

B2 SYLLABUS

Knowledge and understanding

The learner will know and understand phonology, morphology, syntax and lexis at level B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

The learner will be able to express themselves in spoken language with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with users of the target language. They will be able to understand complex text on both concrete and abstract topics. The learner will be able to 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.

Method of assessment

The acquisition of language and its application is monitored (with feedback) during the course with exercises and communication activities, particularly in groups and pairs, based on grammar, lexis, pronunciation, reading, listening and speaking. Three writing tasks are set for homework, corrected and awarded a mark.

A formal assessment is given at the end of the course with the final test.

Expected learning outcomes

Learning outcomes will be achieved through attendance of the course (focussing on practice of the language studied), regular homework (exercises and writing tasks) and self study.

Syllabus

Grammar: At the end of the course the learner will show a good degree of control of a range of simple grammatical forms and a selection of more complex language. They will communicate in writing and speaking with reasonable accuracy in familiar contexts and be able to evaluate propositions. Some mistakes may occur but will not negatively influence correct communication,

Grammar structures studied: Question formation, auxiliary verbs. Comparatives, present perfect simple and continuous, using adjectives as nouns, adjective order, narrative tenses, past perfect continuous, so such, the position of adverbs and adverbial phrases, future perfect and future continuous, zero and first conditionals, future time clauses, unreal conditionals, wish for present or future, wish for past regrets, used to, be used to, get used to, gerunds and infinitives, past modals, would rather, verbs of the senses, the passive, reporting verbs, clauses of contrast and purpose, uncountable and plural nouns, quantifiers, articles.

Lexis: The learner will use a wide range of simple and some more complex vocabulary appropriately to give and exchange views on familiar topics and some abstract concepts. They will be able to use synonyms and other repair strategies in order to express themselves.

Lexical areas and morphology studied: working out meaning from context; compound adjectives; modifiers; illnesses and injuries; clothes and fashion; air travel; adverbs and adverbial phrases; the environment; the weather; expression with *take*; feelings; expressing feelings with verbs or *-ed/-ing* adjectives; music; sleep; verbs often confused; the body; crime and punishment; the media; advertising; business; word building; prefixes and suffixes; science; collocation; word pairs.

Phonology: The learner will be able to speak reasonably fluently and will be intelligible with generally appropriate intonation. Sentence and word stress will be accurate and individual sounds generally articulated clearly. The learner will be able to produce extended stretches of language despite some hesitation.

Phonological features studied: friendly intonation; showing interest; intonation and sentence rhythm; vowel sounds; regular and irregular past forms; word stress and intonation; sentence stress and rhythm; sentence rhythm and intonation; words that come from other languages; sentence stress and linking; weak form of *have*; silent letters; changing stress on nouns and verbs; word stress with prefixes and suffixes; stress in word families; pausing and sentence stress.

Prerequisites

To take the course, learners must show that they have attained level B1 on the CEFR.

Coursebook

Latham-Koenig, Oxenden, C., Lambert, J., Seligson, P., English File Digital Gold B2, Fourth Edition, Student's Book & Workbook + Interactive Student's eBook + Interactive Entry Checker eBook + Online Practice + Entry Checker + Workbook Answer Key, Oxford, ISBN 9780194435949.

Final assessment

The final assessment is based on a computer test, speaking test and the highest mark awarded for the writing tasks set during the course.

Computer test (1 hour 30 minutes)

Listening: two passages (one monologue, one dialogue), multiple choice questions

Grammar: thirty items (multiple choice questions)

Vocabulary: thirty items (multiple choice questions)

Reading: three texts (two with multiple choice questions, one with true/false questions)

Speaking test (20 minutes)

Two students with the course teacher

Part 1: Course teacher asks individual questions on topics dealt with in the course but related to the individual experience of the students e.g. music, school studies, feelings (6 minutes)

Part 2: student discussion based on stimulus (question with five prompts) on a topic from those studied during the course (6 minutes)

Part 3: Course teacher asks questions connected with the topic in part 2 (6 minutes)

The score from the computer test is added to the combined scores from the speaking test and the writing task, with a weighting of 50 for the computer test and 50 for the speaking/writing task. The final assessment is expressed as a score out of 100, with 60/100 as the pass mark.

Teaching methods

Teacher led activities (presentation and explanation of language points)

Practice of language studied (exercises)

Skills practice (reading, writing, listening, speaking)

Group and pair work

Other information

The lessons will be held in English. Learners have to attend at least 80% of the course (60 out of the total 75 hours) to be eligible to take the final test. After successful completion of the course, the Open Badge, a digital tool for recognition of language skills, is awarded at level B2 on the CEFR.