

LANGUAGE LEVELS

Level	1	2	3	4	5
PRONUNCIATION	Often unintelligible, accuracy limited to set expressions, almost no control of syntax, often conveys wrong information	Usually foreign but rarely unintelligible, fair control of basic syntax, always conveys meaning accurately in reasonably complex sentences	Sometimes foreign, always intelligible, good control of basic syntax, always conveys meaning accurately in reasonably complex sentences	Always intelligible, makes only occasional errors and these show no pattern of deficiency	As a native speaker, control equal to that of an educated native speaker
VOCABULARY	Adequate only for survival, travel and basic courtesy needs	Adequate for simple social conversation and routine job needs	Adequate for participation in all general conversation and for professional discussions in a special field	Professional and general conversation, broad precise and appropriate to the occasion	Equal to vocabulary of an educated national speaker
FLUENCY	Except for memorized expressions every utterance requires enormous obvious effort	Usually hesitant, often forced to silence by limitations of grammar and vocabulary	Rarely hesitant, always able to sustain conversation through circumlocutions	Speech on all professional matters as apparently effortless as in mother tongue, always easy to listen to	Speech at least as fluent as in mother tongue on all occasions
COMPREHENSION	May require much repetition, slow rate of speech, understands only very simple, short familiar utterances	Understands non-technical speech directed to him but sometimes misinterprets or needs utterances reworded, usually cannot follow conversation between native speakers	Understands most of what is said to him, can follow speeches, clear radio broadcasts, and conversation between native speakers	Can understand all educated speech in any moderately clear context, occasionally baffled by colloquialisms and regionalisms	Equal to that of a native speaker