

English Language (Basic Course B2)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to take students to level B2 in a working environment.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Attainment of level B2 assumes that the student: understands the key points of complex theoretical and practical texts, can understand technical discussion related to his/her field of study; is able to interact fluently with native speakers; can produce clear detailed texts on a wide range of topics and explain a point of view on a topic giving the pros and cons of the various options.

The course therefore includes:

- a) the acquisition of vocabulary for effective interaction in situations of daily life and work.
- b) knowledge and active use of the principal structures of the English language:
 - word order and sentence structure;
 - verbal forms: affirmatives, interrogatives (interrogative structures with: *what, where, when, who, whose, which, how, why*), negatives, exclamations; structures followed by the gerund or infinitive; elliptic forms;
 - regular and irregular verbs: *present simple, present continuous, present perfect simple, present perfect continuous, past simple, past continuous, past perfect*; future using *will, shall, be going to, present continuous* and *present simple*; *future continuous, future perfect*, imperatives;
 - present and past passive forms, simple and continuous, with modals and with *-ing* forms;
 - modal verbs: *can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, might, must, have to, need* including perfect forms (*could have, should have* etc.);
 - conditionals: type zero, type 1, type 2, type 3;
 - indirect speech;
 - nouns: singular, plural, countable/uncountable, compound nouns, genitive;

- pronouns: personal, possessive, reflexive, impersonal, demonstrative, indefinite and *quantifiers* (*some, any, much, many, a few, a lot of, all*), relative;
- adjectives: possessives; demonstratives; colour, size, shape, quality, nationality; regular and irregular comparative and superlative forms;
- adverbs: of time, of manner, of place; adverb position;
- definite and indefinite articles;
- prepositions: of place, time, movement, compound, instrument; position relative to nouns, adjectives and verbs;
- cardinal and ordinal numbers;
- the alphabet;
- spelling and punctuation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Depending on the result of the entry test

- J. HUGHES, J. NAUNTON, *Business Result Intermediate 2nd Edition*, Oxford University Press. Student's Book.
- M. DUCKWORTH, R. TURNER, *Business Result Upper-Intermediate Student's Book* (comprende DVD con video), Oxford University Press.

Other supplementary material will be provided during the course and available in the photocopy shop.

Recommended text books for all courses

R. MURPHY - L. PALLINI, *Essential Grammar in Use with CD and answers Fourth edition*, Cambridge University Press (reference grammar)

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R. MURPHY, *English Grammar in Use, Fourth edition*, Cambridge University Press

COURSE METHODOLOGY

During the first week of official lessons students take an entry test to ascertain their level, after which they will be assigned to the following groups:

- a good knowledge of English (B2 level): admission to the B2 examination at the first sitting following the entry test;
- reasonable knowledge of English: admission to a B2 level course of 100 hours.

- insufficient knowledge of English: admission to a B1 level course of 100 hours (see B1 course description).

In order to acquire or consolidate the necessary receptive skills (listening and reading) and productive skills (speaking and writing) to attain level B2 and therefore pass the final examination, attendance at lessons and individual study (including the use of the I.T. laboratory – see timetable on notice board) is strongly recommended.

METHOD OF EVALUATION

The exam is in three parts:

1. *Reading and Writing* (55% of the total)
2. *Listening* (20% of the total)
3. *Speaking* (25% of the total; students are admitted to the *Speaking* part only after passing the others).

Students who attend lessons are admitted to intermediate tests which take the place of the written part of the examination (*reading, writing and listening*).

INFORMATION

All information regarding SeLdA (Servizio Linguistico d'Ateneo) is posted on the notice boards and on the university's website <http://selda.unicatt.it/piacenza>.