

CEFR A1+ Achiever 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 expressions and basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce themselves and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know, things they have, activities they and the people they know do. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks clearly and is prepared to help.

General linguistic range

Candidates have a basic range of simple expressions. They can produce brief everyday expressions in order to satisfy simple needs of a concrete type: personal details, daily routines, wants and needs, requests for information.

Speaking

Candidates can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to rephrase things and help them formulate what they are trying to say. They can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters.

Listening

Candidates can recognise familiar words and very basic phrases concerning themselves, their family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly. They can follow conversations on familiar topics provided these are delivered in clearly articulated speech.

Reading and writing

Candidates can understand simple texts related to family matters, education, work and the present time. They can write a series of simple phrases and sentences linked with simple connectors.

Further details

Vocabulary range and control

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

- numbers up to 100
- ordinal numbers
- the time and parts of the day
- dates
- countries and nationalities
- daily routines
- the family
- jobs and occupations
- school or workplace
- buildings
- places
- the town
- directions

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:

- simple present
- adverbs of frequency
- all possessive adjectives
- there is and there are
- singular and regular and irregular plural nouns
- the imperative
- can and can't
- like, love, enjoy, hate + ing
- demonstratives: this, that, these, those
- prepositions of place and time
- countable and uncountable nouns
- many, much, some, any and a lot of
- how many and how much
- basic 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 10 minutes
- 3 closed tasks

Reading and writing module:

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