

Comparing the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) & OET- standard

CEFR level	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Can be reached through ... hours of study	Total of study hours
CEFR A1 (Beginner)	Can recognize familiar words and very basic phrases concerning a person, the family and immediate surroundings if others speak slowly and clearly.	Can interact simply provided others speak slowly and/or repeats. Can ask and answer simple questions very familiar topics e.g. name, address, where pain is. Can produce very short, pre-rehearsed language.	Can understand simple information on patient-data forms and basic sentences on brochures about familiar topics, especially if there are supporting pictures.	Can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering my name, nationality and address on a patient registration form. Can write short, isolated, pre-prepared texts.	+ 70 to 100	80 to 100
CEFR A2 (Elementary User)	Can understand phrases with highest frequency vocabulary in most common personal areas (e.g. very basic personal and family information, past illnesses, employment). Can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements, with the help of gestures.	Can greet in a way that is professionally or culturally appropriate. Can manage simple exchanges on familiar topics, with appropriate pauses/stresses/facial cues, ask for opinion and explanations, and repeat and clarify predictable, familiar topics e.g. bath routine. Can express simple disagreement.	Can read very short, simple texts on specific, predictable information in everyday material such as patient demographic information, ward notices, instructions, diet menus and treatment regimens.	Can write short, simple notes relating to matters in most familiar areas e.g. instructions for appointments, sometimes using translation tools or copying sentence patterns. Can take simple notes at a presentation of a predictable and familiar topic e.g. patient ADLs or bedside care.	+ 100 to 120	180 to 200

CEFR level	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Can be reached through ... hours of study	Total of study hours
<p>CEFR B1 (Independent User) (pre-OET level)</p>	<p>Can understand main points of patient complaints, and family and social background.</p> <p>Can understand basics of change patient condition and action, if stated simply.</p> <p>Can understand basic job-related, non-clinical information, if stated simply.</p>	<p>Can ask for basic information about illnesses, treatment and background, using closed questions or a prepared format.</p> <p>Can use basic past tenses, adjectives and collocations to discuss timeline, action, severity and opinion.</p> <p>Can give basic layman instructions during physical examinations, giving medication or making appointments.</p> <p>With pre-planning, can give a rehearsed talk on a familiar topic.</p>	<p>Can skim case notes for gist and scan for some plainly stated details.</p> <p>Can understand main idea of non-clinical technical texts.</p> <p>Can understand simple, clearly written instructions on equipment.</p>	<p>Can complete a simple, standard-form medical summary with main problem list and plan of care.</p> <p>Can write simple patient instructions</p> <p>Can write simple emails on work-related, non-clinical topics.</p>	<p>+ 150 to 180</p>	<p>80 to 100</p>

CEFR level	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Can be reached through ... hours of study	Total of study hours
<p>CEFR B2 (Independent User) (pre-OET level)</p>	<p>Can understand most details of a patient interview including common descriptions of symptoms and signs, and the different treatment methods used.</p> <p>Can understand profession-related information exchanges between medical and administrative personnel.</p> <p>Can understand most points in a wide range of medical and scientific videos and audios, case studies and lectures in their area of specialty.</p>	<p>Can present patient cases using more complex grammar such as relative and participle clauses, as well as common specialized medical language, and be understandable despite some language errors.</p> <p>Can give clear, familiar job-related instructions or information.</p> <p>Can use appropriate tone and facial cues in a range of different situations e.g. dealing with conflict, giving bad news, expressing empathy, and interacting with colleagues.</p> <p>Can outline facts or a problem and discuss trends and action options.</p> <p>Can discuss advantage, disadvantages and best practice despite some limits in vocabulary</p>	<p>Can read patient notes in fair amount of detail, understanding important medical and social information, including several standard, globally recognized abbreviations.</p> <p>Can understand the messages in job-related info-graphics and tables</p> <p>Can understand health articles in area of specialty as well as wider health papers and summarize details from different sources.</p>	<p>Can write simple clinical protocols and incident reports</p> <p>Can write clinical notes including appropriate use of internationally recognized medical abbreviations</p> <p>Can format and write professional letters though with errors in language structure and conventions</p> <p>Can use passive forms in discussing care, conditions in the past, present and future, and outline recommendations.</p> <p>Can write simple health essays giving fact, advantage and disadvantage or opinion.</p>	<p>+ 200 to 250</p>	<p>600 to 650</p>

CEFR level	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Can be reached through ... hours of study	Total of study hours
<p>CEFR C1 (Proficient User) (OET level)</p>	<p>Can understand complex exchanges between doctor and patient, relatives, or peers about symptoms and management, AND simultaneously make notes on important points heard.</p> <p>Can understand and learn from a range of new material encountered outside own field of expertise.</p> <p>Can understand common idiomatic and some colloquial terms or guess meaning based on context.</p>	<p>Can make polished presentations on health, medical, administrative and anecdotal topics using a range of general and medical language, including idiom and some colloquial terms, even if with minor errors.</p> <p>Can deal politely with challenging questions and situations.</p> <p>Can offer opinions on topics outside field of expertise, based either on general knowledge or recently encountered material.</p>	<p>Can read true-to-life admission and follow-up notes, irrespective of abbreviations or technical content.</p> <p>Can read any information outside field of expertise, including understanding semantics that suggest action and consequence, attitude or opinion, inference and call-to-action. Can form conclusions about meaning of idiomatic expressions based on context.</p>	<p>Can write professional referral letters, medical papers, or letters to the editor using a combination of layman and medical language as needed, and in appropriate register and tone for the intended reader.</p> <p>Can write summaries or presentations based on information from multiple sources, even if with minor language errors.</p>	<p>+ 250 to 300</p>	<p>850 to 900</p>

CEFR level	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Can be reached through ... hours of study	Total of study hours
<p>CEFR C2 (Proficient User) (OET level & above)</p>	<p>Can understand the technical and colloquial language of audio or video without difficulty, related to field of expertise or beyond.</p>	<p>Can make polished technical presentations, speak fluently, welcome questions and tackle challenging scenarios using polite, intensifying or hedging language as needed, making rare language errors.</p>	<p>Can skim and scan technical articles in area of expertise and beyond with ease, summarizing main points, eliciting detailed information presented in a variety of formats, inferring opinion and attitude, and reach conclusions based on information from range of varied sources.</p>	<p>Can write patient notes, referral letters, papers and opinions with ease, in layman or technical language with few, if any language errors.</p>	<p>+ 700 to 800</p>	<p>+ 1000 to 1200</p>