

## International SIG Meeting

**The use of CEFR descriptors in the learning, teaching and assessment of languages:  
Supplementing the descriptors with findings from Learner Corpus Research (LCR) to facilitate  
their implementation in the learning, teaching and assessment of languages**

### Programme (Central European Time)

April, 26th, 2024

#### 9.15-9.30 Welcome

Dr. José Ignacio Jiménez González, Vice-Rector for Internationalization (University of Jaén)

Dr. María Belén Díez-Bedmar, PI of the FineDesc Project (University of Jaén)

**9.30 -10.30: Plenary 1.** The CEFR and Finedesc: a very timely project. Neus Figueras Casanovas (University of Barcelona – Official Language School)

**10.30-10.50:** An **introduction** to the FineDesc project. Making the CEFR/CV more user-friendly: fine-tuning descriptors with Learner Corpus Research (LCR) results. María Belén Díez Bedmar (University of Jaén)

#### 10.50-11.00: Break

**11.00-12.00: Round table 1.** Facing the challenges of CEFR descriptors. Chair. Natalia Judith Laso Martín

11.00-11.15: Exploring the CEFR and CEFR Companion Volume in the Greek context: Pre-service and in-service teachers' awareness and training needs. Katsantoni Maria, Alexopoulou Angélica, Giannakou Aretousa, Michalopoulou Stamatia, Palaiologou Nektaria, Pappa Marina, Rousoulioti Thomais, Tantsi Anneta & Voskaki Rania (Hellenic Open University, Greece, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, University of Nicosia, Cyprus, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece, Ionian University, Greece)

11.15-11.30: Is the CEFR language-teacher friendly? Exploring collated descriptors of language competences developed for young learners. Elaine Millar & Julia T. Williams Camus (University of Cantabria)

11.30-11.45: Knowledge and use of the CEFR descriptors in Spanish University Language Centres: raters and teachers. María Belén Díez Bedmar & Gloria Luque Agulló (University of Jaén).

11.45-12.00: Discussion

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#### 12.00-12.20: Break

#### 12.20-13.50: Fine-tuning descriptors (I)

12.20-13.00: Fine-tuning linguistic competence descriptors. María Belén Díez Bedmar (University of Jaén) & Natalia Judith Laso Martín (University of Barcelona)

13.00-13.20: Fine-tuning sociolinguistic competence descriptors. Carmen Maíz Arévalo (Complutense University of Madrid) & M. Carmen Méndez García (University of Jaén)

13.20-13.50: Fine-tuning pragmatic competence descriptors. Marisa Carrió Pastor (Polytechnic University of Valencia) & Carmen Maíz Arévalo (Complutense University of Madrid)

#### 13.50-15.30 Break

**15.30-16.30: Round Table 2.** Working with FineDesc: junior researchers. Chair: M. del Carmen Méndez García

15.30-15.40: Exploring Noun Phrase Postmodification in EFL Spanish Learners' Writing at B2 level. Ángela Araque García (University of Jaén)

15.40-15.50: A Learner Corpus-Based Analysis of B1 and B2 Learners' Use of Adjectives in Two Different Text Types. Adrián Podobia Podobia (University of Jaén)

15.50-16.00: Gender influence and the usage of contrastive linking adverbials by Spanish EFL learners across three CEFR levels. Lucía González Garrido (University of Jaén)

16.00-16.10: L1 Spanish EFL students' use of non-finite subordinate clauses in two text types: a cross sectional study at CEFR B1, B2 and C1 levels. Ignacio Barrionuevo Vasco (University of Jaén)

16.10-16.20: Discussion

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**16.20-16.30: Break**

### **16.30-17.10: Fine-tuning descriptors (II)**

16.30-16.50: Validating high-stakes speaking assessment across CEFR level: A corpus-based analysis of grammatical complexity features in the Aptis test. Jan Langeslag & Jordan Weide (British Council)

16.50-17.10: Analysing the FineDesc Learner corpus using NLP techniques. Arturo Montejo Ráez (University of Jaén) & Pablo Álvarez Ojeda (University of Jaén)

**17.10-17.30: Break**

**17.30-18.15: Round Table 3.** Insights from University Language Centres. Chair: Carmen Maíz Arévalo

17.30-17.40: Enhancing CEFR Writing Descriptors at a Spanish University Language School: Improving Clarity and Precision in Language Assessment. Jovanka Babic, Judith Dunan & Dawn McRobbie (University Language Centre, University of Barcelona)

17.40-17.50: Error Analysis in Email Writing of Intermediate Students Based on the Fine-tuned Descriptor Grammatical Accuracy. Antonio Alejandro Aledo Balsas, Asun Ruiz Romero & Consu Lara García (University Language Centre, University Miguel Hernandez, Elche)

17.50-18.00: Using descriptors in the classroom: students' insights. Carmen Álvarez García (University Language Centre, Polytechnic University of Madrid)

18.00-18.15: Discussion

**18.15-18.30: Break**

**18.30-19.30: Plenary 2.** Why should we use descriptors in the teaching/learning of languages?  
Brian North (CEFR co-author)