

Macmillan Practice Online CEF Level B1

This course is to match CEF Level B1. There are 8 units to this course, each with 4 syllabus items. Each syllabus item has three syllabus components: Grammar Focus, Topic Focus and a 'Can do' statement.

UNIT 1

Description

- 1 People: behaviour And character** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about people's behaviour and character. It also provides practice of word formation and the use of 'would' for predicting behaviour.

Syllabus components Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Listening to the descriptions of four people. Practising adjective formation to talk about behaviour and character. Reading a text about noisy neighbours. Reading a text about job interviews. Practising synonyms to describe people.
Grammar Focus	Using 'would' to talk about predictable behaviour. Practising the present simple and the present continuous. Using negative prefixes to form negative adjectives.
'Can do' statement	I can understand straightforward texts on subjects related to my field of interest. I can guess the meaning of unknown words from the context and understand sentence meaning if the topic discussed is familiar.

- 2 People: habits and lifestyles** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about past habits and lifestyles. It also provides practice of the use of 'used to' and 'would' and inversion with 'so', 'neither' and 'nor'.

Syllabus components Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Describing past habits and customs. Reading about a famous person. Listening to a woman talk about her best friend.
Grammar Focus	Using 'used to' and 'would' to talk about past habits and states. Practising reported speech. Using 'so', 'neither' and 'nor'.
'Can do' statement	I can search one long or several short texts to locate specific information I need to help me complete a task.

- 3 People: personality and emotions** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about people's personality and emotions. It also provides practice of the present perfect and the past simple and quantifiers.

Syllabus components Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Listening to someone talking to different people. Listening to identify people's attitude by means of intonation and stress. Listening to people dealing with dissatisfied customers. Describing a horrible job. Reading about women as entrepreneurs.
Grammar Focus	Using the infinitive to give advice. Using the past simple and present perfect to describe a job. Using quantifiers. checking your knowledge of the use of 'been' and 'gone'.
'Can do' statement	I can understand straightforward factual information about common everyday or job-related topics, identifying both general messages and specific details, provided the speech is clear and generally familiar accent is used.

- 4 People: problems and ambitions** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about personal problems. It also provides practice of 'should' and conditional sentences.

Syllabus components Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Listening to people giving advice. Listening to someone talk about his professional career. Reading about how to be successful at job interviews.
Grammar Focus	Using 'should' and 'shouldn't' to give advice. Checking your knowledge of 'should' and 'ought to' to give advice. Checking your knowledge of the use of the first conditional. Checking your knowledge of the use of the second conditional. Practising the first, second and third conditional. Checking your knowledge of 'would' in the second and third conditionals.
'Can do' statement	I can find and understand general information I need in everyday material, such as letters, brochures and short official documents. I can generally follow the main points of extended discussion around me, provided speech is clear and in standard language.

UNIT 2

Description

- 1 Spare time: cinema** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about films and film stars. It also provides practice of the present perfect, past tenses and conjunctions.

Syllabus components **Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus Listening to a radio programme about films. Reading a text about the Titanic. Listening about how cartoons are made. Reading about Marilyn Monroe.

Grammar Focus Practising the present perfect with 'for' and 'since'. Practising the use of conjunctions 'and' and 'but'. Contrasting the past simple and the past perfect. Testing your knowledge of passives and prepositions of time.

'Can do' statement I can catch the main points in broadcasts on familiar topics and topics of personal interest when the language is relatively slow and clear.

- 2 Spare time: holidays** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about holidays and travelling. It also provides practice of verbs, nouns and adjectives used to describe holiday activities.

Syllabus components **Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus Listening to people talking about their holidays. Completing a text about Rio de Janeiro. Listening to a conversation about pony-trekking.

Grammar Focus Practising verbs and nouns to describe holiday activities. Practising superlatives. Practising the use of object pronouns. Practising the use of adjectives to describe an outdoor activity. Practising the past simple.

'Can do' statement I can find and understand general information I need in everyday material, such as letters, brochures and official documents. I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly.

- 3 Spare time: sport** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about sports. It also provides practice of the use of 'must' and passive voice.

Syllabus components **Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus Using collocations related to football. Reading about the rules of football. Reading a text about the FIFA World Cup. Listening to a conversation about windsurfing. Reading about BASE jumping.

