



Welcome to our
WORLD OF ENGLISH



myClass A1

Elementary
course overview

Dear myClass student

Welcome to the British Council!

We hope you enjoy your course with us. In order to help you make the most of your classes with us, please take time to read through this information.

What are myClass lessons like?



All the lessons are based around a main speaking or writing task. There are many different types of speaking tasks, for example problem-solving discussions, role-plays, presentations and telling stories. The tasks may be done in groups, pairs or presented individually. The writing tasks include writing formal emails, job application letters, reports and short stories. In addition to the main task, lessons include some listening and/or reading and language work. The language work can be grammar, vocabulary, functional language, pronunciation or a combination of the four.

Which lessons should I go to?



You can choose which lessons to attend based on the times that suit you and the lesson topics and descriptions that most interest you. You can book lessons online or on our app – available through Apple App Store or Google Play. You can also attend myClass Virtual; lessons with our teachers and other students via videoconferencing. The classes are face-to-face, live and allow you to participate fully, talking to the other students and the teacher.

How will I know I'm progressing?



During the lessons the teacher will provide correction and give you feedback on how well you carry out the tasks. Every tenth speaking lesson you will be formally assessed by the teacher. The teacher will assess your performance in the task and give you feedback through the myClass Portal. The teacher will assign grades to the assessment criteria and give you a written comment so you know what you need to work on. At the end of the lesson the teacher will also ask you to reflect on your performance in the class and make some notes. This will help you identify what you can do well and areas you need to improve on. Refer to the CEFR performance criteria that you have been given which show you the objectives you are working towards at each level. All writing compositions that are produced as a result of a writing lesson are marked and graded by our teachers. You can access your marked composition, scores and an overall comment on the myClass portal. It's a good idea to read the writing assessment criteria carefully so that you know exactly what the marker is looking for.

Can I talk to my teacher about my progress?



Yes. You can talk to your teachers about your general progress. Alternatively, you can book an appointment, myAdvisory, with one of our academic advisors on the myClass Portal.

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Can someone help me plan my learning?



Some of you may have specific goals for your learning while others may want to improve and gain confidence in using your English more generally. If you do have specific goals, or would like to formulate some, you can book a myAdvisory appointment to speak to one of our academic advisors on the myClass Portal. They will talk to you about your objectives and help you create a Personalised Study Plan to guide your learning. For example, they can suggest which lessons may be most useful, give you tips on effective learning and ideas on how you can best help yourself learn outside class. This service is free of charge.

What can I do outside class?

In order to build your confidence and speed up your progress, there are lots of things you can do outside class.



- ⇒ Review your lesson notes. For example, read through the material again, note any new language items, and complete any exercises or tasks that were not done in class. Your teacher may also set homework that you can check yourself.
- ⇒ Use the online resources (A1-C1) on the myClass Portal to practise your skills. Check out our website [LearnEnglish: http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/](http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/)
- ⇒ Download the free apps LeanEnglish Audio and Video, LearnEnglish Podcasts and LearnEnglish Grammar.
- ⇒ Read in English – if you are a keen reader, you can borrow a range of books for many different levels from the British Council. Reading extensively is an excellent way for you to improve your range of vocabulary. You can also read any number of newspapers, stories or other kinds of texts online.
- ⇒ Listen to English– listening to English TV, radio, films, podcasts and DVDs provides you with more practice in listening and can help you learn more about British culture.
- ⇒ Keep a vocabulary notebook – building up a range of vocabulary from your classes and from work you do outside class can also be a very useful tool: you can refer back to new words and phrases as often as you need to.

Who can I speak to if I have questions or need advice?



Speak to one of our Customer Services & Sales team and they will then put you in touch with the right person depending on the type of question you have. Alternatively, email myclassAcademic@britishcouncil.fr.

We really hope you enjoy your course!



Contact us

www.britishcouncil.fr
[01 49 55 73 00](tel:0149557300)

Elementary course overview A1

At Elementary level, lessons are based on a range of motivating themes to help develop your confidence in communicating in a variety of real life situations. The tasks are designed to help you meet the performance criteria for A1 level.



Oral production

Can give basic information about what you do or where you live. You can produce short, isolated sentences about people and places.



Oral interaction

Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details .



These are some of the themes and tasks:

Communicate with confidence in public

- introduce colleagues and visitors
- agree on a meeting time and place
- say how you feel about different types of job
- take part in a short conversation at a party

Describing the world around us

- speak about the rules of public spaces
- present your national costume
- describe objects you don't know the name of
- describe technology

Discussing options

- hold a short conversation with colleagues
- speak about what you do outside of work
- describe your reactions and feelings about a film you have seen
- hold a short conversation with someone about how you use the internet

Travel and culture

- give and follow directions
- describe an area of town
- give transport advice
- Express your opinion in a discussion

Successful planning and invitations

- make and confirm plans
- use language to meet people
- accept or decline an invitation
- plan a weekend away

Let's go on holiday

- recommend a holiday destination
- make travel plans and preparations
- organise a trip around the world
- book a trip over the phone

Language focus



Language focus forms part of the lessons. You will learn new vocabulary and phrases, work on pronunciation and explore some grammar structures to help you expand the range of language you use and improve your accuracy. Your teacher will give you feedback on your speaking to help you improve to meet the performance criteria for A1 level.

General linguistic range



Has a repertoire of basic vocabulary of isolated words and expressions concerning concrete situations. Has a basic resource of simple expressions on things, people and specific needs.

These are a few of the language areas you will learn and practise at Elementary level:

- Greetings and introductions
- Present Simple and Present Continuous
- Dates and times
- Adjectives to describe jobs
- Start and end a conversation politely
- Make and respond to suggestions
- Agree and disagree
- Place an order
- Give advice
- Make questions
- Adverbs of frequency
- Can/can't
- Yes/no questions in the Present Perfect
- Prepositions of time
- Expressions to buy and sell
- Food and drink vocabulary
- Express your opinion
- "Going to" versus Present Continuous
- Express tastes and preferences
- Request clarification
- Adjectives to describe clothes
- Past Simple
- Request information
- Speak about the future
- Days of the week, where to go, what to do
- Travel vocabulary
- Countries and nationalities
- Should / shouldn't
- Sites in a city

Methodology



We use a task-based approach: this means that in each lesson you will take part in a communicative task based on a real life topic of interest. The task is usually done in pairs or groups. The teacher sets up the task and provides appropriate language input and feedback on your performance to help you develop range and accuracy of language use at word, sentence and text level.

Assessment



You will be formally assessed by the teacher every ten lessons. The teacher will look at your performance in the task and give you feedback. We also ask you to self-assess your performance after each lesson and identify areas that you have done well in and what you need to work on.