# Language levels and framework of reference



#### What do language levels represent?

Language levels provide structure, reference and standards to the language learning process. They help us to describe the different levels of ability needed at each language level in detail. While Babbel is designed with the European framework in mind: the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR), the American framework from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), shares similar measures and foundations. Both reference systems assign lifelike/real-world skills to each language level and this in turn, allows for clear definitions of different language skills and where they will be acquired during language learning process.

# Language levels within the Babbel courses

Babbel aligns all learning content with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This means that the language skills acquired at each level are measurable and comparable for everyone. The Babbel courses are divided according to six levels of the CEFR: A1-C2. As a direct result of this, each Babbel lesson within a course is formulated to align practical learning goals (that are achieved upon completion of the lesson) to the appropriate language level of that course curriculum.

#### A1 - Newcomer

Learners at the A1 language level can understand and use familiar, everyday expressions and very basic phrases. They can introduce themselves, write a short email, fill out a simple form, speak and ask about familiar topics, and understand clearly spoken sentences on familiar topics.

# A2 - Beginner

Learners at the A2 language level can communicate in simple and routine situations in which a simple and direct exchange of information about familiar and common things is required. They can talk about their work, describe their living environment and education, conduct simple correspondence and understand simple everyday texts.



#### B1 – Intermediate

Learners at the B1 language level can understand key points when clear, standard language is used and when the subject is familiar. They can manage a trip abroad, discuss familiar topics/personal interests coherently as well as explain plans and justify opinions.

## **B2 – Upper Intermediate**

Learners at the B2 language level can understand the key content of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics. They can lead a well-founded discussions in their special field, converse spontaneously and fluently with native speakers as well as identify and weigh up advantages and disadvantages.

## C1 - Advanced

Learners at the C1 language level can handle a wide range of topics in writing and speaking with almost no effort. They can speak fluently in a professional or social context, negotiate complex issues in a clear, structured and detailed manner and understand implicit meanings and cultural characteristics.

#### C2 – Near native language skills\*

Learners at the C2 language level master the language at the same level as a native speaker level. They can express themselves spontaneously, very fluently and precisely and make finer nuances of meaning clear even in more complex situations.

\* For language level C2, personalized courses are available to our learners at Babbel Intensive.





