

NEW CUTTING EDGE

UPPER INTERMEDIATE

Module 1 Past and present
Framework level: B2

Language focus	1 Revision of verb forms 2 Use of auxiliaries
Vocabulary	Past and present time phrases Wordspot: <i>get</i>
Task	Talk about your life circles
Pronunciation	Strong and weak auxiliaries Sounding polite

	Descriptor	Page
READING FOR INFORMATION AND ARGUMENT	Can understand articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular stances or viewpoints.	8, 9
OVERALL WRITTEN PRODUCTION	Can write clear, detailed texts on a variety of subjects related to his/her field of interest, synthesising and evaluating information and arguments from a number of sources.	12, 13
OVERALL LISTENING COMPREHENSION	Can follow extended speech and complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar, and the direction of the talk is sign-posted by explicit markers.	11
UNDERSTANDING CONVERSATION BETWEEN NATIVE SPEAKERS	Can with some effort catch much of what is said around him/her, but may find it difficult to participate effectively in discussion with several native speakers who do not modify their language in any way.	14, 15
LISTENING TO AUDIO MEDIA AND RECORDINGS	Can understand the information content of the majority of recorded or broadcast audio material on topics of personal interest delivered in clear standard speech.	6
OVERALL ORAL PRODUCTION	Can give clear, detailed descriptions and presentations on a wide range of subjects related to his/her field of interest, expanding and supporting ideas with subsidiary points and relevant examples.	7, 9
SUSTAINED MONOLOGUE: Describing experience	Can give straightforward descriptions on a variety of familiar subjects within his/her field of interest.	7
PLANNING	Can plan what is to be said and the means to say it, considering the effect on the recipient/s.	7, 12
INFORMAL DISCUSSION (WITH FRIENDS)	Can with some effort catch much of what is said around him/her in discussion, but may find it difficult to participate effectively in discussion with several native speakers who do not modify their language in any way.	16
INFORMAL DISCUSSION (WITH FRIENDS)	Can account for and sustain his/her opinions in discussion by providing relevant explanations, arguments and comments.	8
TAKING THE FLOOR (TURNTAKING)	Can initiate discourse, take his/her turn when appropriate and end conversation when he/she needs to, though he/she may	16

NEW CUTTING EDGE

UPPER INTERMEDIATE

	not always do this elegantly.	
ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION	Can ask follow-up questions to check that he/she has understood what a speaker intended to say, and get clarification of ambiguous points.	16
FLEXIBILITY	Can adjust what he/she says and the means of expressing it to the situation and the recipient and adopt a level of formality appropriate to the circumstances.	16
COHERENCE AND COHESION	Can use a limited number of cohesive devices to link his/her utterances into clear, coherent discourse, though there may be some 'jumpiness' in a long contribution.	9
SPOKEN FLUENCY	Can produce stretches of language with a fairly even tempo; although he/she can be hesitant as he/she searches for patterns and expressions, there are few noticeably long pauses.	7
PROPOSITIONAL PRECISION	Can pass on detailed information reliably.	7
SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROPRIATENESS	Can express him or herself confidently, clearly and politely in a formal or informal register, appropriate to the situation and person(s) concerned.	16
VOCABULARY RANGE	Has a good range of vocabulary for matters connected to his/her field and most general topics.	8, 13
GRAMMATICAL ACCURACY	Shows a relatively high degree of grammatical control. Does not make mistakes which lead to misunderstanding.	10, 11, 14, 15
PHONOLOGICAL CONTROL	Has acquired a clear, natural, pronunciation and intonation.	15, 16