

B2+ Syllabus

Competences

Can **understand** a **wide range** of **demanding, longer texts**, and **recognise implicit meaning**.
Can **express** themselves **fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching** for expressions.
Can **use** language **flexibly and effectively** for **social, academic and professional purposes**.
Can **produce clear, well-structured, detailed** text on **complex subjects**, showing **controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices**.

Suggested structures, vocabulary areas, functions, pronunciation features

Functions

developing an argument systematically with appropriate highlighting of significant points, and relevant supporting detail
giving feedback on and following up statements and inferences by others
giving presentations with visuals
helping the development of discussion
managing informal conversations
politely disagreeing
outlining a case for compensation, using persuasive language and simple arguments to demand satisfaction
relating own contribution skilfully to those of others
stating clearly the limits to a concession

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

evaluating different ideas or solutions to a problem
expressing ideas and opinions with precision
identifying accurately arguments supporting and opposing points of view
identifying speaker viewpoints and attitudes
keeping up with an animated discussion
presenting and responding to complex lines of argument convincingly
summarising information, ideas and opinions from highly specialised sources within his/her field
understanding an online diary
understanding cause and effect in a complex text
understanding online responses to a question
understanding specialised articles with the occasional use of a dictionary for terminology.
understanding standard dialect likely to be encountered in social, professional or academic life
understanding standard spoken language on both familiar and unfamiliar topics, with extreme background noise, inadequate discourse structure and/or idiomatic usage
using a variety of linking expressions efficiently to mark clearly the relationships between ideas
using cohesive devices to link sentences together smoothly into clear, connected discourse
writing a formal email/letter
writing a proposal
writing an essay or report which develops an argument systematically with appropriate highlighting
writing an online review and blog entry
writing clear, well-structured expositions of complex subjects

Vocabulary groups for this level, plus the table in the B2 Syllabus:

colloquial and idiomatic language	influences and identity	socialising
communication	injuries and illnesses	success and failure
conflict and warfare	issues in education	talking about the news
emotions and personality	journalism	teaching and learning
explaining statistics	law and crime	the internet and social media
expressing vague impressions	leisure, relaxation and stress	the natural world
fame and fortune	marketing and advertising	travel problems and tourism
finance and investment	money	trends
food preparation and cooking	political issues	urban change
gender issues	proverbs and metaphors	voting and elections
healthcare	science and research	work practices/situations
higher education	social issues	

Pronunciation

connected speech
consonant clusters
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 B2 Syllabus:

adverbs and adverbial phrases
cleft sentences
collocations
complex comparatives
complex questions
continuous forms
double comparatives
exaggeration
future in the past
inversions
linking devices
modifying gradable and ungradable adjectives
narrative tenses
negative questions
not only and no sooner/as soon as
passive reporting verbs
past/present participle clauses
verb patterns with reporting verbs
will and would for habits