

Levels	Overall structure and range of information	Sentence structure and grammatical accuracy	Vocabulary and choice of phrase	Misformed words and punctuation
Above B1	Is able to create quite complicated texts, using effects such as switching tense and interspersing dialogue with ease. The more common linking words are used quite skilfully.	Sentences can contain a wide variety of clause types, with frequent complex clauses. Errors in basic grammar only occur from time to time.	Vocabulary may be very wide, although the range is not generally sufficient to allow stylistic choices to be made.	Misformed words only occur from time to time.
B1	Is able to write texts on themes which do not necessarily draw only on personal experience and where the message has some complication. Common linking words are used.	Is able to create quite long and varied sentences with complex phrases, e.g. adverbials. Basic grammar is more often correct than not.	Vocabulary is generally made up of frequent words and phrases, but this does not seem to restrict the message. Some idiomatic phrases used appropriately.	Most clauses do not contain misformed words, even when the text contains a wide variety and quantity of words.
A2/B1	Is able to make reasonable attempt at texts on familiar themes that are not completely straightforward, including very simple narratives. Clauses are normally linked using connectors, such as <i>and</i> , <i>then</i> , <i>because</i> , <i>but</i> .	Sentences contain some longer clauses, and signs are shown of awareness of basic grammar, including a range of tenses.	Vocabulary is made up of very common words, but is able to combine words and phrases to add colour and interest to the message (e.g. using adjectives).	Clear evidence of awareness of some spelling and punctuation rules, but misformed words may occur in most sentences in more independent texts.

Text 8. Above B1

This is a very nice narrative, with a good flow, easy style and a good opening (*My Christmas wasn't that special last year*) and rounding off (...*and we had a wonderfull evening*). There are complicating factors, like the Christmas tree height, and colour is added e.g with adjectives: *my handicapped aunt*. He shows his concern (over the mark on the ceiling) and his passing irritation: *Every year I get a little pissed off because parents use as long time as they can to eat*. His control of grammar and vocabulary are quite sophisticated and highly idiomatic, e.g *we were a bit concerned...*; *But my dad solved the problem by cutting two or three cm off the top of the tree*. Although there are occasional errors – *as long time as they can*, *except from the fact* – and the odd misformed word: *christmas*, *wonderfull*, this text seems clearly beyond what can normally be expected of a non native speaker this age.