Grammar Focus Practising the use of 'does', 'goes' and 'plays'. Practising the use of 'must' for obligation. Contrasting active and passive verbs. Checking your knowledge of the passive form of modals. Checking your knowledge of the passive form of the present continuous.

'Can do' statement I can search one long or several short texts to locate specific information I need to help me complete a task. I can catch the main points in broadcasts on familiar topics and topics of personal interest when the language is relatively short and clear.

- 4 Spare time: music** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about music and musicians. It also provides practice of reported speech.

Syllabus components **Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus Practising vocabulary related to music. Listening to an interview with a rock star. Reading about the origins of blues. Reading about the history of blues music to do a matching exercise and answer questions. Listening to a conversation with an independent musician. Looking for information on the Internet to do a project on Cuban music.

Grammar Focus Practising reported questions. Checking your knowledge of 'yes/no' reported questions. Checking your knowledge of 'wh-' reported questions. Checking your knowledge of direct speech. Checking your knowledge of tense changes in reported speech.

'Can do' statement I can understand the main points of clear and standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly. I can search one long or several short texts to locate specific information I need to help me complete a task.

UNIT 3

Description

- 1 Shopping: shopping around** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to buy and sell things. It also provides practice of determiners - quantifiers, 'some', 'any', 'no', 'a/an'.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Practising expressions and phrases you might need for shopping. Practising the names of shops and what can be bought in them. Listening to conversations of people buying and selling things on radio programmes.

Grammar Focus

Practising the use of 'much' and 'many'. Practising the use of 'some', 'any', 'no', 'a/an'.

'Can do' statement

I can understand the information content of the majority of recorded or broadcast audio material about familiar subjects spoken relatively slowly and clearly.

- 2 Shopping: food and** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to shop for food and clothes. It also provides practice of the comparative and passive voice.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Listening to a conversation about healthy food in supermarkets. Using information on the Internet to do a project on high street stores.

Grammar Focus

Practising the comparative and superlative forms of adjectives. Practising different forms of the passive. Checking your knowledge of 'more' + adjective. Checking your knowledge of the past continuous passive. Checking your knowledge of the passive of 'shall/will'.

'Can do' statement

I can follow clear speech in everyday conversation, though in a real life situation I will sometimes have to ask for repetition of particular words and phrases. I can recognize the general line of argument in a text but not necessarily in detail.

- 3 Shopping: advertising** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to speak about marketing and advertising. It also provides practice of the use of prepositions and reported speech.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Reading a text about advertising a job. Practising words associated with marketing. Reading about comments made at a meeting about advertising

Grammar Focus

Practising prepositions following verbs, nouns and adjectives. Checking your knowledge of the use of nouns followed by prepositions: 'on', 'to', 'of', 'about', 'for', 'in'. Checking your knowledge of verbs followed by prepositions. Practising the use of verbs followed by prepositions. Practising the use of 'say' and 'tell' in reported speech. Practising the use of countable and uncountable nouns.

'Can do' statement

I can follow clear speech in everyday conversation, though in a real life situation I will sometimes have to ask for repetition of particular words and phrases. I can recognize the general line of argument in a text but not necessarily in detail.

- 4 Shopping: the shopping business** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about the business of shopping. It also provides practice of connecting words, tenses and compound nouns.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Listening to a business world report. Reading about online shopping. Reading an article about retail companies and extracting the main points to answer questions. Reading a news story about corporate competition. Reading about prices.

Grammar Focus

Revising a variety of verb tenses. Practising the use of linking words. Practising compound nouns. Checking your knowledge of the use of the present simple, the present continuous and the present perfect. Checking your knowledge of the difference between the present simple and the present perfect.

'Can do' statement

I can understand straightforward factual information about common everyday or job-related topics, identifying both general messages and specific details, provided speech is clear and a general familiar accent is used. I can recognize significant points in straightforward newspaper articles on familiar subjects.

UNIT 4

Description

- 1 Food and drink: delicious food** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about food and drink. It also provides practice of sentence stress, nouns and quantity words.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Practising vocabulary related to eating and drinking. Practising vocabulary about food. Using information on the Internet to do a project about chocolate. Practising vocabulary related to categories of food.

Grammar Focus

Identifying sentence stress. Checking your knowledge of countable and uncountable nouns. Practising word stress in sentences. Practising the use of quantity words.

