

Readers Grammar Framework

The Collins COBUILD Grading Scheme carefully identifies what language can be used in a graded text at each level. Below you will find a list of some of the most important structures that you will find at each level.

Level 1 (A2)

Common adjectives
 Comparatives and superlatives; *more / less ... than*
 Countable and uncountable nouns
either / neither + or / nor
how much, how many, not much, not many, a little, a few, a lot (of), lots (of)
 Cardinal and ordinal numbers
 Common prepositions
 Indefinite quantifiers
 Personal pronouns as subject and object
 Possessive adjectives and pronouns, 's and s'
 Relative pronouns in simple defining clauses – *who, which, that*
 Reflexive pronouns
 Emphatic pronouns
can / can't / could / couldn't to express ability and permission
must, have to

could, might, may, will probably to express possibility
will, shall to express offers, promises, unwillingness
there + is / are / was / were
 Empty *it*
 Common phrasal verbs
like, hate, love, enjoy, prefer + verb + 'ing'
would / 'd like
 Simple question tags
 Present simple, present continuous for present
 Past simple, past continuous, present perfect simple
going to, will used for future
 Simple passives in present, present perfect simple and past simple
 Zero conditional
 1st conditional
 Imperatives

Level 2 (A2–B1)

All of the above, plus:
 Present and past participles used adjectivally before nouns and after *to be*
 Comparisons using *much, (not) as ... as, than*
 Time clauses using present simple and perfect with future meaning (not future perfect)
still, yet, any more, even, only with appropriate tenses and position in sentence
used to to express past habits
 Nouns and indefinite pronouns modified by infinitive with *to*
some(body) / one, any(body) / one, no one (else)

such (a) + noun and so + adjective / adverb (... that)
wh- noun clauses as object, introduced by *what, who, where, which (one), how, why*
 Relative pronouns – *who, which, that, whose* and adverbials *when, where*
rather than, except (for), besides, apart from, other than
hear / see + object + infinitive / -ing
 Past perfect
 Present perfect continuous
so and *neither* with auxiliaries

Level 3 (B1)

All of the above, plus:
any longer with appropriate tenses
must / can't / could / might + be to express deduction
must / have to to express obligation
needn't to express lack of obligation
didn't use to, did you use to to express past habits
 Changes in time / place words when reporting

Object clauses with *whether* and *if*
 Causative *have* and *get*
want + -ing and *need + passive infinitive*
 Passives with modals and *have to, used to, be going to*
 Past continuous and past perfect continuous
 2nd and 3rd conditionals

Level 4 (B2)

All of the above, plus:
 Clauses of purpose with *in order to, so, so as to, so that*
 Clauses of concession with *while*
 Contrast with *while, whereas*
 Reason with *since* and *as*
 Present and past participle adverbial clauses
would to express past habit
wh- clauses as subject, object and after preposition

Reporting with passives
so used at end of clause to avoid repetition
 Future in the past – *was / were to, would*
 Modal perfect *should / ought to have done*
 Future perfect, simple and continuous and perfect continuous
I wish, if only + past / past perfect / conditional
 More complex phrasal verbs, with objects, adverbials, etc.
 Conditionals with modals other than *will / would*