

Foundation B2.1

At the **B2 level** of language proficiency (according to the CEFR – Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), learners reach an **upper-intermediate** stage where they can function independently and effectively in most everyday and professional situations. Here are the **key milestones** typically achieved at the B2 level:

Communication & Comprehension

- Can **understand the main ideas** of complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in their field of specialization.
- Can follow extended speech and complex lines of argument **in standard spoken language**, even in lectures or debates.
- Can **interact with native speakers** with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular conversation possible without strain for either party.

Speaking

- Can **express themselves clearly and in detail** on a wide range of topics.
- Can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue, giving the **advantages and disadvantages** of various options.
- Can take an active part in discussion, **defending their opinions and responding to others' arguments** effectively.

Writing

- Can write **clear, detailed texts** on a wide range of subjects.
- Can produce **essays or reports** that present arguments or viewpoints systematically, highlighting important points and supporting ideas.
- Can write **personal or professional correspondence**, adjusting tone and register appropriately.

Grammar & Vocabulary

- Has a **good command of grammar** with occasional slips that do not cause misunderstanding.
- Can use a **broad range of vocabulary**, including idiomatic expressions and some nuanced language, especially in familiar contexts.

- Can vary language to **avoid repetition and express subtle shades of meaning.**

Independence & Adaptability

- Can **function effectively in francophone environments**, whether traveling, studying, or working.
- Can adapt language to **different social and professional contexts.**
- Shows an ability to learn new vocabulary and expressions from context and incorporate them into conversation.

At the **B2.1 level**, the student will explore the theme of urban life, food systems, agriculture, and global/local food consumption through literature, culture, communication, vocabulary, and grammar. Students will investigate contemporary and future cities, urban challenges, and creative approaches to imagining the city of tomorrow. Students will examine how food is produced, marketed, and consumed, and analyze the social, environmental, and economic issues tied to modern agriculture. Activities integrate reading, speaking, writing, and cultural analysis.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

Communication Skills

- Discuss poetry and its relationship to the city
- Compose a poem
- Talk about beauty and ugliness
- Express personal sensations and impressions
- Discuss the challenges cities face
- Imagine and describe the city of the future
- Talk about urban planning and urbanism
- Discuss works of speculative or futuristic fiction
- Talk about agriculture

- Draw connections between different texts
- Express indignation or judgment
- Propose solutions to problems
- Denounce an illogical situation
- Express a paradox
- Discuss regional products and labeling systems

Cultural & Societal Themes

Students will engage with cultural topics such as:

- The city in poetry
- Urban renewal and revitalization
- Perspectives on specific cities (e.g., Charleroi, Marseille, Paris) as depicted in selected texts or media
- Large trends in future urbanism
- Smart cities
- Challenges faced by African cities
- *Les Furtifs* (used as a cultural reference in the unit)
- Urban exploration Agricultural initiatives in the Maghreb
- Permaculture in Morocco
- Pesticides in Africa
- Seeds of hope in Benin
- Urban greening and plant-based cities
- The absurdity of the agro-food industry
- Poultry production challenges
- Food issues in La Réunion
- The question of whether local consumption is truly better for the planet

- Regional products—authenticity vs. commercialization (urbex)

Grammar Focus

- Expressing cause
- Avoiding unnecessary repetition
- Expressing consequence
- Using the neutral pronoun *le*
- Expressing opposition and concession
- Using impersonal structures
- The pronoun *ça*

Vocabulary Themes

- Poetry and literary expression
- The city and urbanism
- Transformation and renewal
- Beauty and ugliness
- Nicknames for cities
- Prefixes such as **re-**, **ré-**, **ra-**, **dé-** (augmentation, reduction, nuance)
- Urbanism and technology
- Prefixes **pan-** and **omni-**
- Expressions using *coin*
- City nicknames (extended practice)
- Expressing personal subjectivity
- Agriculture and plants
- Animal farming
- Rural and agricultural expressions

- Agro-food production
- Absurd or paradoxical situations
- Familiar expressions

Methodology

- Writing an open letter (structure, tone, argumentation)
- Reading and interpreting numerical data (charts, statistics, figures)

Textbook information: Défi 4

This book is available at <https://klettwl.com/store/content/afdenver-french>. See our [textbook page](#) for information about purchasing options. This book will be used for B2.1 through B2.4. B2.1 will review Units 1 and 2.

UNIT 1

<p>p. 15 - 28</p> 	<p>DOSSIERS</p> <p>DOSSIER #01 Une question de goût</p> <p>DOSSIER #02 Les villes du futur</p>	<p>DÉFIS</p> <p>DÉFI #01 Créer un safari urbain</p> <p>DÉFI #02 Créer une ville parfaite</p> 	<p>CULTURE(S) ET SOCIÉTÉ(S)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La ville et la poésie • Charleroi: la revanche d'une moche • L'urbex • Paris par Patrick Süskind • Marseille par Massilia Sound System • Les grandes tendances de l'urbanisme du futur • Les villes intelligentes • Les <i>Furtifs</i> d'Alain Damasio • Les défis des villes africaines
<p>COMMUNICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • échanger sur la poésie • composer un poème • parler de beauté et de laideur • évoquer ses sensations • parler des défis des villes • imaginer la ville du futur • parler d'urbanisme • échanger sur les romans d'anticipation 	<p>GRAMMAIRE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exprimer la cause • éviter les répétitions • exprimer la conséquence • le pronom neutre <i>le</i> 	<p>LEXIQUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • la poésie • la ville, l'urbanisme • la transformation, et le renouveau • la beauté, la laideur • les surnoms de villes • les préfixes <i>re-</i> (<i>ré-</i>, <i>ra-</i>) et <i>dé-</i> • l'augmentation, la diminution • l'urbanisme et la technologie • les préfixes <i>pan-</i> et <i>omni-</i> • les expressions avec « coin » • des surnoms de ville 	<p>MÉTHODOLOGIE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rédiger une lettre ouverte

UNIT 2

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DOSSIERS

DOSSIER 01

L'agriculture rurale et urbaine

DOSSIER 02

L'alimentation mondiale ou locale

DÉFIS

DÉFI #01

Présenter un projet pour végétaliser la ville

DÉFI #02

Présenter les incohérences de l'industrie alimentaire d'un pays



CULTURE(S) ET SOCIÉTÉ(S)

- Des initiatives agricoles au Maghreb
- La permaculture au Maroc
- Les pesticides en Afrique
- La graine de l'espoir au Bénin
- La végétalisation des villes
- L'absurdité de l'agroalimentaire
- Le poulet de dégagement à La Réunion
- Consommer local, vraiment bon pour la planète ?
- Les produits du terroir, entre authenticité et business

COMMUNICATION

- parler d'agriculture
- établir des liens entre des textes
- s'indigner, juger
- donner des solutions à des problèmes
- dénoncer une situation illogique
- exprimer un paradoxe
- parler des produits régionaux et des labels

GRAMMAIRE

- l'opposition et la concession
- les structures impersonnelles
- le pronom *ça*

LEXIQUE

- exprimer sa subjectivité
- l'agriculture, les plantes
- l'élevage
- les expressions paysannes et potagères
- la production agroalimentaire
- l'absurde
- les expressions familières

MÉTHODOLOGIE

- lire et commenter des chiffres