

Public course: PREPARATION FOR THE DELE INICIAL DIPLOMA

Day and time: Mondays 7:30-9:30

Duration: 24 hours (12 sessions)

This short course is aimed at students who have studied Spanish for a minimum 200 hours or have attained a level equivalent to a B1 (see table below) in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference, CEFR, and want to prepare for the DELE, an official diploma from the Cervantes Institute which is recognized all over the world both in the private and public sectors. The DELE Inicial Diploma recognizes the candidate's linguistic ability to understand and react adequately to common situations in everyday life as well as expressing wishes and needs. This course is not designed as a tool for learning Spanish but rather as a course to prepare students for the actual examination. In each of the sessions, students will learn techniques to work on the four skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) as well as time management within the examination context. Students may be required to attend an interview in order to ascertain their suitability for the course. Students may consult past papers from the Cervantes Institute (<http://diplomas.cervantes.es/candidatos/modelo.jsp>)

Table 1. Common Reference Levels: global scale

Proficient User	C2	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.
	C1	Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
Independent User	B2	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
	B1	Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
Basic User	A2	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
	A1	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.