

General English Level Aims

General Course Goals for all Levels:

Our 6 level General English courses aim to develop students' ability in using the following skills in English: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Additionally, our courses aim to develop students' ability in the following areas: grammar, vocabulary, idioms, and pronunciation. Students should be able to understand and use specific grammar points and vocabulary covered in their course.

- Students will be more confident in using the target language effectively in academic and career contexts and daily life
- Students will be better able to exploit online communication skills and cultural sensitivity for their career
- Students will be more independent language learners and better able to achieve their goals

Level A1 (Beginner)

Course Goals for A1 Level (Beginner):

At the A1 level, students will begin to work on simple communication, develop a basic understanding of the language for survival and day-to-day activities. Students will practice using common expressions and simple short sentences in basic everyday situations. Students will ask/answer basic questions and participate in straightforward conversations. Students will learn to describe themselves and everyday situations. Listening to word recognition and understanding simple messages and basic information is practiced. Writing focuses on the sentence level and writing short descriptions. Different basic reading strategies are practiced like identifying important details.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Production (Verbal and Written) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can describe physical characteristics and personality traits of people.
- Can describe people's different kinds of relationships (e.g., family relationships, work relationships, friendships, etc.)
- Can describe things that people frequently do (i.e., habits, routines, work, studies and free time activities.).
- Can give directions and simple descriptions of places visited.
- Can narrate past events in short, but natural and organized, sentence structures.
- Can describe everyday activities
- Can talk about things in the past
- Can give personal information on forms
- Can ask questions to other people
- Can give greetings and simple responses
- Can answer basic questions
- Can describe likes and dislikes

Reception (Reading/Listening) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can understand simple descriptions of people's physical characteristics and personality traits
- Can understand people's different kinds of relationships (e.g., family relationships, work relationships, friendships, etc.).
- Can comprehend uncomplicated conversations about things people do on a regular basis (i.e., habits, routines, work, studies and free time activities.).
- Can understand basic directions and simple descriptions of places.
- Can understand basic questions
- Can understand the basic idea of news and current events.
- Can comprehend when people construct simple narrations about past events when they communicate clearly and slowly.
- Can recognize words, names and simple phrases.
- Can understand basic information (e.g., numbers, time, dates and simple descriptions of places and people.)
- Can comprehend simple conversations, questions and information about travel, people, places in a town, shops and restaurants.

Interaction Student Learning Outcomes

- Can use limited, polite language to greet people and ask and answer basic questions.
- Can handle very short social exchanges that include the use of numbers (e.g., prices, telephone numbers, quantities, etc.).
- Can ask for and give information in shops and restaurants,
- Can ask for and give information about time and date,
- Can talk about likes and dislikes and about things I can do and cannot do.
- Can react to people's posts using basic vocabulary, symbols and emoticons.

Spoken Mediation Student Learning Outcomes

- Able to show interest in ideas by using simple words and gestures.
- Can ask people politely to repeat words when I do not understand something.
- Can report and make lists of information (e.g., numbers, dates, names, likes and dislikes, etc.) that I have read or listened to.

Course Objectives:**Core Grammar Course Objectives**

- The verb 'to be'
- Imperatives (e.g., Sit down please, Go away)
- Tenses: Present simple, Present continuous & Past Simple
- 'can' & 'can't' (e.g., I can't swim)
- 'there is', 'there are'
- 'always', 'sometimes', 'never'
- '-ing' forms (e.g., I love swimming, I don't like waiting for buses)
- Yes/no questions and answers
- Questions with 'what', 'how', 'who', etc.
- 'can' / 'could' (e.g., Can/could I have a juice?)
- 'going to' for plans
- Countable / Uncountable nouns (e.g., How much money...? How many sisters...?) & 'any', 'some', 'a lot of'
- Prepositions (e.g., It's on the table)
- Possessive 's / s' (e.g., the girl's hair) & Possessive pronouns (e.g. my car, her coat)
- Basic verbs (e.g., live, work, start, finish)

Core Vocabulary Course Objectives

- Adjectives to describe things (e.g. a red apple, a beautiful picture)
- Words to describe yourself and family, people and jobs, Nationalities and countries
- Hobbies & free time activities
- Months, days, dates, times, prices and telephone numbers
- Things in the town, shops and shopping
- Travel, services, ways of travelling, Holidays
- Retail language such as Food & drink and Clothes
- Colors, Shapes and sizes (e.g. small, long, high, short, big, etc.)

