



Blended
Teacher Support

The CEFR philosophy

Action-oriented:

Focuses on what learners can do in real-life situations.

Learner as social agent:

The language user actively participates in the social world.

Plurilingualism & multiculturalism:

Promotes the learning of different cultures as part of language acquisition.

Assessment & real-life performance:

Describes levels based on observable behaviours, without dictating rigid rules.

Mediation & Interaction:

Emphasises speaking, listening, reading, writing, and helping others understand or exchange information.

[More information about the CEFR](#)

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What is the CEFR?

The **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages** (CEFR) is a comprehensive framework that provides a standardised system for measuring and describing **language proficiency** across different languages.

The pedagogical context of **OLS's language learning** is based on the key principles of the CEFR, viewing language as a vehicle for social, educational and professional success, as well as a means to promote intercultural dialogue.

The CEFR distinguishes between **competence** (the learner's ability), **activity** (real-world tasks where language is used), and **descriptors** (specific behaviours learners can demonstrate at each level).

But why should you use the CEFR? Whether or not you have been using CEFR principles for some time, the **Companion Volume** published in **2020** brings additional perspectives, such as mediation, that can help to enrich teaching practices. In this support sheet, you'll find some useful hints and perspectives on how you can apply these concepts in your own blended classrooms.

CEFR descriptors

	Reading	Listening	Speaking	Writing
A1	Understands very simple phrases	Identifies basic information (time, place...)	Uses short sentences about self	Writes basic personal sentences
A2	Understands simple familiar texts	Understands general ideas	Describes people, routines, preferences	Writes connected phrases using basic linkers
B1	Understands informative texts well	Understands main ideas in familiar audio	Speaks fluently about familiar topics	Connect ideas using linkers (and, because...)
B2	Reads various types of text independently	Understands opinions and attitudes	Presents structured ideas	Writes detailed and argumentative texts

Bringing the CEFR into your blended classroom

Adapt materials using authentic resources:

Highlight key information and vocabulary for A1-A2 learners, or discuss opinions and build arguments for B1-B2 learners.

Design real-life tasks:

Ask and answer simple questions about daily routines for A1-A2 learners, or record a short talk about a personal experience for B1-B2 learners.

Mediation activities:

Summarize a simple text during an online session for A1-A2 learners, or explain the main ideas of a video to a small group discussion for B1-B2 learners.

Assess skills separately:

Remember that learners may perform at different levels in reading, listening, speaking or writing.

Set positive goals:

Focus on what learners can do now, to build confidence and make progress step by step.