



## CAMBRIDGE C1 ACTIVATE PREPARATION COURSE

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The primary objective of this course is to activate students' grammatical and vocabulary knowledge, and practice the reading, listening and speaking skills associated with language use at CEFR C1 Vantage / Advanced level. The course will also introduce students to some of the tips and techniques required for successful completion of Cambridge English Advanced (CAE) examination tasks.

- **Curso y semestre:** 2025-2026, semestre II
- **Idioma:** inglés
- **Título:** C1 Intensive
- **Libro:** C1 Advanced 4 (incluido)
- **Profesor:** Stephen Markey (smarkey@unav.es)
- **Horario:** Martes, 18:00-20:30 - 20/01-24/03 Sem B2 Amigos
- **Aula:** Aula 06, Edificio Amigos

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

The successful CAE candidate (C1 level) will have acquired the following linguistic skills:

- **Speaking:** Level C1 users are capable of keeping up lengthy, casual conversations with a good degree of fluency. In the workplace, they can contribute effectively to meetings, seminars and conference-calls concerning their own area of responsibility or expertise. Students at this level can give a clear presentation on a familiar topic, and in tutorials or seminars, present, and to some extent, justify their opinions.
- **Writing:** At this level, personal letters and some more formal types of correspondence, such as a letter to a newspaper, can be dealt with. In the workplace, users can draft professional notes in seminars and lectures, make notes from written sources and write essays which demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively.
- **Reading:** At C1 level, users have the reading competence of an average native speaker. They are capable of understanding most magazine and newspaper articles. In the workplace, they can understand instructions, articles and reports in their own field. If studying, reading related to their own subject area presents few problems.
- **Listening:** Users at the level can cope with everyday life situations. They can enjoy a wide range of social contacts, and understand a great deal of what is broadcast on TV and radio, and in films. In the workplace, they can understand most of what takes place in meetings and seminars within their own area of work. Students at this level can follow much of what is being said at lectures, seminars and tutorials.

### GUIDED LEARNING HOURS



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According to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for language learning), the number of guided learning hours estimated to progress from a B2 to a C1 level is **200 hours**. (Total hours to achieve B2: 500-600, and to achieve C1 700-800 hours). Obviously, there are individual differences that must be taken into account but it should be clear that achieving a C1 level involves extensive personal work and commitment.

## PROGRAMME

*The Cambridge C1 Advanced exam consists of 4 papers. The course programme centres on each paper in the following way:*

### **Paper 1. Reading and Use of English.**

- What is tested in each part of the Use of English paper is explained and practised in class. (Part 1, multiple-choice cloze test. Part 2 open cloze test. Part 3 word formation. Part 4 sentence transformation).
- What is tested in each part of the Reading paper is explained and practised in class. (Part 5, multiple choice questions. Part 6 cross-text multiple matching exercise. Part 7 gap-fill exercise. Part 8 multiple-matching questions. Students will acquire the skills they need to improve their performance in each part of the reading paper.

**Paper 2. Writing.** The format, style and register of the following writing tasks are explained in class: an essay, formal and informal letters, a report, a proposal, an article and a review. Assignments are revised and corrected in detail and students are given specific suggestions on how to improve their written work.

**Paper 3. Listening.** The listening paper has four different parts. The general objectives include: understanding general meaning, gist, specific details, opinions, feelings and attitudes, etc. Students acquire the listening skills they need to optimise their performance in the examination.

**Paper 4. Speaking.** The classes centre on the acquiring the following language and skills: talking about yourself, likes and dislikes, the language of comparison and contrast, speculation and hypothesis, agreement and disagreement, decision-making, successful interaction, etc. Students are also given a complete mock oral exam during the course.

## ASSESSMENT

All participants will receive a final grade that reflects their performance in the course.

Grading criteria:

There will be an academic record, reflecting students' performance in the course. The final grade is based on attendance and participation and it will be either "meets the requirements" or "doesn't meet the requirements".

FUNDAE bonus criteria:

University staff subsidized by FUNDAE will receive the bonus if they meet the attendance requirements set by FUNDAE (in-presence classes: 75% of total sessions).

Additionally, they will receive a final grade reflecting their performance in the course (either "meets the requirements" or "doesn't meet the requirements").



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### Special Cases

Students with special needs must inform the instructor in advance to allow for appropriate accommodations.

### OFFICE HOURS

Please contact me by email to arrange a meeting.

Stephen Markey ([smarkey@unav.es](mailto:smarkey@unav.es)) Instituto de Idiomas, Amigos building

### BIBLIOGRAFÍA

#### Module 1:

Students will be given a copy of **Cambridge English Compact Advanced by Peter May**, this book will be used as the main base and structure of the course. However, additional material will also be provided.

A highly recommended book for all students and crucial for those in greater need of extra vocabulary and grammar practice is **Recycling Advanced English by Clare West**.

#### Module 2:

Students will be given a copy of **Cambridge English Advanced 4 (CAE)** as well as plenty of additional material for practice.