Level A2 (Elementary)

General Course Goals for all Levels:

Our 6 level General English courses aim to develop students' ability in using the following skills in English: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Additionally, our courses aim to develop students' ability in the following areas: grammar, vocabulary, idioms, and pronunciation. Students should be able to understand and use specific grammar points and vocabulary covered in their course.

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- Students will be better able to exploit online communication skills and cultural sensitivity for their career
- Students will be more independent language learners and better able to achieve their goals

Course Goals for A2 Level (Elementary):

At the A2 level, students will practice mastering day-to-day language use for survival and basic needs and use common expressions related to everyday situations. Students will practice listening for main points and important information. Direct exchange of information, discussion of activities, and making yourself understood are key goals. Finally, understanding and using longer sentences, communicating about familiar/routine situations and describing experiences are practiced across skills. Writing focuses on concise paragraphs and producing longer descriptive texts. Several reading strategies are further developed like distinguishing between main idea and details.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Production (Verbal and Written) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can describe people, places, objects and situations.
- Can give accurate descriptions of habits and routines, as well as studies and work.
- Can construct clear narratives about events in the past.
- Can explain plans and talk about possibilities.
- Can write short notes and messages.

Reception (Reading/Listening) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can recognize changes in topic
- Can recognize information you need
- Can understand the main points and the most important information
- Can understand when people talk about other people, places, objects and situations.
- Can comprehend descriptions of habits and routines, studies and work.
- Can understand narratives about events in the past.
- Can distinguish the different ways to express future plans and concepts of possibility.

Interaction Student Learning Outcomes

- Can communicate in everyday situations (e.g., in a restaurant, shopping, ticket office, etc.)
- Can talk about work, studies, interests and free time.
- Can talk about feelings and give advice.
- Can talk about things you like and dislike.
- Can invite, offer, suggest, decline offers politely, apologize.
- Can plan a trip (e.g., find information, book tickets, make reservations, etc.)
- Can discuss plans with other people (i.e., where and how to reach destinations, when to meet, agree and disagree.)
- Can ask for and give directions using a map/plan.
- Can use the telephone (e.g., arrange to meet somebody, answer and reply naturally, etc.)
- Can react to other people's comments (e.g., saying thanks, sympathizing, empathizing, etc.).

Mediation

- Can work as part of a group to complete tasks.
- Can ask for explanations.
- Can ask for opinions and be able to agree or disagree.
- Can distinguish the main idea from the details and supporting ideas in a spoken interaction/written text.
- Can report the main idea of a spoken interaction/written text.
- Can report specific information and supporting ideas heard or read in spoken interactions/written texts.

Course Objectives:

Core Grammar Course Objectives

- Questions ('What', 'How', 'Who', 'Which', 'When', 'Where', 'Why', 'Whose')
- Imperatives (e.g., Please don't smoke in here)
- Present simple; adverbs of frequency (e.g., 'always', 'sometimes')
- Present continuous for present time and future arrangements
- 'Going to' (for plans) and 'will'
- Present Perfect for experience (Have you ever...?)
- Past Simple
- Zero conditional and 1st Conditional
- The '-ing' form and infinitives (I like swimming; I want to go swimming)
- 'Can' & 'could'
- 'Must', 'have to' & 'should'
- 'Might', 'may', 'possibly', 'probably'
- Prepositions of place, time, movement
- Comparatives and superlatives (e.g., big, bigger, biggest)
- Countable and uncountable nouns + 'some', 'any', 'a lot of', etc.

