

SPECIFICATIONS FOR GENERAL ENGLISH LEVELS

Levels	LISTENING	SPEAKING	READING	WRITING	GRAMMAR
Advanced (C1)	Understands all types of oral language.	Is very comfortable in conversations (uses idioms). Can discuss and give presentations.	Can read any abstract or complex text (professional reports, academic references).	Can write a fluent text stylistically adapted to the objective. Can summarize a conference.	Master of the grammar of formal language.
Upper intermediate (B2)	Can understand information from the media or theoretical lectures in standard English.	Can speak precisely about a wide range of topics (professional, news) and can communicate with a native speaker without difficulty.	Understands the gist of complex texts (articles, reports).	Can write clear and detailed texts about familiar topics, but not long, complex texts.	The grammar is known and generally well applied. Some traditional mistakes are made, and some words of the formal language are missing.
Intermediate (B1)	Understands most of the information about familiar topics (job, leisure). Understands the gist of radio or TV programmes when general English is used.	Can manage most daily situations (can explain a film, an event, express wishes, formulate projects. Normal fluency.	Can understand factual, newspaper articles, everyday letters.	Can write short texts about familiar or personal topics.	Knows the basic rules but applies them incorrectly. Basic vocabulary.
Base (A2)	Understands most of the information in simple and slow conversations about familiar topics (family, concrete environment).	Can speak about familiar or daily topics, communicate and ask for simple information, hesitates a lot. A limited dialogue is possible.	Can understand direct, simple texts (menus, schedules, signs, leaflets).	Can write a short letter of thanks, a postcard and fill in most personal forms. Many mistakes.	The grammar is very vague (verbs are not conjugated, or wrongly used, wrong use of prepositions, few complete sentences). Limited vocabulary.
Elementary (A1)	Understands familiar words or expressions, simple questions when asked slowly and clearly, but cannot understand a continuous conversation.	Can ask simple questions and use simple language (express tastes, talk about the family), but cannot really take part in a conversation.	Can understand elementary information (notices, instructions) thanks to a few known words.	Can fill in an elementary form or leave a simple short message.	Little or no theoretical knowledge. Possibly some vague reminiscence from school.
Beginner	Understands little or nothing.	Cannot speak or answer simple questions.	Recognises only a few words.	Cannot write English.	No knowledge.