

B2 Syllabus

Competences

Can **understand** the **main ideas** of **complex text** on both **concrete and abstract topics**, including **technical discussions** in his/her field of specialisation.

Can **interact** with a **degree of fluency and spontaneity** that makes regular interaction with native speakers possible **without strain for either party**.

Can **produce clear, detailed text** on a **wide range of subjects** and **explain** a **viewpoint** on a **topical issue** giving the **advantages and disadvantages of various options**.

Suggested structures, vocabulary areas, functions, pronunciation features

Functions

accounting for and sustaining opinions in discussions
commenting
constructing a chain of reasoned argument
dealing with and resolving conflicts
evaluating alternative proposals and making and responding to hypotheses
explaining a viewpoint on a topical issue
giving a presentation
giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options
leading a discussion and coming to a decision
putting points of view clearly,
speculating about causes, consequences, hypothetical situations

Skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing and interaction)

adding emphasis
exaggerating
fronting
interacting in social and professional situations
listening for gist and for detail
recognising different styles of written English
rephrasing
reporting events (film/book review, current affairs)
separating fact from opinion in written texts
taking part in discussions and/or debate
understanding a scientific text
understanding and writing diaries, emails and letters (job applications, apologies, complaints, advice)
understanding and writing imaginative or emotional texts (story, biography or dialogue)
understanding colloquial language
understanding fast speech
understanding humour in written and spoken English
understanding native speaker interaction (dialogues, conversation, anecdotes)
understanding old-fashioned English
understanding professional long turns (speeches, talks, stories, radio programmes)
writing articles and reviews
writing essays (opinion, headings, for, against)
writing notes, online postings
writing reports

Vocabulary groups

advertising	environmental issues	places
books and publishing	family	products and services
business	food and drink	relationships
climate and extreme weather	free time, sport and leisure	science, research and technology
clothes and fashion	health and fitness	shopping
crime and punishment	house and home	social behaviour
current affairs	jobs, professions	society and change
daily life, work and study	language	stages in your life
describing change	medical science	technology
describing feelings, events and experiences	personal information	the arts and media
education	personality and behaviour	travel and holidays
entertainment		

Pronunciation

intonation patterns (questions, echo questions, statements, agreeing and disagreeing, checking and confirming, emphasis)

linking and intonation in longer turns

reduced speech

stress patterns

understanding colloquial language

understanding fast speech - appropriate stress patterns and linking

Structures

For this level you will need the following, plus the structures listed in the Pre B2 Syllabus:

be supposed to

clauses of contrast, purpose and concession

complex infinitive and gerund forms

emphatic structures

formal Passive constructions (It is thought etc.)

future continuous

future perfect

if only

mixed conditionals

noun phrases

register

reporting verbs that summarise what people say

should have, must have, might have, can't have

the ... the + comparative

the Narrative tenses

used to, be used to, get used to

wish + past simple, past perfect, would + inf

word building