Core Vocabulary Course Objectives

- Numbers, days, months and time
- Adjectives to describe feelings and experiences (e.g., interested; interesting)
- Adjectives to describe things (size, color, shape)
- Adjectives to describe people and personalities

- Common phrasal verbs (e.g., 'he got up at 6.00', 'put your coat on', 'the plane took off')
- Activities and hobbies
- Objects and rooms in the house
- Food and drinks
- Jobs
- Education
- Things in shops and in the town
- Holidays, travel and services

Level B1 (Intermediate)

General Course Goals for all Levels:

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Course Goals for B1 Level (Intermediate):

At the B1 level, students begin to develop their abilities for literal, applied and interpretive comprehension in English. Listening is practiced focusing on distinguishing main points and specific details and following a line of argument. Students will easily participate in conversations that impart and seek information. Students will practice relaying more abstract thoughts in expressing intellectual, emotional, and moral attitudes. They will be introduced to the skills needed to produce more complex written forms like opinion essays and formal letters. Students practice higher level reading strategies like understanding a line of argument and identifying conclusions.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Production (Verbal and Written) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can describe and compare places
- Can describe hopes and ambitions
- Can give detailed directions and instructions
- Can describe events or experiences, express feelings and reactions
- Can describe a story, a film, a book or a concert and give opinions about it
- Can give opinions about music, films, paintings etc.
- Can write a formal email, letter, document (e.g., job application, CV)

Reception (Reading/Listening) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can focus on the important information
- Can understand the important details
- Can distinguish the main point from specific details
- Can understand a line of argument and main conclusions.

Interaction Student Learning Outcomes

- Can start and close conversations, maintain simple conversations.
- Can ask for & give information about feelings and news
- Can talk about likes, dislikes and problems
- Can organize an event and solve problems
- Can give and ask for opinions, agree and disagree
- Can give advice and recommendations
- Can talk about possibilities in the future
- Can communicate confidently in a shop, bank, airport, office etc.
- Can compare and contrast choices. e.g., where to go and what to do
- Can explain a problem
- Can exchange detailed information (e.g., via help-desk or via email).

Spoken Mediation Student Learning Outcomes

- Can start, maintain and close conversations, invite others to speak
- Can show interest in what others have to say and ask for clarification
- Can move the discussion forward by making suggestions

- Can give and ask for opinions, agree and disagree
- Can pass on specific information from spoken/written sources
- Can summarize the main points made in spoken/written sources
- Can paraphrase short written passages
- Can pass on short pieces of information from several sources

Course Objectives:

Core Grammar Course Objectives

- Past Simple: regular and irregular verbs
- Past Continuous / Past Simple
- Past Simple & Present Perfect
- Present Perfect + 'still', 'yet', 'already', 'just'
- Present Perfect Continuous
- Past Perfect
- Futures: present continuous for future, contrast with 'will' and 'going to'
- Comparatives and superlatives
- Conditionals: 1st, 2nd conditional + 'when', 'before', 'unless'
- Modal verbs for possibility: (might, may, could, will probably)
- Modals of obligation / necessity ('must', 'should', 'have to', 'don't have to')
- Simple passive: (e.g., The lock was broken)
- Linking expressions: (e.g., 'despite')

Core Vocabulary Course Objectives

- Collocation of adjectives (e.g., heavy snow, strong coffee)
- Verb + noun collocation (e.g., have lunch, make a decision, take a break)
- Phrasal verbs (e.g., look something up, write something down)
- Feelings and emotions
- Common objects
- Cultural topics e.g., music, films
- Travel and services vocabulary
- Leisure activities and lifestyles
- Education
- Work
- News and media

Level B2 (Upper-Intermediate)

General Course Goals for all Levels:

Our 6 level General English courses aim to develop students' ability in using the following skills in English: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Additionally, our courses aim to develop students' ability in the following areas: grammar, vocabulary, idioms, and pronunciation. Students should be able to understand and use specific grammar points and vocabulary covered in their course.

