



# Curriculum Outline

## Step-by-Step

### Upper Intermediate

40 lessons

A Guide for Step-by-Step Upper Intermediate  
English Curriculum

# STEP-BY-STEP UPPER INTERMEDIATE

SPEAKING, LISTENING, READING AND WRITING

CEFR B2

## UNIT 1

### HOW DO YOU COMMUNICATE AND LEARN?

- Learn Wh- questions about subjects vs objects.

At the end of the lesson, students can use a variety of Wh- questions in the context of communication.

- Review and expand the use of present simple and present continuous. Learn gradable and extreme adjectives.

At the end of the lesson, students can use the present simple and present continuous with increasing confidence. Students can use gradable and extreme adjectives with intensifiers in the context of learning languages.

- Learn language to give opinions and respond to opinions clearly. Learn me too and me neither to show agreement.

At the end of the lesson, students can express an opinion and respond to an opinion effectively.

- Learn to write a guide. Learn in order to and infinitive of purpose. Learn this and these to refer to ideas already mentioned.

At the end of the lesson, students can use infinitives of purpose and in order to as well as this / these to write a guide about learning English.

## UNIT 2

### MODERN LIFE

- Review and expand the use of present perfect simple and study differences in usage with the past simple.

At the end of the lesson, students can use the present perfect simple and past simple with increasing confidence.

- Learn the present perfect continuous and study differences in usage with the present perfect simple.

At the end of the lesson, students can use the present perfect simple and present perfect continuous in the correct context.

- Learn different ways to make suggestions.

At the end of the lesson, students can talk about problems and make helpful suggestions.

- Learn to write an email that gives news, using connectors as well as, on top of, besides, additionally, in addition, except for, and apart from.

At the end of the lesson, students can write an email that shares news about a job opportunity. Students can use connectors to add new information and connectors to include or exclude information.

## UNIT 3

### WHO IS IMPORTANT IN YOUR LIFE?

- Review narrative tenses (past simple, past continuous, and past perfect) to talk about the past, including connectors while, when, as.

At the end of the lesson, students can use narrative tenses to talk about a friendship.

- Review used to, positive and negative. Learn anymore, any longer and still.

At the end of the lesson, students can use used to with greater confidence. Students can talk about a family member using a variety of tenses, including used to.

- Learn to tell a story and learn language to react to stories people tell.

At the end of the lesson, students can effectively share a story about a personal experience. Students can use expressions to show interest and react to stories others tell.

- Learn to write about another person, using from...until; for / over [a period of time], during, while, meanwhile to describe periods of time.

At the end of the lesson, students can write about someone they know, using time words to describe different events in the person's life.

## UNIT 4

### ABILITIES AND QUALITIES

- Learn can and could, positive and negative, for ability. Learn be able to / manage to [do something] positive and negative.

At the end of the lesson, students can talk about themselves and other people to describe abilities and achievements.

- Learn -ed / -ing adjectives.

At the end of the lesson, students can use -ed / -ing adjectives correctly to talk about an emotional experience.

- Learn tag questions, positive and negative, with various tenses and modal verbs.

At the end of the lesson, students use basic tag questions. Students can use correct intonation to question something or confirm something using tag questions.

- Learn to write an online job advertisement, including skills and qualities required. Learn reduced expressions for job listings.

At the end of the lesson, students can write an online advertisement, including experience needed, personality traits desired, and reduced expressions.

## UNIT 5

### THE ENVIRONMENT

- Learn will, be going to for future, present continuous for future.

At the end of the lesson, students can talk about the environment using future forms.

- Learn and review the zero conditional and the first conditional. Learn conditional statements with imperatives. Learn distinctions between when / if and unless for conditionals.

At the end of the lesson, students can use the zero and first conditional with if, when, or unless to talk about an environmental issue. Students can also use the imperative in a conditional statement to give an order about the present or future.

- Learn to support an argument giving reasons, results and examples.

At the end of the lesson, students can talk about an environmental campaign, giving reasons, results and examples.

- Learn to organize and write a discussion essay, using sequence words (first, second, third, finally), contrast words (however, on the other hand), and example words (for example, such as, like).

At the end of the lesson, students can organize and write a discussion essay about an environmental issue.

## UNIT 6

### TELL ME

- Learn compound nouns. Learn can / can't for permission; learn have to / don't have to for necessity.

At the end of the lesson, students can use modals of permission and necessity to talk about different ways to get around town. Students can use compound nouns related to transportation and traffic.

- Expand understanding and use of comparatives and superlatives for adjectives and adverbs. Learn just, nearly, almost, even with (not) as...as... comparisons; use intensifiers with comparatives.

At the end of the lesson, students can use comparatives and superlatives to talk about and compare different foods and drinks.

- Learn helpful language to ask for recommendations and to give recommendations.

At the end of the lesson, students can ask for recommendations of what to see and do in a city. Students can give recommendations using a variety of structures.

- Learn to write a review of a restaurant, using adjectives ending in -ed vs -ing. Learn vocabulary to describe a good experience or when things go wrong.

At the end of the lesson, students can write a positive or a negative review of a restaurant.

## UNIT 7

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## UNIT 8

### THEY SAID

- Review reported speech: statements, questions, and reporting verbs say and tell.

At the end of the lesson, students can use reported speech to talk about the news and current events.

- Expand understanding of reported speech and learn various reporting verbs. Learn reporting verb + gerund vs infinitive. Learn different reported speech verb patterns.

At the end of the lesson, students can use reporting verbs and reported speech with greater confidence.

- Learn informal language for small talk, including expressions for speaking generally (typically, generally, in general, on the whole, normally).

At the end of the lesson, students can engage in small talk, and they can speak in a general and non-committal manner.

- Learn to write a summary of an article. Learn to use coordinating conjunctions and commas to combine clauses.

At the end of the lesson, students can write a summary of a sports article, using adverbs to comment on a story.

## UNIT 9

### ENTERTAINMENT

➤ Learn passive voice, various tenses.  
At the end of the lesson, students can use the passive voice to talk about their favorite show or series.

➤ Learn defining and non-defining relative clauses. Learn relative pronouns who, that, which.

At the end of the lesson, students can use defining and non-defining relative clauses to effectively give more information about something. Students can differentiate intonation for defining vs non-defining relative clauses.

➤ Expand understanding of relative clauses.

At the end of the lesson, students can use relative clauses with greater confidence while talking about entertainment.

➤ Learn language to make and respond to recommendations and suggestions.  
Learn to use be supposed to for voicing expectations about something when making recommendations.

At the end of the lesson, students can make recommendations and suggestions for entertainment.

## UNIT 10

### JOBS

➤ Learn to the second conditional, including If I were you. Learn differences in usage between second conditional compared to first conditional.

At the end of the lesson, students can use the second conditional to talk about the things they would like to do.

➤ Learn the third conditional.

At the end of the lesson, students can use the third conditional to talk about imagined past events related to jobs and having a business.

➤ Learn language to give reassurance.  
At the end of the lesson, students can provide reassurance in the context of job hunting.

➤ Learn to write an email to give advice.  
At the end of the lesson, students can write an advice email to someone about a job, explaining what the person would do in this position and why it would suit him or her.