'Can do' statement

I can search one long or several short texts to locate specific information I need to help me complete a task.

- 2 Food and drink: cooking** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about food and cooking. It also provides practice of articles, determiners and quantifiers.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Practising words and phrases associated with cooking and preparing food. Practising vocabulary connected with recipes. Listening to someone speak about a cookery course.

Grammar Focus

Contrasting definite, indefinite and zero articles. Practising words and phrases that describe quantity. Checking your knowledge of the use of 'a lot of', 'lots of', 'loads of', 'several'. Checking your knowledge of the use of 'all', 'half', 'none', 'the whole', 'most'. Practising the determiners 'both', 'either', 'none', 'all' and 'each'.

'Can do' statement

I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly. I can understand straightforward texts on subjects related to my fields of interest.

- 3 Food and drink: eating out** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about restaurants and eating out. It also provides practice of sentence stress and determiners.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Practising vocabulary used when eating out. Identifying the main stress in sentences and questions we use when eating out. Listening to a conversation about international food. Reading a text about a typical English café.

Grammar Focus

Checking your knowledge of the use of 'both ...and', 'either ... or', 'neither ... nor'. Checking your knowledge of the use of 'no', 'none/none of', 'neither of'. Checking your knowledge of the use of 'each' and 'every'.

'Can do' statement

I can follow clear speech in everyday conversation, though in a real life situation I will sometimes have to ask for repetition of particular words and phrases. I can search one long or several short texts to locate specific information I need to help me complete a task.

- 4 Food and drink: eating habits** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about eating habits. It also provides practice of determiners and quantifiers and nouns.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus

Listening to people from around the world talking about what they have for breakfast. Listening to a conversation about food and nutrition. Looking at information on the Internet to do a web project on regional food in the USA.

Grammar Focus

Checking your knowledge of the use of '(not) enough' and 'too' + adjective + infinitive. Practising the use of 'too' and 'enough'. Checking your knowledge of irregular countable nouns.

'Can do' statement

I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly. I can follow a lecture or a talk within my own field, provided the subject matter is familiar and the presentation straightforward and clearly organized.

UNIT 5

Description

- 1 Future: plans for the future** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about future plans. It also provides practice of future tenses and present tenses used for future meaning.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Listening to a musician talking about his future career. Reading about a woman's plans for the week. Reading a letter about a journey around the world. Listening to someone talking about a plan to kidnap a horse.
Grammar Focus	Practising the future continuous. Checking your knowledge of the use of the future continuous. Practising the use of the present continuous with future meaning. Practising various future tenses. Testing your knowledge of the use of the present continuous and future tenses.
'Can do' statement	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters well enough to correspond with a friend or acquaintance.

- 2 Future: what the future holds** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about what the future holds. It also provides practice of a range of future forms.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Reading a questionnaire about the future. Listening to telephone messages. Listening to people arranging to meet.
Grammar Focus	Practising the future with 'will' and 'won't'. Deciding why people use the future form. Contrasting the use of 'will' and 'won't', 'going to' and the present continuous. Checking your knowledge of the future continuous affirmative. Checking your knowledge of the future continuous negative.
'Can do' statement	I can understand straightforward texts on subjects related to my fields of interest. I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly.

- 3 Future: science or science fiction** This syllabus item provides useful practice of the kind of language we use to talk about space exploration and science fiction. It also provides practice of reported speech, future forms, the past simple and the present perfect.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Playing a game about space exploration. Practising vocabulary about astronomy. Listening to someone interviewing an astronaut. Listening to a news story about home in the future. Completing a text about UFOs. Playing a problem-solving game about setting up a business on a perfect new planet.
Grammar Focus	Practising reported questions and answers. Practising future forms. Checking your knowledge of expressing the future in the past. Contrasting the use of the past simple and the present perfect.
'Can do' statement	I can follow clear speech in everyday conversation, though in a real life situation I will sometimes have to ask for repetition of particular words and phrases.

- 4 Future: life in the future** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to speak about life in the future. It also provides practice of the future perfect and present tenses to speak about the future.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Completing texts about life in the future. Listening to a talk about the environment and the future. Completing a text about the future of English. Listening to two teachers talking about the future of learning English.
Grammar Focus	Practising the use of the future perfect. Checking your knowledge of the use the future perfect. Checking your knowledge of the use of the future perfect interrogative. Practising the use of the present simple and continuous to speak about the future. Checking your knowledge of how to use the present simple of 'be' to talk about events in the future.
'Can do' statement	I can follow a lecture or a talk within my own fields, provided the subject matter is familiar and the presentation straightforward and clearly organized.

