C1 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

discussing problems and hypothesising solutions
discussing proposals
getting the floor, gaining time and keeping it while thinking
giving a presentation on past, current and future trends
giving feedback on an event
joining a conversation already in progress
justifying a point of view
presenting formal recommendations
resolving conflicts in negotiations

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

arguing a formal position convincingly
expanding and supporting points of view with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples
following extended unstructured speech
giving clear, detailed descriptions and presentations on complex subjects
identifying finer points of detail including attitudes and implied as well as stated opinions
keeping up with a debate
recognising a wide range of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms
recognising and using register shifts
responding to questions and comments and answering complex lines of counter argument fluently, spontaneously and appropriately.
understanding extended speech on abstract and complex topics especially if the accent is unfamiliar
understanding in detail a wide range of lengthy, complex texts
understanding in detail lengthy, complex instructions or procedure
understanding non-standard usage, and identifying finer points of detail including implicit attitudes and relationships between speakers
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

assimilation
elision
intonation patterns (questions, echo questions, statements, agreeing and disagreeing, checking and confirming, emphasis)
linking and intonation in longer turns
pacing and spacing in natural speech
reduced speech
stress patterns
understanding colloquial language
understanding fast speech - appropriate stress patterns and linking
using stress and intonation to convey finer shades of meaning precisely

Structures
For this level you will need the following, plus the structures listed in the B2+ Syllabus:
cohesion (substitution and ellipsis)
concession clauses
describing habits and compulsions (will, always/forever + present continuous
emphasis and persuasion (alliteration, contrasting pairs, repetition, rhetorical questions, tripling)
emphasising advice (whatever, however, whenever etc., no matter what/which etc.)
hypothetical language (wishes and similar structures)
making formal recommendations (present subjunctive)
narrative techniques (previewing, creating/relieving suspense, the narrative present)
nominalisation
non-future uses of will (inferences, habits, refusals, insistence)
patterns with adjectives to express probability
perfect and continuous infinitives
present past and future perfect
puns
questions forms (embedded questions, statement + question word, indirect and negative questions, question tags and intonation, question word + is it)
reason clauses
unreal conditionals