

## ***SFL LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS***

The table below illustrates the English language courses and levels at FIU mapped against the IELTS Exam and The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR):

IELTS	CEFR	FIU -IED	FIU-MLD
9	C2+		
8	C2		
7.5	C1+		
7	C1		
6.5	B2+		
6	B2		ENGL 201
5.5	B2-		ENGL 101 ENGL 102
5	B1+	Upper Intermediate	<b>FIU PROFICIENCY THRESHOLD</b>
4.5	B1	Intermediate	
4	A2-B1	Pre Intermediate	
	A1	Elementary	ENGL 112
	A0-A1	Beginner	ENGL 111

### **Beginner Level (A1)**

Students with little or no prior English knowledge are placed in this course. The goal of this course is *to enable students to reach* CEFR Level A1.

#### **Course outcomes for Beginner (CEFR Level A1) entry level:**

- Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type.
- Introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has.
- Interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

#### **Coursebook : New Speakout 2nd Edition, Academic Skills: Skillful**

*Specifically*, by completing this course, our students will be able to:

- Listening**
  - Understand simple, standard speech and can recognise familiar words and very basic phrases concerning themselves, their family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.
- Reading**
  - Understand very short, simple texts, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues, pick up familiar names and basic phrases.
- Spoken interaction**
  - Interact in a simple way
  - Ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.
- Spoken production**
  - Use simple phrases and sentences to describe where they live and people they know.
- Writing**
  - Write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings.
  - Fill in forms with personal details, for example entering their name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form.

### Elementary Level (A2)

The goal of this course is *to enable students to reach* CEFR Level A2:

- Understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment).
- Communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters.
- Describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

### Coursebook : New Speakout 2nd Edition, Academic Skills: Skillful

*Specifically*, by completing the Elementary course, our students will be able to:

- Listening**
  - Understand phrases and *the highly frequent* vocabulary related to areas of the most immediate personal relevance,
  - Catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.
- Reading**
  - Read short and simple texts,
  - Find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, menus and timetables
  - Understand short and simple personal letters.

- Spoken interaction**
  - Communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities, to handle very short exchanges.
- Spoken production**
  - Use series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms their family and other people, living conditions, their educational background.
- Writing**
  - Write short and simple notes and messages relating to matters in areas of immediate need,
  - Write a very simple personal letter.

### **Pre-Intermediate Level (A2 – B1 )**

The goal of this course is to make students reach CEFR Level A2+.

- Understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.
- Deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken.
- Produce simple connected text on topics, which are familiar, or of personal interest.
- Describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes & ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

### **Coursebook : New Speakout 2nd Edition, Academic Skills: Skillful**

By completing this course, our students will be able to:

- Listening**
  - Understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters,
  - Understand the main point of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of personal interest when delivery is slow and clear
- Reading**
  - Understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency every day or job-related language.
  - Understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.
- Spoken Interaction**
  - Deal with most situations in an area where the language is spoken,
  - Enter unprepared into conversations on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or on everyday life.
- Spoken Production**
  - Connect phrases in a simple way to describe experiences and events, their dreams, hopes and ambitions,
  - Briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
- Writing**
  - Write simple connected texts on topics which are familiar or of a personal interest.
  - Write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.

### **Intermediate Level (B1)**

The goal of this course is to make students reach CEFR Level B1.

- Understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.
- Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party.
- Produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

**Coursebook : New Speakout 2nd Edition, Academic Skills: Skillful**

By the end of this course, our students will be able to:

- Listening**
- Understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar,
  - Understand most TV news and current affairs programmes.

- Reading**
- Read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes and viewpoints,

- Spoken interaction**
- Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction
  - Take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting or and sustaining their views

- Spoken production**
- Present clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to their interests.
  - Explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

- Writing**
- Write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to their interests,
  - Write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view,
    - Write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.

**Upper-Intermediate Level (B1+):**

The goal of this course is to make students reach CEFR Level B2:

- Understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning.
- Express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.
- Use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes.
  - Produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

**Coursebook : New Speakout 2nd Edition, Academic Skills: Skillful**

By completing this course, our students will be able to:

- Listening**
- Understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly,
  - Understand spoken language without much effort.

- Reading**
- Understand long and complex factual and literacy texts, appreciating distinctions of style,
  - Understand specialised and longer technical instructions. Spoken interaction
  - Express themselves fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions,
  - Use English flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes.
- Spoken Production**
- Present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes and developing an appropriate conclusion.
- Writing**
- Express themselves in clear, well-structured texts, expressing points of view at some length,
  - Write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or report.