1	Health: health problems	This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about health problems. It also provides practice of the use of the future tense and reflexive pronouns.
	Syllabus components	Syllabus component description
	Topic Focus	Practising vocabulary related to health problems. Practising vocabulary related to parts of the body. Listening to someone talk about an illness.
	Grammar Focus	Checking your knowledge of the use of reflexive pronouns and 'each other'. Practising the use of the future simple. Contrasting the use of the present simple and 'will + infinitive' to talk about the future. Checking your knowledge of the difference between 'will/won't' and the present simple to talk about the future. Checking your knowledge of the uses of reflexive and object pronouns. Testing your knowledge of tense and quantifiers.
	'Can do' statement	I can find and understand general information I need in everyday material, such as letters, brochures and short official documents. I can follow clear speech in everyday conversation, though in a real life situation I will sometimes have to ask for repetition of particular words and phrases.
2	Health: healthy lives	This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about living a healthy life. It also provides practice of different tenses.
	Syllabus components	Syllabus component description
	Topic Focus	Playing a game to identify words that belong to different lexical sets. Listening to a conversation about healthy lifestyles. Listening to a conversation about healthy food in supermarkets. Listening to someone giving a talk on life in London in the 17th century. Reading an article about health in the workplace.
	Grammar Focus	Contrasting the present simple and the present continuous. Practising different tenses to talk about the past. Checking your knowledge of the use of the past perfect affirmative. Checking your knowledge of the use of the future perfect negative.
	'Can do' statement	I can generally follow the main points of extended points of extended discussion around me, provided speech is clear and in standard language. I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly. I can recognize significant points in straightforward newspaper articles on familiar subjects.
3	Health: becoming older	This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about growing old and the passing of time. It also provides practice of modals of ability and permission and comparative and superlative adjectives.
	Syllabus components	Syllabus component description
	Topic Focus	Listening to a conversation about what two people could do when they were younger. Reading a text about the differences between being young in the present and in the past. Listening to an interview about life in the 1920s. Listening to a conversation about ageing workforce.
	Grammar Focus	Checking your knowledge of the use of 'could' to express ability in the past. Checking your knowledge of using 'can', 'may' and 'be allowed to' to express permission. Practising the use of comparatives and superlatives. Checking your knowledge of '(not) as ... as'; 'less ... than'.
	'Can do' statement	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly.
4	Health: keeping fit	This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about health and fitness. It also provides practice of '-ing' forms and infinitives and giving advice.
	Syllabus components	Syllabus component description
	Topic Focus	Listening to a conversation about cycling. Listening to a conversation about how to keep fit. Listening to a conversation about the services offered at a sports club.
	Grammar Focus	Checking your knowledge of the use of '-ing' forms and infinitives. Practising the use of 'should' and 'shouldn't' to express advice. Checking your knowledge of the use of the infinitive without 'to'. Checking your knowledge of modal verbs formed by the infinitive without 'to'.
	'Can do' statement	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters which occur regularly.

UNIT 7**Description**

- 1 The natural world: the animal kingdom** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about animals. It also provides practice of word formation and passive forms.

Syllabus components**Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus

Practising building vocabulary associated with animals and how they live. Practising the vocabulary we use to associate animals and the sounds they make. Reading a joke about a dog. Playing a game about street cats.

Grammar Focus

Using suffixes to make nouns from verbs. Practising all forms of the passive. Practising the past simple. Playing a game to practise forming questions. Checking your knowledge of the present perfect passive.

'Can do' statement

I can understand straightforward texts on subjects related to my field of interest. I can recognize a general line of argument in a text but not necessarily in detail.

- 2 The natural world: the environment** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about the environment. It also provides practice of phrasal verbs and present tenses.

Syllabus components**Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus

Listening to a recording about rainforests. Practising phrasal verbs related to a text about protecting the environment. Reading a text about how young people can protect the environment.

Grammar Focus

Checking your knowledge of word order with different types of phrasal verbs. Checking your knowledge of phrasal verbs. Practising the difference between the present simple and the present continuous. Practising the present passive.

