

1. No notes
2. No notes
3. Description Of B2 English level. Concentration on II, III, IV
4. Brief Syllabus outline 1
5. Brief Syllabus outline 2
6. Brief Syllabus outline 3
7. Review of basic linguistic concepts useful for learning a second language.
8. Diagram of concepts explained: nested relationship. Every person speaks an *idiolect* inserted in a *sociolect* (social groups), which is part of a dialect (*geographical groups*), which belongs to a specific L (/speech), built according to a species-specific ability to communicate (Language).
9. Universal organisation of languages.
10. Why is speech always changing?
11. Graphic representation of *sociolect*, *dialect*, *idiolect*.
12. Speech is not homogenous. Many factors can impinge on it making it change constantly.
13. Amongst the ca. 6,500 languages spoken worldwide, why do we learn English?
14. Being Chinese the most spoken language worldwide, why don't we learn Chinese as the universal language of contact?
15. Being Spanish the second most spoken language worldwide, why don't we learn Spanish as the universal language of contact?
16. English in the world. Only the dark-green areas have English as a mother tongue. Lighter green areas learn English as a second language.
17. Italian in the world. Dark-blue: mother tongue. Light blue: Second language. Green: important Italian-speaking communities in the world.
18. Ten most spoken languages in the World in millions. Discussion.
19. Very brief overview of English history. In red: reason why English have so many Latin-origin words.
20. Review of slide 9
21. Discussion of some difficulties in the process of learning English. General and specific difficulties.
22. List of Italian consonants.
23. English sounds especially problematic for Italian-learners.
24. Voiceless and voiced fricatives as in *think* and *this*; glottal stop as in *hang*.
25. The Italian vocal sounds. Examples
26. English vocal sounds. Mispronunciation of some of them is a major source of misunderstandings.
27. Italian and English vowels put together (simplified). Italian DOES NOT have the vowels represented in red.
28. How to use virtual tools sensibly. Do we have to buy books? What books to buy? Discussion
29. **Recommended homework.**  
Objective: improve English pronunciation. Discussion: What were the results of asking questions to a machine. Did your phone assistant recognise your question? How many trials were necessary to get your meaning across?
30. No notes.