

ORAL PROFICIENCY CHECK LIST

Superior

Can the speaker:

- participate in formal, informal, and professional conversations?
- support opinions and hypothesize?
- sustain extended discourse without patterned errors?
- speak with a high level of accuracy in basic and low-frequency structures?
- deal with topics concretely and abstractly?
- handle an unfamiliar situation?
- speak with accuracy sufficient to not miscommunicate or distract a native speaker?

Advanced High

Can the speaker:

- function at the Superior Level most of the time but not all of the time?
- fully meet the requirements of the Advanced Level?

Advanced Mid and Advanced Low

Can the speaker:

- satisfy the requirements of school and/or work situations?
- narrate and describe in major time frames?
- sustain paragraph discourse?
- talk about a variety of topics, including work and current events?
- initiate, sustain and conclude a social interaction or a conversation involving a transactional situation with a complication?
- participate as a full conversational partner, initiating exchanges as well as responding?
- be understood by those unaccustomed to dealing with non-native speakers?

Intermediate High

Can the speaker:

- function at the Advanced Level most of the time but not all of the time?
- fully meet the requirements of the Intermediate Level?

Intermediate Mid and Intermediate Low

Can the speaker:

- create with the language, combining and recombining learned material to provide personal information?
- speak in sentences on a variety of familiar topics?
- ask questions?
- initiate, sustain and conclude a simple social or transactional task?
- be generally understood by those accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers?

Novice High

Can the speaker:

- carry out the tasks of the Intermediate Level most of the time but not all of the time?
- create with the language to convey personalized information most of the time?
- ask some questions?
- frequently speak in sentences, albeit very simple ones?

Novice Low and Novice Mid

Can the speaker:

- convey minimal meaning primarily in isolated words and memorized phrases?
- be understood, often with difficulty, primarily by persons accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers?