Functions, Topics, Vocabulary and Discourse Markers
Based on the British Council – EAQUALS Core Inventory for General English

A1	A2	B1
FUNCTIONS • Directions • Describing habits and routines • Giving personal information • Greetings • Telling the time • Understanding and using numbers Understanding and using prices **TOPICS** • Family life • Hobbies and pastimes • Holidays • Leisure activities • Shopping • Work and jobs **VOCABULARY** • Food and drink • Nationalities and countries • Personal information • Things in the town, shops, and shopping • Verbs – basic **DISCOURSE MARKERS** • Connecting words – and, but, because	**FUNCTIONS** • Describing habits and routines • Describing past experiences • Describing people • Describing places • Describing things • Obligation and necessity • Requests • Suggestions **TOPICS** • Education • Hobbies and pastimes • Holidays Leisure activities • Shopping • Work and jobs **VOCABULARY** • Adjectives: personality, description, feelings Food and drink • Things in the town, shops, and shopping • Travel and services **DISCOURSE MARKERS** • Connecting words - addition • Linkers - sequential, time, examples	**FUNCTIONS** • Checking understanding • Describing experiences and events • Describing feelings and emotion • Describing places • Expressing opinions; language of agreeing and disagreeing • Initiating and closing conversation • Managing interaction (interrupting, changing topic, resuming, or continuing) **TOPICS** • Books and literature • Education • Film • Leisure activities • Media • News, lifestyles, and current affairs **VOCABULARY** • Collocation • Colloquial language • Things in the town, shops, and shopping • Travel and services **DISCOURSE MARKERS** • Connecting words – addition, cause and effect, compare, contrast

B2	B2+
FUNCTIONS - Critiquing and reviewing - Describing experiences - Describing feelings and emotions - Describing hopes and plans - Developing an argument - Encouraging and inviting another speaker to continue, come in - Expressing abstract ideas - Expressing agreement and disagreement - Expressing opinions - Expressing reaction, e.g., indifference - Interacting informally, reacting, expressing interest, sympathy, surprise etc. - Opinion, justification - Speculating - Taking the initiative in interaction - Synthesizing, evaluating, glossing information **TOPICS** - Arts - Books and literature - Education - Film - Media - News, lifestyles, and current affairs **VOCABULARY** - Collocation - Colloquial language	**FUNCTIONS** - Conceding a point - Critiquing and reviewing constructively - Defending a point of view persuasively - Developing an argument systematically - Emphasizing a point, feeling, issue - Expressing attitudes and feelings precisely - Expressing certainty, probability, doubt - Expressing opinions tentatively, hedging - Expressing reaction, e.g., indifference - Expressing shades of opinion and certainty - Responding to counterarguments - Speculating and hypothesizing about causes, consequences etc. - Synthesizing, evaluating, and glossing information **TOPICS** - Arts - Books and literature - Film - Media - News, lifestyles, and current affairs - Scientific developments - Technical and legal language **VOCABULARY** - Approximating (vague language) - Collocation - Colloquial language - Differentiated use of vocabulary - Eliminating false friends - Formal and informal registers - Idiomatic expression

DISCOURSE MARKERS	DISCOURSE MARKERS
- Connecting words expressing cause and effect, contrast etc. - Discourse markers to structure formal speech - Linkers: although, in spite of, despite - Linkers: sequential – past time – subsequently - Linking: emphasizing, summarizing, generalizing	- Linking devices, logical markers - Markers to structure and signpost formal and informal speech and writing