

Possible language (grammar topics and functions) for pre-intermediate learners:

Grammar	Basic rules / patterns	Suggestions for simple practice tasks
Past simple tense	Regular verbs add -ed eg. walk – walked Irregular verbs have different past forms and need to be learnt eg. eat – eaten, go – went, speak – spoken, feel – felt etc.	Build up together a day in the life of eg. a doctor, a president, a baker, a nurse, a delivery person, a cook. Then learners, in pairs, tell each other what the same people did yesterday.
Present continuous tense	There are 2 parts: part of the verb 'to be' and the '-ing' form eg. I am (I'm) writing, she is drinking	Look at times in different countries around the world and imagine what people are doing there now. Eg. They are sleeping. They are working.
Simple linking words: and, because, so	Linking words have different purposes: Addition – and; reason – because; purpose - so	Prepare lots of very short simple sentences eg. 'I'm happy. I'm tall. She's cooking. He's hungry. They like chocolate'. Learners practise joining sentences with one of the linking words and agree if it makes sense or not.
'Going to' future (for plans and predictions)	(to be) + ing + base form I'm going to read a book. She's going to get a bus. We're going to eat our dinner.	Use a diary page for next week and add some plans for different groups of people. Then report on their plans using the 'going to' future tense.
Present perfect tense	Have / has + past participle (for past experiences without a definite time) I've been to Turkey. You've eaten your dinner. She's finished 5 books. They've slept for 12 hours. Question: Have you (ever) X?	Build up a simple 'Find someone who has' (eaten mango / seen a camel / travelled on a ship / ridden a bike / been to Athens etc.) grid with learners' suggestions and add simple visuals to remind learners of the questions. They then ask everyone the questions, note who's done what and afterwards summarise in writing.
Functions		
	Examples	
Inviting	Can you + infinitive Would you like to + infinitive	Plan a small celebration and get learners to write the invitations.
Suggesting	Why don't we Shall we ... How about -ing	Get learners to plan an activity for the following day – get them to make suggestions about the activity, time, place etc, using the new language.
Comparing	X is bigger than Y (short adjectives add -er) Y is not as big as X S is more beautiful than T (long adjectives are preceded by more)	Learners place coloured pencils in lines according to size and beauty, using a comparative structure every time they move a pencil. Repeat with books, fruits, items of clothing etc.