

CEFR A1 Access level

contents and competences

It is important to point out that each level builds on the knowledge and skills learned in the previous levels.

Candidates can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce themselves and others and can answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

General linguistic range

Candidates have a very basic range of simple expressions about personal details and needs of a concrete type.

Speaking

Candidates can interact in a limited way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help them formulate what they are trying to say. They can answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.

Listening

Candidates can recognise familiar words and very basic phrases concerning themselves, their family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.

Reading and writing

Candidates can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues. They can write simple isolated phrases and sentences.

Further details

Vocabulary range and control

Candidates have a basic vocabulary repertoire of isolated words and phrases related to particular concrete situations. This includes but is not limited to:

- numbers up to 50
- shapes
- the weather
- seasons
- months
- hobbies and free time activities
- food and drinks
- items of clothing
- means of transport

Grammatical accuracy

Candidates show only limited control of a few simple grammatical structures and sentence patterns in a learned repertoire. These include but are not limited to:

- verb to be in the affirmative, negative and interrogative forms
- present continuous
- basic actions
- question words: who, what, where, when
- have and has got in the affirmative and negative forms
- possessive adjectives: my, your, his and her
- number - adjective - noun structure. E.g. three blue cars
- like and don't like
- can and can't
- simple prepositions

Additional information on modules

Speaking module:

- 2 candidates or a group of 3 in case of odd numbered candidates
- Up to 10 minutes
- 1 solo task
- 1 pair or group-of-three task

Listening module:

- Up to 10 minutes
- 3 closed tasks

Reading and writing module:

- Up to 60 minutes
- 3 closed tasks
- 2 open tasks