

# CEFR A2 Preliminary 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 sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of their background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

### **General linguistic range**

Candidates can produce brief everyday expressions in order to satisfy simple needs of a concrete type: personal details, daily routines, wants and needs.

### **Speaking**

Candidates can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. They can handle very short social exchanges, even though they cannot usually understand enough to keep the conversation going.

### **Listening**

Candidates can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). They can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.

### **Reading and writing**

Candidates can read very short, simple texts. They can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material. They can understand short simple personal letters. They can write short, simple notes and messages relating to matters in areas of immediate need. They can write very simple personal letters.

## Further details

### Vocabulary range and control

Candidates have sufficient vocabulary for the expression of basic communicative needs. Can control a narrow repertoire dealing with concrete everyday needs. This includes but is not limited to:

- memories
- shopping
- entertainment
- travelling
- the natural world
- food and health
- school and education
- work and workplaces

### Grammatical accuracy

Candidates use some simple structures correctly, but still systematically make basic mistakes - for example, they tend to mix up tenses and forget to mark agreement; nevertheless, it is usually clear what they are trying to say. Structures at this level include but are not limited to:

- past simple
- past time expressions
- time adverbials
- regular and irregular verbs
- past of the verb to be
- used to
- there was and there were
- future: going to
- infinitive of purpose
- verbs followed by infinitives
- modals: ability, possibility, certainty, obligation and advice
- comparatives and superlatives
- indefinite pronouns
- too and enough
- possessive adjectives
- linkers and connectors

## 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 15 minutes
- 1 closed task
- 2 open tasks

### ***Reading and writing module:***

- Up to 60 minutes
- 5 open tasks