- Students will be more confident in using the target language effectively in academic and career contexts and daily life
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Course Goals for B2 Level (Upper-Intermediate):

At the B2 level, students continue to develop their abilities for literal, applied and interpretive comprehension in English. Listening practice focuses on higher level strategies like recognizing/ identifying direction change, emphasis, attitude and mood. Students will comfortably participate in higher level conversations or discussions that involve inferential thinking as well as the expression and questioning of moral attitude. Students practice a variety of writing styles on a variety of subjects where they express abstract ideas in a clear and detailed manner across multiple paragraphs. More complex texts are introduced on both concrete and abstract topics and students practice more complex reading strategies like distinguishing fact from opinion

Student Learning Outcomes:

Production (Verbal and Written) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can express concrete and abstract ideas, justifying opinions by providing clear, relevant explanations.
- Can develop arguments, expanding and supporting point of view.
- Can present /write about issues/topics, considering points for & against the various options.

- Can critique/review books, films, shows, products, etc.
- Can give/write clear, detailed descriptions, linked correctly.
- Can give/write descriptions of events/experiences demonstrate personal significance.
- Can give/write detailed accounts of plans, activities and experiences.
- Can write formal letters/emails (e.g., applications or complaints).

Reception (Reading/Listening) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can find the relevant parts of the text.
- Can distinguish the main points from supporting detail/examples.
- Can understand main ideas and essential meaning.
- Can understand specific details.
- Can recognize different ways in which the same ideas are expressed.
- Can distinguish fact from opinion.
- Can understand complex lines of argument.
- Can understand the writer/speaker's mood and attitude, style or emphasis

Interaction Student Learning Outcomes

- Can express news, views and feelings and respond to those of other people.
- Can express emotions and highlight how important certain events/experiences are personally and respond to comments.
- Can take an active part in a discussion, using a range of language to do so
- Can express agreement, disagreement and reactions including interest, sympathy, surprise, etc.
- Can express attitudes, personal feelings and emotions
- Can make and respond to assumptions, deductions and hypotheses
- Can link comments to previous ones in a discussion and react appropriately.

Spoken Mediation Student Learning Outcomes

- Can manage communication (interrupt, change topic, invite another speaker to come in or to continue)
- Can show interest and understanding (e.g., ask questions, express agreement)
- Can find out and pass on detailed information, ask follow up questions and get clarification
- Can summarize, explain and build on other people's views

- Can evaluate advantages and disadvantages, make suggestions and participate in reaching a decision
- Can pass on specific information from a complex spoken/written source
- Can summarize the main content of a complex spoken/written source
- Can summarize and report extended information after a discussion or interview
- Can compare, contrast and synthesize information from various sources
- Can explain a viewpoint contained in a complex spoken/written source

Course Objectives:

Core Grammar Course Objectives

- Past tenses review and extension: Past Simple and Continuous, Past Perfect Simple and Continuous.
- Future Continuous, Future Perfect Simple and Future Perfect Continuous
- Present Perfect Continuous v Simple.
- Passives: all forms & Passives used with reporting verbs.
- Past forms of modal verbs (e.g., 'should have', 'might have', 'can't have', 'needn't have')
- Conditionals review, 3rd conditional, mixed conditionals, 'wish' / 'if only' & regrets.
- Infinitives and gerunds after verbs and adjectives (e.g., I am happy to do; I tried doing).
- Reported speech and reporting verbs
- Relative clauses: Defining / non-defining (I have a car which is very fast / I have a car now, which means I can get out of town)
- Prepositions of place, time, movement.

Core Vocabulary Course Objectives

- Phrasal verbs (e.g., I look up to people in power, it really put me off my food)
- Colloquial idioms and expressions.
- Education
- Entertainment and culture, e.g., films, books, art
- News, current affairs and lifestyles
- The environment, and environmental issues.
- Media
- Collocations (uniquely beautiful, eerie silence, etc.)
- Linking words to express cause and effect, contrast, etc.