'Can do' statement

I can understand the information content of the majority of recorded or broadcast audio material about familiar subjects spoken relatively slowly and clearly. I can recognize significant points in straightforward newspaper articles on familiar subjects.

- 3 The natural world: environmental problems** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about environmental problems. It also provides practice of the present perfect simple and continuous.

Syllabus components**Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus

Practising vocabulary related to environmental issues. Listening to teenagers talking about environmental problems and what they can do. Listening to a text about how tourism affects the environment. Practising vocabulary related to environmental issues. Reading a text about light pollution.

Grammar Focus

Practising the present perfect simple and continuous. Checking your knowledge of the difference between the present perfect simple and continuous. Practising the present passive.

'Can do' statement

I can generally follow the main points of extended discussion around me, provided the speech is clear and in standard language. I can understand straightforward texts on subjects related to my fields of interest.

- 4 The natural world: global warming and the forces of nature** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about global warming and natural disasters. It also provides practice of different tense forms and modal verbs.

Syllabus components**Syllabus component description**

Topic Focus

Playing a game to practise vocabulary related to the weather and pollution. Listening to a weather forecast. Reading a text about tidal waves. Reading a text about natural disasters. Completing a text about volcanoes.

Grammar Focus

Practising the past perfect simple and continuous. Practising a variety of past tenses. Practising a variety of tense forms. Practising a variety of modal verbs. Checking your knowledge of the difference between the past perfect simple and continuous.

'Can do' statement

I can understand the information content of the majority of recorded or broadcast audio material about familiar subjects spoken relatively slowly and clearly. I can understand straightforward texts on subjects related to my field of interest.

UNIT 8

Description

- 1 Education: school** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about school. It also provides practice of phrasal verbs and collocations.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Practising collocations related to the routine of going to school. Practising phrasal verbs related to school subjects. Listening to two students talking about the school library. Writing an essay on exam stress.
Grammar Focus	Practising the use of articles. Practising the use of 'neither' and 'so'. Practising phrasal verbs with 'up'. Practising the future with 'will' and 'won't'. Checking your knowledge of phrasal verbs.
'Can do' statement	I can give reasons and explanations for opinions, plans and actions. I can write very brief reports, which pass on routine factual information and state reasons for actions.

- 2 Education: students** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language that we use to talk about students and their experiences. It also provides practice of regrets, obligation and necessity.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Listening to the daily schedules of students. Listening to people talking about memories of student life. Practising informal spoken contractions. Listening to students talk about their studies of local history.
Grammar Focus	Practising the use of modals that express obligation and necessity.
'Can do' statement	I can follow clear speech in everyday conversation, though in a real life situation I will sometimes ask for repetition of particular words and phrases. I can follow a lecture or a talk within my own field, provided the subject matter is familiar and the presentation straightforward and clearly organized.

- 3 Education: teachers and learning** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about teachers and learning. It also provides practice of connectors and conditional sentences.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Listening to someone talking about learning languages. Listening to someone talk about why she chose to be a teacher. Reading a text about organizing a teachers' conference.
Grammar Focus	Practising the use of 'if', 'unless', 'in case', 'as long as' and 'when'. Practising conditional sentences with 'if' and 'unless'. Checking your knowledge of connectors of condition. Testing your knowledge of a variety of language areas. Listening to a dialogue to practice the use of 'if', 'unless' and 'when'.
'Can do' statement	I can generally follow the main points of extended discussion around me, provided the speech is clear and in standard language. I can understand straightforward factual information about common everyday or job-related topics, identifying both general messages and specific details, provided speech is clear and generally familiar accent is used.

- 4 Education: work and study** This syllabus item provides practice of the kind of language we use to talk about working and studying. It also provides practice of connecting words.

Syllabus components

Syllabus component description

Topic Focus	Practising collocations with 'get', 'do' and 'make'. Listening to someone talking about his career. Practising vocabulary related to university studies. Listening to someone booking a place on a training course. Listening to a radio programme about activity courses.
Grammar Focus	Practising linking words and phrases. Practising connecting words. Checking your knowledge of connectors of condition.
'Can do' statement	I can understand the information content of the majority of recorded or broadcast audio material about familiar subjects spoken relatively slowly and clearly. I can generally follow the main points of extended discussion around me, provided speech is clear and in standard language.