

C1: CEFR Global Scale

1.1 Global Scale

- Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning.
- Can express him/herself 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.

1.2 Self-assessment grid

<p><i>Reception / Listening</i></p> <p>I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signaled explicitly. I can understand television programmes and films without too much effort.</p>	C1
<p><i>Reception / Reading</i></p> <p>I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I can understand specialised articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.</p>	C1
<p><i>Interaction / Spoken</i></p> <p>I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skilfully to those of other speakers</p>	C1
<p><i>Interaction / Written</i></p> <p>I can express myself with clarity and precision, relating to the addressee flexibly and effectively in an assured, personal, style</p>	C1
<p><i>Production / Spoken</i></p> <p>I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion</p>	C1
<p><i>Production / Written</i></p> <p>I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write detailed expositions of complex subjects in an essay or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can write different kinds of texts in a style appropriate to the reader in mind.</p>	C1

1.3 Qualitative aspects of spoken language use

<p>RANGE Has a good command of a broad range of language allowing him/her to select a formulation to express him/ herself clearly in an appropriate style on a wide range of general, academic, professional or leisure topics without having to restrict what he/she wants to say.</p>	C1
<p>ACCURACY Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical accuracy; errors are rare, difficult to spot and generally corrected when they do occur.</p>	C1
<p>FLUENCY Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. Only a conceptually difficult subject can hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.</p>	C1
<p>INTERACTION Can select a suitable phrase from a readily available range of discourse functions to preface his remarks in order to get or to keep the floor and to relate his/her own contributions skilfully to those of other speakers.</p>	C1
<p>COHERENCE Can produce clear, smoothly flowing, well-structured speech, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.</p>	C1

2. Illustrative scales

2.1 Communicative Activities

<p>OVERALL LISTENING COMPREHENSION Can understand enough to follow extended speech on abstract and complex topics beyond his/her own field, though he/she may need to confirm occasional details, especially if the accent is unfamiliar. Can recognise a wide range of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms, appreciating register shifts. Can follow extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly.</p>	C1
<p>UNDERSTANDING INTERACTION BETWEEN NATIVE SPEAKERS Can easily follow complex interactions between third parties in group discussion and debate, even on abstract, complex unfamiliar topics</p>	C1
<p>LISTENING AS A MEMBER OF A LIVE AUDIENCE Can follow most lectures, discussions and debates with relative ease.</p>	C1

<p>LISTENING TO ANNOUNCEMENTS & INSTRUCTIONS Can extract specific information from poor quality, audibly distorted public announcements e.g. in a station, sports stadium etc.</p> <p>Can understand complex technical information, such as operating instructions, specifications for familiar products and services.</p>	C1
<p>LISTENING TO RADIO AUDIO & RECORDINGS Can understand a wide range of recorded and broadcast audio material, including some non-standard usage, and identify finer points of detail including implicit attitudes and relationships between</p>	C1
<p>WATCHING TV AND FILM Can follow films employing a considerable degree of slang and idiomatic usage.</p>	C1
<p>OVERALL READING COMPREHENSION Can understand in detail lengthy, complex texts, whether or not they relate to his/her own area of speciality, provided he/she can reread difficult sections.</p>	C1
<p>READING CORRESPONDENCE Can understand any correspondence given the occasional use of a dictionary.</p>	C1
<p>READING FOR ORIENTATION No descriptor available</p>	C1
<p>READING FOR INFORMATION & ARGUMENT Can understand in detail a wide range of lengthy, complex texts likely to be encountered in social, professional or academic life, identifying finer points of detail including attitudes and implied as well as stated opinions.</p>	C1
<p>READING INSTRUCTIONS Can understand in detail lengthy, complex instructions on a new machine or procedure, whether or not the instructions relate to his/her own area of speciality, provided he/she can reread difficult sections.</p>	C1
<p>OVERALL SPOKEN INTERACTION Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. Has a good command of a broad lexical repertoire allowing gaps to be readily overcome with circumlocutions. There is little obvious searching for expressions or avoidance strategies; only a conceptually difficult subject can hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.</p>	C1
<p>UNDERSTANDING A NATIVE SPEAKER INTERLOCUTOR Can understand in detail speech on abstract and complex topics of a specialist nature beyond his/her own field, though he/she may need to confirm occasional details, especially if the accent is</p>	C1
<p>CONVERSATION Can use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes, including emotional, allusive and joking usage.</p>	C1
<p>INFORMAL DISCUSSION (WITH FRIENDS) Can easily follow and contribute to complex interactions between third parties in group discussion even on abstract, complex unfamiliar topics.</p>	C1