Level C1 (Advanced)

General Course Goals for all Levels:

Our 6 level General English courses aim to develop students' ability in using the following skills in English: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Additionally, our courses aim to develop students' ability in the following areas: grammar, vocabulary, idioms, and pronunciation. Students should be able to understand and use specific grammar points and vocabulary covered in their course.

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Course Goals for C1 Level (Advanced):

At the C1 level, students practice developing arguments, speculating about hypothetical situations, and using persuasive language. Students will be listening to recognize and understand attitude, humor and cultural references. Students will practice discussing issues fluently around specific topic areas in both formal and informal situations including practical, social and professional topics and will practice leading group discussions. Students will write a variety of well-structured, detailed texts on abstract subjects with an increased awareness of style, audience, purpose, mood and tone. Students will read more difficult, lengthy texts and practice recognizing implicit meaning and understanding attitude, mood and author's intent.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Production (Verbal and Written) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can give clear, well-structured descriptions of complex and abstract subjects
- Can describe feelings, emotion, attitudes in depth

- Can give/write clear, detailed, well-developed narratives and descriptions of personal experiences
- Can review or critique a film, book etc., considering stylistic features as well as content
- Can develop an argument systematically, highlight important points, and support reasoning with examples
- Can express with clarity and precision in personal correspondence
- Can be creative with the language and develop a personal style
- Can report information from different sources, distinguishing fact and opinion

Reception (Reading/Listening) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can distinguish the main point from supporting arguments, sub-themes, examples
- Can understand and clarify attitude, mood, intentions
- Can understand implicit ideas, relationships and opinions
- Can understand the use of humor, irony and implicit cultural references
- Can recognize what will come next in a text
- Can recognize variations of style for effect and changes in register
- Can distinguish the main point from supporting arguments and sub-themes

Interaction Student Learning Outcomes

- Can define and clarify an opinion or shades of an opinion or an idea
- Can speculate about causes, consequences and hypothetical situations
- Can support, object to or concede a point
- Can use persuasive and dissuasive language to influence others

Spoken Mediation Student Learning Outcomes

- Can ask questions which build on what others say and prompt them to analyze, justify, predict, infer and hypothesize
- Can relate what you say to what others have said
- Can intervene diplomatically in order to redirect talk
- Can cope linguistically with disagreement, argument and respond appropriately

- Can summarize the main points and explain attitudes from a challenging spoken/written source
- Can use information from a complex source to discuss and evaluate a topic
- Can report information from a source, distinguishing fact from opinion

Course Objectives:

Core Grammar Course Objectives

- Past Tense review: contrast different forms
- Future Tense review: contrast different forms
- Conditionals: consolidate all: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, mixed, plus use of modals, wishes and regrets
- Modals: review – different functions (e.g., inviting, permission, possibility, advice, ability, obligation, prohibition, offering, suggesting)
- Past modals (e.g., You might have told me it was her birthday)
- Passives: review for all tenses + reporting verbs
- Defining and non-defining relative clauses
- Gerunds and infinitives
- Ellipsis and substitution

Core Vocabulary Course Objectives

- Collocation (e.g., sincerely hope, excruciating pain)
- Eliminating “false friends”, confusing words (e.g., actually, currently, nowadays)
- Generalizing expressions (e.g., tend to, generally speaking, by and large)
- Vague language (e.g., I’ve got 30 odd different colors, it’s sort of similar to the other one, can you pass me the thingummyjig?)
- Differentiated use of vocabulary (e.g., ‘It’s not that I don’t like her, I detest her’. ‘I wouldn’t say she’s antisocial, just a bit shy’)
- Split phrasal verbs (e.g., ‘she’d put John up to it’, ‘I can’t make anything out’)
- Colloquial expressions
- Markers which structure informal speech and writing (e.g., mind you, on top of that)

