

General skills for ISE III (C1 CEFR)

Speaking

Overall spoken production

Can give clear, detailed descriptions and presentations on complex subjects, integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and providing an appropriate conclusion.

Overall spoken interaction

Can express himself or herself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. Has a good command of a broad lexical repertoire allowing gaps to be readily overcome with circumlocutions. There is little obvious searching for expressions or avoidance strategies; only a conceptually difficult subject may hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.

Listening

Overall listening comprehension

Can understand extended speech on abstract and complex topics beyond his or her own field, although he or she may need to confirm occasional details.

Can recognise a wide range of idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms, appreciating register shifts.

Can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly.

Understanding spoken English

Can understand in detail speech on abstract and complex topics of a specialist nature beyond their own field, although they may need to confirm occasional details, especially if the accent of the interlocutor is unfamiliar.

Reading

Overall reading comprehension

Can understand in detail lengthy, complex texts, appreciating distinctions of style, whether or not they relate to his or her own area of speciality.

Processing written text

Can summarise long, demanding texts.

Writing

Overall written production

Can write clear, well-structured texts on complex subjects, underlining the relevant salient issues, expanding and supporting points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples, and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.

Can select a style appropriate to the reader in mind.

Correspondence

Can express himself or herself with clarity and precision in personal correspondence, using language flexibly and effectively, including emotional, allusive and joking usage.

Factual writing

Can write clear, detailed, well-structured and developed texts underlining the relevant salient issues.

Can expand and support points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples.

Creative/descriptive writing

Can write clear, well-structured and developed descriptions and imaginative texts in an assured, personal, natural style appropriate to the reader in mind.

ISE III communicative skills, language requirements and general skills have been mapped to C1 in the CEFR.