<p>FORMAL DISCUSSION (MEETINGS) Can easily keep up with the debate, even on abstract, complex unfamiliar topics.</p> <p>Can argue a formal position convincingly, responding to questions and comments and answering complex lines of counter argument fluently, spontaneously and appropriately.</p>	C1
<p>INTERVIEWING AND BEING INTERVIEWED Can participate fully in an interview, as either interviewer or interviewee, expanding and developing the point being discussed fluently without any support, and handling interjections</p>	C1
<p>OVERALL WRITTEN INTERACTION Can express him/herself with clarity and precision, relating to the addressee flexibly and</p>	C1
<p>CORRESPONDENCE Can express him/herself with clarity and precision in personal correspondence, using language flexibly and effectively, including emotional, allusive and joking usage.</p>	C1
<p>OVERALL SPOKEN PRODUCTION Can give clear, detailed descriptions and presentations on complex subjects, integrating sub themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.</p> <p>Can give clear, systematically developed descriptions and presentations, with appropriate highlighting of significant points, and relevant supporting detail.</p>	C1
<p>SUSTAINED MONOLOGUE: Describing Experience Can give clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects.</p> <p>Can give elaborate descriptions and narratives, integrating sub themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.</p>	C1
<p>PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS Can deliver announcements fluently, almost effortlessly, using stress and intonation to convey finer shades of meaning precisely.</p>	C1
<p>ADDRESSING AUDIENCES Can give a clear, well-structured presentation of a complex subject, expanding and supporting points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples.</p> <p>Can handle interjections well, responding spontaneously and almost effortlessly.</p>	C1
<p>OVERALL WRITTEN PRODUCTION Can write clear, well-structured texts of complex subjects, underlining the relevant salient issues, expanding and supporting points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples, and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.</p>	C1
<p>CREATIVE WRITING Can write clear, detailed, well-structured and developed descriptions and imaginative texts in an assured, personal, natural style appropriate to the reader in mind.</p>	C1
<p>REPORTS & ESSAYS Can write clear, well-structured expositions of complex subjects, underlining the relevant salient issues.</p> <p>Can expand and support points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples.</p>	

2.2 Communication Strategies

IDENTIFYING CUES & INFERRING (Spoken & Written) Is skilled at using contextual, grammatical and lexical cues to infer attitude, mood and intentions and anticipate what will come next.	C1
TAKING THE FLOOR (TURNTAKING) Can select a suitable phrase from a readily available range of discourse functions to preface his remarks appropriately in order to get the floor, or to gain time and keep the floor whilst	C1
COOPERATING Can relate own contribution skillfully to those of other speakers	C1
MONITORING & REPAIR Can backtrack when he/she encounters a difficulty and reformulate what he/she wants to say without fully interrupting the flow of speech.	C1

2.3 Working with Text

NOTE-TAKING (LECTURES, SEMINARS, ETC.) Can take detailed notes during a lecture on topics in his/her field of interest, recording the information so accurately and so close to the original that the notes could also be useful to other people.	C1
PROCESSING TEXT Can summarise long, demanding texts.	C1

2.4 Communicative Language Competence

Linguistic	
GENERAL LINGUISTIC RANGE Can select an appropriate formulation from a broad range of language to express him/herself clearly, without having to restrict what he/she wants to say.	C1
VOCABULARY RANGE as a good command of a broad lexical repertoire allowing gaps to be readily overcome with circumlocutions; little obvious searching for expressions or avoidance strategies. Good command of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms.	C1
GRAMMATICAL ACCURACY Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical accuracy; errors are rare and difficult to spot.	C1
VOCABULARY CONTROL Occasional minor slips, but no significant vocabulary errors.	C1
PHONOLOGICAL CONTROL	C1

Can vary intonation and place sentence stress correctly in order to express finer shades of meaning.	
ORTHOGRAPHIC CONTROL Layout, paragraphing and punctuation are consistent and helpful. Spelling is accurate, apart from occasional slips of the pen.	C1
Sociolinguistic	
SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROPRIATENESS Can recognise a wide range of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms, appreciating register shifts; may, however, need to confirm occasional details, especially if the accent is unfamiliar. Can follow films employing a considerable degree of slang and idiomatic usage. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes, including emotional, allusive and joking usage.	C1
Pragmatic	
TAKING THE FLOOR (TURNTAKING) Can select a suitable phrase from a readily available range of discourse functions to preface his remarks appropriately in order to get the floor, or to gain time and keep the floor whilst	C1
THEMATIC DEVELOPMENT Can give elaborate descriptions and narratives, integrating sub themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.	C1
COHERENCE Can produce clear, smoothly flowing, well-structured speech, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.	C1
PROPOSITIONAL PRECISION Can qualify opinions and statements precisely in relation to degrees of, for example, certainty/ uncertainty, belief/doubt, likelihood etc.	C1
SPOKEN FLUENCY Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. Only a conceptually difficult subject can hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.	C1

Information presented in the table is taken from the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching & Assessment Structured overview of all CEFR scales.

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