- Markers which structure formal speech and writing (e.g., in so far as, moreover, etc.)
- Linkers (e.g., nevertheless, owing to, due to)
- Formal and informal language (e.g., pass away v. die v. kick the bucket)
- 'Used to' v. 'would' (e.g., I used to go to that pub when I visited my granny. Every evening he would come in and order a whisky sour.)
- Inversion
- News, lifestyles and current affairs
- Language pertaining to various kinds of media
- Arts and scientific/technological developments
- Idiomatic expressions, similes, metaphors (e.g., on the tip of my tongue)
- Similes and metaphors

Level C2 (Proficiency)

General Course Goals for all Levels:

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Course Goals for C2 Level (Proficiency):

At the C2 Level, students will practice understanding nuance and style in spoken and written discourse. Students will be listening to interpret and evaluate as well as to comprehend. Students will discuss issues fluently around specific topic areas in both formal and informal situations including practical, social and professional topics and will practice leading group discussions. Students will orally summarize complex information. Students will practice writing evaluations, critiques, reviews with precision and clarity and self-edit. Students will read difficult, lengthy texts (including literary) and practice higher level reading strategies like recognizing contradictions and understanding humor, connotation and irony and their function.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Production (Verbal and Written) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can give a clear, well-structured account of a specialized or complex topic with a logical structure
- Can present articulately on a complex or specialized topic and able to flexibly change styles to cater to audience
- Can write clearly in a natural style appropriate to the genre
- Can express yourself with clarity and precision in formal and informal correspondence
- Can review or critique a paper or a project considering stylistic features as well as content
- Can edit and proof-read written work to achieve a more differentiated and appropriate style

Reception (Reading/Listening) Student Learning Outcomes

- Can recognize subtle distinctions of style, recognize understatement
- Can understand lectures and presentations in specialized topics which utilize colloquialism, regional usage or unfamiliar terminology.
- Can understand implied attitudes, opinions, relationships and nuances
- Can understand metaphors, connotations and their function within a text
- Can recognize irony, sarcasm, satire and its function
- Can understand the use of humor, plays on words, puns

Interaction Student Learning Outcomes

- Can speculate about causes, consequences and hypothetical situations
- Can convey degrees of emotion articulately and persuasively
- Can use persuasive and dissuasive language to convince others
- Can employ irony and understatement in an appropriate manner
- Can use colloquialisms, humorous language, idiomatic abbreviations and/or specialized register to enhance the impact of comments made in an online discussion
- Can anticipate and deal effectively with possible misunderstandings, communication problems and emotional reactions occurring in an online discussion

Spoken Mediation Student Learning Outcomes

- Can lead discussion effectively, recognize undercurrents and guide the direction of the talk
- Can respond appropriately, sensitively and confidently to other people's feelings and attitudes
- Can define and clarify opinions, perspectives, conveyed through hint or innuendo
- Can cope linguistically with confrontation, disagreement and argument and respond appropriately
- Can explain how facts and arguments are presented in a text, drawing attention to the writer/speaker's use of understatement, veiled criticism, irony and sarcasm
- Can interpret and present data from conceptually complex data
- Can summarize and evaluate complicated information from different sources distinguishing fact, assumption, inference, and viewpoint

Course Objectives:

Core Grammar Course Objectives

- Time & tense review: contrasting different forms
- Modals review: pure and semi-modals; functionality
- Conditionals: non-standard forms
- Participle clauses: 'to'+ infinitive and reduced clauses
- Prepositions after nouns, adjectives & verbs; prepositional phrases
- Substitution and ellipsis
- Inversion and fronting

Core Vocabulary Course Objectives

- Sentence adverbials, prepositions & conjunctions
- Markers which structure informal and formal speech and writing
- Linkers (e.g., subsequently, consequently, prior to)
- Eliminating confusing/similar words (e.g., comprehensible, comprehensive)
- Collocation (e.g., utterly ridiculous)
- Register: informal, formal and neutral variations (e.g., pick up, purchase, buy)
- Phrasal verbs: literal and idiomatic meanings
- Idiomatic expressions, similes and metaphors
- Colloquial expressions
- Media and the arts
- Social and legal issues
- News, lifestyles and current affairs
- The environment and natural world
- Business and economics
- Scientific and technological developments
- Educational issues