

B1 Syllabus

Use this syllabus to prepare for your B1 TAL exam. This syllabus is aligned with the B1 e-learning course on Moodle.

Grammar

1. Using English Tenses

- The Present: Know the difference between the Present Simple (habits/facts) and Present Continuous (temporary/now). Use adverbs of frequency to describe how often things happen.
- Connecting Past & Present: Use the Present Perfect vs. Past Simple to talk about life experiences versus specific times in the past.
- Narrating & Storytelling: Tell stories by combining Past Simple (main events), Past Continuous (background scenes), and Past Perfect (events that happened *before* the main story).

2. Talking About the Future

- Will vs. Be Going To vs. Present Continuous: Know when to use each for instant decisions, plans, or fixed arrangements.

3. Modals (Rules, Advice, & Guesses)

- Ability: Talk about what you can do using *can*, *could*, and be able to.
- Obligation & Advice: Express rules and recommendations using *must*, *have to*, and *should*.
- Present deduction (Making Guesses): Make deductions and express possibility using *may*, *might*, and *must* (e.g., "*He might be late*," "*That must be true*").

4. Descriptions, Connections, & Comparisons

- Comparisons: Take adjectives further with complex comparative structures (e.g., *much bigger than*, *not as... as*, *the least expensive*) and superlative structures (e.g., *by far the biggest*, *superlative + present perfect*).
- Articles: Know when to use *a*, *an*, *the*, or no article at all in abstract or general contexts.
- Defining Relative Clauses: Connect ideas using *who*, *which*, *that*, *where*, *whose*.

5. Advanced Sentence Patterns

- Conditionals (0, 1st & 2nd):
 - 0: Real facts ("If you heat water to 100°C, it boils").
 - First: Real future possibilities ("If it rains, we will stay").
 - Second: Imaginary/hypothetical situations ("If I won the lottery, I would buy a house").
- Passive Verbs in the present and past simple: Shift the focus from *who* did the action to the action itself (e.g., "The house was built in 1920").
- Gerunds & Infinitives: Know which verbs are followed by an -ing form and which take to + verb.



Lexis

1. Daily Life & Society

- **Food and Cooking:** Kitchen vocabulary, cooking methods (fried, grilled, baked), and describing flavors.
- **Money:** Vocabulary for spending, saving, borrowing, bank accounts, and shopping.
- **School & Education:** Subjects, exams, university life, and the education system.
- **Free-time activities:** talking about hobbies, interests, sports, and weekend activities
- **Travel & holidays:** talking about making travel arrangements and things you need on holiday.

2. Describing People & the World

- **The Body & health:** Internal and external body parts, words related to health.
- **Personality Adjectives:** Detailed words to describe how people behave and think.
- **Extreme Adjectives:** Moving beyond "very" (e.g., using *freezing* instead of *very cold*, or *exhausted* instead of *very tired*).

3. How Words Work Together

- **Collocations:** Common combinations of **verbs + adjectives** and **adjectives + prepositions** (e.g., *interested in*, *good at*).
- **-ed vs. -ing Adjectives:** Knowing the difference between feelings ("*I am bored*") and the thing causing the feeling ("*The movie is boring*").
- **Word Formation:** How to build new words by changing their form (e.g., changing the noun *success* to the adjective *successful* or the adverb *successfully*; change the verb *communicate* to the noun *communication*).
- **Compound Nouns:** Words made of two nouns put together (e.g., *traffic jam*, *boarding pass*).



Phrasal Verbs

Relationship & Socializing:

- *get on / along (with someone)*: to have a good relationship
- *hang out (with friends)*: to spend free time together
- *break up / split up*: to end a romantic relationship
- *meet up*: to gather with someone intentionally

Daily Routines & Actions:

- *wake up / get up*: to stop sleeping / to leave your bed
- *put on / take off*: to dress yourself / to remove clothing
- *turn on / turn off (or switch on/off)*: to start or stop an electronic device
- *pick up*: to collect someone or something (often in a car)

Learning & Problem Solving:

- *find out*: to discover new information
- *look for / look up*: to search for an item / to look up information in a book or online
- *fill in*: to complete a form or questionnaire
- *work out*: to calculate something, solve a problem, or exercise

State changes & Progress:

- *grow up*: to become an adult
- *give up*: to stop trying or quit a habit
- *carry on / keep on*: to continue doing something
- *run out of*: to use up all of a supply (e.g., "We've run out of milk")
- *look forward to*: to feel excited about a future event

Recommended video: **50 Essential Phrasal Verbs for B1!**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2b0hnKq8_WM