk.</i>
Could have (speculation)	<i>I don't think anyone could have done anything. He had already made up his mind.</i>
Might have (speculation)	<i>He might have really believed that it was a good idea at the time.</i>
Adjectives	
comparative	<i>He is much taller than his brother. This sofa is more expansive than the other one. This pizza is as good as the one we had before. I'm feeling less tired than I did earlier.</i>
superlative	<i>She's the strongest girl I know.</i>
ending in '-ed' and '-ing'	<i>She was interested in the lecture. The lecture was interesting.</i>
Adverbs	
Adverbs of time, place, and frequency: various.	Examples: <i>I usually go to the gym on weekends. [frequency] They ate popcorn and watched movies all day. [time] I searched everywhere but I couldn't find him. [place]</i>
comparative	<i>You got ready more quickly than the others.</i>
superlative	<i>She worked the hardest of the group.</i>
Intensifiers	
really, too, so, enough, quite, extremely, much too	<i>I've got a really difficult decision to make. The water was extremely cold. He speaks too quickly.</i>
Phrasal verbs: <i>fill out sth give up sth put sth off</i>	<i>You need to fill out this form to register. She gave up cycling because she wasn't enjoying it. We should put the trip off until we save more money.</i>

<p><i>put sth on</i> <i>turn up (somewhere)</i> <i>turn sth down</i></p>	<p><i>I always put on my best dress for Sunday lunch.</i> <i>He wasn't invited, but he just turned up at the party!</i> <i>The job offer wasn't what I was looking for, so I turned it down.</i></p>
<p>Phrasal verbs: <i>make up 'your' mind</i> <i>get on with sb</i></p> <p><i>get over sth (recover/forget)</i></p> <p><i>go along with sth</i> <i>go on</i> <i>cut down on</i> <i>call off sth</i> <i>call sb back</i></p>	<p><i>She had made up her mind about him a long time ago.</i> <i>Me and my mum get on really well – she's my best friend.</i> <i>I finally got over the flu last week. She'll get over the argument soon, I hope.</i> <i>It wasn't my idea, but I went along with it.</i> <i>"Go on dad, finish the story please."</i> <i>I decided to cut down on sugar as part of my diet.</i> <i>They called off the match because of bad weather.</i> <i>Lily called me this morning, but I will have to call her back after I finish work.</i></p>
<p>Discourse markers (linking words)</p>	
<p>Connectors: but, because, and</p>	<p><i>They wanted to see the film, but it had bad reviews.</i> <i>They need to save money because they are buying a house.</i></p>
<p>To add something: Firstly/Secondly/Thirdly, also</p>	<p><i>Firstly, we need to organise the schedule.</i></p>
<p>Additionally, moreover, furthermore</p>	<p><i>Furthermore, the park needs new benches.</i></p>
<p>For contrast: however</p>	<p><i>I am happy for them. However, she is not a nice person.</i></p>
<p>Although, even though, on the one hand/on the other hand</p>	<p><i>Although she had decided what to do, she wasn't sure about her decision.</i> <i>On the one hand, she did not try hard enough. On the other hand, she had been very busy lately.</i></p>
<p>Despite/In spite of, nonetheless, whereas</p>	<p><i>They still went on the trip, despite the weather warning.</i> <i>The report was negative. Nonetheless, we went ahead with the project.</i></p>
<p>To summarise/conclude: in conclusion, to sum up, finally</p>	<p><i>In conclusion, we need to do more for the environment.</i> <i>Finally, he arrived at his destination.</i></p>
<p>On the whole, in general</p>	<p><i>On the whole, it is a good idea but it needs careful planning.</i></p>