



GRIFFITH COLLEGE

Griffith Institute of Language

The Common European Framework of
Reference for Languages (CEFR)

CEFRL Alignment

2025



What is CEFR?

Describes what learners *can do* at different stages of language learning.

It is a global standard for describing language ability

Levels:

A = Basic user (A1, A2)

B = Independent user (B1, B2)

C = Proficient user (C1, C2)

There is also a **Pre-A1** for complete beginners

Sometimes levels are split into “core” and “+” (e.g., A2 and A2+)





Modes of Communication

The CEFR describes language ability in **four modes**:

- **Reception** (listening, reading)
- **Production** (speaking, writing)
- **Interaction** (spoken & written exchanges)

Mediation (helping others communicate, e.g., summarising texts, translating, handling sensitive situations)

In practice, we usually focus on: Reception, Production, and Interaction, but mediation skills can also be integrated.

CEFR is flexible - learners may be stronger in one skill (e.g., reading) than another (e.g., speaking).





Why CEFR is Flexible

CEFR is a tool, not a fixed rulebook.

It allows teachers and institutions to **adapt descriptors** to local needs, while still keeping a standardised system.

It defines **threshold abilities**: if a learner cannot demonstrate the descriptors at a level, they are not considered to have that level.



Benefits of Aligning Curriculum with CEFR



Creates a
**shared,
transparent
understanding**
of ability
across schools



Gives
learners a
clear way to
**compare
programmes**



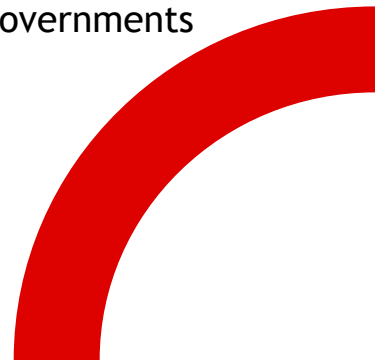
Supports
**quality
assurance**
within and
across
providers.



CEFR has
**expert
consensus**
– trusted
worldwide



Builds
**international
recognition** -
useful for schools,
universities, and
governments



Key Takeaways

CEFR is a **common language** to talk about language learning.

01

Levels A1-C2 describe progression clearly and globally.

02

Using CEFR helps learners, teachers, schools, and international partners stay aligned.





CERF Levels

Quick Reference Guide

A - BASIC USER

A1 - Beginner

- Can understand and use simple everyday expressions.
- Can introduce themselves and ask/answer basic personal questions.
- Can interact if the other person speaks slowly and clearly.

A2 - Elementary

- Can understand simple sentences about familiar topics (family, shopping, work).
- Can communicate in routine tasks requiring direct exchange of information.
- Can describe background, immediate needs, and simple matters.



CERF Levels Quick Reference Guide

B - INDEPENDENT USER

B1 - Intermediate

- Can understand main points of clear, standard speech (school, work, leisure).
- Can handle travel situations in areas where the language is spoken.
- Can produce simple, connected text on familiar topics.
- Can describe experiences, events, and plans.

B2 - Upper-Intermediate

- Can understand the main ideas of complex texts, including technical discussions.
- Can interact fluently and spontaneously with native speakers.
- Can produce clear, detailed text on a range of subjects.
- Can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue.



CERF Levels

Quick Reference Guide

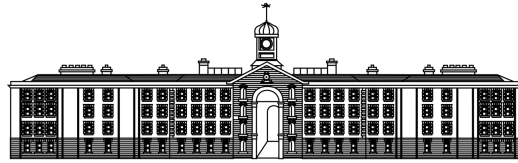
C - PROFICIENT USER

C1 - Advanced

- Can understand a wide range of demanding texts and implicit meanings.
- Can express ideas fluently and spontaneously without searching for words.
- Can use language flexibly for social, academic, and professional purposes.
- Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects.

C2 - Mastery

- Can understand virtually everything heard or read.
- Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources.
- Can express themselves very fluently, precisely, and naturally in complex situations.



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Test your knowledge

