

Task 4. Difficulties in aligning CEFR with teaching programmes

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- 1) Teachers should align the English curriculum with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) for several reasons. Firstly, the CEFR provides a standardized framework for describing language proficiency levels, allowing teachers to establish clear learning objectives and assessment criteria. By aligning the curriculum with the CEFR, teachers can ensure that their students' language skills are measured and recognized internationally. Secondly, the CEFR promotes learner-centered instruction by focusing on communicative competence and real-life language use. Aligning the curriculum with the CEFR helps teachers create meaningful and relevant language learning experiences for their students.
- 2) The CEFR can be useful for English teachers in several ways. It provides a common language and reference point for discussing language proficiency levels among teachers, students, and other stakeholders. This enables effective communication and collaboration in setting goals, evaluating progress, and designing appropriate learning activities. The CEFR also offers a range of descriptors for each proficiency level, covering various language skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) and language domains (social, professional, academic). English teachers can use these descriptors as a guide to design targeted lessons and assessments that cater to their students' specific needs and abilities.
- 3) English teachers may encounter some challenges when aligning the CEFR with their curriculum. One challenge is the need for a clear understanding of the CEFR's descriptors and proficiency levels. Teachers must familiarize themselves with the detailed descriptions provided by the CEFR to accurately assess their students' proficiency and plan appropriate instruction. Another challenge is the potential mismatch between the curriculum's content and the CEFR's recommended topics and themes. Teachers may need to make adjustments to their curriculum to ensure alignment with the CEFR's communicative approach and real-life language use. Additionally, implementing CEFR-aligned assessments can be challenging, as it requires developing valid and reliable assessment tools that accurately measure students' proficiency levels according to the CEFR criteria.
- 4) The CEFR is important in learning a foreign language because it provides a standardized framework for evaluating and comparing language proficiency levels. It offers a common reference point for learners, teachers, employers, and educational institutions across different countries. The CEFR allows learners to assess their language skills objectively, set realistic goals, and track their progress over time. It also helps teachers design effective language learning activities and assessments that align with learners' needs and abilities. Moreover, the CEFR enhances the mobility of language learners by providing a recognized and transferable measure of language proficiency, making it easier to study, work, or live in different countries where the CEFR is widely recognized and used.

