



## INTRODUCTION

This is the first semester of the B1-level course. The objective of this course is to prepare students to reach a B1 level of English according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. This represents the first stage of the 'Independent User' category.

The course covers the four main skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. It helps students to understand the main points of clear standard speech on topics related to work, school, leisure, family, etc; use the language to enter unprepared into conversations on topics which are familiar; and write practical texts such as formal letters or personal emails.

- **Degree:** n/a
- **Module/Content:** n/a
- **ECTS:** n/a
- **Course, semester:** Second semester
- **Course Type:** n/a
- **Language:** English
- **Classroom, Timetable:** Seminar B1, Tuesdays and Thursdays 14-15.30

## COMPETENCES

### General objectives of the Course

This course prepares you to reach the B1 stage of the Common European Framework as outlined by the Council of Europe. This represents the first stage of the 'Independent User' category.

Here are some examples of the skills you will acquire by the end of the course:

**Listening** - Understanding the main points of a clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.

Understanding of the main idea of radio or T.V. programmes on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.

**Reading** - Comprehension of texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language.

Description of events, feelings and wishes, in personal letters.

**Spoken interaction** - Ability to deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where English is spoken.

Ability to enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).

**Spoken production** - Students should be able to connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions.

Briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.



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Narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe particular reaction.

**Writing** - Ability to write simple connected text on topics which are familiar, or of personal interest.

Write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.

## PROGRAM

Classes will be twice a week, for 90 minutes.

The teacher will provide some input about grammar, vocabulary, reading, etc. and students will do some activities and exercises to make sure they have assimilated that input. In any case, classes will be as dynamic as possible and students are expected to actively participate in them.

In every class all four skills necessary to learn a language will be covered: written comprehension (reading), written production (writing), oral comprehension (listening) and oral interaction (listening and speaking). But the focus will be placed, in particular, on **oral comprehension and interaction**.

Students are supposed to do extra work at home (**about 3-5 hours every week**) to review the content covered in the classes and to practice **further listening and oral skills**. Most of this work will not be corrected in the classroom, because students will be provided with an answer key to the exercises or because the objective of the activity is purely to gain fluency in the language. Consequently, **students** are expected to be **autonomous** (to a certain extent) in their learning.

The use of **ADI is essential** in this course as students will find **extra resources** and further activities and clarifications to a language point on this e-learning platform.

Furthermore, the coursebook (*English File B1, 4th Edition*, Oxford University Press) includes practice exercises as well as access to an online platform ([englishfileonline.com](http://englishfileonline.com)) with additional resources.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

A wide range of exercises, activities and tasks will be used to help students achieve the B1.2-level.

Particular emphasis will be placed on expanding their confidence in their oral skills (speaking and listening).

## ASSESSMENT

**Mid-term exam 30%** (February 2024):

Grammar & Vocabulary 10% / Listening 10% / Reading 10%

**Writings 10%:**

6 writings to be done in the classroom (one to be discarded)

**Oral activities 10%:**



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10 oral activities to be done at home

**Final exam 50%** (May 2024):

Grammar and Vocabulary 10% / Listening 10% / Reading 10% / Writing 10% / Oral exam 10%

## RE-SIT EXAMINATION PERIOD

If the average grade in the course is below 5, the students will have to take an exam in June 2024 with the following components:

Grammar and Vocabulary 20% / Listening 20% / Reading 20% / Writing 20% / Oral exam 20%

The final grade in June 2024 will be the final score in that re-sit exam. The coursework done during the semester **will not be** considered in this evaluation period.

Similarly, students who have already passed the course and want to raise their final grade in the semester will be able to sit the same re-sit exam. The final grade in the academic record will be their score in the exam, **even it is lower** than the one obtained in the semester. The coursework done during the semester **will not be** considered in this evaluation period for those who want to raise their final grade in the course.

## OFFICE HOURS

You can talk to your teacher before or after class.

If you need to meet your teacher on a different day or time, please send him an email (maoiz@unav.es) to arrange a meeting.

Of course, you can communicate with your teacher at all times by sending him an email.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

**Class textbook:** *English File B1 fourth edition* (Oxford University Press). The workbook is included in this edition. Students should make sure that they have the edition with online practice for speakers of Spanish.

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### Recommended books & materials

Dictionary: *Contemporary English Dictionary* (monolingual) Longman

Vocabulary & Grammar: *Destination B1* – by Malcolm Mann and Steve Taylore-Knowles, MacMillan